1. **Regional Economic Communities**

Mauritius is a member of COMESA and SADC. It is one of the few island nations located around the African Coast. It is currently negotiating the Tripartite Free Trade Area and the African Continental Free Trade Area.

COMESA has 21 member states following the entry of Tunisia and Somalia in 2018. 16 countries are part of the COMESA FTA. Swaziland has preferential access under derogations but is exempt from reciprocating preferences due to its membership of SACU. The DRC, Eritrea and Ethiopia are in the process of joining the FTA.

SADC is a Regional Economic Community with 16 member states, of which 9 are also members of COMESA. 13 SADC members are in a Free Trade Agreement (FTA); Comoros, DRC and Angola are yet to join the FTA.

2. **Intra-Africa trade**

- Of Mauritius' total exports (US$443m) are intra-Africa: Sugar (10%), Men/boys' suits (9%), T-shirts & vests (8%), packaging material (5%).

- Of Mauritius' total imports (US$747m) are intra-Africa: Frozen fish (11%), Coal (11%), Petroleum oil (10%), Cigars & Cigarettes (8%).

**Destination markets**
- South Africa 42%
- Madagascar 31%
- Seychelles 7%
- Kenya 12%
- Sri Lanka 1%

**Source markets**
- South Africa 60%
- Seychelles 11%
- Morocco 1%
- Tunisia 1%
- Zambia 1%
- Rest of Africa 4%
The majority of Mauritius' intra-Africa imports originate from SADC and COMESA where they are accorded preferential access. Mauritius imports only 3% (US$25 million) of its intra-Africa imports from non-SADC or non-COMESA African countries.

**High ad valorem duties**

- Men's/ Boys' suits (56%)
- Women's/ girls' suits (38%)
- Trunks/ suitcases (30%)
- Mattress support (30%)

**Duty free imports**

- Frozen fish (excluding fillets)
- Coal
- Petroleum
- Cigars & Cigarettes

**Mauritius' top intra-Africa imports (excluding SADC & COMESA) and MFN applied tariffs (2017)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HS code</th>
<th>All products</th>
<th>2017 (US$ millions)</th>
<th>%Share</th>
<th>Average tariff</th>
<th>Max tariff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1604</td>
<td>Prepared or preserved fish;</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7102</td>
<td>Diamonds</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5201</td>
<td>Cotton, neither carded nor combed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2711</td>
<td>Petroleum gas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4407</td>
<td>Wood sawn or chipped lengthwise</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0804</td>
<td>Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, guavas, mangoes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1509</td>
<td>Olive oil...</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3004</td>
<td>Medicaments...</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0406</td>
<td>Cheese and curd</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0303</td>
<td>Frozen fish (excluding fish fillets)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UN ITC TradeMap; World Bank WITS database