

TANZANIAINVEST · ENERGY (TANZANIA) · TANZANIA · PIPELINE

Tanzania-Kenya sign MoU on Dar-Mombasa gas pipeline study

Saga deep read · 06 May 2026 · Score 71

Tanzania and Kenya have signed a memorandum of understanding to conduct a feasibility study on a natural gas pipeline linking Dar es Salaam to Mombasa, one of eight MoUs concluded during Kenyan President William Ruto's state visit to Dar es Salaam on 4–5 May 2026. The agreement marks the earliest formal stage of project development — a study MoU, not a pipeline award or engineering contract — and commits both governments to assessing the route's technical and commercial viability before any investment decision can follow.

The gas pipeline MoU sits alongside a separate agreement covering the Tanga-Taveta standard gauge railway corridor, reflecting Tanzania's broader push to deepen physical connectivity with its East African neighbours. Both countries also agreed to eliminate all non-tariff barriers by May 2026, a commitment that, if implemented, would ease cross-border movement of goods and equipment — a practical consideration for any future construction programme along the corridor. Tanzania-Kenya bilateral trade stood at over USD 720 million in 2024, providing the economic backdrop that makes infrastructure investment politically attractive to both administrations.

Rwandan President Paul Kagame visited a day earlier, on 3 May 2026, in a separate engagement that underscored Tanzania's active regional diplomacy in the period. Tanzania-Rwanda bilateral trade reached TZS 644 billion in 2025. While the Rwanda visit did not produce energy-specific MoUs, the broader pattern of presidential-level engagement suggests Dar es Salaam is positioning itself as a regional infrastructure hub, with gas infrastructure increasingly central to that narrative.

The Dar es Salaam–Mombasa gas pipeline concept, if it advances through feasibility and into engineering, would represent a significant cross-border midstream project connecting Tanzania's substantial natural gas resource base — developed primarily in the southern offshore and onshore blocks — to Kenya's coastal industrial and power markets. The study phase will need to resolve questions of gas sourcing, tariff structures, regulatory jurisdiction across two separate legal frameworks, and financing. None of these details are yet defined under the current MoU instrument.

For the energy services sector, the timeline between a study MoU and a bankable project can span years. The immediate value of this announcement lies in early market awareness rather than procurement opportunity. Norwegian companies with East African presence or regional business development functions should log this corridor as one to monitor through 2026 and into 2027, tracking whether the feasibility study is formally tendered, which development finance institutions engage, and whether either government progresses toward heads of agreement or project company formation. Relationship-building with Tanzanian and Kenyan energy ministries and national oil companies at this stage is the appropriate response.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a study-phase MoU — no procurement is open and no contract has been signed, so active supplier outreach is premature. Norwegian companies specialising in pipeline engineering, subsea tie-ins, or LNG midstream should monitor the feasibility study process for a formal tender notice and track which development finance institutions engage. Establishing contact with Tanzania's Ministry of Energy and the Kenya Pipeline Company at this early stage is the appropriate relationship-building move.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Pipeline:** Monitor the feasibility study tender for the Dar es Salaam–Mombasa corridor; Norwegian pipeline engineering firms with East Africa track records are well placed to bid if and when the study is formally procured.
- **LNG:** If the pipeline is designed to carry gas from Tanzania's offshore fields, LNG processing or regasification infrastructure at either terminal could become relevant — track the study's scope definition.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Gas sourcing for the pipeline may draw on Tanzania's offshore blocks; subsea companies should watch whether upstream tie-in or export infrastructure is scoped as part of the feasibility work.
- **Service:** Early-stage country presence and ministry-level relationships in both Tanzania and Kenya will be decisive when the project moves toward engineering; invest in regional representation now rather than at tender stage.

[Original source: TanzaniaInvest - Energy \(Tanzania\) →](#)

Saga Advisory

General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN