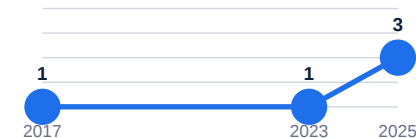
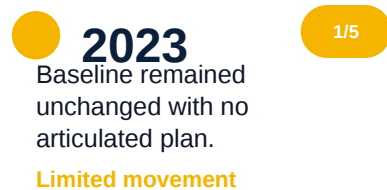


# IGR Development Scorecard - Trade Trend Analysis

TRADE INDICATOR 81

Sierra Leone trade repositioning for AfCFTA, 2017-2025

**Strategic objective:** Strengthen the role of trade in diversification, infrastructural development, and economic competitiveness of the country.



**Trend narrative: from policy absence to early implementation readiness**

**2017**



**No plan**

Sierra Leone had no articulated AfCFTA implementation plan. The trade repositioning agenda was at a pre-readiness stage.

**2023**



**Baseline unchanged**

The evidence shows the same position as 2017. This indicates stagnation and limited institutional movement during the period.

**2025**



**Roadmap submitted**

The country submitted an implementation roadmap to the AfCFTA Secretariat and is reported as part of the Guided Trade Initiative.

# Trade Indicator 81 - Year-by-Year Scorecard

Delivery status and evidence interpretation

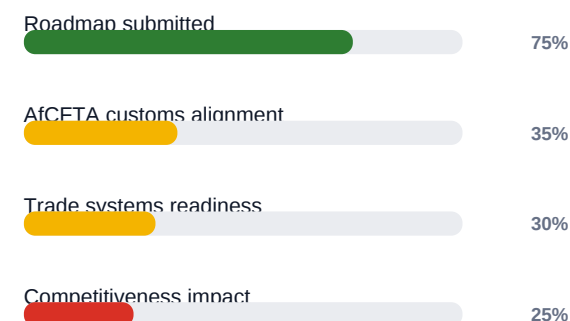
## Overall trend judgement

The indicator shows a **late but positive upward trend**. Between 2017 and 2023, Sierra Leone remained at a low-readiness baseline with no articulated AfCFTA implementation plan. By 2025, the country had moved into an early implementation phase through roadmap submission and participation in the Guided Trade Initiative. The next performance test is whether policy progress translates into customs reform, digital trade facilitation, private-sector readiness, and measurable export competitiveness.

## Year-by-year scorecard interpretation

| Year | Evidence                                                                                    | Trend signal                                                                  |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2017 | No articulated plan for AfCFTA implementation.                                              | Low readiness. Policy architecture not yet visible.                           |
| 2023 | Baseline remained the same, with no articulated implementation plan.                        | Stagnation. Limited progress from 2017 baseline.                              |
| 2025 | Roadmap submitted to AfCFTA Secretariat; participation in Guided Trade Initiative reported. | Positive movement. Shift from planning gap to early implementation readiness. |

## 2025 delivery status



**IGR status classification: In progress - clear 2025 improvement, but implementation risk remains until customs and digital trade systems are aligned.**

# Trade Indicator 81 - Delivery Priorities

Recommended IGR scorecard actions for 2026-2030

| Progress achieved                                                                                                                                      | Remaining gaps                                                                                                                                  | Risk to delivery                                                                                                                | Next opportunity                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Roadmap submitted to AfCFTA Secretariat. Participation in the Guided Trade Initiative indicates movement from policy absence to structured engagement. | Customs rules, tariff procedures, origin certification, and trade facilitating technical systems still need alignment with AfCFTA requirements. | Without operational reforms, the roadmap may remain a policy document rather than a practical engine for trade diversification. | Use AfCFTA implementation to improve market access, attract logistics investment, digitise trade processes, and support export-oriented SMEs. |

## Priority actions

- 1 Customs and rules alignment** Update customs rules, rules-of-origin procedures, tariff schedules, and border documentation to reflect AfCFTA requirements.
- 2 Digital trade facilitation** Upgrade technical systems for e-certificates, origin verification, trader registration, pre-clearance, and data exchange.
- 3 Private-sector readiness** Create AfCFTA awareness and export-readiness support for SMEs, manufacturers, agribusinesses, logistics firms, and women-led businesses.
- 4 Delivery dashboard** Track roadmap milestones quarterly, including legislation, systems deployment, trader uptake, border processing time, and export growth.
- 5 Infrastructure linkage** Connect AfCFTA delivery with ports, roads, warehousing, standards labs, and digital payments to improve competitiveness.

**Scorecard takeaway: 2025 marks the first clear implementation movement. The next phase must focus on operational readiness and measurable trade outcomes.**