

Kenya Seeks China's Support in Bid for BRICS Membership

Kenyan President William Ruto held bilateral talks with Chinese official Li Xi in Nairobi on Monday, aiming to deepen Kenya-China relations and secure China's support for Kenya's bid to join the BRICS group. Kenya and China have a strong partnership and are currently collaborating on numerous projects within the East African nation. During the talks, Ruto reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to the "One China" policy and expressed his country's desire to advance the strategic partnership across Africa. Kenya's BRICS aspirations come as the group, originally founded in 2006 by Brazil, Russia, India, and China, and later expanded with South Africa in 2010, now includes new members such as Egypt and Ethiopia. BRICS members collectively account for approximately 28% of the global economy, offering significant potential for economic collaboration. Africa.com LLC.

China as a Model Development Partner

The summit's theme was "Joining Hands to Advance Modernization and Build a High-Level China-Africa Community with a Shared Future." According to the English translation of his speech, President Xi Jinping mentioned the word "modernization" more than 30 times. The description of the theme and Xi's speech at the summit were both very official Chinese. And as I argue below, they also reflected China's important role as a model development partner for African states. China, in many ways, exemplifies what it takes to achieve structural change towards national development. CNBC Africa Licensing & Reprints.

China-Africa photo and video competition holds award ceremony, welcomes African winners to Beijing

The award ceremony of the "My Chinese Story" China-Africa Photo and Video Competition was held in Beijing on Nov. 1. Diplomatic envoys from nearly 30 countries to China, such as Egypt, Republic of the Congo, and Central African Republic attended the ceremony and gave high credit to the competition. "The friendship between China and Africa needs no elaborate words; our bond is growing deeper and stronger," said Kenneth S. Rabale, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho to China. Twenty prize winners of the competition from South Africa, Egypt and Madagascar were invited to a five-day Beijing visit on the sidelines of the award ceremony from Oct. 30 to Nov. 3. PR Newswire Europe Limited.

Trade, aid, security: What does Trump's win mean for Africa?

As it became clear that Donald Trump had landed the US presidency for the second time, leaders from across Africa began tweeting their congratulations. "Zimbabwe stands ready to work with you", wrote Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa, eyeing a diplomatic reset, while Nigeria's Bola Tinubu expressed hope that Trump's second term would bring "reciprocal economic and development partnerships between Africa and the United States". But will Trump 2.0 be good for the continent? During his first stint in the White House critics accused him of dismissing Africa, having cut some funding, curbed immigration and reportedly referred to some of its nations as "shithole countries". BBC.

How the CIIE is a catalyst for China-Africa synergy and shared prosperity

This year marks a milestone in China-Africa relations. At the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in September, China announced it would unilaterally expand its market and pledged support for African products through platforms like the China International Import Expo (CIIE). Two months later, the 7th CIIE opened in Shanghai. Various African products were showcased, and investment talks took place, aiming to turn China's big market into an ample opportunity. China's sincerity in continuing to open up has been showcased to the world through the CIIE, as well as its principles of sincerity, real results, amity and good faith toward Africa. People's Daily Online.

Chinese-built road opens up Kenya's far-off region

Once a quiet, dusty town in Turkana County in northwestern Kenya, Lodwar is now humming with life, thanks to a road built by several Chinese firms. Stretching about 300 km from Kitale to Lodwar, the road has sparked a surge in business and tourism, boosting the local hospitality sector. The road has made it easier for people, vehicles, and goods to flow freely, further fueling the region's growth. "We are grateful for this road," Julia Akorilem, who runs a guesthouse in Lodwar town, told Xinhua in a recent interview. Akorilem recalled that before the road was constructed, the guesthouse would remain vacant for weeks. "Ever since it was opened for use about two years ago, I have never lacked visitors in my guesthouse." Xinhua.

Seeking New Markets, African Exporters Bet Big on China Expo

After an almost 24-hour journey to Shanghai, Gladys Cobbina, a Ghanaian entrepreneur, stood at the China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, introducing curious visitors to her all-natural shea butter cosmetics. Armed with Chinese-translated leaflets and a traditional Ghanaian maraca-like instrument to draw crowds, she hoped to break into China's vast market. Struggling to grow her company, Sheenah Naturals, amid rising competition and pandemic-related economic setbacks, Cobbina traveled to China with hopes of expanding her business, supported by the Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA). Sixth Tone.

Chinese road builders win credit in Uganda for community engagement

For 20-year-old Peninah Nasambu, a civil engineering student from Uganda, her recent visit to a Chinese road construction camp brimmed with new discoveries. As Buhimba Technical Institute inked a cooperation memorandum of understanding (MoU) with China Railway Seventh Group (CRSG), Nasambu and dozens of her schoolmates took the opportunity to explore the camp's laboratory, stone quarry, and warehouse. The tour allowed the young generations to gain firsthand insights into how a road is built from scratch. Xinhua.

Please note: The news items presented here are for informational purposes. The views expressed within them are those of the authors and/or individuals quoted, not those of the Africa Policy Institute.