

**China In Africa. An Analysis Of The Bilateral Relations Between
China And Angola Over The Past 10 Years.**

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Declaration

I, Rudo Lavender Chaparadza, hereby declare that this research report, submitted to the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg for the degree of Master of Arts in International Relations is my own work. It has not been submitted for any other degree or examination at any other university for degree purposes.

Rudo Lavender Chaparadza

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2011

Abstract

The beginning of the 21st century coincided with China's "going global" strategy. During this period, China increased its engagement with many African countries and this was particularly driven by the need to secure its energy resources and markets. China's engagements with African countries coincided with the end of the protracted civil war in Angola which brought about a significant shift in the geopolitical dynamics in Southern Africa. During this period Angola embarked on a national reconstruction programme to repair its infrastructure which had been damaged by the war. As the country could not find any help from western countries and international financial organisations, China came to its rescue by providing large sums of oil-backed loans. As a result trade figures rose between the two with China becoming the largest importer of Angolan oil and a major player in the reconstruction of Angola, thus significantly contributing to Angola's post-war growth. This paper will demonstrate that oil is the basis of economic ties between the two countries today and that Chinese investments in Angola, especially those in the construction sector, have positively impacted on the Angolan economy and the Angolan population at large. The study also highlights the negative effects of the relationship between the two and also makes recommendations on how both countries can maximise on the existing relationship.

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Dedication

This research report is dedicated to my late father Mr Godwill Chaparadza. Thank you very much daddy for the love and support that you gave me; it's a pity you could not live up to see the results.

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Acronyms

AAPC: All-African Peoples' Conference

AfDB: African Development Bank

BOP: Balance of Payment

BP: British Petroleum

CEIEC: China National Electronics Import and Export Corp

CFL: Caminhos de Ferro de Luanda

CICM: China Infrastructure Capital Management

CITIC: China International Trust and Investment Corporation

CMEC/CMIC: China National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation

CNPC: China National Petroleum Corporation

COVEC: China Overseas Engineering Group Company

CRBC: China Road and Bridge Corporation

DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

EU: European Union

Exim Bank: Export and Import Bank

FLEC: Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda

FNLA: National Liberation Front of Angola

FOCAC: Forum on China-Africa Cooperation

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

GRN: National Reconstruction Office

IFI: International Financial Institutions

IMF: International Monetary Fund

MDG: Millennium Development Goals

MNC: Multi-national Cooperation

MPLA: People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola

NAM: Non Aligned Movement

NGO: Non Governmental Organisations

ONGC: Indian Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

OPEC: Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries

SAIIA: South African Institute of International Affairs

Sinopec: China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation

SOEs: State Owned Enterprises

SSI: Sonangol-Sinopec International

SUCG-CN: Shanghai Urban Construction Group

UNITA: National Union for the Total Independence of Angola

US: United States of America

USSR: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

WB: World Bank