



### [Breaking the Debt Deadlock in Africa: the IMF's Balancing Act with China](#)

The economic shock after COVID-19 plunged many African economies into debt trouble. Yet, four years later, the current system for restructuring debts – the G20 Common Framework – has struggled to support African economies in making their debts sustainable. A key block in these talks has been China. Chinese development banks have largely refused to take losses on their loans, making reaching an agreement difficult. At the recent Spring Meetings, the IMF brought forward a potentially radical proposal to break the deadlock: to leave China out of debt restructuring deals. By adjusting the policy of “lending into official arrears” (LIOA), the IMF could support a partial debt restructuring agreement and freeze out China. At face value, the new policy could be a way out for African economies in debt trouble. However, in the immediate aftermath of the announcement, a few questions remain unanswered: is the IMF willing to use its new tool? Will “lending into official arrears” actually move talks along? And what are the consequences of the IMF antagonising China? ECFR.

### [A Bet by France's Biggest Company and an African Economy Hinge on China's Slowdown](#)

Hoima District, Western Uganda—Lightning forks overhead as rain from the Congo rolls in across Lake Albert. A foreman on the East African Crude Oil Pipeline, or EACOP, ushers workers under a corrugated steel roof that becomes percussion for the downpour. “Bush music,” he says. This team, working on the world’s longest heated oil pipeline, faces challenges from forest fires to deadly snakes as it clears land from the heart of Africa to the Indian Ocean. Each day of heavy rain brings four days of disruption—and in Uganda about half of the year is the rainy season. Barron’s.

### [Critical minerals, the new buzz in Africa-China relations](#)

The accelerated renewable energy transition and the rocketing demand for critical minerals have opened a booming economic avenue for Africa, throwing a major lifeline to countries often viewed to be on the margins of global economic and political activity. But will the continent effectively take advantage of the critical minerals buzz, and maximise their production for local benefits, particularly within the context of Africa-China relations. Africa possesses significant reserves of the minerals, such as cobalt, graphite, lithium, nickel and a wide range of rare earth metals, essential for batteries, solar panels and other green technologies that underpin the energy transition from fossil fuels to renewables. Africa’s critical mineral production is poised for rapid growth, as the continent, which has historically dominated the supply of cobalt is set to diversify into other minerals and rare earth metals. Global green transition is re-energising China’s investments in Africa as demand for critical minerals used in electric vehicles, batteries and renewable energy industries rocket. IOL.

### [China urged to make Uganda source of its raw materials](#)

Mr Odrek Rwabwogo, the chairperson of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Exports and Industrial Development (PACEID), said the government of Uganda is building the capacity to export quality products

consistently. Chinese agro industrial companies have been urged to make Uganda a source of their materials. “We are improving the phytosanitary standards for our food products, modernizing our laws and regulations and their enforcement and also establishing trade representation in key markets. These are some of the new measures president Museveni is applying to remove doubts from buyers of our food.” he said. Daily Monitor.

### [China donates 425 sewing machines, 250 hatching machines to Tanzanian women entrepreneurs](#)

The All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) on Monday donated 425 sewing machines and 250 hatching machines to Tanzanian women entrepreneurs to empower them economically. The All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) on Monday donated 425 sewing machines and 250 hatching machines to Tanzanian women entrepreneurs to empower them economically. Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Chen Mingjian handed over the donation on behalf of the ACWF to Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups Dorothy Gwajima at the Institute of Social Work in the port city of Dar es Salaam. Xinhua.

### [China's investment in Africa's lithium mines begins to pay off with new mineral supply chains created](#)

China's investment in Zimbabwe's Kamativi lithium mine has seen production of the essential mineral increase exponentially. It is part of Beijing's plan to open up lithium supply, with the development of African processing plants helping secure the 'white gold'. In northwest Zimbabwe, a mining site abandoned three decades ago is roaring back to life after a Chinese company pumped millions of dollars into a new lithium processing plant, amid the latest global rush for the “white gold”. Development of the Kamativi lithium mine, located about 90km (56 miles) southeast of Hwange in Matabeleland North Province, is being done in two phases. The first phase is now up and running, with the mine producing an annual total of 300,000 tonnes of raw spodumene ore and 50,000 tonnes of spodumene concentrate. SCMP.

### [African team joins China's Village Super League as cultural exchanges](#)

A friendly match between the Liberia Community Football Team from Africa and the Liaoning Donggang Football Team from China drew attention at the football field of Village Super League in Rongjiang County, southwest China's Guizhou Province on Wednesday night. It's the first time an African team has played in the Village Super League, dubbed "Cun Chao" in China. The Village Super League has started to gain popularity in African countries, including Benin and South Africa. The connection between Cun Chao and African countries led to the beginning of the friendship between the small Chinese village and the African teams. Xinhua.

### [Insights From Hannah Ryder on What to Expect at This Year's China-Africa Summit](#)

Chinese and African governments are beginning to negotiate the agenda for the upcoming Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit that will take place in Beijing later this fall. Development finance, infrastructure, and green technology are all expected to be prominent themes, but this year's event will be considerably different than previous summits, given that it comes at a time of considerable economic uncertainty for both China and African countries. Hannah Ryder, CEO of the international development consultancy Development Reimagined, recently co-hosted an African ambassadors retreat in China that brought together senior officials from both sides. Hannah joins Eric, Cobus, and Géraud to share a few insights from that retreat and what to expect in the run-up to the FOCAC summit. CGSP.

### [China's home appliance giant Haier inaugurates industrial park in Egypt](#)

China's home appliance giant Haier inaugurated Thursday its first industrial park in Egypt in 10th of Ramadan, a city northeast of Cairo. Haier Smart Home Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of the Haier Group, invests 135 million U.S. dollars to build the Haier Egypt Ecological Park. Once fully built, it will cover an area of 200,000 square meters with an annual planned production capacity of more than 1.5 million units of home appliances. Song Yujun, a vice president at Haier Smart Home overseeing its ecosystem platform, said at the opening ceremony that the park, at its planned capacity, will not only meet Egypt's market demands but can be export-ready to neighboring markets. Trial production is in the swing in the first phase of the industrial park with air-conditioners, televisions and washing machines rolling off the line, Haier Egypt General Manager Ahmed Mossad El Gendi told Xinhua during a media tour at the plant. The Standard.

### [Chinese company provides essential aid to flood victims in Kenya](#)

"They have been a tall brother, a shoulder to lean on." Flood victims in one of the largest informal settlements in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi on Tuesday received vital donations from a Chinese company. Xinhua.

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