

## China and Africa: Farming for Whose Future?

[自発発展型]

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The paper discusses Sino-African relations through the issue of agriculture. In recent years, growth in the developing countries has been rapid. The development continued through the financial crisis in the recent years, changing the power balance of the world. Rising power countries are China, Brazil, India and Russia. The one of the most powerful growing countries is China. The only means of power it had before 2000 was mostly the political and military, however, in the recent economic growth has made China one of the most influential economic powers competing with United States of America. In the East Asian territory, the power has been causing many of the recent news, influencing all over the world. In addition to the rising China, the rising food price is one of the critical weaknesses in all around the world, especially to development countries. The Chinese government is trying to find ways to meet their domestic demand as the demand rises. There are two main methods; to increase their domestic production and to import from outside the country. The first method may be possible, only there are limits could be foreseen due to the arable land in China is large. On the other hand in exporting from outside, there are no limitation for China.

As this food crisis may lead the disastrous situation domestically, the government of China is focusing on the crisis management. One of the critical issues for them is the food security in China. Food prices are currently on the rise again, surpassing the record price in 2007. Although the riot has not been occurred due to this issue, the awareness the government has been changing the food security around the world. As development proceeds in China, the demand for the food has situation changed drastically. The similar method of supply would not work for the population, making compulsory change in the yields. However, the demand has not been meeting with the large population. In addition to the quantity demand, the demand for the quality and variety of food has coming up in the every population. The government was forced to change their strategy to search supplier for outside other than the current economic powers. Therefore a strategy of increasing reliance yield on the Least Developing Countries of Sub Saharan Africa has begun to seem best way. As this strategy takes place, the relationship between China and Africa is likely to become deadlocked. In this paper, both the roots of these problems of some perspectives for addressing them are suggested. New Sino-African partnerships are essential in the future for the development of both China and Sub Saharan Africa.

China and Sub Saharan Africa is in the mutual dependency relations in terms of the agriculture. It is doubtless to compare the importance of other sectors, declining the importance. However, the agricultural sector may be priority for

both Chinese and Sub Saharan African governments. This is for the adjusting to the rising food demand and supplying to meet the demand in both. Especially for Chinese, the rising food demands do not indicate the quantity demand, also for the rising quality demand in the recent years. As the development in China would proceed, the demand for the variety of food would become essential. This comes from the desire for the developing countries' lifestyle such as Japan and United States. These results may occur in the similar way for the Sub Saharan Africa in the near future. Therefore, holding the resources where there becomes the crucial in current and perspective situations. In this term, the capitals in Africa would become one of the most competitive resources in the world in next decades; agriculture, minerals (rare metal and rare earth), labor force, and the land.

China is not the only food demanding country in the world. Many of the developed countries are bending on for the acquisition. The rival Brazil, India and Russian Federation are also in the very competitive ground, adding the Vietnam, Indonesia, South Africa, turkey and Argentina. The Sub Saharan African agricultural sector has the large potential for the constructing the important relationships with the outside. This is for the reason that the large potential it holds. The raise in the self-sufficiency has a certain limitation in one country; however, by acquiring land outside could be one method to raise the self-sufficiency. Lack of food makes humans to starve to death; the surplus may also influence our health as well. In making balance of the diet, the sustainable supply by the government to people becomes essential. Lost in balance would threaten the country itself. On the other hand from Africa, they are need for the change as much as China needs to change. This is due to the failure of development policies and practices through these years. There are some successions, however, there would be need of change in order to adjust to the rapid globalization. In addition, the new era of Sino-African relationship is on the construction.

In this crossroad, the path to take may be decided through their policies and procedures. There are options for both of them, nevertheless, the best path to be taken are the new partnership for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is doubtless of the mutual dependence relationships they are getting into through the years of relation, this mutual relation may be hard to cut off. In taking this argument further, question remains; the mutual partnerships may be clearly seen, what is the process to seek them? This question would be remained for many people, answered through the countless time between China and Africa.