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Challenges and Future Opportunities for Ports and Shipping in West Africa

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Challenges

- ❑ Inadequate Port and Intermodal transport infrastructures.
Hence, leading to higher trading costs, low export competitiveness and low FDI;
- ❑ Internet access is viewed as a luxury rather than a “public good”;
- ❑ Restrictive Labour Laws – increased Labour Cost;
- ❑ Political Sustainability;
- ❑ Poor data availability and quality;
- ❑ Non-Respect of National and Regional Trade Rules.

Future Opportunities

- ❑ Reinforce strong regional economic cooperation to build regional value chain - adherence to the “African Continental Free Trade Zone”;
- ❑ Deepen International Cooperation on Infrastructure investments in ports and roads through state backed ‘PPP’ agreements;
- ❑ Financial and fiscal assistance to SMEs at the national and regional level;
- ❑ Share best practices on building resilience;
- ❑ Encourage communication with the private sector to reduce rural – urban supply chain gap;
- ❑ Working together to provide a flexible, inclusive, transparent, open market environment;
- ❑ Greater use of online and digital tools for Administrative processes;
- ❑ Invest in affordable ICT infrastructure to boost connectivity;
- ❑ Promote and facilitate sustainable investment – through the AFCFTA investment protocol.



Thank You