



[China's mission to win African hearts with satellite TV](#)

As African leaders gather in Beijing this week for the triennial China-Africa summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping may have one thing under his belt to boast about - satellite TV. Almost nine years ago, President Xi promised the heads of state attending the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in Johannesburg that China would provide over 10,000 remote villages in 23 African countries with digital TV access. With over 9,600 villages having received satellite infrastructure, the project is now nearing completion. The ambitious pledge, revealed during a period of warm China-Africa relations and funded by China's aid budget, was entrusted to StarTimes, a private Chinese company already operating in several African countries. It was an apparent show of goodwill and an opportunity for China to flex its soft power in a strategically important region. BBC.

[China reaps most of the benefits of its relationship with Africa: what's behind the imbalance](#)

The ninth Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing takes place under the theme of "Joining hands to advance modernisation and build a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future". But how shared can that future be between the Asian economic giant and Africa? The eight summits since 2000 have not resulted in mutual gain, particularly in trade and industrialisation for Africa. China has reaped most of the benefits. The fault lies with Africa's lack of a strategy for engagement with China. I am a scholar of international relations and have researched Africa-China relations over several years. The China-Africa cooperation forum has become the most important event on the African international relations calendar. More African leaders attend these summits than the United Nations general assembly. The Conversation.

[EXPLAINER: What you need to know about China-Africa Summit](#)

At the meeting, Ruto is expected to pursue multi-million-dollar agreements with China, focusing on infrastructure and trade. The 2021 meeting was notable for setting concrete aims for increasing African imports to China. President William Ruto is among the heads of state attending the high-level Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit (FOCAC) in Beijing. The summit, which will take place from September 4-6, 2024, will focus on improving the China-Africa partnership. The gathering, which happens every three years, brings together 53 African countries and China to discuss important topics in the Africa-China relationship, including trade, investment, and development. FOCAC 2024 is positioned to be a critical juncture in the Africa-China relationship, with the potential to drive significant advancements in trade, industrial development, and sustainable cooperation. The theme for this year's meeting is "Joining Hands to Advance Modernisation and Build a High-Level China-Africa Community with a Shared Future." The Star.

[China-African cooperation is 'empathetic,' different from the West: Kenyan gov't advisor](#)

The keyword for China-Africa cooperation is "empathetic," as China "is able to put itself in my shoes, see the world from my perspective, and recognizes my ability to cause things to happen," said an advisor to the Kenyan

government, noting that the West simply treats Africans as though they are passive. Mwangi Wachira, an advisor to the Kenyan government and also a former economist at the World Bank, said that he holds high expectation of this year's FOCAC as it is the first after the COVID-19 pandemic. "There will be face-to-face meetings and more new programs will be launched... The Africans, at least the ones who are coming, are expecting a new chapter during the post-COVID era of cooperation." Global Times.

China rolls out red carpet for African leaders

China rolled out the red carpet on Monday for leaders from across Africa, seeking to deepen ties with the resource-rich continent it has furnished with billions in loans for infrastructure and development. Beijing has said this week's China-Africa forum will be its largest diplomatic event since the COVID-19 pandemic, with more than a dozen leaders and delegations expected. China has sent hundreds of thousands of workers to Africa to build its megaprojects while tapping the continent's vast natural resources including copper, gold, lithium and rare earth minerals. Its huge loans have funded infrastructure but also stoked controversy by saddling countries with huge debts. China, the world's No. 2 economy, is Africa's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade hitting \$167.8 billion in the first half of this year, according to Chinese state media. Voice Of America.

Ruto meets Chinese President Xi ahead of China-Africa summit

Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hua Chunying said the two leaders discussed a range of bilateral issues. They acknowledged the role both countries have played in growing each other's economies. President William Ruto on Monday met his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping after arriving in China for the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit. According to the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hua Chunying, the two leaders discussed a range of bilateral issues. They acknowledged the role both countries have played in growing each other's economies. "China and Kenya have jointly undertaken a large number of flagship connectivity projects. They have become strong drivers of local economic and social development and delivered tangibly for the people in both countries. The Star.

Egypt's PM en route to Beijing to participate in FOCAC

Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly departed from Cairo International Airport en route to Beijing, China, to attend the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) on behalf of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi. During the forum, Madbouly is set to participate in the opening session and several high-level discussions. Notably, he will deliver a significant speech during a session titled "Industrial Transformation, Agricultural Modernization, and Green Development." On the sidelines of the forum, Madbouly will hold several meetings with Chinese and African officials. He will also meet with representatives of prominent Chinese companies, especially those working in Egypt. Additionally, Madbouly will witness the signing of several memoranda of understanding regarding new investments in the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE) and other contracts in the communication and information technology sector. Egypt Today.

Talks put solidarity in spotlight

President Xi Jinping pledged on Monday to enhance bilateral cooperation in agriculture, mineral processing and vocational training with the Democratic Republic of Congo, and continue to help the African country turn its

resource advantages into growth drivers. Xi made the remarks when meeting with DR Congo President Felix Tshisekedi in Beijing. Noting that China and DR Congo elevated their bilateral relationship to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership in May 2023, Xi said that many consensuses reached at that time have been implemented. Bilateral practical cooperation in various fields serves as a model for developing countries to jointly advance modernization, Xi added. He said that China is willing to work with DR Congo to safeguard the common interests of developing nations and encourage Global South countries to seek peace and development in the face of major global changes. China Daily.

[South Africa To Introduce New Scheme Facilitating Tourists From China, India](#)

South Africa is introducing a new Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS), with effect from January 2025, to facilitate tourists from China and India, said the Department of Home Affairs Monday. Red tape will be removed and visa processing efficiency will be improved for tourists from non-visa exempt countries like China and India, the department said in a statement. “With an initial focus on the burgeoning tourist markets of China and India, the TTOS will remove some of the key obstacles standing in the way of South Africa becoming a favored tourism destination for the second and fifth-largest economies in the world,” read the statement. The statement said Chinese tourists made over 100 million outbound trips in 2023, but South Africa only received 93,000 of those arrivals. Capital Digital Media.

[China, South Africa elevate ties to all-round strategic cooperative partnership](#)

Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on Monday announced the elevation of bilateral ties to an all-round strategic cooperative partnership for the new era. Ramaphosa is in China for a state visit and to attend the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), which is set to begin on Wednesday and run until Friday. During a meeting with Ramaphosa, Xi said strengthening solidarity and cooperation between China and South Africa is in line with the two peoples' common expectations and the historical process of the Global South's growth. The Chinese president called on the two countries to lead the bilateral relationship forward with high-level strategic mutual trust and stressed joint efforts to promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, enhance cooperation in the digital economy, artificial intelligence and new energy, and strengthen exchanges and cooperation in human resources development. CGTN.

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