THE AfCFTA
African Continental Free Trade Area
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What is in it for young Africans?
THE PROBLEM: WHY DO WE NEED THE AFCFTA?

1. POOR INTRA-CONTINENTAL TRADE.
   COMPARED WITH OTHERS, WE TRADE LESS WITH OURSELVES AND THIS HINDERS ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

   ![Bar chart showing intra-continental exports](source: WEFORUM.ORG)

   - ASIA: 59%
   - EUROPE: 68%
   - AFRICA: 17%

2. DIFFICULTY IN INTRA-AFRICAN MOVEMENT.
   POOR TRANSPORTATION ROUTES, LONG-WAITING TIMES AT COUNTRY BORDERS, EXPENSIVE VISAS AND TICKETS, BORDER TARIFFS ETC. ALL HINDER TRADE.

3. OVER-DEPENDENCE ON OTHER CONTINENTS.
   AFRICAN COUNTRIES DEPEND HEAVILY ON IMPORTATION OF MAJOR COMMODITIES FROM OTHER CONTINENTS WHICH DEPRECIATES AFRICAN CURRENCIES.
THE SOLUTION: THE AFCFTA CREATION

1. THE AFCFTA IS AN AGREEMENT
2. AIMED AT ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED CONTINENTAL MARKET
3. IT CONNECTS 1.3 BILLION POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS

4. WITH A COMBINED G.D.P OF 3.4 TRILLION USD
5. FACILITATED BY FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND INVESTMENTS
6. 54/55 COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE AGREEMENT

Thereby forming the world’s largest free trade area.
THE BENEFITS: WHAT IS IN THE AFCFTA FOR US, THE YOUNG AFRICANS?

1. MASSIVE CREATION OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES.
Owing to the high number of countries involved in the AFCFTA and the 1.3 billion potential customers, regional trade will be boosted, investments will be attracted and this will provide jobs for us, who occupy the largest percentage of the continent’s age-group.

2. FREE INTRA-AFRICAN MOVEMENT.
With the free movement of labour and investments, African youths (skilled & unskilled) have a wonderful opportunity to move to areas with high demand for their skills and services respectively within the continent.
3. ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES.
With the implementation of free trade, free movement of labour and investments plus the availability of the digital platform of 'African Union Observatory', African young entrepreneurs can see and easily access where opportunities are available for business.

4. A UNITED AND BETTER AFRICA
The African Continental Free Trade Area is a major pathway which will lead to the establishment of the 'Africa' of our dreams as youths. With all African countries uniting to form a single trade area, an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa is nearer to us.

Young Africans need to be placed on a better leverage for success

The AFCFTA is the leverage