Gambia is a member of both the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). CEN-SAD currently has 24 member states aspiring to the establishment of an Economic Union which includes the free movement of goods. Although CEN-SAD was revised in 2013, with a revision of the CEN-SAD Treaty, there is still no progress in free trade agreement in place.

57% of total trade is intra-Africa

- Mali (84%)
- Senegal (3%)
- Tunisia (3%)

54% is intra-Africa exports

- Ivory Coast (30%)
- Algeria (1%)
- Senegal (5%)
- Nigeria (1%)

51% is intra-Africa imports

- Ivory Coast (30%)
- Algeria (1%)
- Senegal (5%)
- Nigeria (1%)

5% of intra-Africa exports are to countries outside ECOWAS

- Tunisia (58%)
- South Africa (41%)
- Seychelles (1%)

Intra-Africa tariffs

Gambia subscribes to the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme enabling all qualifying goods sourced from approved producers in the other ECOWAS member states to be imported into Gambian duty-free. Goods imported from CEN-SAD countries, which are not ECOWAS member states (including Egypt, Morocco, Somalia and Tunisia) and the rest of Africa are levied the MFN applied duty. The MFN applied duty of Gambia is the ECOWAS CET.

3% of intra-Africa imports are from countries outside ECOWAS

- Algeria (45%)
- Morocco (19%)
- South Africa (17%)
- Egypt (8%)
- Other (12%)

High average MFN applied duties

- Meat and offals (35%)
- Chocolates (35%)
- Waffles and wafers (35%)
- Tomatoes (35%)
- Potatoes (35%)
- Waters (35%)
- Woven fabrics (35%)
- Soap (31.9%)

Low average MFN applied duties

- Ships’ derricks (1.1%)
- Moulding boxes for metal founding (1.1%)
- Laboratory equipment (1.7%)
- Centrifuges (1.8%)
- Hygienic or pharmaceutical articles (2.3%)
- Mineral or chemical fertilisers (3.1%)

Sources: ITC TradeMap (2019); WTO Tariff Database (2019) and tralac calculations