

Global Gateway: How EU's anti-China strategy is failing in Africa

The Global Gateway was meant to be Europe's grand counteroffensive against China's growing influence, but three years after its launch, the investment initiative is at risk of becoming a financial sinkhole. Beyond mere announcements, tangible progress has been scarce—especially in Africa. The criticism is widespread. The EU has pledged a total of €300 billion (Sh43.2 trillion) to the programme, with €150 billion earmarked specifically for Africa. Brussels envisioned a new era in relations between Europe and its southern neighbour through a series of large-scale infrastructure projects, ranging from a data cable linking Europe and North Africa to hydrogen production in Namibia and a cross-border power grid for East Africa. The Standard.

China's Finance for African Renewables Rebounds After Two-Year Lull

Climate cooperation between China and Africa was a key focus of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), which concluded on 6 September, when dozens of leaders gathered in Beijing for the three-yearly meeting. A landmark declaration was issued at the previous FOCAC, held in 2021, that "positioned climate cooperation as an important pillar" of future cooperation. The same year, the Chinese government declared that it would stop funding coal power. A pause in policy bank loans for energy projects had raised concerns around the future of Chinese energy lending in Africa. However, the new data indicates that the pause signified a reset, as banks adjusted to requirements to fund low-carbon energy and "small and beautiful" projects, according to the Boston University Global Development Policy Center. China Global South Project.

Kenyan entrepreneurs explore opportunities at China Trade Week

Dressed in elegant attire, Magdalene Wangui was among the hundreds of visitors attending the official opening of China Trade Week on Wednesday at a convention center in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. Wandering through the exhibition hall where Chinese firms displayed an array of products, ranging from solar panels to agricultural machinery and automotive parts, Wangui paused frequently to inquire about prices. Wangui, in her mid-30s, is an entrepreneur with ventures in fashion design and farming. She employs several young people to help her produce yarn for carpets, sweaters, and blankets while also managing a small farm. Her goal at the exhibition was to explore Chinese-made equipment, such as knitting machines, sprayers and solar batteries, which could boost her businesses. Xinhua.

Fresh faces in Mozambique's poll as independence era leaders bow out

Mozambique is set for a watershed election that will see a change of the presidential guard, with the era of leaders who forged their careers in the trenches of the independence war against Portuguese rule coming to an end. For the first time, the once all-powerful Frelimo party is fielding a presidential candidate who was born after independence - the charismatic 47-year-old Daniel Chapo, who it hopes will rally voters fed up with its 49-year rule. "In some places Frelimo campaign members have been booed and openly rejected," political commentator

Charles Mangwiro tells the BBC. Mozambique - strategically located along the southern African coast and rich in natural resources, but hit by an insurgency in the remote north - will hold presidential elections on Wednesday, along with parliamentary and gubernatorial elections. BBC.

South Sudanese patients find hope in Chinese doctors' expertise

Morube Patrick, a 50-year-old resident of Juba's Rock City suburb, spent years moving from clinic to clinic in search of treatment for his ailing mother, Turufayna Nyoka, who had been suffering from esophagitis. Esophagitis, an inflammation of the esophagus lining, made it difficult for her to eat and worsened her health. After years of uncertainty, Patrick finally found hope when Chinese gastroenterologist Ding Yun, working with her South Sudanese colleagues at Juba Teaching Hospital in the South Sudanese capital of Juba, diagnosed his mother's condition using an endoscopy machine donated by the Chinese government. Xinhua.

China to release new economic measures to boost growth

Top Chinese economic policymakers are expected to flesh out a raft of growth-boosting policies on Tuesday after the announcement of long-awaited stimulus measures last month sparked a blistering stock market rally. Beijing has struggled to kickstart the economy as officials target around five per cent growth this year — a goal analysts say is optimistic given the numerous headwinds, from a prolonged housing crisis to sluggish consumption. After months of piecemeal tinkering did little to reverse the malaise, officials have unveiled a raft of measures from rate cuts to loosening house buying curbs aimed at getting money flowing again. Hopes of that long-awaited "bazooka stimulus" have lit up stock markets, sending bourses in mainland China and Hong Kong surging more than 20 per cent. Punch Nigeria Limited.

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