

Fact Sheet on AGOA

Countries Eligible (Total 38)

Angola	Gabon	Nigeria*
Benin*	The Gambia*	Rwanda*
Botswana*	Ghana*	Sao Tome and Principe
Burkina Faso*	Guinea-Bissau	Senegal*
Burundi	Kenya*	Seychelles
Cameroon*	Lesotho*	Sierra Leone*
Cape Verde*	Liberia	South Africa*
Chad*	Malawi*	Swaziland*
Comoros	Mali*	Tanzania*
Republic of Congo	Mauritania*	Togo
Democratic Republic of Congo	Mauritius*	Uganda*
Djibouti	Mozambique*	Zambia*
Ethiopia*	Namibia*	

* Qualified for textile and apparel benefits

Products Covered

- AGOA adds over 1,800 products to the more than 4,600 products already included in the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). Almost all African exports to the United States enter duty-free either under AGOA, GSP, or under a non-preference (normal-trade-relations) zero rate of duty.
- Most agricultural products are covered (i.e., enter the U.S. duty-free), with limited exceptions including dried garlic, certain canned and processed fruits, cotton, and a small number of sensitive products subject to U.S. tariff rate quotas (such as tobacco, sugar, peanuts, beef and some dairy products). In the cases where tariff rate quotas (TRQs) exist for sensitive products, goods from AGOA beneficiary countries may enter duty-free within the quota.
- Most manufactured products are covered, with a few exceptions including flat goods, and certain iron and steel products.
- Notable AGOA-eligible items include duty-free treatment for certain apparel; handloomed, handmade, and folklore articles; ethnic printed fabrics; and for yarns, fabrics, textiles and made-up textile articles (e.g., towels, sheets, blankets, floor coverings) originating entirely in one or more lesser developed AGOA beneficiary countries.

Rule-of-Origin Requirement

- For a non-apparel imported item to be AGOA-eligible, it must be the growth, product, or manufacture of an AGOA beneficiary country and the sum of the cost or value of materials produced in the beneficiary country plus the direct costs of processing must equal at least 35 percent of the appraised value of the article at the time of entry into the United States.

- For apparel, AGOA provides duty-free treatment for eligible items made in qualifying sub-Saharan African countries through 2015. Qualifying articles include:
 - Apparel made of U.S. yarns and fabrics;
 - Apparel made of sub-Saharan African (regional) yarns and fabrics, subject to a cap until 2015;
 - Apparel made in a designated lesser-developed country of third-country yarns and fabrics, subject to a cap until 2012;
 - Apparel made of yarns and fabrics not produced in commercial quantities in the United States; and
 - Certain cashmere and merino wool sweaters.

Latest Data

- U.S. imports under AGOA totaled \$22.4 billion during the first half of 2010, up 67% from the same period in 2009. While much of the increase is attributable to oil, non-oil AGOA imports increased by one percent to \$1.6 billion.

- AGOA product sectors that witnessed increases during the first half of 2010 included chemicals and related products (up 27%) and minerals and metals (up 115%). AGOA textile and apparel imports fell 34% (some of it driven by Madagascar losing its AGOA eligibility in 2010 and the resulting drop in apparel exports to the U.S.)

- The top five beneficiary countries were Nigeria, Angola, South Africa, Republic of Congo, and Chad. Other leading AGOA beneficiaries included Gabon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Kenya, Mauritius, and Swaziland.

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