China’s Engagement in Zambia

This bibliography provides a launching point for readers interested in China’s engagement with Zambia. Zambia is one of China’s oldest friends in Africa, and as a result, the scope of China’s engagement extends to a variety of sectors. In particular, this bibliography provides resources that give a general overview of the China-Zambia relationship, beginning with scholarship on China-Zambia historical relations. It also includes resources on engagement in Zambia’s mining and agricultural sectors, Chinese migration to Zambia, and the impact of Chinese engagement on Zambian labor. Overall, there are nineteen publications listed in order of author’s last name and divided into sections based on the type of resource. In addition, links to news outlets and other helpful resources are provided.

The theses written by Oliver Mubita (2013) and Inyambo Mwanawina (2008) are great starting points for delving into the topic of China-Zambia relations. Both focus primarily on economic relations, provide a summary of the history of China-Zambia relations, and incorporate major external but integral facets of the relationship, such as the role of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). However, Mubita’s thesis also includes a comprehensive literature review, and it analyzes the effect of China-Zambia relations on US-Zambia relations. Ching Kwan Lee’s book *The Spectre of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa* (2017) is also a good comprehensive resource on Zambia’s mining and construction sectors, and it provides insight into China’s motivations and intentions in its engagement with China.

Delving into specific sectors, agriculture has been a significant part of Chinese engagement. China’s large-scale engagement began in the middle of the twentieth century and has gone through different modes since then (see: Yan & Sautman 2012). However, small and medium-scale farms have begun to proliferate (see: Chu & Chatelard 2015). Zambia’s mining sector, significant to its economy, is another major area of engagement. However, Chinese engagement has undermined the regulatory environment of the industry (see: Haglund 2008). Still, the Zambian government does have the autonomy to adjust its regulatory policy to ensure Zambia does gain from Chinese engagement (see: Haglund 2010).

A growing topic of discussion in the China-Zambia relationship is Chinese migration to Zambia (see: Postel 2015). The discourse has evolved from the export of Chinese convicts to Zambia (see: Yan & Sautman 2012) to research as to how to better integrate Chinese immigrants into Zambian society (see: Yao et al. 2017). Another major area of concern in the relationship is labor. The end of the uproar regarding the issue of worker casualization (see: Lee 2009) was quickly replaced with allegations of human rights violations (see: Wells 2011). Some scholars,
however, have stepped up to dispute those allegations (see: Yan & Sautman 2013, Sautman & Yan 2014).

Finally, a variety of news sources—international, African, and Chinese—have been included. However, it is important to consider the bias they may hold, and therefore, it is important to utilize multiple sources. A link to the China Africa Research Initiative is also provided which serves as a remarkable resource of both data and Africa-related policy publications.

**Zambia-China Historical Relations**


**Articles**


**Policy Briefs**


**Research Papers**


**Books**

Reports


News Sources

Quartz Africa https://www.qz.com/africa
Business Daily Africa https://www.businessdailyafrica.com
Lusaka Times https://www.lusakatimes.com

Other Resources

China-Africa Research Initiative http://www.sais-cari.org/