

China's investment in Africa is getting a shake-up as the next belt and road phase beckons

As revealed at the recent FOCAC summit, Beijing will shift its African focus towards agriculture, green energy and critical minerals. China is revising its belt and road playbook in Africa, as it moves its investment focus to agriculture, manufacturing, industrialisation and green energy, including critical metals. The shift is part of Beijing's pivot towards "small but beautiful" projects in its African investment strategy. But while this could see fewer mega projects financed directly through Chinese bilateral lending, it does not mean Beijing will stop bankrolling major projects that it considers critical to growing China-Africa trade. Nearly US\$51 billion was allocated by China for lending and investment in Africa at the 2024 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit held in Beijing earlier this month. More than half that amount – 210 billion yuan (US\$29.5 billion) – is a credit line. South China Morning Post.

Guest Opinion: High-level China-Africa cooperation brings new chapter of modernization for Global South

The FOCAC summit showcased confidence in China-Africa unity and cooperation as the world undergoes rapid and unprecedented changes. by Liu Xian, Mao Xiaojing Leaders from China and Africa successfully convened the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), setting forth plans to enhance China-Africa cooperation in this new era. The summit showcased confidence in China-Africa unity and cooperation as the world undergoes rapid and unprecedented changes. It was a bright moment, inspiring in its collective effort to build a community with a shared future for humankind, marking a new milestone in South-South cooperation. Focused on cooperation, the summit was a breath of fresh air in a turbulent world. Peace remains elusive in today's world, and some regions are shrouded in geopolitical conflict. Despite this, China-Africa relations are on the rise. Strengthening these ties benefits the people of both China and Africa and ensures global peace and stability. Xinhua.

Kenya hosts seminar to review achievements of China-Africa cooperation

A seminar was held Friday in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital to assess milestones achieved since the inception of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) more than two decades ago. Senior policymakers, diplomats, scholars and students attended the half-day seminar, themed "Strengthening Sino-African Relations: Reflections on Two Decades of FOCAC." The seminar was organized by the Africa Center for the Study of China, domiciled at the University of Nairobi, Kenya's oldest university. Martin Owuor, assistant director of the Asia and Pacific Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that under the FOCAC, Kenya has gained immensely from bilateral ties with China. "Kenya and China have enjoyed warm, cordial relations over six decades," Owuor said. "China has contributed to Kenya's socioeconomic transformation through investments in infrastructure, capacity building, food security, renewable energy and ICT." Xinhua.

Tinubu returns to Nigeria Sunday after China, Dubai, UK trip

President Bola Tinubu is expected back in Abuja on Sunday after his official trip to China and stopover in the United Kingdom. On August 29, Tinubu left Abuja for Beijing in China but had a stopover in Dubai, UAE. He arrived in Beijing on 1 September to begin his official visit to China. The president started his official visit on September 2, with a meeting with President Xi Jinping in the Great Hall of the People. President Tinubu was accorded a 21-gun salute. He also inspected the guards. A statement by his media aide, Bayo Onanuga, said "five Memoranda of Understanding were signed between Nigeria and China at the meeting. "President Tinubu led his team to another round of bilateral talks with Chinese Premier Li Qiang the following day." On the evening of the same day, President Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan, hosted him at the Welcoming Banquet and Cultural Gala Performance on the eve of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Summit. Daily Post Nigeria.

Ethiopia, China Keen to Strengthen Ties on Manufacturing

Ethiopia and China have expressed their commitment to enhance collaborations in the manufacturing sector. Chinese investors are expected to visit Ethiopia to explore investment opportunities in the country, following discussions at the BRICS Partnership for a New Industrial Revolution meeting in Xiamen, China. The BRICS Forum on Partnership on New Industrial Revolution 2024 held with the theme "Fostering high-quality partnership and embarking on a new journey of new industrialization." Ethiopia's State Minister of Industry, Tarekegn Bululta attended in the discussion representing Ethiopia. On the margins of the meeting, Industry officials from Ethiopia and China met to discuss potential partnerships and knowledge exchange. Both countries agreed to share experiences and best practices in the manufacturing sector, expected to attract Chinese investors to Ethiopia while providing Ethiopian industrialists with insights into China's industrial revolution. Ethiopian News Agency.

Egypt to acquire I-10C multirole fighter lets from China

Egypt has signed an agreement with China to purchase J-10C fighter jets. This acquisition aims to replace Egypt's aging fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons, marking a strategic shift in the country's defense procurement. The decision to acquire the J-10C, also known as the "Vigorous Dragon," comes amidst speculation that Egypt is seeking alternatives to U.S. proposals for upgrading its F-16s to the F-16V variant. The J-10C offers superior combat capabilities at a comparable cost, making it an attractive option for Egypt. The deal, reportedly signed on August 19, 2024, makes Egypt the second international customer for the J-10C, following Pakistan. Egypt's move to acquire the J-10C follows growing speculation that the country is looking for ways to modernize its air force as it phases out older F-16 aircraft. The J-10C is a multirole fighter jet equipped with advanced air-to-air and air-to-ground weaponry, with particular strengths in air superiority missions. Its capabilities have been compared to the American F-16, offering a competitive edge in modern aerial combat. Military Africa.

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