**ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

- Population (2023 est. millions): 4.6
- GDP (2021 est. USD, billion): 10
- GDP/Capita (2021 est. PPP,USD): 2166
- Unemployment (2021 est. %): 11.3
- Youth unemployment (2021 est. %): 22.2
- Female labour force participation (2021 est. %): 24.75

Sources: CIA World Factbook; ILO STATS

**SUMMARY OF MAURITANIA’S TRADE AGREEMENTS**

**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)**

**FREE TRADE AREA**
- 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**
- 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**
- 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.

**REC GTA STATUS**
1. AMU - None
2. CEN-SAD - None
3. COMESA - FTA in place and is a 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

**AfCFTA**
- 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
MAURITANIA TRADE, TARIFFS & VALUE CHAIN ANALYSIS (2021)

GLOBAL CONTEXT

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

GLOBAL TRADE PROFILE (2017 - 2021)

Mauritania's trade performance
US$ million (2017 – 2021)
- Imports
- Exports
- Trade balance

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

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

Top 10
import share
71%

Mauritania's global exports by product group (2021)

Mauritania's global imports by product group (2021)

SOURCE: International Trade Centre (ITC) TradeMap (30 March 2023)
### Mauritania Trade, Tariffs & Value Chain Analysis (2021)

#### Intra-Africa Trade Context
- Total trade (2021, US$ million): 673
- Intra-Africa Export Rankings (out of 55): 28
- Export growth (2017-2021, % CAGR): 14
- Intra-Africa 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
- Intra-Africa Imports
- Trade Balance

- **Intra-Africa exports % World (2021):** 7%
- **Intra-Africa imports % World (2021):** 11%

**Mauritania’s top intra-Africa export destinations, US$ million (2021)**
- Ivory Coast: 94%
- Mali: 9
- Ghana: 4
- Benin: 3
- Nigeria: 2
- Cameroon: 1
- Senegal: 1
- Liberia: 1
- Togo: 1
- Guinea: 1
- Rest of Africa: 1

**Mauritania’s top intra-Africa export destinations by product group (2021)**
- Food, beverages & tobacco: 1.7%
- Machinery: 1.1%
- Live animals, animal products: 93.2%
- Vegetable products: 9%

**Mauritania’s top intra-Africa import sources, US$ million (2021)**
- Top 10 import share: 99%

**Mauritania’s top intra-Africa imports by product group (2021)**
- Food, beverages & tobacco: 14%
- Machinery: 13%
- Vegetable products: 19%
- Chemical products: 12%
- Other: 6%
- Transport equipment: 5%
- Base metals: 7%
- Animal or vegetable fats & oils: 6%
- Live animals, animal products: 93.2%

SOURCE: International Trade Centre (ITC) TradeMap (30 March 2023)
### Summary of average tariffs applied by African countries for goods originating from Mauritania

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duty free</th>
<th>5% band</th>
<th>10% band</th>
<th>20% band</th>
<th>35% band</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Non-Tariff Trade Costs (2020)

#### Manufactured goods average (2016–2020)

- **High manufactured exports NTTCs (%AVE):**
  - 1. Ethiopia: 435
  - 2. Sudan: 403
  - 3. Burundi: 375

- **Low manufactured exports NTTCs (%AVE):**
  - 1. Mali: 56
  - 2. Ivory Coast: 62
  - 3. Senegal: 99

- **Average:** 172%

#### Agricultural goods average (2016–2020)

- **High agricultural exports NTTCs (%AVE):**
  - 1. Egypt: 539
  - 2. Algeria: 362
  - 3. Mali: 241

- **Low agricultural exports NTTCs (%AVE):**
  - 1. Ivory Coast: 205
  - 2. Tunisia: 210
  - 3. Morocco: 212

- **Average:** 276%

**SOURCE:** World Bank ESCAP (05 April 2023)
### 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.

### Mauritania’s Product Space

#### Sector and RVC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector and RVC</th>
<th>REC Prioritising this Sector for RVC Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agro-processing: Soya VC</td>
<td>ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather and leather products</td>
<td>ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC; COMESA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa and chocolate value chain</td>
<td>ECOWAS; CEMAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles and Clothing</td>
<td>ECOWAS; CEMAC; EAC; SADC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithium-ion battery</td>
<td>SADC ECOWAS &amp; Morocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>SADC; ECOWAS; EAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Source

Atlas of Economic Activity