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MISURATA FREE ZONE

LIBYA

Analyzing the Competitiveness of MFZ Port in Operating Trade Corridors to African Sub-Saharan Countries

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Preface

- Libya's strategic geographic location offers the potential to establish optimal routes to African landlocked countries, through maritime and land transportation.
- Practicing this business, is one of the main objectives of Misurata Free Zone.
- The purpose of this presentation is to analyze and assess the competitiveness of Misurata Free Zone Port in facilitating transit trade to Sub-Saharan countries, in comparison with the present routes among West African ports.
- Highlighting, the savings in distance, time and costs that can be achieved in using MFZ Port.



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Misurata Free Zone in Brief

- **Misurata Free Zone (MFZ):** Established in 2000, it stands as Libya's pioneering free zone, strategically located in the city of Misrata on the Mediterranean coast.
- **Total Area:** 300 hectare including seaport.
- **Strategic Location:** In the heart of one of the Mediterranean's busiest maritime transport regions, making MFZ a crucial hub for major north-south and Europe-Africa trade routes.
- **Market Share:** Misurata Sea Port is the largest and busiest commercial seaport in Libya, capturing approximately 60% of the Local non-oil trade volume.
- **Trade Routes:** MFZ Port offer optimal routes to neighboring, Landlocked countries and further to West African countries through maritime and land transportation.



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Misurata Free Zone in Brief

- **Investment Environment** : offers an optimal investment environment for local and international investors, with all business activities (Industrial, Commercial and Services) exempt from taxation, customs duties, and other restrictions.
- **Extensive Quayside**: 4000-meter quayside for efficient goods transfer.
- **Storage Space**: 60 hectares of open storage and 67,500 square meters of covered storage.
- **Green Port Initiatives**: Implements Eco-friendly measures to reduce pollution, optimize energy use, and promote renewable energy.



Trade Volumes of Chad & Niger With China/Turkey

Bilateral Trade Between China & Chad

Chad's Imports from World (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Imports	1,322,998	1,660,561	1,212,560

Chad's Imports from China (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Imports	282,060	378,056	374,842
Share of Imports%	21%	23%	31%

Top Imports: Broadcasting, Equipment, rubber footwear and Antiknock

Chad's Exports to World (USD Thousand)

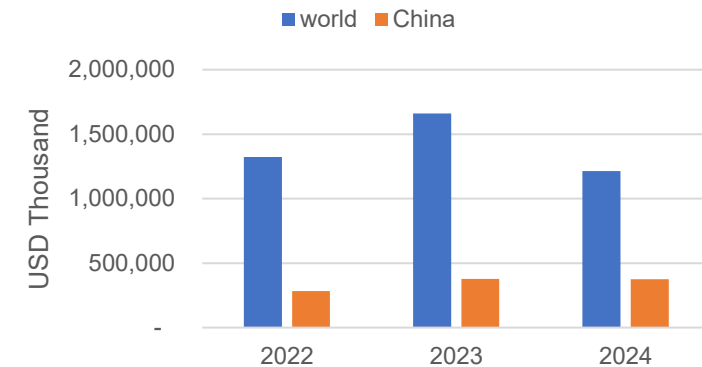
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	4,751,860	4,449,465	3,490,040

Chad's Exports to China (USD Thousand)

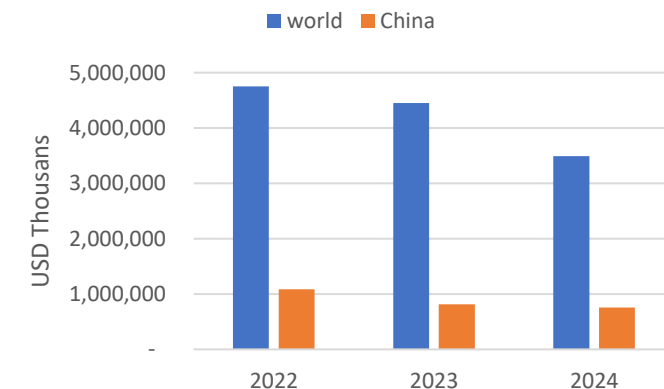
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	1,085,584	813,068	756,001
Share of Exports%	23%	18%	22%

Top Exports: Crude Petroleum, Raw Cotton and Resins

Chad's Imports



Chad's Exports



Source: trademap.org

Bilateral Trade Between China & Niger

Niger's Imports from World (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Imports	3,787,226	3,136,148	1,501,197

Niger's Imports from China (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Imports	906,188	855,457	310,107
Share of Imports%	24%	27%	21%

Top Imports: Liquid Pumps, Iron Structures, and Centrifuges.

Niger's Exports to World (USD Thousand)

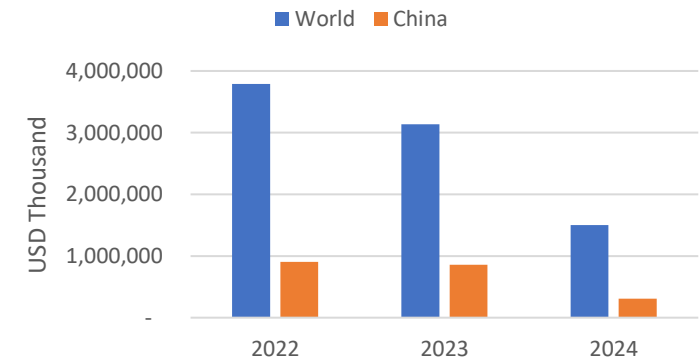
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	446,135	467,409	1,007,787

Niger's Exports to China (USD Thousand)

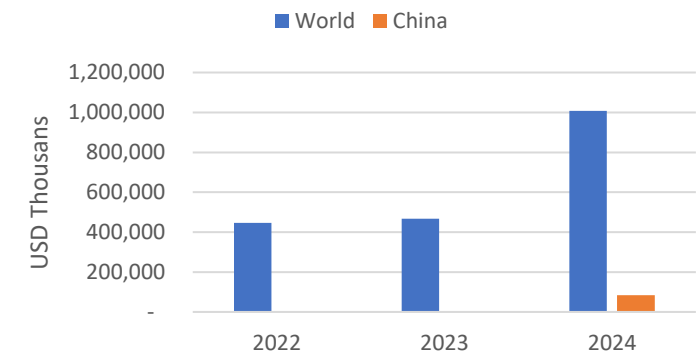
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	581	2,414	83,560
Share of Exports%	0.1%	1%	8%

Top Exports: Oily Seeds

Niger's Imports



Niger's Exports



Bilateral Trade Between Turkey & Niger

Niger's Imports from World (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Imports	3,787,226	3,136,148	1,501,197

Niger's Imports from Turkey (USD Thousand)

Year	2022	2023	2024
Imports	48,922	38,615	27,613
Share of Imports%	1%	1%	2%

Top Imports: flour, milk, pastrycooks products, machinery and equipment, Furniture

Niger's Exports to World (USD Thousand)

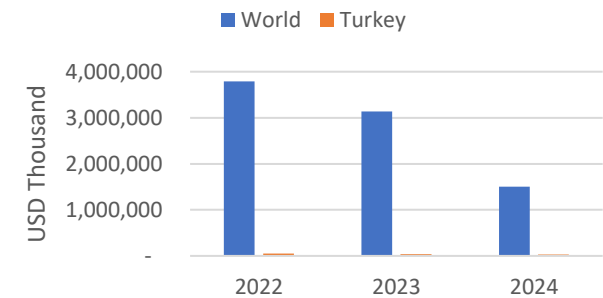
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	446,135	467,409	1,007,787

Niger's Exports to Turkey (USD Thousand)

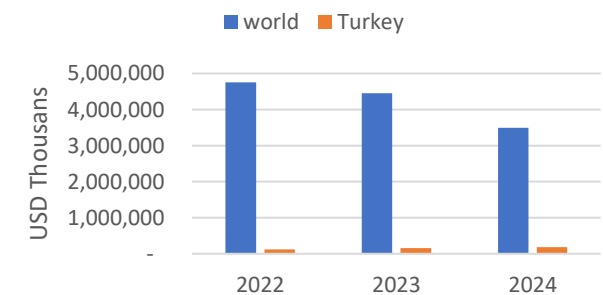
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	96	43	1,209
Share of Exports%	0.02%	0.01%	0.12%

Top Exports: Mineral fuels, mineral oils, bituminous substances.

Niger's Imports



Niger's Exports



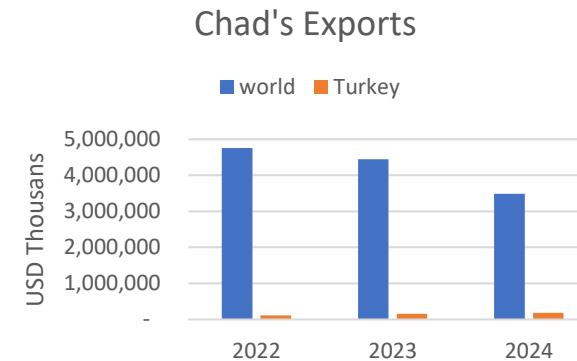
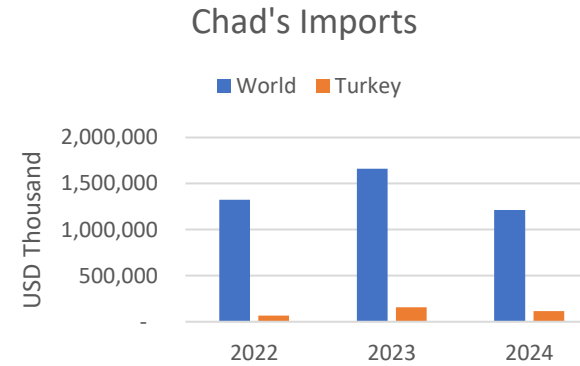
Bilateral Trade Between Turkey & Chad

Chad's Imports from World (USD Thousand)			
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Imports	1,322,998	1,660,561	1,212,560
Chad's Imports from Turkey (USD Thousand)			
Year	2022	2023	2024
Imports	67,910	155,401	114,112
Share of Imports%	5%	9%	9%

Top Imports: Plastic items, flavored water, non-alcoholic beverages

Chad's Exports to World (USD Thousand)			
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	4,751,860	4,449,465	3,490,040
Chad's Exports to Turkey (USD Thousand)			
Year	2022	2023	2024
Value of Exports	116,296	154,912	181,740
Share of Exports%	2%	3%	5%

Top Exports: Oily seeds, raw cotton, sheep hides & skins “raw”



Source: trademap.org



Analysis of Shipping Distance in the Competing Corridors



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Shipping Routes from Turkey to African West Ports versus MFZ Port (Marine & Land Transport)



Shipping Distance from Turkey to Sub-Saharn Countries

From	To	Market	Via (Port)	Marine "km"	Land "km"	Total Distance "km"
Turkey	Niger	Niamey	MFZ Port (Libya)	2,326	3,940	6,266
			Cotonou Port (Benin)	10,091	1,070	11,161
	Chad	N'Djamena	MFZ Port (Libya)	2,326	3,608	5,934
			Douala Port (Cameroon)	10,883	1,650	12,533



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Shipping Distance from Shanghai to African West Ports versus MFZ Port



Shipping Distance from Shanghai to Sub-Saharn Countries

Origin	Destination	Via	Land Distance (km)	Sea Distance (km)	Total Distance (km)
Shanghai	N'Djamena	Cape of good hope- Douala Port	1,800	19,996	21,796
	Niamey	Cape of good hope-Cotonou Port	1,030	20,998	22,028
	N'Djamena	Suez Canal –Med Sea - MFZ Port	2,560	15,054	17,614
	Niamey		2,820	15,054	17,874



Benchmarking of Cost per Km in Competing Corridors (Land Transportation)



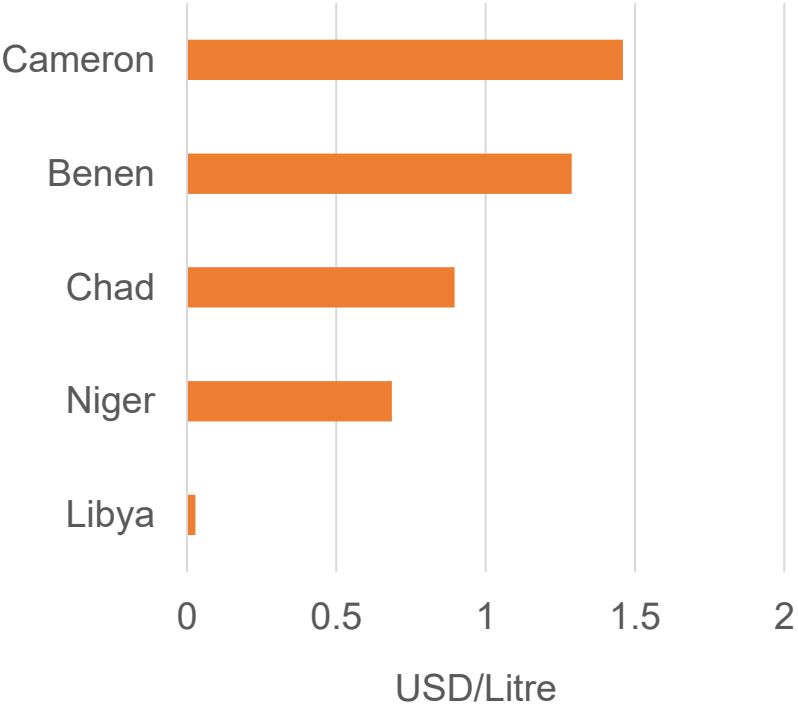
Characteristic of Road Transport in African Sub-Saharan Countries

- Most road networks and infrastructure require development and rehabilitation in order to address delays in the flow of goods and the rising logistic costs.
- Climatic conditions, particularly seasonal rains in some African countries, hinder the transportation of goods, especially on unpaved roads.
- Fuel costs represent approximately 50%–60% of the total road transport expenses from West African ports to landlocked African countries, due to high cost of fuel, according to studies of world bank.
- Lack of logistic zones (dry ports) in the North of Niger and Chad along the transit corridors has contributed to the poor quality of logistical services.



Bench-Marking of Diesel Fuel Prices in the African Countries

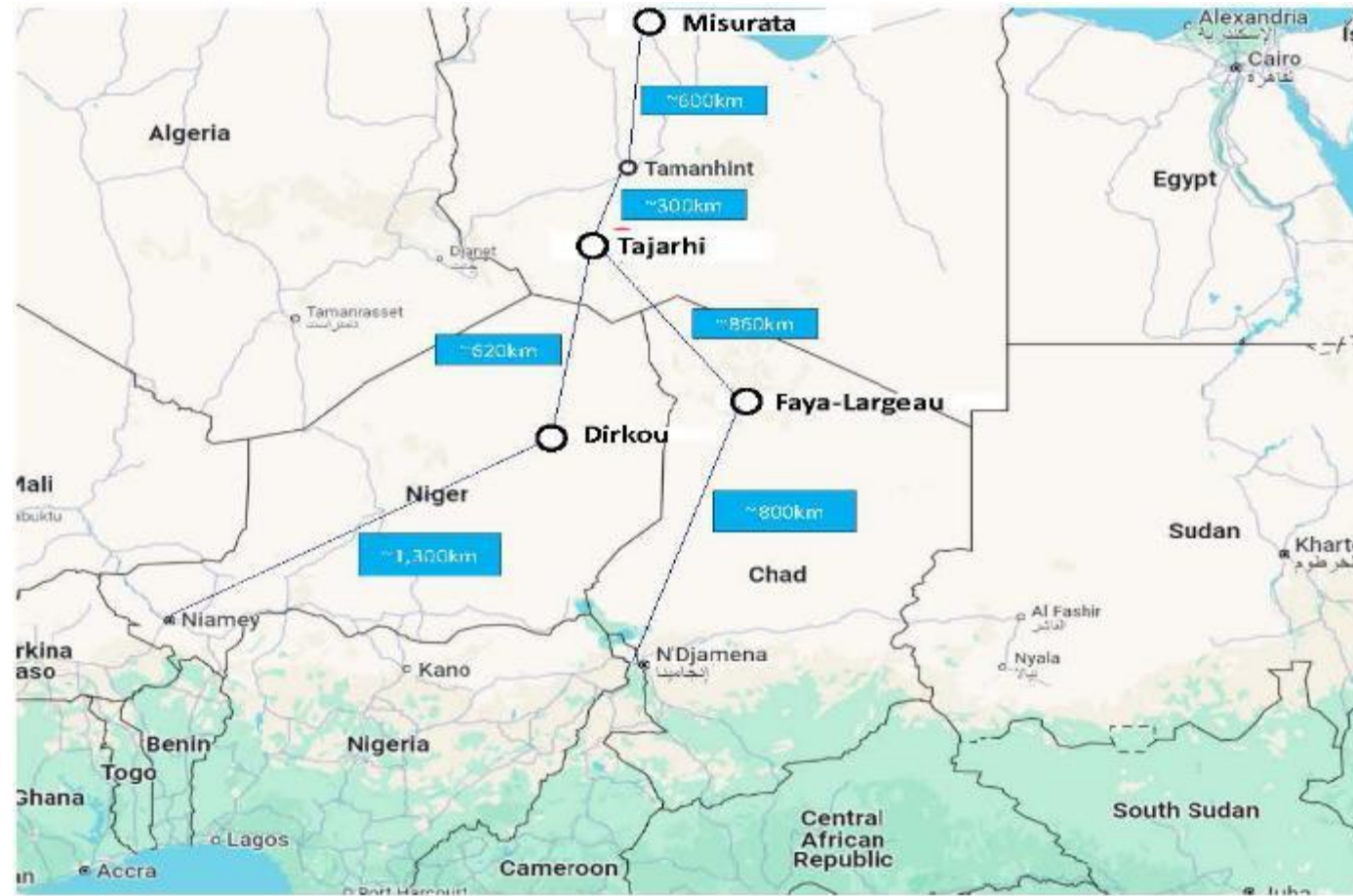
Country	Price USD/Liter	Source	Date
Cameron	1.465	globalpetrolprices.com	11/08/2025
Benin	1.274	globalpetrolprices.com	11/08/2025
Chad	0.896	globalpetrolprices.com	06/06/2022
Niger	0.686	diesel-fuel-prices.com	15/06/2025





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Benchmarking of Cost per Km in competing Corridors (Land Transportation)



Benchmarking of Cost per Km in competing Corridors (Land Transportation)

Assumptions:

- Average Fuel Efficiency: 40 liters of diesel for every 100 km(*).
- Type of Truck: Heavy Truck(*).
- Average Truck Payload: 40 ton(*).
- One way voyage.
- Loading Ports: MFZ Port versus Douala and Cotonou Ports.
- Target Markets: N'Djamena and Niamey.

(*) Source: www.webfleet.com



Benchmarking of Cost per Km in competing Corridors (Land Transportation)

Routes		Distance KM	Refueling Station	Fuel Cost "USD/Liter"	Average fuel efficiency "liter/100 km"	Cost of km "USD"
From	To					
MFZ Port (Libya)	Dirkou (Niger)	1,520	Libya	0.028	40	0.0112
Dirkou (Niger)	Niamey (Niger)	1,300	Niger	0.686		0.2744
					Total	0.2856
Route		Distance KM	Refueling Station	Fuel Cost "USD/Liter"	Average fuel efficiency "liter/100 km"	Cost of km "USD"
From	To					
Cotonou Port (Benin)	Niamey (Niger)	1,030	Benin	1.274	40	0.5096

Benchmarking of Cost per Km in competing Corridors (Land Transportation)

Routes		Distance KM	Refueling Station	Fuel Cost "USD/Liter"	Average fuel efficiency "liter/100 km"	Cost of km "USD"
From	To					
MFZ Port (Libya)	Faya (Chad)	1,760	Libya	0.028	40	0.0112
Faya (Chad)	D'Njamena (Chad)	800	Chad	0.896		0.3584
					Total	0.3696
Routes		Distance KM	Refueling Station	Fuel Cost "USD/Liter"	Average fuel efficiency "liter/100 km"	Cost of km "USD"
From	To					
Douala Port (Cameroon)	D'Njamena (Chad)	1,650	Cameroon	1.465	40	0.586



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New Containers Berths Project (Transit Trade)





Conclusion

- MFZ Port is the closest to Shanghai (via Suez Canal), among the ports considered so shorter sea transit compared with West African ports via Cape of good hope.
- MFZ Port is the closest to Turkey compared with West African ports.
- That generally means lower time-in-transit and lower voyage-day related costs (fuel, daily hire) for direct shipments.
- Although the road transport from West African ports to Chad and Niger is shorter compared to Misrata Port, but the cost per kilometer is comparatively lower when transporting from Misrata, owing to Libya's competitive fuel prices.
- Consequently, MFZ Port could offer shorter, more direct, and efficient trade routes to LLC, leading to lower costs for shipment, compared to other routes.



Recommendations and Proposals to Enhance African Transit Trade

- Close coordination and cooperation between government institutions and bodies in Libya and their counterparts in the sub-Saharan Countries and Setting out a strategy and vision to activate transit trade between the African countries.
- Activating agreements concluded between African countries in the field of transit trade.
- Engaging with financial institutions in Africa, as well as international institutions, to finance infrastructure projects related to transit trade (roads, logistics areas, ports, information technology, etc.).
- Joining the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).
- Joining the International Road Transport (TIR) Convention.
- Benefiting from studies conducted by the World Bank, African economic organizations, and World Customs Organization, on facilitating transit trade procedures in LLC.
- Exchanging expertise between African countries in the field of transit trade, digitizing procedures and processes related to the movement of goods and commodities, and improving the quality of logistic services.
- Measuring performance and evaluating operations related to transit trade, identifying bottlenecks, proposing solutions, and working on continuous improvement.



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**Thank you for Your
Kind Attention**