

Foreword

The annual flagship report *Africa's Development Dynamics* provides the latest information on economic policies on the African continent and its five regions. It proposes a new narrative assessing Africa's economic, social and institutional performance in light of the targets set by the African Union's Agenda 2063. This 2022 edition explores how operationalising the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) can deepen regional value chains, and help African countries accelerate productive transformation and recover sustainably from the COVID-19 pandemic.

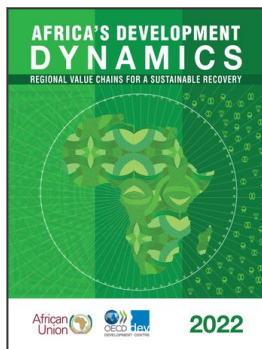
Africa's Development Dynamics is the product of a collaborative approach, hinging around a strong partnership between the African Union's Commission for Economic Affairs and the OECD Development Centre, bringing together a team of academic researchers, economists, statisticians, and experts from Africa and other regions.

The first two chapters explore the development of regional value chains in Africa and recommend priority actions, offering lessons from across the continent and beyond. The next five chapters focus respectively on the five regions as defined by the Abuja Treaty: Southern, Central, East, North and West Africa. These chapters tailor policy recommendations to one specific value chain in each region.

The cut-off date for information used in the projections is 5 February 2022, date of the 35th African Union Summit.

A statistical annex is available on line, which allows for updates throughout the year. It contains the latest economic, social and institutional indicators across African countries for which data are comparable. The list of summary tables appears in the last pages of the report. The data are presented by country, region, Regional Economic Communities and other relevant groups of African countries. They compare Africa with other world regions and country groups. This database aims to inform decision makers, advisors, business analysts, private investors, journalists, non-governmental organisations and engaged citizens around the globe who are interested in monitoring African countries' development trajectories.

The full report is published in English, French and Portuguese. An electronic version is also available on line, together with accompanying figures and tables. These, along with the statistical annex, appear on the websites of both the African Union Commission (www.au.int/en/afdd2022) and the OECD Development Centre (<https://oe.cd/AFDD-2022>).



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