



一帶一路總商會

Belt & Road General Chamber of Commerce

香江連世界：  
100個  
香港一帶一路故事

向「一帶一路高峰論壇」十周年獻禮

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

Connecting the World from Hong Kong:  
100 Belt and Road Stories



## Innocent Mutanga

Founder and CEO of Africa Center Hong Kong

(香港非洲中心創辦人及行政總裁)

"We believe that by Defining the Status Quo for Tomorrow,  
we can contribute to a more interconnected global landscape,  
where cooperation and shared growth lead to a resilient future."



# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

### From Zimbabwean Newcomer to a Cultural Pioneer

Arriving in Hong Kong in August 2013 as a 22-year-old from Zimbabwe, Innocent Mutanga knew little of the city beyond its portrayal in Jackie Chan films. What began as a planned short stay evolved into a profound connection, sparked off just weeks after the announcement of the BRI.

Through personal relationships and deep ties to Hong Kong's vibrant energy, Innocent enrolled in an undergraduate degree in Anthropology at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, graduating in 2019.

Immediately after, he dove into investment banking, but his anthropological lens revealed a unique opportunity - Hong Kong's potential as a bridge between African and Asian communities. Observing that BRI collaborations often focused on infrastructure and financing, Innocent identified a clear gap in people-to-people ties. This insight led him to found the Africa Center Hong Kong that same year, channeling his passion into creating spaces for cultural immersion and mutual respect.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

Connecting the World from Hong Kong:  
100 Belt and Road Stories



▲ African drumming workshop led by Innocent at Africa Center Hong Kong.



▲ Africa Center Hong Kong's events connecting African and Asian communities.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

Connecting the World from Hong Kong:  
100 Belt and Road Stories

## Africa Center Hong Kong's Unique Values



Africa Center Hong Kong, founded in 2019, is a social enterprise that fosters interactions between Africa and non-African communities through cultural programs, events and educational initiatives. The Center's mission is to Rebrand Blackness in Asia, Connect Communities and Raise Black Consciousness.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

**Rebranding Blackness:** Blackness is often associated with danger and/or vulnerability, we challenge this perception and offer an opportunity to appreciate and benefit from accurate representations of blackness.

**Connecting Communities:** We aim to become the biggest uniquely African platform in Asia to connect and build communities across ethnic groups, gender, socio-economic status, etc., and facilitate value-exchange between these communities.

**Raising Black Consciousness:** We champion an African perspective, especially the need for consciousness of the power dynamics rooted in colonialism and the need for self-love. We emphasize the value and need of a black perspective in today's uncertain world.

In addition to our work, to support the growth and development of youths from diverse backgrounds, the center also launched the Dream Launch Achievers Program, a non-profit initiative of Africa Center Hong Kong, designed to assist African and other ethnic minority youths and low-income Chinese youths in Hong Kong to achieve their education and career goals.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

Connecting the World from Hong Kong:  
100 Belt and Road Stories



▲ Africa Center Hong Kong leading Chungking Mansions tours for young students.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

### Building a Cultural Bridge for the Belt and Road



In today's increasingly interconnected global landscape, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) continues to stand out as one of the most ambitious frameworks for cross-border connectivity and cooperation. At the heart of this initiative lies not just infrastructure and trade, but also the human element: the ability to foster trust, cultural understanding, and people-to-people exchanges that bridge divides. Therefore, platforms like Africa Center Hong Kong are uniquely positioned to bridge connection among grassroots collaboration, particularly between Asia and Africa.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

Since 2019, the center has organized programs for over 100,000 youths and business people interested in Africa's cultural and business landscape, empowering them to achieve their potential.

Serving as a vibrant, inclusive hub for cultural exchange, community building, and mutual empowerment between African and Asian communities, the Center acts as Hong Kong's gateway to Africa's diverse narratives, talents, and perspectives, aligning seamlessly with the BRI's emphasis on shared prosperity and connectivity.

### Strengthening Cooperation Under the Belt and Road



▲ African drumming workshop with corporates.

# 香江連世界：100個香港一帶一路故事

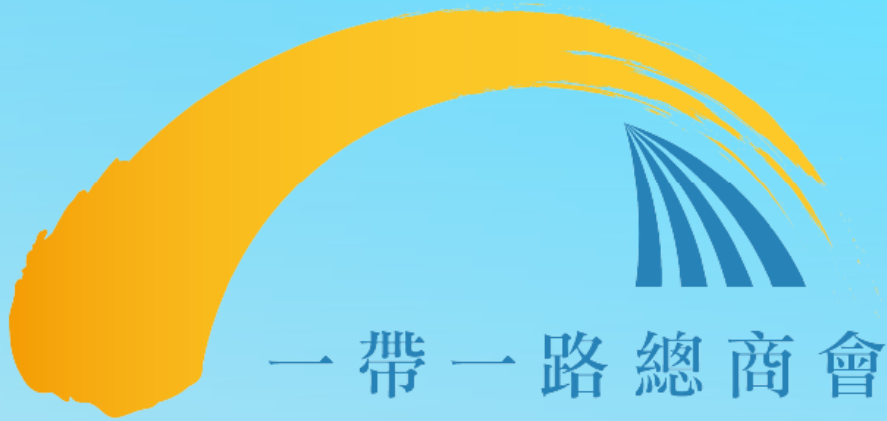
## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

If Hong Kong represents Asia's gateway to the world, then the Africa Center Hong Kong stands as its vital link to Africa's 1.4 billion people and burgeoning economies. The two are natural partners under the BRI, complementing each other's strengths in fostering inclusive growth.

The Africa Center Hong Kong's work aligns with BRI's "people-to-people bonds" pillar by fostering Afro-Asian understanding through events and programs, helping to reduce stereotypes and potentially easing corporate entry into African markets to enhance cross-cultural ties and support trade and investment in Africa. The center's support and mentorship to African-owned and ethnic minority-owned businesses in Hong Kong enhances their capacity building while creating an inclusive talent pool for more cross-border partnerships. The center's programs also raise awareness regarding various issues such as anti-racism and refugee rights, through African perspectives, which could better inform CSR strategies for BRI firms, and promote sustainable development. These efforts align with BRI goals by building trust and soft power, turning high-level economic ties into grassroots alliances.

As we look to the next decade, Hong Kong will continue to play a crucial role as a bridge between Asia and Africa. The Africa Center Hong Kong will remain committed to strengthening its partnerships, ensuring that the Belt and Road Initiative delivers lasting cultural, economic, and social benefits for all. *(End)*





一帶一路總商會

Belt & Road General Chamber of Commerce

# 香江連世界： 100個香港一帶一路故事

## Connecting the World from Hong Kong: 100 Belt and Road Stories

### 支持機構



中華人民共和國  
香港特別行政區政府  
商務及經濟發展局



香港中國企業協會  
THE HONG KONG CHINESE ENTERPRISES ASSOCIATION



香港中華聯誼會  
HONG KONG CHINA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

### 支持媒體



鳳凰衛視  
Phoenix Satellite TV



香港中國通訊社  
HONG KONG CHINA NEWS AGENCY



中國新聞社 香港分社  
CHINA NEWS SERVICE H.K. BRANCH



香港商報