Burkina Faso

intra-Africa trade & tariff profile 2019

1. Introduction
Burkina Faso is part of two Regional Economic Communities (RECs) - the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).
- ECOWAS has 15 member states. All member states are part of the ECOWAS Free Trade Area (FTA), 14 of which are implementing the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET). Qualifying imports from approved ECOWAS producers are imported into Senegal duty-free, and Burkina Faso does apply the ECOWAS CET on imports from outside the REC.
- CEN-SAD currently has 24 member states aspiring to establish an Economic Union which includes the free movement of goods, services and commodities. There is currently no free trade agreement in place.

2. Intra-Africa trade
For 2019, 12% of Burkina Faso's world exports & 26% of world imports were to and from the rest of Africa. Intra-Africa exports amounted to US$381 million (13% less than in 2018) & intra-Africa imports to US$1 billion (5% decline compared to 2018 imports).

The main export products are unworked zinc, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits & fresh or dried cashew nuts. The main import products are medium oils and light oils preparations of petroleum or bituminous minerals & electrical energy. Apart from South Africa, Burkina Faso mainly trades with fellow CEN-SAD & ECOWAS member states.

Intra-Africa exports to countries outside ECOWAS are levied duties in the respective destination markets. Of the top 10 import products from outside ECOWAS only liquefied butanes are imported into Burkina Faso duty-free.

Main source markets
- Ivory Coast
- Ghana
- Morocco
- Togo

Main destination markets
- Ivory Coast, Ghana, Niger, Togo & Mali

Burkina Faso's intra-Africa trade 2019

- Unworked zinc: 41%
- Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits: 9%
- Cashew nuts: 8%
- Sesamum seeds: 5%
- Iron or non-alloy steel bars and rods: 2%

% change in exports to & imports from main African trade partners (2018 to 2019)

Trade balance with designated trade partners 2018 & 2019
1. Intra-Africa tariffs & non-tariff cost of trade

Qualifying goods from ECOWAS member states enter Burkina Faso duty-free, while imports 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, which is the ECOWAS CET. The ECOWAS CET has five tariff bands - duty-free, 5%, 10%, 20% and 35%.

1% of Burkina Faso’s world exports (4% of intra-Africa exports) are to African countries not ECOWAS member states. Export products include cotton, petroleum or bituminous medium oils, rock-drilling tools & fire fighting vehicles mainly exported to Mauritius, Ethiopia & South Africa. 16% of Intra-Africa imports (4% of world imports) are sourced from outside ECOWAS.

Burkina Faso’s main imports consist of frozen fish, lubricant oils & electrical machines from non-ECOWAS countries. All top 10 products exported to non-ECOWAS countries face duties in their destinations. For non-tariff trade costs, trade between Burkina Faso and north, east & west Africa is more costly than trade with South Africa, Madagascar, Brazil, France, China, Germany & UK.

**MFN duty categories & % of national tariff lines in each category**

- **Duty-free 2%**
  - Medicaments; crude petroleum oils; mineral and chemical fertilisers; printed books; newsprint in roll or sheets; newspapers or journals; human blood; articles of apparel and clothing accessories.

- **5% duties 37%**
  - Live beef animals; harvesting machinery; live poultry; copper wire; flat-rolled alloy steel; passenger motor vehicles; motor cycles; sugar or beet seeds; barley seeds.

- **10% duties 23%**
  - Iron, non-alloy or stainless steel wire; fresh fish; animal drawn vehicles; rice; woven cotton fabrics; vegetable oils and fats; cotton yarn; telephone sets; coffee; grand pianos.

- **20% duties 36%**
  - Fish fillets; fruit juices; male suits and shirts; copper wire; flour; fresh grapes; sanitary towels; milk and cream; stoves; curtains; lettuce; woven fabrics.

- **35% duties 2%**
  - Soap; buttermilk; meat and edible offals; groundnuts; oil; sheep or goat meat; bread; pastry; cakes; chocolates.

**Burkina Faso’s imports from outside ECOWAS and corresponding import duties**

99% of Burkina Faso’s world imports of frozen fish are sourced from non-ECOWAS African countries: also 30% of petroleum oils, 53% of electrical machines, 8% of cement clinkers, 68% of food preparations (n.e.s), 27% of new diesel vehicles over 2.500 cc, and 18% of fertilisers.

**Categories of MFN duties & % of 2019 imports in each category**

- Duty-free (2%)
- 5% (31%)
- 10% (23%)
- 20% (42%)
- 35% (2%)

Of the top 20 import products, the highest tariffs are applicable to imports of electrical machinery, new diesel vehicles over 1.500 cc and over 2.500 cc, chemically pure sucrose, printed plates, iron or steel gases containers & bags with a 40cm or more base width; imports of frozen fish, lubricating oils, food preparations (n.e.s), cement clinkers, safety fuses & plasters face a 10% duty; and imports of fertilisers, control panels with over 1000V, iron or steel parts (n.e.s) & alkyl resins face a 5% duty.

The non-tariff cost of bilateral trade between Burkina Faso & designated African trade partners

The ESCAP–World Bank trade cost database include the cost of transportation and the time to complete import procedures and obtain necessary information as non-tariff costs affecting bilateral trade between trade partners. The data shows that Burkina Faso’s bilateral trade with north and west African countries is less costly than with non-African countries like China & Germany for manufacturing trade. However, Burkina Faso’s manufacturing trade with some African countries such as Benin and Morocco is higher than with France. Burkina Faso’s agricultural trade with Senegal is higher than trade with trade partners like China, Germany and France. Burkina Faso’s agricultural trade with France is less costly that trade with African countries like Senegal, Morocco, Benin, Ivory Coast, Togo & Ghana.