



### [China's new strategy in Africa: is the continent getting a fair deal?](#)

China has unveiled a bold new strategy to deepen its influence in Africa – with mixed reactions over whether the continent will truly benefit. At the close of the latest China-Africa cooperation forum, Beijing presented an elaborate proposal to boost African development while securing its own strategic foothold. The Beijing Action Plan is China's blueprint for the next three years, committing a staggering €46 billion in aid, investments and credit lines. Building on the Dakar Action Plan – signed in the Senegalese capital in 2021 to strengthen cooperation in trade, infrastructure and development – the new deal promises African countries €27 billion in credit, €10 billion in assistance and €9 billion in direct investment from Chinese companies. RFI.

### [African nations see China as reliable partner](#)

The pledge by President Xi Jinping to work with Africa to implement the 10-point partnership action plan to advance modernization has reaffirmed the country's commitment to Africa, according to experts. Xi made the pledge in his keynote speech at the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing on Thursday. The speech also depicted China as a reliable development partner for the continent, the experts said. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay, CEO of the Asian Institute of Eco-civilization Research and Development in Pakistan, called the speech a ray of hope for African people amid challenging times. He said that President Xi has proposed a way to assist Africa in solving the problems of poverty and food insecurity, improve healthcare, and pave the way for a peaceful, prosperous and future-oriented society. China Daily.

### [Will China outdo the West in transforming Africa?](#)

The ninth Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Focac) meeting has ended in Beijing, China. Just across the sea, another forum is taking place, but with less publicity - the Eastern Economic Forum hosted by Russia in Vladivostok, the end of trans-Siberian railway. Not the Siberia near Nyahururu! The Eastern Forum has 62 countries represented. The website states: "The Eastern Economic Forum is a major platform that aims to develop the economy of the Far East and expand international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region." India, China, Vietnam and Myanmar are represented. Is Kenya represented? It's interesting how key economic powers are hosting Africa. The continent is being treated like a beautiful girl ripe for marriage. And from conventional wisdom it's hard for beautiful girls to get husbands. Will the African bride choose wisely? Will she look at the character of the bridegroom or his wealth?.

### [China, Africa Deepen Industrialization Cooperation](#)

Green, coordinated and sustainable industrialization is an important path to economic development and poverty reduction, and a key driving force for countries to achieve modernization and sustainable development. From the 2015 Johannesburg Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) to the 2018 Beijing Summit of

the FOCAC, from the 8th FOCAC ministerial conference in 2021 to the China-Africa Leaders' Dialogue in 2023, China has always supported Africa's industrialization and worked hand in hand with Africa on the path of modernization. Infrastructure cooperation is a priority area of China-Africa cooperation, providing important support for improving Africa's investment environment, strengthening its industrial foundation, and promoting its industrial upgrading. Since the establishment of FOCAC, Chinese companies have completed several landmark projects in the fields of transportation, energy, electricity, housing and people's livelihood. Science and Technology Daily.

### [China and Africa forging modern pathways to prosperity](#)

The just-concluded Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit raised Sino-African friendship a notch higher, with Chinese and African leaders agreeing to a new blueprint for high-level cooperation in the new era and vowing to make serious efforts to advance modernization and build a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future. Sino-African friendship is steeped in a rich history of mutual exchanges and has been flourishing, thanks to the intensive strategic cooperation between the two sides. As the largest developing country and the continent with the largest number of developing countries, China and Africa have the same historical mission: to achieve robust development to improve the well-being of their peoples. The pursuit of modernization and national rejuvenation is the common aspiration of China and African countries. Guided by China's "sincerity, real results, amity, and good faith" policy toward Africa and the pursuit of greater good and shared interests, China has been making efforts to help Africa meet its development needs. China Daily.

### [Power-short Africa Finds 'Rafiki' in China](#)

In July, I set foot on the African continent for the first time in my life. Before leaving, my mind was filled with memories of African overseas students experiencing power outages and Internet disconnections during my online or hybrid lectures. Therefore, I purchased a batch of portable solar charging devices before departure, just to be ready for potential emergencies. This precaution was not without reason. Out of 7.95 billion people in the world, 9 percent (around 685 million) of them lack access to electricity. Among them 570 million live in sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, 2.1 billion people still rely on polluting fuels for cooking, leading to 3.2 million premature deaths annually. During my visit to Tanzanian regions such as Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, and Dodoma, I found Dar es Salaam's power supply generally reliable but capital Dodoma occasionally experienced power shortages. Though rapidly improving, basic rural electricity needs had not been fully met yet. Science and Technology Daily.

### [Interview: China-Africa cooperation mutually beneficial in essence -- former S. African diplomat](#)

"The essence of Africa-China cooperation is mutual benefit and common development. Their cooperation has never been and will never be a mere talk shop," a former South African senior diplomat said. The Africa-China partnership is a mutually beneficial endeavor with huge potential for further growth, a former South African senior diplomat has said. Gert Grobler, a former South African ambassador to Spain, Japan, and Madagascar, and currently an honorary professor at the Institute of African Studies at Zhejiang Normal University in East China, made the comments during a recent interview with Xinhua. "The essence of Africa-China cooperation is mutual benefit and common development. Their cooperation has never been and will never be a mere talk shop," Grobler said. "While bringing tangible benefits to the African and Chinese peoples, Africa-China cooperation has also created more favorable conditions for international cooperation." Xinhua.

### [China writes off more interest-free loans to Africa, but is the move just symbolic?](#)

Beijing says other players such as the World Bank need to shoulder a much fairer share of resolving debt problems on the continent. China has announced another round of write-offs on interest-free loans to more than two dozen African countries, but observers say the relief addresses only a small fraction of the overall debt burden on those countries. At the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit in the Chinese capital last week, Beijing said it would waive intergovernmental interest-free loans to 33 African countries due by the end of this year. Interest-free loan forgiveness is a regular feature of FOCAC. Two years ago, China announced it would forgive 23 loans that had matured in 2021 for 17 African countries. The loans are extended by the China International Development Cooperation Agency, Beijing's foreign aid agency. But they account for just a small fraction – about 5 per cent – of the total loans China has provided to African countries, according to observers. South China Morning Post.

### [Closer ties with nation to lift African job market](#)

China's new partnership actions for enhancing supply chain cooperation, foreign trade and connectivity with Africa will improve the continent's job market and modernization through infrastructure development and technology transfers, said business leaders and market watchers on Monday. In Beijing last week, China unveiled 10 partnership actions for modernization to deepen China-Africa cooperation over the next three years. The country will offer all least-developed countries that have diplomatic relations with China, including 33 countries in Africa, zero-tariff treatment for 100 percent of tariff lines, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As for connectivity, China is ready to carry out 30 infrastructure connectivity projects in Africa. It will also expand market access for African agricultural products, and deepen cooperation with Africa in e-commerce and other areas. Experts said these initiatives aim to boost industrial capacity, foster sustainable growth and deepen trade relations between the two sides. China Daily.

### [Africa News Tonight: Probe demand for Tanzania Chadema leader's death, Kenya mourns school fire victims, Africa eyes China-US competition](#)

There are calls for a thorough investigation into the kidnapping and death of Ali Kibao, an official in Tanzania's opposition Chadema party, over the weekend. Kenya begins three days of national mourning Monday following the death of at least 21 students in a boarding school inferno in central Kenya, as officials search for at least 17 still missing from the blaze. The recent Forum on China-Africa Cooperation came as African leaders eye mounting great power competition between the United States and China over resources and influence on the continent. VOA Africa.

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