

MAURITANIA TRADE, TARIFFS & VALUE CHAIN ANALYSIS (2021)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

• Population (2023 est. millions)	4.6	• Unemployment (2021 est. %)	11.3
• GDP (2021 est. USD, billion)	10	• Youth unemployment (2021 est. %)	22.2
• GDP/Capita (2021 est. PPP,USD)	2 166	• Female labour force participation (2021 est. %)	24.75

Sources: CIA World Factbook; ILO STATS

SUMMARY OF MAURITANIA'S TRADE AGREEMENTS

The REC FTAs are building blocks to the AfCFTA

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

1. Algeria
2. The Gambia
3. Morocco
4. Tunisia
5. Sudan
6. China
7. Kuwait
8. Turkey
9. Qatar

ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

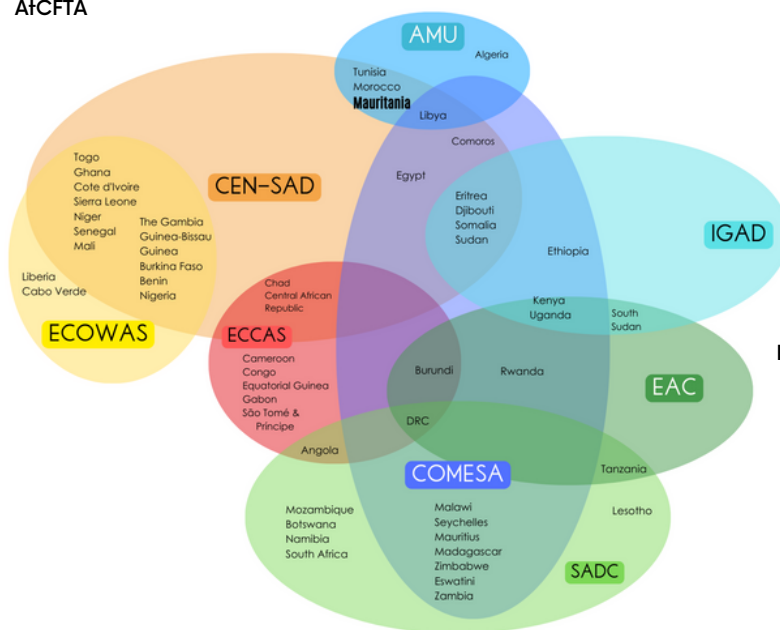
1. ECOWAS - Mauritania Association Agreement

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

1. EU - West Africa EPA (EU 27 member States and ECOWAS plus Mauritania - West Africa States)

GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP)

Source: tralac AfCFTA Booklet 2023



REC FTA STATUS

1. AMU - None
2. CEN-SAD - None
3. COMESA - FTA in place moving towards Customs union (CU)
4. EAC - FTA in place and is a CU
5. ECCAS - None
6. ECOWAS - FTA in place and is a CU
7. IGAD - None
8. SADC - FTA in place

FREE TRADE AREA

1

- is a region in which a number of countries have signed a free trade agreement and maintain little or no barriers to trade in the form of tariffs or quotas among one another
- AfCFTA (in force, but not yet operational)
- AMU (not FTA but one of 8 RECs recognised by AU)
- CEN-SAD (not FTA but one of 8 RECs recognised by AU)

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

14

- is a unilateral scheme wherein custom duty preferences or concessions are granted by developed countries to specified products from developing countries.
- Armenia; Australia; Belarus; Canada; Iceland; Japan; Kazakhstan; New Zealand; Norway; Russia, Switzerland; Turkey; UK; US

EU - WEST AFRICA EPA

1

- covers goods and development cooperation. The EPA also includes the possibility to hold further negotiations on sustainable development, services, investment and other trade-related issues in the future.

AFCTA

- Signed by 54 of the 55 Member States of the African Union (AU);
- is the elimination of tariffs on substantially all goods, liberalise trade in services, remove non-tariff barriers (NTBs) and create an African continental single market with free movement of people and capital.
- As of 31 March 2023, 46 of the 54 signatories had deposited their instruments of ratification with the chair of the African Union Commission (AUC).
- Mauritania submitted its schedule of tariff concessions together with ECOWAS

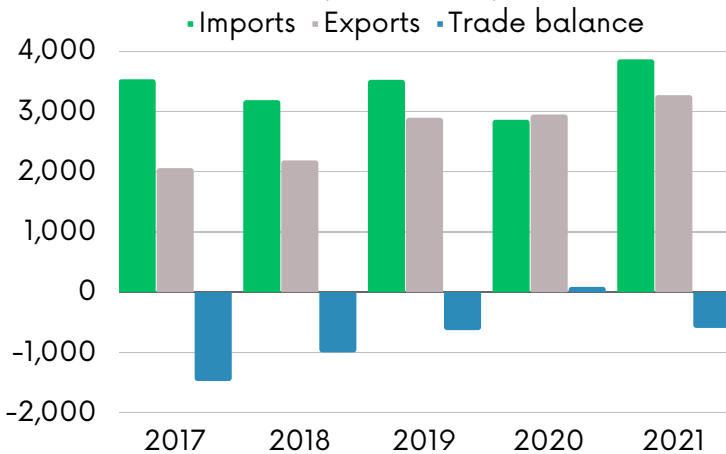
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GLOBAL CONTEXT

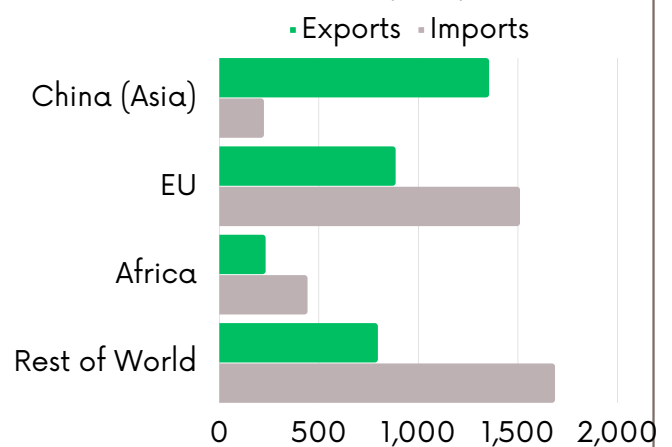
• Total trade (2021, US\$ million)	7 127	• World Export Rankings (out of 230)	127
• Exports (2021, US\$ million)	3 267	• Export growth (2017-2021, % CAGR)	12
• Imports (2021, US\$ million)	3 860	• Import growth (2017-2021, % CAGR)	2

GLOBAL TRADE PROFILE (2017 - 2021)

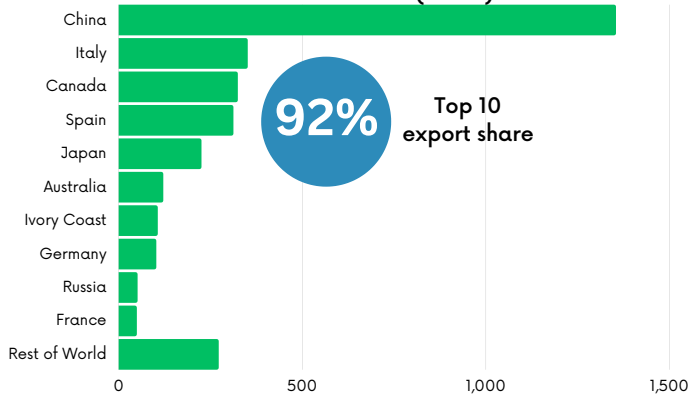
Mauritania's trade performance
US\$ million (2017 - 2021)



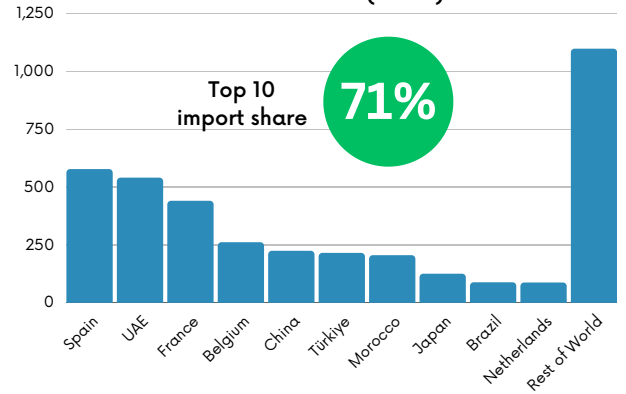
Mauritania's trade with regional partners
US\$ million (2021)



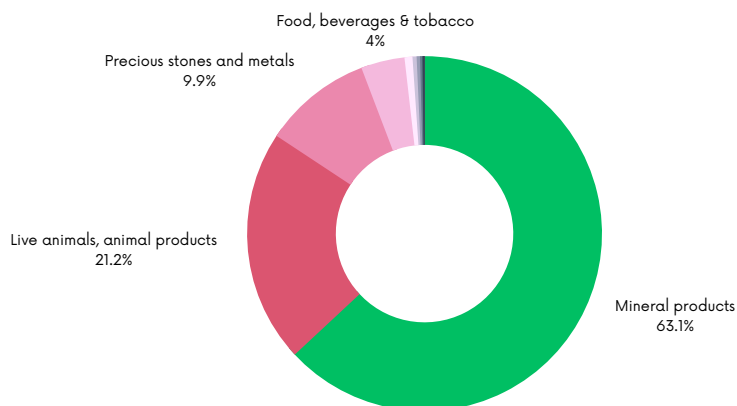
Mauritania's top global export destinations,
US\$ million (2021)



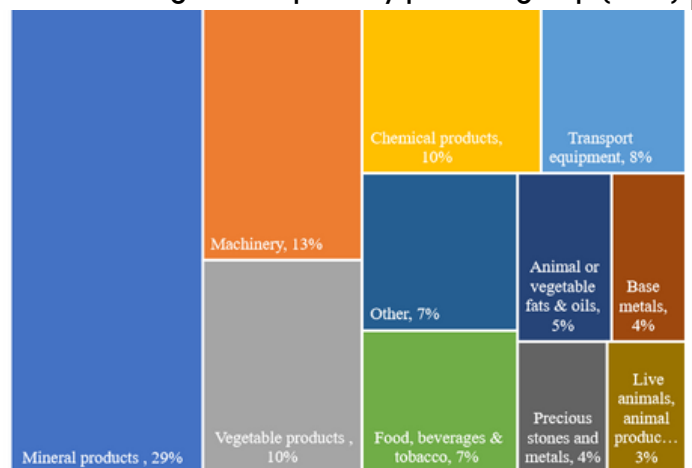
Mauritania's top global import sources,
US\$ million (2021)



Mauritania's global exports by product group (2021)



Mauritania's global imports by product group (2021)



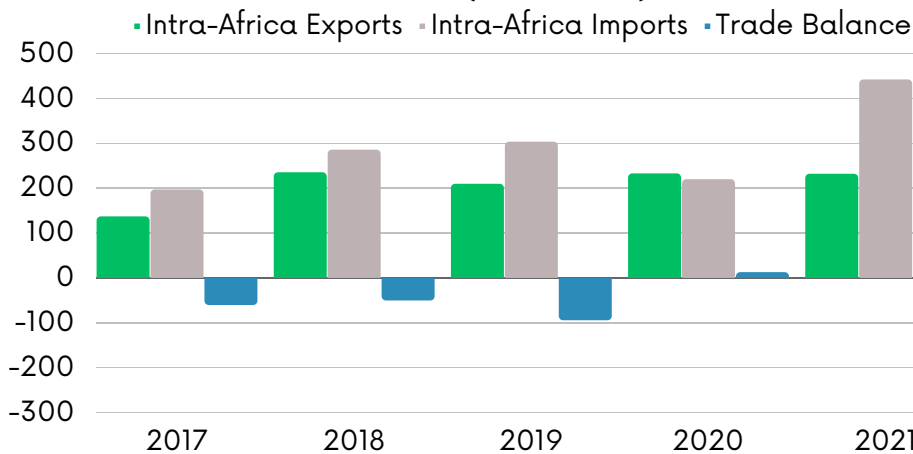
MAURITANIA TRADE, TARIFFS & VALUE CHAIN ANALYSIS (2021)

INTRA-AFRICA CONTEXT

• Total trade (2021, US\$ million)	673	• Intra-Africa Export Rankings (out of 55)	28
• Exports (2021, US\$ million)	231	• Export growth (2017-2021, % CAGR)	14
• Imports (2021, US\$ million)	441	• Import growth (2017-2021, % CAGR)	22

INTRA-AFRICA TRADE PROFILE (2017 - 2021)

Mauritania's intra-Africa trade performance
US\$ million (2017 - 2021)



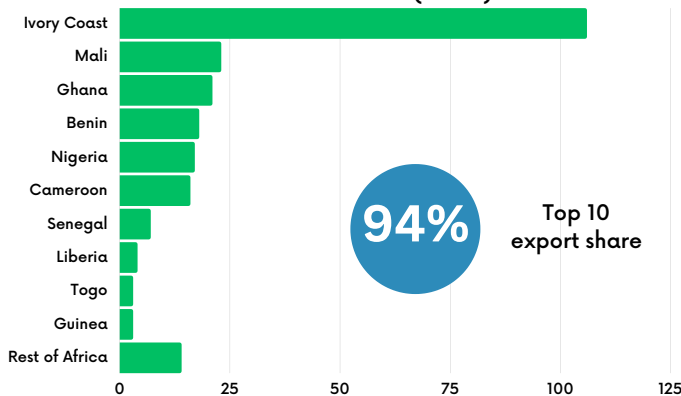
Intra-Africa exports % World (2021)

7%

Intra-Africa imports % World (2021)

11%

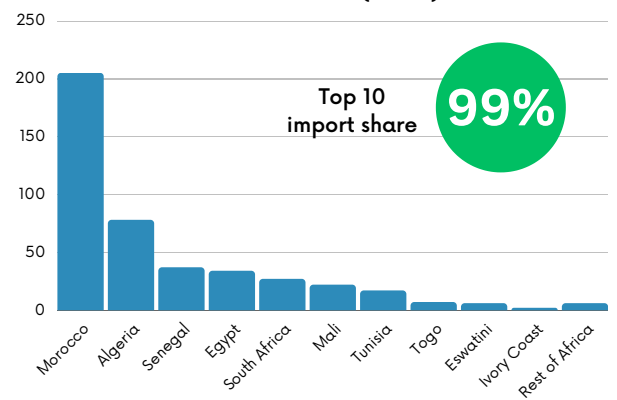
Mauritania's top intra-Africa export destinations, US\$ million (2021)



94%

Top 10 export share

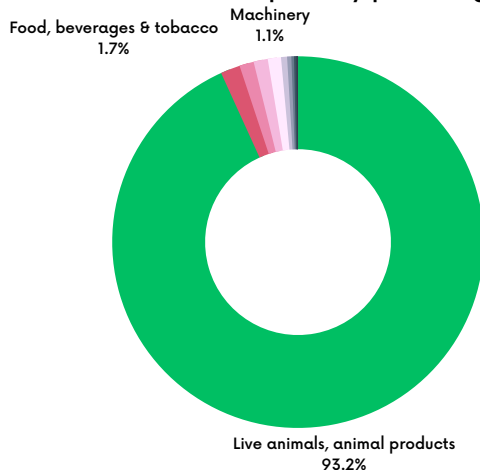
Mauritania's top intra-Africa import sources, US\$ million (2021)



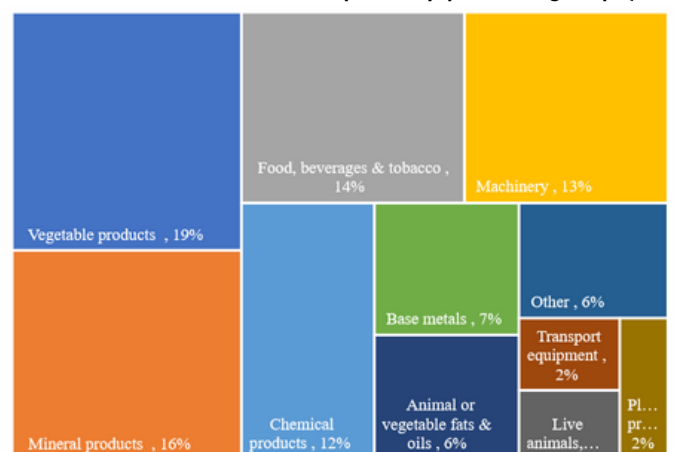
Top 10 import share

99%

Mauritania's intra-Africa exports by product group (2021)



Mauritania's intra-Africa imports by product group (2021)



MAURITANIA TRADE, TARIFFS & VALUE CHAIN ANALYSIS (2021)

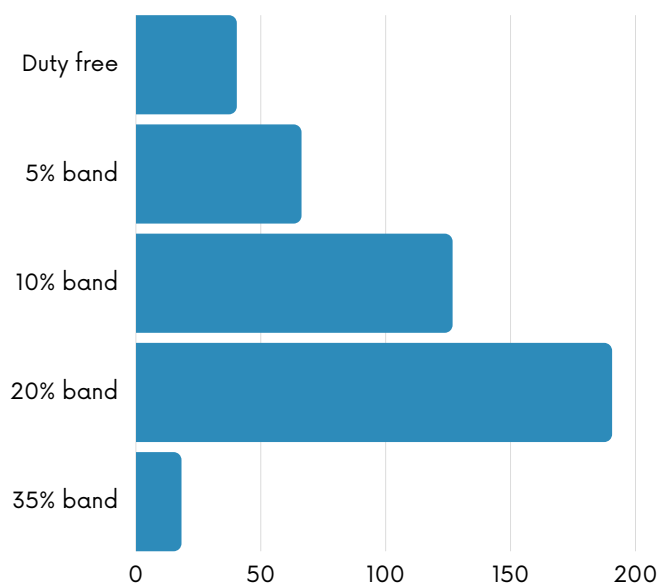
MARKET ACCESS

Summary of average tariffs applied by African countries for goods originating from Mauritania

Product group	Weighted Average (% AVE)	Minimum Rate (% AVE)	Maximum Rate (%AVE)
Animal or vegetable fats & oils	19	0	35
Food, beverages & tobacco	20	0	35
Live animals, animal products	12	0	35
Vegetable products	17	5	35
Mineral products	6	5	10
Chemical products	14	0	35
Plastic products	15	0	25
Raw hides	16	0	30
Wood products	16	5	20
Paper products	19	0	50
Textiles & clothing	21	0	50
Footwear	15	0	30
Non-metallic minerals	17	10	20
Base metals	14	0	30
Machinery	8	0	50
Transport equipment	10	0	50
Specialised equipment	7	0	20
Misc manufact articles	17	0	35
Collectors' pieces & antiques	20	20	20

SOURCE: International Trade Centre (ITC) MacMap (30 March 2023)

Mauritania's intra-Africa imports by tariff band and value, US\$ million (2021)



SOURCE: International Trade Centre (ITC) MacMap (30 March 2023)

NON-TARIFF TRADE COSTS (2020)

Manufactured goods average (2016-2020)

172%

High manufactured exports NTCs (%AVE)

1. Ethiopia	435
2. Sudan	403
3. Burundi	375

Low manufactured exports NTCs (%AVE)

1. Mali	56
2. Ivory Coast	62
3. Senegal	99

Agricultural goods average (2016-2020)

276%

High agricultural exports NTCs (%AVE)

1. Egypt	539
2. Algeria	362
3. Mali	241

Low agricultural exports NTCs (%AVE)

1. Ivory Coast	205
2. Tunisia	210
3. Morocco	212

SOURCE: World Bank ESCAP (05 April 2023)

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AFCFTA PRIORITY REGIONAL VALUE CHAINS

Sector and RVC	REC Prioritising this Sector for RVC Development
Agro-processing: Soya VC	ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC
Pharmaceuticals	ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC
Leather and leather products	ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC; COMESA
Cocoa and chocolate value chain	ECOWAS; CEMAC
Textiles and Clothing	ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC
Lithium-ion battery	SADC ECOWAS & Morocco
Automotive	SADC; ECOWAS; EAC

MAURITANIA'S PRODUCT SPACE



SOURCE: Atlas of Economic Activity

MAURITANIA'S POTENTIAL REGIONAL VALUE CHAINS

AGRO-PROCESSING - low-hanging fruit; ability to reduce Africa's net food import bill once tariff and non-tariff costs are eliminated.

Agriculture which includes crops, fisheries and livestock provides an opportunity for Mauritania to diversify and develop new export opportunities beyond mining.

Mauritania already has a well-developed fisheries sector which can be improved.

It is therefore important that it leverages its dominance in fisheries exports to add value domestically and participate in the animal feed and leather RVCs.

Increased spending in agriculture will enable the country to develop its crop and livestock subsectors and begin to export value-added agro-processed products under the AfCFTA.