GOLD · UGANDA · TRANSIT COUNTRY

Uganda declares 63.6 tonnes of gold received in 2025, worth USD 6,396.3 M. Origin declarations account for 47 kilograms, worth USD 6.7 M.

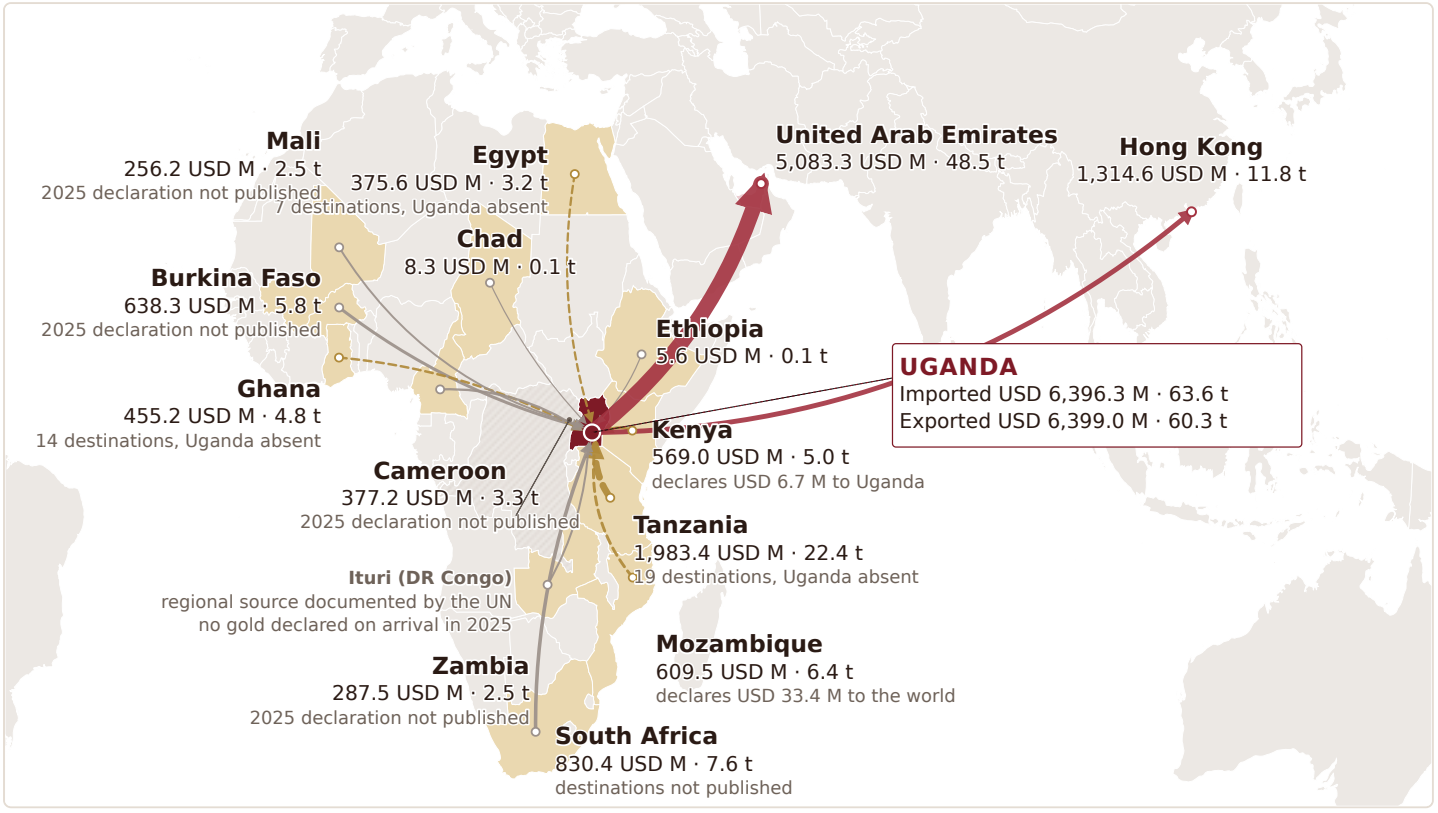
In 2025, Uganda declared importing 63.6 tonnes of gold, worth USD 6,396.3 M, from twelve origins. Only one lists Uganda among its destinations: Kenya, for USD 6.7 M, while Uganda declares receiving USD 569.0 M from it. Four declare their gold exports without Uganda, 54% of the value; six published no gold export declaration for the year; South Africa does not publish its destinations. The same finding holds for 2023 and 2024, on volumes two to three times smaller.

6,396.3
USD M of gold declared imported by Uganda in 2025, or 63.6 tonnes

0.1%
of that value confirmed by an origin declaration: USD 6.7 M, from Kenya

54%
of the value from countries that declare their gold without Uganda

× 3.4
Uganda's declared gold imports, from 2023 to 2025



Declared gold flows, 2025. Origins declared by Uganda on the way in, declared destinations of its exports on the way out. USD millions and tonnes.

The question, asked cell by cell

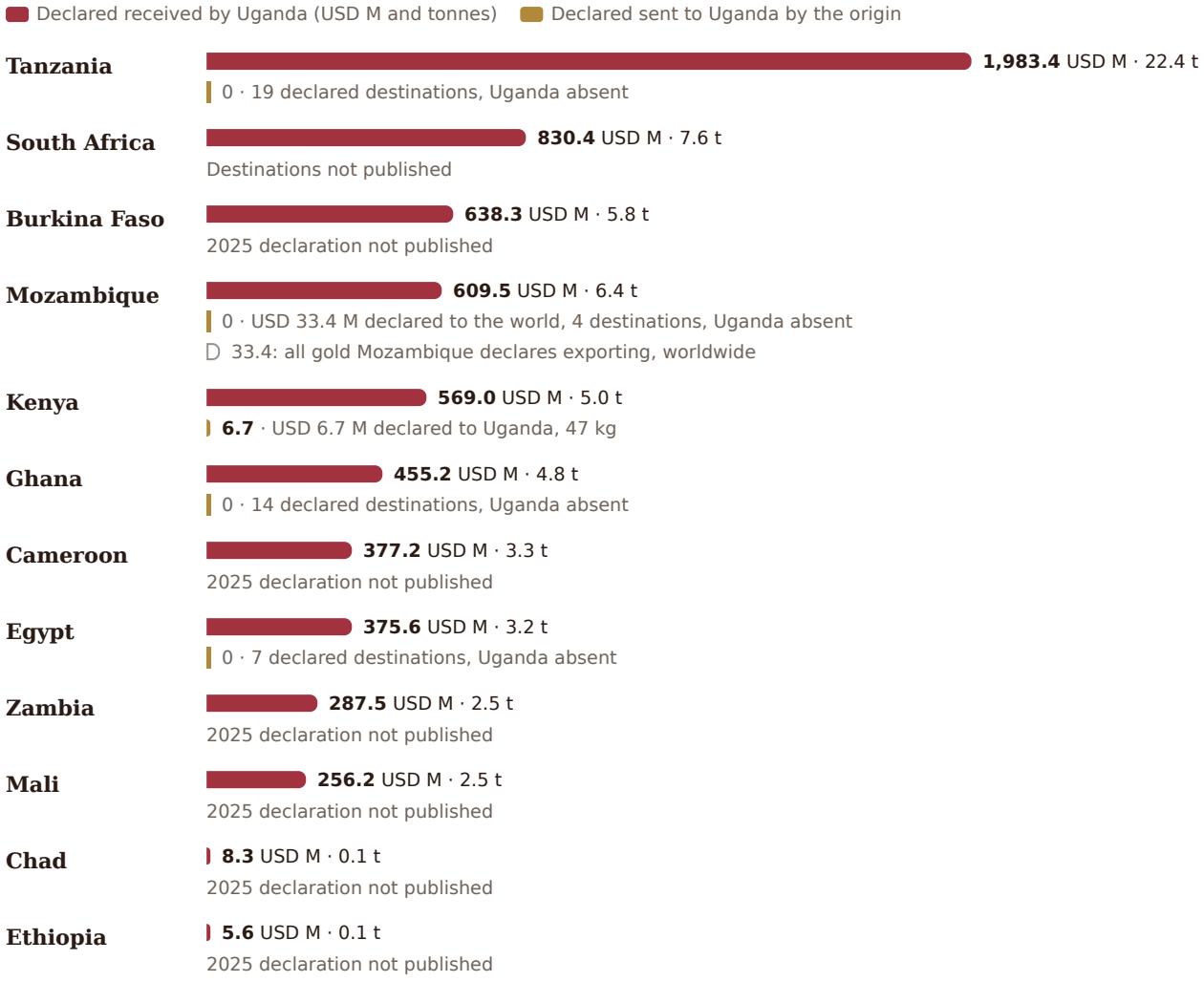
When a transit country declares receiving gold from an origin, does that origin declare having sent it? Both answers here come from the same database, UN Comtrade, for the same year and the same scope: all forms of gold. A cell filled on both sides describes a recognised route. A cell filled on one side only describes an edge of the network: a flow that only the receiving country records.

The structural fact: a country that refines and re-exports

In 2025, 63.6 tonnes of raw gold entered Uganda, worth USD 6,396.3 M, and 60.3 tonnes of semi-manufactured gold left it, worth USD 6,399.0 M: the two values meet within USD 2.7 M. Two destinations take almost all of it: the United Arab Emirates (USD 5,083.3 M, 48.5 t) and Hong Kong (USD 1,314.6 M, 11.8 t); India, third destination in 2023 and 2024, drops off the list. These 60.3 tonnes are consistent with the 62 tonnes reported by United Nations experts, against a far smaller national production. In two years, Uganda's declared gold imports grew 3.4-fold.

Confidence: High.

THE 2025 MATRIX: WHAT UGANDA DECLARES RECEIVING, WHAT THE ORIGIN DECLARES SENDING



All twelve declared origins, 100% of import value. Ugandan side: HS 710812 (raw gold), the only code used in 2025. Origin side: HS chapter 7108, all forms of gold.

DECLARED ORIGIN	2025, RECEIVED USD M	2025, KG	2025, WHAT THE ORIGIN DECLARES	2024, RECEIVED USD M	2023, RECEIVED USD M
Tanzania	1,983.4	22,376	Declares its gold, Uganda absent	1,252.8	1,049.6
South Africa	830.4	7,584	Destinations not published	400.7	131.6
Burkina Faso	638.3	5,820	No declaration published	432.5	109.3
Mozambique	609.5	6,358	Declares its gold, Uganda absent	355.5	181.8
Kenya	569.0	5,008	Names Uganda, for 1.2% of the receipt	0	16.1
Ghana	455.2	4,779	Declares its gold, Uganda absent	222.1	233.9
Cameroon	377.2	3,321	No declaration published	248.2	71.6
Egypt	375.6	3,216	Declares its gold, Uganda absent	0	4.8

Zambia	287.5	2,498	No declaration published	0	2.1
Mali	256.2	2,513	No declaration published	361.0	72.8
Chad	8.3	90	No declaration published	0	0
Ethiopia	5.6	61	No declaration published	0	0

Four origins declare their 2025 gold exports without Uganda among the destinations: Tanzania, Mozambique, Ghana, Egypt. They account for USD 3,423.7 M, 54% of the value. Tanzania, the largest declared supplier with 22.4 tonnes, declares 19 destinations for its gold, down to a 100-dollar shipment to Kenya. Mozambique declares USD 33.4 M of gold exported to the entire world, while Uganda declares receiving USD 609.5 M from it, eighteen times more. Egypt, a new declared origin in 2025 for USD 375.6 M, declares seven destinations. Kenya, the only origin naming Uganda, declares USD 6.7 M and 47 kg to it, against USD 569.0 M and 5,008 kg declared received: Uganda's figure is five times all the gold Kenya declares exporting (USD 107.9 M). Six origins, worth USD 1,573.1 M, published no gold export declaration for 2025: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Zambia, Mali, Chad, Ethiopia. South Africa declares almost all its gold to unspecified destinations. **Confidence: High.**

Three years, one signature

	2023	2024	2025
Gold declared imported by Uganda	**USD 1,899.8 M**	**USD 3,272.8 M**	**USD 6,396.3 M**
Confirmed by an origin declaration	**0**	**0**	**USD 6.7 M**
Share from countries declaring their gold without Uganda	**90%**	**69%**	**54%**
Gold exported by Uganda	**USD 2,228.6 M · 38.7 t**	**USD 3,377.4 M · 46.3 t**	**USD 6,399.0 M · 60.3 t**

In volume, raw gold Uganda declares receiving grows from 18.1 tonnes in 2023 to 46.2 tonnes in 2024 and 63.6 tonnes in 2025; over the whole period, origin declarations confirm 47 kilograms of it. The pattern is growing. Over three years, origin declarations confirm USD 6.7 M out of USD 11,568.9 M of gold Uganda declares receiving. Tanzania, Mozambique and Ghana declare their gold exports in all three years without Uganda among the destinations. The share coming from such countries falls from 90% to 54% as other origins stop publishing: Mali and Cameroon declared their exports in 2023, without Uganda, and published nothing afterwards. The reading changes shape, the finding stays the same.

An aggregated trade database shows Mali sending USD 361.0 M of gold to Uganda in 2024, the exact amount Kampala declares. With no gold declaration published by Mali for the year, that figure reproduces Uganda's own declaration, as a mirror estimate, and reads as such.

Physical route and declared origin

The DR Congo, the regional source documented by United Nations experts, accounts for 55 kg of Uganda's 2023 gold imports, then disappears from the 2024 and 2025 lists. The experts attribute the gap between Uganda's exports and its national production to gold smuggled from Ituri, a province whose official exports stood at around half a tonne in 2025. The matrix leaves the question of actual provenance open. It establishes that the origin written on the arrival declaration is confirmed at departure for 0.1% of the value, and that distant origins, in the Sahel and Egypt, weigh more than the documented regional source. **Confidence: High on the matrix, Medium on attribution.**

The same signature on coffee and cocoa

A country-level reading reveals what no single commodity shows. On coffee and cocoa, the question moves from the origin to the denominator: declared production.

Coffee. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, production stayed flat at 8.2 million bags in both 2023/24 and 2024/25, while declared exports rose from 6.12 to 7.75 million bags, up 27%

and worth USD 2.2 bn. The USDA estimates 2024/25 production at 6.7 million bags, 18% below the official figure and below declared exports. Field estimates point to a significant share of eastern DR Congo's coffee leaving through Uganda and Rwanda. **Confidence: High on the gap between sources, Indicative on origin.**

Cocoa. Official production rose from 39,861 t in 2022/23 to 52,712 t, then 76,173 t in 2024/25: up 91% in two seasons. Exports stood at 95%, 98%, then 95% of that production, and their value grew from USD 93 M to USD 621 M. A production series that tracks exports within 5% for three seasons in a row reads more likely as built from them than measured in the field. **Confidence: High on the series, Medium on the reading.**

Framework. The coffee authority, UCDA, was dissolved by the 2024 coffee law; its functions now sit with the Ministry of Agriculture, which today publishes both production and exports.

The European stake. Europe is the leading market for Ugandan coffee. A lot from a neighbouring origin sold as Ugandan points to plots outside Uganda's traceability system, which directly affects the due diligence statements the EU Deforestation Regulation requires from large and medium companies from 30 December 2026.

Method and limits

Both sides cover the same scope: HS chapter 7108, all forms of gold. On the Ugandan side, imports go through HS 710812 (raw gold) and, in 2023 only, 710813 (semi-manufactured gold); exports through HS 710813. Quantities are added up for raw gold only, the one form with a consistent fineness.

An empty cell at origin allows several explanations: a missing declaration, classification under another code, unrecorded transit, or an origin assigned at the time of import. The matrix locates the question; the assessment, carried out with the actors of the chain, answers it.

Values are those declared by each country, without adjustment. Only declarations published by each country are used; mirror estimates, which rebuild a country's exports from its partners' declarations, are set aside. 2025 data are those available on 2 October 2026; an origin publishing its declaration later would open a new cell.

> The same grid applies to every transit country and every commodity. For a reading of your own supply chain: **contact@midir.africa**

Sources: UN Comtrade via WITS (World Bank), 2023, 2024 and 2025: Ugandan imports HS 710812 and 710813, Ugandan exports HS 710813, HS 7108 exports of each declared origin · United Nations Group of Experts on the DR Congo, via Africanews, July 2026 · Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, Statistical Abstract 2024 · USDA FAS, Uganda Coffee Annual 2025 · Base map Natural Earth 1:50m. MIDIR reading of public data.