

# Comoros

# intra-Africa trade & tariff profile 2019

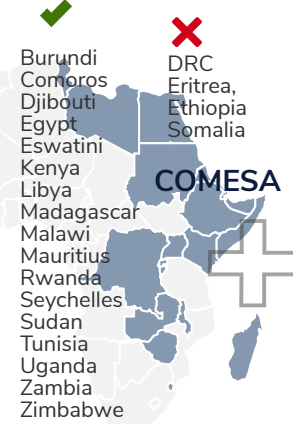


## 1. Introduction

Comoros is member of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- COMESA has 21 member states, 17 of which are part of the COMESA Free Trade Area – the DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia are all in the process of accession
- SADC has 16 member states - all the SACU countries, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mauritius, Mozambique and Malawi. 13 SADC member states are in a Free Trade Arrangement (FTA); Comoros, Angola (recently made an offer) and DRC are yet to join.
- 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.

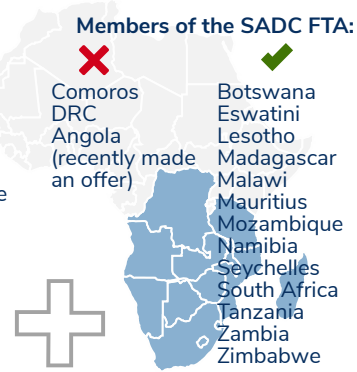
### Members of the COMESA FTA:



### CEN-SAD



### SADC



## 2. Intra-Africa trade

For 2019, 12% of Comoros' world exports & 10% of world imports were to and from the rest of Africa. Intra-Africa exports amounted to US\$6.1 million (348% increase compared to 2018 exports). Intra-Africa imports amounted to US\$19.96 million (19% less than in 2018).

The main export products include electrical ignitions, vacuum flasks, electric sound equipment, clothes, refrigerators, inverters & garment. 79% of Comoros' intra-Africa exports go to Madagascar, and 10% to Tanzania. The main products imported by Comoros from Africa include cane or beet sugar, prepared or

preserved fish, wheat or meslin flour, waters & animal feeding preparations. 26% of the imports are sourced from Mauritius, 21% from South Africa and 14% from Madagascar. Comoros mainly trade with Madagascar, Mauritius, South Africa & Tanzania - accounting for 79% of Comoros' intra-Africa trade

### Main destination markets

Madagascar, Tanzania, Benin, Mauritius & Sudan



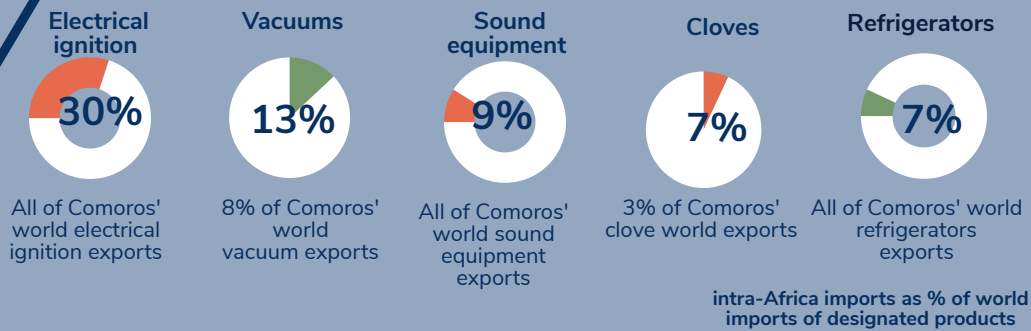
Exports

Imports

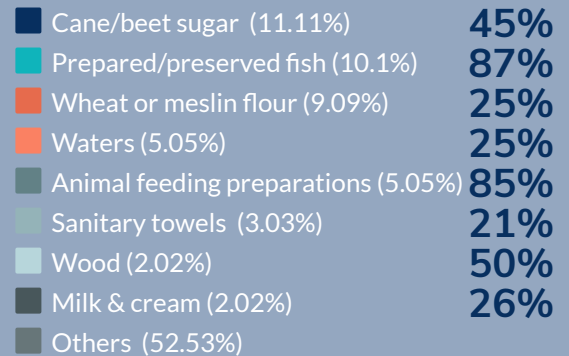
### Main source markets



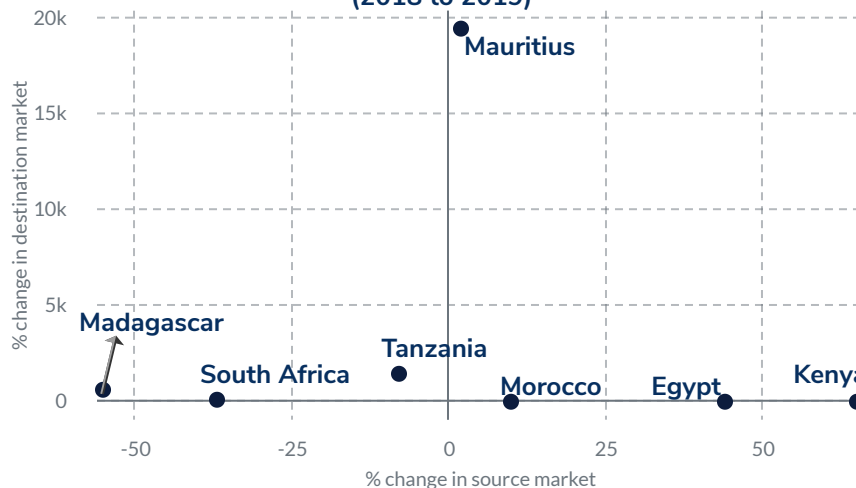
### Comoros' intra-Africa trade 2019



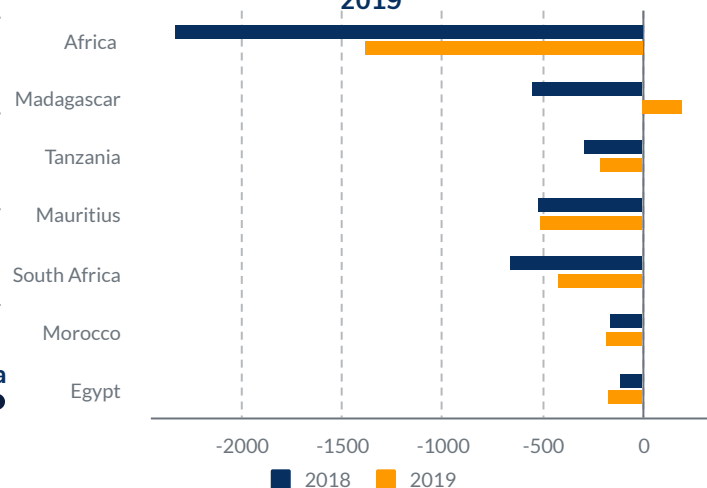
intra-Africa imports as % of world imports of designated products



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



### Trade balance with designated trade partners 2018 & 2019



**3. Intra-Africa tariffs & non-tariff cost of trade**  
 Most of the products from COMESA countries enter Comoros duty-free. Imports from countries outside COMESA countries face MFN applied duties. In 2019, Comoros' 2% of world & 14% of intra-Africa exports went to African countries outside COMESA. 5% of world & 45% of intra-Africa imports were sourced from African countries outside COMESA.

The main export products to African countries outside COMESA include refrigerators, cloves, iron waste & scrap & textile tents. All of Comoros' world imports of refrigerators, textile tents, fishing vessels, aluminum parts, baby clothes are sourced from outside COMESA. 68% of Comoros' exports to African countries COMESA go to Tanzania, 26% to Benin and 6% to South Africa.

The main import products include preserved fish, waters, raw sugar cane and milk & cream. All of Comoros' world imports live sheep, goats and matches are sourced from African countries outside COMESA. 46% of Comoros' imports from outside COMESA are sourced from South Africa, 29% from Tanzania, 20% from Morocco & 4% from Mozambique.

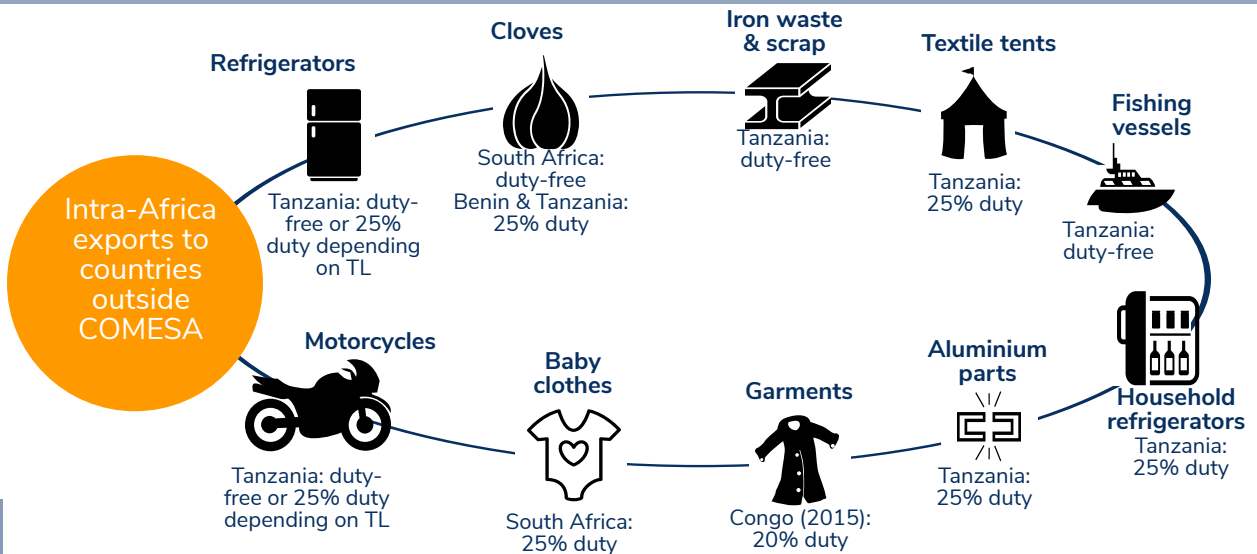
**MFN duties & % of national tariff lines in each category**

**Duty-free 13%**  
 automatic data-processing machines, fuel wood, wood charcoal, railway or tramway sleepers, sawn or chipped wood, veneering sheets, laboratory furniture, packing cases, agricultural machinery, printing machinery, rice, wheat or meslin flour, groundnut oil, palm oil, sunflower or cotton seed oil, coconut oil, vegetable oils, margarine, flat-rolled iron, flour, bran wheat, raw sugar cane.

**>0%-5% duties 14%**  
 Umbrellas, synthetic rubber, waste & scrap of rubber, compounded rubber, plates, sheets, strip, rods and profile shapes, of vulcanised rubber, tubes, pipes and hoses, of vulcanised rubber, conveyor or transmission belts, New pneumatic tyre, car seats, video games, fishing rods, washing machines, dried vegetables, nuts, apricots, apples, carpets, passengers and goods vehicles.

**>5%-10% duties 0.04%**  
 Electric rotary converters; cachinery, plant or laboratory equipment.

**>10%-20% duties 73%**  
 Sawing or cutting off machines, calculating machine, crushing or grinding machines, pneumatic tools, automatic goods-vending machines, extruders, ball or roller bearing, gaskets, electric motors and generators, machines and apparatus for the manufacture of boules or wafers, electrical transformers, static converters, primary cells and primary batteries, electric accumulators, vacuum cleaners, food grinders and mixers, women and men suits, tracksuits, gloves, mittens and mitts, blankets and travelling rugs, bedlinen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains, paperbags, tents, footwear, human hair, millstones, weighing machinery, mechanical appliances, raw hides and skins of bovine, electrical ignition.



**Comoros' imports from outside COMESA and corresponding duties**

18% of Comoros' intra-Africa & 71% of world imports of preserved or prepared sardines are sourced from African countries outside COMESA; also 11% of intra-Africa & 24% of world imports of waters; 11% of intra-Africa & 47% of world imports of raw sugar cane; 3% of intra-Africa & 23% of world imports of milk & cream of a fat content by weight of > 1% but <= 6%; 2% of intra-Africa & world imports of iron or steel bars; 2% of intra-Africa & all of world imports of live sheep; 2% of intra-Africa & 32% of world imports of milk and cream of a fat content by weight of <= 1%; 2% of intra-Africa & 32% of world imports of flasks; and 2% of intra-Africa and all of world imports of live goats are sourced from African countries outside COMESA.

- South Africa (46%)**  
 Raw cane sugar (duty-free)  
 Waters (5% duty)  
 Milk and cream (duty-free)

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- Tanzania (29%)**  
 Waters (5% duty)  
 Live sheep (5% duty)  
 Live goats (5% duty)

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- Morocco (20%)**  
 Prepared/preserved sardines (5% duty)  
 Paper bags (5% duty)  
 Kraft paper (5% duty)

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- Mozambique (4%)**  
 Raw cane sugar (duty-free)  
 Cocoa beans (20% duty)  
 Chocolate (20% duty)

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- Niger (0.4%)**  
 Frozen chicken cuts (duty-free)

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- Mauritania (0.3%)**  
 Frozen salmonidae (duty-free)

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- Senegal (0.3%)**  
 Waters (5% duty)

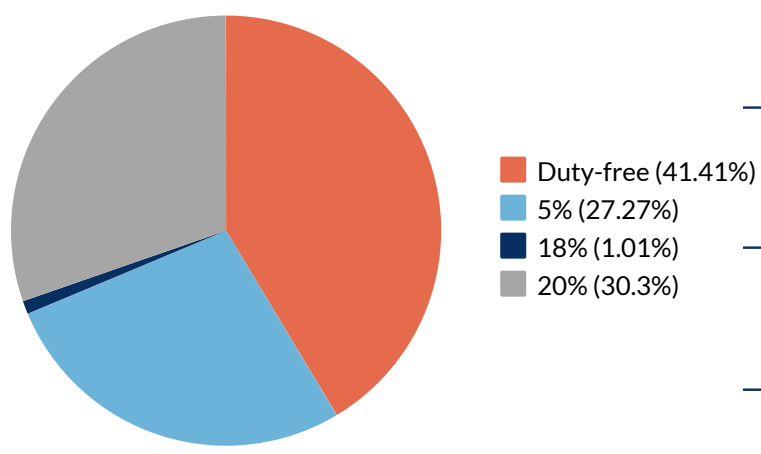
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- Ethiopia (0.03%)**  
 Medicaments (duty-free)  
 Telephone sets (20% duty)

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- Namibia (0.01%)**  
 Trucks or suitcases (20% duty)

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



11 of the top 20 products imported from outside COMESA are imported duty-free. These products include raw sugar cane, milk & cream, iron or steel bars, wood, waters, frozen chicken cuts, medicaments, animal feeding preparations and raw beet sugar. 2 20% duty is applied on imports of flasks and second-hand clothing. A 5% duty is applicable on imports of live animals (sheep & goats), mattresses, fresh apples, preserved or prepared sardines, waters, paperbags and matches.