

THE ALP REVIEW – Q1 2025

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The ALP Review

TRANSPORTATION AND
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Uganda Joins Afreximbank's Fund for Export-Development in Africa (FEDA) as 21st Member State



In a significant boost for intra-African trade and industrialization, Uganda has become the 21st member state to join the Fund for Export-Development in Africa (FEDA), an initiative of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). FEDA provides critical financing to support African businesses in key sectors such as infrastructure, manufacturing, and value-added exports.

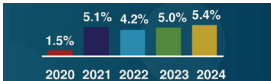
Uganda's inclusion in FEDA enhances its access to trade finance, facilitating export growth, job creation, and industrial competitiveness. Businesses operating in Uganda and across Africa stand to benefit from increased access to capital, reduced trade barriers, and expanded market opportunities.

Comment

This presents a unique opportunity to tap into Afreximbank-backed financial products, benefit from lower trade costs, and access financing tailored for export-oriented businesses. Additionally, this strategic move also enhances Uganda's role in the AfCFTA, allowing businesses to leverage cross-border financing solutions for expansion into regional and international markets.

For more information, please click [here](#).

AfDB's Projection: East Africa Poised for Fastest Economic Growth



The African Development Bank (AfDB) has projected that East Africa will experience the highest economic growth rate in Africa in 2025, outpacing other regions. The region is expected to record a GDP growth rate of over 5%, driven by strong infrastructure investments, rising intra-African trade, and an expanding services sector. Key contributors to this growth include Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Rwanda, which are leveraging regional integration, digital transformation, and sustainable energy projects.

Furthermore, the expansion of transport corridors, digital trade integration, and renewable energy projects is expected to accelerate economic development.

Comment

For business and investors, this projection underscores East Africa as a prime investment destination, with increasing opportunities in transport, trade logistics, manufacturing, cross-border trade and digital finance.

For more information, please click [here](#).

ECA and AfCFTA Secretariat Forge Strategic Partnership to Advance AfCFTA Implementation



On 17 February 2025, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to enhance cooperation in support of the effective implementation of the AfCFTA. The signing ceremony took place at Africa Business Forum (ABF 2025) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Comment

This formal arrangement presents an opportunity for the AfCFTA to leverage the existing trade network of the ECA in the areas of market access and trade facilitation, industrial and regional value chains, training and capacity building among others.

For more information, please click [here](#).

New Mega Railway Project, Trans-Kalahari Railway, Set to Kick Off in Africa in 2025

This project is a by-product of an MoU signed between Namibia and Botswana back in 2010 toward the construction of a 1,500km railway line across the Kalahari Desert. The intention is to connect Botswana's coal fields to the Namibian Port of Walvis Bay. Construction of this project commenced in January 2025.

Comment

Beyond the access of Botswana's coal reserves to Namibia's port for export, the project establishes critical trade infrastructure for the movement of trade of intermediate goods that are jointly extracted and partially processed by both countries before export to the developed countries.

For more information, please click [here](#).

Pan African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) - African Payments System PAPSS Plans to Launch FX Market Platform This Year

PAPSS has announced plans to launch a currency market for African currencies with the aim of strengthening trade across Africa by addressing the continent's challenges with cross border currencies. Due to the volatility of African currencies, many African countries rely on the US Dollar to engage in intra-African trade. In line with its mission to facilitate cross border transactions and enhance the efficiency of payment systems in Africa, PAPSS is set to launch 'The Africa Currency Marketplace' which will enable African countries to trade in their local currencies.

Comment

The implementation of this initiative will facilitate intra-African trade between African countries through real-time settlement of online payment system, which is critical to enhancing the efficiency of cross border transactions in Africa and boosting the demand for local currencies.

For more information, please click [here](#).

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