

Can China tap new lithium centers in Africa?

Stock image. China's early move to tap new centers of lithium supply across Africa is reaping rewards, helping the top electric-vehicle battery producer navigate a tight market for the key metal.

Will Africa be a 'globally significant' lithium market?

Anthony Viljoen, Andradá's chief executive, believes the region will be "globally significant" not just for lithium but other metals critical to the energy transition, such as tin and tantalum. But it has competition. Last month, Africa's first Chinese-owned lithium concentrate plant started trial production at Arcadia, in Zimbabwe.

Does Africa's first Chinese-owned lithium concentrate plant have competition?

But it has competition. Last month, Africa's first Chinese-owned lithium concentrate plant started up trial production at Arcadia, in Zimbabwe. That mine was bought by Huayou Cobalt in 2021 for \$422mn, part of a recent billion-dollar wave of Chinese lithium deals in a country where many western investors fear to tread.

How can Africa keep more revenue from lithium supplies at home?

Still, nations in Africa are likely to follow other countries in seeking to keep more revenue from lithium supplies at home by adding processing or refining plants that can raise the value of exports. Zimbabwe and Namibia have recently introduced measures to discourage or prohibit exports of raw lithium ore.

Will China Build Africa's first EV battery factory?

The nation's government earlier this year said Chinese battery manufacturer Gotion High-Tech Co. reached a preliminary deal to build Africa's first major EV battery factory, which would have annual capacity of 100 gigawatts and require investment of EUR6 billion (\$6.5 billion).

Why is China investing in Africa?

"Chinese investment in Africa is definitely the largest source of capital for battery material supply in recent years," said Martin Jackson, London-based head of battery raw materials at CRU Group. Investments in new regions are crucial for China's supply chain to keep up with demand from its manufacturers, he said.

The course of the global energy transition may be determined by the effectiveness of Africa's lithium exploration negotiations with China. Dubbed "white gold", Lithium holds high ...

Also in Casablanca, Zhejiang Hailiang plans to install a plant with an investment of 264 million euros to manufacture sheets for lithium batteries and serve its customers in Europe, America, the ...

Faced with China's dominance of the lithium supply chain, western officials are pitching their investment offer to African countries as a more socially responsible alternative.

China's lithium battery exports have experienced explosive growth this year, driven by the pull of overseas demand, according to a report by CCTV Finance on Aug 23. As per the latest data from the General Administration of Customs, the export value of lithium battery products in China increased 58.9 percent in the first seven months of this year.

The increasing demand for electric vehicles has set China's attention on Africa as it seeks out the lithium it needs to produce EV batteries. While the investment brings capital and employment to African countries it ...

The investment includes EUR500mn for the construction of an assembly centre for lithium-ion batteries on the grounds of a BMW car plant in San Luis Potosí. The ...

4 Projects in Africa -- those entering production and under development -- are typically designed to export lithium concentrate, most of which is destined for China to be transformed into chemicals. Alake has said that the new facility ...

5 Chinese-African joint venture is latest company to find way past Western trade barriers while leveraging region's abundant battery materials.

The Arcadia lithium project is Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt's (SHA:603799) largest single investment in Africa to date. The Chinese company bought the asset from Prospect Resources (ASX:PSC,OTC Pink:PRSTF) and ...

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China-Africa relations have deepened over the past two decades, characterised by increased economic cooperation, investment and infrastructure development. China is now Africa's largest trading partner, with partnerships focused on building roads, railways and energy projects. As the ninth Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) kicks off this week in ...

China, having established battery storage manufacturing facilities, has been the primary supplier of lithium cells and batteries to South Africa between 2019 and 2022. South Africa's transition from coal-dominated ...

A spike in lithium prices through 2021 and 2022 fueled a wave of investment by Chinese companies in African production. The metal has since plunged more than 80% after supply increased while sales ...

The rise can be attributed to a surge in financing from China, which is responsible for 90% of Africa's planned lithium supply through 2030. Africa's position within the global lithium market will be a key talking point of ...

With the global demand for EVs surging, China is seeking to lock in supplies of lithium, a metal essential for battery production, and African nations have become key players in this supply chain. In recent years, Africa's

lithium reserves have attracted significant interest from Chinese firms looking to diversify their sources of the metal.

While China's dominance in the lithium-ion battery industry persists, its reliance on African lithium resources underscores Africa's strategic significance in the global supply chain. This trend has prompted the United States to seek ...

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