



[Why China is seeking greater presence in Africa – the strategy behind its financial deals](#)

China's relationship with Africa is set to deepen. At a summit in Beijing in early September, China's president, Xi Jinping, pledged to deliver US\$51 billion (£39 billion) in loans, investment and aid to the continent over the next three years, as well as upgrading diplomatic ties. Beijing's close engagement with Africa is not new. Since 1950, the first overseas trip of the year for Chinese foreign ministers has almost always been to one or more African countries. But Xi's commitments are still sure to raise concerns in the US and other western countries, which are competing with China for global influence. They may well also bring back fears of China using "debt-trap diplomacy" to push African countries into default and thereby gain leverage over them. Such is the strength of this narrative that South Africa's president, Cyril Ramaphosa, felt compelled to deny it at the summit. The Conversation.

[China pivots to 'small is beautiful' approach, but will remain a dominant partner for Africa](#)

It may not be lending as much as in recent decades, but China retains a dominant position as an economic partner and political ally in Africa. President Xi Jinping is now trying to reposition his country as a source of 'small but beautiful' projects, but Beijing will fight to maintain its hold over resource flows, having built up a strong position in many markets that western rivals will find hard to shift, writes Jon Marks. African Energy.

[China and Africa have mutually beneficial needs, says AU representative to China](#)

Rahmat Allah Mohamed Osman, the permanent representative of the African Union (AU) to China, highlighted in a recent interview with Global Times that the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) that just concluded in Beijing is significant for China-Africa relations. He believes that China and Africa have mutually beneficial needs, and expresses hopes for the implementation of more policies in China's support in agriculture, industry, and talent development to Africa. The AU is the first regional international organization to sign a cooperation plan with China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and establish a working coordination mechanism. In Osman's view, China-Africa cooperation can effectively promote the realization of Africa's development blueprint "Agenda 2063" and accelerate industrialization in Africa. Global Times.

[China strengthens presence in Africa through developmental projects funding](#)

Over the past two decades, China expanded its presence in Africa through its economic and geographical influence across the continent, this strategy aligns with the ongoing international competition for influence and resources among major powers, particularly the US, Russia, and China. Africa has emerged as one of the key battlegrounds in this global competition due to its strategic location, abundant resources, and economic opportunities, making Africa vital to the economies of countries like China, which has pursued strong partnerships with African countries to secure access to raw materials, fuel its industries, and enhance its standing regionally and globally. Two key pillars of China's strategy to bolster its influence in Africa are the Forum on

China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), established in 2000, and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) strategy, adopted by the Chinese government in 2013. Zawya.

[FOCAC meet to elevate China-Africa relations](#)

The 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, held in Beijing earlier this month, has reassured intensified bilateral collaboration across various sectors and will elevate China-Africa relations to new heights, South African experts say. China's pledge, made at the summit, to jointly work with Africa to achieve modernization of the continent has been warmly welcomed and it aligns closely with the long-term vision of African countries, they said at a webinar hosted by the University of Johannesburg. Sizo Nkala, a research fellow at the Centre for Africa-China Studies in Johannesburg, said the FOCAC summit has solidified the robust foundation of China-Africa relations. He dismissed concerns that economic challenges in China might weaken the partnership, countering speculation leading up to the summit. "This year's summit was a reminder of how Africa-China relations are built on a strong foundation of FOCAC, which was laid more than 20 years ago," Nkala said. Ecns.cn.

[China aims to expand influence over Africa: The Japan News](#)

Even though its own economy is in the doldrums, China has made it clear that it intends to continue providing large amounts of aid to Africa. However, suspicion cannot be dispelled that China's aim is to expand its own influence in Africa rather than to help the region become self-reliant. Even though its own economy is in the doldrums, China has made it clear that it intends to continue providing large amounts of aid to Africa. However, suspicion cannot be dispelled that China's aim is to expand its own influence in Africa rather than to help the region become self-reliant. A summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, which brought China and 53 African countries together, was held in Beijing. Chinese President Xi Jinping said that China will provide financial assistance worth about ¥7.3 trillion over the next three years. This is almost the same amount as the support pledged at the previous meeting in 2018. Asia News Network.

[Egypt, China discuss water cooperation at Abu Dhabi forum](#)

Hani Sweilem, Egypt's Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, met with Zhu Chengqing, Vice Minister of Water Resources of China, on the sidelines of the 6th Arab Water Forum in Abu Dhabi, the UAE. The discussion focused on enhancing cooperation in the field of water by activating the memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries, with a focus on the areas of training, capacity building, scientific research and technology transfer, and benefiting from the distinguished capabilities of the National Water Research Center affiliated with the Ministry. The discussion also focused on benefiting from Chinese expertise in using modern technology to benefit from highly saline water for agriculture, taking into account the environmental dimension. During the meeting, Sweilem expressed his aspiration for China's support for the AWARe initiative, which provides a platform for the international community to formulate tangible measures on the ground to enhance resilience in the field of water, and provides an opportunity to exchange global knowledge and address the development requirements and needs of the least developed countries, especially in Africa, in various areas of water and climate. Daily News Egypt.

[Tanzania pledges to strengthen sports ties with China](#)

TANZANIA has reaffirmed its commitment to deepening its sports cooperation with China during the third 'China-Tanzania Table tennis Tournament.' The friendship competition, held over the weekend, highlighted the strong bond between the two nations, particularly in the sports sector. Neema Msitha, Secretary General of the National Sports Council (NSC), emphasized Tanzania's dedication to preserving and enhancing this partnership. "We have a strong friendship and collaboration with China, particularly in sports. We are committed to maintaining and strengthening these ties," she stated. Neema acknowledged China's support, particularly in providing equipment for table tennis, which has greatly promoted the sport in Tanzania and across Africa. She highlighted the longstanding relationship established by Tanzania's founding father, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, and China's Chairman Mao Zedong, which laid a solid foundation for bilateral friendship and solidarity. The Guardian.

[BRICS: India and China lead as top two countries for vehicle imports into South Africa](#)

According to the most recent industry figures, India has surpassed China as the top country of origin for vehicle imports into South Africa. This information was disclosed in the recently released BRICS+ Research Report 2024, which highlighted that South Africa's admission into BRICS [Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa] has enhanced the country's international stature and trade and economic relations with these major economic forces. According to the report, China and India have consistently been two of the South African automotive industry's top 10 trading partners since 2010, mainly due to the increasing level of automotive imports. "India became the South African automotive industry's top country of origin for vehicle imports since 2013 due to the establishment of various brands as the global hub for small and entry-level vehicles which comprise the bulk of sales in the domestic market," the report highlighted. Business Insider.

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