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**Trade Integration in Africa  
Unleashing the continent's potential in a changing world  
February 14, 2024**

On February 14, IMF's Africa Training Institute (ATI), Middle East Center for Economics and Finance (CEF), and Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC) organized a webinar on "Trade Integration in Africa—Unleashing the Continent's Potential in a Changing World", based on a 2023 joint departmental paper by the IMF's African and Middle East and Central Asia departments. The African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) has the potential to transform regional trade and thereby lift growth and support livelihoods across the continent. Successful AfCFTA implementation could unlock substantial gains for Africa in terms of income, jobs, and other benefits. The event, chaired by Mr. Sukhwinder Singh (director of ATI) was attended by over 500 participants. Ms. Fei Liu and Mr. Sergii Meleshchuk presented key results from the paper while Mr. Andrew Mold (Chief Regional Integration & AfCFTA—UNECA) acted as discussant. The paper, presentations and other relevant materials can be found at [2024 ATI Webinar Research Series \(cvent.com\)](#).