

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW ONLINE · MOZAMBIQUE · LNG

ExxonMobil Awards \$1.1bn Rovuma LNG Pre-Investment Contracts, Signalling Construction Restart

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ExxonMobil has awarded approximately \$1.1 billion in pre-investment contracts for the Rovuma LNG Phase 1 project in Mozambique, marking one of the most concrete signals yet that the long-delayed development is moving toward active construction. The contract awards target long-lead equipment required for both offshore gas production and the onshore LNG facility planned in the Cabo Delgado province, indicating that procurement timelines are now being locked in ahead of a broader construction push.

Rovuma LNG has endured significant delays since a 2021 insurgency in Cabo Delgado forced a force majeure declaration and halted progress across multiple Mozambique LNG developments. The scale of the current pre-investment awards — at \$1.1 billion — suggests ExxonMobil and its project partners are now prepared to commit capital and accelerate procurement cycles despite the region's complex security and logistics environment. Long-lead equipment procurement is typically one of the first binding commitments in major LNG project execution, as items such as heat exchangers, compressors, and specialized offshore production hardware carry multi-year manufacturing timelines.

The Rovuma LNG project is centered on gas resources in the Cabo Delgado basin, with development encompassing both an offshore production component and an onshore liquefaction and export facility. Phase 1 has been positioned as one of the largest LNG developments in Sub-Saharan Africa, and its eventual completion would

place Mozambique among the continent's leading LNG exporters. The current procurement activity, while pre-investment in nature, represents meaningful forward momentum and signals that ExxonMobil is advancing toward a potential final investment decision on a structured timeline.

For the broader Mozambique LNG sector, ExxonMobil's contracting activity carries weight beyond the Rovuma project alone. It reinforces the investment case for the country's northern gas basin and may influence the trajectory of neighboring developments. Norwegian and international service companies that have maintained positioning in Mozambique through the period of delays will be watching closely as the contracting pipeline begins to materialize at scale.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies should treat these \$1.1bn pre-investment awards as a firm signal to engage ExxonMobil's supply chain now, ahead of larger execution-phase contracts. Firms with LNG offshore production, subsea, and specialist equipment installation capabilities should identify subcontracting and local content partnership opportunities within the current procurement cycle. Those not yet positioned in Mozambique should begin market entry preparation, as the contracting window for major scopes is opening.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Norwegian LNG engineering and modular fabrication firms should assess subcontracting opportunities within the long-lead equipment supply chain ExxonMobil is now activating.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** The offshore gas production component of Rovuma LNG Phase 1 will require subsea infrastructure and potentially floating production assets — Norwegian subsea specialists should engage early with ExxonMobil's project team.
- **Drilling:** Development drilling campaigns linked to offshore gas production for Rovuma LNG will require rig and well services capacity; Norwegian drilling contractors should monitor tender activity closely.

- **Pipeline:** Gas export and tie-in infrastructure between offshore fields and the onshore LNG facility may create pipeline installation and engineering scopes suited to Norwegian contractors.
- **Service:** Logistics, inspection, and specialist technical services will be in demand as Mozambique's remote Cabo Delgado construction environment presents significant operational complexity for international operators.

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