

# MEMORANDUM

N° 122/2017 | 18/07/2017

More than 1,811 Daily Memoranda issued from 2006 to end of 2016, with 21,732 pages of Business Clips issued covering all African, European Institutions and African Union, as well as the Breton Woods Institutions. The subscription is free of charge, and sponsored by various Development Organisations and Corporations.

The Memorandum is issued daily, with the sole purpose to provide updated basic business and economic information on Africa, to more than 4,000 European Companies, as well as their business parties in Africa.

Should a reader require a copy of the Memoranda, please address the request to [fernando.matos.rosa@sapo](mailto:fernando.matos.rosa@sapo) or [fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be](mailto:fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be).

**Daily news of Africa, without comments, as they are published**

## SUMMARY

La BEI signe un nouvel accord de coopération avec l'Algérie	Page 2
President of Sao Tome and Principe says China represents a new source of funding	Page 2
Exports of goods produced in Angola are exempt from customs duties	Page 3
Algeria takes lead in renewable energy	Page 3
Angola cables starts construction of data centre in Fortaleza, Brazil	Page 4
A US\$ 548m cement plant to be constructed in Zambia	Page 4
BEAC hits slight growth recovery in CEMAC zone	Page 5
Dangote to invest \$3.8bn in sugar and rice in Nigeria	Page 6
Austerity measures saved Namibian economy	Page 6
Size of DRC's Inga 3 plant to double to cut costs and meet power demand	Page 7
Japan announces freeze on aid to Mozambique	Page 7
EU helps promote renewable energy use in Namibia	Page 8
IMF praises G/Bissau public finance success story	Page 8
Algeria: National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production Modes	Page 9
China pledges \$18M to build new Mozambican armed forces barracks	Page 10
Algeria signs agreement for participation in Mediterranean research and innovation initiative	Page 11
South Sudan resumes river transport	Page 12
Angola is no longer Africa's largest producer	Page 12

## LA BEI SIGNE UN NOUVEL ACCORD DE COOPERATION AVEC L'ALGERIE

Roman Escolano, Vice-Président de la Banque européenne d'investissement (BEI) qui est la Banque de l'Union européenne, est en visite officielle en Algérie du 12 au 14 juillet pour signer un nouvel accord de coopération avec la République Algérienne Démocratique et Populaire et rencontrer plusieurs membres du Gouvernement parmi lesquels S.E.M. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, Premier Ministre de la République Algérienne Démocratique et Populaire, S.E.M. Abderrahmane Raouia, Ministre des Finances, S.E.M. Abdelghani Zaalane, Ministre des Travaux Publics et des Transports, S.E. Mme Fatma Zohra Zerouati, Ministre de l'Environnement et des Energies Renouvelables, M. Hassane Rabehi, Secrétaire général du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et Mme Fatma Zohra Cherfi, Secrétaire générale du Ministère de l'Energie.

« C'est ma première visite officielle en Algérie en tant que Vice-Président de la BEI a déclaré Roman Escolano à son arrivée à Alger. Le partenariat que nous allons renouveler est très important, aussi je souhaite qu'il soit pérenne et résolument tourné vers l'avenir. La Banque de l'Union européenne est prête à soutenir avec force les investissements stratégiques pour l'Algérie. Elle déploiera également toute son énergie à mettre en œuvre les Priorités communes de Partenariat entre l'Algérie et l'Union européenne. »

Le nouvel accord de coopération signé entre la République Algérienne Démocratique et Populaire et la Banque de l'Union européenne est axé sur la sécurité routière avec à la clef une étude financée par la BEI sur les normes de sécurité du tronçon de l'autoroute Trans-maghrébine (reliant les pays du Maghreb). Cette étude régionale pour les pays du Maghreb, intitulée Audit de Sécurité Routière concernera plus particulièrement l'autoroute Est-Ouest entre les frontières respectives Est-Ouest de l'Algérie, ainsi que les pénétrantes des grandes Wilayas, dont celles d'Oran et de Bejaia, soit un tronçon global d'environ 1500 km s'étendant sur toute la côte méditerranéenne. Elle prendra en compte les besoins de tous les usagers de la route afin d'identifier en amont les questions de sécurité de cet axe ainsi que des tronçons en service, et ainsi proposer des solutions optimales de gestion et de circulation.

« Je suis très heureux de signer ce partenariat avec l'Algérie sur un secteur aussi important que le transport et la sécurité routière a déclaré le Vice-Président de la BEI, M. Roman Escolano lors de la cérémonie de signature. La BEI est avant tout une banque d'investissement et de conseil, aussi mettrons-nous toutes nos compétences et notre expertise acquises en Europe comme dans la région pour mener avec succès cet Audit de Sécurité Routière. Notre objectif est de renforcer la sécurité des usagers sur ces grands axes routiers qui sont essentiels au développement économique d'un pays et d'une région, comme à la vie quotidienne de ses habitants. »

Le transport est un secteur sur lequel la BEI a déjà apporté la qualité de ses conseils et de son expertise en Algérie par une coopération technique renforcée dans les domaines de la gestion et de la logistique avec le programme Logismed Soft au niveau régional (4,5 M€) en coopération avec la Commission européenne ou encore avec l'agence Nationale des autoroutes (2,5 M€). Toujours dans le domaine du transport, la BEI avait également financé des projets stratégiques pour l'Algérie comme l'Autoroute Est/Ouest, ou encore le port de Bejaia.

Première banque d'investissement et de conseil de la région méditerranéenne, la BEI a investi 2,1 milliards d'euros en Algérie en soutien à des projets dans les secteurs de l'énergie, de l'eau, du transport routier et de l'industrie. Elle a également su apporter tout son soutien à l'Algérie lors des catastrophes naturelles ayant touché le pays comme les inondations en 2000 ou encore le tremblement de terre en 2003. (BEI 13-07-2017)

## PRESIDENT OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE SAYS CHINA REPRESENTS A NEW SOURCE OF FUNDING

The President of São Tomé and Príncipe Evaristo Carvalho said on Wednesday in Sao Tome that "China represents an excellent opportunity for the country to obtain a new source of financing," for the development of its economy.

The Head of State, speaking at a session to commemorate the forty-second anniversary of independence, referred to the economic importance of re-establishing diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China in December 2016 replacing Taiwan.

"China represents a new source of funding, which will certainly allow us to carry out structural projects such as the construction of the deep-water port and an international airport for the development of the economy," said the president.

Carvalho also said that "these two important infrastructures, along with those already under way, will allow us to create a more solid economy capable of making use of the potential of the country."

Following a meeting last January with the São Tomé President, a delegation from the China Road & Bridge Corporation (CBRC) expressed interest in participating in the two projects, which are considered to be fundamental for the development of São Tomé and Príncipe's economy.

In an interview, China's ambassador to Sao Tome and Principe, Wang Wei, reaffirmed Beijing's willingness to participate in these projects, stressing that "China does not rule out any funding, which will ultimately depend only on the conclusions of the feasibility study and the priorities," of the Sao Tome State.

Following the reestablishment of diplomatic relations, in Beijing in April Sao Tome and Principe and China signed a comprehensive cooperation programme in the economic, scientific and cultural fields as well as specific agreements in the energy, tourism, health and technical assistance sectors. (14-07-2017)

## **EXPORTS OF GOODS PRODUCED IN ANGOLA ARE EXEMPT FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES**

The export of goods produced in Angola is exempt from customs duties under the new Customs Tariff, which will come into effect in 2018, the director for Institutional Communication of the General Tax Administration (AGT) told state newspaper Jornal de Angola.

The customs charge on the re-export of goods will in turn be increased by 20%, said Nickolas Neto, who described this measure as "a tax on selling goods imported by Angola in other countries."

The director added that increasing the rate by 20% is not a protectionist measure, as it will only be applied when the imported products are exported, and does not cover domestic production.

The measure aims to inhibit the export of imported products that demand payment in foreign currency, although domestic and foreign importers who want to use Angola to re-export goods can use the international transit system.

Neto said that this customs procedure, included in the current Customs Tariff and in the 2017 version, allows the goods to be declared in Angola, in transit, with suspension of customs duties [without payment, with the exception of the service fee], and transit through the country to their final destination. Also to promote the export of Angolan products, the service charge, currently 1.0% FOB (mode where the seller places the product on board a ship without additional costs), will be reduced to 0.5% "Ex-Works" (mode in which the seller is limited to selling the product and the buyer bears the transportation costs).

The directors also told Jornal de Angola that the 2017 Customs Tariff should contribute to the diversification of the economy and to increasing national production, as well as to revenue collection, protection of national production, broadening of the tax base, reduce smuggling and counterfeiting and improving the living conditions of the population and the operation of the business sector. (14-07-2017)

## **ALGERIA TAKES LEAD IN RENEWABLE ENERGY**

When it comes to renewable energy potential in [Africa](#) Algeria is top on the list and General Electric aims to ride that momentum, a regional manager has said.

Mr Touffik Fredj, said that regarding [Algeria's size](#), it has a great capacity for wind energy. Algeria is also heavily involved in energy transition and the integration of renewable energies, Touffik acknowledged. He also said they anticipate seeing this transition happen and thereby reinforce their commitment to support the government's ambitious renewable energy development plan.

By 2030, Algeria aims to install about 22,000 MW of renewable power, which would be about eight times the level of natural gas consumption according to today's standards.

Algeria is ranked the 10th-largest natural gas deposits holder in the world and is the 3<sup>rd</sup>-largest supplier to Europe. However, due to lagging foreign investments, its exports have been in decline and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned its economy may be at risk from lingering weakness in oil prices.

As at March 2017, the European Union said it was offering \$42.7M in financial assistance to support the energy reform in Algeria, which is a known member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. A third of the funds allocated by the EU will be a backbone to institutional and regulatory frameworks necessary to promote renewable energy.

One of the leaders in Algeria's emerging renewable energy sector, Italian Energy Company Eni is laying the groundwork for development alongside state-owned energy company Sonatrach. The Italian energy company said that come November, it would work through a partnership with GE on a wide range of projects tied to low-carbon power options like wind and solar power.

The government of Algeria has planned for oil shocks by focusing more on non-hydrocarbon revenue streams.(CRO 12-07-2017)

#### **ANGOLA CABLES STARTS CONSTRUCTION OF DATA CENTRE IN FORTALEZA, BRAZIL**

The data centre that the Angola Cables company started to build in Fortaleza, the Brazilian state of Ceará, is expected to start operating in the first quarter of 2018, said executive president António Nunes. This centre, where the company will invest 72 million reais (US\$22.1 million), will be connected to the receiving station for SACS and Monet submarine cables, with the latter expected to start operating at the end of the year and SACS only at the end of 2018.

António Nunes, laying the first stone of the building on Monday, said that the data centre will have an area of 3,000 square metres just for information technology equipment and added that it will serve for the development of a digital economy in the entire region of the Brazilian Northeast and, through Fortaleza, to establish international connections.

The governor of Ceará, Camilo Santana, said that the building will house one of the largest data centres in Latin America, with connections to Europe, Africa and North America, "and there is no doubt that it will open the doors of Fortaleza to the world."

The global project with receiving stations and submarine cables has an estimated cost of US\$300 million, and financing has been guaranteed by the Angolan government and made available by Banco de Desenvolvimento de Angola (BDA).

The SACS (South Atlantic Cable System) is a 40 terabit per second (Tbps) transatlantic submarine cable linking Africa to Brazil (Luanda to Fortaleza), with a 24-Tbps submarine cable linking Brazil to the United States (Santos, Fortaleza and Miami). (12-07-2017)

#### **A US\$ 548M CEMENT PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ZAMBIA**

[Zambia mining investment](#) arm in conjunction with China's Sinoconst is set to [construct](#) a US\$ 548m cement plant so as to help diversify the economy to reduce reliance on copper mining in the country. President Edgar Lungu recently confirmed the reports and said that Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Investment Holdings (ZCCM-IH) and Sinoconst will raise financing for the project from local and international financial institutions.

“Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Investment Holdings (ZCCM-IH) and Sinoconst will come together and raise financing for the project from local and international financial institutions,” Lungu said. Zambia’s is among the top African countries with the highest copper production and the industrial metal is the main foreign exchange earner and a key employer but it has been trying to diversify away from mining to insulate itself from commodity price shocks by investing in other areas including agriculture. The new cement plant will be set up in Ndola in Zambia’s copperbelt, about 400 km north of Lusaka and is projected to be complete in the next three years and create roughly 1 000 jobs at construction stage. “The copperbelt being a largely mining province and with the cyclical nature of this industry has affected job security and I believe this project could not have come at a better time,” Lungu concluded. The plant is anticipated to have a daily output of approximately 5 000 t of cement and also have two 20 MW coal-fired power plants to provide electricity to the facility. Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Investment Holdings is an investments holdings company with diversified interests in mining, energy and other sectors of the Zambian economy. ZCCM-IH has its primary listing under ISIN number ZM0000000037 on the Lusaka Stock Exchange and secondary listings on the London Stock Exchange and the Euronext Stock Exchange in Paris.(CRO 17-07-2017)

## BEAC HITS SLIGHT GROWTH RECOVERY IN CEMAC ZONE

The Monetary Policy Committee (CPM) of the Bank of Central African States (BEAC) has posted "a gradual growth recovery", at sub-regional level, thanks to the dynamism of the non-oil sector.



In a note issued on Wednesday at the end of its ordinary session held the day before in the Cameroonian capital Yaounde, it said in light of the updated economic, monetary and financial data for 2017, a slight recovery of the economic growth has been witnessed with a rate of + 0.8 percent in real terms, a mitigation of inflationary pressures with a rate of + 1.6 percent at the end of December last.

The CPM also notes a drop in the deficit of the budgetary balance, base commitments, excluding grants, estimated at -3.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), an improvement in external accounts, with a current account deficit of 7.9 percent of GDP.

In terms of foreign exchange reserves, the committee also noted their gradual replenishment, while encouraging further efforts, including the signing of aid agreements for economic recovery with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Based on these analyzes and after examining the various factors influencing monetary and financial stability in the CEMAC zone, the CPM decided to reduce the penalty rate applied to banks and -treasuries from 10 percent to 7 percent and to maintain unchanged the other major rates. (APA 12-07-2017)



## DANGOTE TO INVEST \$3.8BN IN SUGAR AND RICE IN NIGERIA

Dangote Group, controlled by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, plans to invest \$3.8bn in sugar and rice, and \$800m in dairy production in the next three years as the company seeks to expand and deal with a shortage of dollars in its home market of Nigeria.

The conglomerate plans to increase its production of sugar to 1.5-million tonnes a year by 2020 from 100,000 tonnes now and is seeking to add 1-million tonnes of rice, Edwin Devakumar, executive director at Dangote's industries unit, said in an interview in Lagos on Tuesday, Nigeria's commercial hub. The company also plans to have 50,000 head of cattle producing 500-million litres of milk a year by 2019, he said.

A lack of foreign exchange means companies struggle to pay for imported goods, increasing the burden on local agriculture to meet demand for food from Nigeria's population of more than 180-million, Devakumar said. "All raw sugar has to be imported today; same thing for flour milling."

Dangote, whose cement unit is Nigeria's biggest listed company, has been investing in agriculture as the country's government seeks to diversify away from oil, which accounts for 90% of the nation's export earnings and the bulk of its revenue. The economy, which plunged into its first recession in a quarter-century last year amid falling crude prices, is forecast by the World Bank to expand by 1.2% this year.

The company has established Dangote Rice Ltd and will list the unit on the Nigerian Stock Exchange "at the appropriate time", Devakumar said.

Dangote plans to cultivate 350,000ha of land for sugar cane and add 200,000ha for rice, according to the executive director. The company has ordered five plants for sugar milling and 10 for rice from Switzerland to be located in the north of the country, he said.

### Sourcing funds

The Lagos-based company will finance the projects through "internal resources or equity funding" and loans from banks and export-credit agencies, Devakumar said. The funds will be used mainly to procure "farm development equipment" as well as sugar and rice mills.

Dangote is "at the planning stage" to invest in other agricultural projects including production of soybean, oil palm, palm kernel and corn, according to the executive director. It will support rice cultivation by supplying high-yield seeds, pesticides and fertilisers to contract farmers, he said.

Dangote, 60, has a net worth of \$12.1bn, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, which ranks him just inside the top 100 worldwide. (Bloomberg 12-07-2017)

## AUSTERITY MEASURES SAVED NAMIBIAN ECONOMY

Namibia's Presidential economic adviser, Dr John Steytler Wednesday applauded the government for instituting a series of budget cuts, which in his opinion saved the country from an imminent "economic heart attack".



Speaking during a panel discussion on the state of the national economy organised by Nedbank Namibia in Windhoek, Steytler claimed: "The budget cuts were necessary because even though the economy is weak at the moment, it is now in a better position than it was two years ago."

Namibia has been going through torrid times for the past two years due to a slump in the global economy.

As a result, the government was forced to implement austerity measures, including slashing the budgets for the 2016/2017 and 2017/18.

The cost cutting measures resulted in a complete halt of government capital projects, which almost crippled the construction industry.

However, President Hage Geingob chief economist said the budget cuts helped remedy economic crisis. He said the current economic crisis require collaborative effort from all stakeholders, given that the government cannot do it alone.

He cautioned against the current situation where the local economy is dependent on government spending.

"Businesses should also drop the habit of solely depending on the government and adopt other sources of funding," the former statistician general said. (APA 12-7-2017)

### **SIZE OF DRC'S INGA 3 PLANT TO DOUBLE TO CUT COSTS AND MEET POWER DEMAND**

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has decided to more than double the size of its planned Inga 3 hydroelectric plant to make it more economical, after the \$14bn project was hit by financing problems. Inga 3 is part of a \$50bn-\$80bn project to expand hydroelectric dams along the Congo River, but the project has repeatedly been delayed by red tape and disagreements between the DRC and its partners on the project.

A consortium led by China Three Gorges Corporation and another consortium that includes Spain's ACS (Actividades de Construcción y Servicios SA) have been vying to develop the project. They will now submit a joint bid on the expanded project in September, the project's director said on Wednesday.

Bruno Kapandji, director of the Agency for the Development and Promotion of the Grand Inga Project, said the plant would be built to produce between 10,000MW and 12,000MW of power, more than double the originally planned capacity of 4,800MW.

Increased capacity would help meet rising power demand and bring down costs, he said, although he did not say how much the expanded project would cost.

The original \$14bn project struggled to attract financing, and in 2016, the World Bank suspended funding after the president's office took control of the project, raising transparency concerns at the bank.

The plant is projected to provide power for SA as well as mines and other consumers in the DRC.

However, campaign group International Rivers said in June that Inga 3 would incur massive debts and that the plant would deliver little to no electricity to consumers inside the DRC because of transmission losses and because production would not meet its target. (Reuters 12-07-2017)

### **JAPAN ANNOUNCES FREEZE ON AID TO MOZAMBIQUE**

Japan has frozen US\$100 million in donations and loans to Mozambique due to the scandal of undisclosed loans by two public companies, the head of Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA) announced in Mozambique.

Katsuyoshi Sudo, quoted by African news agency APA, said the funds will be released after the Mozambican government reaches an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which has frozen aid to Mozambique until an audit of the loans is published.

The JICA representative also said that economic relations between Japan and Mozambique, where the Japanese annually apply between US\$120 million and US\$140 million in donations, loans and project financing, will not be affected.

A mission of the International Monetary Fund arrived in Maputo on Monday, where it will remain until 19 July, to analyse with the Mozambican authorities the conclusions of the audit of undeclared loans carried out by Kroll Associates UK.

The IMF considers that the publication of the summary of the audit results is an important step towards transparency regarding the loans taken on by Mozambican tuna company Ematum and undisclosed loans involving public companies Proindicus and Mozambique Asset Management (MAM).

It believes, however, that 'information gaps persist, in particular regarding the use of loans,' in the amount of US\$2 billion, taken on by public enterprises held by the State Information and Security Services (SISE), which were not disclosed to parliament and international partners in 2013 and 2014. (14-07-2017)

### **EU HELPS PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY USE IN NAMIBIA**

The European Union (EU) on Wednesday gave N\$7 million (€525 920) to the Namibia Red Cross Society to help in its efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change, and promote renewable energy use in rural Namibia.



Namibia Red Cross Society (NRSC) has teamed up with the Spanish Red Cross to implement the 'Promoting Renewable Energy for Climate Change Mitigation Initiatives in Namibia' project.

NRSC secretary general Naemi Heita said they aim to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change in rural areas, by promoting the use of renewable energy-efficient technologies. As part of the project, NRSC will facilitate the distribution of solar lamps to 200 households, construct 200 improved biomass cooking stoves, and install irrigation water pumps in 10 selected communities in the Kavango East and West regions, as well as in Zambezi region. Speaking during the handover ceremony in Windhoek, EU Ambassador to Namibia Jana Hybášková said mitigation programmes on climate change are a priority for the European Union. "Under the mitigation component, the EU is supporting Namibia to reduce the vulnerability of the rural population to the adverse impacts of climate change," she said.

With only 45 percent of Namibians having access to electricity, Heita said with financial help from the EU, the project will target poor households and small-scale farmers "to increase the use of renewable forms of energy and energy-efficient technologies in their daily life". (APA 12-07-2017)

### **IMF PRAISES G/BISSAU PUBLIC FINANCE SUCCESS STORY**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) representative in Guinea-Bissau, Óscar Melhado, on Wednesday spoke of the government's "good performance" in the control of public finances.





Melhado told a press conference in Bissau that his institution just approved the third assessment of the objectives set by the government of Guinea Bissau.

The IMF representative voiced his approval considering, he said, this was the result of the rigorous work done in recent months.

The “good performance” is to be credited to the Minister of Economy and Finance, João Mamado Aladje Fadiá, but also the Guinean-Bissau President José Mário Vaz, Melhado declared.

“I would say that fiscal consolidation and greater management of the public treasury is a major achievement of the economic life of the country,” Melhado continued, and called on the authorities to translate these gains into “real gains” for the whole population.

Meanwhile, the World Bank country representative, Kristina Svenson, has announced a package of support for Guinea-Bissau, including \$25 million for the installation of a submarine cable in the country to improve Internet services.

Svenson also announced a “significant support” from the World Bank in collaboration with other partners for the water and energy sectors, and \$3 million for a fruit and vegetables production and export company. (APA 12-07-2017)

## ALGERIA: NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION MODES



As part of the political component of the EU-funded SwitchMed programme, Algeria has developed a national action plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production, entitled '42 Actions to Develop Sustainable Consumption and Production'.

Algeria has been working towards sustainable development since the early 2000s, through a series of laws and regulations, as well as strategic measures such as the National Action Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development, and programmes of energy transition and development of renewable energies.

Now, a National Plan of Action on Consumption and Sustainable Production Modes (NAP-SCPM) has been developed and adopted. It was drawn up following an assessment of Sustainable Production

Consumption Modes in Algeria, which concerned all sectors related to consumption and sustainable production.

The NAP-SCPM is intended for all organisations, businesses, administrations, local communities and civil society associations to take individual and joint initiatives to promote and encourage, through concrete and innovative actions, new products and the use of cleaner technologies.

The Plan of Action has identified priority actions to:

- Integrate sustainable consumption and production patterns into national policies and plans;
- Ensure the energy transition through the promotion of energy efficiency and the development of renewable energies;
- Develop a zero-waste economy by 2030.

The SwitchMed sustainable consumption and production programme aims to promote a switch by the Mediterranean economies towards sustainable consumption and production patterns and green economy, including low-emission development, through demonstration and dissemination of methods that improve resource and energy efficiency. It also seeks to minimise the environmental impacts associated with the life cycle of products and services and, where possible, to promote renewable energy. (EEAS 12-07-2017)

[Download the National Action Plan](#)

[SwitchMed](#)

## **CHINA PLEDGES \$18M TO BUILD NEW MOZAMBICAN ARMED FORCES BARRACKS**

Visiting Chinese Defence Minister Chang WanQuan has promised that China will continue to support training programmes for the Mozambique defence armed forces (FADM) staff, as well as exchange programmes between their military higher education institutions, APA can report on Wednesday.



To that effect, Defence Minister Chang WanQuan announced the provision of additional funding to Mozambique's Ministry of National Defence of \$18 million to build barracks in the country. The agreement was formalised late on Tuesday during a meeting between the ministerial delegations of defence of Mozambique and China.

Mozambican Defence Minister (MDN) Atanásio M'tumuke said the funds will finance the construction of a defence and security forces (FDS) barracks in Maputo province.

According to Minister M'tumuke, Chang WanQuan and President Nyusi held a courtesy meeting which reviewed the state of cooperation between Mozambique and China in various sectors.

Chang Wanquan, who is on a three-day visit to Mozambique since Monday, also held a closed door meeting with his Mozambican counterpart, and in a media statement recalled Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi's visit to the People's Republic of China in May 2017.

Defence Minister Atanasio M'tumuke, the statement said, emphasised the need to further strengthen bilateral relations.

M'tumuke said in addition to training for the FADM, the two countries should also cooperate in military infrastructure, logistics and health, to make the Mozambican defence forces more operational. (APA 12-07-2017)

## ALGERIA SIGNS AGREEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN MEDITERRANEAN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INITIATIVE



The European Union and Algeria have successfully concluded negotiations for Algeria's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA). The agreement was initialed on 11 July in Algiers.

This agreement is an important step towards the full accession of Algeria to PRIMA right from its inception, expected in early 2018.

The PRIMA initiative (2018-2028), funded in part by the EU research and innovation programme Horizon 2020, aims to develop new solutions for sustainable water management and food production in the Mediterranean region. The partnership currently consists of 19 participants, including several countries in the Southern Mediterranean region (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia).

PRIMA will be financed by a combination of funding from the participating countries (currently €274 million) and a contribution of €220 million from the EU through Horizon 2020. (PRIMA 12-07-2017)

### PRIMA initiative

## SOUTH SUDAN RESUMES RIVER TRANSPORT

The Minister of Information in Fashoda State, South Sudan has said river transport routes have re-opened to allow traders move goods to the towns of Kaka, Kodok and Malakal.

The routes were closed following the outbreak of civil war in 2013.

Speaking on Tuesday Mr. Othor Akouj said the state government resolved to re-open the river transport after they provided security.

“The river transport routes have been re-opened, and boats are now moving from Kodok to Malakal and from Malakal to Kodok and from Kodok to Renk,” he said.



He said the routes will allow the traders to transport goods especially the ones that have been imported from Sudan to Upper Nile region.

According to Mr. Akouj there were fewer trade activities being carried in the area due to the closure of the river routes.

He said the presence of security and peace in the area has encouraged the state government to re-open routes.

“Vehicles are moving from Kaka to Kodok and then to Malakal and this is showing that there are security and stability in the state,” Akouj said.

Mr. Akouj claimed there were no attacks since the routes were re-opened recently. (APA 11-07-2017)

Angola is no longer Africa's largest oil producer

14 July 2017

[| Angola](#)

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

In May Angola lost its place as Africa's main oil producer and fell further back in June, with Nigeria occupying that position once again, according to the monthly oil market report for July 2017.

Based on secondary sources, in May Angola produced 1.602 million barrels of oil against 1.637 million barrels by Nigeria, with this difference increasing in June with Angolan production of 1.668 million barrels and Nigerian production of 1.733 million barrels.

In June, compared to May, Angolan production increased by 66,000 barrels per day, while Nigeria recorded an increase of 96,700 barrels per day.

On the basis of direct communication, Angola only lost its place as the largest oil producer in Africa by 1,000 barrels per day, with production of 1.662 million barrels, against 1.663 million barrels by Nigeria.

In June, Nigeria's production increased by 168,800 barrels per day, while Angola's increased by 69,000 barrels.

Meanwhile, Portuguese news agency Lusa reported that last June the average value of a barrel of oil sold by Angola stood at US\$44.5, already below the US\$46 on which the 2017 State Budget was based.

The agency also noted that the price of a barrel of oil in June dropped by US\$6 compared to May. (macauhub)

## CONTROVERSIAL LOANS

Energy revenue 'will aid restructuring of Mozambique debt'

### IMF delegation arrives in Mozambique to follow up on a damning external audit into loans that were not cleared through parliament

14 July 2017 - 05:52 Alexander Winning

Picture: JEREMY GLYN

Moscow — The outlook for a restructuring of \$2bn of controversial borrowing by Mozambique state companies will be better in 2018 as the country receives more earnings from its energy resources, says a senior Mozambican diplomat.

An IMF delegation has arrived in Mozambique to follow up on a damning external audit into loans that were not cleared through parliament.

The discovery of the loans prompted the IMF and western donors to end budgetary support for Mozambique, leading to a collapse of its currency and defaults on its debt.

Creditors including Russian bank VTB and Credit Suisse, which arranged the controversial \$2bn loans, are waiting for restructuring to start.

"It is important we restructure Mozambique's debt to VTB. I think that next year, things will be different," said Mario Saraiva Ngwenya, Mozambique's ambassador to Russia.

"We have started to get some money from some oil and gas contracts," he said.

Mozambique has large natural gas reserves in which international energy firms have bought stakes. Earlier in 2017, Italy's Eni signed an \$8bn deal to develop a gas field off the coast of Mozambique.

VTB said on Thursday it was open to dialogue with Mozambican officials with the aim of reaching a settlement that met conditions imposed by the IMF for debt sustainability.

"We have proposed several different restructuring options to the government of Mozambique. Currently, the involved parties are waiting for the IMF debt sustainability assessment; this will allow for the restructuring talks to fully begin," VTB said.

Ngwenya said there had been preliminary talks between officials from Mozambique's finance ministry and VTB Capital, the investment-banking arm of VTB.

*Reuters*

Mobile money services proving ever popular and growing in much of Africa

### Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for more than half of all mobile money services worldwide, with 140 active products across the region, according to a report

13 July 2017 - 06:03 Staff Writer

A man enters a customer's mobile cellphone sim card details on an MTN Group Ltd registration machine at a roadside kiosk in Lagos. Picture: BLOOMBERG/GEORGE OSODI

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for more than half of all mobile money services worldwide, with 140 active products across the region, according to a report on Wednesday by mobile phone operators organisation GSMA.



The adoption of mobile money in sub-Saharan Africa has grown significantly over the past 10 years as it gives millions of people e-access to financial services for the first time.

GSMA director-general Mats Granryd said mobile operators in the region were using mobile money to create new financial ecosystems that could deliver a range of innovative new services across multiple industry sectors, including utilities and agriculture.

Mobile money platforms have evolved beyond money transfer to bill payments and international remittances, among other things. The volume of these new payments services almost quadrupled between 2014 and 2016 and now accounts for about 17% of all mobile money transactions, driven by a significant rise in the number of mobile-based bill payments. According to GSMA, there were 277-million registered mobile money accounts across sub-Saharan Africa at the end of 2016, plus 1.5-million registered agents.

In SA, mobile money products have not been successful because of the country's sophisticated banking systems.

However, innovative financial technology platforms have been introduced aimed at improving the banking experience. In some African countries, more than 95% of payments are still in cash, against the global best practice of 30%-40%, BankservAfrica and McKinsey said recently. (BD

### Angola wants to become a major world coffee producer

14 July 2017

[| Angola](#)

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Angola expects to produce 50,000 tons of coffee by 2022, six times more than the production of 8,000 tonnes recorded in the period from September 2016 to June 2017, the Angolan ambassador to Brazil, Nelson Cosme said on Wednesday in Medellin, Colombia.

Cosme, speaking on behalf of Angolan Agriculture Minister Marcos Nhunga, led the Angolan delegation to the World Forum of Coffee Producers that took place from 10 to 12 July in Colombia's second city.

The ambassador highlighted the Angolan government's actions to make the country a major world producer again and noted the support that is being provided by the Common Fund for Commodities of the World Coffee Organization, which provided US\$8 million for a project to renovate and plant robusta coffee in several regions of Angola.

Before independence in 1975, coffee production in Angola reached about 230,000 tonnes per year, making it the fourth largest coffee producer in the world.

In the aftermath of the civil war that followed independence and only ended in 2002, coffee production dropped to almost nothing, with production of 2,400 tonnes in 2016/2017, according to statistics from the World Coffee Organization. (macauhub)

### Mediterranean migration route: European Parliament looks for long-term solutions

13-07-2017

Share

# EUROPE Dead and missing at sea

Number of Dead and Missing by Route

(Jan -Jun, 2016 and 2017)



## UNHCR

The European Parliament's Civil Liberties Committee on 12 July held a hearing on search-and-rescue operations, relations between different actors including EU military vessels, Frontex staff and NGOs, the need to fight people smugglers, as well as cooperation with the Libyan authorities.

Most MEPs in the debate defended the work of NGOs from criticism that their presence and rescue interventions are encouraging perilous journeys, and even supporting human traffickers. Nevertheless, some MEPs agreed that a code of conduct was needed to create order in operations at sea.

Many voiced doubts about the cooperation with Libya, pointing to the political instability in the country, the unreliability of its authorities and the heightened risk of abuse and violence faced by migrants who are returned to its shores.

Finally, most MEPs considered that a longer-term solution is needed, with a well-functioning asylum system, based on fair burden-sharing by all member states, combined with legal ways for migrating to the EU as well as a strategy to address the root causes of migration in the countries of origin.

According to [UNHCR data](#), 2,253 persons have died or gone missing trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea between 1 January and 30 June this year, almost all of them (2,171) in the Central Mediterranean route to Italy.

**Read more**

[Press release](#)

[Watch the video recording of the hearing](#)

## **Cabo Verde moves to create the first Special Maritime Economic Zone in the Portuguese-speaking countries**

17 July 2017

[| Cabo Verde](#) [| China](#) [| Zona Económica Especial](#)

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

The project of the future Special Economic Zone (EEZ) of São Vicente, Cabo Verde (Cape Verde), is a priority for the government and the country is preparing to receive the first facility of this kind, focused on the maritime sector and created with the support of China in the Portuguese-speaking countries.

On a recent visit to the island, accompanied by the ambassador of China, the Cape Verdean Prime Minister, Ulisses Correia e Silva, said the integrated project provides for maritime transport, port operations, fishing, specialised logistics support services as well as tourism, science and specialised education in the sea sector.

“I have no doubt that we have found the solution and from here we can make all the difference in the medium and long term, in order to get the economy to work and grow, generating jobs and income, creating investment opportunities for entrepreneurs and achieving people’s happiness,” said Correia e Silva.

He said the feasibility study for the project was being prepared, based on the government’s initial concept and with a view to accelerating the implementation of the project.

“The government and our partners, particularly China, are willing to do that. We need to bring the other side – Mindelo society – on board,” he said.

The Cape Verdean government has predicted that the project will be operational by the end of the current term, in just over three years.

From China, support for the project was guaranteed by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi at a meeting in Praia with his Cape Verdean counterpart Luís Filipe Tavares.

Wang Yi noted the importance of Cabo Verde’s geographical position at the time, adding that the Cape Verdean government “expressed a willingness to participate in the Chinese government’s, ‘Belt and Road’ initiative.”

In an interview with Macao magazine, published in the next issue, Ulisses Correia e Silva said that China is a “privileged partner” in the project, for its role in supporting its creation, but also given the possibility of the EEZ being able to provide services to Chinese companies and to the wider market.

The advantages of the project include the “archipelago’s strategic” location between Europe and West Africa, as well as China’s experience in the creation of EEZs, the Cape Verdean prime minister said in an interview on the sidelines of the recent meeting of Portuguese-speaking entrepreneurs, in the Cape Verdean capital, Praia. (macauhub)

**Mediterranean New Chance: seeking to improve youth employability in the Mediterranean**

14-07-2017

Share

**Union for the Mediterranean**

The Mediterranean New Chance (MedNC) project – a project labelled by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) – has held its Steering Committee in Barcelona to share its results and discuss the next steps in promoting the employability of young jobless people who have dropped out of school.

Labelled by the UfM in 2014 in the framework of its Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs), the MedNC project aims to boost the employability of unemployed graduates and young people who have dropped out of school before obtaining a degree.

The project supports a regional network of accredited training and professional integration centres to promote a shared and innovative teaching model, with the collaboration of the public authorities, the private sector and the civil society.

It not only addresses the challenges of youth unemployment and early school leaving, but also builds on the huge potential offered by youth as driving force for development, therefore impacting the regional stability and integration in the Mediterranean.

The meeting brought together representatives of national coordinators and local partner centres in Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Spain which reported on progress made, the difficulties met and the best practices achieved.

After a successful period of three years of implementation, discussions also focused on key aspects for the continuation of the project, including regional coordination and the integration of new partners.

**Read more**

[Press release](#)

[Mediterranean New Chance project](#)

### ***Mozambique-Drugs-Health***

**Alcohol cause of mental disorder among Maputo youth - official**

- Jul 16, 2017 à 17:02
- 73

### ***APA-Maputo (Mozambique)***

***Mozambique's Office of Prevention and Combat Against Drugs (GPCD) has said the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the city of Maputo last year left a total of 2,014 young people between the ages of 16 and 25 with mental disorders, APA learnt on Sunday,***



GPCD director Sara Jafete is quoted by state-controlled weekly Sunday paper Domingo as saying that the group affected includes students, mainly from secondary school.



“Students mix alcohol with soft drinks and it becomes difficult for teachers to notice that their students are consuming alcohol and these are the cases we have seen in hospital units in Maputo,” said Jafete.

The office has held lectures and campaigns in several schools in Maputo to combat the trend, and Jafete appealed to parents and guardians not to give their children large sums of money.

“Love for our children is not measured in money, especially large amounts. Most of the time teenagers do not know how to manage money, and end up slipping into the world of drugs,” she warned.

According to Domingo, since the beginning of the year, 94 people have been detained for involvement in the sale and consumption of drugs, with Maputo city police commander Bernardino Rafael declaring that several drug rings have been broken up.

CM/as/APA

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

---

- **NEWS**

- MARKETS
- PERSPECTIVES
- SECTORS
- TRENDS
- COMPANIES
- INNOVATION



DR Congo's Inga 3 dam to double in size to 12GW

13 July 2017 | By GCR Staff [0 Comments](#)

- [facebook](#)
- [twitter](#)
- [gplus](#)
- [linkedin](#)

**The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has decided to more than double the size of the Inga 3 basse-chute hydroelectric project to make it more attractive to investors and lower its cost per megawatt.**

Under new plans the plant will now produce between 10 and 12GW of electricity rather than the 4.8GW originally planned, said Bruno Kapandji, the director of the Agency for the Development and Promotion of the Grand Inga (ADPI), yesterday.

Completion of the scheme has also been put back to 2024 at the earliest, from 2020-21 as formerly planned, the ADPI [said](#).

Work on the \$14bn project is being pursued by two consortiums: Spain's Pro Inga, led by ACS and Eurofinsa, both based in Madrid, and Chine d'Inga, led by China's two largest hydropower companies, Three Gorges Corporation and Sinohydro.

They did not believe the 4.8GW plan would be economically feasible, Elisabeth Caesens, an Open Society Fellow researching hydro power in Congo, [told](#) the Reuters news agency. "So the Pro Inga team

came up with a radically different design,” she said.

Last month the ADPI asked the bidders to [form a single team](#) and submit a revised bid. This will now be done in September, according to Kapandji, who did not give a price for the revised scheme.

Grand Inga already has customers for its electricity: the South African government has signed a power purchase agreement and mining companies in the DRC are chronically short of power. However, the process of funding it was struck a blow by the decision of the World Bank to withdraw its support for the scheme in July last year.

International Rivers, an advocacy group that opposes the Grand Inga project on the grounds that it will benefit international mining companies rather than the population of the DRC, suggested that the bank had withdrawn support because the DRC was rushing the development in order to honour its PPA with South Africa.

If the World Bank will not finance a project it typically cannot raise funds on international capital markets.

The DRC, a country with vast mineral wealth, has been impoverished by 50 years of conflict, corruption and political instability. The main issue now is the continuing refusal of President Joseph Kabila to stand down after his term of office expired in December last year.

Inga 3 is the first of a series of hydro schemes that are expected to be built on the Inga Falls. The best-case scenario envisages eight or more power stations built over the course of 50 years for a total investment of about \$100bn.

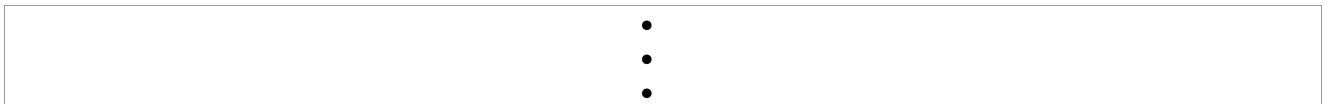
The total installed capacity of the falls will be between 40 and 50GW, making it the largest power producer on Earth and a key to Africa's industrial development.

*Image: The Inga Falls on the lower Congo: the best hydroelectric site on Earth (Alchetron/Creative Commons)*

Further Reading:

- [Consortiums bidding for huge Inga 3 dam asked to merge](#)
- [World Bank halts funding for Grand Inga Dam in DR Congo](#)
- [Chinese bidder praised for speed in DR Congo's massive dam contest](#)

2017 à 17:02 **Alcohol cause of mental disorder among Maputo youth - official**



1. [Accueil](#)
2. [News](#)
3. IGAD adopts regional biodiversity protocol, strategies

### ***Ethiopia- IGAD- Biodiversity***

#### **IGAD adopts regional biodiversity protocol, strategies**

- Jul 16, 2017 à 15:43
- 21

### **APA-Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)**

***The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on Saturday adopted a regional biodiversity protocol and related strategies at the conclusion of a two-day meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.***



Executive Secretary of IGAD Mahboub Maalim said the protocol would help to mobilize resources and create much more cooperation on the issue of ecosystem development in the region.

IGAD ministers of environment approved the protocol on biodiversity management, which the Maalim described as a milestone achievement.

According to Maalim, regional economic integration in the Horn of Africa could be realized through prudent management of natural resources and trans-boundary ecosystems.

Recently, Ethiopia and Kenya launched a cross-border program which is the first of its kind.

“We are building on that high-level political support to help all linked in cross-border trans-boundary cooperation among member states” he added.

IGAD region is characterized by severe droughts and recurrent famine, which reflects the high level of land degradation and water shortage.

This poses a great threat to sustainability of ecosystems and sustained livelihoods for the people in the region.

Ethiopia’s Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister, Dr. Gemedo Dalle said the availability and endorsement of such a regional protocol is not enough to protect the biodiversity resources in the region.

“It is rather the level of our commitment to properly implement the protocol that would contribute to the sustainable management of the biodiversity resources in the region”, he suggested.

MG/as/APA

## **Communication Africa**

**Communications**  
Africa Afrique



## Expand Anywhere with High-Speed Connectivity

Always ready, no matter where your business takes you.



CONNECT TODAY >




# AFRICAN.

We can help grow world-class business out of Africa.

We are your technology partner.

**LIQUID**  
TELECOM



# Life is Always On



- [Home](#)
- [Internet](#)
- [Mobile](#)
- [Satellite](#)
- [Commerce](#)
- [Security](#)
- [Power](#)
- [Broadcast](#)
- [Radio](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Magazine](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

• [Alcatel-Lucent](#)

• [Event News](#)



- [Event List](#)
- [AfricaCom 2013](#)
- [AfricaCom 2016](#)
- [Current Issue](#)
- [Magazine Archive](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [Contact Us](#)






- [Home](#)
- /
- [Internet](#)
- /
- Direct Pay Online expands to South Africa

## Direct Pay Online expands to South Africa

- [Print](#)
- [Email](#)

Details

Tuesday, 04 July 2017 06:09

## The Kenyan payment solutions firm has continued Southern Africa expansion with the acquisition of PayThru South Africa



Direct Pay Online to expand into South Africa. (Image

source: Public Domain Pictures)

The acquisition strengthens Direct Pay Online's position as the leading e-commerce group in Africa. Direct Pay Online was established in Kenya in 2006 and has since expanded to Uganda, Rwanda, Zanzibar, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Botswana. The Group processes merchant payments, mobile money, and e-wallets, and holds PCI DSS Level 1 Certification, the highest security certification in the global payment cards industry.

Commenting on the investment, Offer Gat, the DPO group chairman said: "Investing in market leading businesses in the online payments space is a core pillar of our growth strategy. Our vision is to provide one payment solution across Africa and this acquisition brings us one step closer to that goal."

PayThru was established in South Africa in 2010 and is a subsidiary of PayThru UK. The company's knowledge and expertise serving the South African market over the past six years has led them to sign a number of high-quality online businesses with transaction volumes growing steadily month on month. DPO's acquisition of PayThru means that these clients, including online retailers TakeALot.com, Superbalist.com and online food delivery service Mr. Delivery, (Communications Africa

## Tanzania to continue with hydroelectric project at Selous Game Reserve

Jul 13, 2017

280

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

There has been a heated debate around the development of the Stiegler's Gorge hydroelectric project at the Selous [Game Reserve](#) since the government announced its intentions to continue developing it.

Ecologists are opposed to the project on grounds that its implementation could damage the World Heritage site.

However, last week during the meeting of the World Heritage Committee in Poland, the government delegation gave the country's firm position to execute the project. Major General Gaudence Milanzi, the permanent secretary in the natural resources and tourism ministry, led the government team.

[Also read:Algeria takes lead in renewable energy](#)

The delegation made consultations with senior officials of the World Heritage Centre and its advisory bodies on the issue and submitted a letter officially to the centre expressing the country's position.

The media cited a statement from the ministry which stated that Milanzi argued before the committee that plans to build the dam have been on the government agenda from the 1960's.

The Selous Game Reserve covers about 50,000km<sup>2</sup> with the proposed project expected to just only 3% of the area.

Major General Milanzi maintained that the Selous Game Reserve was included in the World Heritage List with the project on the table.

Notably, when the reserve was being inscribed in 1982, the International Union for Conservation of Nature considered that the Stiegler's Gorge project was of no important environmental concern, considering the vast size of the property, Major General Milanzi had argued.

Milanzi also pointed out that Tanzania has recently made a firm decision to industrialize the economy, thus significantly increasing the energy demand in the country.

It has also been imperative to reconsider Stigler's Gorge as the momentous power source, bearing in mind the current power generation options.

Milanzi acknowledged that at full capacity, the project would boost the total power production for the country by an average of about 145%. (CRO

# Dangote Cement to invest US\$4bn to increase productivity in Africa

Jul 13, 2017

149

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

Dangote Cement [Plc](#) which is a fully integrated cement company in Nigeria is planning to invest a whopping US\$ 4bn in its company so as to increase its production capacity in Africa.

The company plans to do the investment in the next two to three years.

Group Executive Director at Dangote Industries Limited, Mr. Edwin Devakumar confirmed the reports and said they are seeking to expand across Africa so as to hit an annual production of about 80-million tonnes within the next three years.

“Our focus in the next three years is that we should be going toward 80-million metric tonnes of cement production,” he said.

Mr. Devakumar also pointed out that the expansion would be funded through loans from Chinese and Indian banks as well as cash flows. Further to that, the company plans to construct a 1.5-million metric tonne cement plant in Congo in six weeks time.

They are currently in the process of signing an agreement for three more plants in some West African countries.

Dangote is Africa's biggest cement producer having an annual production capacity of 45-million tonnes.

In 2015, Dangote signed approximately US\$ 4.5bn worth of contracts with China's Sinoma Engineering to build cement plants across Africa. At the time Dangote projected to reach 100-million tonnes production capacity by 2020.

Dangote, whose interests includes flour milling, agriculture, real estate and truck assembly, faces intense competition, particularly from main rival Lafarge Africa, which combined its South Africa operation with its publicly traded Nigerian business to accelerate growth in Africa.

The company majorly owned by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, operates in more than 14 African countries and has about a 45% market share in sub-Saharan Africa.(CRO

## Mega water project in Kenya's Kericho County to continue

Jul 13, 2017  
109

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)



A major water project in [Kericho](#) will now continue following the compulsory acquisition of 10 acres of land from the Unilever Tea Company.

Kericho County governor Paul Chepkwony says that the Kimugu Water Project located near Brooke Trading Centre will be a major relief for residents who have been facing water problems over the years.

“Once the project is complete Kericho Water and Sanitation Company (Kewasco) will double supply of water to 22m litres daily from the 13m litres currently.

According to Professor Chepkwony, the new project will bring an end to water supply interruptions experienced in the past and allow Kewasco to expand its customer base, all with a view to ensure that more than 70% of Kericho County has access to clean drinking water.

[Also read: Water crisis in Cape Town affects construction sector](#)

The governor said the Kimugu project will be implemented concurrently with the \$23.4m Kusumek Water Project in Bureti Constituency which has been worst hit by water shortage. Kusumek project will be a big relief to more than 40,000 residents of Bureti served by Tililbei Water Company.

Every 3 among 10 people worldwide lack access to clean water at home, a new joint report by [World Health Organisation](#) (WHO) and Unicef shows. This translates to 2.1Bn people. Of the world’s total population, another six out of 10 or 4.5Bn people lack safely managed sanitation, according to the report.

The joint report which gives 2017 update on Sustainable Development Goals, presents the first global assessment of “safely managed” drinking water and sanitation services. Its overriding conclusion is that too many people still lack access, particularly in rural areas (CRO

## EU cracks down on illegal import of cultural goods used to finance terrorism

14-07-2017

Share



European Commission

The European Commission has put forward new rules to clamp down on the illegal import and trafficking of cultural goods from outside the EU, often linked to terrorist financing and other criminal activity.

*"Money is oxygen to terrorist organisations such as Daesh," said Commission First Vice President Frans Timmermans, announcing the measures. "We are taking action to cut off each of their sources of financing. This includes the trade of cultural goods, as terrorists derive funding from the looting of archaeological sites and the illegal sale of cultural objects. By preventing them from entering the EU, we can help dry up this source of income."*

At the moment, the EU applies prohibitions on goods from Iraq and Syria but there is no general EU framework for the import of cultural goods, and current rules can be exploited by unscrupulous exporters and importers, who can use the profits to fund illegal activities such as terrorism.

The new rules foresee a number of actions which should ensure that the importation of illicit cultural goods becomes much more difficult in the future:

- A **new common EU definition for 'cultural goods' at importation** which covers a broad range of objects including archaeological finds, ancient scrolls, the remains of historical monuments, artwork, collections and antiques.
- The introduction of a **new licensing system** for the import of archaeological objects, parts of monuments and ancient manuscripts and books.
- For other categories of cultural goods, importers will now have to go through a **more rigorous certification system** by submitting a signed statement or affidavit as proof that the goods have been exported legally from the third country.
- Customs authorities will also have the power to **seize and retain goods** when it cannot be demonstrated that the cultural goods in question have been legally exported.

A string of crimes against our common cultural heritage have been perpetrated by warring factions and terrorist entities all over the world. Recent reports have also shown that valuable artworks, sculptures and archaeological artefacts are being sold and imported into the EU from certain non-EU countries, with those profits potentially used to finance terrorist activities.

**Read more**

[Press release](#)

[Q&A on new proposal to fight illicit trade in cultural goods](#)

# Improving irrigation for agriculture in Egypt: new call for proposals launched

13-07-2017

[Share](#)



EU Delegation in Egypt

A call for proposals has been launched under the European Union-Joint Rural Development Programme (EU-JRDP) in Egypt. The programme, which is part of the EU's ENPARD initiative for agriculture and rural development, aims to improve the quality of life of the people living in rural areas of the governorates of Matrouh, Minya and Fayoum, with a focus on sustainable management of territorial resources.

Since last year, the programme has been working on the rehabilitation of irrigation schemes in the areas of Bahr Awlad Mohamed and Bahr Biahmu, both in Fayoum, and Hafez Al Sharkyia in Minya. This is based on: i) the restoration and reconstruction of damaged main canals and Mesqas, ii) the adoption of policies to ensure the safeguard and efficiency of irrigation services, iii) the integrated and programmed maintenance of main canals and mesqas. In addition, EU-JRDP is providing a grant for solid waste management in the same areas of intervention.

It is within this framework that a call for proposals has been published for 'Improving on-farm irrigation in Fayoum and Minya'.

The call aims to create creating synergies with other EU-JRDP initiatives in irrigation, and mainly targets the improvement of irrigation systems at farmers' field level (marwas).

The overall indicative amount available under this call is €1.2 million. The deadline for submission of applications is 3 September 2017.

**[Read more](#)**

[Press release](#)

[Call for proposals](#)

[EU-JRDP website](#)

[EU Delegation to Egypt](#)

```
<iframe src="//www.googletagmanager.com/ns.html?id=GTM-W9SLGS" height="0" width="0" style="display:none;visibility:hidden"></iframe>
```

Discover Thomson Reuters

[Financial](#)[Government Solutions](#)[Legal](#)[Reuters News Agency](#)[Risk Management Solutions](#)[Tax & Accounting](#)[Blog: Answers On](#)[Innovation @ Thomson Reuters](#)

[Directory of sites](#)

[Login](#)

[Contact](#)

[Support](#)



3 DAYS AGO

Gambia on funding drive to become first sub-Saharan nation free of malaria

14 HOURS AGO

U.S. health insurers want Cruz proposal dropped from Senate bill

A DAY AGO

More non-doctors providing U.S. nursing home healthcare

18 HOURS AGO

Less stress might mean lower blood sugar for overweight women

17 HOURS AGO

Study says women are better at crowdfunding

[#PhilipMorrisFiles](#)

[#CompanyResults](#)

[#Wimbledon](#)

[#TopNews](#)

[#TheWiderImage](#)

[#Monsoon](#)

[#Slideshows](#)

SECTIONS

[Business](#)[Markets](#)[India](#)[World](#)[Tech](#)[Commentary](#)[Breaking](#)[views](#)[Sport & Life](#)

FEATURED







PicturesReuters TV

EDITION



INDIA

[#CREDIT RSS](#)

JULY 12, 2017 / 3:21 PM / 3 DAYS AGO

## Gambia on funding drive to become first sub-Saharan nation free of malaria

Kieran Guilbert

3 Min Read

•

DAKAR, July 12 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - Gambia could become the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to eliminate malaria on its track record of combating the mosquito-borne disease but more donor funds are needed for the "last mile" of the drive, health experts said on Wednesday.

The prevalence of the malaria parasite in children under five has plunged to 0.2 percent from 4 percent in 2011, according to the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP).

The total number of new malaria cases across the West African nation has fallen by about 40 percent in that time - to 155,450 last year down from 262,000 in 2011, NMCP data shows.

Gambia is aiming to achieve the milestone of having no new malaria cases by 2020, but donor fatigue is a concern with a funding gap of over \$25 million, said NMCP head Balla Kande.

"This last mile is the most difficult - we need more support to sustain the gains we have made yet donors often turn their attention elsewhere as cases drop," he said, adding that malaria rates in Gambia may rebound if more funding is not secured soon.

Kande hopes that Gambia's new leadership under President Adama Barrow, who won a December election to bring an end to 22 years of autocratic rule under Yahya Jammeh, will attract back donors after many left during the previous regime.

"There is a better working environment under Barrow, with less constraints and less political uncertainty," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "The fear of the unknown has gone."

Aside from the usual control measures, such as antimalarial drugs, insecticide-treated bed nets and indoor spraying, Gambia has successfully used technology to tackle malaria, according to Carla Fajardo of aid agency Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Tablets, online platforms and GPS have been used to track delivery of the above strategies, with real-time data enabling decisions to be made on the fly, while internet service providers have boosted bandwidth in remote areas, Fajardo said.

The world has made huge strides against malaria since 2000, with death rates plunging by 60 percent and at least six million lives saved globally, the World Health Organization (WHO) says.

But efforts to end one of the world's deadliest diseases - which kills about 430,000 people a year, mostly children in sub-Saharan Africa - are under threat as mosquitoes become increasingly resistant to measures such as bed nets and drugs. (Reporting By Kieran Guilbert, Editing by Belinda Goldsmith; Please credit the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the charitable arm of Thomson Reuters, that covers humanitarian news, women's rights, trafficking, property rights, climate change and resilience. Visit [news.trust.org](https://news.trust.org)) (DEV

## US\$ 221m set aside for expansion of South African Breweries

Jul 12, 2017

212

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

US\$ 221m is set to be invested on the expansion project of the South African Breweries (SAB; multinational beverage and [brewing company](#) Anheuser-Busch InBev (AB-InBev) has confirmed. The expansion will be made in two new packaging lines for returnable glass bottles, at its Alrode and Rosslyn breweries, in Gauteng.

SAB noted that the new packaging lines will have the capacity to bottle 45 000 bottles an hour and that SAB will purchase four-million crates and 48-million bottles to start production.

The Alrode packaging line will be in production by August this year, while Rosslyn's packaging line will be on line by October 2017.

[Also read: Serengeti Breweries injects US\\$78,000 into safe water projects in Tanzania](#)

During a recent media tour of SAB's Alrode bottling plant, the Johannesburg-based brewing and bottling major announced that its investment would be in addition to the public interest commitments made by AB-InBev during last year's acquisition of SABMiller, whereby AB-InBev agreed to invest US\$ 74m in South Africa over five years.

AB-InBev Africa president Ricardo Tadeu confirmed the reports and said that the investment is key and would help increase SAB's capacity by between 7% and 8%.

"This investment will also have a positive impact on South Africa's agriculture and agro processing sectors. We are investing in the local production of barley, which will optimistically assist South Africa to become exporters of barley as a raw material," he said.

Through this initiative, SAB would contribute towards the company's sustainable development goals, which are aligned with South Africa's National Development Plan. (CRO

## Rwanda boasts of increased electricity connection

Jul 12, 2017

59

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

The Rwandan Prime Minister Anastase Murekezi while in Parliament to brief lawmakers on the state of the economy yesterday said, that the number of people connected to electricity in Rwanda has increased threefold over the last seven years.

Addressing members of both chambers of Parliament, yesterday, Murekezi said the number of Rwandans connected to power has increased from 10.8 per cent in 2010 to the current 34.5 per cent.

The Premier said that though the Government had given itself a target of increasing energy levels to at least 563 megawatts and to supply it to 70 per cent of the population, achieving this required a whopping \$3.2 billion. In the last seven years, the energy sector has used a budget of Rwf881.7 billion, to fix the financing issue, the Government now partners with the private sector.

[Rwanda needs US\\$70m to bring down electricity losses in the network](#)

He also outlined several other challenges, including lack of adequate and timely reparations in areas where activities connected to energy are about to take place. He cited the challenge of many people living in scattered settlements, which makes it hard for the Government to collectively connect them to electricity. Only 55.8 per cent of Rwandans live in organized settlements, commonly called Imidugudu.

Currently, the country has 208.36 megawatts of hydro power and 98.68 megawatts from solar, methane gas, peat and generators. In the last seven years, it has increased the energy supply from 97 megawatts in 2010 to 208.36 megawatts presently.

[Also read: Power imports and constructed projects to boost electricity supply in Rwanda](#)

The Premier said that energy generation and distribution was an extremely costly venture and the money to inject in such projects can't be mobilized at once. For instance, to get one megawatt, it requires \$4 million. Connecting one home requires \$1,000 (about Rfw840, 000). Of this amount, a subscriber's contribution is only Rfw56, 000, which is not even 10 per cent.

MP Berthe Mujawamariya said that the locals, especially upcountry, are happy that they finally have electricity. However, when one looks at the performance contracts of districts, you realize that the pledges that they make in terms of electricity are very ambitious compared to the budgets of the stakeholders from the private sector, making it impossible to supply more electricity to more people. (CRO

## Angola begins rehabilitating over 1000km of Railway

Jul 7, 2017

126

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

[Angolan Minister of Transport](#), Augusto da Silva Tomás, has described the rehabilitation and modernization of the 1.344km of railway and installation of new communication and traffic control systems as important investments of the [Angolan State](#) on the Benguela Railway (CFB).

During a working visit to 8 locomotives acquired in December 2016 by the Angolan Government, Cabinet Minister da Silva Tomás said that the locomotives are aimed at reinforcing the capacity of transportation of people and goods.

He also revealed the Government's investment plan in the rehabilitation of 2 train stations and the construction of 65 crossing points and highlighting 6 stations of 1st class and 8 of 2nd class.

According to da Silva Tomás also, the purchase of office equipment and the completion of construction of Benguela Railway Training Center in Huambo, whose investments will bring economic growth, employment and improved living conditions for Populations.

Minister da Silva Tomás has had meetings in the province of Benguela, as part of the meetings of the public companies in the sector.

Rail transport in Angola consists of three separate Cape gauge lines that do not connect: the northern Luanda Railway, the central Benguela Railway, and the southern Moçâmedes Railway (southern). The lines each connect the Atlantic coast to the interior of the country. A fourth system once linked Gunza and Gabala but is no longer operational.

Railway construction in Angola began in 1887, while the country was a colony of Portugal. The Luanda Railway opened in 1889, the Moçâmedes Railway opened in 1910, and the Benguela Railway opened in 1912.

It continued to be extended inland until 1961, when the Moçâmedes Railway reached Menongue.[1][2] After Angola attained its independence from Portugal in 1975, the Angolan Civil War broke out and lasted until 2002.

The prolonged fighting resulted in the destruction of most of Angola's infrastructure. The rebels blew up bridges, tore up track, and sabotaged the right of way with land mines to prevent the railway from being restored. (CRO



- [Buildings](#)
- [Industrial](#)
- [News](#)
- [West Africa](#)
- [Nigeria](#)

## Nigeria to save \$1.5b annually on gas Project

Jul 7, 2017

109

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Tweet on Twitter](#)

If the Natural Gas project, an initiative that was first introduced by Nigerian Gas Company, NGC, in 1989 is sustained, the federal government would be saving about \$1.5 billion annually, managing director of NIPCO Plc, Sanjay Teotia has said.

The Natural Gas project reportedly achieved a modest success with the only downside being the unavailability of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations.

According to the managing director of NIPCO Plc, Sanjay Teotia, between 2012 and 2016 the federal government, saved over \$10 million in foreign exchange, adding that the NGVs provides lot of prospects

and opportunities for countries that have realized the need, created awareness and made appropriate regulations for using natural gas as a vehicular fuel.

[Also read:Ministry urged to speed up Tanzanian's Liquefied Natural Gas project](#)

The federal government had in 2007 granted license to NIPCO Plc to implement the pilot project in Benin City, Edo State, in partnership with NGC, which led to the formation of a Joint Venture, JV company, known as “Green Gas Ltd”.

The JV successfully implemented the pilot with nine operational CNG stations catering to over 4000 NGVs.

Teotia said the project presents significant potential for gas utilization in Nigeria as the economic situation is mainly driven by fuel pricing and scarcity of petroleum products, while fuel pricing issue is driven by the “excessive subsidy” required by government to maintain availability of refined products (CRO

## Oil Review Africa

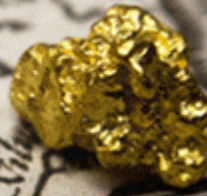
**Oil Review** Oil · Gas · Petrochemicals  
**Africa**

**African Review**

of BUSINESS and TECHNOLOGY

Click here for free subscription

**52**  
YEARS  
SERVING BUSINESS IN  
AFRICA SINCE 1964



- 
- [Home](#)
- [Exploration](#)
- [Gas](#)
- [Downstream](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Geology](#)
- [Technical Focus](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Magazine](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

- 
- 
-

- 
- 
- 
- 
- [Event News](#)
- [Event List](#)
- [Africa Oil Week](#)
- 
- [Current Issue](#)
- [Magazine Archive](#)
- 
- [About Us](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Subscribe](#)



## Masterclass Maintenance and Reliability Practitioners

Lead the way by becoming one of the few certified CMRP practitioners






- 
- [Home](#)
- /
- [Exploration](#)
- /
- [Exploration](#)
- /

- Offshore field development surveys commence in Senegal's Sangomar blocks

## Offshore field development surveys commence in Senegal's Sangomar blocks

- [Print](#)
- [Email](#)

Details

Friday, 30 June 2017 06:38

### Cairn Energy has commenced field development surveys in the Sangomar Offshore and Sangomar Deep Offshore blocks, covering 400 square kilometres of the coast of Senegal



Oil and gas discoveries in Senegal could improve access to energy across the country, especially in rural areas. (Image Source: jbdodane/Flickr)

This geophysical, shallow geotechnical and environmental survey in the SNE field will help Cairn, and its joint venture partners, Woodside Energy, FAR and Petrosen, plan and engineer the facilities needed to develop the field for the West African country. Lloyd's Register has been contracted by Cairn to provide project management and technical assistance for the surveys, which are expected to be completed by September.

Lloyd's Register employees will be focusing on ensuring optimum information on seabed and sub-seabed conditions are used to enable facilities to be designed safely and efficiently, and investigating relevant seabed areas and shallow soil zones, assessing the location for important marine life habitats.

Additionally, the brief covers geotechnical site investigation to help Cairn develop a suitable subsea production system. This will involve drill centres connected via flowlines and umbilicals to a FPSO, as well as providing information on pipeline routes to get the oil and gas to shore.

Cairn and its joint venture partners received approval from the Senegalese government in 2015 for their evaluation plan, with Cairn going on to drill four further appraisal and exploration wells in the SNE field in the first half of 2016. Operators and the government hope that the discovery of hydrocarbons in Senegal will have a transformative effect across multiple industries

Fernando Matos Rosa

[fernando.matos.rosa@sapo.pt](mailto:fernando.matos.rosa@sapo.pt)  
[fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be](mailto:fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be)

