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Dangote pledges 650,000 bpd refinery at Tanga port

Saga deep read · 25 April 2026 · Score 71

Aliko Dangote has committed to building a 650,000-barrels-per-day oil refinery at the Port of Tanga, Tanzania, contingent on reaching agreement with the Tanzanian government. The pledge, modelled on his USD 20 billion Lagos facility, comes with a delivery timeline of four to five years from project sanction. No contract or formal agreement has been signed; this remains a public commitment and is subject to government negotiations.

The proposed refinery would process crude sourced from four countries — the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, South Sudan, and Uganda — positioning Tanga as a potential regional refining hub for East and Central Africa. To enable feedstock supply, Dangote has also proposed a new pipeline connecting Mombasa to Tanga, which would in turn link to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). EACOP, running from Uganda's Lake Albert fields to the Tanzanian coast, is already under development and would serve as a critical upstream artery for the proposed scheme.

The scale of the Tanga proposal mirrors the Lagos refinery in nameplate capacity, suggesting Dangote intends to replicate a vertically integrated crude-to-products model on the East African seaboard. If realised, a 650,000 bpd refinery would rank among the largest on the African continent and would materially alter regional product trade flows, reducing import dependency across landlocked East African markets. The Mombasa-Tanga pipeline segment adds a cross-border infrastructure layer that would require coordination between Kenya and Tanzania alongside the existing EACOP consortium framework.

At this stage the project is a heads-of-agreement-level intention at most — no block award, no engineering contract, and no financing structure has been disclosed. Given that Dangote's Lagos refinery took over a decade from announcement to first output, market participants should treat the four-to-five-year timeline as aspirational. Norwegian service companies should monitor developments and focus on relationship-building with both the Tanzanian Petroleum Development Corporation and EACOP project stakeholders rather than pursuing procurement engagement at this point.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This project is at an early pledge stage with no signed contracts or tenders, so direct procurement outreach is premature. Norwegian service companies with pipeline, FPSO, and refinery infrastructure expertise should monitor negotiations between Dangote and the Tanzanian government closely, and use this window to build relationships with TPDC and EACOP consortium members who may influence contractor selection when the project matures. The proposed Mombasa-Tanga pipeline and the EACOP connection represent potential future scope for pipeline engineering, marine terminal, and crude handling specialists.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Pipeline:** The proposed Mombasa-Tanga pipeline and its EACOP interconnect represent significant future scope for pipeline engineering and installation contractors — begin mapping key decision-makers in the EACOP consortium now.
- **FPSO:** A 650,000 bpd coastal refinery at Tanga will require marine loading and storage infrastructure; FPSO and offshore terminal specialists should track the project's marine facility design as it develops.
- **Subsea:** Tanga port-side subsea and marine infrastructure for crude receipt from EACOP may require subsea tie-in engineering; monitor tender pipeline once project reaches FEED stage.
- **Drilling/Well Services:** Increased refinery throughput demand across DRC, South Sudan, and Uganda feedstock basins could accelerate upstream drilling activity in those countries; well services companies should assess positioning in each jurisdiction.

- **Service:** Project and construction management firms with large-scale refinery experience can engage Dangote Industries early to explore advisory or PMC roles, given the complexity of a greenfield 650,000 bpd facility.

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

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