



### [African, Chinese stakeholders convene in Kenya amid call to transform food systems](#)

Policymakers, scientists, and industry leaders from China, Africa, and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) convened in Nairobi, Kenya, Tuesday to launch a forum aimed at advancing agricultural transformation, achieving food security, and addressing rural poverty on the continent. The Africa-China-CIMMYT Science Forum, organized by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) and CIMMYT, runs from Aug. 13 to 16. The event, which has drawn over 100 participants, focuses on "Transforming Agrifood Systems in Africa through Scientific Innovations and Partnerships." Bram Govaerts, director general of CIMMYT, highlighted the importance of the forum, noting that it provides a crucial platform for African and Chinese scientists to explore new strategies for transforming food systems amid challenges such as climate change, crop pests, and diseases. Xinhua.

### [China, Africa embrace closer economic, trade ties](#)

China and African countries have developed closer economic and trade ties with increasing trade volume, diversified commodities and services on both sides, the latest data showed. Trade between China and Africa rose 5.5 percent year on year to 1.19 trillion yuan (about \$166.6 billion) between January and July, data from China's General Administration of Customs (GAC) showed. China has been Africa's largest trading partner for 15 consecutive years, customs data showed. China-Africa trade reached a record high of 282.1 billion U.S. dollars in 2023, up 1.5 percent year on year, showing strong resilience. In 2023, China's new energy vehicles, lithium batteries, and photovoltaic products exports to Africa increased by 291 percent, 109 percent, and 57 percent year on year, respectively. Meanwhile, China's imports of African nuts, vegetables, flowers, and fruits increased by 130 percent, 32 percent, 14 percent, and 7 percent, respectively, compared to the previous year. CGTN.

### [China funding aids Africa development](#)

Financial assistance from China has played a crucial role in infrastructure development in Africa since the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, or FOCAC, was established, paving the way for economic prosperity, observers said, adding that Sino-African cooperation will help address emerging challenges facing the continent such as climate change. Lucas Engel, a data analyst for the Global China Initiative at the Boston University Global Development Policy Center in the United States, said while the volume of lending from China to Africa has decreased in the last few years, it has overall added to the vast amount of cumulative Chinese financing for development projects in Africa over the years. Speaking at an online seminar ahead of the FOCAC summit scheduled in Beijing in September, Engel said that since the establishment of FOCAC, the Export-Import Bank of China and the China Development Bank have made great loan commitments to Africa, with the majority directed toward vital infrastructure projects in energy, transport, and information and communications technology sectors. Ecnscn.

### **Will African students' embrace of China opportunities build support for Beijing?**

Easy access to scholarships and a lenient visa regime are making Chinese universities the top choice for a growing number in Africa. When Kenyan international relations student Adhere Cavince wanted to pursue his doctoral degree, “studying in China came as a natural choice” because of his academic interest and China’s global ambitions. Cavince – who won a Chinese government scholarship to Central China Normal University from 2019-2022 – is among thousands of Africans benefiting from Beijing-funded scholarships. Many others self-finance their studies in China. Observers say a growing number of African students are choosing China as their top study destination because of its affordability in terms of both tuition fees and living costs, as well as a lenient student visa regime and easy access to scholarships. South China Morning Post.

### **Is China's overcapacity in renewable energy good for Africa?**

Can Africa learn from China to become a major environmental goods manufacturer, despite plummeting prices? Yike Fu discusses lessons the continent could learn. China has recently been in the news for having what some are calling an overcapacity of solar panel manufacturing. China’s share in all the manufacturing stages of solar panels – from polysilicon to silicon ingots, wafers, cells and completed modules – accounted for about 80% of global solar panel manufacturing capacity. The world’s top ten solar photovoltaic (PV) manufacturing equipment suppliers are all located in China, and they are all highly competitive against each other. The price of solar panels fell by three-quarters between 2012 and 2022, according to figures from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and then fell by almost a further 50% in 2023 alone, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). African Business.

### **China-Africa Trade Sees Steady Growth in First 7 Months of 2024**

China-Africa trade saw steady growth in the first seven months of 2024. China's General Administration of Customs (GACC) revealed that trade between China and Africa rose 5.5 percent year-over-year (YOY) to CNY 1.19 trillion (about USD 166.6 billion) from January to July 2024. The data also showed that China remained Africa's largest trading partner for 15 consecutive years. China-Africa trade reached a record high of USD 282.1 billion in 2023, up 1.5 percent YOY. In 2023, China's exports of new energy vehicles, lithium batteries and photovoltaic products to Africa increased by 291 percent, 109 percent and 57 percent YOY, respectively. China's imports of African nuts, vegetables, flowers and fruits increased by 130 percent, 32 percent, 14 percent and 7 percent, respectively, compared to 2022. QNA.

### **How to enhance China-Nigeria community with shared future – Chinese Consul General**

The 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China which convened in China recently said that deepening reforms will advance Chinese modernization and relationship with Nigeria and other African countries. This, according to a statement released by Yan Yuqing, Chinese Consul General in Lagos formed “Part of the programme at the convention to move toward national rejuvenation on all fronts through Chinese modernization and give great historical significance and build development opportunities with Nigeria and other African countries.” The statement said the communique of the Third Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee, expressed optimism about the huge potential of China’s economic and social development and hoped that China’s high-quality development would bring more opportunities to the world. Vanguard.

### [Roundup: China a reliable partner for Ethiopia's technology development -- officials](#)

"If we talk about science, technology innovations, research and digitalization, there is no better country which we can learn from other than China," said Belete Molla, Ethiopia's minister of innovation and technology. China is a reliable partner offering "invaluable support" in Ethiopia's scientific development, senior Ethiopian officials have said before the upcoming 2024 summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. State Minister of Innovation and Technology Bayissa Bedada told Xinhua recently that China has been a reliable partner for Ethiopia in its move to create a knowledge-based economy through promoting science, technology and innovation. "We have enjoyed a robust bilateral relationship with China for several years marked by joint research development projects, technology transfer, people-to-people exchanges, the establishment of laboratories, and other initiatives," said Bedada. The minister said China has also been supporting Ethiopia in establishing research institutions, building industrial and technology parks as well as promoting incubation centers. Xinhua.

### [Sudan peace talks begin in Switzerland despite army's no-show](#)

UN officials warn the country is at 'breaking point', amid a 16-month-old civil war and a humanitarian crisis threatening thousands of lives. Talks aimed at ending Sudan's shattering 16-month-old civil war began on Wednesday in Switzerland although the absence of the military dampened hopes for imminent steps to alleviate the country's humanitarian crisis. UN officials have warned that Sudan is at "breaking point" and that there will be tens of thousands of preventable deaths from hunger, disease, floods, and violence in the coming months without a larger global response. The paramilitary RSF, which has seized broad swathes of the country, sent a delegation to the talks but direct mediation will be impossible without the army present, US special envoy Tom Perriello, who led the push for the talks, said this week. Instead, participants including Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, the United Nations, African Union, East African body IGAD and experts would consult on road maps for a cessation of violence and carrying out humanitarian aid deliveries. South China Morning Post.

### [China's 'Peace Ark' hospital ship brings medical aid to Mozambique](#)

China's navy hospital ship, the "Peace Ark," has arrived in Mozambique as part of its "Harmony Mission-2024," embarking on a seven-day friendly visit to provide medical services to local residents. This marks the fourth stop of the "Peace Ark" on its current mission and its first return to Mozambique in seven years. Upon docking, local residents formed orderly lines at the port, undergoing registration and temperature checks before boarding the ship for consultations and treatment. Among the medical professionals onboard were several special guests — former international students of China's Naval Medical University who have since become healthcare workers in Mozambique. These alumni reunited with their Chinese mentors to jointly serve the local community. One such alumnus, Dr. Zhou Shu, studied in Shanghai in 2018 and expressed enthusiasm about the collaboration. Similarly, Nurse Miao Yunxi, a non-commissioned officer at a local hospital who studied at the Naval Medical University in 2019, volunteered in the ophthalmology clinic alongside her former Chinese teacher. Africa News.

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