**Potential Resources – African Development and the New Silk Road**

**Newest Articles on China-Africa and/or Belt and Road**

“The African Continental Free Trade Agreement And Its Impact On China”, Silk Road Briefing, Nov 2020, <https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2019/05/28/chinas-african-moves-belt-road-double-tax-treaties-afcfta/>

“Africa Unconstrained – Country Debt Guide”, Development Reimagined, Jan 2021, <https://www.africaunconstrained.com/the-african-debt-guide/>

“China Belt And Road Projects Value Now Exceeds US$4 Trillion”, Silk Road Briefing, Nov 2020, <https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2020/11/25/china-belt-and-road-projects-value-now-exceeds-us4-trillion/>

“COVID 19: Debt Service Suspension Initiative”, World Bank, Feb 2021 (continually updated), <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/debt/brief/covid-19-debt-service-suspension-initiative>

“Did Africa turn a corner in 2020 or did it just dodge a bullet?”, Brookings Institute, Feb 2021, <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2021/02/05/did-africa-turn-a-corner-in-2020-or-did-it-just-dodge-a-bullet/>

“Foresight Africa 2021”, Brookings Institute, Feb 2021, <https://www.brookings.edu/research/foresight-africa-2021/>

“Opportunities, Risks & Potential Within the Belt & Road Initiative 2021”, Silk Road Briefing, Feb 2021, <https://www.silkroadbriefing.com/news/2021/02/16/opportunities-risks-potential-within-the-belt-road-initiative-2021/>

“Powering the Belt and Road”, MERICS (Mercator Institute for China Studies), Jun 2019, <https://merics.org/en/analysis/powering-belt-and-road>

“Regional Economic Outlook – SubSaharan Africa: A Difficult Road to Recovery”, Oct 2020, <https://www.tralac.org/documents/news/4176-regional-economic-outlook-sub-saharan-africa-imf-october-2020/file.html>

“Understanding China's Belt And Road Infrastructure Projects In Africa”, Brookings Institute, Sep 2019, <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FP_20190930_china_bri_dollar.pdf>

**Older Articles on China-Africa and/or Belt and Road (1st five positive, 2nd five skeptical)**

1) “Inside China’s growing presence in Africa”, Quartz Africa, 8/26/19

***Main Idea – Detailed look at a variety of aspects of China’s involvement in Africa over past 20 years***

* Focuses on development project both before and during the Belt and Road period
* Good details about Africa support for Chinese initiatives at UN and other world bodies

2) “Africa is changing China as much as China is changing Africa”, Quartz Africa, 1/7/18

***Main Idea – Examples from Chinese culture and current events of how Africa is changing stereotypes***

* Mostly economic impacts from China to Africa; mostly cultural impacts from Africa to China
* Interesting examples of exchanges, particularly of people moving one direction or the other

3) “China Has a vastly ambitious plan to connect the world”, The Economist, 7/26/18

***Main Idea – General overview article on the entire Belt and Road Initiative, with maps and charts***

* Nice segment on China’s ability/willingness to befriend those countries in need of other options
* Doubts on how many foreign businesses will be willing to use it (unless they have no choice)

4) “How can the African private sector woo China?”, World Economic Forum, 9/1/19

***Main Idea – By understanding China’s strategy, African private industry can better leverage Chinese finance***

* Good examples (and graphs) of Chinese investment by economic sector as well as country
* Debt levels of African governments could offer opportunities for private sector development instead

5) “3 Myths about China’s investment in Africa and why they need to be dispelled”, World Economic Forum and the Atlantic Council, 9/4/18

***Main Idea – Misconceptions interfere with US policymakers’ ability to implement an effective Africa strategy***

* Focused on government-controlled infrastructure deals while ignoring private investment in other area
* Nice graphs showing how China’s involvement in Africa has skyrocketed in last 2 decades

6) “Assessing the Risks of Chinese Investments in Sub-Saharan African Ports”, Center for Strategic and International Studies, June 2019

***Main Idea – Chinese investment in African ports is a potential threat to US influence and African sovereignty***

* Extensive chart details 46 Sub-Saharan African projects with Chinese funding and/or construction
* 90% of all African exports depend on ports, so port expansion projects further African development

7) “There’s one major pitfall for African countries along China’s new Silk Road”, Quartz Africa, 5/15/17

***Main Idea – Lots of access for Chinese goods in Africa, but limited access for African goods in China***

* Good 2017 map of Silk Road projects
* 10 out of 53 Sub-Saharan African countries had a trade surplus w/China in 2015

8) “Belt and Road Economics - Opportunities and risks of Belt and Road transport corridors”, World Bank, 6/18/19

***Main Idea – Overview of the economics behind the Belt and Road Initiative (Executive Summaries only)***

* Transport corridors could substantially improve trade IF China and corridor economies adopt reform
* Good details on estimated costs and potential benefits of the Initiative based on released plans

9) “Beijing curbs its enthusiasm”, The Economist, 6/29/19, pages 39-40

***Main Idea – China’s lending to Africa is starting to mirror the West’s lending standards***

* Primarily focuses on the example of Kenya and their $10B project to complete a railway
* Lists several examples where either Africans have pushed back against China or been denied loans
* NOTE – connection to avocado article in last section

10) “Is China putting Africa on the “debt-trap” express?”, Inkstone/South China MP, 7/31/19

***Main Idea – African countries struggling to service their Chinese loans are pursuing concessions***

* Demands for greater transparency from China ignore the fact that they are a Communist govt
* Inability of African countries to design projects that are actually needed in local economies

**Older Articles on Africa Itself**

1) “Africa wants to Sell More to China. Enter avocados.”, Inkstone, Jevans Nyabiage, 8/1/19

***Main Idea – Efforts of African countries to move up the export value chain***

* Notes several examples of African countries winning specific export agreements with China recently
* Trade exports from Africa continue to be dominated by natural resources

2) “A Tale of Two Continents – Fighting Inequality in Africa”, Oxfam, September 2019

***Main Idea – Focuses on inequality in a variety of forms (gender, income, land ownership, etc..)***

* Good details on the finances behind inequality – social spending, taxation, work and wages
* Arguing for wealth redistribution and debt restructuring throughout Africa

3) “Democracy in Africa – success stories that have defied the odds”, The Conversation.com, Nic Cheeseman, 7/23/19

***Main Idea – Uses Africa’s few examples of successful long-term democracy to show how/when it works***

* Perhaps useful in demonstrating the challenges of transition from colonialism to independence
* Talks about factors beyond conventional building blocks or outside influences that grew democracy

4) “Who are the winners and losers in Africa’s Continental Free Trade area?”, World Economic Forum, Rilwan Akeyewale, 10/17/18

***Main Idea – The agreement is expected to favor small and medium-sized businesses (80% of employment)***

* Lifts restrictions on foreign investments and allows multinationals to partner with local firms
* Concerns include wide variation in development levels and increased competitive pressure

5) “U.S. Overseas Loans and Grants – Obligations and Loan Authorizations, 1945-2017”, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), as of 9/30/17

***Main Idea – Complete summary (by African country) of all US government military and economic aid***

* Data on every country and the types of aid provided (agricultural, humanitarian, military, etc..)
* No narratives or analysis, just numbers

**Recent Books on China’s Engagement in Africa**

The Dragon’s Gift: The Real Story of China in Africa by Deborah Brautigam, 2009

China and Africa: A Century of Engagement by Ambassador David H. Shinn and Joshua Eisenman, 2012

China in Africa: Articulating China’s Africa Policy by Jean Kachiga, 2013

China’s Second Continent: How a Million Migrants Are Building a New Empire in Africa by Howard W. French, 2015

The Next Factory of the World: How Chinese Investment Is Reshaping Africa by Irene Yuan Sun, 2017

Belt and Road: A Chinese World Order by Bruno Maçães, 2019

The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World by Peter Frankopan, 2019

The Silk Roads: A New History of the World by Peter Frankopan, 2015

Mapping China’s “One Belt One Road” Initiative, edited by Li Xing, 2019