



Global Forum on Origin Interconnectivity A Private Sector View

**3 – 4 February 2025
Presented by : Louise Wiggett**

Overview

- **The need for Digitization & Interconnectivity**
 - **Case Studies**
- **Digitization Benefits**
- **Interconnectivity Benefits**
- **Recommendations**

Need for Digitization

- Global trade is becoming increasingly complex
- The volume of international flows has increased exponentially and continue to grow
- Risks involved in manual processes: delays, errors, fraud
- Cost of manual processes continues to increase
- Digitization provides efficiency and transparency
- Digital transformation trends
- Interconnectivity is the desired **“End State”**

1

Trader requests batch of certificates based on next planned consignments :

2-5 Days

Driver fetches boxes of certificates (if stock is available)

2

3

Physical forms are completed for each item requiring a Certificate of Origin : **1-2 Days**

Completed forms are taken to Customs offices for verification, approval and Customs stamp : **2 - 3 Days**

4

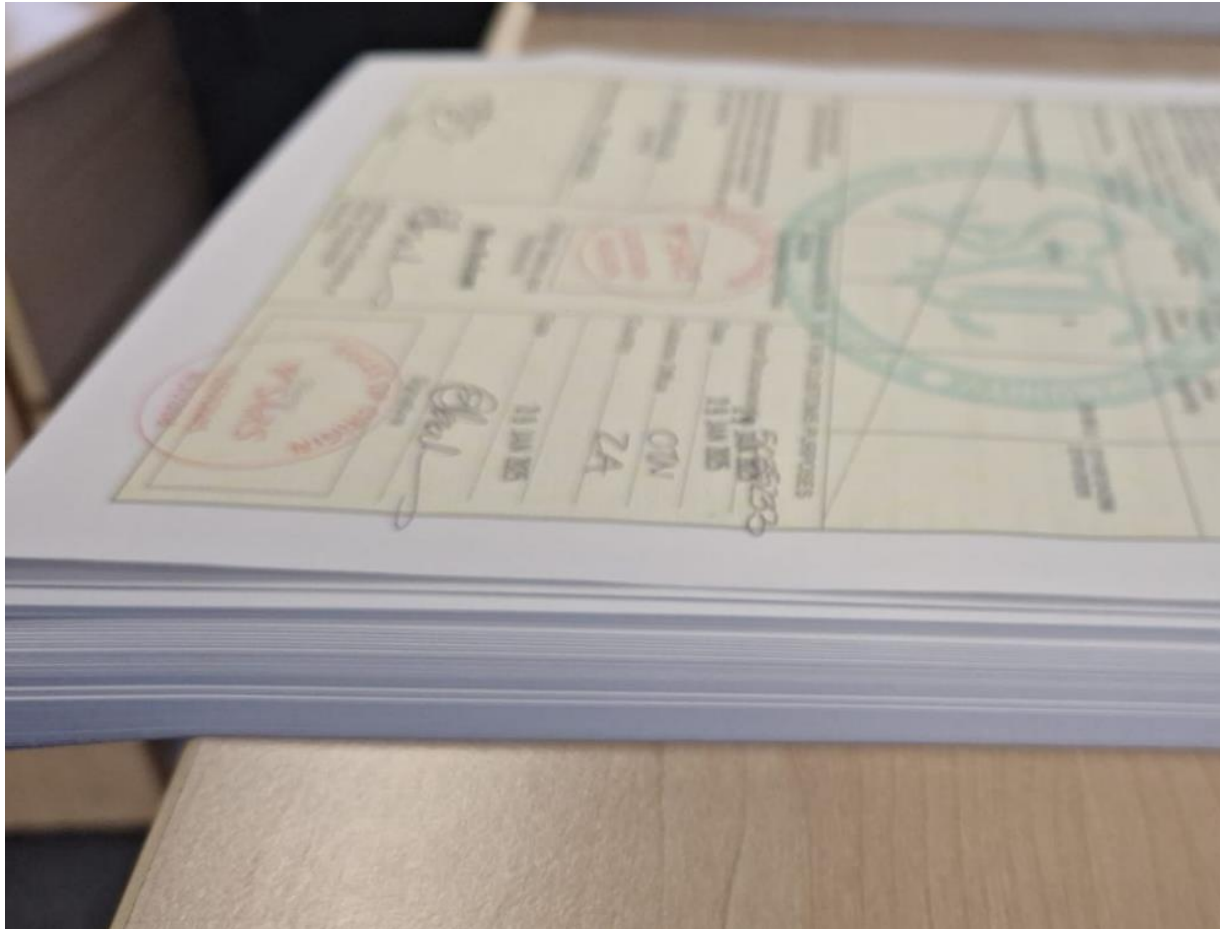
5

Driver returns to Customs offices to fetch stamped forms

Certificates must accompany vehicle along its journey and submitted to destination Customs for verification

6

Outcome of the Process



SADC CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Registration No. _____ 2. Country Ref No. ZA & P062112
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC)
CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

1. Exporter (Name and Office Address)
 SACOPETE ENGINEERING PTY LTD
 1001 MILLERS CROSS & OLD PAARL, ROOIBOS, SPRINGFIELD
 6001 TROMPSBURG, SOUTH AFRICA, 1400
 Contact Person: Othelo
 Tel: 011 352 8000 Email: othelo@saopete.co.za

3. Designated (Name and Office Address)
 AFRICA SUPERMARKETS LTD
 SACOPETE PLAZA 14000
 SANDLA HILL
 LINDSAY

4. Particulars of Transport
 1. Mode
 2. For official use only

(1) Marks and Numbers, number and kind of packages, description of goods	(2) Marks and Nos. (3) Description of goods	7. Customs Tariff No.	8. Origin Classification (See sub-section)	9. Gross weight or other quantity	10. Invoice No. and date
SACOPETE SPECIAL MACHINES 4000000000000000		8400	SA	40000	11 JAN 2025

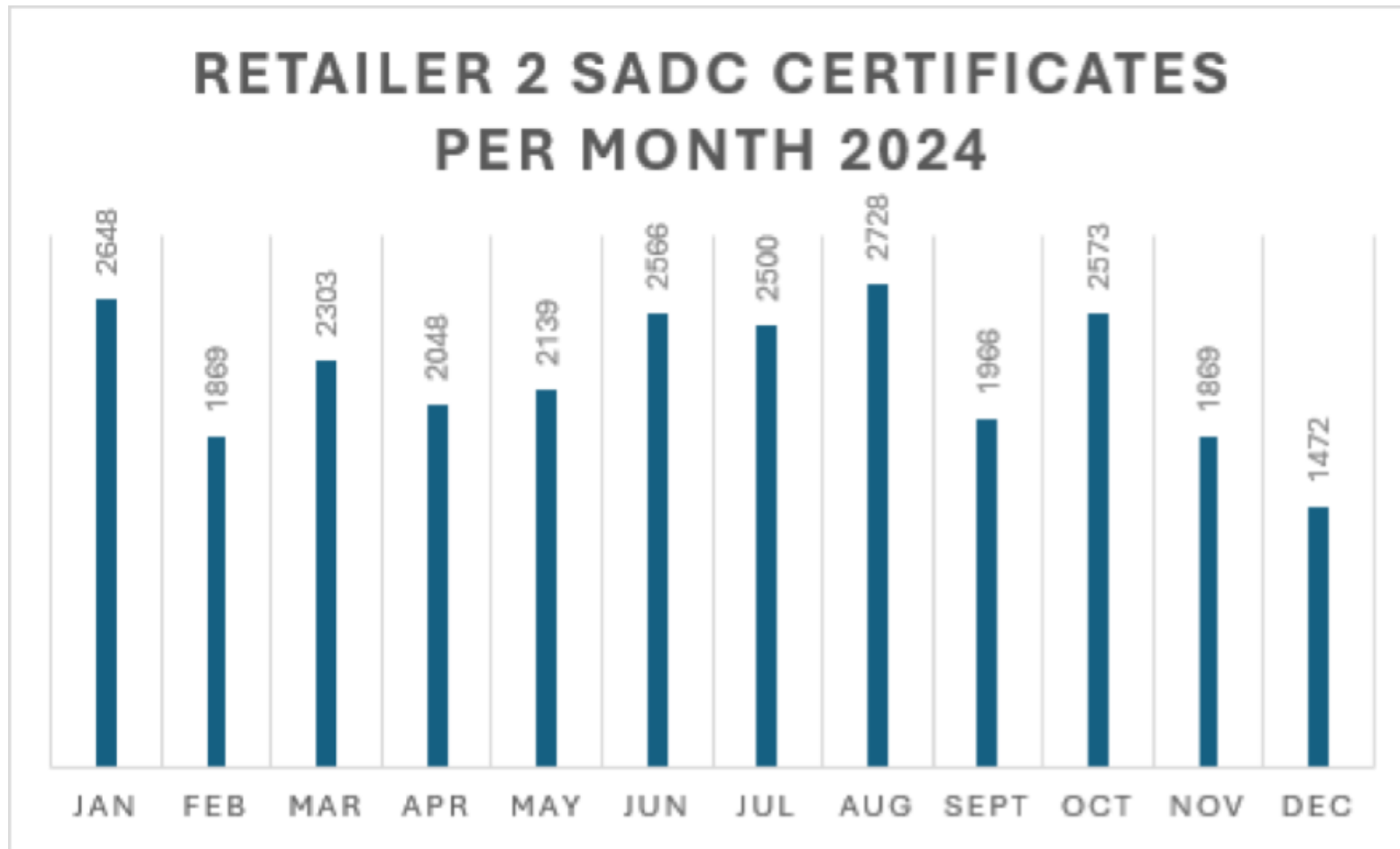
11. DECLARATION BY EXPORTER/SUPPLIER
 I, the undersigned, declare that the goods described above meet the conditions required for the issue of this certificate, and are originally

12. SOUTH AFRICA (ZAF)
 (Country)
 Place and date: CTN 27/01/2025

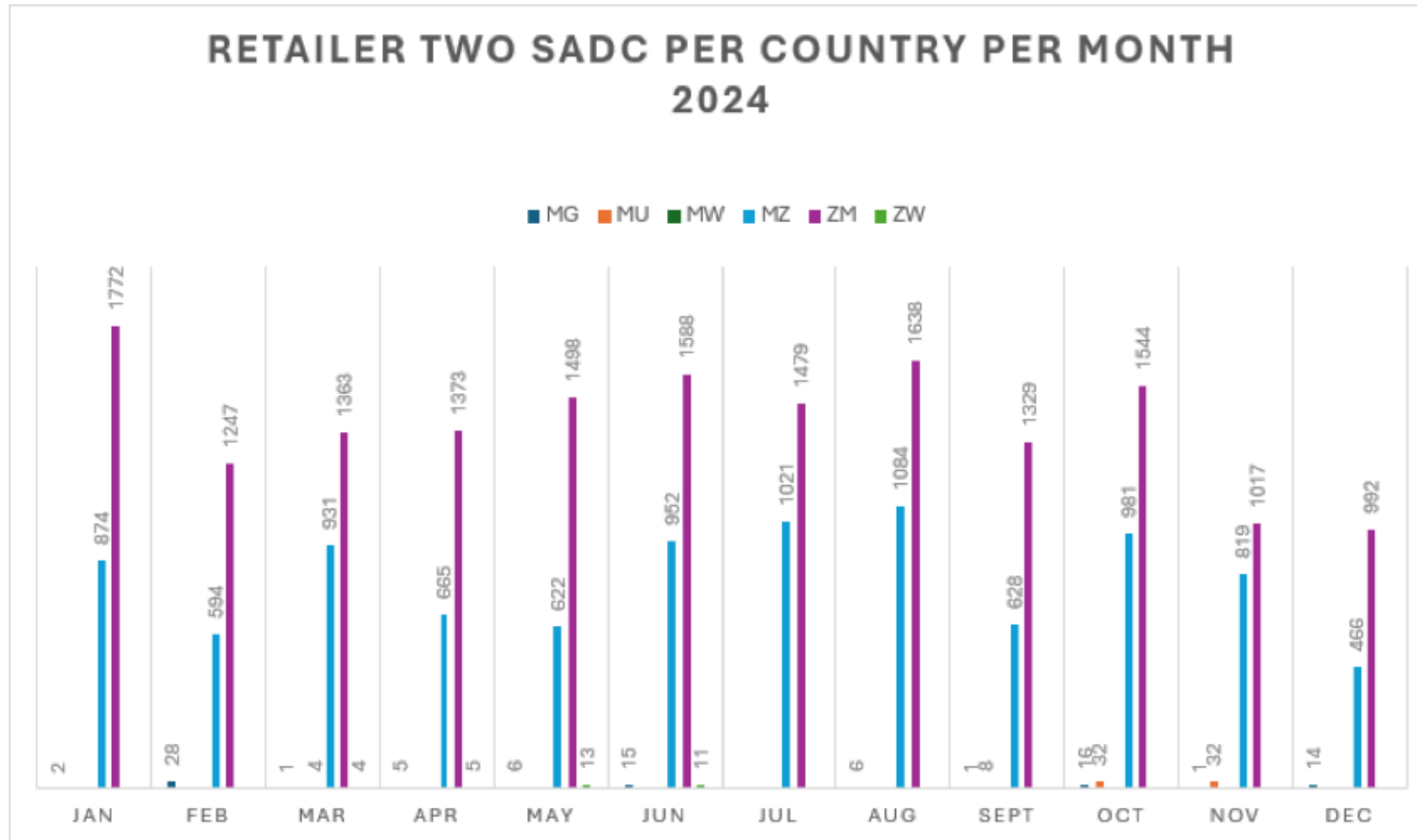
13. CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN
 Declaration Certificate
 Export Declaration No. 5021934
 Date: 28 JAN 2025
 Customs Office: CTN
 County: ZA
 Date: 28 JAN 2025
 Signature: Othelo
 Date: Othelo
 Signature: Othelo
 Certificate of Customs or Other Designated Authority

14. FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSES
 Export Declaration No. 5021934
 Date: 28 JAN 2025
 Customs Office: CTN
 County: ZA
 Date: 28 JAN 2025
 Signature: Othelo
 Certificate of Customs or Other Designated Authority

Need for Digitization – Volumes / Growth



Need for Interconnectivity – Complexity



Digitization Benefits

Benefits identified from trade for ECO implementation

Driver and Petrol Cost

- No Customs processing center in the vicinity, we had to rely on HQ and the borders for processing of our hard copies
- 2 round trips for processing, drop for the processing and then collection come and sometimes we had to go to remote office to process or amend certificate
- Post implementation a huge reduction in our movements and we do it in the in the comfort of our offices
- SZL 600 000.00 to which is now a save on petrol and environmental impact reduced

Courier costs

- Most of the countries we have been dealing with are still dealing with outdated systems - always wanting a hard copy of the certificate, with the delays in processing you may find that we load truck it departs without the certificates then we had to send it via courier to be able to start preclearance
- +-SZL 350 000.00 in courier costs

Time saving

- Overall processing time from the manual to ECO has reduced significantly allowing the employee's more time to attend to compliance and other activities



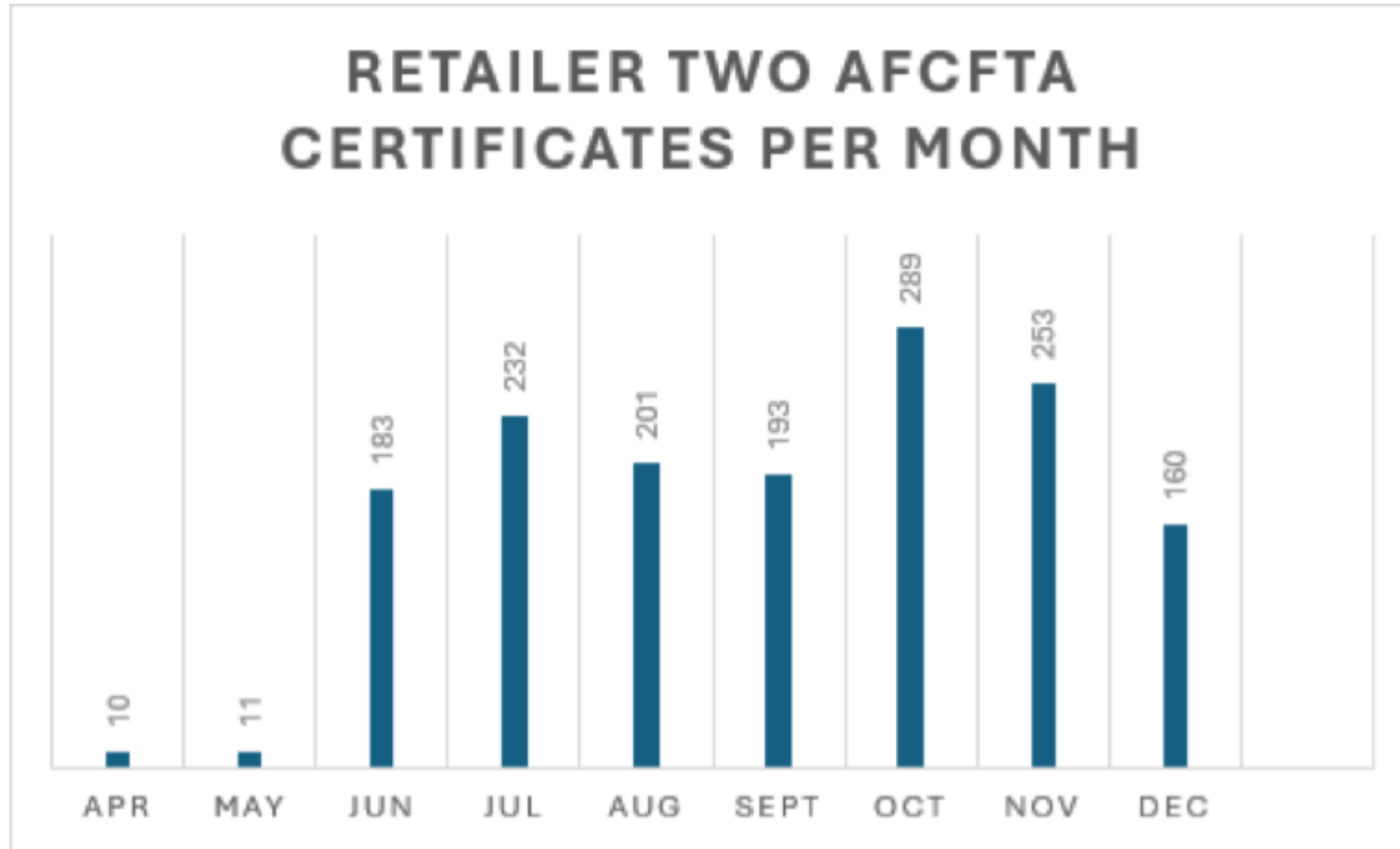
Digitization Benefits

Benefits identified from trade for ECO implementation

- During the manual phase, the application for registration as an exporter took +/- 2 weeks, now the process takes 30 minutes or less.
- During the manual phase, the application/request for a SADC certificate could take 2-8 hours, now once an exporter or trader is registered on the e-CoO platform, the certificate can be issued within 2 minutes of submission.
- The trading community has expressed their satisfaction with the platform and the benefits for Exporters have been highlighted :
 - Easy access to historical transaction.
 - Reduction in time and cost of processing
 - Access to Download eCoO copies
 - Reduction in Data errors
 - Online platform allows accessibility from anywhere
 - Guaranteed preferential treatment where origin is proven
 - Reduces shipment delays due to incomplete certificates

The platform attained the objective easy movement of goods, reduction in cost & time promotion of a paperless environment as well as to improve intra-regional trade

Need for Interconnectivity – Regional Development – Volumes and Complexity



Interconnectivity Framework Benefits

- Technology has the ability to simplify and enhance the **origin determination & verification** substantially
- Solutions based on blockchain can significantly improve the capacity for risk analysis and targeting thereby contributing to **greater trade facilitation**
- Can equip Customs with the necessary tools to tackle **problems of compliance** as it provides an unbiased tool essentially designed for uploading and sharing of information between unrelated parties
- Assist with the end-to-end integrated supply chain management in a transparent & trusted manner
- **Can also assist with the following :-**
 - Inter- agency cooperation & exchange of information
 - Electronic certification and verification – good example is digitization of the certificate of origin declarations
 - Compliance management and improvement in the overall **quality of the data**

Private Sector Success Already Achieved

Walmart – IBM Foodtrust

- Collaboration with IBM to secure food supply and monitor condition of food across large supply chain
- Enables efficient tracking of food provenance & **origin**
- Connects participants across the food supply to increase food safety, reduce supply chain inefficiencies, minimize waste and enhance consumer trust



LVMH, Cartier and Prada – Aura Blockchain Consortium

- First global luxury blockchain
- Each product has a unique digital identifier
- Customers can access the history of the product
 - **Origin**
 - Components & composition
 - **Environmental & ethical information**
 - Proof of ownership, warranty & care instructions

Recommendations

- **Strong Government and Private Sector collaboration**
 - Framework Development
 - Data Exchange Specification
 - Data Exchange Technology requirements
- Focus on Regional integration vs bilateral
- Capacity building & change management
 - Customs
 - Trade
- Policy / Regulatory support



Thank You

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