



WhyAfrica

Hawks Eye Report 2024

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When Intelligence Matters

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1. Introduction

The WhyAfrica Hawks Eye Report is a quick glance at the state of Africa in 2024. We home in on the mining, energy, agriculture, infrastructure, water, ESG, and tourism sectors, identify major challenges, spot opportunities, and look at the success stories.

In this report we identify major trends and predict which African countries are likely to excel in 2024. At the same time, Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues, biodiversity, climate change and environmental management are considered.



2. Trends in 2024

2.1. Pockets of growth

Africa finds itself in a precarious position in 2024. Despite global headwinds there are several extremely positive developments in countries like Namibia, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Egypt, and to a lesser extent in Malawi and Nigeria. However, these pockets of growth are offset by serious concerns in the West African region, the Sahel, and in the Horn of Africa.

2.2. Conflict and coups

Radical jihadists groups and political mingling by countries like Russia have fuelled conflicts in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, the Central African Republic, Chad, and Sudan, with no overnight solutions in sight. These conflicts have inevitably resulted in political instability, power vacuums and power grabs, with military coups the order of the day.

With seven military takeovers in the last three years, it is no surprise that international perceptions and confidence in the entire region have taken a severe blow. It is difficult to see that this dire situation will change for the better soon. Historically, one coup is soon followed by the next and the next, which makes it problematic to have a positive outlook for this part of the world.

Coups are also contagious, not only in the West Africa Sahel region, but across the continent and in 2024 we might just witness more such events. Even countries like Zimbabwe in Southern Africa and Uganda in East Africa is currently walking the tightrope.

Long term authoritarian rule in Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville) and Equatorial Guinea makes these regimes extremely vulnerable to military take-overs, while a country like Sierra Leone experienced a failed coup late last year.

In the Horn of Africa, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continues their destructive battle for territorial control of the capital city Khartoum. The intense fighting has made the entire region unstable, and several projects in the region have ground to a halt, including in South Sudan and Ethiopia.

According to reports the RSF seems to be controlling the west of the country and the SAF the north and the east, which makes a Libya-style split of Sudan more and more likely.

Conflict in the eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is expected to escalate as the United Nations peacekeeping force pulls out of the region which has seen intensified fighting between Rwanda backed rebel group M23 and the DRC army in recent months.

In response, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) decided to deploy troops under the Southern African Development Community Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (SAMIDRC) to support the government of the DRC and restore peace and security in the eastern DRC.

As part of the SAMIDRC, a SADC regional force from the Republics of Malawi, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania and elements of the DRC Armed Forces are working with the Congolese Army, the Forces Armees de la Republic Democratique du Congo (FARDC), in fighting armed groups operating in the Eastern DRC. South Africa, who deployed 2900 troops, lost four soldiers within the first two months of deployment.