The goal of this repository is to use publicly available databases such as the World Bank's WITS Trade Stats to understand the flow of goods and services between African countries of interest and their largest trade partners.

This Reposirory uses the **wbstats** package developed by Jesse Piburn to pull the latest data. I then use the **tidyverse** suite of packages to clean and explore the data. Finally, I will use the **caret** package to build some basic macroeconomic models to understand both between-country trade relationships as well as trade economic blocks like the East African Community, SADC etc with China, India, the European Union and the United States.

The World Bank tracks are over 200 Trade indicators with varying levels of missing data. In this repo, I only focus on indicators that are routinely used in macroeconomics publications. I will refer to both published economic literature and other trustworthy financial publications such as Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal.