

### Stimulus for development

The 13th meeting of the China-Africa Think Tanks Forum, held last March in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, adopted the Consensus Among African and Chinese Think Tanks on Deepening Global Development Cooperation — a document which identified key and priority areas of cooperation between China and Africa. The consensus, also known as the Africa-China Dar es Salaam Consensus, embraced the founding principles of China-Africa relations, which include respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual benefit, openness and common prosperity, among others. China Daily.

### China won't 'replace' USAID in Africa

The Trump administration's decision to freeze billions of dollars in foreign assistance creates an opportunity for China to strengthen its presence in Africa, but Beijing will not step in to replace the decades-old aid programs now coming to an end, say China-Africa analysts. Semafor spoke to nearly a dozen China-Africa analysts in recent days who said that China was set to position itself as a reliable partner in the face of the uncertainty unleashed by the US shuttering programs such as those run by the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Semafor Inc.

#### How the West Lost Its Mojo to China in Africa

The return of Donald Trump to the White House has further eroded America's global standing, while Beijing's influence in Africa continues to rise. The shift is not just about politics; it reflects the contrasting approaches the two powers have taken toward Africa's development. Trump's decision to shut down the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)—the world's largest aid donor—along with his reliance on tariffs as a negotiation tool, has only deepened skepticism among African nations about U.S. intentions. Capital News.

#### African political parties urged to explore CPC's inclusive approach to progress

In their quest to improve governance in Africa, political parties on the continent have been urged to explore the inclusive approach of the Communist Party of China in order to attain progress. Mwaivu Kaluka, the National Chairman of the Communist Party Marxists – Kenya said that over the past decade, African countries have achieved a lot through economic partnership with China and it is time they sought exchanges on governance. China Daily.

### Mozi Workshop project to boost optometry education in Cameroon

The China-Cameroon optometry Mozi Workshop project was recently launched at an applied science institute in Cameroon. It is considered a significant achievement of Liaoning's strategy to promote vocational education globally. According to the project plan, standardized optometry training laboratories will be established locally, filling the gap in higher education for related majors in Cameroon. It's expected to train 20-30 undergraduate students and 30-50 vocational technicians annually, addressing the recruitment challenges faced by Chinese enterprises in the optometry field in Cameroon. China Daily.

## Zimbabwe Fights a Losing Battle Against Illegal Chinese Plastics

At Mbare marketplace, a major trading hub in Zimbabwe, plastic bags are everywhere. Vendors stack them at the ready for customers, who tote their purchases home and often discard the bags after a single use. Many of these plastic bags are either imported from China or sold by local Chinese companies, and fail to meet Zimbabwe's standards for plastic packaging. "We know this type of plastic isn't allowed, but we sell it anyway. It's cheaper, and there is a huge demand for it in the market," says Tichaona, a local plastic bag vendor who sources his bags from a Chinese company in Harare. He provided only his first name for fear of arrest. Global Press.

# Egypt and China Collaborate on Local Reforestation Projects

Egypt's Minister of Environment, Yasmin Fouad, met with representatives from China's Sinoway Forest Technology Co., Ltd., a company known for tree planting and forest restoration, on 2 March in Egypt to discuss collaborations on large-scale reforestation projects in Egypt. The meeting was attended by several key figures, including Ali Abou Sinha, Head of the Environmental Affairs Agency; Mohamed Salem, a consultant for nature conservation; Suha Taher, who leads international cooperation and climate change efforts; Tian Chi Qiang, General Manager of Sinoway; Bang, the Project Manager; and Walid Abou Riya, manager of Sinoway's operations in Egypt. Egyptian Streets.

## Return of the red dragon: Kenya forced to face East amid looming Western aid cuts

As the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe signal a pullback in foreign aid, Kenya is increasingly looking to China for support. This shift suggests a potential realignment in Kenya's diplomatic and economic strategies, experts say. Kenya has been a strong ally of the US as well as China under successive administrations, although President William Ruto is seen as leaning more to the West, having entered into several bilateral agreements with the previous Joe Biden administration, which are now at risk following the return of Donald Trump to the White House last year. Standard Media.

### Kenya receives Sh 360M rice donation from China

The Government has received rice donations worth Sh360 Million from the People's Republic of China to be distributed to over 2.8 million people in 23 Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) Counties. The donation aims at boosting food security in the ASAL counties facing increased vulnerability of ecosystems and livelihoods due to the below normal March-May and April to June expected rainfall. The deteriorating outlook is also linked to the fragile recovery from the 2021–2023 drought, following five consecutive failed rain seasons. Kenya News Agency.

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