



Leaving no trade unrecorded

Presented by
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In this release, we present:

1. Introduction
2. Definition and Measurements
3. ICBT Highlights
4. Recommendations
5. Publications

Introduction 1/3

1. Informal Cross-Border Trade is the first of its kind being conducted by the GSS.
2. **10** out of the **16** administrative regions, namely; Western, Western North, Bono, Volta, Oti, Northern, North East, Upper East and Upper West share borders with the three neighboring countries—Togo, Ivory Coast, and Burkina Faso.
3. **902** successfully trained officers, comprising **724** Enumerators and **178** Supervisors were deployed for the data collection.
4. Officers were deployed to all **321** identified border points.

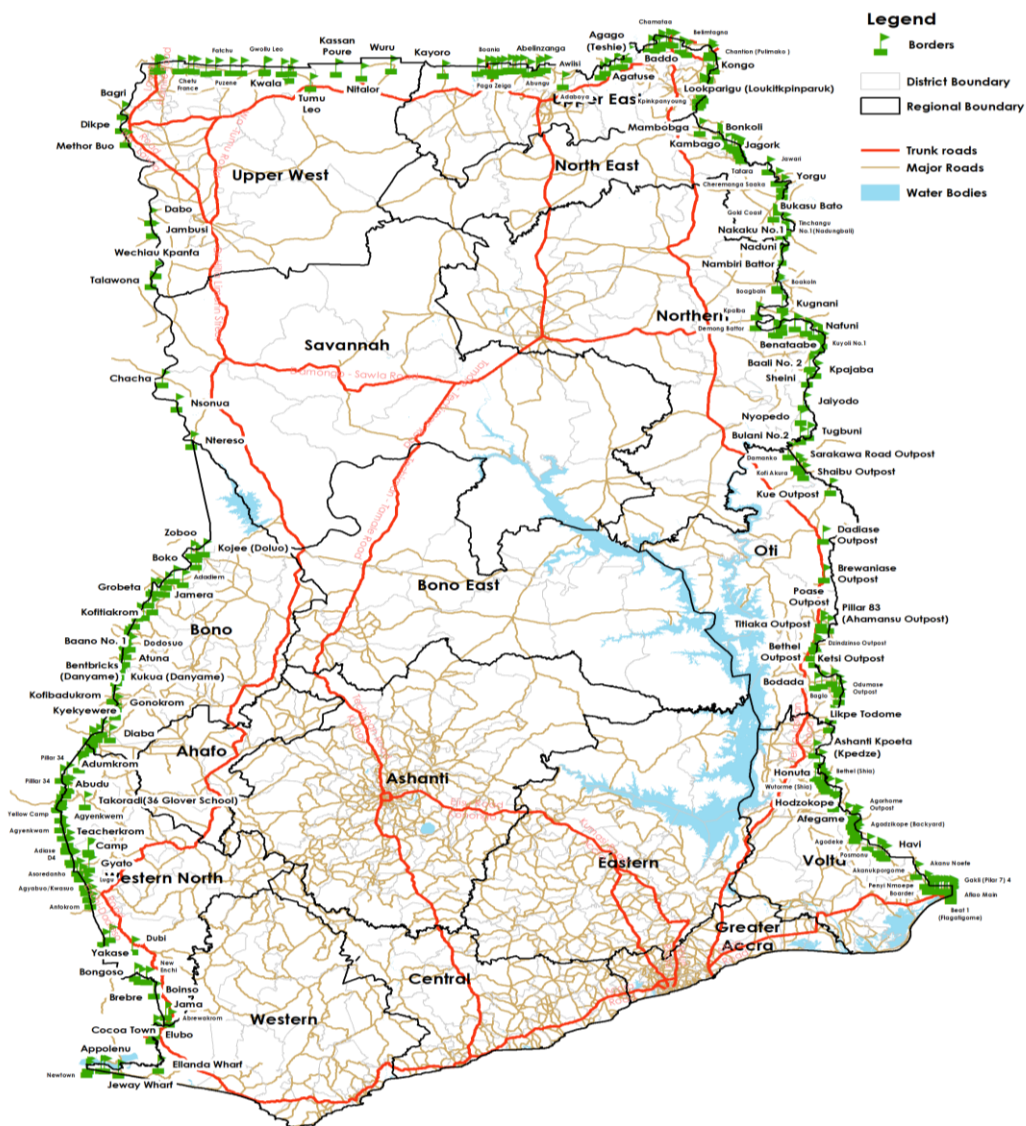
Introduction 2/3

4. The exercise spans **14 days per month** over a period of one year
5. Fieldwork began in October 2024
6. Data collection takes place from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM.**
7. Each border point has a **minimum of 2 enumerators and 1 supervisor**

Introduction 3/3

4. A border profiling team assisted with identification of all crossing points and routes. They undertook the following activities:
 - i. Engaged with opinion leaders in border towns;
 - ii. Provided a briefing on the ICBT exercise, including data collection processes and duration;
 - iii. Sought support from opinion leaders for smooth data collection, particularly around market centers that facilitate ICBT;
 - iv. Assessed the presence of security personnel at each border or route; and
 - v. Assessed the level of human and trade activity at each crossing point, including an estimate of the average number of traders crossing weekly.
5. This presentation seeks to provide insights on the key findings for the **October to December 2024 ICBT data collection**

Map of Ghana with Borders



Region	No. of Borders
Western	9
Volta	76
Western North	45
Bono	35
Oti	25
Northern	24
Savannah	4
North East	28
Upper East	44
Upper West	31
Total	321

Definitions and Measurements 1/3

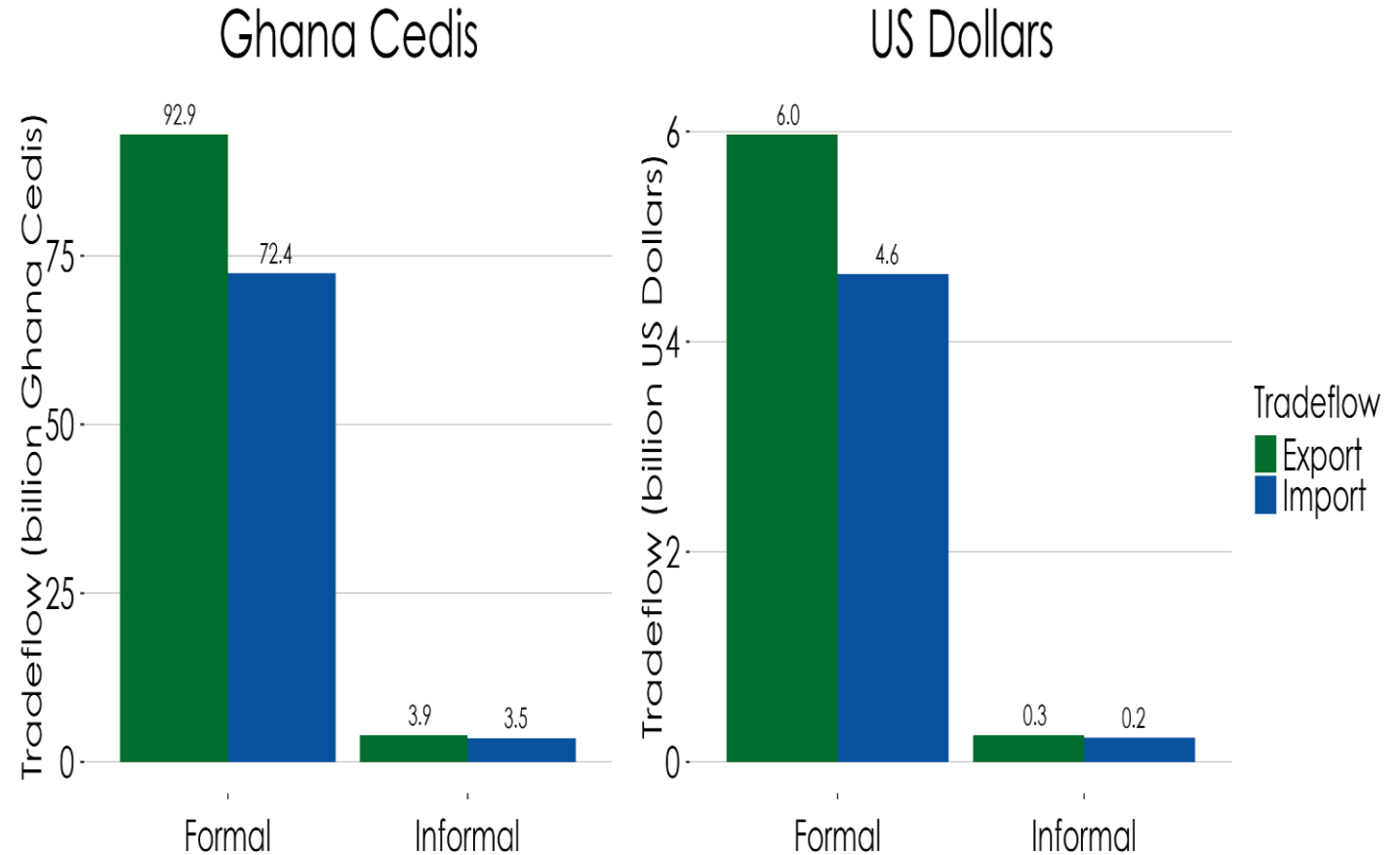
- 1. Informal Cross-Border Trade** refers to transactions in goods and services between two or more countries that are not officially recorded , and therefore not included in official trade statistics. For purposes of this survey, the focus is on transactions in goods between Ghana and its neighbouring countries (Togo, Burkina Faso and Cote D'Ivoire).
- 2. Border** refers to a gazetted or non-gazetted point between Ghana and its neighbouring countries where both formal and informal trade transactions take place.

Definitions and Measurements 2/3

3. **Import (Coming in)** refers to the record of all goods that increase the stock of material resources in Ghana by entering its economic territory
4. **Export (Going out)** refers to the record of all goods that decrease the stock of material resources in Ghana by leaving its economic territory.

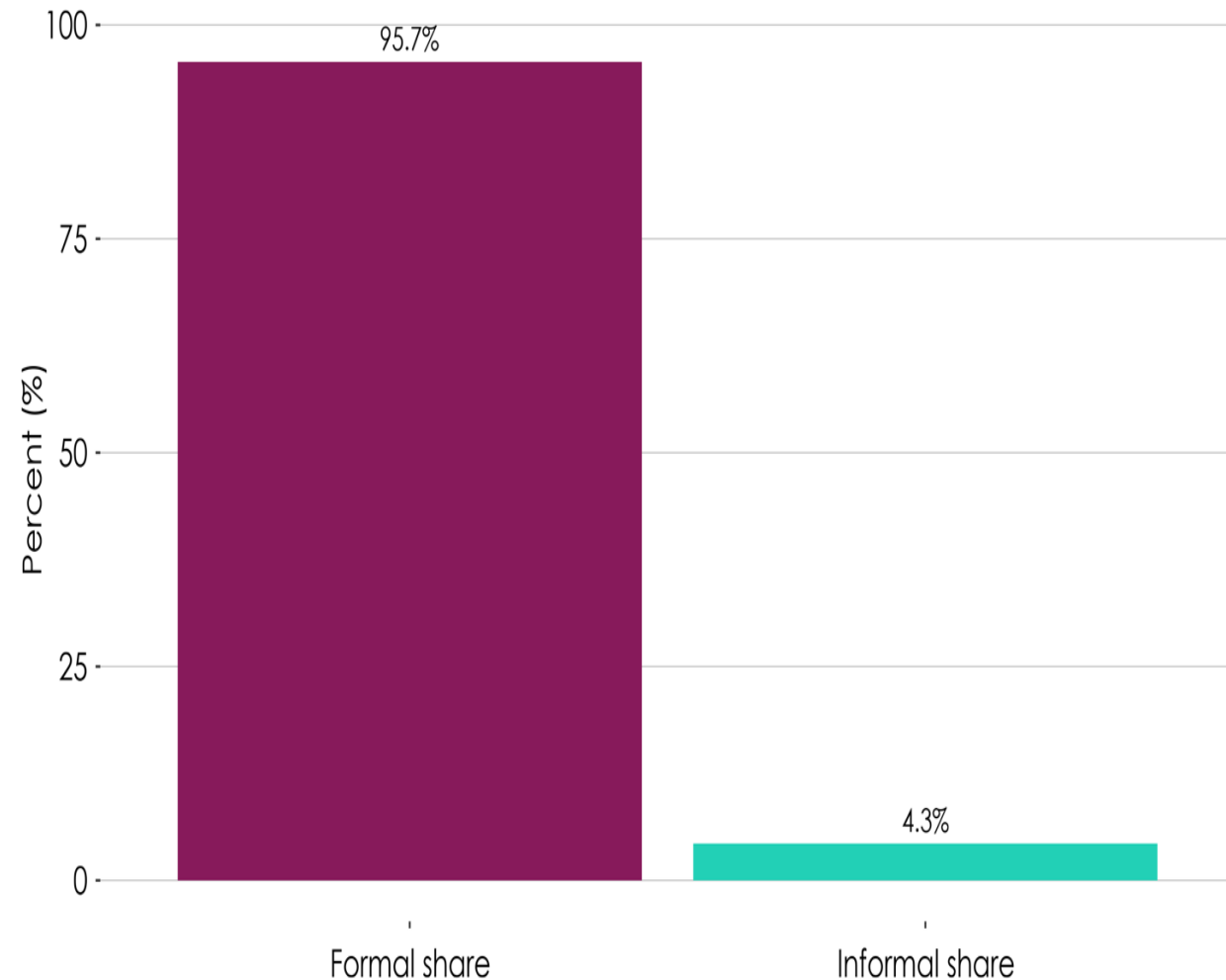
Total ICBT for Q4 2024

Total estimated value of ICBT for Q4 2024 was Gh¢7.4 billion compared to Gh¢165.3 billion formal trade



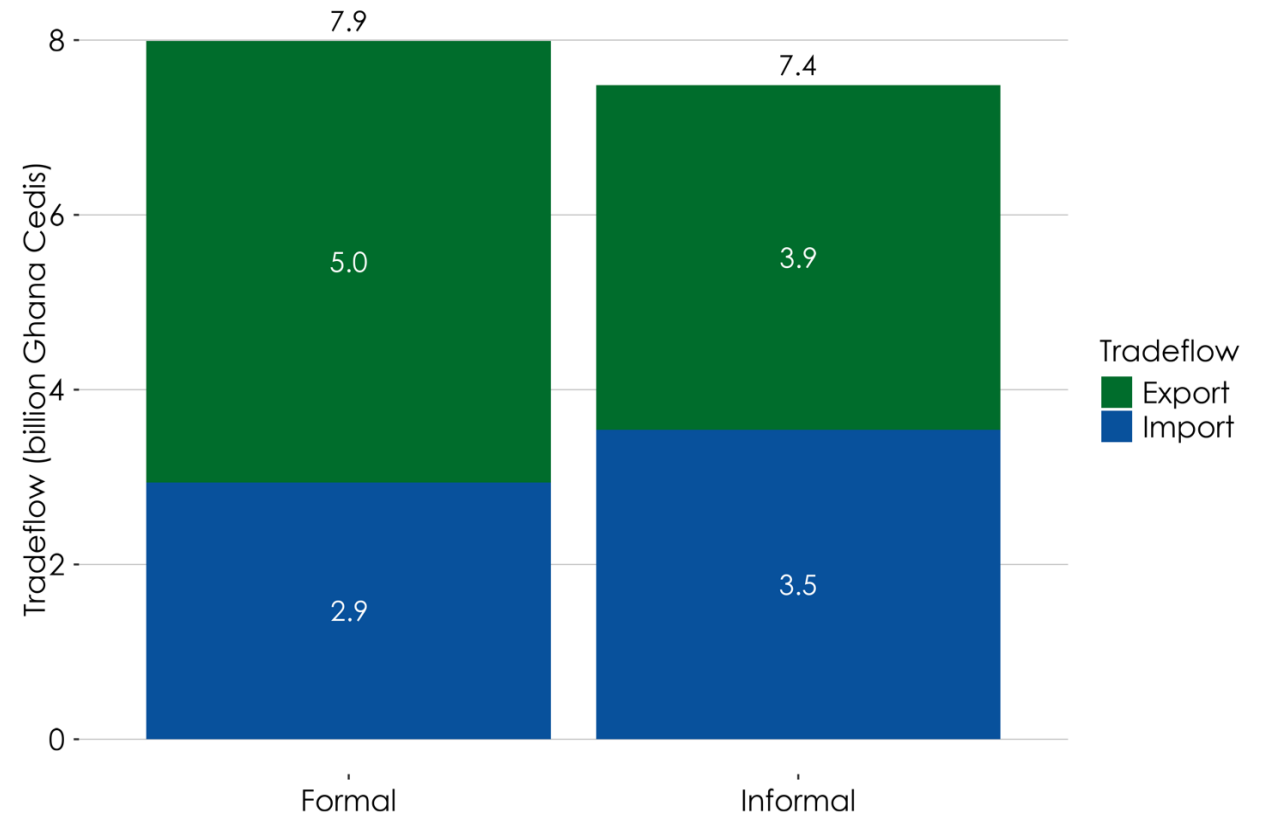
Shares of Formal and Informal Trade

Informal trade constitutes **4.3 %** of the value of Ghana's total trade recorded in Q4 2024



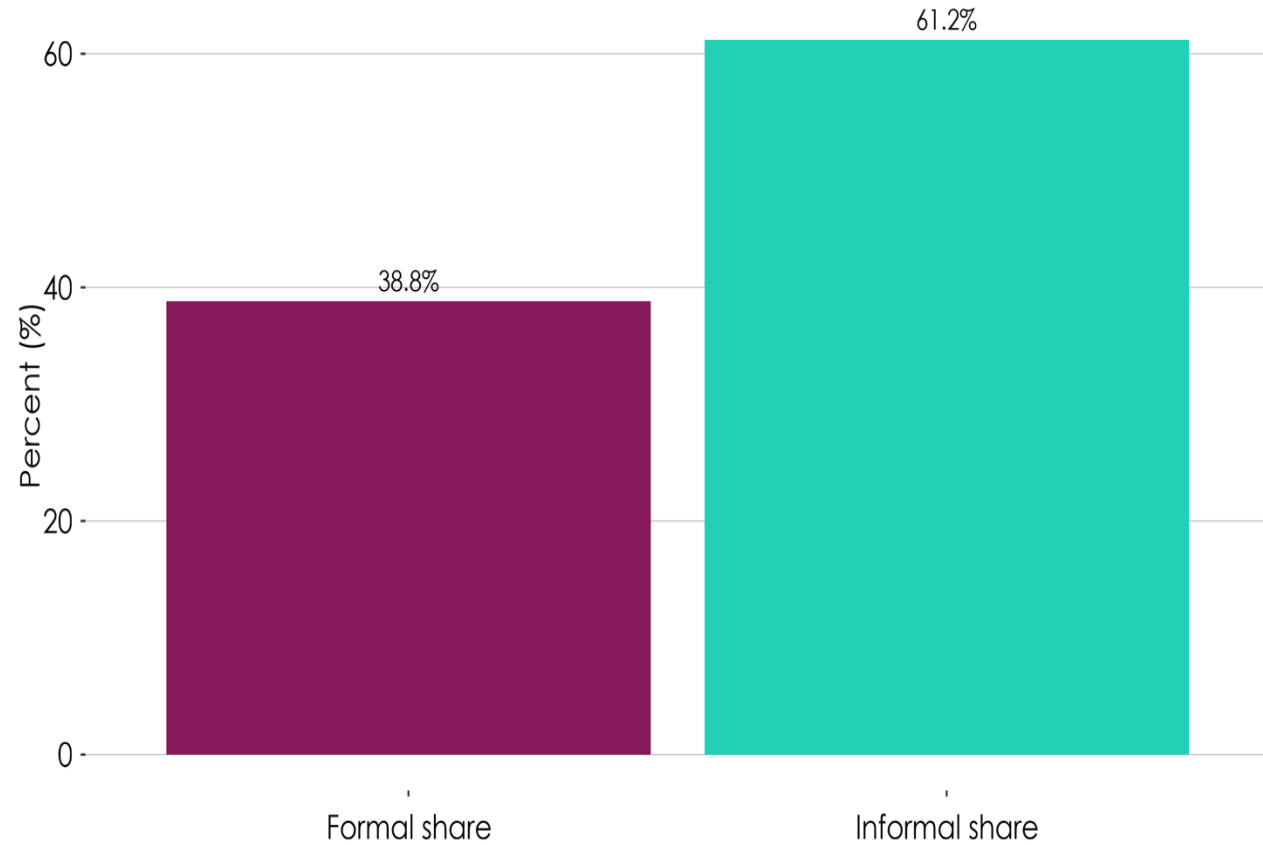
Formal and Informal Trade with Neighbours

Formal trade with neighboring countries (Togo, Cote D' Ivoire and Burkina Faso) was Gh¢7.9 billion compared to Gh¢7.4 billion informal in Q4 2024



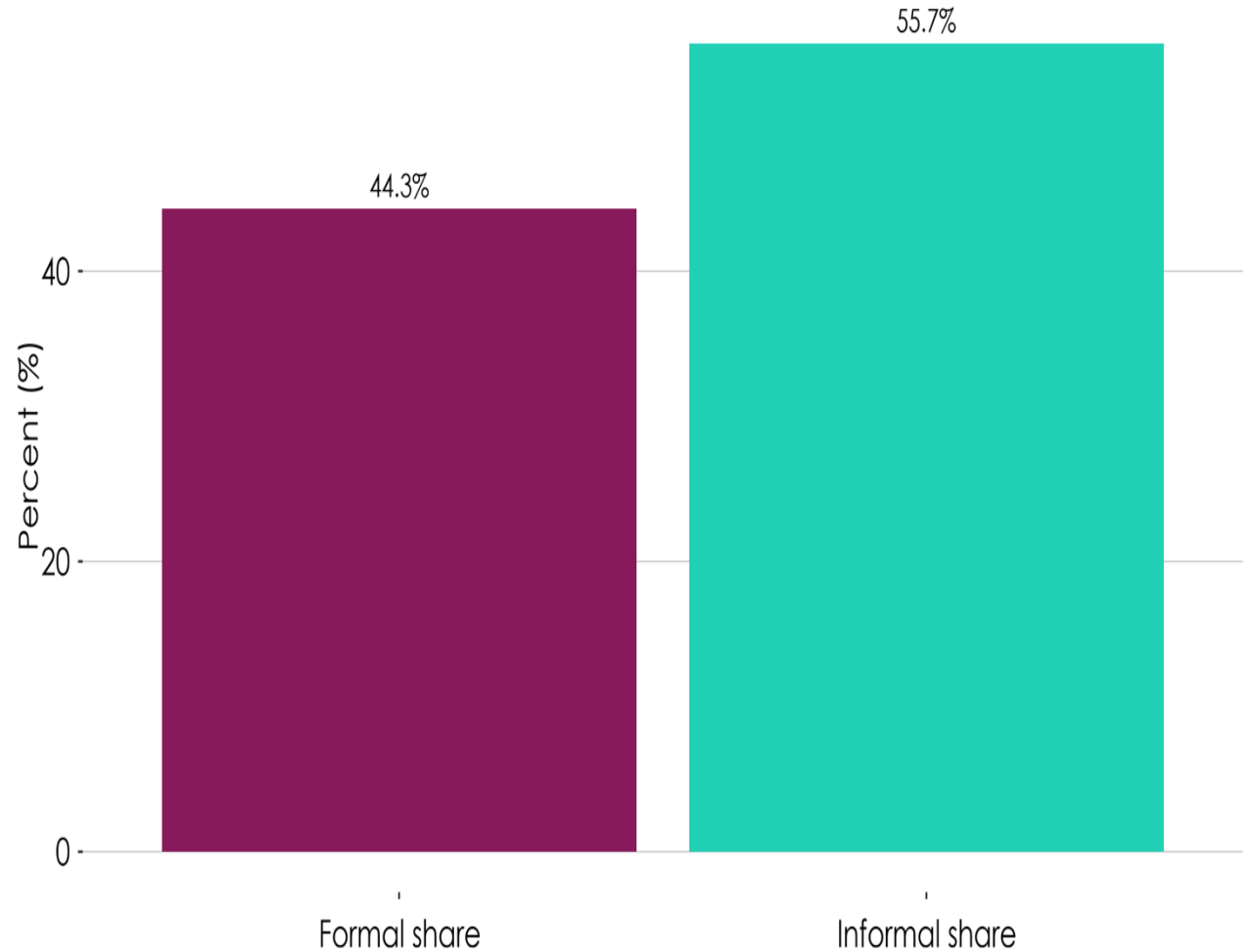
Trade with Togo

In Q4 2024, informal trade accounted for 61.2% and formal trade 38.8% of Ghana's total trade with Togo.



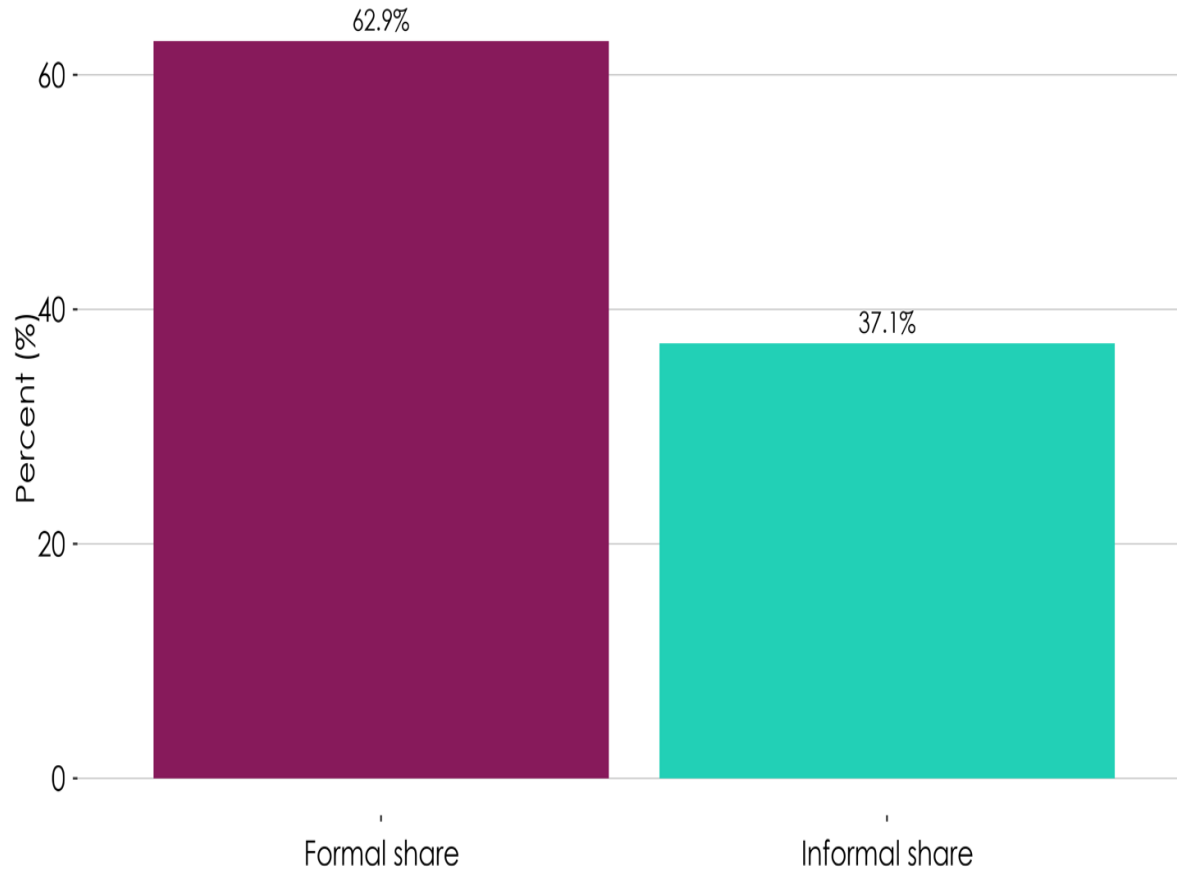
Trade with Cote D'Ivoire

In Q4 2024, informal trade accounted for over half (55.7%) of Ghana's total trade with Côte d'Ivoire.



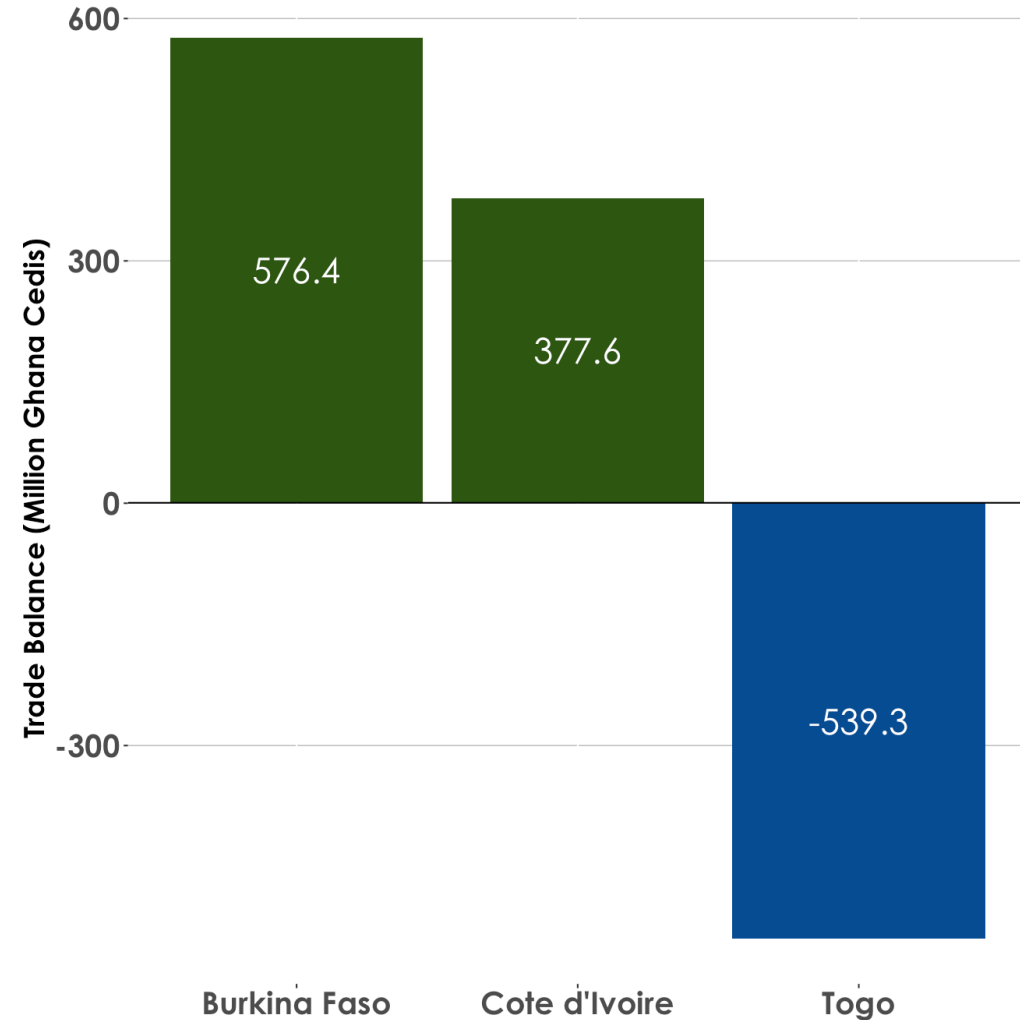
Trade with Burkina Faso

Out of Ghana's total trade with Burkina Faso in Q4 2024, 37.1% were traded informally.



Informal Trade Balance

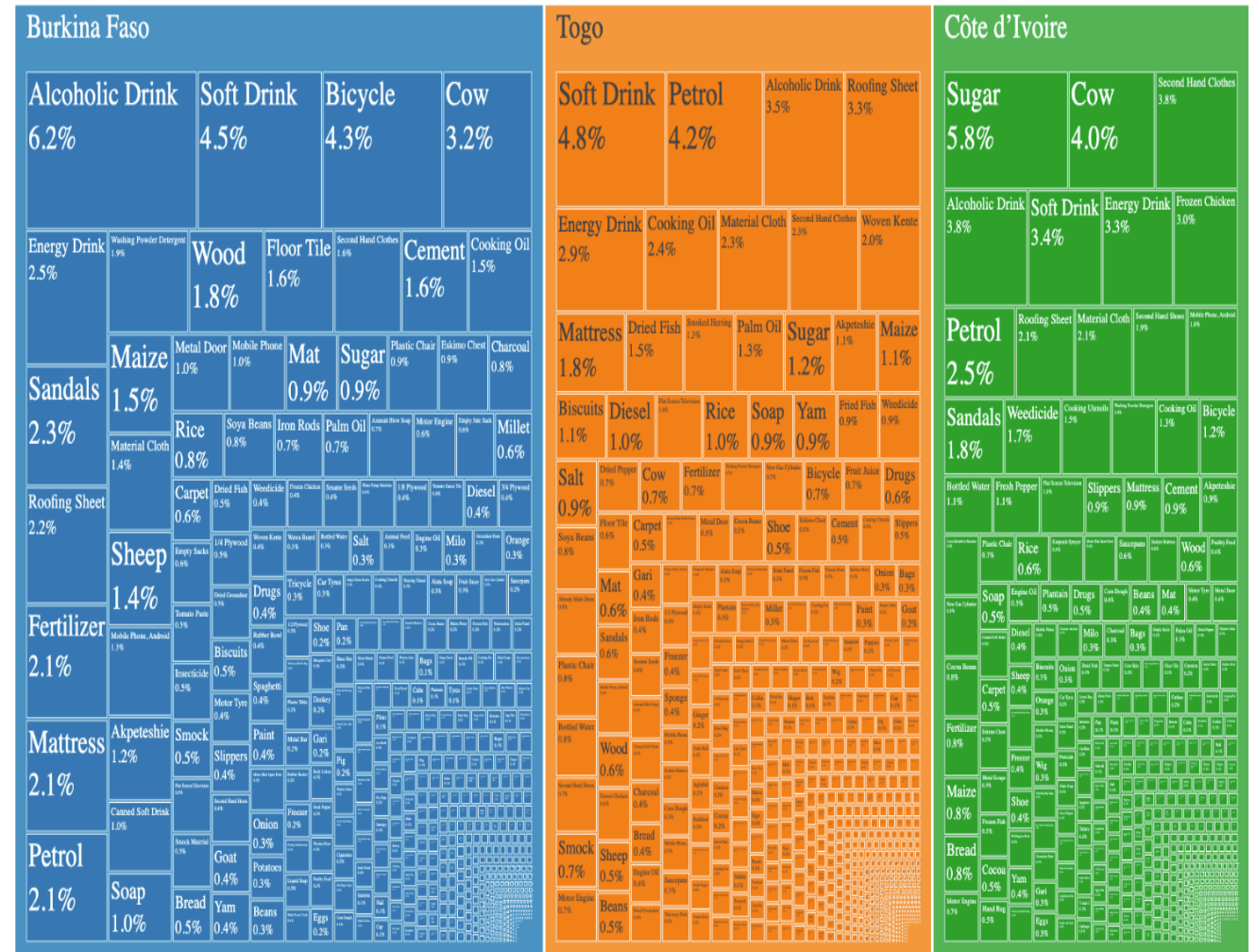
Ghana recorded a trade surplus with Burkina Faso (Gh¢576.4 million) and Cote D'Ivoire (Gh¢377.6 million) and a deficit of Gh¢539.3 million with Togo.



Export composition to Neighbours

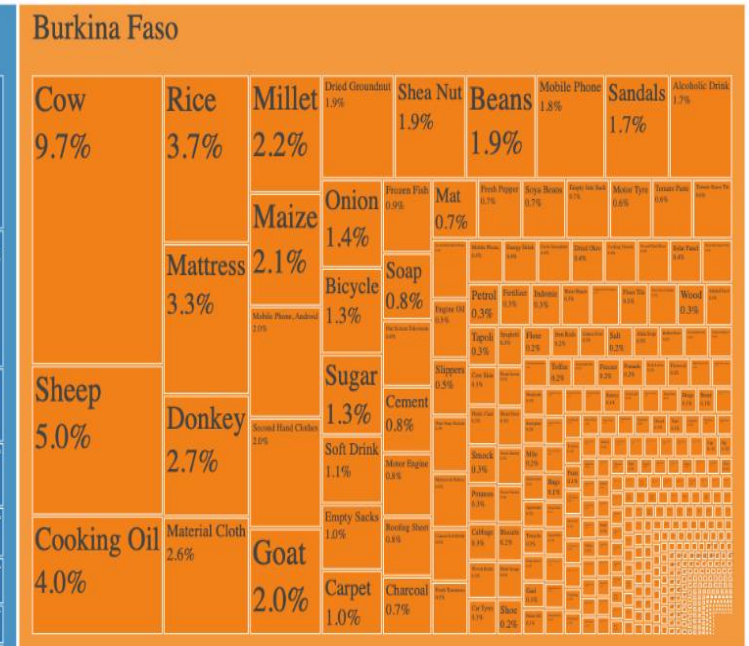
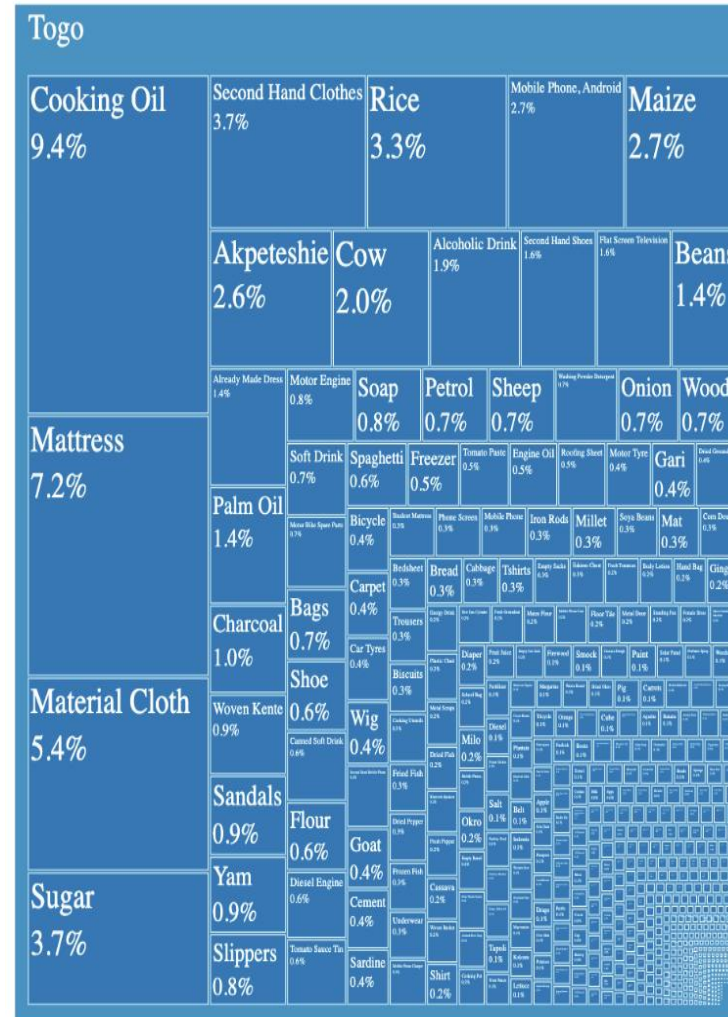
The composition of informal exports varies by corridor:

Alcoholic drinks accounted for the largest share in Burkina Faso exports to Togo, and sugar was the principal informal export to Côte d'Ivoire.



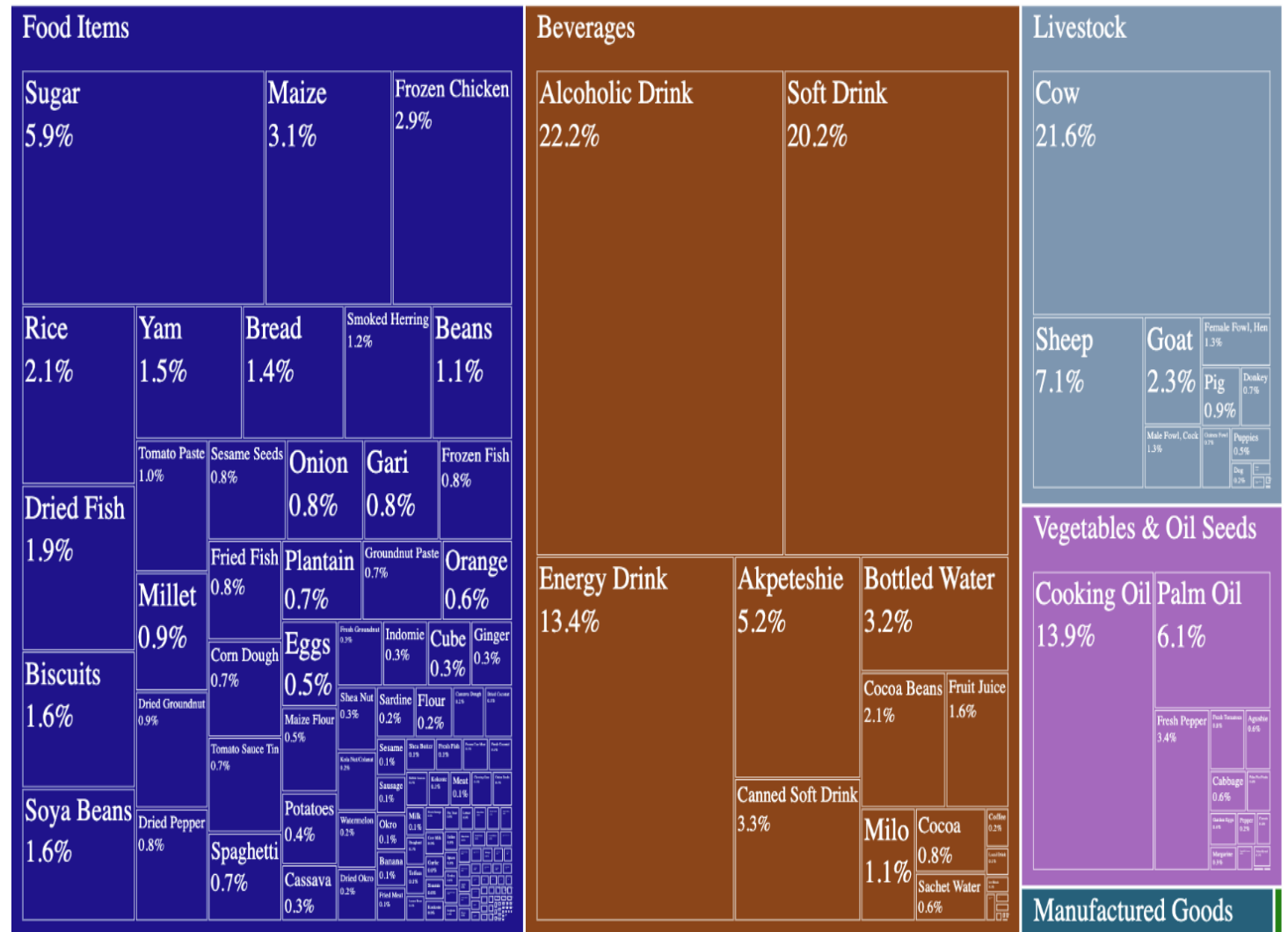
Import composition from Neighbours

Cooking oil is the main imported product from Togo and Cote D'Ivoire while cow is the top imported item from Burkina Faso.



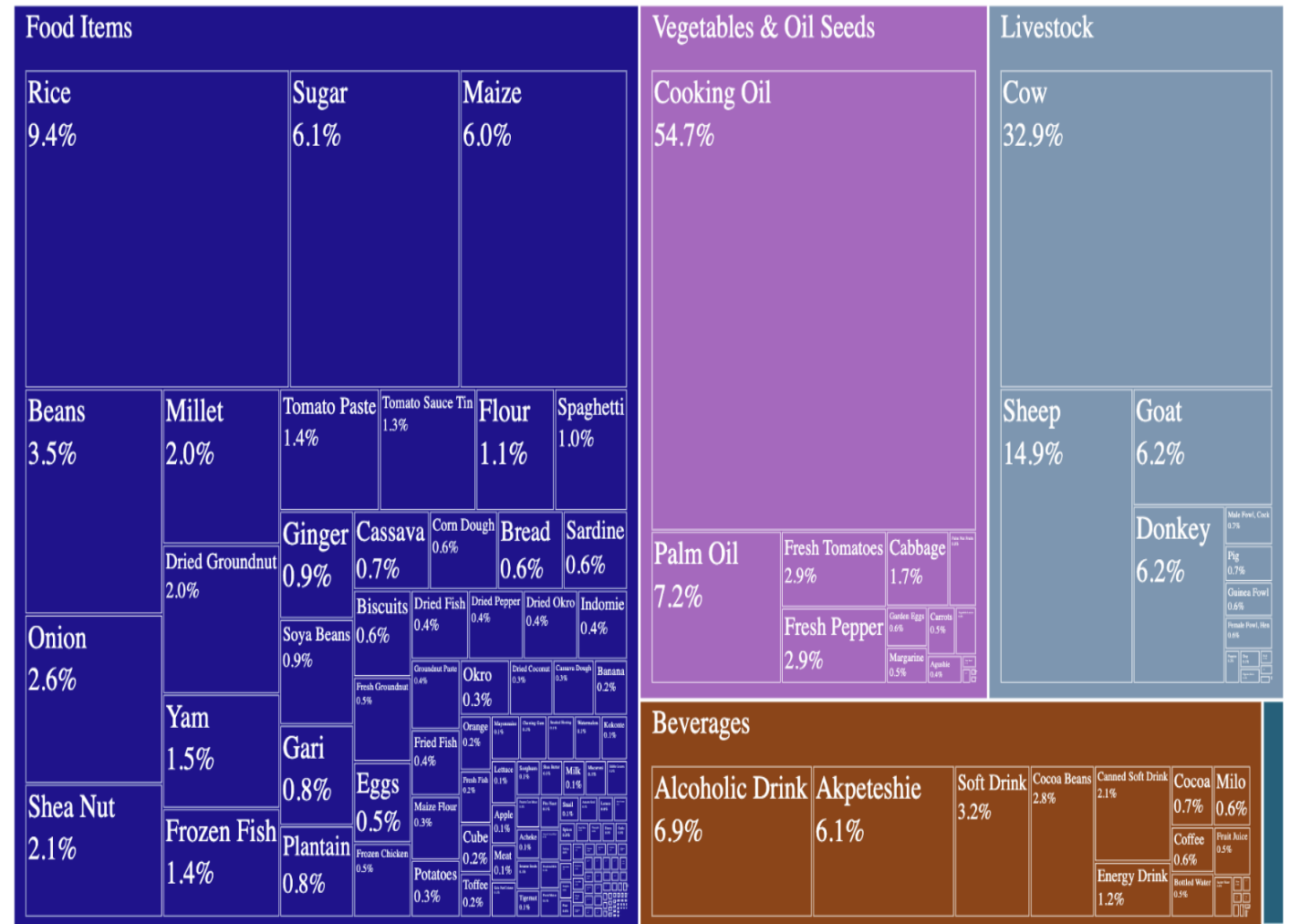
Informal Export of food products

Alcoholic drink, soft drink and energy drink contributed more than half (55.8%) of beverages exported informally to our neighbours.



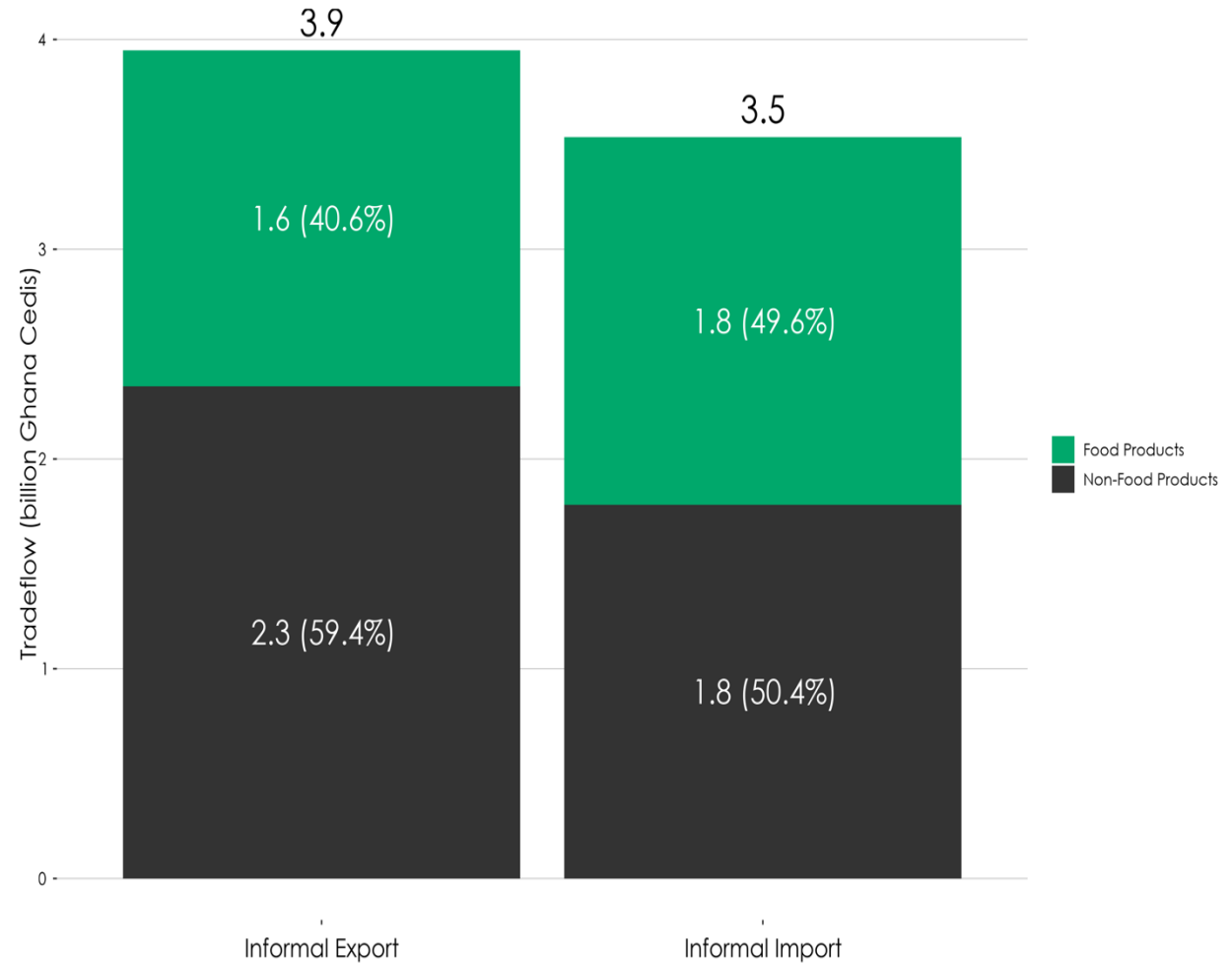
Informal Import of food products

Rice (9.4%), sugar (6.1%), maize (6.0%) and beans (3.5%) constituted a quarter of food items imported informally.



Trade flow of Food and Non-Food Products

Almost half (49.6%) of all imported ICBT products were food products during quarter 4 2024 compared to 40.6 percent of all exported ICBT products which were food.



Recommendations

1. Support informal traders through upgrading of border infrastructure and provision of registration, access to credit, and training to make trade faster and easier.
2. Strengthen collaboration with Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso for data sharing and customs harmonisation.
3. Boost local production of goods like cooking oil, rice, and mattresses to cut import dependence and create jobs.

Publications

1. Power Point Presentation on Q4 2024 ICBT
2. Infographics for Q4 2024 ICBT

End of Press Release for Quarter 4 2024 Informal Cross Border Trade

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