

# Rwanda

## Intra-Africa trade and tariff profile 2018

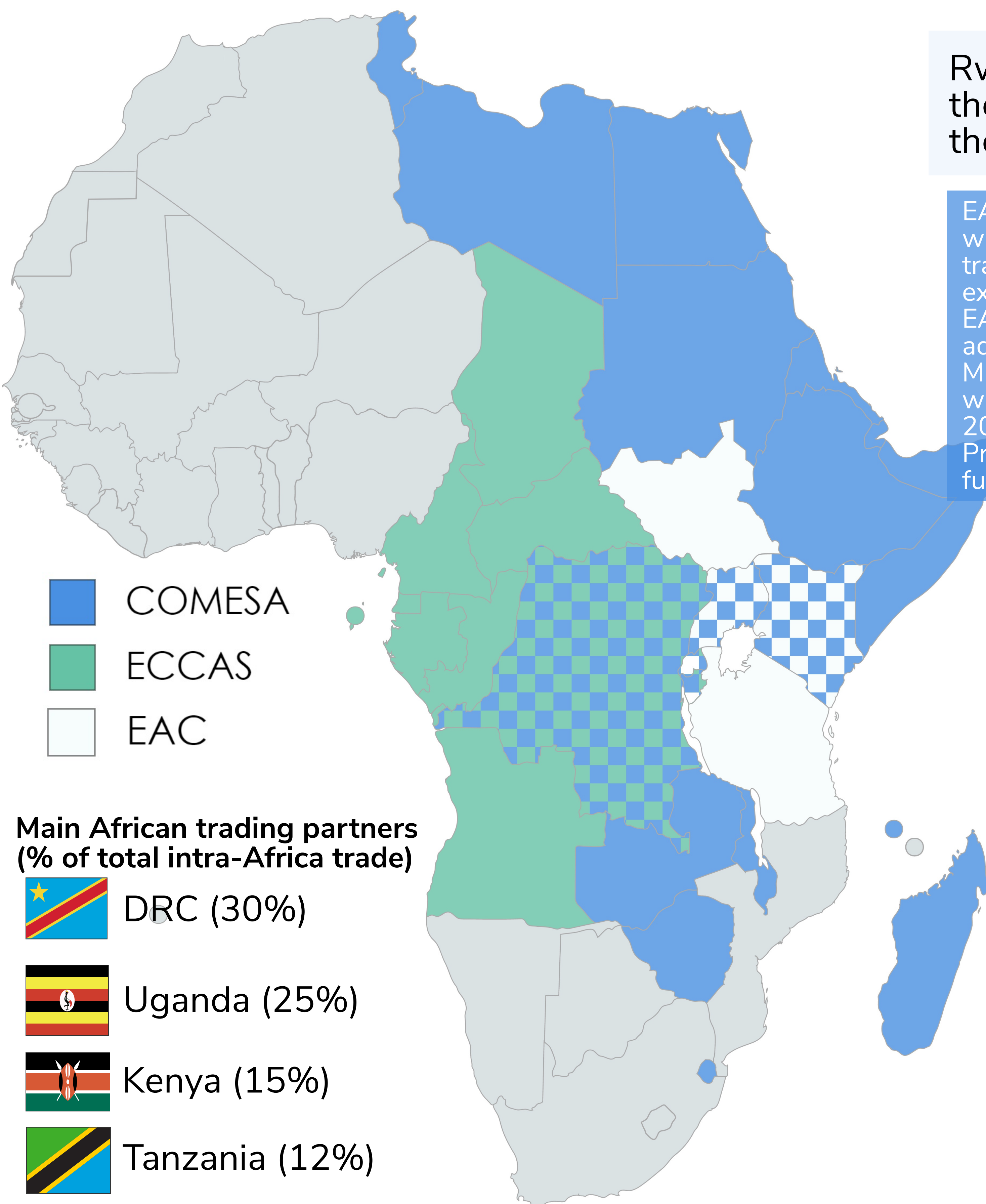


Rwanda is a member of the East African Community (EAC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

EAC is a customs union with duty-free intra-EAC trade and a common external tariff (CET). The EAC member states also adopted a Common Market Protocol in 2009, which came into effect in 2010. However, the Protocol has not yet been fully implemented.

COMESA has 21 member states of which 16 are part of the COMESA FTA - Eswatini has preferential access under a derogation but is exempt from reciprocating preferences due to its membership of SACU. The DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia are in the process of joining the FTA.

ECCAS has 11 member states. Although the legal instruments of the ECCAS FTA were signed in 2004, the FTA is not yet in force; only three of the member states (Cameroon, Congo and Gabon) have adopted the ECCAS Preferential Tariff for intra-ECCAS trade



**44%** of total trade is intra-Africa

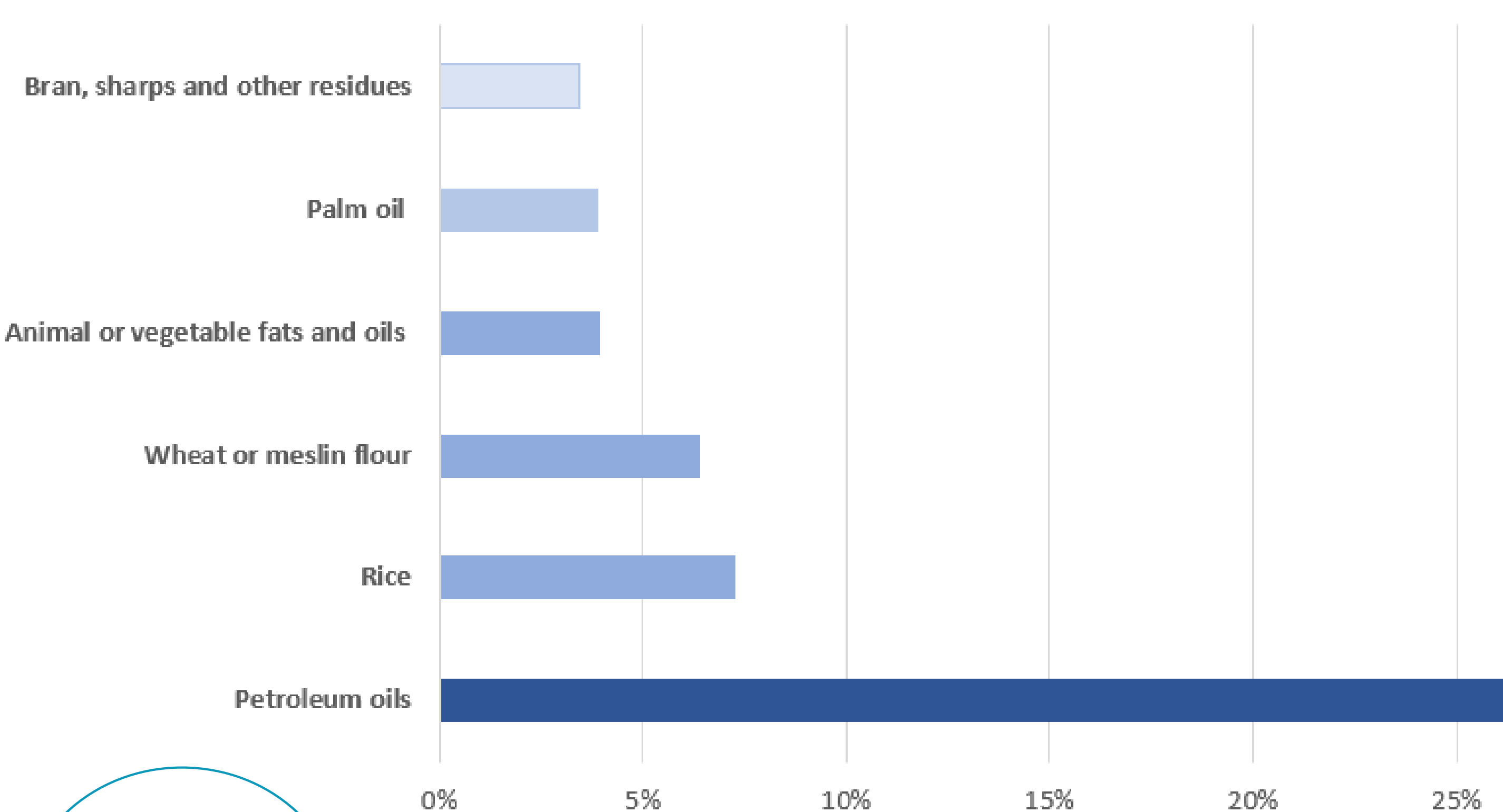
Intra-Africa exports: 44% of world exports

- DRC (75%)
- Uganda (11%)
- Burundi (5%)
- Kenya (3%)

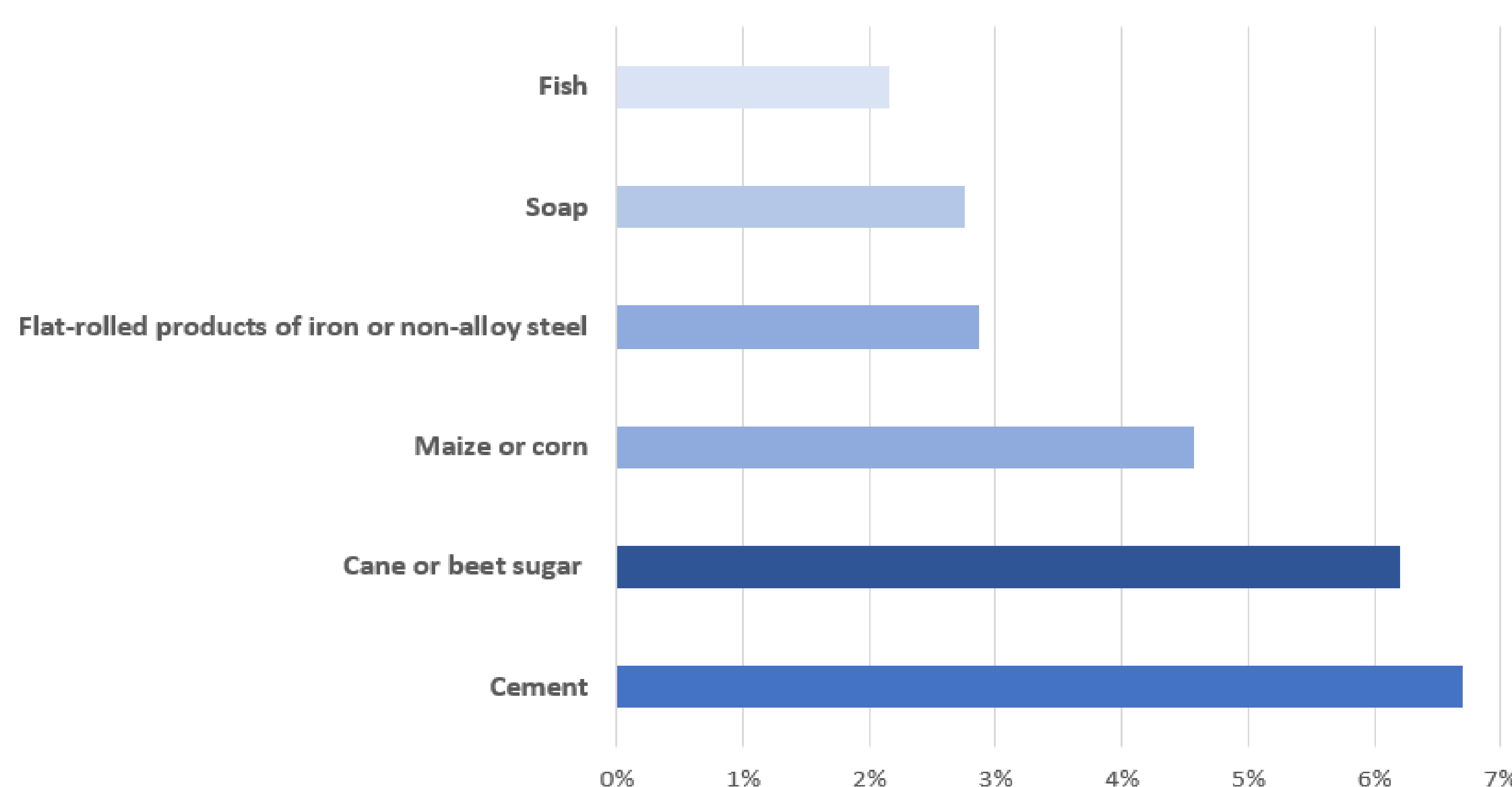
Intra-Africa imports: 25% of world imports

- Uganda (33%)
- Kenya (22%)
- Tanzania (18%)
- South Africa (10%)

Main intra-Africa export products



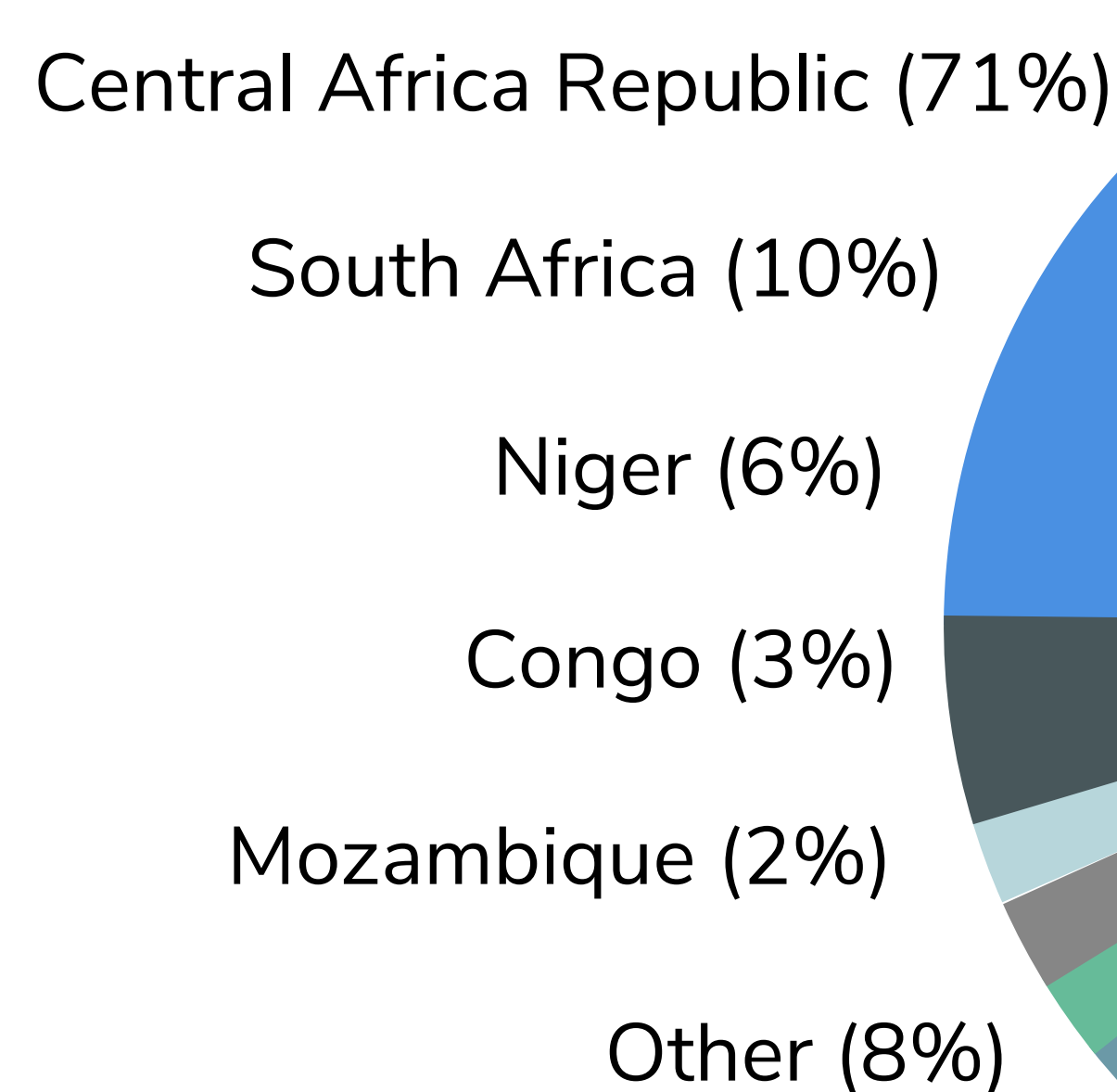
Main intra-Africa import products



**2%**

of intra-Africa exports are to countries outside the EAC and COMESA

Main destination markets



Main export products





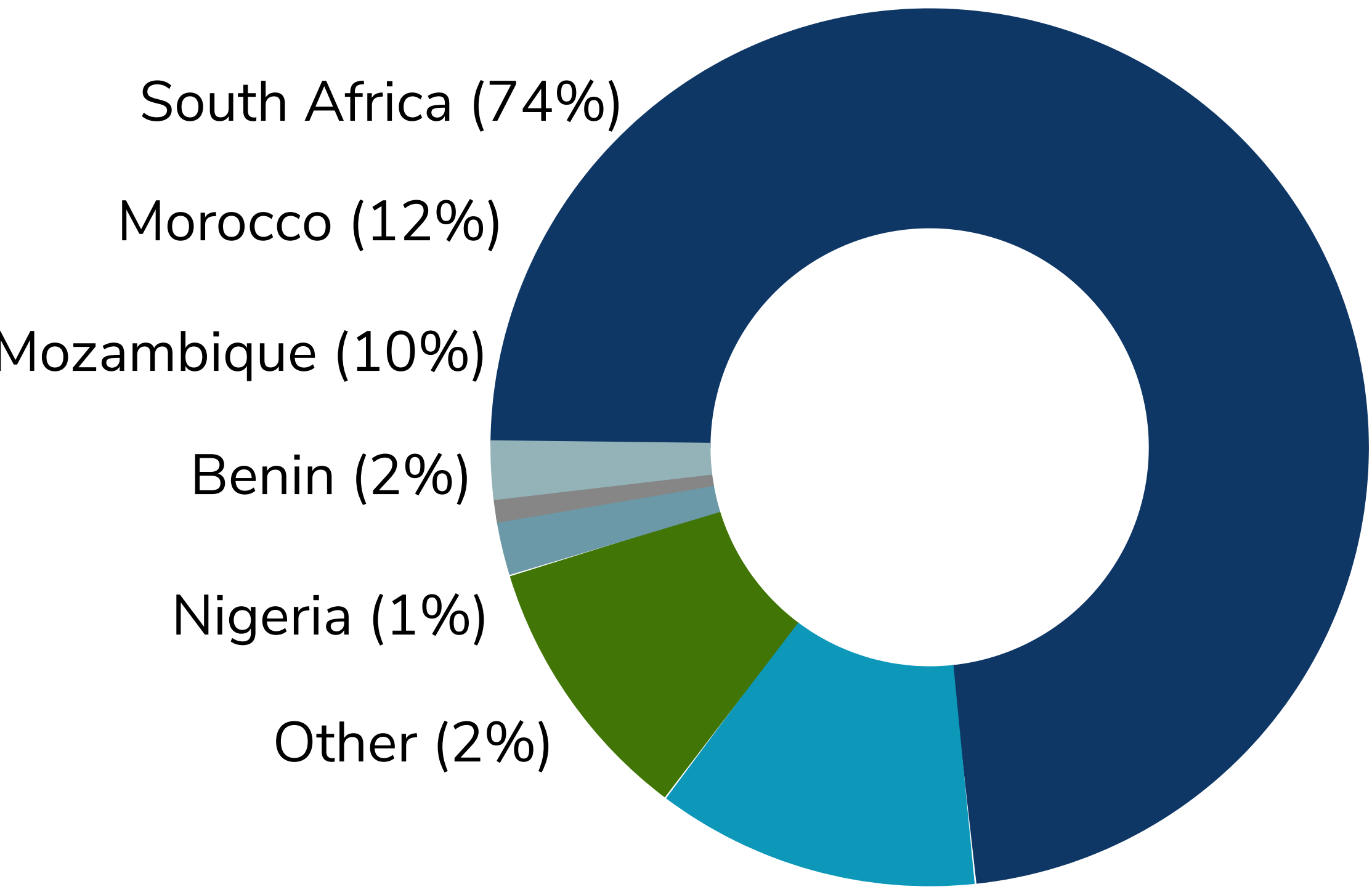
# Intra-Africa tariffs

Goods imported into Rwanda from other EAC countries and COMESA member states (except DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Somalia and Tunisia) enter duty-free. Imports from outside EAC and COMESA are levied the MFN applied duty (i.e. EAC Common External Tariff). The EAC CET tariff bands are duty-free, 10%, 25%, 35%, 50% and 60%. EAC CET specific duties are applicable to imports of rice, sugar, second-hand clothes and products of iron or non-alloy steel.

13%

of intra-Africa imports are from countries outside the EAC and COMESA

## Main source markets



## Main import products

Diammonium phosphate (8%)  
Sugar (8%)  
Diesel passengers cars, cc > 1.500cm<sup>3</sup> < 2.500 cm<sup>3</sup> (7%)  
Flat-rolled iron or non-alloy steel, thickness > 3mm (5%)  
Flat-rolled iron or non-alloy steel, thickness > 1mm < 3mm (5%)  
Other (67%)



African imports from outside the EAC and COMESA are levied MFN applied duties (EAC CET)

Of the top 17 products imported from African countries outside COMESA and EAC, 6 products (at HS6 level) are duty-free. These products include diammonium phosphate, flat-rolled iron or non-alloy steel (of thickness greater than 3mm), diesel goods vehicles (of gross vehicle weight greater than 20 tonnes), medium oils and preparations, telephone sets and diagnostic or laboratory reagents. 10% tariffs are levied on imports of malt extract, raw cane sugar (in solid form), wire of iron or non-alloy steel, and flat-rolled iron or non-alloy steel products (thickness > 1mm < 3mm). 20% import duty is applicable to sugar for industrial use, while 25% import duties are levied on refined sugar not for industrial use (other). Specific duties are applicable to flat-rolled iron or non-alloy steel (zinc coated) and raw cane sugar.

## Highest MFN applied duties

- Cane or beet sugar (100% or US\$460/MT whichever is higher)
- Milk and cream; cheese and curd (60%)
- Maize; wheat or meslin flour; linen (50%)
- Rice (45% or US\$345/MT whichever is higher)
- Second-hand clothes (35% or US\$5/kg whichever or 35% or US\$2.5/kg is higher)
- Cigars; manufactured tobacco; cells and batteries (35%)
- Angles, shapes and sections of iron or non-alloy steel (25% or US\$200/MT whichever is higher)

## Lowest MFN applied duties

- Woven fabrics, yarn, wool (duty-free)
- Electrical apparatus (duty-free)
- Railway goods (duty-free)
- Tractors (duty-free)
- Seeds, fruit and spores for sowing (duty-free)
- Medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences apparatus (duty-free)