

EU-27 and Africa: selected indicators, comparisons and trends – 2009-2010

Africa: key energy supplier and major market for the EU-27

Africa's population growth has far outstripped that of Europe and projections suggest it will continue to do so. Africa is expected to represent 15% of the world population by 2050 compared with 10.8% in 1980. At the same time, the share of EU-27 in the world population is forecast to fall from 10.3 % to 7.3%.

Inward investment flows into Africa per capita have been much steadier in recent years than those of the EU-27.

South Africa and Egypt were the most favoured destinations for EU-27 outward investment while France and the UK accounted for most of the total.

The EU-27 deficit in trade with Africa is due to imports of mineral fuels, crude oil and natural gas.

South Africa and the North African countries were key African markets for EU-27 exports.

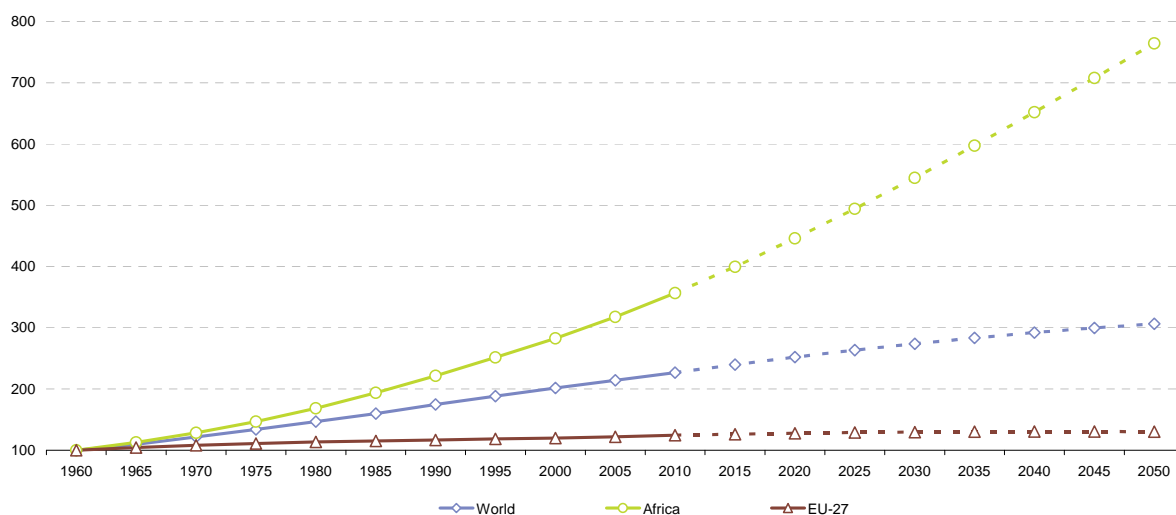
Libya and Algeria, both major energy sources, headed the list of African suppliers of EU-27 imports. South Africa, thanks to its mineral resources, was third.

The economic capacities of individual African countries vary widely between those which are rich in natural resources and those with few or none. Energy-rich countries such as Equatorial Guinea and Gabon with small populations have very high levels of GDP per capita. Others to emerge are those with well-developed tourism industries (Seychelles and Mauritius) or a substantial mining sector (Botswana, South Africa and Namibia).

The mobile-phone market has risen strongly in both the EU-27 and Africa since 2002, with a tenfold rise in Africa.

In 2009, 43.9% of the African population owned a mobile phone compared with 4.3% in 2002.

Figure 1: Population index (1960 = 100)



Source: United Nations Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Eurostat (online data code: [demo_pjan](#) and [proj_10c2150p](#))

This publication has been prepared to accompany the recently released statistical compendium 'The European Union and the African Union — A statistical portrait'.

Strong growth in Africa's population

Table 1: Population (in 1000)

	1980	2000	2010	Growth rate 1980/2010	Annual average growth rate 1980/2010	Share of females (2010)	Share of active population (2010)
World	4 453 007	6 122 770	6 895 889	54.9%	1.5%	49.6%	:
EU-27 ⁽¹⁾	457 049	482 768	501 106	9.6%	0.3%	51.2%	47.8%
Africa	481 519	818 270	1 031 472	114.2%	2.6%	50.1%	40.1%
Of which:							
Nigeria	74 523	124 842	158 259	112.4%	2.5%	49.9%	32.4%
Ethiopia	35 409	65 515	84 976	140.0%	3.0%	50.2%	48.6%
Egypt	44 433	70 174	84 474	90.1%	2.2%	49.7%	33.2%
Congo, Dem. Republic	27 170	50 829	67 827	149.6%	3.1%	50.4%	38.0%
South Africa	29 075	44 872	50 492	73.7%	1.9%	50.7%	38.5%
Tanzania	18 661	34 131	45 040	141.4%	3.0%	50.1%	48.9%
Sudan	20 509	34 904	43 192	110.6%	2.5%	49.6%	32.1%
Kenya	16 261	31 441	40 863	151.3%	3.1%	50.0%	47.1%
Algeria	18 811	30 506	35 423	88.3%	2.1%	49.5%	42.9%
Uganda	12 655	24 433	33 796	167.1%	3.3%	49.9%	43.3%

(1) Data are estimated for 2010

Source: Nations Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division of African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [demo_pjan](#) and [lfsi_act_a](#))

In 1980, the populations of the EU-27 and Africa were broadly the same. By 2010, Africa's population was more than double the EU-27's and projections indicate that by 2050 Africa's population will be more than four times bigger than the EU-27's (Figure 1, Table 1). This is the result of a high and continuing growth rate in Africa's population (2.6% per annum between 1980 and 2010) compared with a much slower growth (0.3% per annum between the same years) and even projected declines for the EU-27's population. In 2010, the share of females in Africa's population

was just over half. The active population was 40%, compared with 48% for the EU-27.

There have been very high population growth rates for individual African countries: Uganda, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Ethiopia have seen rises of 140% or more between 1980 and 2010.

In 2010, Nigeria had the highest population in Africa with 158 million, followed by Ethiopia and Egypt, both with around 85 million. South Africa, the continent's economic giant, had a population of 50 million.

Investment flows between the EU-27 and Africa

Figure 2: Foreign direct investment — inward flows index based on EUR per capita (2005 = 100)



Source: Statistics Division of the African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [tec00049](#) and [demo_pjan](#))

Measured in terms of EUR per capita, the EU-27's inward investment flows have been erratic in recent years (Figure 2), reaching its highest level in 2007, before falling back in 2008 and again in 2010 to reach a level below the 2005 figure. The flows into Africa showed a steadier pattern until 2008 before a small decline in 2009.

Flows of investment from Africa to the EU-27 peaked sharply at over EUR 7 billion in 2008 but then fell to less than EUR 1 billion in 2009 (Table 2). South Africa and Egypt figured strongly as investors in the EU-27, while Nigeria and Morocco were net disinvestors in 2009. Luxembourg and France were the main recipients. Outward

Table 2: EU-27 inward FDI flows from Africa, 2010 (million EUR)

	Inward FDI flows		
	2007	2008	2009
Africa	3 875	7 195	905
Of which:			
South Africa	1 861	2 476	1 008
Egypt	-541	791	111
Morocco	115	-24	-178
Nigeria	-186	520	-411
Main EU countries involved in 2009			
Luxembourg	750	608	1 687
France	764	245	681
Spain	214	452	181
Portugal	6	51	116

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop_fdi_main](#))

investment flows from the EU-27 to Africa were steadier and much larger, reaching EUR 24 billion in 2008 and then falling to EUR 21 billion in 2009. The main recipients were South Africa and Egypt (Table 3). Each country received around EUR 14 billion over the three years 2007 to 2009 but inflows to Egypt had a pronounced peak of EUR 11 billion in 2008. The major investors in Africa included France, with a total of EUR 21 billion from 2007 to 2009 but with a sharp peak of EUR 12 billion in 2008. The UK invested EUR 15 billion over the same three years but with a fall to less than EUR 1 billion in 2008. Luxembourg and Italy were also sizeable investors.

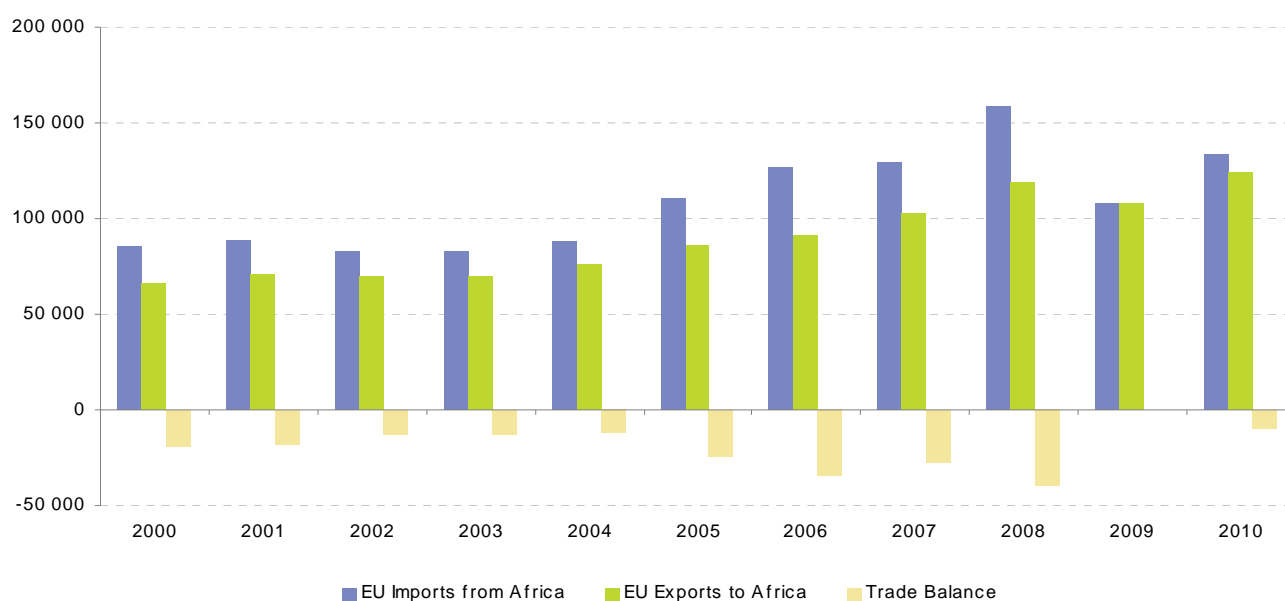
Table 3: EU-27 outward FDI flows to Africa, 2010 (million EUR)

	Outward FDI flows		
	2007	2008	2009
Africa	17 015	24 144	20 963
Of which:			
South Africa	5 118	3 018	5 918
Egypt	1 550	10 645	2 122
Morocco	901	1 413	880
Nigeria	1 917	1 877	771
Main EU countries involved in 2009			
United Kingdom	6 906	956	7 408
France	3 402	12 304	5 029
Luxembourg	794	709	1 439
Italy	121	1 215	1 243

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop_fdi_main](#))

Imports of mineral fuels behind the EU's deficit on trade with Africa

Figure 3: EU-27 trade in goods with Africa (EUR million)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [DS_018995](#))

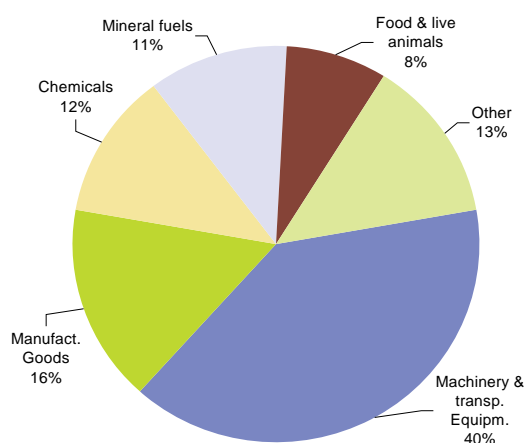
Over the years from 2000 to 2010, the EU-27 ran a consistent deficit on its trade in goods with Africa. This reflects Africa's position as a major supplier of mineral-fuel imports to the EU. As a percentage of total trade (imports plus exports), the deficit reached 16% in 2006, followed by 12% in 2007 and 14% in 2008. In 2009, the impact of the World financial crisis intervened, substantially reducing EU-27 imports but with a smaller impact on exports. This led to the EU-27's trade deficit with Africa virtually disappearing. It re-emerged in 2010 as the EU-27 economies recovered along with their thirst for mineral fuels. However, at 3% of total trade, it remained the smallest figure recorded since 2000, leaving aside the exceptional 2009 figure. Except for the years 2002 and 2009, the import trend has been one of growth, with a particularly

dynamic period between 2004 and 2008. Imports grew by 26% in 2005 and 22% in 2008, when they reached EUR 158 billion. A decline of 32% followed in 2009 before there was a partial recovery in 2010 with a rise of 22%.

EU-27 exports to Africa followed a similar pattern to imports but generally at a more subdued level. Again there were falls in 2002 and 2009 but at nowhere near the same level as for imports.

Exports also experienced dynamic growth between 2004 and 2008, with the annual growth rate of 16% in 2008. The decline, 10% in 2009, was much less marked than for imports and the recovery in 2010 of 16% more than made up the ground lost the previous year with exports recording a new high of EUR 124 billion.

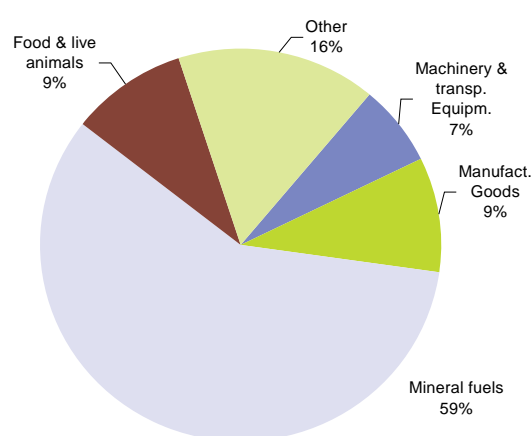
Figure 4: EU-27 exports of goods to Africa by SITC product groups, in 2010 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [DS_018995](#))

Concerning the EU-27's exports to Africa in 2010, machinery and transport equipment accounted for 40%, while manufactured goods made up 16%, chemicals 12%, mineral fuels 11% and food and live animals 8%. South Africa was the main market, with 17% of the total, whilst Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Nigeria all recorded around 10%. Libya was next with 5%. At a more detailed product level, South Africa and three North Africa countries, Algeria, Egypt and Morocco were the major markets for machinery and transport equipment and chemicals. For manufactured goods classified by material, the same countries were joined by Tunisia, Algeria being the major market. For mineral fuels, Nigeria was by far the major market, with Tunisia the other major country to figure. For food and live animals, Algeria stood out alongside Egypt and Morocco. Overall, the geographical closeness of the North African countries was an important factor in their position as major export markets for the EU-27.

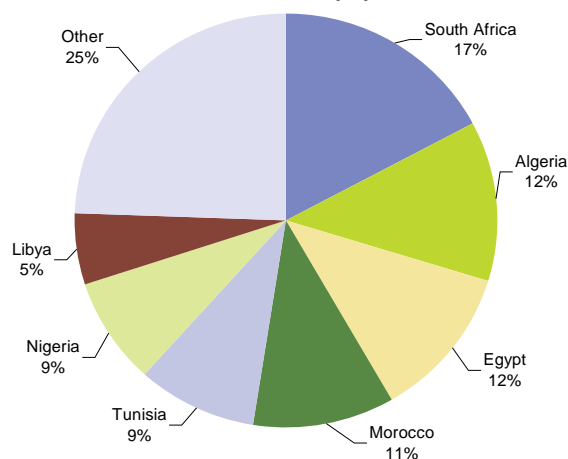
Figure 5: EU-27 imports of goods from Africa by SITC product groups, in 2010 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [DS_018995](#))

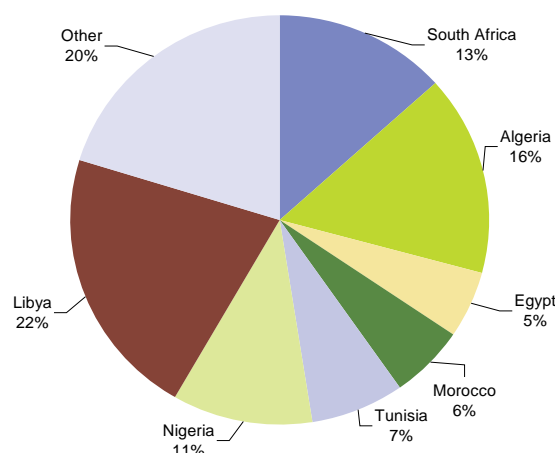
For imports from Africa in 2010, mineral fuels were the dominant product and accounted for 59% of the total, since Africa is home to a number of major producers. At the country level, Libya was the largest source of imports with 22%, followed by Algeria (16%), South Africa (13%) and Nigeria (11%). At a more detailed product level, Libya, Algeria and Nigeria were the main suppliers to the EU-27 of mineral fuels. South Africa dominated the supply of manufactured goods classified by material, taking nearly half the total. Mozambique and Egypt were also important suppliers. A different picture emerges with regard to food. Here the Ivory Coast, with its supplies of cocoa, is the largest supplier (17%), followed by Morocco (14%), South Africa (13%) and Ghana (10%). For machinery and transport equipment, South Africa was the leading African supplier with 39%, closely followed by Tunisia (34%) and more distantly by Morocco (17%).

Figure 6: EU-27 exports of goods to Africa by countries, in 2010 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [DS_018995](#))

Figure 7: EU-27 imports of goods from Africa by countries, in 2010 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [DS_018995](#))

Government expenditure and revenue: wide differences between countries and the two Unions

In the EU-27, government expenditure as a percentage of GDP was just over 50% in 2010, a rise of some 4 percentage points since 2001, with most of the increase coming after 2008 as the impact of the World financial crisis made itself felt (Table 4). For Africa as a whole, by contrast, government expenditure was under 30% and had risen by some 2.6 percentage points since 2001. In large part, this difference reflects the very different stages in the economic development of the two continents.

However the African average masks significant differences between countries. There are some (Lesotho, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Algeria and the Cape Verde islands) with a substantial resource base which means that their expenditure matches or

exceeds that of the EU. At the other extreme, there are a number of countries with very low rates of government expenditure (Ethiopia, Gambia, Uganda and Nigeria).

Government revenue as a percentage of GDP has remained relatively stable since 2001 at around 44% for the EU-27. Again, there are significant differences between African countries. One group, including Libya, Lesotho, Equatorial Guinea and the Congo, has rates of government revenue over 50% and, in the case of Libya and Lesotho, close to 70%. In a second group, the rate of government revenue as a percentage of GDP is less than one sixth. This group includes Uganda, Madagascar, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Niger.

Table 4: Government expenditure (% of GDP)

	2001	2005	2008	2010
EU-27	46.2	46.9	46.9	50.3
Africa	26.6	24.5	27.0	29.2
Of which:				
Lesotho	50.3	44.4	55.7	70.8
Equatorial Guinea	12.5	16.0	25.5	49.7
Libya	39.0	33.5	43.0	47.4
Algeria	31.6	27.2	35.4	44.4
Cape Verde	32.3	35.0	31.1	44.2
Madagascar	18.4	21.0	18.5	16.9
Ethiopia	23.4	23.1	19.4	16.8
Gambia	31.1	22.1	26.0	16.7
Uganda	20.0	18.0	18.6	14.8
Nigeria	51.1	13.0	30.0	13.4

Source: Statistics Division of African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [gov_a_main](#))

Table 5: Government revenue (% of GDP)

	2001	2005	2008	2010
EU-27	44.8	44.4	44.6	43.9
Africa	23.3	25.4	28.4	26.7
Of which:				
Libya	38.3	62.9	69.9	68.3
Lesotho	48.9	52.5	66.2	65.9
Equatorial Guinea	28.8	37.1	48.4	51.2
Congo	30.7	38.8	52.1	51.0
Algeria	35.1	40.8	41.4	40.3
Niger	16.7	18.2	29.9	15.7
Ethiopia	19.5	18.9	16.4	15.6
Central African Republic	12.8	12.4	15.1	15.6
Madagascar	14.0	12.3	16.6	14.8
Uganda	17.5	17.3	16.2	13.2

Source: Statistics Division of African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [gov_a_main](#))

Table 6: GDP per capita, 2001-2009 (EUR)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
EU-27	19 800	20 500	20 700	21 700	22 500	23 700	25 000	25 000	23 500
Africa	1 169	1 122	1 108	1 219	1 358	1 518	1 556	1 687	1 497
Of which:									
Equatorial Guinea	3 474	3 990	4 281	6 531	9 457	10 974	12 380	16 388	10 783
Seychelles	8 934	9 620	8 064	8 502	8 975	9 812	8 956	7 441	6 736
Libya	6 968	4 217	4 136	4 650	6 132	7 311	7 450	8 757	6 591
Gabon	4 171	4 100	4 123	4 333	5 057	5 489	5 895	6 741	5 306
Mauritius	4 195	4 180	4 107	4 167	4 010	4 137	4 339	4 920	4 799
Botswana	3 851	3 684	4 040	4 485	4 456	4 843	4 796	4 750	4 237
South Africa	2 904	2 577	3 218	3 740	4 106	4 306	4 268	3 754	4 063
Tunisia	2 582	2 577	2 535	2 581	2 610	2 766	2 834	2 985	3 052
Namibia	2 127	1 898	2 284	2 716	2 888	3 126	3 095	2 849	3 046
Algeria	1 974	1 936	1 907	2 137	2 510	2 820	2 927	3 377	2 845

Source: Statistics Division of African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [nama_gdp_c](#))

Table 6 shows the top ten African countries in terms of GDP per capita. At the head of the list is Equatorial Guinea, where GDP per capita rose at an annual rate of 15 % between 2001 and 2009, reflecting the development and exploitation of its large mineral oil resources and its small population.

Second and fifth in the list are the Seychelles and Mauritius, two well-developed island economies based on tourism industries. However, the Seychelles has seen its GDP per capita fall by an average of 3 % per annum since 2001.

Libya, Gabon and Algeria, three other oil-rich nations the first two of which also have relatively small populations, are third, fourth and tenth respectively. Their GDP per capita has decreased in 2009 compared to 2008.

Botswana, South Africa and Namibia, all largely dependent on mining and with diamonds one key factor for all three countries, are sixth, seventh and ninth respectively. All have recorded growth since 2001 at annual average rates of 1 % for Botswana, 4 % for South Africa and 5 % for Namibia.

In eighth place is Tunisia which has a very mixed economy, combining tourism, manufacturing and agriculture. With some minor setbacks, its GDP per capita has grown steadily since 2001 at an average of 2 % per annum. One can also notice that only South Africa, Tunisia and Namibia saw an increase of the GDP per capita in 2009 compared with 2008.

The inexorable rise of the mobile phone in Africa

Table 7: Number of mobile phone subscriptions (per 1 000 inhabitants)

	2002	2008	2009
EU-27	710	1 220	1 250
Africa	43	377	439
Of which:			
Seychelles	545	1 115	1 314
Botswana	188	773	961
Tunisia	60	846	954
Algeria	14	927	938
Gabon	217	898	931
South Africa	297	906	927
Mauritius	286	812	844
Gambia	72	702	840
Morocco	210	722	791
Libya	13	767	779

Source: Statistics Division of African Union Commission and Eurostat (online data code: [tin00060](#))

Between 2002 and 2009, the number of mobile phones per thousand inhabitants in the EU-27 rose from 710 to 1250, with an annual average rise of 8 %.

For Africa as a whole, the number of mobile phones per 1000 inhabitants rose more than tenfold over the same period, from 43 to 439, and a growth rate of 16.5% between 2008 and 2009. Among the top ten African countries for mobile phone penetration, the Seychelles had the highest level at 1314 in 2009. Algeria and Libya recorded the fastest growth rate over the period from 2002 to 2009: Algeria rising from 14 per thousand inhabitants to 938 while Libya's penetration rose from 13 to 779. In both cases this represented annual average growth rates going beyond 80 %.

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

This publication has been prepared to accompany the recently released statistical compendium 'The European Union and the African Union — A statistical portrait', which presents a range of statistics on African countries and the EU-27.

The aggregate Africa presented in this publication includes the following countries:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Please note that although statistics for Morocco are presented in this publication Morocco is not a member of the African Union.

EU-27: European Union composed of 27 Member States: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Data sources:

The statistics shown in this publication for the African countries were provided by the Statistics Division of the African Union Commission in May 2011. These data were produced by the National Statistical Institutes or National Central Banks of the African countries or by international organisations (United Nations, OECD, IMF, World Bank and ILO).

EU-27 data presented in this publication have been processed and calculated by Eurostat on the basis of information provided by the National Statistical Institutes of the 27 Member States of the European Union. The figures presented in this publication have been extracted from Eurostat's free dissemination database and reflect the state of data availability in October 2011.

Population (Figure 1 and Table 1)

For World, Africa and EU-27, the population on 1st January is presented. It corresponds to the inhabitants of a given area on 1 January of the year in question (or, in some cases, on 31 December of

the previous year). The population is based on data from the most recent census adjusted by the components of population change produced since the last census, or based on population registers.

For individual African countries, the mid-year population is presented. It relates to de facto population — i.e. all persons who are present in a given area — on a date close to 1 July. It includes, for instance, all foreigners on holiday in that area on the reference date and excludes residents on holiday in another area

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is the category of international investment made by an entity resident in one economy (direct investor) to acquire a lasting interest in an enterprise operating in another economy (direct investment enterprise). The lasting interest is deemed to exist if the direct investor acquires at least 10% of the voting power of the direct investment enterprise.

Inward flows of FDI (or FDI flows in the reporting economy, or FDI inflows) are direct investment transactions by foreigners in enterprises resident in the reporting territory. These statistics are based on the OECD's Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment, third edition (developed in line with the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual, fifth edition)

Data on the trade of goods are also available in Eurostat's Comext database. In the methodology applied for the statistics on the trading of goods between Member States and non-member countries (extra-EU trade), statistics do not record exchanges involving goods in transit, placed in a customs warehouse or given temporary admission (for trade fairs, temporary exhibitions, tests, etc.). This is known as 'special trade'. So the partner will be the country of final destination of the goods.

SITC classification (Figures 4 and 5):

Information on commodities exported and imported is presented according to the SITC classification (Standard International Trade Classification) at a general level. A full description is available through Eurostat's classification server RAMON, accessible through <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/>

Government revenue includes all non-repayable receipts, required and unrequired, current and capital, and non-compulsory, non-repayable, unrequired receipts from other governments (domestic or foreign) and international institutions.

Government expenditure corresponds to all non-reimbursable payments by government, whether required or unrequired and whether current or capital, as well as government transactions in debt and equity claims upon others acquired for purposes of public policy

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the total final market value of all goods and services produced within a country during a given period. GDP is the most frequently used indicator of economic activity and is most often measured on an annual or quarterly basis to gauge the growth of a country's economy between one period and another. GDP is also a measure of total consumer, investment and government spending plus the value of exports minus imports. GDP is the most widely used indicator from the System of National

Accounts (SNA). Its methodology is standardised internationally thus enabling comparison between countries anywhere in the world

GDP per capita is an indicator that is derived through the division of GDP by the total population

Number of mobile phone subscriptions per 1 000 inhabitants gives the number of subscribers per 1 000 inhabitants to the services of the operators offering mobile telecommunication connected to an automatic public mobile telephone service using cellular technology. It also includes pre-paid cards. One person may have more than one subscription.

This publication was prepared with the assistance of Richard Butchart, Marianne Doul and Manuel Da Silva.

Further information

Eurostat Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Data on 'External trade statistics'

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/external_trade/data/database

Further information about 'External trade statistics'

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/external_trade/introduction

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