



### [China shifts gear in Africa as it looks to a green future](#)

Pulling power. That is what China still has across Africa. While the influence of others on the continent is questioned - for instance, France and the rest of the EU are being shunned by the Sahelian military juntas, and Russia's mercenary-security "offer" is regarded with deep mistrust by pro-Western African governments - China has navigated a middle way. Delegations from more than 50 states from across the African continent decided it was worth making the trip to Beijing for the latest China-Africa summit - known as the Forum on China-Africa Co-operation (Focac) - this week. Dozens of leaders turned up - as well as UN chief António Guterres. Alongside veterans such as Congo-Brazzaville strongman Denis Sassou-Nguesso, this was a first such gathering for the new Senegalese head of state Bassirou Diomaye Faye - rewarded with a front-row place next to President Xi Jinping in a family photo of leaders and their spouses. BBC.

### [Xi Jinping had one message for dozens of visiting African leaders: choose China](#)

Xi Jinping had a clear aim as he hosted delegates from more than 50 African countries for a major summit in Beijing this week: proving beyond doubt that China is the continent's premier foreign partner. The Chinese leader made his case with ceremony on Thursday when, flanked by dozens of African leaders and the UN secretary general in the Great Hall of the People, he vowed to elevate ties between China and the continent to an "all-weather community with a shared future" – a status that Beijing reserves for its staunchest diplomatic allies. He also made a raft of promises to the continent, to be fulfilled over the next three years: more than \$50 billion in financial support; the creation of one million jobs; tens of millions in food and military aid – while vowing to "deepen cooperation with Africa in industry, agriculture, infrastructure, trade and investment." CNN.

### [As China, Africa woo each other, who gains more? It's complex, say experts](#)

Beijing's detractors accuse it of luring African countries with big loans, but analysts say the continent's leaders have more agency than that. Nkurunziza Alphonse knows that every time he goes out to protest, he could get arrested, even detained for a lengthy period in Kampala's maximum security prison. It has happened before. Still, as he sat in a courtroom on Tuesday, watching another batch of protesters arraigned, Alphonse said he has no plans to stop marching. The 25-year-old student is one of scores of people detained in recent months by Ugandan authorities for demonstrating against an oil pipeline project. The nearly 1,445km (898-mile) long East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) will stretch from Uganda to Tanzania's coast, transporting crude. It is set to be the longest heated-oil pipeline in the world. However, activists say it will displace thousands, destroy wetlands and contaminate water sources. Al Jazeera Media Network.

### [China's new pledges reflect concern over its competition in Africa](#)

After pledging \$51 billion in financial support for Africa over the next three years and positioning China as a fellow developing country in contrast to the West's colonialist past, President Xi Jinping told dozens of African

leaders gathered in Beijing this week that “the China-Africa relationship is now at its best in history.” This year’s Forum on Africa-China Cooperation, held every three years, was the first since the pandemic and China’s own economic slowdown. It comes amid growing geopolitical rivalry between Beijing and the West, and Xi was blunt in his assessment of the latter’s influence on the continent. “Modernization is an inalienable right of all countries,” he said in his opening speech to more than 50 African leaders. “But the Western approach to it has inflicted immense sufferings on developing countries.” Voice Of America.

### [China stops short of Africa debt relief as pledges more cash](#)

China stopped short of providing the debt relief sought by many African countries this week, but pledged 360 billion yuan (\$50.7 billion) over three years in credit lines and investments. The Forum for China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) launched in 2000 took on an enhanced role after the 2013 inception of President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which aims to recreate the ancient Silk Road for the world's second largest economy and biggest bilateral lender to Africa. "China is moving back on to the front foot in terms of overseas deployment of capital in the emerging markets," said Tellimer's Hasnain Malik, while adding it was not yet at pre-COVID levels. China has also sought to use FOCAC to counter growing competition in Africa from the United States, the European Union, Japan and others. Reuters.

### [China-Africa cooperation projects imprinted on African currencies](#)

In many African countries, the designs on their currency showcase the historical, cultural and social development achievements of the nation. From rice paddies to hydroelectric plants, from bridges to skyscrapers, several iconic achievements of China-Africa cooperation are imprinted on the currencies of these African countries, circulating in the daily lives of the local people. The Kaleta Hydropower Station, built by China International Water and Electric Corporation (CWE), is a landmark project in Guinea. With the project costing \$446 million and a total installed capacity of 240 megawatts, the project started in 2012 and was officially connected to the grid in 2015, Xinhua News Agency reported on Monday. The power station has greatly alleviated the power shortage in the capital city of Conakry and surrounding areas, promoting economic development and bringing tangible benefits to the local people, according to Xinhua. Global Times.

### [\[DOUBLE EPISODE\] The China-Africa Summit Debrief](#)

The three-day Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit wrapped up in Beijing on Friday. The big headline from this year’s gathering was the announcement that China will provide \$50.7 billion in financing to African countries over the next three years. Chinese President Xi Jinping unveiled the customary mega pledge as part of a ten-point action plan that will guide China’s relationship with the continent through 2027. In this special double episode of the show, Eric, Géraud, and Cobus discuss key events from this year’s FOCAC summit and why it’s best not to focus too much on that big financial package. The China Global South Project.

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