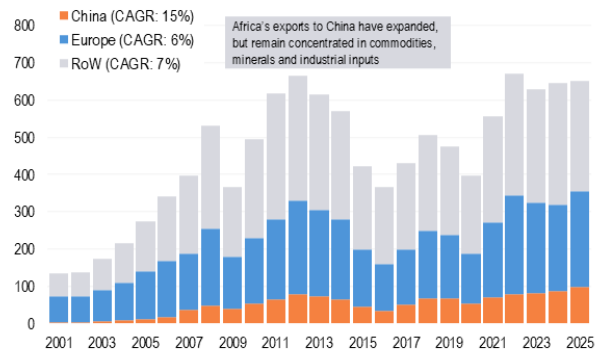


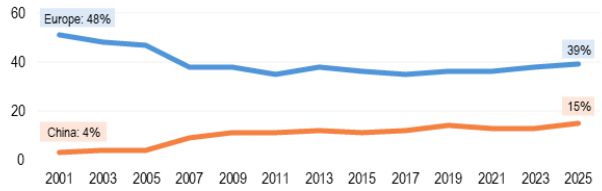
Africa's Trade Is Shifting Increasingly Toward China

China's share of Africa's trade has expanded sharply since 2001, with imports from China now matching Europe's share as trade increasingly shifts toward machinery, vehicles, electronics and clean-tech products.

Africa Exports to China, Europe and Rest of World, USD bn (2001-2025)

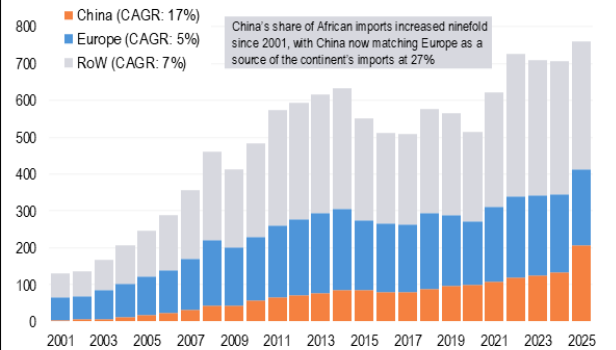


Share of Africa Exports: Europe and China, % (2001-2025)

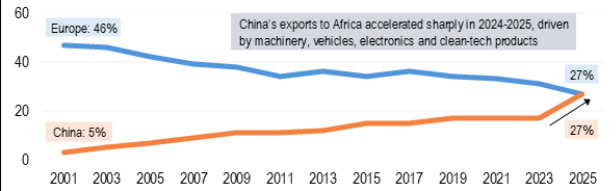


Source: UN Comtrade, Trade Map, ANDAMAN PARTNERS Analysis

Africa Imports from China, Europe and Rest of World, USD bn (2001-2025)



Share of Africa Imports: Europe and China, % (2001-2025)



China's role in Africa's trade has expanded dramatically over the past two decades, transforming from a relatively minor trading relationship in the early 2000s into one of the continent's most important external economic partnerships. While Europe remains Africa's largest export destination, China has rapidly caught up as a source of imports, with both now accounting for 27% of Africa's import market. The shift reflects not only the scale of China-Africa trade growth, but also the changing composition of the relationship itself.

Africa's exports to China remain heavily concentrated in commodities, minerals and industrial inputs, including crude oil, copper, cobalt, iron ore and other resource-linked products. Imports from China have broadened significantly beyond low-cost consumer goods into machinery, vehicles, electronics, construction equipment and increasingly clean-tech products such as solar components and batteries.

Recent trade growth in 2024-2025 points to further deepening integration, with Chinese industrial exports gaining share across African infrastructure, energy and consumer markets. These trends highlight how China is becoming increasingly embedded in Africa's industrial, consumer and supply-chain landscape.



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