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MSR

Working Papers No. 28

May 2026

Impact of China's Zero Import Tariffs: Where do IsDB MCs stand and the sectors to leverage

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Publisher and Distributor

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Impact of China's Zero Import Tariffs: Where do IsDB MCs stand and the sectors to leverage.[1]

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23 February 2026

Abstract

This research paper examines the implications of China's zero import tariff policy on African member countries of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), effective from May 1, 2026. The policy aims to enhance Africa-China trade by removing tariffs on imports from 53 African countries, potentially shifting

[1] The author acknowledges the support of Br. Mohamed Elgoussi in organizing the trade data.

[2] **Disclaimer**: The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this publication are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group, their Board of Governors, Board of Executive Directors, or the Governments they represent. IsDB Group does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this publication and accepts no liability for any consequence of their use. This publication is provided without any warranty of any kind whatsoever, either express or implied.

trade patterns towards higher value-added exports. While countries like Morocco, Nigeria, and Tunisia are projected to see significant gains, structural constraints may limit benefits for others. The policy is expected to foster inclusive growth and job creation, benefiting women and youth. However, challenges such as logistics bottlenecks and product compliance issues need addressing. Long-term strategies should focus on upgrading industrial capabilities and diversifying exports to enhance trade balances and promote sustainable growth.

- **Simulation-based Results:**
    - Removing Chinese import tariffs is expected to boost exports from Africa, including IsDB member countries, especially in higher value-added sectors.
    - Notable gains are recorded for Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, and Tunisia—particularly in textiles, processed food, manufacturing, livestock, and fishing.
    - Cameroon shows textiles growth of +106.4%; Côte d'Ivoire leads in livestock at +57.88%; Egypt posts textiles gains of +87.57%; Morocco records textiles at +100.35%; Nigeria's light manufacturing rises by +68.5%; and Tunisia's textiles increase by +94.28%.
    - Some surges reflect low starting bases—e.g., 2023 textile exports to China were small: Nigeria US$1.4m, Morocco US$1.7m, Tunisia US$3.2m.
    - The findings indicate a likely shift of Africa's exports to China from raw commodities toward more processed and semi-processed goods, with extractives remaining subdued.
    - GTAP-based results suggest uneven benefits: some countries gain substantially, while others face structural constraints that may limit their ability to capitalize on tariff removal.
    - As a result, the overall gains in GDP and welfare increases were limited, and in many countries negligible.
    - Furthermore, China's zero-tariff policy resulted in trade balance deterioration for most IsDB Member Countries except for Burkina Faso and Uganda, with Egypt experiencing the largest decline at US$50.51 million, indicating African nations are importing more from China than exporting.

- **Key Messages:**
- **Sectoral Gains and Shifts**: The removal of Chinese import tariffs is expected to significantly boost exports from African countries, particularly in light manufacturing sectors such as textiles and processed foods. Countries like Morocco, Nigeria, and Tunisia are projected to see substantial increases in textile exports, indicating a shift from raw commodities to more processed goods.
- **Inclusive Growth and Job Creation**: The policy is anticipated to foster inclusive growth and job creation, especially benefiting women and youth, by leveraging labor-intensive sectors. This aligns with the broader goal of promoting sustainable economic development across the continent.
- **Structural Constraints and Policy Interventions**: While some countries may experience notable GDP and welfare gains, others face structural constraints that limit their ability to fully capitalize on these opportunities. Targeted policy interventions, such as addressing logistics bottlenecks and product compliance issues, are necessary to maximize the benefits of the tariff removal.

- **Long-term Strategic Opportunities**: In the long term, the zero import tariff policy presents a strategic opportunity for African countries to enhance their export profiles, reduce trade deficits, and promote sustainable growth. This requires upgrading industrial capabilities, diversifying export profiles, and investing in technology transfer and skills development, particularly in sectors like textiles and agro-processing.

1. Introduction

China has announced it will implement zero-tariff treatment on imports from 53 African countries with which it maintains diplomatic relations, effective May 1, 2026. This follows its 2024 FOCAC pledge to extend zero-tariff treatment to 100% of tariff lines for African exports, signaling a major broad-based market opening for the continent. Eswatini is the only African country excluded due to its diplomatic stance. This move positions China as a large, predictable destination for African goods at a time of heightened volatility in other markets and could materially alter Africa–China trade patterns in favor of higher value-added exports.

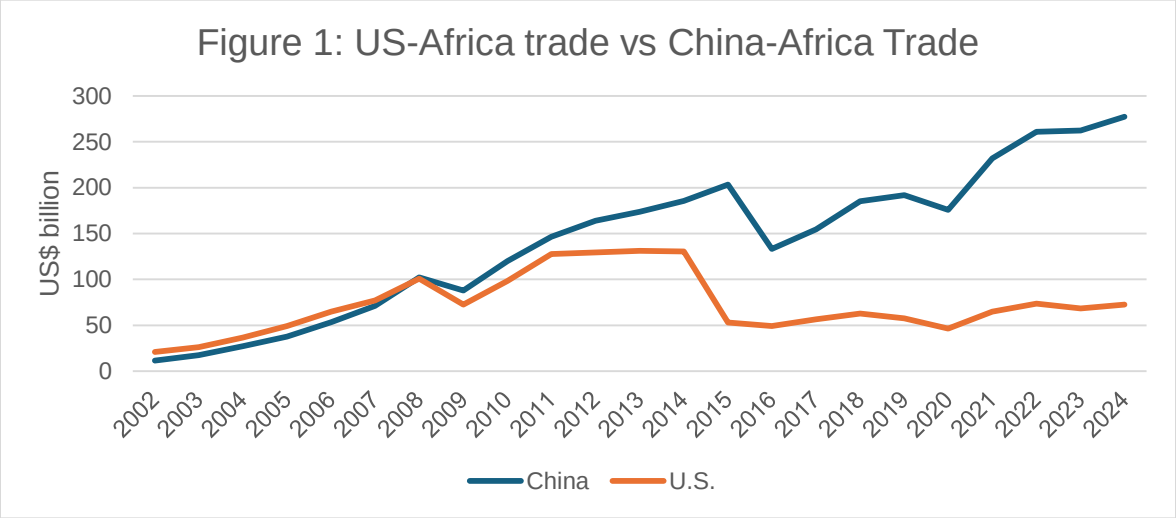
Before the new zero-tariff policy for 53 African countries, China mostly granted preferential or zero-tariff access to 33 “least developed” African nations. Key imports included minerals from the DRC and Guinea and early preferential agricultural products like tea and coffee from countries such as Kenya.

The objective of this topical issue paper is to simulate and assess the impact of China’s zero import tariff on African goods, with a focus on implications for the 27 IsDB member countries in Africa that stand to benefit from this tariff removal. Given the data constraints, only 13 MCs have separate GTAP SAM data, while other MCs do not have data or aggregated under “rest of Arica”, and this the standard procedure in the GTAP model. Given the policy’s broad, economy-wide ripple effects—spanning trade flows, sectoral output, prices, employment, and welfare – GTAP (Global Trade Analysis Project)-based analytical approach is the most suitable method for rigorous evaluation. GTAP’s global, multi-sector computable general equilibrium framework captures interlinked markets, supply chains, and terms-of-trade dynamics, allowing us to quantify both direct tariff-induced changes and indirect general equilibrium adjustments across countries and sectors.

Producing a topical issue paper on this subject is justified on several grounds. First, policy targeting requires robust evidence to prioritize trade facilitation, standards upgrading, and investment promotion so that preferential access is converted into actual contracts. Second, the reform directly advances South–South cooperation by deepening Africa–China trade and enabling technology and standards transfer, in line with IsDB’s cooperation agenda. Third, the gains can be harnessed for inclusive growth and jobs by leveraging labor-intensive sectors such as textiles and agro-processing, with particular benefits for women and youth. Fourth, realizing these gains hinges on risk management, addressing product compliance, logistics bottlenecks, standards alignment, and heterogeneous firm capabilities across member countries. Finally, translating results into action will enable the identification of priority, export-led investments tailored to IsDB member countries, maximizing uptake and impact.

2. Africa-China Trade

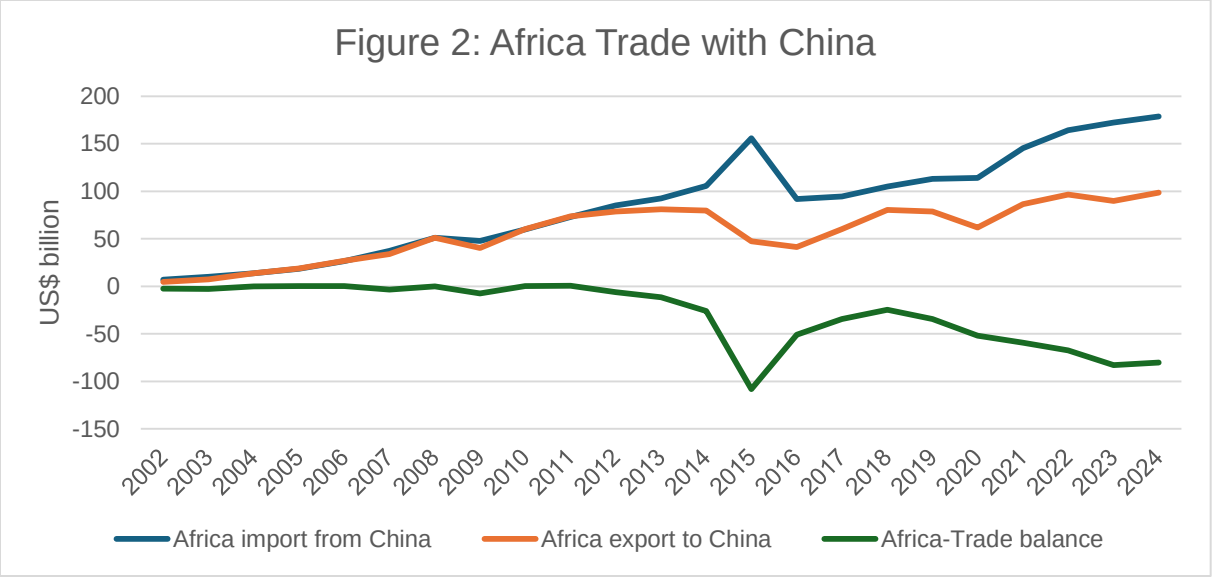
Since the Global Financial Crisis in 2008/2009, China has distinguished itself from the rest of the world in dealing with Africa. It has positioned Africa as its strategic partners on several platforms, especially trade and economic advancement. While, the USA engagement and trade diminish, China fills the vacuum and scales up. China's trade (export plus import) with Africa surges from US$87.9 billion in 2009 to US$ 277.2 billion in 2024, while the USA trade with Africa declines and stagnates (Figure 1).



Source: China-Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, 22 February 2026, https://www.sais-cari.org/chinese-investment-in-africa.

Africa's exports to China are led by crude oil, copper and iron ores, cobalt and other base metals, manganese, timber, and non-monetary gold, with LNG and other gas, seafood, and agri-commodities such as sesame, cashew, and cocoa also featuring; chromium and platinum group metals round out key exports. Composition varies by country—Angola focuses on crude, the DRC on copper and cobalt, South Africa on iron ore and PGMs, and Ghana on cocoa. Imports from China center on electricals, machinery, vehicles and parts, textiles, plastics, iron and steel, chemicals, appliances, and consumer goods, while solar panels and power equipment are rising; Nigeria and Egypt are major buyers of machinery and electricals.

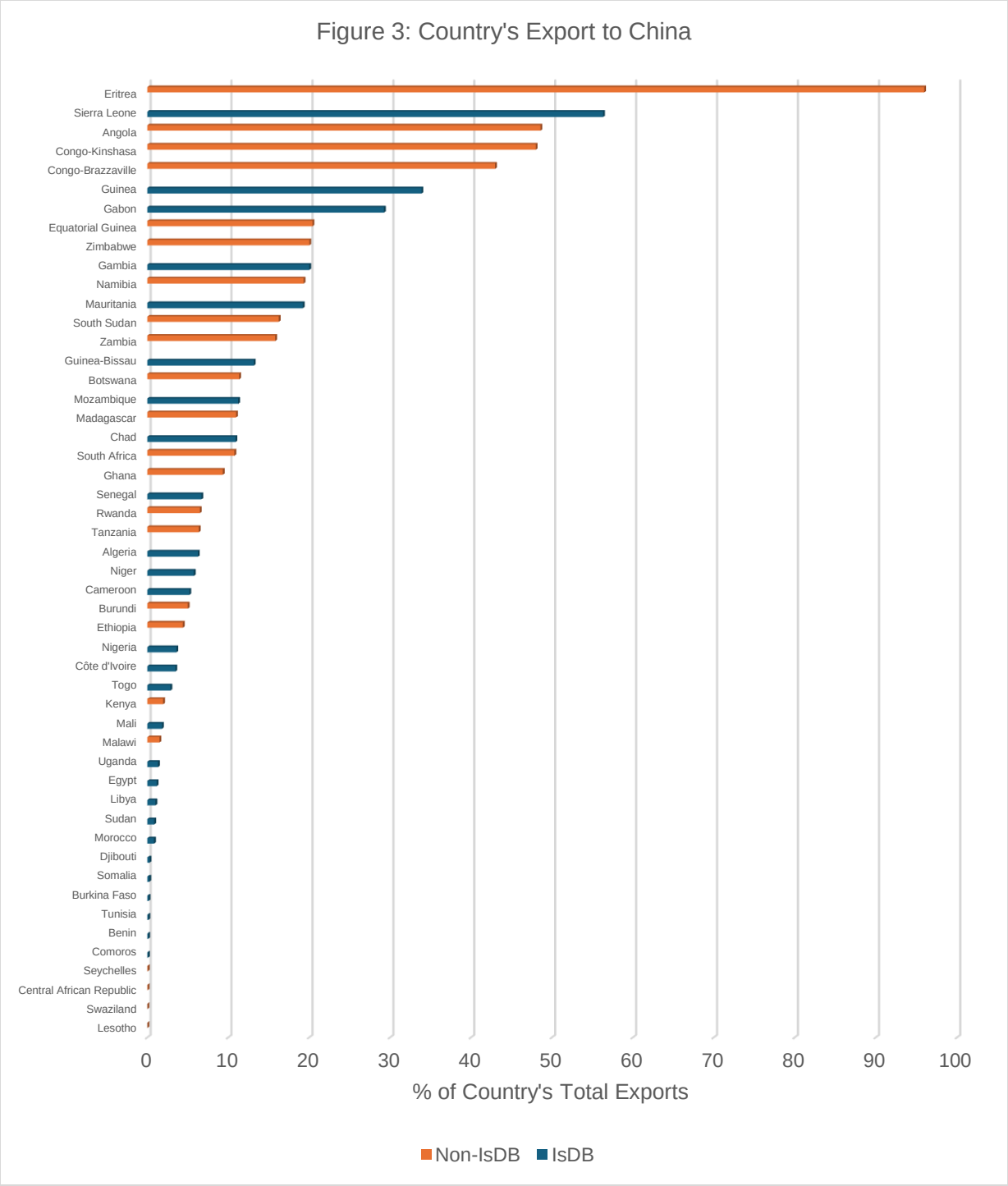
Trade volumes have surged in distinct waves over the past two decades (Figure 1). From 2000 to 2008, the launch of the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and a powerful commodity supercycle drove a sharp rise as China became a major buyer of African resources. Growth continued from 2009 to 2014 alongside increased infrastructure financing and construction projects across the continent. After the 2014–2015 commodity downturn, trade recovered between 2016 and 2019, with greater diversification into manufactured imports. The COVID-19 period brought volatility from 2020 to 2022, followed by a rapid rebound in 2021–2022 as prices surged. In 2024, trade reached record levels but on more unbalanced profile, culminating in Africa's notable deficit with China (Figure 2). Therefore, the announcement of zero import tariffs on Africa goods into China is timely and strategic to help the continent upgrade its exports and reduce the trade deficit.



Source: China-Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, 22 February 2026, https://www.sais-cari.org/chinese-investment-in-africa.

As Figure 3 illustrates, several African countries have substantial export relationships with China. Eritrea stands out, with nearly 100% of its exports going to China. Sierra Leone follows, with about 70% of its total exports directed to China. Guinea exports around 40% to China, highlighting a strong trade relationship. Gabon exports around 30%, while Gambia exports approximately 20%. Mauritania's exports to China account for about 15% of its total exports. Other members like Algeria, Nigeria, and Côte d'Ivoire have smaller export percentages to China, reflecting a more varying export pattern. These figures emphasize the varying degrees of economic ties between these African IsDB member countries and China. Furthermore, China–Africa trade is largely "vertical." Africa mainly sells raw materials to China—about 89% of its exports are in extractives—while importing higher-value manufactured goods. Over 90% of China's exports to Africa are manufactured products, reinforcing this imbalance in value addition.[3]

[3] https://aercafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/GCI-China-Africa-Bulletin-2024-FIN.pdf.



Source: International Monetary Fund, International Trade in Goods, 20 February 2026

Based on Figure 3, the top IsDB MCs with high export shares with China are Sierra Leone, Guinea, Gabon, Gambia and Mauritania. Table 1 present the top 5 products each of them exports to China. Guinea exports mainly minerals like aluminum, iron, and copper, along with ships and fresh fish. Gabon focuses

on petroleum, wood products, and copper. Mauritania's exports include iron ore, copper, seafood, and animal feed. Sierra Leone exports iron ore, base metals, wood, and fish. Gambia exports wood, base metals, and agricultural products like oil seeds and fruits. Overall, these countries primarily export minerals and natural resources to China.

The exports from these countries to China are driven by several common factors. Primarily, they all possess an abundance of natural resources, such as iron ore, copper, and aluminum, which are in high demand for industrial and manufacturing purposes in China. Additionally, these nations export agricultural and seafood products, demonstrating their reliance on both natural resources and agriculture. The economic reliance on raw materials is evident, as the exports largely consist of unprocessed or minimally processed goods, highlighting a focus on primary industries. Furthermore, the strong trade partnerships with China are fueled by China’s need for these raw materials to support its extensive manufacturing and infrastructure projects.

Table 1: Top 5 products exported by selected IsDB MCs to China, 2025

Economy	product code	Product label
Guinea	285	Aluminium ores and concentrates (incl. alumina)
Guinea	281	Iron ore and concentrates
Guinea	793	Ships, boats & floating structures
Guinea	034	Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen
Guinea	682	Copper
Gabon	333	Petroleum oils, oils from bitumin. materials, crude
Gabon	287	Ores and concentrates of base metals, n.e.s.
Gabon	248	Wood simply worked, and railway sleepers of wood
Gabon	634	Veneers, plywood, and other wood, worked, n.e.s.
Gabon	682	Copper
Mauritania	281	Iron ore and concentrates
Mauritania	283	Copper ores and concentrates; copper mattes, cemen
Mauritania	081	Feeding stuff for animals (no unmilled cereals)
Mauritania	036	Crustaceans, mollusks and aquatic invertebrates
Mauritania	037	Fish, aqua. invertebrates, prepared, preserved, n.e.s.
Sierra Leone	281	Iron ore and concentrates
Sierra Leone	287	Ores and concentrates of base metals, n.e.s.
Sierra Leone	247	Wood in the rough or roughly squared
Sierra Leone	034	Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen
Sierra Leone	278	Other crude minerals
Gambia	247	Wood in the rough or roughly squared
Gambia	248	Wood simply worked, and railway sleepers of wood
Gambia	287	Ores and concentrates of base metals, n.e.s.
Gambia	222	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits (excluding flour)
Gambia	057	Fruits and nuts (excluding oil nuts), fresh or dried

Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 06 October 2025

Looking ahead, the economic relationship between China and Africa is expected to shift towards increased private sector involvement. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), launched in 2021, is projected to create a single market of 1.7 billion people and $6.7 trillion in spending by 2030, promoting regional value chains and offering Chinese businesses access to a larger market. The focus will move from direct infrastructure financing to trade credit and private investments, with an emphasis on green development and the digital economy. China's new economic plans, including a $40 billion financial commitment announced in 2021, reflect a decrease from previous years, indicating a strategic shift towards sustainable development.[4] Enhanced coordination between the AfCFTA and BRI is crucial for mutual benefits and sustainable growth, as both regions navigate geopolitical and economic challenges.

3. GTAP-based analytical design and Results

The paper employs a GTAP-based analytical framework to assess the impact of removing Chinese import tariffs on exports from IsDB African member countries. The analysis generates outcomes on GDP, welfare (measured by equivalent variation), sectoral exports, and the distribution of gains across countries and sectors. It emphasizes sectors with high value-added potential—processed foods, horticulture, meat and fish products, textiles and apparel, leather and footwear, wood products, and selected light manufactures—while contrasting these with raw commodities that already face relatively low tariffs.

GTAP10 version is deployed, 141 regions are aggregated into 29, keeping all African countries available in the version. Sixty-five sectors of the version are aggregated into 11 sub-sectors, with focus on textiles, light manufacturing, heavy manufacturing, extractives, fishing, grains, processed food, and livestock. The factors of production remain the same: land, skilled labour, unskilled labor, capital and natural resources. It follows standard, static GTAP-CGE model assumptions and closures, including fixed saving with capital/investment being endogenous. It follows a nine-step process (as outlined by Hieu and Harrison, 2011) for applying shocks and analyzing results. The shock variable is named “tms” in RunGTAP (the graphical interface for the GTAP computable general equilibrium model). It is the variable name for the import tariff rate on a commodity, measured as an ad valorem rate from country A to country B.

The simulation-based results in Table 2 show the output and welfare effects from the China’s zero import tariffs on African goods. Small % change points are added to GDP of few countries, including Benin, Tunisia, Cote d’Ivoire, Togo, and Mozambique. This is because most countries have limited capacity and structural constraints to attract capital (minimal capital accumulation is recorded) and efficiently re-allocate resources to take advantage of China’s zero import tariff.

Table 2: Estimated Output and welfare gains from China’s zero import tariffs on African goods

		Welfare gains/losses, US$ million			
Economy	% change in GDP	Allocative efficiency	Terms of Trade	Capital accumulation	Total
Zimbabwe	0.04	5.86	52	21.6	79.4
Benin	0.02	1.63	0.573	1.32	3.52

[4] https://www.weforum.org/stories/2024/06/why-strong-regional-value-chains-will-be-vital-to-the-next-chapter-of-china-and-africas-economic-relationship/#:~:text=Primary%20commodities%20%E2%80%94%20metals%2C%20mineral%20products,trade%20relations%20and%20investment%20flows.

Namibia	0.02	2.02	-0.51	5.9	7.41
Tunisia	0.01	2.46	10.4	2.25	15.1
Rest of Africa	0.01	40.9	53.1	4	98.1
Cote d'Ivoire	0.01	3.14	4.8	0.154	8.09
Togo	0.01	0.292	0.557	0.184	1.03
Kenya	0.01	4.55	6.84	10.1	21.5
Mozambique	0.01	1.52	-6.12	1.6	-3
South Africa	0.01	22.5	178	-2.59	198
Rest of world	0	-44.3	-200	-63.5	-308
Egypt	0	7.65	35.5	25.4	68.5
Morocco	0	1.72	13.3	4.57	19.6
Burkina Faso	0	-0.083	0.39	-0.144	0.162
Cameroon	0	1.08	1.29	0.324	2.69
Ghana	0	0.797	3.69	1.02	5.51
Guinea	0	0.128	0.113	0.028	0.268
Nigeria	0	3.05	9.78	-6.76	6.06
Senegal	0	0.607	1.5	1.83	3.94
Ethiopia	0	0.058	0.19	0.055	0.303
Madagascar	0	0.137	-0.006	-0.009	0.123
Malawi	0	0.273	0.425	0.476	1.17
Mauritius	0	0.454	2.37	0.627	3.45
Rwanda	0	0.074	-0.079	0.048	0.042
Tanzania	0	0.301	-0.369	0.514	0.447
Uganda	0	0.095	-0.224	-0.088	-0.217
Zambia	0	1.15	1.32	0.353	2.82
Botswana	0	0.379	-0.923	-0.495	-1.04

The simulation-based results in Table 3a project significant gains in specific sectors for IsDB MCs. Cameroon shows strong growth in textiles (+106.4), heavy manufacturing (+38.43), and processed food (+36.78). Côte d'Ivoire excels in heavy manufacturing (+50.22), livestock (+57.88), and processed food (+39.98). Egypt demonstrates broad-based success in textiles (+87.57), heavy manufacturing (+46.54), processed food (+83.99), livestock (+45.74), and fishing (+23.37).

Morocco records high gains in textiles (+100.35), processed food (+41.26), and fishing (+21.27). Nigeria is notable for textiles (+82.7), light manufacturing (+68.5), grains (+21.26), and processed food (+26.72). Tunisia is strong in textiles (+94.28), light manufacturing (+74.17), processed food (+42.35), and fishing (+23.42). It should be noted that some of these sector exports come from a very low base. For example, Nigeria exported only US$1.4 million worth of textiles and clothing to China in 2023, Morocco (US$ 1.7 million), and Tunisia (US$ 3.2).[5] Therefore, a caution is needed when interpreting these high percentage changes. Africa's ability to benefit from China's zero-tariff policy is constrained by poor infrastructure, strict non-tariff barriers (NTBs), low processing capacity, limited financing, high logistics costs, stringent Chinese phytosanitary rules, and a reliance on raw exports over manufactured goods—producing structural trade imbalances.[6]

Nevertheless, these countries benefit significantly from China's removal of import tariffs, particularly in textiles, processed foods, and manufacturing sectors, while extractives remain subdued. It could signal that the African export basket to China is gradually moving away from raw inputs to processed and semi-processed goods as manufacturing bright spots start expanding across the continent.

5 https://wits.worldbank.org/CountryProfile/en/Country/TUN/Year/2023/TradeFlow/Export/Partner/all/Product/50-63_TextCloth.

6 https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-02-27/China-s-zero-tariff-policy-and-Africa-s-industrialization-drive-1L6ue30E7kI/share_amp.html.

Table 3a: % change in Exports of African countries to China by sector

Economy	Textiles	Light manufacturing	Heavy Manufacturing	Extractive sector	Fishing	Grains	Processed Food	Livestock
Rest of Africa	164.5	32.93	16.37	-0.14	5.42	2.76	26.08	43.84
Cameroon	106.4	0.71	38.43	0.05	-0.29	3.05	36.78	37.49
Morocco	100.35	31.35	7.19	-0.05	21.27	1.76	41.26	1.14
Tunisia	94.28	74.17	33.86	-0.16	23.42	-0.52	42.35	0.3
Kenya	91.46	52.08	21.56	1.91	16.68	25.43	32.79	-0.82
South Africa	88.39	29.47	7.53	1.05	15.04	48.26	46.4	20.34
Egypt	87.57	42.06	46.54	-0.1	23.37	15.44	83.99	45.74
Nigeria	82.7	68.5	15.83	-0.02	-0.28	21.26	26.72	19.93
Cote d'Ivoire	78.44	5.36	50.22	-0.18	-0.27	5.93	39.98	57.88
Mauritius	76.8	64.64	19.27	-0.93	-0.37	18.2	36.1	25.35
Namibia	71.33	37.1	22.28	-0.72	16.19	5.95	13.67	18.73
Togo	43.02	-0.19	-0.19	-0.08	-0.27	0.53	-0.65	-0.68
Ghana	24.07	11.59	20.06	-0.17	16.86	14.11	43.15	10.47
Zimbabwe	8.69	12.57	-2.85	14.75	-5.06	14.17	31.3	46.59
Madagascar	1.04	-0.11	-0.11	-0.03	-0.18	0.12	-0.56	-0.37
Rest of World	-0.47	-0.1	-0.06	-0.02	-0.18	-0.15	-0.53	-0.31
Guinea	-0.51	-0.14	8.61	-0.02	-0.22	-0.18	-0.55	-0.36
Ethiopia	-0.51	0.09	-0.09	0.01	-0.2	-0.19	-0.55	-0.38
Uganda	-0.54	-0.17	0.17	-0.04	-0.21	-0.2	-0.57	-0.39
Tanzania	-0.55	0.21	0.18	-0.05	-0.19	-0.01	0.76	-0.41
Rwanda	-0.57	-0.19	-0.15	-0.03	-0.22	1.73	-0.59	-0.43
Burkina Faso	-0.59	32.89	-0.17	-0.04	-0.25	2.51	-0.66	-0.85
Benin	-0.62	-0.37	-0.26	-0.1	-0.33	1.97	-0.69	-0.64
Mozambique	-0.84	-0.36	-0.38	-0.11	-0.22	-0.18	1.6	-0.62
Senegal	-0.87	-0.5	-0.35	-0.37	-0.39	-0.18	16.42	-0.83
Malawi	-1.38	-0.94	-0.91	-0.17	-0.61	1.53	37.89	-1.57
Zambia	-1.39	-0.72	-0.72	-0.45	-0.48	28.36	37.15	-1.59
Botswana	-1.75	48.93	-1.22	12.75	-1.77	-1.09	-1.27	4.37

Table 3b presents the aggregate trade balance shifts across countries resulting from the zero-tariff policy. The "Rest of World" category experienced the most significant gain, recording a positive change of US$777.55 million.

Within the IsDB Member Countries (MCs), trade balance outcomes were mixed. Only Burkina Faso and Uganda saw modest improvements in their trade positions. Conversely, the majority of MCs experienced trade balance deterioration, with Egypt suffering the most substantial decline at US$50.51 million.

These findings suggest that China's elimination of import tariffs on African goods has stimulated greater African imports from China relative to their exports to China. This pattern likely reflects African nations' increased procurement of machinery, equipment, and tools for their manufacturing, textile, and food processing industries to capitalize on the zero-tariff opportunity.

It is important to note that the resulting trade deficits should be viewed as temporary and short-term phenomena. Over the long term, as African countries leverage imported capital goods to enhance productive capacity, improved trade balances are anticipated.

Table 3b: Changes in overall trade balance

Economy	US$ million
Rest of world	777.55

Burkina Faso	0.75
Botswana	0.64
Uganda	0.31
Ethiopia	0.3
Madagascar	0.06
Rwanda	-0.01
Guinea	-0.06
Zambia	-0.39
Tanzania	-0.41
Cameroon	-1.38
Togo	-1.57
Mozambique	-1.9
Malawi	-2.33
Ghana	-2.84
Mauritius	-3.66
Benin	-6
Cote d'Ivoire	-6.23
Senegal	-6.83
Nigeria	-8.17
Morocco	-9.97
Tunisia	-10.2
Kenya	-17.73
Namibia	-19.26
Egypt	-50.51
Other Africa	-125.56
Zimbabwe	-137.51
South Africa	-168.19
China	-198.91

4. Conclusions

The research paper examines the impact of China's zero import tariff policy on African member countries of the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB). The policy, effective from May 1, 2026, aims to enhance Africa-China trade by removing tariffs on imports from 53 African countries. This move is expected to shift trade patterns towards higher value-added exports, benefiting sectors like textiles, processed foods, and light manufacturing. For instance, Morocco, Nigeria, and Tunisia are projected to see significant gains in textiles, with increases of 100.35%, 82.7%, and 94.28%, respectively.

The simulation-based analysis, using a GTAP-based framework, highlights that while some countries like Zimbabwe and South Africa may experience notable GDP and welfare gains, others face structural constraints that limit their ability to fully capitalize on these opportunities. It is suggested that targeted policy interventions are necessary to address these constraints and maximize the benefits of the tariff removal. Additionally, the policy is expected to foster inclusive growth and job creation, particularly benefiting women and youth, by leveraging labor-intensive sectors.

In the short term, policy should focus on addressing logistics bottlenecks and product compliance issues to take full advantage of China's zero import tariff policy. This includes investing in infrastructure and streamlining customs procedures to improve trade flows, as well as ensuring that exported products meet Chinese standards to maximize market access and export potential. In the long term, policy should aim to upgrade industrial capabilities and diversify export profiles by investing in technology transfer and skills development, particularly in sectors such as textiles and agro-processing. Additionally, shifting from raw commodities to higher value-added goods will help reduce trade deficits and promote sustainable, inclusive growth.

However, challenges such as product compliance and logistics bottlenecks need to be addressed to realize these gains. Overall, the zero import tariff policy presents a strategic opportunity for African countries to enhance their export profiles and reduce trade deficits with China.

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