



Minerals for security: can the US break China's grip on the DRC?

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is offering the United States significant mining rights in exchange for military support. In February 2025, President Félix Tshisekedi wrote to President Donald Trump asking for help pushing back the M23 rebel group. It is using access to cobalt, copper and lithium as leverage. The country – with a land mass two-thirds the size of Western Europe – holds an estimated \$24 trillion in untapped mineral wealth and produced 244,000 tonnes of cobalt in 2024, almost 80% of the global supply. BNE IntelliNews.

China deepens ties with South Africa, Saudi Arabia in pushback against U.S. tariff escalation

As tensions surge between the world's two largest economies, China is ramping up its global diplomacy, holding strategic talks with Saudi Arabia and South Africa to counterbalance the United States' sweeping new tariffs. China's commerce minister Wang Wentao recently held virtual meetings with his counterparts in Saudi Arabia and South Africa, focusing on responses to U.S. "reciprocal tariffs" and fortifying economic cooperation amid growing protectionism. The discussions underscored China's pivot toward the Global South, as it seeks to bolster alliances within BRICS, the G20, and other multilateral platforms. North Africa Post.

Ghana bans foreigners from local gold trading in major overhaul

Ghana on Monday announced it was banning all foreigners from trading in its local gold market as part of sweeping reforms aimed at boosting foreign exchange reserves and stabilising the local currency. The ban takes effect on May 1 and grants exclusive authority to a new state body, the Ghana Gold Board (GoldBod), to regulate and control artisanal and small-scale gold mining in a country where illegal mining has become a major issue. South China Morning Post.

China: The 'Go-to' place for investments to improve Ghana's economic infrastructure

China's growing openness to foreign investment and trade presents opportunities for Ghana. China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) could bring infrastructure investments to Ghana, creating jobs and stimulating local industries. Ghana's attractiveness to foreign direct investment, particularly in mining, oil and gas, and agriculture, could be further leveraged through partnerships with China. The government of China's emphasis on an open economy complements this by providing a platform for increased Chinese investments in these sectors. Ghana Business News.

Chinese medical teams' 50-year commitment to Niger

On a March morning, five-year-old Hama Moctar stepped into the General Referral Hospital of Niamey in Niger for a follow-up appointment. Just 100 days after surgery, his legs, once shortened and fractured, now carried him steadily. Three years earlier, Moctar suffered a severe fracture in his left femur. Persistent infections followed, and his leg was left 10 centimeters shorter. Xinhua.

China launches 1st Juncao technology training project in Zimbabwe

The first China-aid Juncao technology training project was launched in Zimbabwe's Mashonaland West Province on Monday to help boost the southern African country's agricultural development. More than 50 participants, including farmers, students, and academics, attended the three-day training program, which featured both theoretical sessions and practical demonstrations led by Chinese technical experts. Juncao is a hybrid grass and a multifunctional agricultural resource developed in China and promoted globally. Xinhua.

Chinese Avocado Importers Visit Zimbabwe for Potential Cooperation

ZimTrade, Zimbabwe's national trade development and promotion agency, hosted the Zimbabwe-China Avocado and Macadamia Inward Buyers Mission in Chipinge from April 8 to 10. Reports on the organization's social media page indicate that the event featured a seminar and an exchange session between Chinese importers and Zimbabwean producers. During the discussions, Chinese importers provided insights into market demand and outlined plans to establish Zimbabwe as Africa's hub for avocado and macadamia production. Produce Report.

Inaugural China-Zim Tobacco Expo on the cards

THE Tobacco Industry and Marketing Board (TIMB) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Asia-Europe and Africa Joint Trade and Investment Promotion Association (AEA Association) to host the first-ever China-Zimbabwe Tobacco Expo in September this year. The expo was conceived following engagements between TIMB and AEA Association officials at the 2024 China International Import Expo in Shanghai. The partnership is supported by the Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development ministry and ZimTrade. NewsDay Zimbabwe.