

INP MOÇAMBIQUE · MOZAMBIQUE · LNG

Mozambique INP urges more gas access for domestic industry

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Mozambique's Petroleum Regulatory Authority (INP) has called on the sector to prioritise greater natural gas access for domestic companies, framing the move as essential to unlocking new industrial projects and generating employment across the country. The call was made on 19 October in Nacala-Porto by INP Chairman of the Board of Directors Nazário Bangalane, during a panel discussion on the role of national institutions and companies in the implementation of energy projects.

Bangalane's intervention reflects a growing policy tension in Mozambique between the export-oriented ambitions of the country's large LNG developments and the domestic industrialisation agenda. By advocating for gas reservation or preferential domestic access, the INP is signalling that regulators expect upstream operators and project developers to demonstrate tangible local economic benefit beyond royalties and taxes. Nacala-Porto, as a major deep-water port and industrial corridor hub in northern Mozambique, provides a strategically relevant backdrop for this conversation — the zone is already being positioned as a logistics and manufacturing base linked to the broader Cabo Delgado resource province.

The statement does not announce a new regulation, contract, or policy instrument. It represents a regulatory preference being articulated publicly, which in the Mozambican context typically precedes formal rulemaking or licence condition amendments. Norwegian service companies and their Mozambican partners should treat this as an early indicator of the direction domestic content and gas utilisation frameworks may take as the country's LNG projects move closer to resumed construction and eventual production.

For the broader LNG ecosystem in Mozambique, the INP's position matters because any mandated or negotiated domestic gas allocation will shape the infrastructure requirements around the main export terminals. Industrial gas distribution, small-scale LNG for remote users, and gas-to-power schemes all require midstream and downstream engineering capability. If Mozambique formalises a domestic gas obligation on producers, project developers will need to plan and finance the associated distribution infrastructure alongside their export facilities. This creates potential scope for pipeline, compression, and downstream services work beyond the flagship LNG trains themselves.

The timing is also notable. TotalEnergies' Mozambique LNG project at Afungi remains suspended following the 2021 force majeure declaration, while ENI's Coral Sul FLNG is producing and exporting. Any regulatory signal that shapes how gas revenues and volumes are managed domestically will be relevant to the conditions under which stalled projects eventually restart. Norwegian companies with existing relationships in Mozambique — whether in subsea, FPSO operations, or well services — should monitor how the INP's advocacy translates into binding policy over the coming months.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a regulatory policy statement, not a signed contract or open tender, so procurement outreach is premature. Norwegian service companies should monitor INP rulemaking activity for any formal domestic gas obligation that could trigger midstream or downstream infrastructure tenders. Relationship-building with INP and local industrial partners in the Nacala corridor is the appropriate near-term action.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Pipeline:** A formalised domestic gas obligation would require distribution pipeline and compression infrastructure, creating potential engineering and construction scope in northern Mozambique.
- **LNG:** Small-scale LNG or gas-to-power schemes targeting domestic industrial users could require liquefaction, storage, and regasification solutions suited to Norwegian LNG technology providers.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Monitor whether domestic gas policy conditions alter the commercial structure of stalled projects like Mozambique LNG, which could affect FPSO or subsea scope when force majeure is lifted.
- **Service:** Local content pressure linked to domestic gas access may open opportunities for Norwegian companies to structure joint ventures with Mozambican industrial or energy firms in the Nacala corridor.

[Original source: INP Moçambique →](#)

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