

**Africa – China families: Well-being of children in political, legal and social contexts**

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**This social science project investigates the well-being of children in Africa-China families and how this is impacted by political, legal and social contexts in China.** Africa-China families are those with at least one African migrant parent; they can be fully based in China or transnational with some members of the nuclear family in Africa and others in China. The project will use ethnography to collect data in China. It aims to understand the lives of children in Africa-China families by 1) taking **into account the full variety of family structures and their changes over time.** Current theorizing about migrant families is based on limited and static conceptions of family structures; **2) Extending theorizing on migrant families to new migratory flows in China.** Theorizing on migrant families has predominantly focused on Global South flows to established global powers in the Global North. Africa-China families are expected to differ from Global South to North families given China's non-colonial history with Africa, its closure to international migrants until recently, and the political and legal framework of the local registration system (*hukou*), including recent reforms.

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