

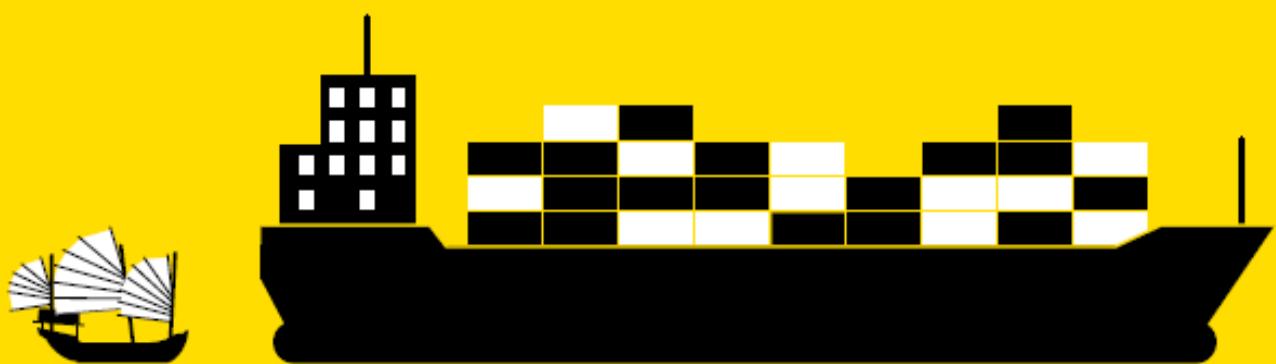
# AFRICAN –



# ASIAN

International  
Conference  
on the Past,  
Present and  
Future of  
African–Asian  
Relations

25.4 – 27.4 2019  
University of Neuchâtel  
Switzerland  
[www.worldsociety.ch](http://www.worldsociety.ch)



# RELATIONS

# **International Conference on The Past, Present and Future of African- Asian Relations**

**April 25–27, 2019  
University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland**

## **PROGRAM BOOKLET**

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<https://www.unine.ch/socio/home/conferences/international-conference-on-the.html>  
World Society Foundation:  
<https://www.worldsociety.ch/doku.php?id=start>

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION .....	3
WELCOME NOTE FROM THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS.....	4
THEME AND AIM OF THE CONFERENCE.....	5
CONFERENCE SPONSORS .....	6
VENUE MAPS .....	7
PROGRAM NOTES.....	9
CONFERENCE PROGRAM.....	10
CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS.....	13
CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER) .....	18

# **CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

## **Organizing scientific committee:**

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DANIEL KÜNZLER (UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG)  
CHRISTIAN SUTER (UNIVERSITY OF NEUCHÂTEL)  
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SABRINA TABARES (UNIVERSITY OF NEUCHÂTEL)

# **WELCOME NOTE FROM THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS**

Dear conference participants, colleagues and friends!

Welcome to the International Conference on the Past, Present and Future of African-Asian Relations. The conference is hosted by the Institute of Sociology of the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, and co-organized by the Swiss Society of African Studies, the Swiss Sociological Association, and the World Society Foundation.

The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers from the Global North and the Global South in order to discuss, debate and understand the past, current and future developments and changes of African-Asian relationships. The participants of the conference have been selected from about seventy abstract and paper submissions from more than twenty different countries. A special call for papers providing travel grants for researchers from the Global South, in particular from Africa and Asia, has been published. The conference organizers are, therefore, very happy that more than half of the accepted papers are from researchers from the Global South. In addition, internationally renowned keynote speakers have been invited.

The World Society Foundation has established its conference (co)organizing and sponsoring program in 2007 on the occasion of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, together with its research papers award program on global issues, worldwide systems, historical dynamics and current transformations of world society. The Foundation aims to sustain a network of excellent scholars interested in transnational and global research topics. This conference, the eleventh international conference on world society topics organized or sponsored by the World Society Foundation, for the first time addresses the topic of international South-South relationships.

The organization of an international, three-day scientific conference is always a challenge and needs support from many people and institutions. We would like to thank the hardworking staff of the local conference office at the Institute of Sociology for the organizational support, the reviewers who helped in the reviewing and selection process of abstract and paper submissions, the University of Neuchâtel for providing the conference location and the necessary infrastructure, as well as the sponsors and partners of this conference for their generous financial support (see the list of sponsors below on p. 6 of this program booklet).

We are looking very much forward to meeting you in Neuchâtel and to welcoming you to what promises to become a very inspiring conference.

Christian Suter, Daniel Künzler and Patrick Ziltener  
(on behalf of the organizing scientific committee)

# THEME AND AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in the relations between Africa and Asia. This is mainly due to what is perceived as increasing Chinese influence and presence in Africa. Initially hardly noticed in Western Europe and Northern America, a key moment in this gradual process was the “Five Points Proposal” presented by then-President Jiang Zemin during his tour of Africa in 1996. What was termed a “new relationship with Africa” included catchwords such as non-intervention, reliable friendship and mutually beneficial development. Among the earlier scholars to analyze these developments, Alden (2005, 2007) described China’s need for energy (especially oil), strategic minerals, and arguably stable sources of key foodstuffs. He pointed to China’s drive for new markets, especially for low-value consumer goods sold through a growing network of Chinese merchants. Africa is also a considerable market for Chinese construction firms using contracted Chinese labor, especially in the domains of infrastructure and housing. Finally, there is growing Chinese direct investment in land and businesses. Not only Africa’s ties with the world economy are redefined, but also its ties with the international community, as Brautigam’s (2009) widely known analysis of Chinese development aid shows.

While unrivalled in its scope, the Chinese relations with Africa is only one example of growing ties between Asian and African countries. Among the other examples are Japan and India, not least with their joint Asia-Africa Growth Corridor efforts. Maritime Southeast Asian countries such as Singapore, Malaysia or Indonesia have also intensified their relationship with Africa in trade, FDI and beyond. Additionally, various oil states in the Persian Gulf (Iran, UAE, Oman, Qatar) have turned their gaze to Africa. Both Asian and African countries frequently describe their relations as being different to relations with European or North American countries. In the rapidly growing body of scientific literature on the topic, but also in media reports, the influence of China and other Asian countries is the source of controversial debates. Particularly China is seen as a rogue donor and neocolonial exploiter causing multi-dependency of African countries or as a (potential) new hegemon in the world economy. More benevolent perspectives on Asian relations with African countries see Asian countries as healthy economic competitors, as development partners that help African countries pave a pathway out of poverty or even as liberators that help end the postcolonial dependence of African countries.

Prudent voices such as Chaponnière (2008) remind us that quite similar debates were abundant in the 1960s, when revolutionary China became increasingly active in Africa. Taking an even broader and more long-term view of the relationship between Asia and Africa, the current interaction is seen as a shift of the center of the world economy to the East or as (cyclical) re-emergence of the centers of the early world economies as described, for example, by Abu-Lughod (1991), Frank (1998), or Chaudhuri (1985). These early world economies did not originate in Europe, but in Asia, reaching, as expressed by Sheriff (1987), the Indian Ocean to the littoral southeast of Africa. In yet another perspective, not least taken by Chinese sources, the current developments are described as the advent of a multipolar world.

With this conference, the organizers encourage researchers to investigate sociological theories and conceptual tools for the analysis of the relationships between Asia and Africa. We welcome reflections on questions of methods and data for analysis of these relationships. We invite researchers to analyze the economic, political and social changes triggered by African-Asian relationships, both on the African continent but also in China and in other Asian countries, and to approach the driving forces behind these developments, again on both continents. The conference, therefore, shall contribute to improving our knowledge on the past and current dynamics in the economic, social and political structure of world society.

# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

We gratefully acknowledge sponsorship of the conference by:

Swiss Society for African Studies



Swiss Society for African Studies  
Société suisse d'études africaines  
Schweizerische Gesellschaft  
für Afrikastudien

Swiss Sociological Association



Swiss National Science Foundation



World Society Foundation



University of Neuchâtel



Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences

Schweizerische Akademie der Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften  
Academie suisse des sciences humaines et sociales  
Accademia svizzera di scienze umane e sociali  
Accademia svizzera di scienze umane e sociali  
Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences



Carl Schlettwein Stiftung



# VENUE MAPS

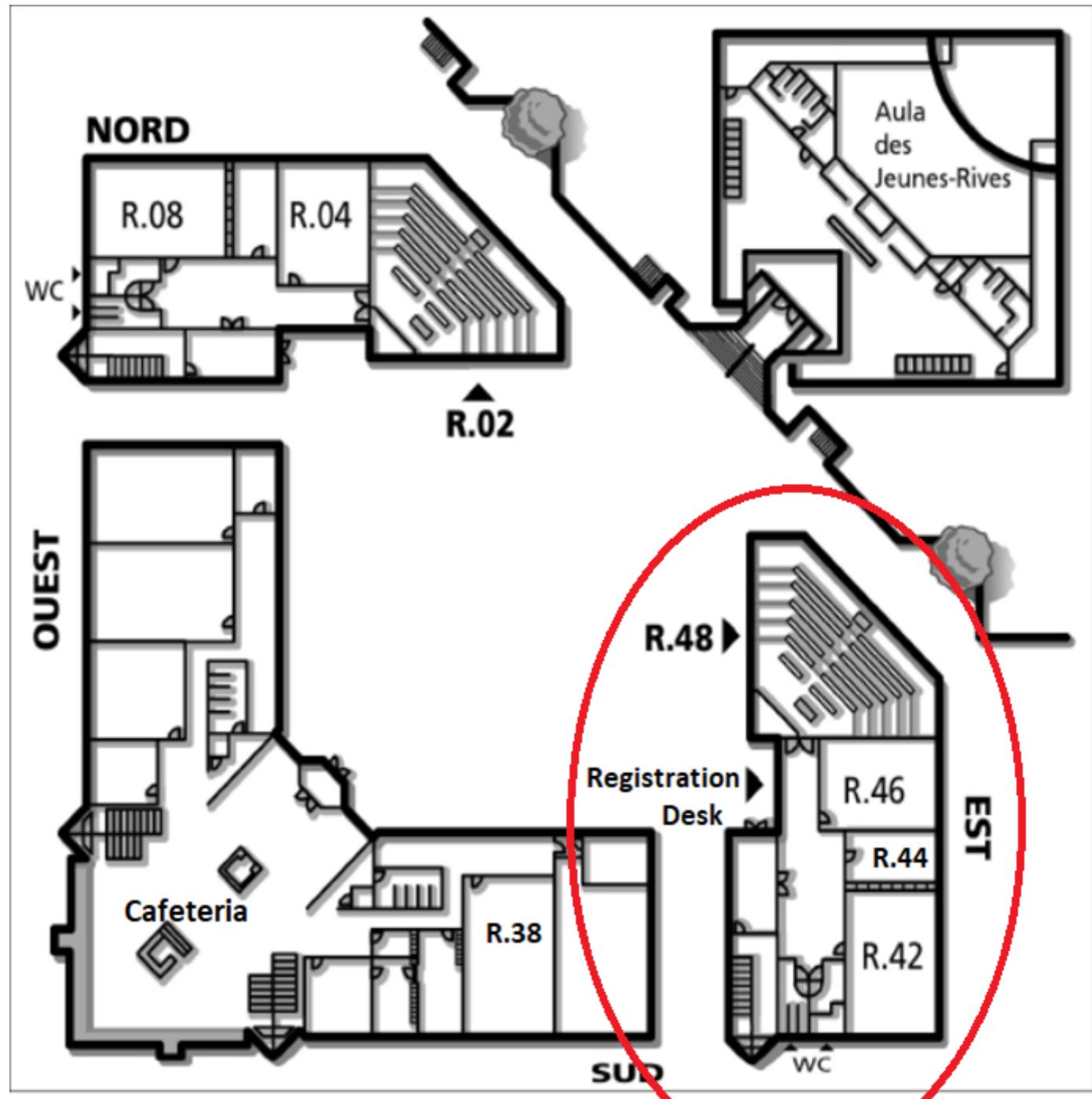
## MAP TO CONFERENCE VENUES AND HOTELS



- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>1. Gare</b><br>Place de la Gare 1   | <b>4. Hôtel des Arts</b><br>Rue Pourtafès 3           | <b>8. Cité Universitaire</b><br>Clos-Brochet 10 |
| <b>2. Faculté des lettres<br/>et sciences humaines</b><br>Espace Louis-Agassiz 1 | <b>5. Hôtel Alpes et Lac</b><br>Place de la Gare 2    | <b>9. Palais DuPeyrou</b>                       |
| <b>3. Institut de sociologie</b><br>Faubourg de l'Hôpital 27                     | <b>6. Hôtel Touring au Lac</b><br>Place Numa-Droz 1   | <b>10. Café des Amis</b><br>Quai Comtesse 4     |
|  | <b>7. Hôtel Beaulac</b><br>Esplanade Léopold Robert 2 | <b>11. Office du tourisme</b><br>Place du Port  |

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEUCHÂTEL**

Espace Louis-Agassiz 1, 2000 Neuchâtel



# **PROGRAM NOTES**

## **WORKSHOP SESSIONS**

Five Keynotes presentation and seven Workshop Sessions are investigating the conference theme. Please refer to the detailed program (cf. page 10) for information on the sessions.

## **CONFERENCE LOCATION**

The conference takes place at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel, Espace Louis-Agassiz 1, 2000 Neuchâtel (cf. number 2 on the Venue Map), directly located at the shore of Lake Neuchâtel and within walking distance from all hotels.

## **CONFERENCE ROOMS**

Conference room is in the auditorium R48 for the plenaries. Parallel workshop sessions take place at the auditorium R48 and in room R42 – both at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel, Espace Louis-Agassiz 1, 2000 Neuchâtel.

## **FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

The final conference program (cf. page 10), including the last updates, is available at: <https://www.unine.ch/socio/home/conferences/international-conference-on-the/program.html>

## **REGISTRATION DESK**

Participants who have preregistered may pick up their badges and the conference kit with the printed programm and the voucher for the dinner at the registration desk (Hall Auditorium R48, Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines, Université de Neuchâtel). For on-site-registration please attend the registration desk.

The registration desk will be staffed on Thursday and Friday, April 25-26. Service hours are as follows:

- Thursday, April 25: 12:00–17:00
- Friday, April 26: 8:30–11:30

## **APÉRO-WELCOME RECEPTION**

All participants are invited to the welcome reception, in the evening on Thursday, April 25, 2019, 19:30 at the cafeteria of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel.

## **CONFERENCE BREAKS**

During coffee breaks coffee and tea will be served in the auditorium hall.

## **CONFERENCE LUNCH**

Conference lunch will be served at the cafeteria of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel (on Friday, April 26, 2019, and on Saturday, April 27, 2019).

## **CONFERENCE DINNER AND WORLD SOCIETY FOUNDATION AWARD 2019 CEREMONY**

All participants who have preregistered and have received a dinner voucher are invited to the conference dinner sponsored by the World Society Foundation (Friday, April 26, 19:00). The conference dinner takes place at the restaurant of the Hôtel Alpes et Lac, place de la Gare 2, 2000 Neuchâtel (within walking distance from the conference venue and all hotels, cf. number 5 on the Venue Map). During the dinner the World Society Foundation Awards 2019 will be announced.

# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

12:00-13:30	<i>Registration (Auditorium hall)</i>
<b>Opening and Welcome Addresses / Keynote Lecture 1</b>	
13:30-14:00 <i>Room R48</i>	<b>Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel, Swiss Sociological Association, World Society Foundation)</b> <b>Daniel Künzler (University of Fribourg, Swiss Society for African Studies)</b>
14:00-15:00 <i>Room R48</i>	<b>Ching Kwan Lee (University of California at Los Angeles)</b> The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor and Foreign Investment in Africa <b>Chair: Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel)</b>
<b>Workshop Session 1: Current Economic Relations Between Asia and Africa</b>	
15:00-16:30 <i>Room R48</i>	<b>Chair: Patrick Ziltener (University of Zurich)</b> Guive Khan-Mohammad (University of Geneva): The Arrival of "Made in China" in Burkina Faso: An African Transnational Traders' History Louiza Amziane and Souria Hammache (University Mouloud Mammeri of Tizi Ouzou): Empirical Analysis of China Investment in Africa: Case of Algeria Deepthi Shanker (XIME Bangalore): Indian Entrepreneurs in Africa: Role of Transnational Habitus in Bridging the Two Countries Through their Entrepreneurial Ventures
16:30-17:00	<i>Coffee break (Auditorium hall)</i>
<b>Workshop Session 2: Chinese Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation (1)</b>	
17:00-18:30 <i>Room R48</i>	<b>Chair: Marilyn Grell-Brisk (University of California)</b> Clayton Hazvinei Vhumbunu (University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban): Conceptualizing China's BRI Public Diplomacy Towards Africa W. Travis Selmier II (Indiana University): Africa and China: Still Geographically Distant, Yet Increasingly Linked through the Belt and Road Initiative Georg Lammich (University Duisburg-Essen): The Regional Dimension of Sino-African Development Cooperation
<b>Keynote Lecture 2</b>	
18:30-19:30 <i>Room R48</i>	<b>Philippe Beaujard (Institut des Mondes Africains-IMAF, Paris)</b> Exchanges Between East Africa and Asia Between the 1 <sup>st</sup> and the 15 <sup>th</sup> Century <b>Chair: Daniel Künzler (University of Fribourg)</b>
19:30 <i>Cafeteria</i>	<i>Reception</i> <i>(Cafeteria of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel)</i>

# FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019

Keynote Lectures 3 and 4	
09:00-11:00 Room R48	<p><b>Andreas Fuchs (Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg / Kiel Institute for the World Economy)</b> China's Development Aid to Africa and its Consequences</p> <p><b>Christopher Alden (London School of Economics and Political Science)</b> China and Africa: A World After its Own Image?</p> <p><b>Chair: Patrick Ziltener (University of Zurich)</b></p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break ( <i>Auditorium hall</i> )
Workshop Session 3: Chinese Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation (2)	
11:30-13:00 Room R48	<p><b>Chair: Marilyn Grell-Brisk (University of California)</b></p> <p>Pratyusha Basu (University of Texas-El Paso) and Milena U. Janiec (Independent Researcher): Geopolitics of Connectivity: Analyzing China's Construction of Railways in Kenya</p> <p>Erik Beuck (Leiden University): Economic Strength or Economic Weakness? The Impact of China's One Belt, One Road Initiative in Kenya</p> <p>Filomène N'godo Ebi (University Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Abidjan): The Revitalisation of China and Ivory Coast Cooperation: From 1994 to 2013</p>
13:00-14:00 Cafeteria	<p><i>Lunch break</i></p> <p>(Cafeteria of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Neuchâtel)</p>
Workshop Session 4: Chinese Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation (3)	
14:00-15:30 Room R48	<p><b>Chair: Daniel Künzler (University of Fribourg)</b></p> <p>Yorbana Seign-Goura (University of Neuchâtel): Chinese Infrastructure Projects in Central African Recipient Countries: Incentives, Local Implications and Significations.</p> <p>Eve Nyemba (University of Zimbabwe): The Implications of Zimbabwe's Re-engagement Policy on its Bilateral Relations with China</p> <p>Youcef Hamitouche (University Algiers 3): China's Relations with Algeria and Morocco: From Revolutionary Ideology to a Win-Win Relation</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break ( <i>Auditorium hall</i> )
Workshop Session 5: African-Asian Transnational Networks and Multi-Sited Research	
16:00-18:00 Room R48	<p><b>Chair: Mark Herkenrath (University of Zurich, World Society Foundation)</b></p> <p>Lesley Nicole Braun (University of Basel): Congolese Women's Chinese Cargo: Networks of Transaction between Congo and China</p> <p>Agathe Schwaar (Graduate Institute Geneva): "Having an Edge on the Others": The Importance of Social and Cultural Capital through International Education, a Case Study of China and Ghana</p> <p>Sarah Hanisch (University of Cologne): Re-thinking Social Mobility: Looking at Migration to Africa from the Perspective of Migrant Children</p> <p>Naaborle Sackeyfio (Miami University of Ohio): The Perils of China's Silk Road for a Pax Africana</p>
19:00 Restaurant	<p><i>Conference dinner</i></p> <p>(Restaurant of the Hôtel Alpes et Lac, place de la Gare 2, 2000 Neuchâtel)</p>

# SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Workshop Session 6.1: Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation from Other Asian Countries (1) (Room R48)		Workshop Session 6.2: Migrants and Minorities (1) (Room R42)	
09:00-10:30 Room R48 and Room R42	<p><b>Chair: Hans-Peter Meier (World Society Foundation)</b></p> <p>Veda Vaidyanathan (Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi): Reimagining Engagement and Realigning Priorities: How India and China are Informing the African Growth Story</p> <p>Sima Baidya (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi): India-Africa Forum Summit: Contextualizing Rising of Global South in the Prism of Critical Geography</p> <p>Manjusha Nair (George Mason University): Cautious Capital: Untangling Indian Investment in Africa</p>	<p><b>Chair: Christian Suter (Univ. of Neuchâtel)</b></p> <p>Zai Liang (State University of New York at Albany) and Bo Zhou (Sun Yat-Sen University): Africans in China: The Role of Religion in the Process of Social and Economic Integration and Implications for Immigration Policy</p> <p>Kudus Oluwatoyin Adebayo (University of Ibadan, Nigeria): "Mafan": Dynamics of Identity and Interracial interaction Among Nigerians and Chinese in Guangzhou City</p> <p>Reynaldo Gacho Segumpang (Ministry of Higher Education, Rustaq College of Education, Oman): Construction, Communication, Co-existence: A Phenomenological Study of African Minority College Students' Academic Journey in the Sultanate of Oman</p>	
10:30-11:00	Coffee break (Auditorium hall)		
<b>Keynote Lecture 5</b>			
11:00-12:00 Room R48	<p><b>Scarlett Cornelissen (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)</b></p> <p>Industrial Entanglements and their Political Outflows in the Japan-South Africa Relationship in the Mid-Twentieth Century</p> <p><b>Chair: Marilyn Grell-Brisk (University of California)</b></p>		
12:00-13:30	Lunch break (Cafeteria of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University)		
Workshop Session 7.1: Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation from Other Asian Countries (2) (Room R42)		Workshop Session 7.2: Migrants and Minorities (2) (Room R48)	
13:30-15:00 Room R48 and Room R42	<p><b>Chair: Hans-Peter Meier (World Society Found.)</b></p> <p>Sooa Lee (Georgia Institute of Technology): Symbolic Power, Habitus, and the Development of Cross-National Knowledge Sharing: A Case Study of International Collaborative Project Between South Korea and Tanzania</p> <p>Lukas Maximilian Müller (University of Freiburg): Periphery to Periphery? – Southeast Asian Developmental Foreign Policy in West Africa</p> <p>Marius Kamala, Elisabeth Hofmann and Valentin Karm (Bordeaux/LAM): Exporting Women Empowerment from India to Africa? Reflections Based on the Case Study of the Indian NGO Barefoot College</p>	<p><b>Chair: Patrick Ziltener (University of Zurich)</b></p> <p>Sukanya Sarkar Sasmal (West Bengal State University): Peeping at a Colony from a Colony: Africa in Bengali's Perception</p> <p>Ananda Rao Kuriti and K. Visweswara Rao (Andhra University, India): Indian Diaspora in Asia and Africa : An Analysis</p> <p>Kevin J.A. Thomas (Pennsylvania State University): How do Chinese and Other Asian Immigrants Fare in the South African Labor Market? An Examination of Inequalities in Employment Using Data from South Africa</p>	
15:00-15:30	Coffee break (Auditorium hall)		
<b>Concluding Panel Discussion</b>			
15:30-17:00 Room R48	<p><b>Chair: Daniel Künzler (University of Fribourg)</b></p> <p>Philippe Beaujard (Institut des Mondes Africains-IMAF, Paris)</p> <p>Scarlett Cornelissen (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)</p> <p>Andreas Fuchs (Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg / Kiel Institute for the World Economy)</p> <p>Ching Kwan Lee (University of California at Los Angeles)</p>		

# CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## CHRIS ALDEN

London School of Economics and Political Science

Title of keynote:

### **China and Africa: A World After its Own Image?**

#### **Biography**

Professor Chris Alden teaches International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and is a Research Associate with the Global Powers and Africa Programme, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). He is author or editor of numerous books, including *New Directions in Africa-China Studies* (Routledge 2018), *China and Africa – Building Peace and Security Cooperation on the Continent* (Palgrave 2017), *Foreign Policy Analysis – new approaches* (Routledge 2017, 2nd edition), *China and Mozambique: From Comrades to Capitalist* (Johannesburg: Jacana 2014), *China Returns to Africa* (Hurst 2008), *China in Africa* (Zed 2007), *Land, Liberation and Compromise in Southern Africa* (Palgrave/Macmillan 2009), *The South and World Politics* (Palgrave 2010), *Mozambique and the Construction of the New African State* (Palgrave 2003), *South Africa's Post-Apartheid Foreign Policy* (Adelphi Paper IISS 2003) as well as having written numerous articles in internationally recognised journals. Professor Alden has held fellowships at Cambridge University, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo; Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto; Ecole Normale Supérieure (Cachan), Paris; and University of Pretoria. He has taught courses at Sciences Po, University of Cape Town and Peking University and was a Senior Lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand from 1990-2000. He received his doctorate from the Fletcher School, Tufts University.

#### **Abstract**

Nowhere in the world is China's rapid rise to power more evident than in Africa. From multi-billion dollar investments in oil and minerals to the influx of tens of thousands of merchants, labours and a raft of consumer goods, China's economic influence is redefining Africa's traditional ties with the international community. This growing exposure of Chinese firms and citizens to localised risks – seen in cases as diverse as Libya, South Sudan, Kenya and Zimbabwe – has over time compelled Beijing to adopt a more pro-active role in continental peacekeeping as well as establish a permanent military base in Djibouti. And, as its debt-driven infrastructure projects and investment-led special economic zones proliferate across Africa, the depth and growing complexity of China's presence in Africa is all the more evident.

What is the direction and shape of this relationship between, to quote Julius Nyerere, these 'most unequal equals'? What does a reading of the past reveal about China-Africa ties? What are the implications of this changing relationship for African development and governance aspirations? How should we understand China-Africa within the broader context of China's assertive role in fomenting global transformation? This presentation will examine these concerns and accompanying efforts to recast the mould of the continent's traditional position within the global economy and international community at large.



## PHILIPPE BEAUJARD

Institut des Mondes Africains-IMAF, Paris

Title of keynote:

### **Exchanges Between East Africa and Asia Between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> Century**

#### **Biography**

Philippe Beaujard is an agricultural engineer, an Anthropologist and a Historian. He has made fieldwork in Madagascar for 25 years and has published five books on this island. He also published a large book in Global History, entitled *Les mondes de l'océan Indien* (2 volumes, Paris Armand Colin, 2012). An updated version of this book will be published in English in 2019 by Cambridge University Press.

#### **Abstract**

At the beginning of the Christian Era, expanding exchange networks led to the formation of what can be viewed as a world-system in which the Indian Ocean held a central position. As early as the first cycle of this system (1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> centuries), East Africa built itself as an interface linking dominant cores and peripheries. During the second cycle of the system (7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries), the arrival of Arabo-Persian Muslims on the African coast contributed to the elaboration of an incipient Swahili culture. This culture extended to the Comoros and Madagascar between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, and met the Austronesian migrants who settled on these islands. During the third systemic cycle (10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries), the Swahili coast was fully transformed into an active semi-periphery, especially from the thirteenth century onward. During these early period, Indians probably played a role that remains underevaluated.



## SCARLETT CORNELISSEN

Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Title of keynote:

### Industrial Entanglements and their Political Outflows in the Japan-South Africa Relationship in the Mid-Twentieth Century

#### Biography

Scarlett Cornelissen is Professor in the Department of Political Science at Stellenbosch University. She holds a PhD from the University of Glasgow and postgraduate and Bachelor's degrees from Stellenbosch University and the University of Cape Town. She has been Katherine Hampson Bessell Fellow with the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University and Leibniz Professor at Leipzig University. Other research fellowships have been held with the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies at Kyoto University and the Institute of Developing Economies in Chiba, Japan.

Scarlett conducts research on Africa's international political economy with a specialist focus on Japanese diplomacy, aid and industry in Africa. Recent books include *Migration and Agency in a Globalizing World: Afro-Asian Encounters* (Palgrave, 2018), *Handbook on Africa-Asia Relations* (Routledge, 2018), and *Africa and International Relations in the Twenty-First Century* (Palgrave, paperback edition published 2015). She is co-editor of the *Review of International Studies and Geopolitics* and serves on the editorial boards of *European Journal of International Relations*, *Journal of Modern African Studies* and *Chatham House's International Affairs*.

#### Abstract

For much of the twentieth Century “the South Africa question” stood central in Japan’s relationship with the African continent. This refers in essence to how Japanese authorities’ and firms’ dealings with the apartheid regime from roughly the late 1950s to the late 1980s framed Japan’s relations with the larger continent in complex ways. This talk engages this period and focuses on an aspect of the Japan-South Africa relationship that has not received that much attention in scholarship – that is, the industrial links forged alongside trade ties and how these reflected industrialisation processes in both Japan and South Africa at the time. I look at direct and indirect Japanese involvement in industrialisation processes in South Africa in the 1960s and 1970s through the lens of South Africa’s manufacturing sector and attempts towards import-substitution industrialisation. Through the tracing of the rise of Toyota South Africa, I illustrate how political-economic processes in apartheid South Africa – in which Japanese capital and industrial links played an indirect role – were intertwined with the bolstering of an Afrikaner industrialist class. The talk aims to unpack the broad dimensions of Japan-Africa relations over the decades. I discuss the geo-institutional conditions under which economic and industrial ties came to be fashioned and the material and political outflows they brought for South Africa and the wider African continent.



## ANDREAS FUCHS

Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg & Kiel  
Institute for the World Economy

Title of keynote:

### **China's Development Aid to Africa and its Consequences**

#### **Biography**

Andreas Fuchs holds a joint Professorship of Environmental, Climate and Development Economics at the Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg (HSU/UniBwH) and the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW). His research analyzes the political economy of aid, trade, and investment using quantitative methods with a special focus on China and other emerging economies. Andreas Fuchs is one of the developers of AidData's Global Chinese Official Finance Dataset. His research papers have been published in the *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of International Economics*, *International Studies Quarterly*, and the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

Before joining HSU Hamburg and IfW Kiel, Prof. Fuchs was a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (2012-2013) as well as at Heidelberg University's Alfred-Weber-Institute for Economics (2013-2018). He defended his Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Goettingen in August 2012 under the supervision of Axel Dreher, Stephan Klasen, and Stefanie Walter. He is a(n) (associate) member of various programs and committees, including the AidData program at the College of William and Mary, the Research Committee on Development Economics of the German Economic Association, and the European Development Network (EUDN).

To learn more, see [www.andreas-fuchs.net](http://www.andreas-fuchs.net).

#### **Abstract**

China's development cooperation is growing rapidly in Africa and beyond. Many observers see this development as a threat to the international aid architecture dominated by the United States, Europe, and Japan. Others praise Beijing for the great development opportunities that have arisen. This keynote presentation provides an overview of recent research on China's development cooperation based on a new global database detailing China's development projects. We will explore the following questions: How can we measure China's development footprint in Africa? What determines the amount of Chinese aid? In which countries, provinces, and sectors is China active and why? What are the implications of Beijing's development activities on growth, spatial inequality, good governance, conflict, and other development indicators in African recipient countries? Does China's development aid change the way the "West" operates its development cooperation?



## CHING KWAN LEE

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Title of keynote:

### The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor and Foreign Investment in Africa

#### Biography

Ching Kwan Lee is a professor of sociology at UCLA. Her research interests include labor, political sociology, globalization, development, China, Hong Kong, global south and comparative ethnography. She is the author of three multiple award-winning monographs, forming a trilogy of Chinese capitalism through the lens of labor: *Gender and the South China Miracle: Two Worlds of Factory Women* (1998), *Against the Law: Labor Protests in China's Rustbelt and Sunbelt* (2007), and *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor and Foreign Investment in Africa* (2017). Her articles have appeared in the *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Sociological Review*, *Theory and Society*, *New Left Review*, the *China Quarterly*, and *Journal of Asian Studies*. Her forthcoming co-edited volumes include *Take Back Our Future: an Eventful Political Sociology of Hong Kong's Umbrella Movement* (Cornell University Press) and *The Social Question in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: a Global View* (University of California Press).

#### Abstract

China has recently emerged as one of Africa's top business partners, aggressively pursuing its raw materials and establishing a mighty presence in the continent's booming construction market. Among major foreign investors in Africa, China has stirred the most fear, hope, and controversy about labor rights and national development. This book talk analyzes the peculiarity of outbound Chinese state capital by comparing it with global private capital in copper and construction in Zambia. Refuting the rhetorical narratives of "Chinese colonialism" and "south-south cooperation", I draw on ethnographic data collected over a six-year period to chronicle the multi-faceted struggles that confront and differentiate these two varieties of capital, and discuss their uneven potentials for post-colonial African development.

# CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

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## **'Mafan': Dynamics of Identity and Interracial Interaction Among Nigerians and Chinese in Guangzhou City**

Several studies exist on the broader economic and legal manifestations and implications of African presence in China. However, the mechanisms with which African identities are constructed as a result of their growing presence in large cities like Guangzhou remain chronically underexplored. In this article, I document the socio-historical factors informing the construction of Nigerians as mafan migrants within the broader African group in Guangzhou, China. I adopted an ethnographic qualitative design and conducted fieldwork over the course of two visits to Guangzhou. A mixture of interview approaches was combined with participant and non-participant observations to obtain data from sixty-nine (69) participants: Nigerians (52) and Chinese (17). Thematic and narrative analyses were conducted while data presentation was done using summaries and direct quotations. Trade dominates the interaction of Nigerians and Chinese, and ongoing exchange between both groups is essentially motivated by the dictates of business exchanges. The waves of migration of Nigerians to China facilitated massive flows that led to transformations which contributed to the construction of this group as mafan population. As a mis-characterisation with important social relations consequences, mafan animates a perceptual undercurrent that project Nigerian migrants as untrustworthy (and even criminals) to be suspected, feared and managed. Nigerian community leaders believe that in the past, local Chinese people were open and receptive, but that later wave of arrival of young, energetic, ambitious and 'make-it-at-all-cost' Nigerian men and subsequent increased association of Nigerians with public disturbance strained visitor-host social relations and order, while also prompting other Africans to emphasise national identity over and above an African identity that is burdened by 'Nigeria-ness.' Mafan, therefore, prevents qualitative cross-cultural engagement between the visitors and their Chinese host. There is a need for more productive cross-cultural engagement as a way of addressing the negative perception and stigmatisation of Nigerians in China.

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## **Chinese Economic Engagement in Africa: A closer Looking in Private Cooperation in Mining**

To what extent is the power dynamic between Africa/China relations shaping the so-called "Win – Win" strategy? China does not only have the world's largest current account balance, but its surpluses facilitated an exponential rate of growth in foreign direct investment (FDI). With the rapid growth and expansion of the middle class, China's thirst for resources and market for its growing economy and mass consumption has increased its global economic activities. Regionally, Chinese economic partners are mostly with Asian countries, the USA and the EU countries. African countries account for only a fraction of China's global economic activities. Notwithstanding, Beijing engagement with African countries has attracted unprecedented attention, especially from the West. In reality, Africa share of Chinese global economic engagement is very minimal compared to other regions. To put it in perspective, in terms of trade volumes, the continent only accounts for about 140 billion USD trade volume, while the US trade amount to about 250 billion US\$ (Global Edge, 2016). Chinese economic activities in Africa stand at 5 percent in trade and 3 percent in Foreign Investment. This partly explains why African-Chinese economic relations are mostly discussed as a homogenous region rather than country-by-country analysis. Having noted this, since 2010 China has become the biggest economic partner with Africa on average. According to McKinsey 2017 Report, Chinese engagement in Africa is deep and encompassing. In their study of Africa's global economic engagement using five dimensions of trade, investment stock,

investment growth, infrastructure financing, and aid, China is among the top four partners. The evidence shows that no single country matches Chinese economic engagement with Africa and it will continue to grow. Capital inflows from China also increased remarkably especially after the 2008 world financial crisis when the Western countries were reluctant to increase FDI. Chinese state-backed economic engagement in Africa is dominated by, large-scale infrastructural investments, especially in transport, power, and mining in countries such as Angola, Zambia, Nigeria and (South) Sudan. Exports have also come from non-natural resources countries like Algeria, Gabon, Kenya and Ethiopia (Brautham, 2017). This paper contributes to the growing literature that explores the heterogeneity in China's engagement and treats countries as active actors in the relations by focusing on African agency. With a focus on three countries – South Africa, Nigeria, and Ethiopia, I critically examine the power dynamics between African countries and China, the African countries negotiation strategies and economic policies implications to its relationship with China. This is from the assumptions that, a) in any international political economy relationship, each state is in it for its self-interest, b) the negotiation strategy and economic policies of each country would determine the extent a country would benefit. Hence, I argue that African countries could benefit from the Chinese economic engagement and accentuate the so-called 'win-win' relationship by fine-tuning its economic policies and negotiation strategy. This paper will triangulate data from various sources including the *China Commerce Yearbook* (various years) published by the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM). The data are the same as date from the *China Statistical Yearbook: "Oversea Direct Investment by Countries or Regions"*; and UNCTAD Bilateral FDI Statistics.

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**Empirical Analysis of China Investment in Africa: Case of Algeria**

China's presence in North African economies (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia) is expanding rapidly as both an important trading partner and increasingly as an investor into the region. Chinese involvement can be readily seen in sectors like energy, infrastructure development and retail trade across the region. China presence in Algeria combines many features. The Chinese strategy in Algeria, as in the Maghreb, could be to invest in countries or sectors purportedly shunned by Western firms because of low profitability, insecurity, poor business climate and geopolitical conflicts.

Over the past decade, the bilateral trade between Algeria and China has increased significantly. It has doubled almost 15-fold, jumping from only \$608 million in 2003 to over \$9 billion at the end of 2013, according to latest data from the United Nations. Today, Algeria is China's top trade partner and the largest export market in Maghreb region (Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Tunisia and Mauritania). Beijing's trade with Algeria represents over 40 percent of China's total trade with Maghreb (nearly \$21 billion) in 2013.

This article aims firstly to improve our understanding of the nature of the cooperation between the two nations, and their strategic partnership. The second objectif of the paper is to analyse the repercussions of Chinese investments on the Algerian economy. In order to have a comprehensive picture, we will set on an empirical analysis that will link the evolution of Chinese FDI in Algeria, and which will highlight the characteristics of china presence in Algeria.

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The paper contextualizes India-Africa relations along with its deep sense of historicity. The paper argues that India-Africa Forum Summit is an attempt to register (non)growth and (non)resilience of India and African continent. With a very successful participation of African heads in 2015 New Delhi Summit, Africa has occupied pivotal position in India's foreign policy framework. Institutionalization is one

## **India-Africa Forum Summit: Contextualizing Rising of Global South in the Prism of Critical Geography**

step forward towards this direction. The paper looks into the deep engagement of India in Africa's socio-economic sphere. In 2015 India-Africa Forum Summit, India committed US \$10 billion line of credit to Africa. Even if days of post colonial struggle are over, Africa is still under many ills of the society---poverty is rising and its population is under the attack of many diseases. Through India-Africa Forum Summit, India is a partner of Africa to make it a part of world society. The paper makes an attempt to capture the contradictions within India-Africa relations, sensing it of a marginal importance. The paper would use conceptual frameworks of Andre Gunder Frank's Underdevelopment of Development and Immanuel Wallerstein's World System theory employing its analysis of centre-periphery. As Wallerstein emphasized upon the less possibilities of transformations of capitalist world; thus it maintains the underdevelopment in African continent.

Therefore, the paper would also focus on the differences between India and African continent. Nonetheless, at present India has 10 point agenda to outline its relations with Africa. The paper would touch upon main components of their relations in the interdependent era of globalization. Indian Ocean security complex, maritime security, blue economy and overwhelmingly China factors are the main drivers of India's new partnership with Africa. India imports 15% of its oil from Africa [2017-18]. The paper hypothesizes that it is multi-directional commonality between India and Africa to sustain their common approach in the security architecture of Global South. Nonetheless, uneven development, asymmetrical relations, uncommon socio-political ethos cannot stand as the roadblocks between India and Africa to stop the process of co-operations. The paper highlights that India-Africa Forum is not just another bi-lateral organization, rather beyond bi-lateralism. Furthermore, it reflects India's global ambition and its connection with Africa. India aims for a more inclusive global order with its own footprint as well as rights for Africa. The paper aims to transcend the traditional concept of space and territoriality and how it reflects upon international organizations, e. g, India-Africa Forum Summit. The paper adopts Critical Geography as a methodological tool to understand the present focus of the study, i.e. India-Africa Forum Summit.

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## **Geopolitics of Connectivity: Analyzing China's Construction of Railways in Kenya**

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has become an important component of the political economy of Asia-Africa relations. While roads and ports have usually drawn more attention, railways are also an integral aspect of the BRI, and China has a long history of railway construction in Africa. The current round of railway development is focused on high-speed lines between capital cities, inland regions, and ports, and usually represented as part of the turn towards globalization. In the process, the geopolitical aspects of connectivity often escape scrutiny. How do the modes and routes through which African countries are being connected reflect a new round of regionalization of Africa? Does this new regionalization produce a geography of globalization as envisaged by China, or also fit into the geopolitical ambitions of various African countries themselves?

The aim of this paper is to consider the geopolitical imperatives that underlie the discourses and materialities of connectivity through railways. The availability of a reliable, affordable transportation network is crucial to people across geographic contexts. However, critics have pointed out that this connectivity will merely serve to connect resources from Africa to China (Jedwab et al. 2014). This criticism verges on underplaying the role of African countries, since specific African political and economic entities may be invested in neoliberal globalization, seeking to counteract dependency on the West, and vying to take advantage of coastal locations or discard landlocked identity. Therefore, there is a need to approach railways as both sought after by African countries themselves and manifestations of imperialist interests.

This paper will focus on China's railway construction in Kenya, as a case study for understanding how contemporary geopolitical imperatives are reflected in railway construction. To build its arguments, it will undertake a discursive analysis (Paterson and Nothias 2016) of prominent newspapers in China and Kenya, drawing out convergent and divergent representations of high-tech railways, and linking these to regional and global imperatives in the colonial past and neoliberal future. Specifically, this study will consider how railway projects are framed by the *Daily Nation*, a major newspaper in Kenya, and *China Daily*, the main international source of news about China, between 2011, when the Kenya Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project commenced, and 2017, when the first part of the project was inaugurated. These newspaper accounts will be supplemented with policy pronouncements from international entities (Broadman 2007), including the African Union, World Bank, and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation.

Overall, this study argues that railway projects reveal the global, neoliberal aspirations of Kenya as much as of China, so that railways are about the wider context of connectivity in a neoliberal world which is as likely to escape the grasp of China's BRI as become enmeshed within it.

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**Economic Strength or Economic Weakness? The Impact of China's One Belt, One Road Initiative in Kenya**

Since it began in 2013, the "One Belt, One Road" Initiative has been a core component of China's foreign policy. The aim of this massive project has been to create a series of connections to create new shared trade in countries across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. For Kenya, this has meant a surge in investment, particularly the sectors of its economy dealing with infrastructure, energy, and transportation. The biggest project, valued in the area of \$3.8 billion, is the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway. Yet this surge in development has also seen a commensurate rise in debt. China itself now holds 70% of its bilateral debt (Dahir 2018), a tenfold increase in debt owed from six years ago according to the Kenya Bureau of Statistics. With this in mind, this article seeks to assess the impact of the "One Belt, One Road" Initiative on the Kenyan economy in terms of economic sector growth and levels of corruption. Using a mixed methods approach, I examine anecdotal evidence and quantitative markers from publicly available data on the sectors of Kenya's economy and levels of corruption to assess the impact of Chinese investments from the years of 2014 to 2018. Data on economic sectors, FDI and corruption levels is sourced from the UN, the World Bank, the Trading Economics website data, and archived news sources. Findings indicate a mixed impact on the Kenyan economy and levels of corruption.

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**Congolese Women's Chinese Cargo: Networks of Transaction between Congo and China**

Unlike other West African countries, women in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have only recently embedded themselves in international trading circuits. Currently, China is the most common destination for both small and large scale trade. This is largely attributed to a strengthening of governmental relations between Congo and China, which has facilitated accessible visas, and new direct flights with generous baggage allowances.

Chinese presence in the DRC has invited an onslaught of speculation and rumor about Chinese involvement and intentions within the country, as well as about their "otherness" more generally. What are the implications for Congolese who are now closely associated with Chinese business? What position do women traders have within new trading configurations, and what role do Chinese manufactured products play in their reputations?

Globalization from below, or what Matthews and Yang call "low-end globalization" (2011), consists of circuits of trade independent from, or indirectly linked to large multinational corporations. Transnational women traders are actors within this schema, and reveal the

gendered dimensions of South-South business arrangements. Congolese traders are not exceptional cases in discussions about the gendering of global trade. This paper examines the gendered geographies of mobility, taking up Carla Freeman's departure point of bringing into relief "several powerful dichotomies in need of dialectical engagement: global/local; masculine/feminine; production/consumption; and formal/informal sectors of the economy" (Freeman 2001: 1009). It contributes to these discussions by offering new insights into how social networks, vital for women in Kinshasa, invite moral suspicion and impacts their ability to attain professional respectability.

This paper is grounded by an anthropological approach, guided by four months of multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork in the DRC and China. In Kinshasa, over 40 trader women were interviewed, and in 2016, I accompanied one woman to Guangzhou from Kinshasa and back. In China we shared a room in the Hotel Nairobi for 3-weeks. During this time, I followed her on her daily errands to the city's profuse warehouses, and observed how she selects her merchandise, and manages her customer base in Congo. I was interested in how women traders navigate the DRC's complex bureaucratic structures that sometimes obstruct their trading activities. Further, I sought to explore local understandings of female virtue, and what it means to be "virtuous" and "non-virtuous" and the significance of these concepts not only in Kinshasan community life, but also in terms of trading.

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**The Revitalisation of China and Ivory Coast Cooperation: From 1994 to 2013**

The revitalization of cooperation between People's Republic of China and the Cote d'Ivoire in 1994, and the strengthening of relations between these two states since 2002, are the product of a process involving various factors. In the context of economic recession, political disorder and social upheavals, the Republic of the Cote d'Ivoire, under the leadership of president Felix Houphouet Boigny, on March 2, 1983, officially recognized the People's Republic of China as a partner. Barely one year, between 1984 and 1986, agreements were signed in the agricultural sector. However, 10 years later, no project was completed. From 1994 to 1999, the cooperation was extended to other areas including economic, cultural, and military. Since then, China is increasing its presence in Cote d'Ivoire, through actions in the different areas of work such as infrastructure development (roads, building).

So the point we must explain is how the Chinese and Ivorian authorities manage their relations to evolve from latent to a booming cooperation since 1994. The answer to this question brings us to the analysis of the strategies that are put in place by the two states, leading to the ongoing strengthening of the cooperation.

To do this, we examine the strategies adopted by the authorities of both states, and the emphasis on pragmatism and the availability of financial resources; and the strengthening of local Chinese relations on the other. This analysis is carried out from documents sourced from local institutions and oral survey.

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**China's Relations with Algeria and Morocco: From Revolutionary Ideology to a Win-Win Relation**

In the last two decades, China's relations with Algeria and Morocco have grown considerably, especially in the economic sphere which resulted in China becoming a principal partner, especially with Algeria since 2013, in this highly strategic region which was perceived mostly as a sphere of influence of France since the colonial era, though this influence became more and more challenged by US involvement.

The People's Republic of China has traditionally had strong relations with North African countries (Egypt, Algeria then with Morocco); those close relations began with Algeria in 1958, and in 1959 with Morocco. The ties have witnessed sustained cooperation and partnership in recent years, at different levels, economic, military,

political and cultural. From Algeria's and Morocco perspectives, a strategic partnership with China serves to counterbalance France's traditional interests in North Africa (Algeria and Morocco).

Algeria and Morocco, which boast important natural resources (petrol and phosphates), are considered a pivotal states in the Greater Maghreb, due to their important geographic location and geopolitical assets. In view of China's maritime silk road initiative, Algeria's and Morocco's Mediterranean situation serves China's designs.

Algeria's and Morocco's assets and potential has incited and increased China's interest in these countries; Algeria's and Morocco's potentials as an energy and raw materials supplier to China, as well as a markets for China's exports has not escaped China's interest, which is important to sustain its economic growth, meet the ever-growing needs of its booming population and compete with other foreign powers for the control of energy supplies. These incentives were behind China's desire to be present in the supposedly oil-rich Sub-Saharan Africa, and to reach and infiltrate in African continent (due to Algeria and Morocco presence in Africa continent) through her economic involvement in Algeria and Morocco.

Therefore, it remains to review what policy this country has conducted to reinforce its presence in this North Africa and what kind of relationship it has incepted with Algeria and Morocco, mainly. It remains also to reveal what are the concealed goals China expects to achieve trough her partnership with Algeria and Morocco.

This contribution will examine China's presence in Algeria and Morocco at the various political, energy, mines, military, economic and commercial levels and how these countries view the interests that bind them? The contribution will rely on relevant data and statistics drawn from official institutions in Algeria, Morocco and China.

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**Re-thinking Social Mobility:  
Looking at Migration to Africa from  
the Perspective of Migrant  
Children**

Migration from China to Africa is an intergenerational and transnational project, and key to Chinese migrants' aspiration for social upward mobility. To cast off their "peasant" class status, Chinese migrants from rural areas with low-educational attainments accumulate economic capital in Africa, while their children accumulate educational and social capital in China. While this is a common argument, few studies have traced the twists and turns of this intergenerational project or analyzed this project from the perspective of migrant children. In this context, a group of Chinese migrants in Lesotho, a country in Southern Africa, provides new insights. While migrant parents came to Lesotho in the late 1990s, their children attended school in China. However, different from what previous studies suggested and despite substantial efforts by both the migrant parents and children, migrant children neither succeed in school nor become 'cosmopolitan' migrants, but remain in the same social class as their parents. Paradoxically, this reproduction of social class is related to migration itself, as well as to a perceived "lack" of care for migrant children. To explain this paradox, the paper analyzes ethnographic material collected during nine months of field research in China (Fuqing) and Lesotho. The author used participant observation, informal chats, life story interviews as well as archival research. The paper shows that exposure to different caretakers in China and parents' long-distance care efforts negatively influence migrant children's social upward mobility. Especially, girls often give up education in China and sojourn in Africa, only to return to China to get married. Therefore, in this particular case of Chinese migration to Lesotho, parental migration to Africa does not provide a springboard into a better future for their children.

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### **Exporting Women Empowerment from India to Africa? Reflections Based on the Case Study of the Indian NGO Barefoot College**

The Barefoot College is an Indian NGO that has its origins more than 40 years back in Rajasthan, inspired by the precepts of Mahatma Ghandi. Since 1997, the Barefoot College trains poor rural women to become « Solar Engineers » capable of electrifying their villages with the knowledge acquired and the solar material provided to them. Since 2006, a « grand experiment of expansion » started in Niger, followed by invitations of rural African women to come to India for the 6 months Solar Engineer Training. In 2013, after the Founder receives the Clinton Global Initiative Honor, the Indian government started to fund the Barefoot College to build 5 regional training centres in Sub-Saharan Africa (one of them, in Zanzibar, is completed since 2014). The Barefoot College strategy is based on the conviction that women empowerment is the key to poverty reduction in a climate friendly way. Its expansion to Africa is seen as a typical example for civil society South-South cooperation.

The case of the African expansion of the Barefoot College will be analysed in the larger frame of Indian-African relations. This research also questions the driving forces and interests for the different stakeholders - amongst them, the Indian government - in the larger context of Asian-African relations. We will also have a close look at the nature of the exchange: is it one-directional or is there any input from Africa useful to the Indian partners?

Particular attention will be paid to the way the gender strategy - developed through decades of experiences in rural India (in general and by the Barefoot College in particular) - is applied and received in rural African contexts. The type of reluctance or resistance encountered by the Barefoot College in the different African countries will be analysed, also in the light of the common cultural and religious arguments that are put forward to question gender equality objectives in the context of North-South cooperation.

Particular attention will be paid to the African countries where the Barefoot College Training centres are already open (Zanzibar) or currently under construction (Madagascar, Burkina Faso). The networking of these centres with local, national and regional women organisation will also be looked into. Last but not least, this case study will allow us to question the role of « Northern » actors play in this African-Asian exchange and how this African engagement relates to India's positioning towards China (where Barefoot College has never worked...).

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### **Prospects for Economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Post-Colonial Nations: Lessons for Sub Saharan Africa from Southeast Asia**

Opinions about economic development and poverty reduction in Sub Saharan Africa are more polarized than perhaps any other issue in the social sciences. Recent book titles range from "The Next Africa: An Emerging Continent Becomes a Global Powerhouse," "Success In Africa: CEO Insights from a Continent on the Rise," "The Lion Awakes: Adventures in Africa's Economic Miracle" to "The Looting Machine...The Theft of Africa's Wealth," "The Dragon's Gift," and "China's Second Continent." Serious research on the issues are badly needed if we are to understand what is happening currently and in the future. Another problem that one sees in the current literature on these questions about economic development and poverty reduction is that a majority of the published works seem to assume that Sub Saharan Africa is made up of countries which are mostly similar with respect to such things as colonial experiences, political systems and ethnic make up. Thus, there are broad generalizations about poverty reduction and economic development in AFRICA, as if their conclusions apply to all Sub Saharan African countries. A simple look at various indicators published by organizations such as the World Bank and United Nations are clear; these countries are far from all alike.

Recent research suggests that post-colonial nations with less ethnic diversity, some government complexity and nation building before colonialism are more likely to have successful economic

development and poverty reduction after colonialism. My research and fieldwork shows these factors generally explain why Thailand, Malaysia, and now Vietnam have more successful economic development and poverty reduction in contrast to Burma, Laos, The Philippines, and Cambodia.

This paper compares contrasting conditions in Southeast Asian nations with Sub Saharan African nations to suggest why most Sub Saharan African nations' have lower levels of economic development and high rates of poverty decades after colonialism using insights from a comparative analysis from Southeast Asia. This comparison as well as current rankings from the World Bank and United Nation data can also suggest which African nations are more likely to benefit from FDI coming from China, richer Western nations, and Japan.

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**The Arrival of “Made in China” in Burkina Faso: An African Transnational Traders’ History**

Using an historical approach, this paper aims to offer a new perspective on the arrival of the “made in China” goods in West Africa. In my opinion, the recent increase of African-Chinese diplomatic relations and the related scientific interest for the so-called “Chinafrica” phenomenon has led to an overstatement of the link between the deepening of interstate cooperation and the increase of trade exchanges. In this regard, given its atypical diplomatic situation, the case of Burkina Faso provide innovative insights to rethink this link and, so on, to explore new avenues to explain the massive arrival of Chinese goods in Africa. Because, if these goods first appeared in the country in the 1980s – within the framework of the Burkinabe-Chinese cooperation –, their proliferation has only started during the second half of the 1990s – when Burkina Faso did not have diplomatic relationship with China anymore. In this paper, I therefore support the idea that the massive arrival of Chinese goods in Burkina Faso is historically rooted in internal economic transformations notably resulting from the devaluation of the CFA franc and the implementation of structural adjustment programs (SAP). These internal economic transformations have then been fed by numerous global transformations, which have progressively participated to make China a closer, opener, and more profitable trading destination. All these changes have contributed to open new windows of opportunity for many Burkinabe transnational traders, which have risen taking advantage of and developing the Burkinabe-Chinese trade. As such, this paper allows mitigating the weight of diplomatic orientation and interstate relations, in favour of an inward-oriented explanation unveiling the historicity of African economies as well as the crucial role played by African agency in the building process of the continent’s contemporary economic ties with China. In the end, the history of Chinese goods proliferation in Burkina Faso is inseparable from the rise of African transnational traders’ history. To support this idea, this paper relies on data collected during several fieldworks conducted in Burkina Faso and neighbouring countries between 2010 and 2013.

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**Indian Diaspora in Asia and Africa: An Analysis**

Indian Diaspora currently constitutes an important, and in some respects unique, force in world culture. The origins of the modern Indian Diaspora lie mainly in the subjugation of India by the British and its incorporation into the British Empire. Indians were taken over as indentured labor to far-flung parts of the empire in the nineteenth-century, a circumstance to which the modern Indian populations of Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad, Surinam, Malaysia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and other places attest in their own peculiar ways. Over two million Indian men fought on behalf of the empire in numerous wars, including the Boer War and the two World Wars, and some remained behind to claim the land on which they had fought as their own. As if in emulation of their ancestors, many Gujarati traders once again left for East Africa in large numbers in the early part of the twentieth century. In the post-World War II period, the dispersal of Indian labor

and professionals has been a nearly world-wide phenomenon. Indians, and other South Asians, provided the labor that helped in the reconstruction of war-torn Europe, particularly the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, and in recent years unskilled labor from South Asia has been the main force in transformation of the physical landscape of much of the Middle East. Meanwhile, in countries such as the United States, Canada, and Australia, Indians have made their presence visibly felt in the professions.

India's relations with Asia and other regions of the World have been not only the oldest but also the most impressive and deep. India is the top source of International migrants, with one-intwenty migrants worldwide born in India. As of 2015, 15.6 million people born in India were living in other countries. Social networks and cultural phenomena have become increasingly fluid, less tangible and more interconnected in a globalizing world. Examination of the Indian Diaspora, the second largest Diaspora globally, has revealed that the historically contingent term continues to be contested and to an extent open to subjective interpretation. The Indian Diaspora was proven to be both a mental and physical state. That it has been written into the Indian government's policies, is a form of economic investment, heavily associated with the Bollywood film industry as well as being a means of social and political organization. This paper attempts to analyze how and in what ways the Indian Diaspora interacts with Globalization in Asia and African countries through their economic and social capital in generating foreign direct investment and remittances, it explores the theories of globalization and conceptualizes the economic power, geographical dispersal and the trends in social networking of Indian Diaspora from 1830s to present.

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### **The Regional Dimension of Sino-African Development Cooperation**

The relations and interactions between China and the African Union (AU) have intensified in recent years and have become, to a certain degree, institutionalized. New structures have been established, not just with the full membership of the AU in the Forum of China African Cooperation (FOCAC) but also with the implementation of the AU-China strategic dialogue mechanism and various other initiatives. These frameworks are mostly aimed at economic development and trade promotion, and have a consultative character and no or very limited decision-making power. The emergence of these new institutions within the body of the AU is not a reception of Chinese structures but a reaction to the interaction with an external partner that requires an adaptation of the internal system. In addition to these mostly open cooperative structures, which are oriented towards a regular conference schedule but otherwise have an amorphous character, China-AU cooperation is now also starting to create regional solutions for hindrances to development on the African continent. The prioritization of certain topics and the utilization of existing structures for the implementation of new institutions is often based on ad-hoc decisions that mostly follow Beijing's current agenda. In the context of regional capacity building and development, these new structures offer numerous starting points for the AU to become a focal point of the Sino-African dialogue, coordinate the various African interests and strengthen regional options. Whereas many traditional donors have long-established contacts with some states or regions without involving the AU, China is open to a more active approach towards the AU. For the African Union, the cooperation with China is not only an opportunity to finance existing development frameworks such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) but also a chance to implement new regional development schemes. In the last few years, several new development-related programs and instruments have emerged within the African Union that were initiated with a vital contribution from China. The genesis of the new African Union Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC), which was

established with substantial support from China, is paradigmatic of the characteristics and potential of China's regional development financing.

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**Symbolic Power, Habitus, and the Development of Cross-National Knowledge Sharing: A Case Study of International Collaborative Project Between South Korea and Tanzania**

Cross-national knowledge sharing is an important parameter for examining the relationship between African and Asia. According to an NSF report, countries with varying degrees of development co-publish science and engineering journal articles, and the number of science and engineering journal articles published in by developing countries increased dramatically between 2004 and 2014 (NSF 2017). However, the fair recognition of the contributions of researchers from developing countries is still an issue (Rochmyaningsih 2018). In order to understand the contributions of researchers from developing countries, the close investigation of the relationship between national and institutional structures such as political, national, historical, and economic constraints and individual agency is crucial. Situating micro-level academic research collaboration in broader social contexts such as national and institutional structures, this study examines the relationship between structure and agency with Bourdieu's concepts of symbolic power and *habitus* that suggests not only does social structure determine individual or group agency, but also agents continuously build the social structures.

Informally asking 30 Korean graduate students who I met in a Korean graduate student organization in a research-based university in the US whether there is any laboratory collaborating with developing countries, I identified one Korean research team that conducts a joint research project with a university in Tanzania on energy and sustainability. In 2017, the Korean research team launched a joint research center, which has been funded by the National Research Foundation of Korea for four years, in a Tanzanian university. The center aims at developing, educating, and commercializing innovative appropriate technologies that are suitable for Tanzanian environment. The micro-level analysis of cross national university-university collaborative projects in a Korean national university with Tanzania shows the interactions of national and institutional structures and individual agency that affect the process of cross-national knowledge production between Korea and Tanzania.

This study defines collaboration as "social processes whereby human beings pool their experience, knowledge and social skills with the objective of producing new knowledge, including knowledge as embedded in technology" (Bozeman and Boardman 2014:2). Notably, the definition prioritizes processes over results. Using the qualitative methodologies such as an ethnography of a research project, document analyses of memoranda of understandings, journal articles, reports, announcements, and newspaper articles, participant observation of formal and informal meetings, and semi-structured interviews with participants engaging in the joint projects, this study investigates an international research collaboration project between Korea and Tanzania. From January to August 2018, I conduct eight months of field work in a research team. During the fieldwork, I also visit a Tanzanian university twice, two weeks in the end of January and one month in June for investigating perspectives from Tanzania. The detailed description of the emergence and development of cross national research projects identifies the relationship between national and institutional structures and individual agency in the process of cross-national knowledge production. In particular, the close investigation of the joint research projects, interactions between research teams, and interviews with participants contributes to identifying the present relationship between Korea and Tanzania through the lens of science and technology.

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**Africans in China: The Role of Religion in the Process of Social and Economic Integration and Implications for Immigration Policy**

The growing connections between Africa and China in terms of investment, trade, and two-way international migration have drawn increasing attention from scholars and policy makers. China's One Belt and One Road Strategy since 2013 has further intensified these connections. Under this large global economic context, this paper examines international migrants from Africa to China. Our research site is the global city of Guangzhou in southern China. Specifically, we aim to examine the role of religion in the social and economic integration of Africans in China. Migration from Africa to China involves not only crossing national boundaries but also involves social, cultural, and psychological borders as well, which ultimately lead to lots of stress. Religion provides important psychological comfort to immigrants and plays an anchorage for people undergoing the process of resettlement in a new land (Menjiva, 2000). Historically, religious organizations played a very important role in welcoming the new immigrants to the United States. In other countries, immigrants can establish their own ethnic churches where pastors can speak immigrants' languages. In China, immigrants are not allowed to establish their own churches. Therefore, Africans in China often go to the churches or mosques that are recognized by the Chinese government. Most Africans are either Christians or Muslims and they attend religious service in Sacred Heart Cathedral (for Christians/Catholics) and Xianxian mosque (for Muslims). However, in reality, we argue that this is a blessing in disguise. Because African immigrants go to the same church or mosques as the local Chinese, they have more opportunities to make Chinese friends (i.e. with Chinese Muslims or Christians). We argue that this increased interactions with local Chinese lead to unintended outcomes. Shared common religious faith builds a strong trust between Africans and local Chinese, which facilitates friendship formation. Stronger friendship networks with local Chinse lead to improved understanding of Chinese society, facilitate handling of logistic difficulties of living in China, increase and diversify business activities/transactions, and improve Africans' involvement and participation in local community.

Using respondent-driven sample method, we carried out a survey of African immigrants in Guangzhou in 2018. We also conducted some in-depth interviews with Africans in Guangzhou. The top three countries of African immigrants in Guangzhou are: Nigeria, Mali, and Democratic Republic of Congo. More than 90% of Africans are religious. Data analysis shows that Africans who are religious and attend church/mosque are more likely to make Chinese friends and speak better Chinese. We also find Africans who attend religious service in officially recognized Chinese churches/mosques are more likely to identify Chinese friends when they need help in life. Moreover, Africans who go to churches/mosques often are associated with frequent participation in community activities and voluntary work. Regardless of religious service participation, Africans in China express a strong desire to have a long-term settlement in China. Finally, we argue that church/mosque can serve as an effective way to help Africans'long-term settlement in China.

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**Periphery to Periphery? – Southeast Asian Developmental Foreign Policy in West Africa**

Many recent studies have investigated the causes and impact of larger Asian states' economic and political relations across the African continent - with India, China and Japan being the most commonly analyzed actors. Meanwhile, Southeast Asia has rarely been acknowledged in both policy as well as research discourses. Little is known about the approaches taken by Southeast Asian governments, people and businesses in engaging with Africa. This study offers a comparison of the foreign policies of the ASEAN member states active in West Africa, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam. While both West Africa and Southeast Asia have posted some of the world's highest growth rates

in the last decade, only little attention has been paid to the links between the two regions. West Africa is a particularly interesting case for analysis, as the region encompasses Africa's largest economy in Nigeria as well as several economically dynamic countries such as Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire. Southeast Asia, meanwhile, is increasingly in the process of establishing itself as an Asian growth hub in its own right, with relations to various world regions deepening.

Beyond offering a typology of foreign policy strategies executed by the chosen Southeast Asian countries and their objectives, this article also theorizes the drivers behind the states' strategies, which all represent variations of *developmental foreign policy*. The four *East Asian Tigers* remain an influential model for development not just in Asia itself, but across the world. Southeast Asian states appear to have taken mainly the export-orientation of the Tiger States as a blueprint for their foreign policies in West Africa. Each Southeast Asian country, however, complements this general export orientation with features particular to its own developmental experience as well as existing comparative advantages. These differences in Southeast Asian *developmental foreign policies* are not just strategic choices but appear to be rooted in the countries' socio-economic context as well as changed global conditions. Southeast Asian states differ fundamentally not just from the Tiger States but also from each other. In addition, the global governance context has changed since the 1990s, handing Southeast Asian states a different set of challenges in engaging politically and economically with other parts of the developing world. Even though both Southeast Asia, as well as West Africa offer successful and globally recognized regional integration organizations, engagement between the two remains rather state-to-state rather than region-to-region. The variation between Southeast Asian foreign policies in West Africa appears to lead to a lack of synergy as well as, occasionally, to outright competition.

This paper is based on field research conducted in West Africa from May to September 2017 as well as in Southeast Asia from January to May 2018 and draws from interviews conducted during these time periods. The contribution is based on a qualitative analysis of interview material using MAXQDA as well as a grounded theory approach using general theories of foreign policy analysis as well as Asia-specific perspectives on economic diplomacy to develop a theoretical model suited to the Southeast Asian countries' strategies and objectives.

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**Transparent Capital: Indian Textiles, Global Standards, and the Ethiopian State**

From 2015 onward, there have been huge investments in textile and garment manufacturing in Ethiopia by Chinese, Indian and Turkish entrepreneurs. While the Ethiopian state attracted investment by providing low-cost labour, electricity, and indigenously grown cotton, it strictly controlled these investors' conduct through a series of policies and regulations. My ethnographic research in an Indian textile factory near Addis Ababa in October-November, 2018, finds the Indian management to be transparent in its factory practices; it pursued clean technology and workplace accreditation from global agencies and formulated a collective agreement with the workers' union. Transparency appeared to be necessary to do business in Ethiopia, not an option. I argue that the source of this transparency was not the Ethiopian developmental state, but the standards on textile production put in place by developmental and consumer organizations in the US and Europe. Besides, the Ethiopian state itself was heavily reliant on US developmental aid and concessions that demanded to abide by human rights standards. I suggest that understanding Asian engagements in Africa is incomplete without recognizing their embeddedness in hegemonic neoliberal world institutions.

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### **The Implications of Zimbabwe's Re-engagement Policy on its Bilateral Relations with China**

While Zimbabwe and China have been friends for centuries, little is known about the implications of Zimbabwean efforts to rebuild its former relationships with the West on its friendship with China. The study sought to investigate this through in-depth interviews with key informants and documentary search. Data were analyzed using thematic and discourse analysis. Findings pertain to that, in light of the military assisted transition in Zimbabwe, both countries at state level have shown keen interest in not only maintaining but in solidifying their ties. However, important caveats to this emanate from a public opinion that is decisively anti-Chinese, thereby placing some demands on the need to strategically transform the relationship. Zimbabwe's dual task of promoting a win-win cooperation whilst proving its readiness and capacity to do business on a changed basis are identified as the major strong points for preserving an enduring friendship. It would also appear that the pressing currency issues that have seen Zimbabwe dollarize and canvass more with the West, maybe the most important site for observing the implications of Zimbabwe's re-engagement efforts with the West on Zimbabwe-China relations.

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### **The Perils of China's Silk Road for a Pax Africana**

A Pax Africana depends on what Ali Mazrui in the 1960s termed continental jurisdiction. Africa's 'lions' or Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, and South Africa represent the fastest growing economies on the continent and potential models for development. But their trajectory is dependent on heightened foreign direct investment from the BRICs and more specifically China, the continent's largest development partner. This paper asks, what are the costs of Chinese partnerships for Africa's lions in an age of sovereignty games? It questions the feasibility of the African Common Free Trade Area's capacity to generate inter-regional trade, reverse capital flight and produce an African renaissance. Given an aid-for-resource extraction framework, substantial bargaining leverage that governs bilateral trading relationships with Africa's lions and elsewhere on the continent, this paper examines China's seeming omnipotence and the potential quandary the state poses for equitable or good governance. This paper argues that a resource-for infrastructural development strategy as aid and sovereign wealth acquisition imperil the rise and more specifically the consolidation of economic growth evident in Africa's lions. It will examine infrastructural development, trade flows, resource extraction and land acquisition efforts while drawing on governance indicators from Afrobarometer to support the contention that Chinese 'ownership' and agency over the manner of economic investment and development may well increase. I will utilize a mixed methods approach to primarily focus on Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa along with secondary sources to document outcomes associated with a decline in continental jurisdiction.

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### **Peeping at a Colony from a Colony: Africa in Bengali's Perception**

It is commonly believed that the relation between Africa and Bengal is either non-existent or remote though Elisee Reclus' book, written in 1890, on contemporary Africa shows that the British planters in Natal imported Hindu coolies from Bengal to cultivate their fields. They were preferred than "Hottentots" and other tribes for their mildness. Later Ansul Dutta's research has explored a hitherto little researched area of transoceanic slave trade between Southern Bengal and the Cape in the Republic of South Africa. Survey of Bengali literature on Africa at a glance gives the impression that the Bengalis perceived Africa in the same way as the Europeans did. Africa symbolizes a wild, savage and uncivilized continent. One Bengali writer, while describing the system of marriage prevalent among some of the African tribes, easily comments in a Bengali magazine in 1916...One can expect that in due course they will adopt

civilized methods by virtue of their contact with the Europeans. Many writings in contemporary Bengali literary journals echoed this view. Juvenile literature in Bengali has played an influential role in shaping the Bengali mind in its imagining about Africa and its people. Starting from Satyacharan Chakraborty many prominent Bengali writers including Bibhutibhusan Bandyopadhyay, Premendra Mitra and Satyajit Roy uphold a stereotype image of Africa-a dangerous land with barbaric tribes. Though Bibhutibhusan mixes up East Africa with South Africa in order to describe it before the Bengali readers, but the plot of his novel on Africa (*Chander Pahar*) has some reflection of truth in it. Shankar, a young Bengali boy, the hero of this novel goes to Africa for securing a job in Uganda Railway. One of the relatives of the writer himself Upendranath Chattopadhyay went to East Africa before the First World War and worked in the railway departments of Uganda and Abyssinia.

Some Bengali writers perceive Africa in a different way. It has been found interesting to note how being a colonised race the Bengalis express a sense of pride while writing about Indian colony in East Africa. Bengali magazines reflect the demands of Indian colony put forwarded by Aga Khan and Sarojini Naidu(nee Chattopadhyay). But there are more pragmatic views which have followed Africa's course of history and sympathised with the oppressed against imperialism and militarism. An excellent article has been published in *Bharati*, a literary journal of Tagore family which criticizes the role of the English in the Boer War. While M.K. Gandhi saw the war as an opportunity to demonstrate his loyalty to Empire, the Bengalis followed the path of Herbert Spencer in criticising the military censorship and suppression of real facts by the British imperialists. Two articles published in *Bangadarshan* written by Rabindranath Tagore contain this ardent spirit of anti imperialism. Alternative images of Africa can be found in the writings of Ramanath Biswas. He was a globe-trotter who visited South Africa and supplied firsthand account of the African reaction against exploitation by rich Indians which was usually blocked by Indian newspapers. The year after his arrival in Africa, eminent Bengali film director Hiren Basu embarked upon a nationalist project, to direct a movie in African location. It would be made to establish a historical truth, that before the white merchants came to Africa, Indian merchants from Kathiawar had already established their respective trade relations with African tribes.

The aim of my paper is to analyse the relation between colonial Bengal and colonial Africa.

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**"Having an Edge on the Others":  
The Importance of Social and  
Cultural Capital through  
International Education, a case  
study of China and Ghana**

In our knowledge-based society, pursuing the best education plays an important role in the student's journey. With 4.6 million students earning a degree abroad in 2017, the students are now looking for opportunities outside of their nation, seeking for this "edge" that would make them more valuable on the labor market than the others. At first, the majority of the students went the United States or United Kingdom, popular destination because of their world-renowned teaching and research centers (OECD, 2007). However, new countries have emerged on the international education scene, and in particular China. China has actually become an important destination for African students. In 2015, China's Ministry of Education counted 49,792 African students, with an increase of 19.47% from the previous year (2016). They are now counting as 12,5% of the student population of China (Gu, 2017). China is now ranked second as a host for African students. This new trend had created multiple questions: In comparison of developed countries such as the United States where the education is world widely recognized, how come China is now attracting so many African students? And what are the outcomes for the students returning with a higher education certificate from China?

My questions on this subject led me to five weeks of fieldwork in Ghana in January 2017, with the primary aim of interviewing

Ghanaians who had been studying in China. I wanted to learn more about their primary motivations to study in China and what the consequences were on their working opportunities. During my stay in Ghana, I found out that most of the Ghanaians students were actually not going to China because of its relation with Ghana, but because of their interest to seek for the best "Social and Cultural Capital" abroad.

This finding triggered the study of the notion of cultural and social capital within the students' mobility. The idea of cultural and social capital was first introduced by Bourdieu (1986), who believed that the capital that people were accumulating (or had at birth) was influencing their social position and mobility within their personal life. Applying those notions to higher education is not new, with past research specifically studying on how the social capital (family, personal networking) had been shaping the student's motivation to study in a specific country. However, little had been done on the mobility itself, and especially after the students' degree. This study therefore seeks to answer the following research question: *How are social and cultural capitals shaping the Ghanaian students' mobility in their studies in China?*

This paper for the *International Conference on the Past, Present and Future of African-Asian Relations* will focus mainly on the Ghanaians students who had studied in China and are now working in Ghana. Through the use of qualitative research and the use of a grounded theory, my research seeks to answer two important points: 1. How is China's policy on international education impacting Africa's development? and 2. How Ghanaians students are perceiving their studies abroad and the outcomes they had felt when they returned home.

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**Construction, Communication, Co-existence: A Phenomenological Study of African Minority College Students' Academic Journey in the Sultanate of Oman**

Over decades of mutual understanding between Oman and Africa, the extant literature on the lived experience of African college students echoes either silent or muted voices. This research aimed at understanding the academic journey of African minority students in the Sultanate of Oman. It addressed the following research questions: (1) What does it mean to be an African college student in the Sultanate of Oman?; (2) What are the epistemological meanings constructed by the African college students of their lived experience in Oman?; (3) What are the roles of intercultural communication in the lives of these African college students while studying and living in Oman?; and, (4) What are the implications of the findings to Oman-Africa relations?

Using a phenomenological research frame, the study collected and analyzed narrative data from 12 African students studying in higher education institutions in Oman. Three overarching themes emerged from the analyses: Constructions: Being an African College Student in Oman, Co-existence: African Students' Lived Experience in the Sultanate, and Communication: Intercultural Communication in African Students' Lives. The analyses also surfaced three sub-themes for each main theme.

This research has shown how African minority college students constructed their social reality as regards their academic journey in the Sultanate of Oman. Implications to political, economic, and socio-cultural relations are presented and recommendations are offered.

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Chinese financed and built infrastructures in Central African countries between State power symbols and necessity for development.

One of the most visible signs of China presence in Africa those last decades is in the infrastructure field. China back to Africa consists in financing and building infrastructures in different sectors (transportation, building, electrification, water and sanitation). Central Africans countries among Least Developed Countries need

## **Chinese Infrastructure Projects in Central African Recipient Countries: Incentives, Local Implications and Significations**

to fill this infrastructure gap in order to alleviate poverty and for sustainable development.

This paper aims to evaluate Chinese financed and built infrastructures in terms of their *raison d'être* and their significations within Central African countries of Cameroun, Tchad, Niger, Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo. Based on observations, interviews of experts and literature on Chinese infrastructures, we review purposes, qualities and significations of those infrastructures in Central African Countries. The main hypothesis of the paper is that Chinese infrastructure development in Central African Countries contributes to sustainable development and modernization of African countries.

The findings reveal that Chinese infrastructure development in Central African Countries is based on economic diplomacy in which China has more interests than African Countries. Also, Chinese built infrastructures are used as tools and symbols of State power than as real tools of development promotion. These practices resulted in poor quality and non-resilient Chinese infrastructure projects within the area. Local communities think Chinese infrastructure projects are more for political purposes than for developmental incentives.

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### **Africa and China: Still Geographically Distant, Yet Increasingly Linked through the Belt and Road Initiative**

Belt and Road Initiative [BRI] plans have grown, from a network of land and sea links between China and Europe with state-of-the-art logistic centers, to encompass a broader set of projects in Africa, Latin America, and elsewhere. BRI projects, although more fully fleshed-out and planned along land-based routes traversing Asia (Padilla; Selmier-2019), sometimes exhibit haphazard conceptualization and less planning elsewhere. Africa-based projects may suffer in this regard for five reasons:

1, China has had millennia of contact with the rest of Asia (Frank; Hansen; Liu; Wang-2012), while Sino-Sub-Saharan history is episodic and comparatively short, partly due to 2, [maritime] distance: Northeastern African and Arab maritime traders reached out to China and explored, but Zheng He's voyages are exceptional in China's history, showing maritime neglect and Chinese lack of interest (Ahmad; Kauz & Ptak; Selmier-2019; Wang-2013). 3, Chinese entrepreneurs in Asia are more inclined to support Chinese government efforts (Erdbrink) while Chinese entrepreneurs in Africa generally went to start their own businesses and to be left alone ["天高皇帝远 – The sky is high, the Emperor far away"].

4, China's government is more tightly tied into Asian land-based construction efforts (Padilla; Selmier-2019; Wang-2012). Although Chinese construction firms account for half of Sub-Saharan engineering/construction (Thomas), their efforts appear more "entrepreneurial" than planning-orientated. Where the Chinese central government is more involved in African projects the outcomes are more efficacious. 5, Asia-situated BRI corridors are purpose-built to Europe (Padilla-2017; Selmier-2019; Wang-2012); African projects are sometimes built without clear destinations in mind. Africa's breadth and complexity necessitate regional or country-level approaches, but this is only apparent in two of my four cases.

This paper integrates an historical perspective to examine Chinese mindsets around BRI, medium-N statistical analyses to frame BRI-linked issues within Sub-Saharan Africa, and four country cases from West, Southern, Eastern and Northeastern Africa (using debt analytics and development policy) to examine the efficacy of inward Chinese BRI investments into Africa (Johns-Hopkins; Kodzi. Also see Selmier-2013; Sun).

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Indian diaspora in African union constitutes more than three million who are spread across different parts of Africa. The presence of Indians in Africa dates back to colonial era where Indians were taken to Africa as slaves. Later, with passage of time, Indians migrated to

## **Indian Entrepreneurs in Africa: Role of Transnational Habitus in Bridging the Two Countries Through their Entrepreneurial Ventures**

Africa as workers, clerks, artisans, accountants, traders, small businessman etc. seeking livelihood. In the recent past, the flow of Indian migrants to Africa has increased considerably due to economic expansion and opportunities. Migrants consist of businessman, doctors, lawyers, teachers, consultants and entrepreneurs with their successful start-ups several besides billionaires. Since, past few decades, India-African trade has been growing steadily and it is estimated to be more than 100 billion.

Studies on Indo-Africa relationships is increasing due to the growing importance of both the countries in each other's economic development. India and Africa need each other both economically and strategically. For instance, India has been strong partner in Africa's growth agenda since colonial era; the footprints of Indian industry are evident in their economic expansion and profitability. Likewise, Africa too can play a key role in India's economic development especially in the current times. For instance, India's 'Blue economic initiative' aims to build maritime trade linkages between India and countries situated along the Indian ocean. African countries such as Kenya, South Africa, Mozambique play crucial role in deepening the linkages between both the countries. Several Indian entrepreneurs have initiated their enterprises in some of the high impact industries such as agriculture, IT, pharmaceuticals, energy, health care, hotel management, agro-processing, digital solutions etc. Also, Indian IT industry with its technical expertise in setting low cost IT parks could be of high value to Africa's emerging IT sector. However, it is important that the boundaries between the two countries transcend through transnational migrations, business linkages and political goodwill to aid the development processes of both the countries.

The proposal is an attempt to document the cases of transnational Indian entrepreneurs and their start up initiatives in Africa which has played a critical role in connecting the two countries' in their development processes. Bourdieu's theory of practice shall be used to understand habitus of transnational entrepreneurs (TEs) in balancing the dual business and cultural environments. The main objective is to explore how transnational Indian entrepreneurs (TIE) in Africa leverage the individual experiences and institutional environment to navigate and explore international markets in Africa. To be more specific, the paper opens up questions such as: What are the individual and societal factors and attributes that influence Transnational Entrepreneurship (TE) activities at micro, macro and meso level in Africa? What are the institutional, political, social and economic factors that motivate or hinder the transnational activities of the Indian entrepreneur in Africa? Data would be collected from Indian entrepreneurs residing in Africa (Kenya) through email and interviews conducted online using LinkedIn, personal references etc. The focus is mostly on Indian entrepreneur in Kenya region since there has been several fresh initiatives in IT sector undertaken in the recent past which is also supported by Indian government. Besides Kenya has significant number of Indian entrepreneurs with their establishments in other sectors such as telecommunication, chemical industry, petrochemical, floriculture, textile etc. The study is likely to have significant policy implications in promoting transnational entrepreneurial activities in both India and Africa.

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Chinese migration to Africa is increasing at a time of significant expansion of China's interest in the continent. The first Chinese immigrants who settled in Africa were small groups of convicts and slaves who arrived around the middle of the seventeenth century. Since then, the number of Chinese migrants in Africa has significantly increased and this has been accompanied by a geographic expansion in their countries of settlement. While the scale of these trends is indisputable, it raises critical concerns about the extent to which recent Chinese immigrants are integrated into

## **How do Chinese and Other Asian Immigrants Fare in the South African Labor Market? An Examination of Inequalities in Employment Using Data from South Africa**

African societies. The most important of these are associated with concerns about their integration into institutions, their social relationships with native-born Africans, and their participation in economic activities. Limited progress has been achieved in addressing these issues in part because of the dearth of reliable data. As a result, many of the central debates concerning the significance of Chinese immigrants for the transformation of African societies have largely remained unresolved.

At the core of these debates are two specific perspectives. The first indicates that Chinese immigrants are now integrated into labor markets, endowed with high levels of human-capital, and have experienced rapid increases in socioeconomic mobility. Much of this is underscored in research highlighting the successes of Chinese-owned businesses, their outstanding work ethic, and their ability to thrive under adverse conditions. The second perspective focuses on the significance of recent Chinese immigrants for the emergence of new patterns of inequality. Partly derived from more skeptical views on China's influence in Africa, it maintains that Chinese incorporation into African countries contributes to transformations in normative patterns of inequality and negatively influences the socioeconomic position of the disadvantaged.

Using data from the 2001 and 2011 South African censuses, this study contributes to the literature by conducting an empirical investigation into the inequalities in the labor market incorporation of Chinese immigrants into South African society. Compared to other African countries, South Africa has a longer history of Chinese immigration as well as a substantial presence of other Asian immigrants in the country. Focusing on measures of employment/labor force participation the study empirically locates these immigrants within existing patterns of stratification in South Africa. This is done by comparing (1) how Chinese immigrants fare in the South African labor market compared to other Asian immigrants; (2) evaluating the extent to which Chinese and other Asian immigrants are displacing African immigrants in this labor market, and (3) examining the determinants of labor market inequalities between Chinese/Asian immigrants, African immigrants, and native-born South Africans in the working age population.

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## **Reimagining Engagement and Realigning Priorities: How India and China are Informing the African Growth Story**

Strong foundations of civilizational linkages, historical connect and political solidarity during the liberation movement notwithstanding, relations between India and China with countries in the African continent remained largely passive. Beyond their resource diplomacy strategies which primarily included State Owned Enterprises acquiring assets in various countries, there was no momentum driving the relationship. However, in the past two decades both the Asian countries have created and built on multiple frameworks of cooperation and have diversified the scale and scope of their interactions. Their contemporary relationship is based on several strategic realities and today Africa features more prominently in their foreign policy matrix. By focusing on skills and knowledge transfer and building human and institutional capacity, India is reimagining the traditional notions of engagement associated with the continent. Long established capacity building initiatives by the Government of India has familiarized African officials with New Delhi's functioning, something that comes across during conversations. The establishment of the India Africa Forum Summit enthused political relations and also encouraged a new wave of migrants seeking opportunities in Africa, benefiting from the goodwill generated by its thriving Diaspora. Similarly, China channeling its vast resources and enterprises under the auspices of the FOCAC, from developing infrastructure - that host countries cannot build and sometimes even afford - as a part of the BRI to relocating its manufacturing industries to African shores, is also altering the rules of engagement. In this context, the role of the African agency - to

balance the fall outs including increasing debt and dependency, with the potential transformational effects they can have on local populations - is critical. Fundamentally distinct, both New Delhi and Beijing employ similar semantics of an alternative development agenda and ‘win-win cooperation’, utilize summit diplomacy and high level visits to craft the image of a partner in growth with non-western ethos. Furthermore, there are silos where Indian and Chinese actors work together. Chinese builders, for instance, subcontract projects to or purchase raw materials from Indian companies based in Africa while Indian pharmaceutical manufacturers import Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients from China. Although there are differences in the tone and tenor of their interactions as well as in the instruments and modalities utilized, the engagement of New Delhi and Beijing in Africa has the potential to alter the geopolitics of the region, a phenomenon already evident at the grassroots.

This paper will look beyond the overarching similarities and provide a layered, nuanced approach contrasting the policies crafted by the two states with stories of individuals and enterprises from the ground. It will contextualize the promise of these interactions against the varying degrees of pushback both Indian and Chinese players have faced. Findings are based on extensive literature reviews conducted in Harvard, Peking and Mumbai University as well as insights from fieldwork conducted in parts from 2013 to 2018 in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia, interviewing Indian, Chinese and African stakeholders across sectors. The data from the field will examine the opportunities, consequences and challenges of weaving Indian and Chinese characteristics into African growth stories.

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### **Conceptualizing China's BRI Public Diplomacy Towards Africa**

Since launching the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013, China has adopted various forms of public diplomacy to facilitate the acceptance, buy-in and cooperation of BRI economies/countries so as to pave way for its successful implementation. The BRI is a long-term strategic development initiative of the Silk Road Economic Belt (SREB) and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road which was unveiled to foster trans-continental economic cooperation and connectivity (through logistical and transport networks in the form of roads, pipelines, airports, seaports, railways, energy and ICT infrastructure) between the country and over 65 countries of Europe, Middle-East, Asia, and Africa. With the inclusion of Africa on the BRI catchment area and platform, China has also dedicated public diplomacy initiatives to secure the acceptance, buy-in and cooperation of BRI by African countries. Whilst China's BRI public diplomacy machinery has been deployed towards Africa for almost a decade now, there has not been any study specifically focusing on the conceptual origin and practical application of China's BRI public diplomacy towards Africa. This paper thus presents a conceptual and analytical framework of the public diplomacy that is conducted by China towards Africa in furtherance of its BRI. The objective is to facilitate a more critical understanding of not only the form, content, and substance of China's BRI public diplomacy, but also an appreciation of the varied and variegated tools, gadgets, techniques, approaches, methodologies, motives, goals and assumptions that underlie and characterize the public diplomacy. On the basis of insights generated from this analysis using secondary data sources, the findings of this paper generate conceptual tools and analytical frameworks that are essential in analysing the conduct of China's BRI public diplomacy towards Africa, as well as the broader relationship between African countries and China.