



[How Egypt became an essential destination for Chinese investment](#)

One highly visible example of China's pursuit of increased engagement with countries in the Global South is its rising economic and diplomatic activity in Egypt, where official visits and investment by Chinese firms in a variety of sectors are building on long-standing relations. China's policy of strengthening relations with countries in the Global South has accelerated in recent years, and this can be seen in its development of wide-ranging ties with Egypt. Under the umbrella of a comprehensive strategic partnership, China has invested heavily in Egypt, especially in the agriculture, technology, steel, construction, textile and tourism industries. South China Morning Post.

[India "Outwits" China In Africa; Boosts Security, Trade, Business, Education Pacts To Secure Indo-Pacific](#)

As we mark Africa Day on 25 May, we are reminded of the formation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on this day in 1963, which transformed into the African Union in July 2002. Both organizations have faced challenges to peace and security, often relying on external support. The AU Peace and Security architecture is built on five pillars but lacks a clear maritime dimension. Most of the AU's work focuses on internal rather than maritime threats, leading to a lack of capacity to address issues from the seas. The rise of piracy in the first decade of the 21st century around the Gulf of Aden, particularly around Somalia, led to multiple flotillas protecting shipping. EurAsian Times.

[Deconstructing China's Interest in the Niger-Benin Rapprochement](#)

Beijing's motivations concerning the conflict resolution in Niger include a mix of economic, political and reputational drivers. Niger's relations with its neighbor Benin have been strained since a July 2023 coup in Niger, followed by border closures. Despite incurring huge losses, landlocked Niger was reluctant to open its border with Benin, citing security reasons. Last month, China sent foreign and energy ministry officials, along with China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) executives, to resolve the dispute between the two nations. After China's successful mediation, Niger has agreed to restore diplomatic relations with Benin and open up the border. Consequently, Benin also agreed to allow Niger to dispatch oil shipments using Benin's port. While China is set to economically benefit from the deal, its successful mediation also marks Beijing's emergence as a peacemaker in Africa. The Diplomat.

[China-Zimbabwe cultural exchange event held to mark Africa Day](#)

Chinese firm Prospect Lithium Zimbabwe (PLZ), together with the Confucius Institute at the University of Zimbabwe, held a cultural exchange event Thursday to mark Africa Day, which is commemorated annually on May 25. Guests were feted with various cultural performances from China and Zimbabwe, including Chinese

martial arts, Zimbabwean traditional dance, music, and poetry, at the event in a school in Goromonzi, a rural community in the East Mashonaland Province. Traditional leadership, local government representatives, Chinese and local PLZ staff, and local school children attended the event. Sheila Zvakurumbira, acting district development officer in the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training, welcomed Chinese guests to the cultural exchange event, which showcased Zimbabwe's diverse cultural heritage. People's Daily.

[A Win-Win or Debt Trap? Decoding China's Influence in Africa](#)

China's presence in Africa has undergone a dramatic metamorphosis in recent decades. From a limited Cold War-era relationship, China has become Africa's economic colossus, its largest trading partner, a significant source of investment, and a key player shaping the continent's future. This growing influence presents a complex picture for African nations, rife with both potential and pitfalls. Africa has become an economic engine powering China's continued growth. Fueled by an insatiable demand for raw materials and a burgeoning consumer market hungry for manufactured goods, China's trade with Africa has skyrocketed to a record \$282 billion in 2023, with China accounting for over 18% of Africa's total trade. This dramatic increase reflects Africa's strategic importance for China's economic ambitions. Modern Diplomacy.

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