

**NON-TARIFF MEASURES WEEK**  
**TRADE REGULATIONS AND VOLUNTARY SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS**

**9-11 October 2018**

**NTMs and the Africa's behind the border Agenda**

by

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD

# NTMs and the Africa's behind the border Agenda

Komi Tsowou

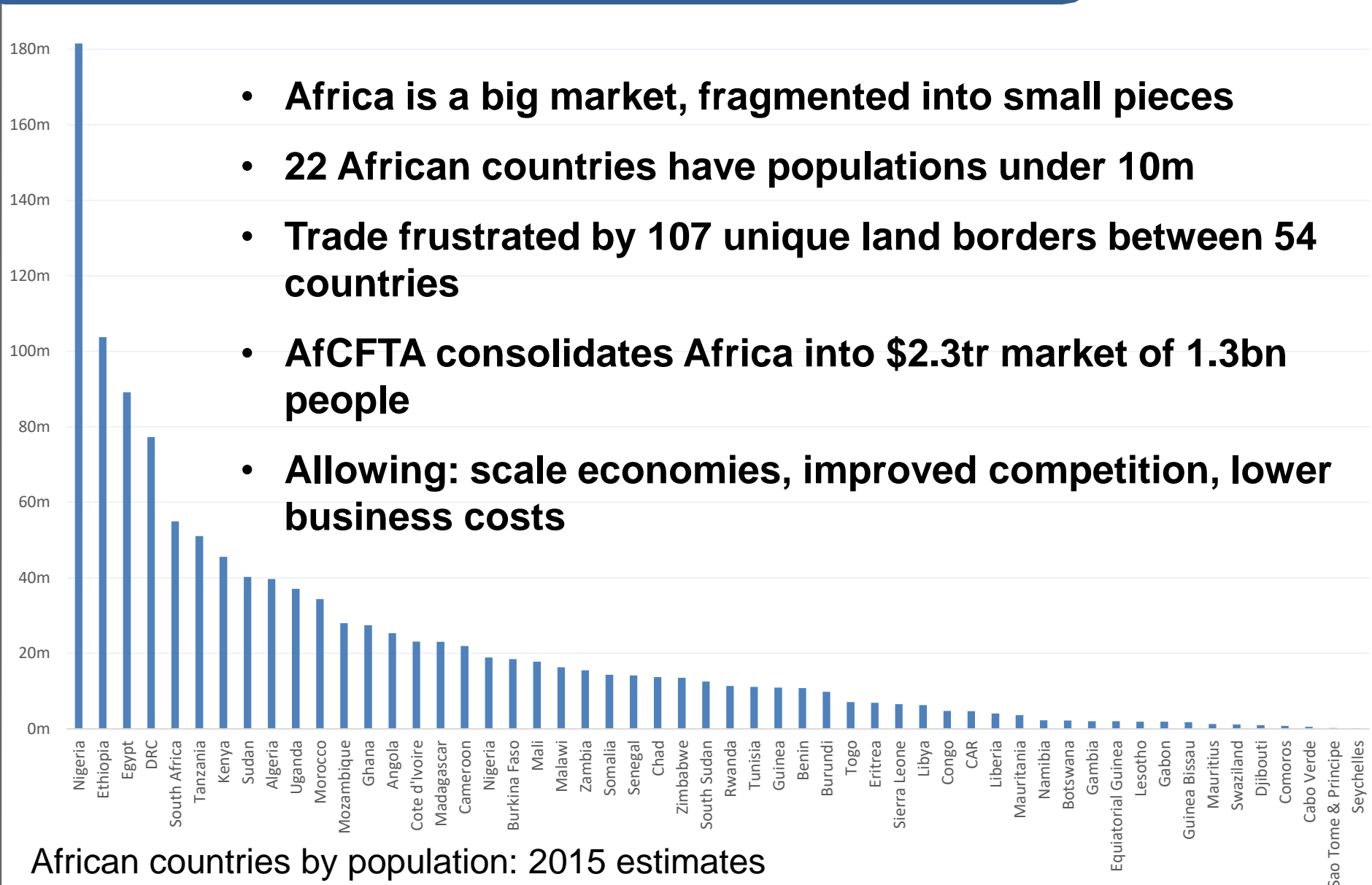
African Trade Policy Center  
Regional Integration and Trade Division  
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

- **AfCFTA : scope and rationale**
- **NTMs in Africa's behind the border Agenda**
- **NTMs and Data challenges for Africa**

# AfCFTA Rationale







- Africa is a big market, fragmented into small pieces
- 22 African countries have populations under 10m
- Trade frustrated by 107 unique land borders between 54 countries
- AfCFTA consolidates Africa into \$2.3tr market of 1.3bn people
- Allowing: scale economies, improved competition, lower business costs



## Status update

- 7 ratifications
- 49 signings
- 3 further commitments (Kigali Dec)
- 3 without commitment

### State of the AfCFTA

-  Ratified
-  Signed
-  Kigali Declaration only
-  No commitment

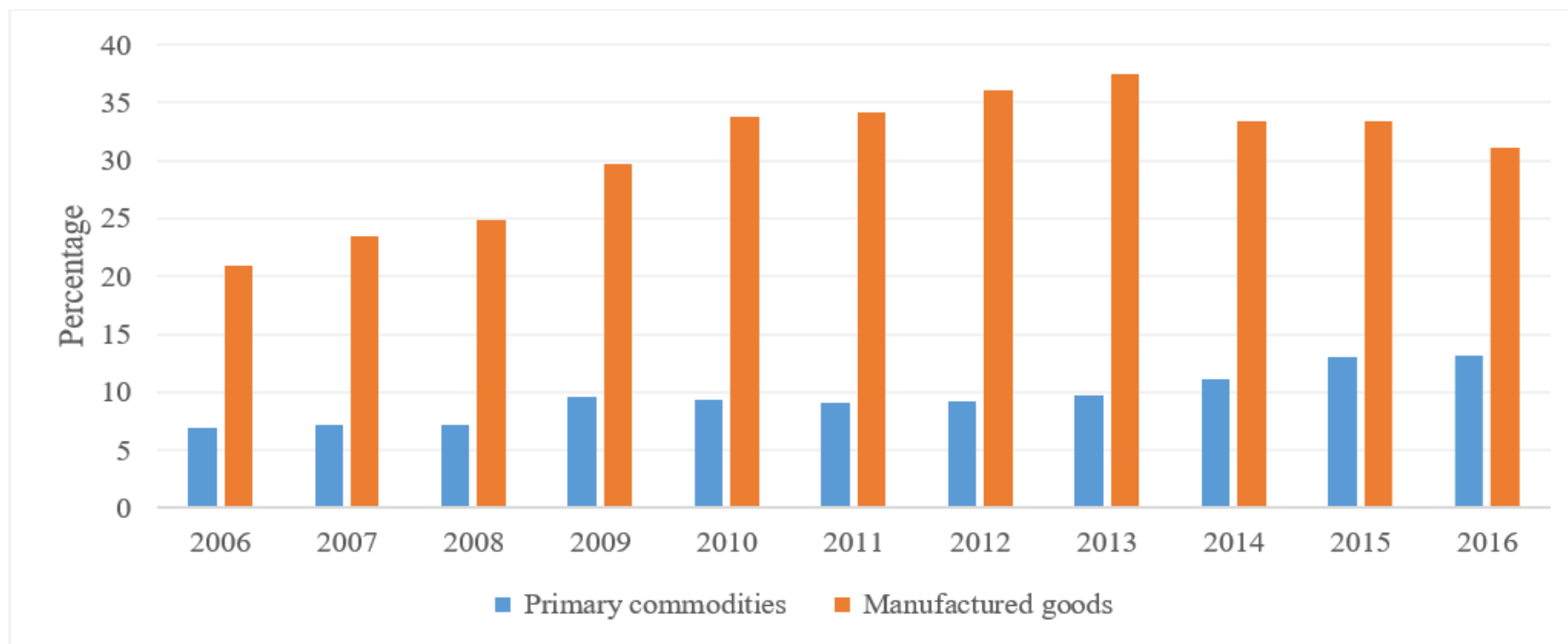


# AfCFTA ...Imperative to support Africa's trade and industrialization (Value Addition)



Africa predominantly trade manufactured products with itself

*Figure 1 : Intra-African exports (percentage) of total exports for primary commodities and manufactured goods (2006-2016)*

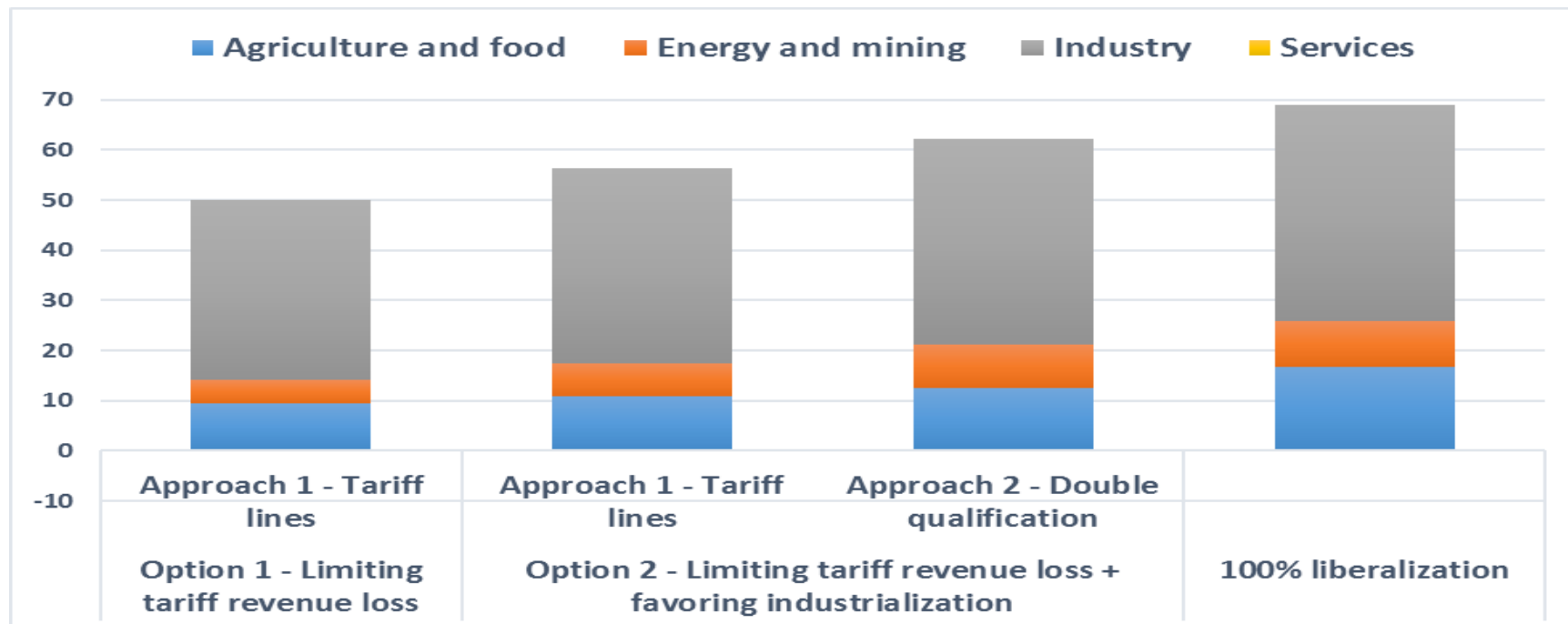


Source: Based on data from UNCTADStat (<http://unctadstat.unctad.org>), accessed on 28/08/2018

**AfCFTA is expected to scale up intra-African trade for value added products by reducing (removing) tariffs and non-tariffs barriers to trade!**

# Potential impacts of the AfCFTA .. Some preliminary estimates by ECA

Changes in intra-African trade by main sectors for selected scenarios, as compared to the baseline without AfCFTA in place - 2040 - US\$ bn



**Yet for the Africa's behind the border Agenda to achieve its expected results, addressing current bottlenecks including tariffs and non-tariffs barriers is very critical!**

## AfCFTA :

- More than a traditional FTA, beyond trade in goods to trade in services... but also Investments, intellectual property and competition policy;
- Complemented by Protocol on Free Movement of Persons and Single African Air Transport Market Initiative among others;
- Special attention to NTMs
  - e.g. Protocol on Trade in Goods aims progressive elimination of NTBs and facilitate trade;
  - Trade facilitation (Annex 4); Non-tariffs barriers (Annex 5: ); TBTs (Annex 6); SPS measures (Annex 7)



# NTMs in Africa's behind the border Agenda



## BIAT - Boosting Intra-African Trade (7 Clusters)

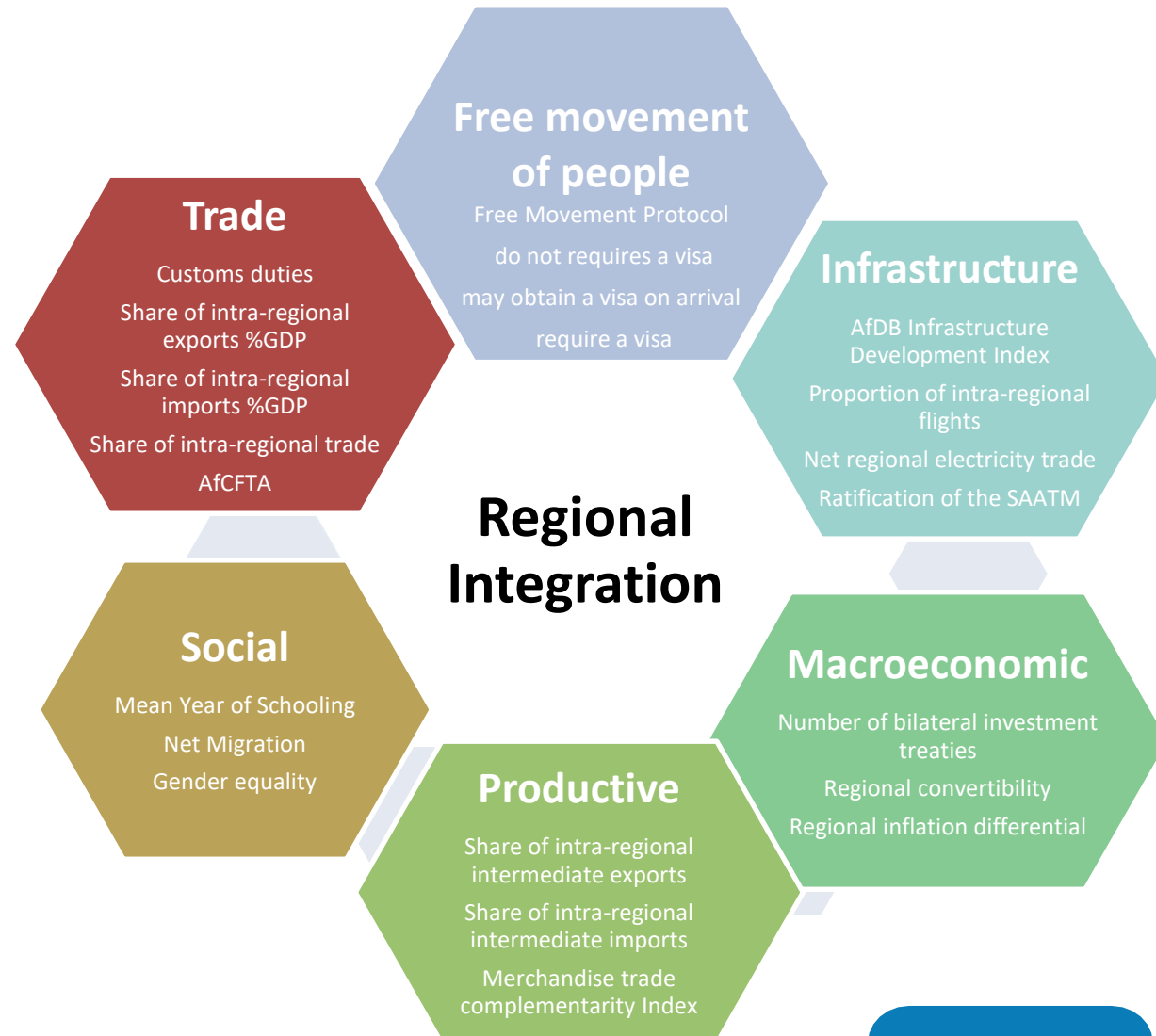
- Trade policy;
- Trade facilitation;
- Productive capacity;
- Trade-related infrastructure
- Trade finance;
- Trade information; and
- Factor market integration



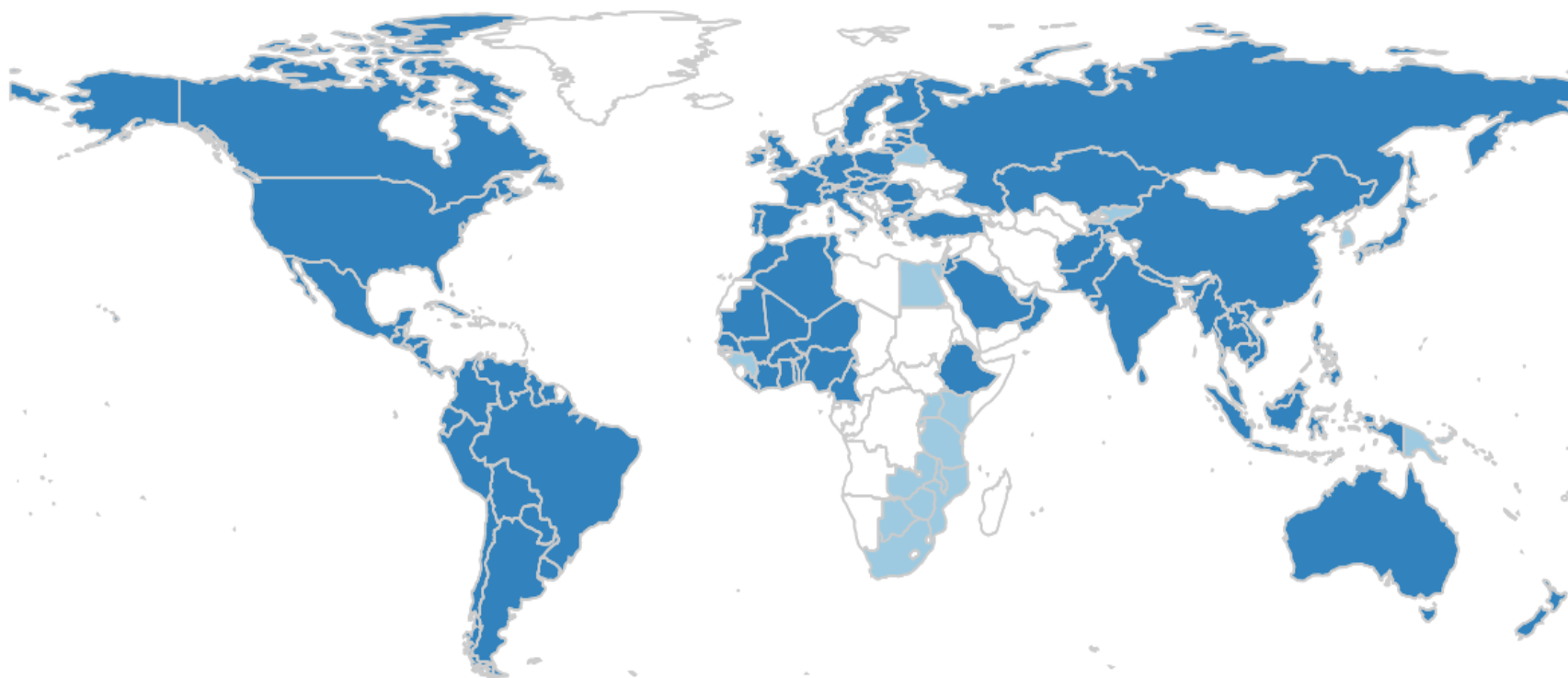
ECA support to the RECS to strengthen **monitoring of progress** on the seven BIAT clusters through a number of indicators incl. **on sub-cluster on NTMs related** – UNCTAD Database on NTMs useful

## Africa Regional Integration Index to assess efforts and outcomes

**Next step : NTMs indicators (?)**



# NTMs and AfCFTA - Data challenge



● Data is available    ● In progress



- **AfCFTA National implementation Strategies** (ECA led) :to complement the broader trade policy of each State Party to the Agreement and identify for that particular country, the key production and trade opportunities, current constraints and steps required for it to take full advantage of national, regional and global markets in the AfCFTA context;
- **AfCFTA Country business Index** (ECA led) : Assessing and monitoring constraints incl. NTBs faced by the private sector in the AfCFTA context. Key dimensions : AfCFTA implementation, easing trade in Africa, trade for development, and AfCFTA Impact;
- **African Trade Observatory** (AUC led): information bank / monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the AfCFTA. Data on levels and structures of intra-African trade; Rules of Origin; tariff levels and structures; non–tariff barriers; trade regulations; technical standards;

The logo features a white silhouette of the African continent on the left. To its right, the word "AFRICA" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, enclosed within a white rectangular box. Below this box, the word "FIRST" is written in a larger, bold, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is centered against a background of vertical, light blue bars of varying heights.

# THANK YOU!

more info: [www.uneca.org](http://www.uneca.org)