

Unlocking Africa's Clean Energy Potential With Prefeasibility Funding

By Tsitsi Musasike, Jiaqi Lu, Adjekai Adjei, and Kevin P. Gallagher. The second decade of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) promises to be bigger, better, and, importantly, greener. According to the Chinese Loans to Africa Database managed by the Boston University Global Development Policy Center (GDP Center), China invested \$42.6 billion into Africa's energy sector in the last decade, \$1.117 billion of which has been committed to solar and wind power projects (see Table 1 for project details). With the current energy insecurity on the continent and the pledge by world leaders to increase sub-Saharan Africa's renewable energy generation capacity from 40 gigawatts (GW) to 300GW by 2030, solar and wind technologies are expected to play a key role in increasing access to clean, affordable and sustainable energy. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) region's contribution to this growth is 52.8 GW, which will ensure universal energy access and a 53% renewable contribution to the energy mix by 2040. China Global South Project.

## Egypt denies reports of relocating Rafah crossing, building new one: media

Egypt denied reports suggesting that it agreed to relocate the Rafah crossing bordering the Gaza Strip or build a new terminal near Israel's Kerem Shalom crossing, Egypt's Al-Qahera News TV channel reported Sunday. There were no Egyptian discussions regarding the relocation of the Rafah crossing or Israeli supervision over the crossing, said the TV channel, citing a high-ranking security source who stressed Egypt's adherence to the Israeli army's complete withdrawal from the Palestinian side of the crossing. Egypt also rejected the entry of any Egyptian forces into Gaza, the source said, adding that the post-war arrangement of the strip is a Palestinian affair. On May 7, the Israeli army announced the imposition of "operational" control over the Palestinian side of the Rafah crossing, which led to the cessation of aid delivery from Egypt into Gaza through the crossing. China Daily.

## China emphasises 'strategic importance' of Mozambique military alliance

Chinese defence minister Dong Jun has stressed the crucial role of bilateral military cooperation in maintaining regional stability. China was among the first countries to recognise Mozambique when it established independence in 1975 and the two have signed a partnership agreement. Mozambican Defence Minister Cristóvão Chume travelled to Beijing this week at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Dong Jun, to discuss deepening military cooperation. "Deepening bilateral military cooperation is of strategic importance for achieving common development and maintaining regional stability," Dong told China' state-run Xinhua news agency. He added that China was willing to work with Mozambique to raise military relations to a new level. Chume alluded to the long-standing friendship between the two countries, saying he hoped that both sides would continue to strengthen bilateral ties. During his visit to Beijing, Chume inspected military units, military higher education institutions and defence industry companies in China. Macao News.

## China and Egypt undertake massive project to scan more than 1,000 coffins

Chinese and Egyptian experts are carrying out a large-scale joint project to study and digitise Egyptian antiquities. This is reported by China Daily, a partner of the TV BRICS. The project is implemented by a unit of Shanghai University, the World Art History Institute (WAI), and the Supreme Council of Egyptian Antiquities, Saqqara Archaeological Group. The programme is headed by Xue Jiang, a researcher at WAI. The experts note that the final results of their research will be published in Chinese, Arabic and English. Zhu Qingsheng, the initiator of the study, believes that in the age of digitalisation, it is necessary to apply as many technological tools as possible for in-depth analysis of cultural relics. "This marked an important beginning for China and Egypt to continue their cultural traditions, conduct dialogue among civilizations on an equal footing, and carry out international cultural cooperation in a new form," said Zhu. The scholar noted that the joint project with Egypt was groundbreaking for Shanghai University: it was the first time its experts participated in an archaeological excavation using the latest developments in digitising images, creating databases and scanning micro-traces. TV Brics.

## China South Africa Relations in a Post 2024 Election Era

Jaya Josie, Advisor China Africa Center Zhejiang University International Business School (ZIBS); Adjunct Professor, University of the Western Cape (UWC) and University of Venda (UniVen). The South African elections have come and gone on 29 May 2024. The ruling African National Congress (ANC) governing party sustained a cataclysmic loss of its majority in the South African Parliament and only managed to retain a 40% majority. Following this setback, the ANC has now cobbled together a government of national unity (GNU) with the main opposition party, the Democratic Alliance (DA), and other smaller minority parties in parliament. Political commentators have suggested that for the majority of South Africans, especially the African majority, the ANC's thirty-year record has not delivered on its promises for a better life for all South Africans. Of course, there is a generous amount of subjective bias in opinions of political commentators. It is a month since the South African elections and, although the same president was elected for another term in office there is much uncertainty about the new cabinet with negotiations in the GNU still ongoing. IOL.

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