



# The Impact of the AfCFTA on Southern Africa's Regional Supply Chains in Chad

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## Abstract

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) aims to create a single market for goods and services within Africa by eliminating tariffs and reducing non-tariff barriers, thereby fostering regional integration. The research employs a comparative analysis of pre-AfCFTA and post-AfCFTA data to assess changes in regional supply chains. Qualitative secondary sources such as official documents and academic literature are utilised for detailed examination. Key findings include increased trade volumes between Chad and its Southern African partners, with Chad experiencing a notable rise in cotton exports from onwards. The AfCFTA has significantly enhanced regional economic integration by reducing logistical costs and increasing market access for small-scale producers. Governments should invest in infrastructure to support the growth of supply chains, particularly focusing on improving transportation networks and enhancing border clearance processes.

**Keywords:** *African Economic Integration, Regional Supply Chains, Mercosur Model, Bilateral Investment Treaties, Comparative Institutional Analysis*

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