



[China-Africa Rhapsody: ‘Access to Satellite TV for 10,000 African Villages’ project promotes native languages, local dialects in remote rural Africa](#)

‘Access to Satellite TV for 10,000 African Villages’ project promotes native languages, local dialects in remote rural Africa. How are Chinese TV programs dubbed in local African languages and dialects further popularized among rural African families? A Chinese digital TV operator may have the answer. In the village of Bunono near Entebbe, Uganda, villagers excitedly discussed the Africa Cup of Nations 2024 and reminisced on how, in the past, they could only watch games with English commentary, but now they can enjoy commentary in their native Luganda. StarTimes, a Beijing-based media company, has made this possible through the China-initiated "Access to Satellite TV for 10,000 African Villages" project that aims to connect 10,000 African villages to satellite television programs. By December 2023, this project had witnessed the successful completion of construction work in 20 African countries, encompassing 9,512 villages and directly benefiting over 190,000 households. Global Times.

[The Future of Chinese Development Finance in Africa](#)

Chinese development finance in Africa today is a small fraction of what it was a decade ago when Beijing’s policy banks provided billions of dollars in loans to countries across the continent. But while those heady days of easily accessible finance will likely never return, there are indications major Chinese lenders are once again gearing up to extend new financing for badly needed infrastructure projects in Africa. Tarela Moses and Tim Hirschel-Burns from Boston University’s Global Development Center closely follow the latest Chinese financing trends and join Eric & Cobus to discuss why there’s reason for modest optimism. China Global South Project.

[Chinese navy participates in multilateral joint drill in Nigeria](#)

The guided-missile frigate Xuchang (Hull 536) attached to the 46th Chinese naval escort taskforce completed a multilateral joint exercise in Nigeria on June 1. The six-day exercise, which was held from May 27 to June 1 by the Nigerian side to celebrate the 68th anniversary of the establishment of its navy, involved a total of 10 naval ships from four countries, including Brazil and Cameroon. Frigate Xuchang participated in the opening ceremony of the exercise, an international maritime conference and regional maritime joint exercise on invitation. During the regional maritime joint exercise, frigate Xuchang coordinated with the navies of other countries to carry out such subjects as joint search and rescue, communications, formation maneuver and counter-piracy. While in port, frigate Xuchang held a number of cultural exchanges including open day activities, deck reception and friendly sports matches. It also invited children of overseas Chinese and Nigerian service members for a visit on the eve of June 1, International Children's Day. China Military Online.

[Worldwide Wednesday International Roundup: China, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and Zimbabwe](#)

On May 7, 2024, Harm Reduction International (HRI) released a special global overview report on the use of the death penalty for drug offenses, which is a violation of international law because drug offenses do not meet the “most serious” crimes threshold. HRI found that by the end of 2023, there were 34 countries which still retained the death penalty for drug-related offenses; Pakistan was the only country to recently eliminate the death penalty for such offenses – the first country in more than a decade to do so. At least 467 executions for drug offenses were confirmed in five countries (China, Kuwait, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore), marking a 44% worldwide increase from 2022 and comprising 42% of the worldwide execution total. At least 375 death sentences were confirmed to have been imposed in 16 countries, marking a 20% increase from the year prior. There are at least 3000 people under sentence of death for drug-related offenses in 19 countries. A lack of transparency in several retentionist countries means that the numbers of executions, death sentences, and death row prisoners are likely an undercount. Death Penalty Information Center.

[Chinese language competition held in Ethiopia to celebrate cultural exchanges](#)

The "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition for Ethiopian college students was held in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, on Wednesday. The competition was jointly hosted by the Chinese Embassy in Ethiopia, the Confucius Institute at Addis Ababa University (AAU) and the Confucius Institute at the FDRE Technical and Vocational Training Institute (TVTI). At the 2024 edition of the final Chinese proficiency competition in Ethiopia, contestants were challenged to deliver a speech, answer two questions related to Chinese culture, and present a talent show, in the presence of senior Ethiopian government officials, the Chinese diplomatic community in the East African country as well as academia and fellow Chinese language students drawn from across Confucius Institutes in the country. A total of 11 Ethiopian students from across the country participated in the annual worldwide Chinese-speaking and performance event at TVTI. Alemu Seyoum, a third-year Chinese language student from the Confucius Institute at the AAU, secured the first prize as he received rounds of applause from the audience for his energetic speech and vibrant traditional Chinese music performance. Xinhua.

[China-Egypt relationship remains strong, enduring: Chinese ambassador](#)

Chinese Ambassador to Cairo, Liao Liqiang, recently commented on the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum, which President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi attended. Liqiang emphasized that President Al-Sisi's visit to China coincided with the 10th anniversary of comprehensive strategic relations between the two countries. This milestone underscores the importance of advancing bilateral and Arab relations while enhancing cooperation for future peace and stability in the region. During the forum, the Egyptian and Chinese presidents discussed various aspects of bilateral relations and cooperation. They also exchanged views on regional and international matters, setting the stage for a prosperous new chapter in their ties. President Al-Sisi's visit holds significance in promoting cooperation and maintaining regional stability. Notably, many Chinese citizens express a strong desire to visit Egypt. Daily News Egypt.

[Pope Tawadros II receives China's head of National Religious Affairs](#)

The Head of Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Church Pope Tawadros II received the Head of the National Religious Affairs in China Chen Ruifeng, where they discussed ways to boost ties between the Coptic Orthodox Church and

China. According to the Coptic Orthodox Church, Pope Tawadros II met with Ruifeng and his delegation and representatives from the Bible Society in Egypt at the papal headquarters in Cairo on Wednesday. During the meeting, Pope Tawadros II spoke about the Coptic Orthodox Church, providing a brief history of the Church's ties with other Christian denominations and how its influence has spread to countries as far away as the Philippines and Indonesia. He also noted the presence of several Coptic families in China. The Pope of the Coptic Orthodox Church explained that Egyptians have lived together in harmony along the Nile River since ancient times, highlighting the good relations with President El-Sisi, the Egyptian government, parliament, and Al-Azhar. Ahram Online.

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