

INP MOÇAMBIQUE · MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique INP signs MoU with Tanzania's PURA

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Mozambique's Instituto Nacional do Petróleo (INP) and Tanzania's Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Maputo on 18 June 2026, formalising a bilateral framework to strengthen cooperation between the two upstream petroleum regulators. The agreement is designed to reinforce technical coordination between the two institutions, though no operational or commercial commitments flow directly from this instrument at this stage.

The MoU represents a reconnaissance-level diplomatic step rather than a block award, contract, or any commercial transaction. Its stated purpose is to consolidate a technical coordination platform between INP and PURA — two regulators that oversee some of East Africa's most significant natural gas provinces. Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado basin hosts world-scale LNG projects, while Tanzania's offshore blocks contain substantial proven gas reserves. A standing bilateral regulatory channel between the two countries could, over time, facilitate harmonised licensing approaches, shared inspection standards, and coordinated responses to cross-border operational or environmental issues.

For the broader East African gas corridor, regulatory alignment between Mozambique and Tanzania carries strategic weight. Both countries have grappled with the pace of upstream development, security challenges, and the complexity of attracting international capital into large-scale LNG infrastructure. A working MoU between their respective upstream regulators could reduce friction for operators and service companies active in both jurisdictions — though concrete procedural benefits will depend entirely on how the framework is implemented in the months ahead.

At this point, no specific joint projects, licensing rounds, or procurement activities have been announced in connection with the MoU. Norwegian and international service companies should treat this development as an early-stage regulatory signal rather than an actionable commercial trigger. The instrument itself creates no immediate tendering or contracting opportunities, but it does indicate that both governments are investing in the institutional infrastructure needed to support future upstream activity across the region.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This MoU is a bilateral regulatory agreement with no immediate contracting or procurement consequences — Norwegian service companies should monitor implementation milestones rather than approach procurement teams. If the framework accelerates licensing activity or joint regulatory initiatives in either country, that would be the point to engage. Companies already active in Mozambique LNG or exploring Tanzania entry should note this as a positive signal for regulatory stability and cross-border coordination.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Regulatory alignment between Mozambique and Tanzania could eventually smooth permitting and inspection coordination for LNG operators active across both jurisdictions — worth tracking as Mozambique LNG Phase 2 discussions mature.
- **Drilling:** A harmonised regulatory environment between the two gas provinces may reduce administrative lead times for rig deployments that cross between Tanzanian and Mozambican waters — monitor for concrete procedural outcomes.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** If the MoU evolves into shared technical standards, subsea contractors bidding across East Africa may benefit from reduced compliance duplication — no action warranted yet.
- **Pipeline:** Cross-border pipeline coordination between Mozambique and Tanzania has historically been complex; a standing regulatory dialogue could support future gas export infrastructure discussions — early stage only.

[Original source: INP Moçambique →](#)

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