

AOGR TENDERS · OFFSHORE

# Mozambique Rovuma Area 4 Seeks Drill Bit Equipment and Services Suppliers

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The Mozambique Rovuma Venture SpA (MRV) has issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) calling on qualified contractors to submit credentials for the provision of drill bit equipment and services for the upstream portion of the Rovuma LNG Project in offshore Area 4. The tender marks an active procurement phase for one of Sub-Saharan Africa's most significant deepwater LNG developments, signalling that drilling operations planning is progressing despite the project's well-documented history of delays linked to the 2021 Cabo Delgado security crisis.

Area 4 is operated by Eni through MRV, a joint venture that also includes ExxonMobil, CNPC, Galp, Kogas, and Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH). The block holds an estimated 85 trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas, making it one of the largest offshore gas discoveries in the world. Drill bit services are a foundational well-construction input, meaning this EOI likely relates to future appraisal, development, or infill drilling campaigns supporting the Coral Sul FPSO — which has been producing LNG since 2022 — and potentially the broader onshore and floating LNG expansion trains that MRV continues to advance.

The EOI process is the first formal step in MRV's vendor qualification and competitive tendering workflow. Contractors responding will need to demonstrate technical capability, relevant offshore deepwater experience, compliance with Mozambican local content regulations, and financial standing. Given the harsh offshore environment in the Rovuma Basin and the precision demands of deepwater drilling,

only suppliers with a credible track record in comparable frontier or deepwater African projects are likely to progress to the Request for Proposal stage.

For Norwegian service companies, the timing is noteworthy. The Coral Sul FPSO, supplied by Eni and partners, has been operational for over two years, and sustained production will require ongoing well intervention and potential infill drilling. Meanwhile, MRV's ambitions for Coral Norte and the broader Area 4 development pipeline mean that drilling activity — and associated services procurement — is expected to intensify through the latter half of this decade. Norwegian firms with deepwater drilling expertise and established supply chains in Africa are well-positioned to engage early in the qualification process.

Local content compliance remains a key consideration in Mozambique. Companies bidding into MRV's supply chain are expected to demonstrate a credible plan for Mozambican workforce development and in-country value creation, in line with the country's Lei do Conteúdo Local. Norwegian contractors that have already navigated similar requirements in Angola or Tanzania will have a structural advantage. Early EOI submission and proactive engagement with MRV's procurement team in Maputo or Rome is recommended for firms wishing to establish preferred vendor status ahead of the formal tender.

## Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian well services and drilling equipment companies should submit EOI responses promptly to enter MRV's vendor qualification pipeline for what is likely to be a multi-year drilling programme. Firms with deepwater African credentials — particularly those active in Angola or Tanzania — are well-placed to compete. Saga Advisory can assist with local content documentation, partner identification in Mozambique, and procurement contact mapping within the MRV JV structure.

### PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Drill bit suppliers and BHA specialists should file EOI immediately to qualify for MRV's deepwater drilling campaigns supporting Coral Sul and future Area 4 development wells.

- **Well Services:** Norwegian well services firms offering directional drilling, MWD/LWD, and mud engineering can bundle capabilities with drill bit supply to present a more competitive integrated offering to MRV.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Companies already embedded in the Coral Sul FPSO supply chain should monitor this tender as a pathway to expand their scope into upstream drilling services for the same asset.
- **Service:** Logistics and supply base operators with Mozambique presence should engage now, as drill bit campaigns require dedicated offshore logistics support that MRV will need to source locally.
- **Pipeline:** Contractors tracking the broader Rovuma LNG expansion — including potential pipeline tie-ins for onshore LNG trains — should use this EOI as an early indicator that MRV's development programme is re-accelerating.

[Original source: AOGR Tenders →](#)

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