

## China-Africa cooperation in agriculture continues to deepen

When visiting an egg production factory in Pinggu District, Beijing's northeastern suburb, African diplomats were amazed by the automated breeding process and quality products produced. During an organized trip last week, 28 diplomats from over 20 African countries visited the egg factory, a food technology company, and scenic spot known as "peach blossom sea." Modernization of agriculture and mechanization of agriculture at various levels of the value chain is quite relevant to Africa, said Willy Bett, Kenyan ambassador to China.

# China Media Group Africa seeks Partnership with Ghana News Agency

A delegation from the China Media Group (CMG) Africa accompanied by some officials of the Chinese Embassy in Ghana Tuesday called on the management of Ghana News Agency (GNA) in Accra to explore partnership and collaboration opportunities with the wire service. The engagement focused on the two organizations can explore opportunities to upscale their news production and reach.

# The US loses to Russia and China in popularity across Africa

A recent survey suggests that the approval ratings of China and Russia have surpassed the approval ratings of America in Africa. While the US had a 56% approval rating in 2023, China had 58%, and Russia; 64%. Across the globe, however, the US's approval rating remained below the 50% mark, while it failed to reduce its disapproval ratings. A survey done by the American consulting agency Gallup, as seen in the news publication Sputnik, showed that China and Russia have surpassed America in terms of popularity in Africa. The survey which involved 130 countries globally saw a global increase in America's disapproval ratings from 33% in 2022 to 36% in 2023. However, the US's approval ratings between the same period remained the same at 41%. In Africa however, the US's approval rating stands at 56%, with China and Russia having 2% and 8% more respectively.

Chinese supermarket in Abuja shut for allegedly barring Nigerians

A Chinese-owned supermarket in Nigeria's capital has been shut by the authorities over allegations that it denies entry to African shoppers. The supermarket in Abuja allegedly "exclusively permits individuals of Chinese descent to enter", <u>Nigeria's consumer protection watchdog said on X</u>. It has summoned the supermarket's owner. The Chinese chamber of commerce in Nigeria has denied the racism allegations. The supermarket is a tenant in a building run by the China General Chamber of Commerce (CGCC). Boladale Adeyinka, an official at Nigeria's Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC), said that the watchdog had launched an investigation into the allegations.

### Africa-China cooperation: Forging a path to a shared future, By Olalekan A. Babatunde

The way Africa and China are going promises to build a community of shared future for humanity. As responsible members of the global community, Africa and China have created a reliable path towards a shared future. It is indeed in Africa that the Chinese concept of "a global community of shared future" is gaining a broader and deeper meaning, and setting a clearer goal and blueprint for the peoples of the continent. To have a common future where there is prosperity and people-to-people connectivity, the Chinese footprint has begun to be seen across much of the socio-economic lives, infrastructure, and technological modernisation of the peoples of Africa.

#### Progressive change

Steps can be taken to ensure that China's economic engagement is supporting Africa's energy transition. African countries are still recovering from several external shocks that have affected economic growth: the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine crisis and the effects of climate change. These trends have led to debt distress, fiscal deficits and strained global supply chains. This economic state constrains the ability of African countries to focus their resources on low-carbon development goals such as energy access and transition. Even today, 43 percent of the African population do not have access to electricity and 670 million Africans lack access to a clean source of energy for cooking. Although Africa's green energy potential (wind, solar, hydroelectric and geothermal) is one of the highest in the world and it has the potential to improve energy access and affordability, the share of renewable energy (solar and wind) in the continent's total energy production is marginal, leaving African countries dependent on fossil fuels.

### Sci-fi set to flourish amid China-Africa film collaborations

An African gem holds the key to humanity's survival. A group of Chinese travelers are stranded in a forest in Africa and require a special mechanism to help them return to Beijing after their DNA is altered. These are the plots of two sci-fi movies set to be screened in the future as China-Africa film projects come to fruition amid growing industry collaboration between the two sides. The movies "Lost in Africa" and "Kingdown" were among the film projects detailed at the ongoing Beijing International

Film Festival (BJIFF) that are expected to hit the big screen within the next two years. The two films, both featuring sci-fi themes, bear the hallmarks of China-Africa collaboration, featuring Chinese characters and cast, Mandarin Chinese dialogue and shooting locations both in China and Africa.

Infrastructure diplomacy the key to China's influence in Africa

China gifted Zimbabwe a new parliament building in 2023. This gift is emblematic of China's strategy of giving large-scale projects worldwide, especially in Africa, to establish itself as a modernisation facilitator and gain international prestige. These projects, often grand structures such as government buildings and stadiums, transform the dynamics of donor–recipient relationships, augmenting China's global reputation and subtly reinforcing material inequalities, while their architectural grandeur and visible labels such as 'China Aid' prominently emphasize China's commitment to development and cooperation.

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