

CHINA RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

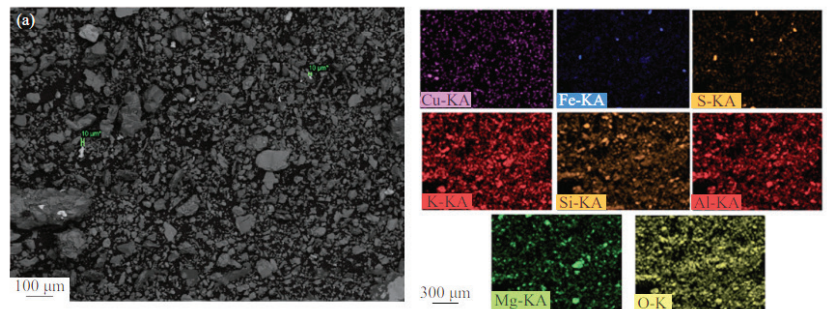
A new series from East View that highlights Chinese research and resources on key topics.

Chinese Investment in Africa

In 2009 China surpassed the US to become Africa's largest trading partner. In 2014 China exceeded US foreign direct investment (FDI) in Africa. According to a 2021 report by the China-Africa Business Council, while around 25 percent of China's investments in Africa go toward mining and extractive industries, Chinese investors are also heavily involved in digital technologies in Africa, including smartphones. Numerous research areas, from supply chain management to African media trends, are shaped by China's investment in Africa. Scholars across disciplines will find information on Chinese investment fundamental to their work.

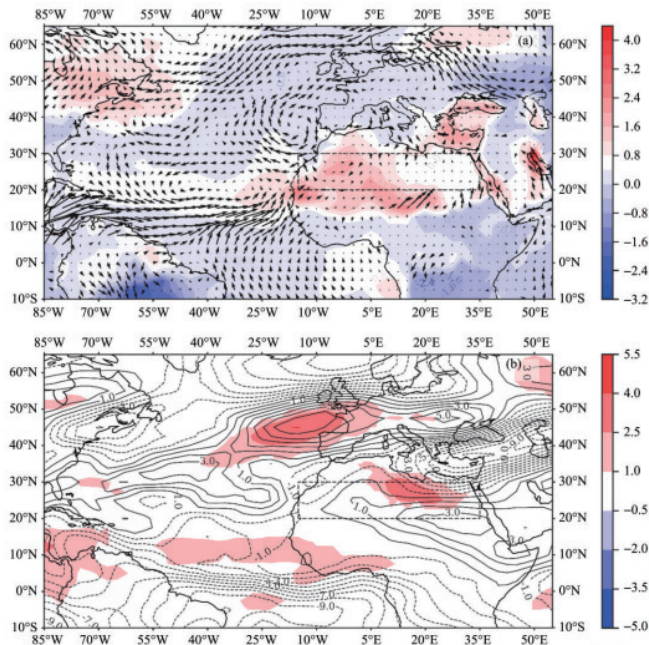
Analyzing Chinese Investment in Africa through CNKI

The China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) is the leading aggregator of publications in China. CNKI represents a vast network of resources, including compelling interconnected metadata as well as quality full text articles. **CNKI offers resources for scholars who read Chinese, as well as those who do not.** For researchers who do not read Chinese, CNKI's Academic Reference (AR) database is an all-English environment with English full-text articles directly from China. AR includes academic publications relevant to Chinese investment in Africa, including numerous publications about geosciences and raw materials, as well as English-language news produced in China, like monthly news magazine ChinAfrica, which focuses on Chinese-African relations.



From Academic Reference: SEM images and elemental mapping of copper flotation tailings from Chambishi Copper Mine in Zambia. Xiao-liang Zhang et al. "Mineralogical characterization of copper sulfide tailings using automated mineral liberation analysis: A case study of the Chambishi Copper Mine tailings." *International Journal of Minerals, Metallurgy and Materials*. June 2021.

Both China Conference Proceedings (CPCD) and China Monographic Serials (CMSD) contain publications on specialized themes. CPCD contains numerous focused conferences relevant to Chinese investment in Africa, from African Studies, an annual conference, to the Report on Development of Overseas Chinese Entrepreneurs, which took place in 2016 and 2019. **Conference proceedings contribute to a complete picture of a topic by capturing research that has not yet made it to publication.** For example, in 2019 Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University published an English-language conference proceeding outlining challenges to Chinese FDI in Africa.

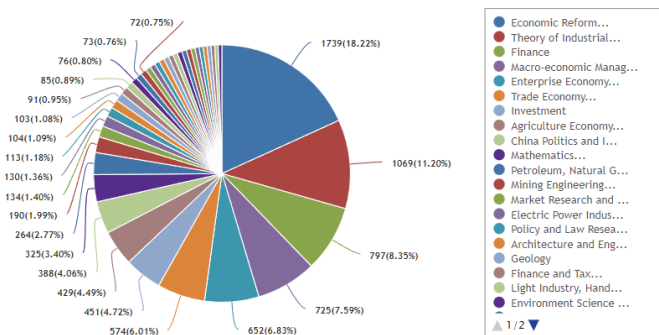


From Academic Reference: Analysis of moisture and wet and dry periods influencing precipitation in the Sahara. Sindikubwabo Celestin et al. "Temporal changes in seasonal precipitation over the Sahara Desert from 1979 to 2016." *Sciences in Cold and Arid Regions*. June 2021.

Meanwhile, in CMSD, the analysis of a researcher from Zhejiang Normal University's Institute of African Studies showed that Chinese FDI in Africa would be most impactful in the sectors of natural resources, agricultural, manufacturing, and telecommunications. Both publications emphasized that Chinese investors seek good governance, clear regulations, and lowered trade barriers in African investment targets.

CNKI is awash in resources for researchers of Chinese-African relations. In addition to those outlined above, China Government Gazettes (CGGD) contains government announcements relevant to united efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and African swine fever, China Academic Journals (CAJ) provides the most comprehensive academic journal coverage available from China, including analysis of infrastructure investments, China Core Newspapers (CCND) highlights Chinese media coverage of cooperation initiatives in Africa, and Theses and Dissertations (CDMD) capture emerging academic literature from recent graduates.

As China's investment around the world balloons, it is vital to understand the continent contending most seriously with the opportunities and challenges those investments pose. Researchers interested in finance, development, Africa's future, soft and hard power, globalization, and more, will find tremendous value in CNKI's databases.



From China Academic Journals (CAJ): Discipline distribution for a subject search for African investment.

See the below links for further reading on China's investment in Africa.

- **What do we know about Chinese lending in Africa? - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace** <https://carnegieendowment.org/2021/06/02/what-do-we-know-about-chinese-lending-in-africa-pub-84648>
- **Gauging the Future of Chinese Investment in Africa - The Diplomat** <https://thediplomat.com/2021/09/gauging-the-future-of-chinese-investment-in-africa/>
- **Chinese firms' direct investment in Africa rises despite Covid-19 - South China Morning Post** <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3146924/chinese-firms-direct-investment-africa-rises-despite-covid-19>
- **Data: Chinese Investment in Africa - China Africa Research Initiative, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies** <http://www.sais-cari.org/chinese-investment-in-africa>
- **Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Wu Peng Attends the Online Launching Ceremony of the Report on Chinese Investment in Africa - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PRC** <https://www.mfa.gov.cn/ce/cebaw/eng/zfgx/t1902476.htm>
- **China in the heart of Africa - Africa Renewal, United Nations** <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/january-2013/china-heart-africa>