

Transcending Borders

A Pan-African Partnership to Support Trade Professionals

COTFIA



Executive Summary

The "Certificate of Trade Finance in Africa" (COTFIA) represents a groundbreaking collaborative effort among three prominent institutions—Afreximbank, Factors Chain International (FCI), and the American University in Cairo (AUC)—to enhance the capabilities of trade professionals across the continent. This partnership recognizes the vital need to boost intra-African trade by equipping practitioners with relevant skills and knowledge.

Launched in 2022, COTFIA aims to address the distinct challenges faced in the African trade landscape, namely inadequate trade knowledge and infrastructure by offering a comprehensive curriculum that blends theory with practical application. The program focuses on key areas such as trade finance, supply chain management, and regional regulatory frameworks. The innovative design features six modules delivered through a hybrid learning model, accommodating both in-person and online formats.

Since its beginning, COTFIA has successfully graduated 91 professionals from 18 different African countries, fostering collaborations that drive intra-regional engagement, thus contributing to broader economic growth within Africa. By transcending borders and disciplines, COTFIA not only cultivates a robust network of trade experts but also strengthens the foundation for sustainable economic advancement across the continent, reinforcing Afreximbank's vision for transformative trade practices.

