



['No preaching' and other tactics as China woos African leaders](#)

With pomp and splendour, China has welcomed more than 50 African leaders to Beijing this week for a summit to strengthen ties at a time of increasing political and economic turmoil around the world. “It appeals to their vanities,” Macharia Munene, a Kenya-based professor of international relations tells the BBC, referring to the red carpet welcome - spiced up with entertainment by dancers in colourful costumes - that the leaders received. The optics were carefully choreographed to make the leaders feel that it is a meeting of equals. Many of them - including South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa and Kenya's William Ruto - held one-to-one meetings with their Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping and were given tours of Beijing and other cities at the heart of China's development ahead of the summit. BBC.

[China kicks off major African summit as it seeks to woo leaders amid pressure from the West](#)

Delegations from dozens of African countries are gathering in Beijing for a three-day summit set to see China showcase itself as a lead partner for the continent, despite slowing lending for its development – and as it faces rising frictions with the West. A procession of African leaders have arrived in the Chinese capital in recent days, greeted at the airport by honor guards and dance troupes with images flashed across state media, while Chinese officials have touted the gathering as the largest diplomatic event they've hosted in recent years. The fanfare comes as Chinese leader Xi Jinping has much to signal to his visiting counterparts, and the world, as the summit gets underway Wednesday. It is the first such gathering between Chinese and African leaders in the capital since 2018 and arrives at a critical juncture in ties between Beijing and a continent that's home to its only overseas military base and where it has been the driving economic foreign power. CNN.

[How China-Africa infrastructure deals shape Kenya's economic landscape](#)

Over the past few years, the outcomes of China-Africa infrastructure partnerships have become visible across the African continent. More than 50 heads of state, including Kenyan President Dr. William Ruto, are in Beijing for the 2024 Summit of the 9th Forum on China-Africa Cooperation taking place from September 4. The Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), a key project of the Belt and Road Initiative, has positively influenced Kenya's economic and social growth. By the end of May 2024, the Mombasa-Nairobi SGR had moved 2.684 million standard containers and 32.87 million metric tons of cargo. It also facilitated the transport of 12.87 million passengers. Over the last seven years, the SGR has created over 74,000 jobs in Kenya and trained more than 2,800 professionals. This project contributes around 2 percent to Kenya's GDP growth. Africa News.

[China-Africa solidarity in spotlight in run-up to FOCAC summit](#)

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday met with leaders from multiple African countries and Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, continuing the momentum of cooperative interactions and solidarity in the run-up to the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), taking place from Wednesday

to Friday in Beijing. On Tuesday, China jointly announced the elevation of bilateral ties to a strategic partnership with Malawi, Chad and Mauritania, respectively, while China and Nigeria announced the elevation of ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership on the same day. Analysts said the intensive meetings between Chinese and African leaders and the upgrading of bilateral relations fully demonstrate that China-Africa relations have entered a fast development track. Besides, closer China-Africa ties are conducive for the entire Global South, with more voices to safeguard interests, strive for more development opportunities and pool more strengths to promote fairness in the global governance, they added. Global Times.

[China-Africa summit 2024: What's in it for Beijing, and for Africa?](#)

Beijing is looking to woo African countries with more investment dollars in exchange for better access to raw minerals. African leaders are converging in China this week for an anticipated high-level meeting with President Xi Jinping as Beijing continues to befriend and expand its influence on the continent amid a silent face-off with Western countries. The China-Africa summit, which will last from September 4 to 6, will see leaders of African countries meet and discuss policies and cooperation agreements with officials from the continent's biggest lender and investor. Those agreements will set the tone for the two side's burgeoning relations for the next few years. In a statement, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the conference is the "largest diplomatic event" the country has hosted in recent years with the highest attendance of foreign leaders, adding that it was a "grand reunion of the China-Africa big family". Al Jazeera Media Network.

[China to seek more influence in Africa at crucial Beijing summit](#)

China is welcoming more than 50 leaders from across Africa as it kicks off its ninth Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing. The event aims to bolster China's influence on the continent amid increasing competition from the United States and the European Union. Beijing announced that this week's China-Africa forum, dubbed Focac 2024, will be its most significant diplomatic event since the Covid-19 pandemic. Leaders from South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya and other nations are confirmed to attend, along with dozens of delegations. African countries will be looking for "connectivity projects, networking infrastructure, a lot of new energy projects, solar panels and green mobility initiatives", according to Eric Olander, CEO of the China Global South Project (CGSP). He added that this aligns with "what China refers to as its 'Small and Beautiful' initiative," the newest iteration of the expansive Belt and Road initiative. RFI.

[Xi Jinping Meets with Kenyan President William Ruto](#)

On the morning of September 3, 2024, President Xi Jinping met with Kenyan President William Ruto, who is in China for the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Xi Jinping pointed out that China and Kenya have a time-honored friendship that developed in their struggles for national liberation and deepened on their journey toward national rejuvenation. China and Kenya have always joined hands and been at the forefront of Belt and Road cooperation, and completed a number of flagship projects in connectivity, significantly contributing to regional economic and social development and benefiting the two peoples. Xi Jinping suggested that the two sides should deepen the China-Kenya comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership by pursuing the goal of becoming "three types of partners". Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The People's Republic of China.

[China-Africa: A shift in loan schemes](#)

An uptick in Chinese loans in Africa since 2016 comes as Beijing appears to be looking for a more sustainable way of lending and experimenting with a different strategy. China has over the years stapled itself as the world's largest public lender, especially to developing countries, with Africa seen as the largest trading partner. Beijing's loans to countries in Africa soared to a five-year high in 2023. Angola, Ethiopia, Egypt, Nigeria and Kenya lead the pack, according to the Chinese Loans to Africa Database compiled by researchers at Boston University's Global Development Policy Centre. However, the data shows that loans were well down compared to highs in 2016, when they totaled almost \$30 billion (€27 billion). The loans, researchers said, were also increasingly to local banks, helping to avoid "exposing Chinese creditors to credit risks associated with those countries". Analysts say an economic slowdown in China has made Beijing increasingly reluctant to shell out big sums. Deutsche Welle.

[China's Xi, Nigeria's Tinubu pledge deeper economic ties](#)

Leaders ink deals on nuclear energy, media exchanges and infrastructure ahead of summit on Chinese-African cooperation. China and Nigeria have pledged to deepen their economic ties ahead of a summit showcasing Chinese-African cooperation, inking deals on nuclear energy, media exchanges and Beijing's signature \$1 trillion infrastructure drive. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Nigerian President Bola Tinubu on Tuesday held talks in Beijing ahead of the opening of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Xi and Tinubu said they had elevated ties between their countries to a "comprehensive strategic partnership" on the eve of the three-day summit beginning on Wednesday. "China and Nigeria, as major developing countries, strengthening strategic coordination, will inject fresh impetus to China-Africa relations in the new era and spearhead common progress among Global South countries," Xi said. Al Jazeera Media Network.

[China's Luban Workshop cultivates talents for Ethiopia's socio-economic development](#)

The Luban Workshop, a vocational education program jointly carried out by China and its partner countries, has groomed plenty of talents for Ethiopia's social and economic development. As one of the world's most fast-growing economies, Ethiopia is trying to diversify its economic structure in recent years. As a result, vocational trainings have become incredibly crucial. Located in Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia, the Luban Workshop opened its first summer school this year. Jiang Jiang, Chinese dean of Luban Workshop in Ethiopia, said the workshop has changed a lot since he first got here in 2011. "Now, the students' enthusiasm for learning is much higher than the beginning. We often have to arrange extra classes to meet the learning needs of students. At the start, the number of students was fewer than 10, but now there are over 30 students in one class," Jiang said. Bastillepost.

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