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Mozambique, Congo sign oil & gas cooperation MoU

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Mozambique and the Republic of Congo have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote investment, develop joint projects, and strengthen technical cooperation across their hydrocarbon sectors. The agreement was concluded during a state visit by Mozambican President Daniel Chapo to Brazzaville and marks a formal bilateral framework for energy collaboration between two of sub-Saharan Africa's significant hydrocarbon producers.

The MoU covers a broad scope of activity along the full hydrocarbon value chain. Specifically, it encompasses exploration and production of oil and natural gas, refining and processing, as well as storage, transportation, and commercialisation of derived products. The breadth of the agreement signals that both governments intend to move beyond symbolic diplomacy toward structured sector engagement, though no project-level commitments, financing arrangements, or timelines have been disclosed at this stage.

For Mozambique, the partnership comes as the country continues to build institutional capacity around its vast offshore gas resources in the Rovuma Basin, including the stalled onshore LNG developments at Cabo Delgado. Aligning with the Republic of Congo — a more mature oil producer with established refining and export infrastructure — could provide Maputo with technical knowledge transfer and commercial templates relevant to its own upstream ambitions. For Brazzaville, access to Mozambique's gas reserves and developing LNG ecosystem may offer diversification opportunities as its legacy oil fields mature.

As an MoU, this instrument represents a statement of intent rather than a binding commitment. No contracts have been signed, no acreage has been awarded, and no procurement processes have been launched under this framework. The agreement creates a political and institutional platform from which joint working groups, technical exchanges, and — potentially — commercial project structures could eventually emerge. Both governments will need to translate the MoU into concrete project mandates before any tendering or investment activity becomes actionable.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

At MoU stage, this bilateral framework does not yet generate procurement or contracting opportunities for Norwegian service companies. Partners should monitor the development of any joint working groups or project-specific follow-on agreements that could define scope for upstream, midstream, or LNG-related services. Relationship-building with national oil companies on both sides — SNH in Congo and ENH in Mozambique — is the appropriate near-term posture.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Monitor whether the MoU accelerates any Mozambique LNG infrastructure decisions that could require liquefaction, storage, or marine loading expertise from Norwegian contractors.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Track if joint E&P project structures emerge from this framework covering Mozambique's offshore Rovuma acreage, where subsea tiebacks and FPSO solutions remain central to future development concepts.
- **Pipeline:** The explicit inclusion of storage and transportation in the MoU scope could foreshadow pipeline or gas grid projects requiring Norwegian engineering input in either country.
- **Drilling:** Any joint exploration programme arising from the MoU in either country's acreage would generate drilling demand — maintain visibility with both ENH and SNH technical teams.
- **Service:** Technical cooperation provisions in the MoU may open doors for Norwegian well services and training providers seeking early positioning with Mozambique's still-developing upstream workforce.

[Original source: MIREME - Ministério dos Recursos Minerais e Energia →](#)

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