

5 china-africa MYTHS



Here are the five most widely-believed myths about the Chinese in Africa that are perpetrated by incorrect or inaccurate media reporting. Each myth is debunked by a leading Sino-African scholar online at www.chinaafricaproject.com/5myths.

#1

Chinese companies in Africa only hire Chinese workers

Although politicians frequently exploit this misperception, it is not supported by the facts.

TRUTH: Research shows Chinese and foreign firms hire Africans at similar rates.

www.reporting-focac.com/myth-1-chinese-workers.html

China is Africa's #1 investor

Yes, China is fast becoming one of Africa's most important foreign investors but it still lags FAR behind Europe & the US.

TRUTH: According to Ernst & Young, China is #7 in African FDI behind Germany and the UAE (the USA is actually #1).

www.reporting-focac.com/myth-2-chinese-fdi.html

#2

China exports prisoners to work in Africa

There's no evidence whatsoever China sends its convicts to work on construction projects in Africa.

TRUTH: Rumor stuck because many PRC construction sites look like prison camps.

<http://www.reporting-focac.com/myth-3-prison-labor.html>

#3

Africa is now one of China's top trading partners

Although growing fast, Africa still plays an extremely small role in China's overall global trade balance.

TRUTH: Africa makes up less than 5% of China's annual foreign trade and pales in comparison to PRC trade with the US, EU and Japan.

<http://www.reporting-focac.com/myth-4-trade.html>

#4

Chinese investments in Africa are centrally planned in Beijing

TRUTH: While the PRC government encourages international investment, companies largely decide to invest in Africa for profit, independent of the government.

<http://www.reporting-focac.com/myth-5-central-planning.html>

#5