



The AfCFTA's Influence on Southern Africa's Regional Supply Chains in Tanzania

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on regional supply chains in Tanzania within Southern Africa. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative case studies with quantitative data analysis was employed to evaluate the AfCFTA's impact on regional supply chains in Tanzania. The findings indicate that while there has been an increase in cross-border trade volumes, particularly in agricultural products and manufactured goods, the integration process is still in its early stages, necessitating further policy support for market harmonization and infrastructure development. Despite initial challenges, the AfCFTA holds significant potential to reshape Tanzania's regional supply chains by fostering greater economic interdependence within Southern Africa. The paper recommends that policymakers should focus on enhancing logistics infrastructure, promoting cross-border investments, and facilitating market access for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to fully realise the benefits of the AfCFTA.

Keywords: *African, Continental, Free, Trade, Area, Supply, Chains*

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