



AFRICAN FREE ZONES LATEST NEWS



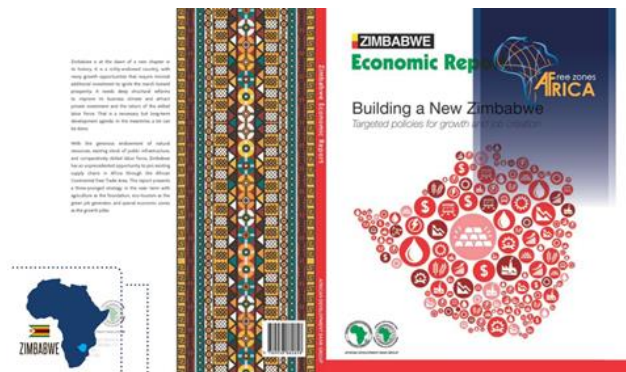
Tunisia - The Ben Guerdane Free Zone will take shape in March 2019

The completion of the Ben Guerdane free zone (150 hectares) is expected to start in March 2019, according to a recent ministerial meeting. This project aims to boost commercial activity in border areas. It would help reduce the phenomenon of parallel trade and accentuate development. This free trade area will comprise three components: commercial, logistics and services.



Kenya - A special economic zone envisaged around Nairobi's airport (JKIA)

Kenya Airways is set to merge with Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) and manage operations at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), Nairobi. Through this PPP, it is envisaged that a special economic zone will emerge around the country's main aviation hub.



Zimbabwe - AfDB urges reforms to improve business climate / SEZs as the growth pillar

In its latest Zimbabwe Economic Report, AfDB said the southern African nation should reform to attract private investment. AfDB said developing SEZs as an engine and pillar for growth and diversification could improve competitiveness in first and later-stage processing of natural resources as well as manufacturing capacity.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



Ethiopia - \$38 mln in export revenue from Hawassa industrial park

Ethiopia has earned \$38 mln in export revenues from its flagship Chinese-built Hawassa industrial park in the last two years, said Mekonen Hailu, PR Director of Ethiopia Investment Commission (EIC). This amount was earned from textile goods produced by 20 local and foreign firms located inside Hawassa industrial park. This park has created job opportunities for 23,000 Ethiopians. Ethiopia hopes to build and commission 30 industrial parks by 2025.



Zambia - ZDA recorded \$3.9 bln of projected investment in 2018 / \$21.7 M in MFEZs and IPs

The Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) has recorded \$3.9 bln of projected investment in 2018 and facilitated export deals worth over \$109.5 M. Of the total projected investment, the manufacturing sector was second with \$708.4 M representing 18%, while \$21.7 M was investment in the various Multi Facility Economic Zones and Industrial Parks around the Country.



Rwanda - Kigali SEZ-based Alfa Holdings' cables to help bridge deficit

Rwanda- Rwanda-based Alfa Holdings has started manufacturing cables in the country, joining 16 others firms in the region. The \$6 mln greenfield cable plant at Kigali SEZ has a capacity to produce more than 600 tonnes of cables annually. The EAC has a 5,400-tonne deficit in cables annually. There are 11 cable companies in Kenya, four in Tanzania and two in Uganda.

INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES




Nigeria - 2019 budget: FG to spend N42bn on SEZs

The FG is planning to spend about N42bn for the rehabilitation of SEZs in the 2019 fiscal period. This amount is to be spent on the construction of a road for Ikpokri Energy City project; the completion of Lekki model textile and garment industrial park; and provision of infrastructure at Brass Free Zone in Bayelsa State.



Others are the construction of 2 SEZs in Sokoto and Makurdi and the completion of consultancy work on Ebonyi, Edo, Adamawa, Rivers, Bauchi, Enugu, Gombe, and Abuja, among others.

In addition, the FG is also planning to invest in Enyimba Industrial Park, and Iboam Deep Sea Port and City to stimulate exports. Nigeria targets \$30bn manufacturing exports by 2025 through SEZs.



Ivory Coast - VITIB: Two new approved companies announce the creation of nearly 2,500 jobs.

The VITIB free zone of Grand-Bassam, dedicated to ICT and biotechnology, has awarded approvals to two companies. Within five years, nearly 2,500 direct jobs will be created in the country thanks to Grolleau Europhane-Afrique (300) and the Digital Hub (2000) startup.



Angola - Angola joins SADC free trade zone from August 2019

Angolan Trade Minister said that his ministry is working to create conditions for Angola's accession to the SADC Free Trade Area in 2019. The Minister said that two customs duties were planned, one for S.A and one for the other members of the economic bloc. Angola has already presented the roadmap for joining the free trade zone and in August 2019 a meeting of trade ministers will ratify Angola's accession, and from then on discussions will begin on dismantling the SADC countries' rates.

The Africa Free Zones Organization

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)