GENERAL PROFILE: LESOTHO

Population: 2.306 Millions
Land area: (q) 30 360 km²

Exchange rate: 16.356 LSL/US$
CPI growth: 8.24 %
GDP growth: 2.10 %
GDP: 2 373 Millions current US$

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

Total merchandise trade
(millions of US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Merchandise exports</th>
<th>Merchandise imports</th>
<th>Merchandise trade balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>1 410</td>
<td>-760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>(e) 2 300</td>
<td>(e) -1 422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>(e) 1 997</td>
<td>(e) -1 068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>1 856</td>
<td>-962</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Export structure by product group in 2022
(as % of total exports)

- All food items: 38 %
- Agricultural raw materials: 5 %
- Manufactured goods: 52 %
- Other: 6 %

Top 5 partners in 2022
(exports, millions of US$)

- South Africa: 320
- Belgium: 257
- United States of America: 245
- United Arab Emirates: 25
- United Kingdom: 14

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES

Total trade in services
(millions of US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Services exports</th>
<th>Services imports</th>
<th>Services trade balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>-334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>-401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>-273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>-428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Services exports by main category
(as % of total services)

- Transport: 2.3 %
- Travel: 80.1 %
- Other services: 17.5 %

TRADE INDICES

ECONOMIC TRENDS

GDP by expenditure in 2021
(as % of total GDP)

- Household Consumption: 81.5
- General government final consumption expenditure: 41.5
- Gross Capital Formation: 26.1
- Exports: 46.0
- Imports: 95.1

Economic indicators
(millions of US$ unless otherwise specified)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GDP, current</th>
<th>GDP per capita, current US$</th>
<th>Real GDP growth, y-on-y, %</th>
<th>Current account balance, % of GDP</th>
<th>Exchange rate (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1 459</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>11.36</td>
<td>6.359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2 234</td>
<td>1 105</td>
<td>5.27</td>
<td>-7.09</td>
<td>7.321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2 360</td>
<td>1 114</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>-3.29</td>
<td>12.759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>2 373</td>
<td>1 029</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>-6.32</td>
<td>16.356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gross domestic product growth rate in 2022: +2.1 %
LESOTHO

**FDI AND EXTERNAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

### Financial flows

*(millions of US$ unless otherwise specified)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FDI inflows</td>
<td>27.40</td>
<td>51.00</td>
<td>206.51</td>
<td>-8.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDI outflows</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal remittances, % of GDP</td>
<td>41.09</td>
<td>27.31</td>
<td>15.72</td>
<td>24.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Financial flows trends

*(millions of US$)*

![Graph showing financial flows trends]

**FINANCIAL FLOWS TRENDS**

FDI outflows as % of GDP in 2022

**TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES**

#### Trade balance indicators

*(as % and index)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, % of GDP</td>
<td>-67.80</td>
<td>-66.77</td>
<td>-45.54</td>
<td>-49.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, % of imports</td>
<td>-59.68</td>
<td>-61.76</td>
<td>-52.45</td>
<td>-52.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normalized balance</td>
<td>-0.425</td>
<td>-0.447</td>
<td>-0.355</td>
<td>-0.355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Trade openness

*(sum of imports and exports as % of GDP)*

![Graph showing trade openness]

**LIVING AREA**

Population by living area in 2022

*(% of population)*

- Urban: 30%
- Rural: 70%

**OTHER INDICATORS**

#### Maritime transport indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merchant fleet, national flag (thousands of DWT)</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liner shipping connectivity index (maximum 2006 = 100 for China)</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container port throughput (TEU)</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Information economy indicators

*(as % of)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Share of ICT goods, % of total exports</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of ICT goods, % of total imports</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>5.63</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of workforce involved in the ICT sector</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Source: UNCTADstat (http://unctadstat.unctad.org)

Notes:

1  Land area refers to the total area of a country excluding area under inland water bodies. It differs from the country area, that includes area under inland water bodies, but excludes offshore territorial waters.
   e  Estimated.
   q  Estimated. Data refers to 2020.

Symbols for missing values:

0  Zero means that the amount is nil or negligible
..  Not available or not separately reported
   ...  Not applicable
    ...  Not available, including no quotation
    #  Non-relevant calculation
     -  Not publishable
    *** Negative accumulation of flows; Value included in regional and global totals

Abbreviations & acronyms:

DWT:  Dead weight tons
FDI:  Foreign direct investment
GDP:  Gross domestic product
ICT:  Information and communication technology
TEU:  Twenty foot equivalent unit
US$:  United States dollar

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