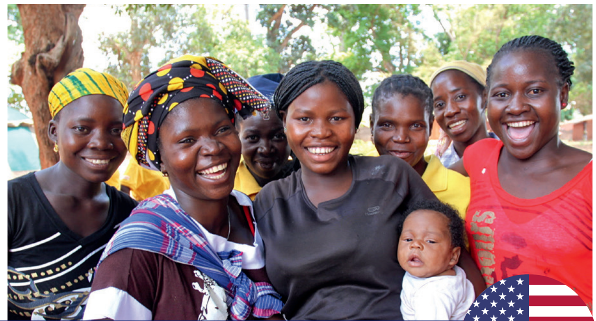
GEORGE W. BUSH INSTITUTE

CONFRONTING AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES

Investment & Development

Reprioritizing U.S. Partnership in Africa

Africa matters, especially for American policy priorities. The rights and well-being of Africans across the continent have a direct impact on peace and prosperity around the world and can curb mass migration, bolster security and resilience, and promote trade and economic growth. The U.S. has a long history of effective engagement across Africa and should designate the continent as a foreign policy priority.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The U.S. government should expand on existing efforts in ways that directly confront evolving barriers to security, opportunity, and well-being for key populations (like young people) across the continent.
2. Congress should continue to support programs like the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to bolster security, well-being, democratic values, and commercial possibilities in Africa and beyond.

INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

With an emphasis on advancing national security and strategic economic relationships throughout Africa, U.S. investment and trade development efforts have directly stimulated opportunity and growth across the continent. This includes:

300K
AFRICAN JOBS

The generation of **300,000 African jobs**, indirectly sustaining over 1.3 million employment opportunities via African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)-related businesses. This in turn bolsters supply chain diversification and new consumer markets for American businesses.

$86B

The establishment of over 1,800 deals in 49 countries that facilitated an estimated **$86 billion in exports and investments** between the U.S. and Africa through the Prosper Africa program.

7M
LIVES

U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) investments have impacted over **seven million lives** and supported over 1,000 African businesses and entrepreneurs. By enhancing economic stability, these investments also expand opportunities for U.S. trade.

$13B

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation investments in sub-Saharan Africa total more than **$13 billion** and have advanced stability, development, commercial interests, and other U.S. foreign policy goals.

PEPFAR has saved over **26 million lives** and advanced health care infrastructure, good governance, and an **economic benefit of over $1 trillion**, engendering goodwill toward the U.S.

MCC has helped lift over **300 million people** out of poverty, emphasizing data-informed, results-based investment opportunities.

The PMI has prevented **two billion malaria infections** in countries across Africa, which shoulders more than 90% of the world's malaria burden.

Catalyzing U.S. government and partner investments, Power Africa has delivered new or improved electricity to more than **213.4 million Africans**, creating business opportunities for U.S. companies.

George W. Bush Institute

CONFRONTING AUTHORITARIAN REGIMES

Investment & Development

Countering Russia and China in Africa

Russia and China are actively spreading their authoritarian influence across the African continent — to the detriment of regional and global stability, peace, and prosperity. These adversaries are filling a void left by the lack of American engagement over the past decade to advance their interests at the expense of U.S. national security.

RUSSIA

Russia's International Agency for Sovereign Development has little to no transparency on its budget or its projects and is headed by Konstantin Malofeyev, who was sanctioned by the U.S. for helping Russia skirt sanctions.

Although Russian humanitarian assistance in Africa remains limited, there is little visibility or reporting on the resources provided or where aid is distributed, opening the door for corruption.

Russia prioritizes access to and exploitation of Africa's valuable natural resources, working with intermediaries like private military companies or local political allies to extract resources for its own gain.

70%
OF ALL TRADE

In 2023, over **70% of Russia's trade with Africa** was strategically concentrated in just four countries — Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, and South Africa.

Russia views global health engagement as an opportunity to increase its international influence, typically through inferior products and services. Russian officials have increasingly visited African Ministers of Health to couple their security investments with health.

CHINA

$1.34T
ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

China spent an estimated **$1.34 trillion** on nearly **18,000 overseas development projects** between 2000 and 2021, greatly increasing its influence on the continent.

Chinese predatory loans — amounting to more than **$182 billion** since 2000 — exacerbate crippling debt burdens for African countries.

900M
AFRICAN LIVES

Chinese lending continues at its highest level since 2016, while **900 million Africans** live in nations that contribute more resources to interest payments than to essential services like education and health, according to *The New York Times*.

China is the continent's largest bilateral trade partner, with around **20% of sub-Saharan Africa's exports** going to China and about **16% of imports** coming from China.

$5B
IN FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

China's prioritization of Africa is evident through its foreign direct investment (FDI) in the continent, which peaked in 2022, amounting to approximately **$5 billion** and representing about **4.4% of Africa's total FDI**.

2063

The Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) is focused on aligning key investment projects with the African Union's Agenda 2063 — a strategic framework for the socioeconomic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years.