



INNOVATION IN MOTION
8 - 11 June 2025

The Leading Event in Africa for Supply Chain Professionals
47th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town

**Connecting the Dots: Logistics, SEZs, and
Africa's Trade Ambitions**

Unlocking Africa's industrial potential through efficient logistics in Special Economic Zones.



Grow Beyond Potential

by Ricardo Isaac

THE MISSING LINK IN AFRICA'S INDUSTRIAL FUTURE

Logistics are crucial for Africa's industrial growth

SEZs as Trade Gateways

Not just industrial zones but connected trade hubs.

AfCFTA Implementation

SEZs are launching points for continental free trade.



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UNDERSTANDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES (SEZs)

SEZs are designated areas with unique economic regulations.



Industrial Focus

Distinct economic regulations and incentives.



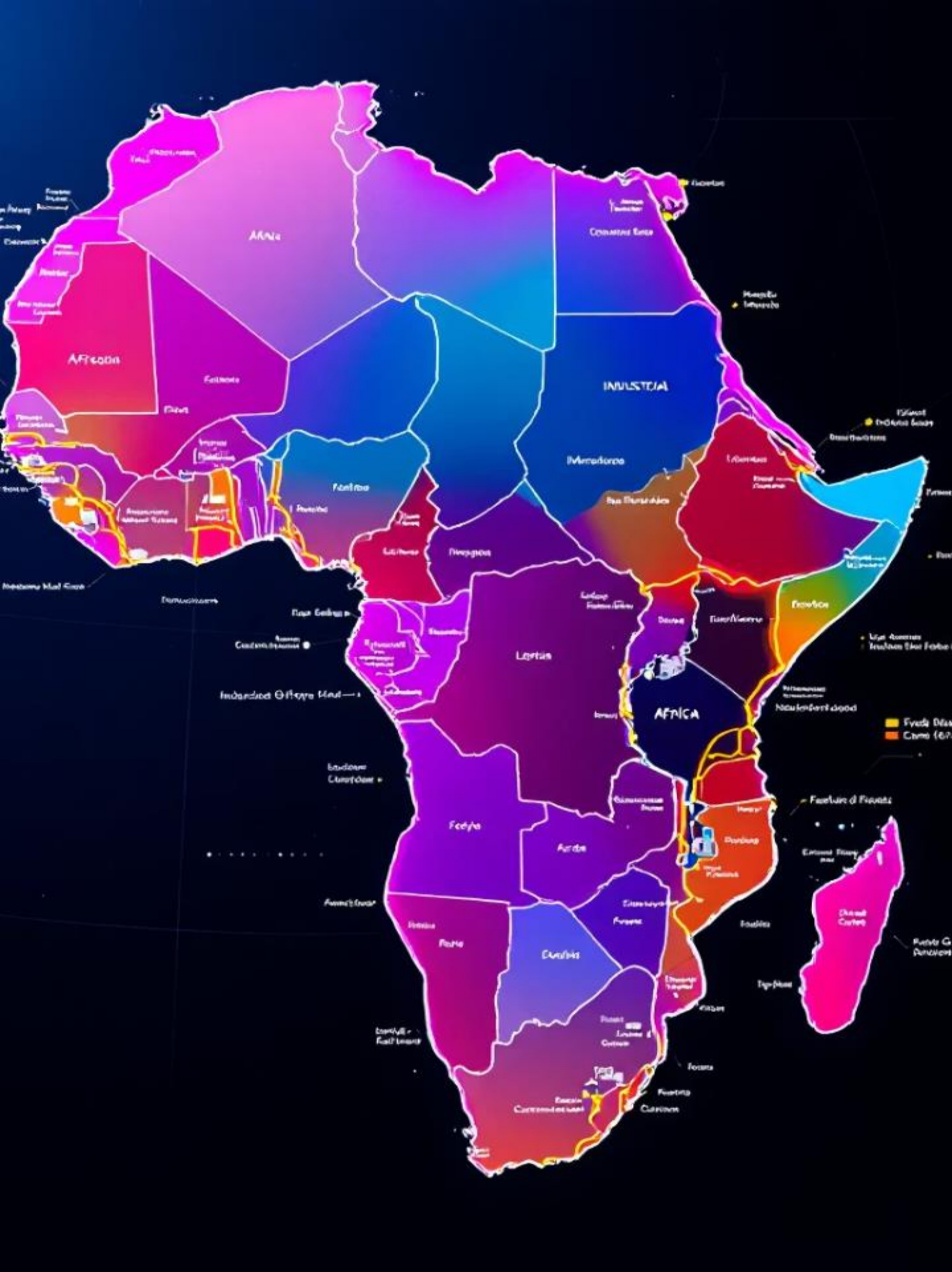
Investment Attraction

Draw foreign capital and expertise.



Export Growth

Stimulate trade and job creation.



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THE STRATEGIC ROLE OF SEZS IN AFRICA

SEZs significantly boost export volumes

They anchor regional value chains and trade corridors

Export Catalysts

Increase exports by 30-50%.

Value Chain Anchors

Form basis for regional trade

Infrastructure Facilitators

Build and enhance transport corridors.

Economic Ecosystems

Connect industries for growth.

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AFRICA'S INDUSTRIAL MOMENTUM: AFCFTA & SEZS

AfCFTA unites 54 countries into a single market.

SEZs are vital for industrialization.

Air connectivity offers fastest market access.



AfCFTA's Vision

Unifying African economies.



SEZ's Role

Engines for industrial growth.



Logistics Challenge

Infrastructure often overlooked.



Air Connectivity

Quickest link to global markets.

ADDRESSING THE LOGISTICS GAP

Intra-African trade is currently under 20%.

Trade Barriers

Poor infrastructure.
Landlocked regions.



Fragmented Regulations

Inconsistent policies.
Bureaucratic hurdles.

Reduced Competitiveness

Slower market access.
Limited growth.



Increased Costs

Higher shipping expenses.
Reduced profitability.

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LOGISTICS AS A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Efficient Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are crucial for Africa's trade growth. They leverage advanced logistics to create a competitive edge.

- Multimodal integration: seamless movement of goods.
- Strategic partnerships: foster collaboration and efficiency.
- Skilled workforce: powered by targeted education programs.

DUBE TRADEPORT SEZ: AN AFRICAN SUCCESS STORY

Located next to King Shaka International Airport in KwaZulu-Natal.
Connects to Durban and Richards Bay seaports.



- 1 — Dube Cargo Terminal
Key airfreight hub.
- 2 — Cold-chain & Agro-processing
Specialized infrastructure.
- 3 — Light Manufacturing
Industrial and logistics operations.
- 4 — Customs Ecosystem
Streamlined trade processes.

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LEVERAGING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRADE ENABLEMENT

Infrastructure upgrades reduce costs and speed up trade.

Road corridors improve efficiency.

Port and airport expansions support exports.



Road Network

Corridor upgrades cut logistics costs



Sea Ports

Port upgrades speed up global shipping.



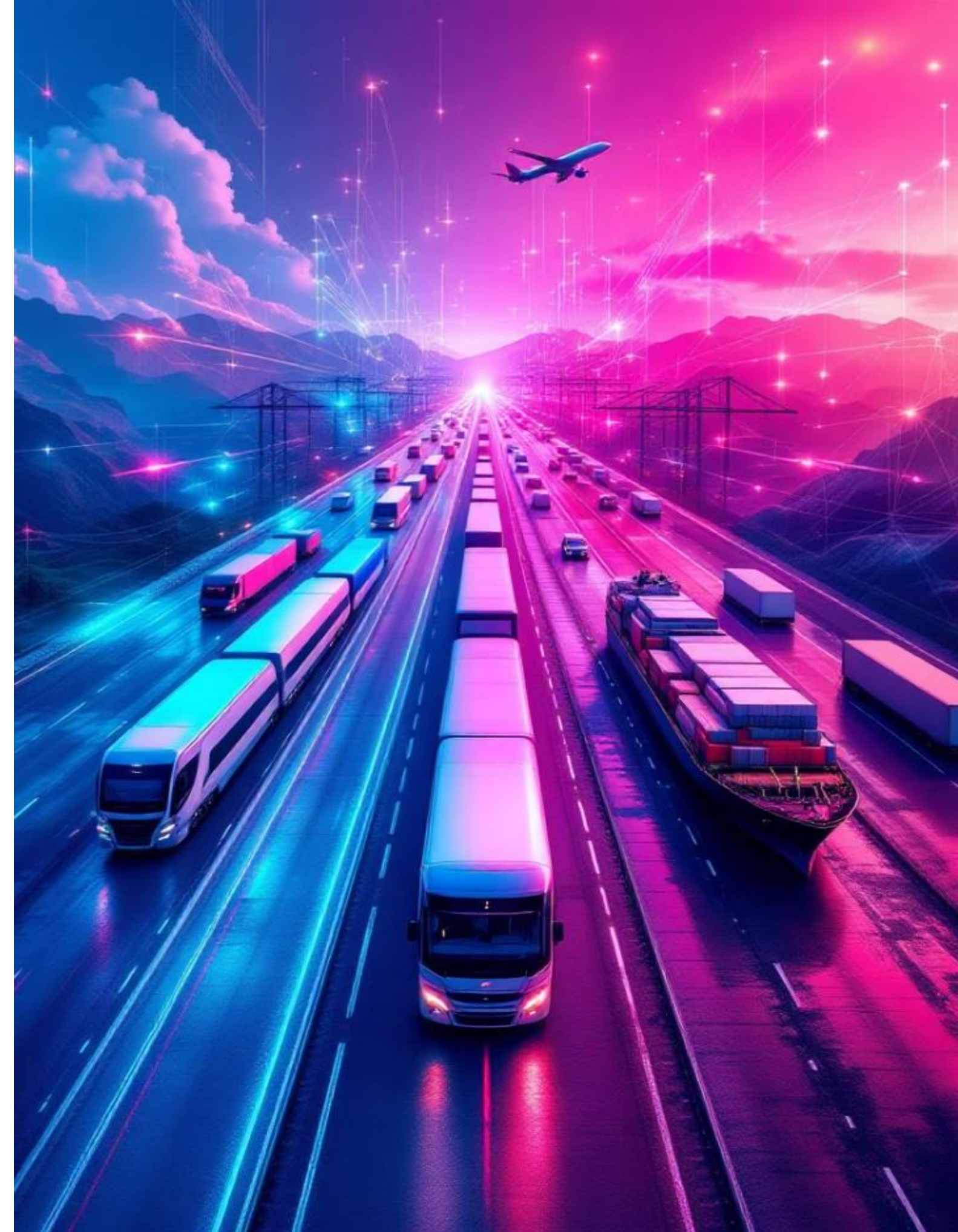
Airports

Upgrades and expansions support exports.



Rail System

Revived freight corridors for inland SEZs.



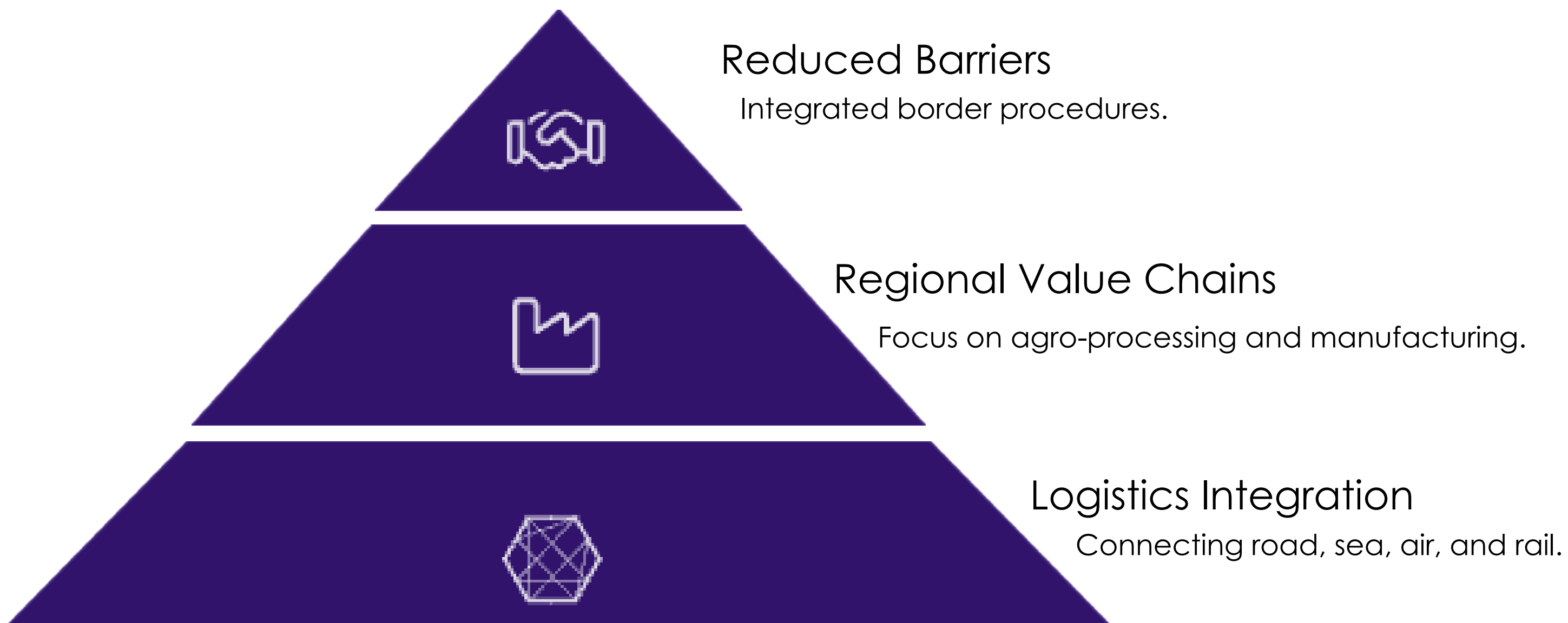
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KEY TAKEAWAYS: TRADE ENABLEMENT THROUGH SEZs

SEZs facilitate trade by integrating border procedures.

They foster regional value chains.

Logistics integration is crucial for success.



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AREAS OF COLLABORATION



Harmonise SEZ Frameworks

Align under AfCFTA for seamless trade.



Invest in Transport Corridors

Develop efficient regional links.



Facilitate Inter-SEZ Cooperation

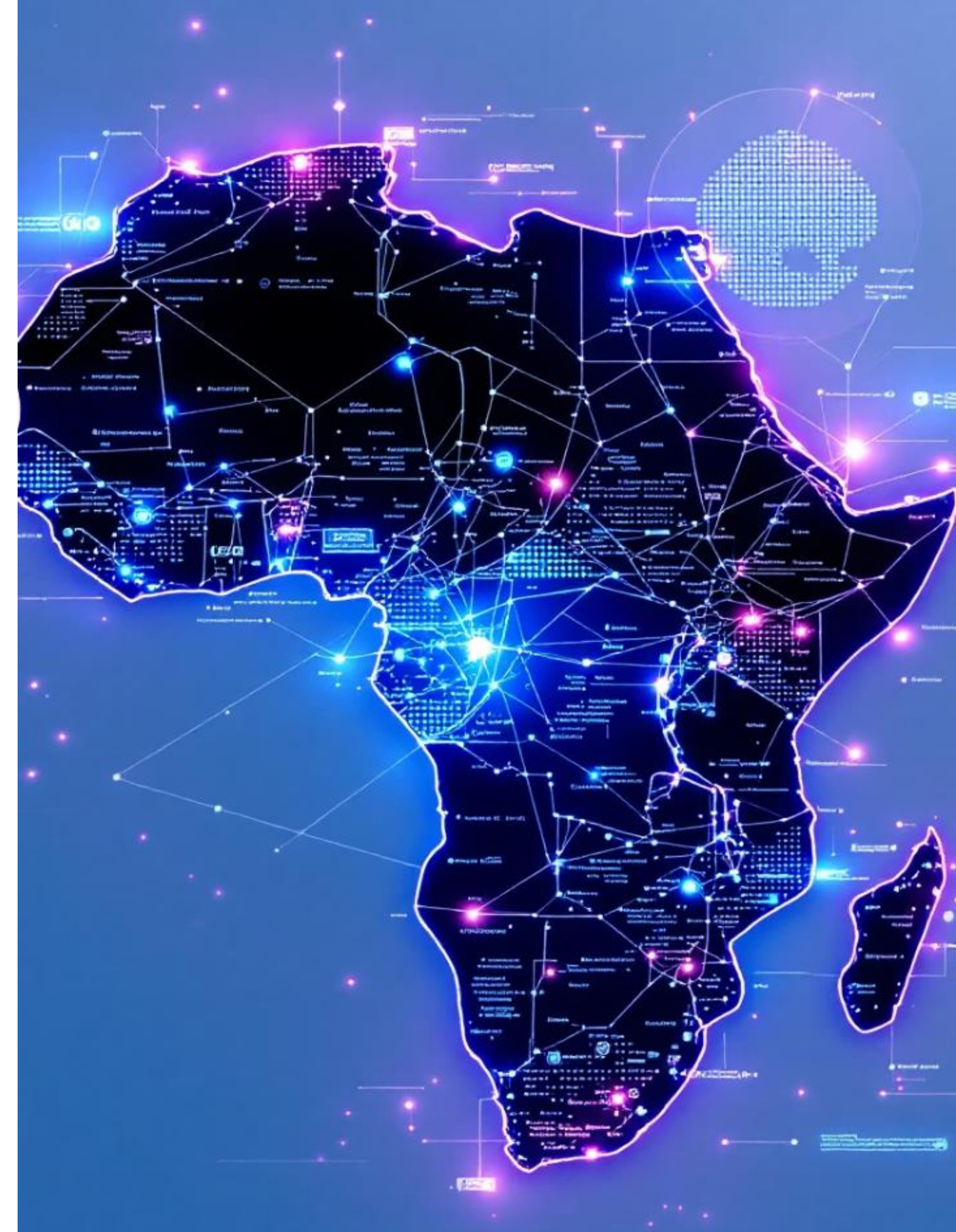
Promote synergy among zones.



Utilize Digital Platforms

Monitor trade flow and enhance governance.

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DUBE TRADEPORT: A MODEL FOR COMPETITIVENESS

Trade Competitiveness

SEZs plus logistics drive market strength.

Export Diversification

Broadens product range for global markets.

Intra-Regional Trade

Strengthens links with neighbors like Eswatini, Zimbabwe, etc.

Lower Logistics Costs

Boosts efficiency and reduces expenses.

CLOSING THOUGHTS: BUILDING AFRICA'S FUTURE

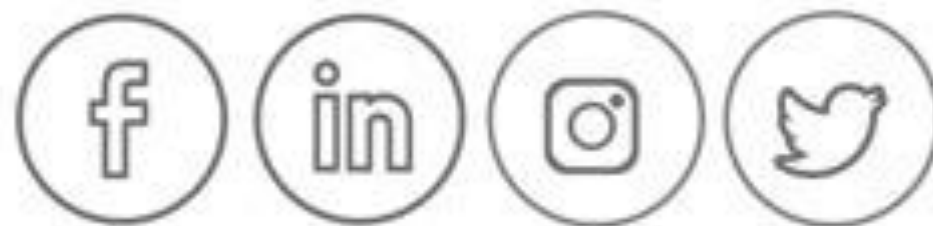
- Dube TradePort: blueprint for African industry.
- Logistics: key enabler of SEZ success.
- Africa: must build connected networks, not just zones.

Strategic integration and robust logistics are vital for sustainable growth across the continent.

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