

# FOCAC 2024: How Kenya Became A Beacon Of China-Africa Partnership

As China and Africa prepare to meet in early September for the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit, Kenya stands out as a success story in the continent's partnership with China. Over two decades of collaboration have propelled Kenya to a critical stage in its socioeconomic development. Here are some of the key projects that have significantly benefited Kenya: The Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), a 472-kilometer railway built by China Road and Bridge Corporation, has been operational since May 31, 2017. The SGR has created over 74,000 jobs, facilitated technology transfer, and contributed more than 2 percent to Kenya's GDP. It has also reduced local logistics costs by 40 percent, handling six passenger and eighteen freight trains daily. Additionally, the SGR has alleviated congestion and enhanced regional cargo transport, supporting Kenya's economic growth. Capital Digital Media.

## K'ONYANGO: China-Africa forum offers plenty of opportunities for Kenya

As Kenya begins to embrace electric vehicles and focus on combating global warming, FOCAC offers opportunities for cooperation and investment. We should also explore innovative housing concepts to support President Ruto's affordable housing project. At the beginning of autumn, from September 4 to 6, China will host several African heads of state in the Forum on China–Africa Cooperation in Beijing. The summit will focus on enhancing cooperation between China and Africa. Kenya, as a key ally of China and a gateway to East Africa, should actively participate in this summit. As one of the beneficiaries of FOCAC and the Belt and Road Initiative in the region, the country stands to gain numerous opportunities in areas such as modernisation, rail, road, ports, technology, electric vehicles and housing. Properly identifying and leveraging these opportunities could yield significant economic benefits for both countries. The Star.

### Africa should unite for better deals with China, panellists say

African governments should use the combined strength of the continent's markets to bargain for better terms with China, panellists said at the launch of a book on trade between Africa and the Asian country. The book by Paul Tembe, Xi Jinping and the Flourishing Forum on China-Africa Co-operation in the New Era, was published a few weeks before the forum summit in September at which more than 50 African states will discuss the future of China and Africa... Business Daily.

### African Leaders Urged To Embrace China-Africa Summit

Chief Charles Udeogaranya, an international commerce association leader, has tasked African leaders to use the upcoming 2024 summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) to build the greatest economic collaborations in the world. Daily Trust reports that the summit is billed to hold from September 4 to September 6 in Beijing, China. In a statement on Sunday, Udeogaranya, who recently took a tour of China with some members of the Nigerian mainstream media organisations, said rather than solely seeking loans for the

government projects without economic impact to her citizenry, African leadership should focus on the promotion of Business to Business (B2B) partnership and direct currency swap. This, he said, would avail opportunities and affordabilities to local enterprises and positively yield the greatest impact on the people and as well lead to massive job creations. Daily Trust.

# Launch of 'Xi Jinping and the Flourishing Forum on China-Africa Co-operation in the New Era' celebrates strategic partnership between China and Africa

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in South Africa has announced the launch of the insightful book titled Xi Jinping and the Flourishing Forum on China-Africa Co-operation in the New Era. The event, held at the Chinese Embassy in Pretoria last week, marked a significant milestone in celebrating and understanding the evolving and deepening ties between China and Africa. The book, co-authored by Dr Paul Tembe, a leading scholar and expert in Sino-African relations, delves into the transformative impact of the Forum on China-Africa Co-operation (FOCAC) since its inception 24 years ago. It provides a comprehensive analysis of how FOCAC has become a cornerstone of China-Africa relations, fostering sustainable development, peace, and mutual prosperity. The event commenced with the official FOCAC film, showcasing the achievements and milestones of China-Africa co-operation. This was followed by the keynote address delivered by Wu Peng, Ambassador of China to South Africa. IOL.

### China, Nigeria, and Hostage Aircraft

Every story has two sides, but when a country's reputation as a sovereign and an investment destination comes under threat, it calls for immediate concern and action from its citizens and leaders. The recent unfolding of a concerning development has significant implications for Nigeria's global standing as an investment hub. A Chinese company, Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investment Co. Ltd, secured a court order in France following an arbitration award initiated in 2017, with the Ogun State Government over a contractual relationship that dates to 2010. The arbitration panel ruled in favour of Zhongshan, stating that "It is clear that Zhongshan is the effective winner in these arbitral proceedings, in that it has proved its version of events is accurate, successfully resisted Nigeria's jurisdictional and preliminary objections, established a valid claim against Nigeria under the Treaty, and obtained an award for substantial damages." This is not just a legal victory for the Chinese firm, but a red flag for Nigeria's global investment reputation that demands immediate attention and action. This Day Live.

#### 46th Chinese naval escort task force visits Egypt

These latest port visit by the 46th task force is part of a recent effort by the Chinese government to enhance its bilateral relations with African countries. On the morning of Aug. 15, local time, the 46th Chinese naval escort task force, consisting of the Jiaozuo and Honghu warships, arrived at Alexandria Port in Egypt for a five-day friendly visit. The 46th Chinese naval escort task force started a five-day friendly visit to Egypt on Thursday. Guided-missile destroyer Jiaozuo and comprehensive replenishment vessel Honghu of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy's 46th escort task force arrived in the Port of Alexandria Thursday morning for the visit, the fourth of its kind since 2002. More than 400 people including Egyptian military officers and civilians, staff of Chinese diplomatic missions and enterprises in Egypt, as well as overseas Chinese welcomed the Chinese naval vessels at the port and held a welcoming ceremony for the Chinese sailors. After the ceremony, they went aboard to tour the two vessels. Military Africa.

### China and DR Congo vow tighter ties, discuss mining contracts

China and the Democratic Republic of Congo will strengthen their partnership and step up cooperation, Beijing said Friday, as talks over renegotiating mining contracts for the African country's valuable mineral reserves continue. DRC President Felix Tshisekedi's trip, his first state visit to China, is the latest in a flurry of diplomatic overtures between Beijing and African nations. Tshisekedi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday "announced the elevation of the bilateral relationship from a strategic partnership of win-win cooperation to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership", China's foreign ministry said in a statement. China is a major investor in DRC, where the Asian power dominates the lucrative mineral mining industry. But Tshisekedi has vowed to renegotiate Congolese mining contracts, which include those signed with China under his predecessor, to achieve better terms for his country. On Friday, he was greeted by an honour guard and cheering children between meetings with Xi and Premier Li Qiang. Ahram Online.

### Chinese and Kenyan researchers find Stone Age 'production line' for tools in Rift Valley

The team unearthed hundreds of stone tools made using a distinctive technique that helped early humans shape and sharpen their blades. A team of Chinese and Kenyan archaeologists have uncovered a Stone Age "production line" that used sophisticated techniques to produce "standardised" tools. The findings could fill in the gaps in our knowledge about how the technique spread and the history of early humans. The researchers from the Henan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology and the National Museums of Kenya unearthed 750 stone tools alongside various animal fossils in the Rift Valley in western Kenya last year. They said the tools had mainly been produced using the Levallois method, a distinctive technique for shaping and sharpening stone tools that was developed between 300,000 and 250,000 years ago. The technique – named after the suburb of Paris where it was first identified – is known to have been used by hominids in Africa, Europe and West Asia and continued until around 40,000 years ago. South China Morning Post.

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