



Insight & Access. Projects & Trade.

Insights & Access: Notes from Africa
Issue 283, December 2018

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Africa House is a research & consulting company based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Working exclusively in sub-Saharan Africa, we offer insight and access into the African trade and project environment through the provision of intelligence on projects and bespoke research on opportunities in markets.

Our Services:

Africa House provides:

Projects: On-going research and intelligence on greenfield and brownfield projects to a dedicated subscriber base

Trade: Market and partner identification, export strategy development and commercial feasibility

Access: To the world's fastest growing markets through a team that has worked in 30 countries across the continent over a period spanning 30 years

Insights: What is driving the continent and targeting regions of high opportunity going forward.

**Please note that Africa House will be closed from Friday 14 December 2018
and will re-open on Tuesday 08 January 2019.**

**We would like to thank you for your support over 2018 and wish you well
over the festive season.**

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Nacala – ready for take-off

Africa House recently completed its first Virtual Visit to Nacala. The main finding of this visit is that Nacala is on the verge of a major take off in growth. For those of you who may have missed the launch of the *Africa House* Virtual Visit, these allow subscribers to engage with a visit through a Virtual Visit report that is the next best thing to actually visiting an area of business opportunity such as Nacala.

As with all our group visits destinations we visited Nacala because it represents future business opportunities for our subscribers. These opportunities are, or will be, driven by four main factors:

- 1) The fact that Vale are now successfully exporting coal from Tete to Nacala creating a virtuous cycle of business opportunity mostly from an operational point of view.
- 2) The recent development of an expanded privately concessioned rail network spanning the whole sub-region including Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia.
- 3) The fact that the pending LNG projects will in all likelihood reach Financial Investment Decision (FID) before the end of 2019.
- 4) Potential diversification of the mining industry away from coal.

The most important outcome of this visit is the fact that *Africa House* was able to gather a substantial amount of information to support the fact that the expanded rail network will positively address some key challenges that have inhibited growth in this region to date. Most of the 18 million people who live along the Nacala corridor are employed in the agricultural sector. Commercial and small-scale farmers have been severely constrained by the lack of electricity and the high cost of transport. The

new rail network will not only offer cheap and reliable transportation options, it will also allow access to coal as a resource to provide electricity to the agro-processing industry. In its recently released energy master plan, the government has listed coal fired power station projects in Tete, Cuamba and in Nacala. Current and future distribution and transmission projects are also prioritised for this region.

We believe that the expected approval of the LNG projects next year will speed up investment in the agricultural sector along the Nacala corridor due to the expected increased demand for related goods and services on the back of rising incomes in the region.

While it is to be expected that Vale will protect its competitive advantage in coal exports, there is no good reason why the long-awaited iron ore and other mining projects in the region will not take off on the back of the fact that they have access to markets in the East and a Port. An Australian Junior Miner has announced that it has signed a transportation agreement with the Corridor Company to export graphite from a mine in Malawi. According to various sources Mozambique has the potential to develop further Mineral Sands along the coastal area from Cabo Delgado to Zambézia Province. These deposits contain ilmenite, rutile and zircon. Mineral resources such as tantalum, rare earth elements, and precious stone can also be produced. These are all minerals that are used to make components for electronic devices, retardation plates, circuit boards, optical filters, detector windows, and many other products. There is the possibility of phosphate in the Monapo area, which is located 100 km east of Nampula City. Further development of graphite in Cabo Delgado Province and in Malawi is a real possibility

justifying the construction of new rail infrastructure into the area close to Pemba, which is the centre of an emerging graphite mining and production hub.

One of the disappointments of the visit is that there is not much information on the development of a downstream chemicals industry in Nacala, as envisaged in the Gas Master Plan of the Government. Also, from a commercial property and retail perspective there are a lot of incomplete projects and not much evidence of this sector taking off. While it is inevitable that these sectors will pick up at some point, there is no activity at present.

Tourism operators also informed us that in Nacala and surrounding areas there is not much evidence of a revival, but there is very strong consensus that this sectors, as with energy, agriculture and mining, is on the cusp of a major uptick in activity. The only issues that there is not agreement on is when this boom will actually start and what the pace of growth will be. At this point our advice would be to assume this uptick in activity will start 12 to 18 months after FID is announced. From a business development perspective this means that relevant firms have to be ready with their local partners by the end of next year.

AFRICA HOUSE GROUP VISIT REPORTS

Available exclusively to Africa House Subscribers

Rwanda: Transport, Power & Tourism

Nigeria: Power Sector

Botswana: Kazungula

Uganda: Kampala, Lake Albert

Côte d'Ivoire: Abidjan, San Pedro Port Development

Tanzania: Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, Lindi

South Africa: Saldanha Bay, Richards Bay

Mozambique: Nacala, Maputo, Pemba, Palma Tete, Beira

DR Congo: Kinshasa-Matadi & Katanga, North-Western Province

Zimbabwe:

Harare

Zambia: Lusaka, Solwezi, Mpulungu, Luapula Province

Cameroon: Douala, Kribi

Congo Republic: Pointe-Noire

Kenya: Nairobi, Lamu

Ethiopia: Addis Ababa

Ghana: Accra, Tema, Takoradi Ports

DR Congo: Lubumbashi-Likasi-Kolwezi

IN THIS EDITION

- MoU Signed for the Construction of the Angola Zambia Oil Pipeline (AZOP) Project
- *AfDB* to Finance Local Projects in the National Agricultural Sector, Angola
- World Bank Grant Allows Government to Continue National Digital Transformation Strategy, Comoros
- Agreement Signed for the Development Kinshasa-Brazzaville Road-Rail Bridge Project
- Geological Work Begins on Lizetta II Nickel/Cobalt/Chrome Exploration Project, Côte d'Ivoire
- Ethiopia Set to Launch its First Earth Observatory Satellite
- Government to Launch Call for Tenders to Obtain Exploration Permits in Shallow & Deep Waters, Gabon
- Construction of Accra Sky Train Project, Ghana
- Plans to Build Five-Star Hotel Next to Menengai Crater, Kenya
- Pre-feasibility Study Conducted at Malingunde Saprofite-Hosted Graphite Project, Malawi
- Implementation of Nkhata Bay Water Supply & Sanitation Project, Malawi
- Plans to Develop Aerodrome in Afungi, Mozambique
- *Gazprom Neft* Signs MoU with the Government for the Exploration of Four Oil Blocks, South Sudan
- Plans to Construct New Parliament Building, Zimbabwe
- Construction of New Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Plant in Nairobi, Kenya
- Plans to Construct Dodoma Referral Hospital, Tanzania
- Negotiations Underway to Sign Oil Exploration Contract, São Tomé & Príncipe

PROJECTS

Africa House subscribers are welcome to contact Bulbul
Johannesburg telephone 27 11 728 5878
Email: bulbul@africainfo.co.za

For templates/further details/contacts pertaining to specific Projects listed below

Templates including contact details of the projects below will follow in the *Africa House* Database in approximately 7 days, exclusive to *Africa House* subscribers.

Alternatively you can track them on the Ventures Onsite Project Tracker.
<https://africahouse.venturesonsite.com/login>

ANGOLA

The Angola Ministry of Mineral and Oil Resources and the Zambia Ministry of Energy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that could result in the construction of an oil pipeline between the two countries. The estimated cost of the pipeline is US\$5 billion. The **ANGOLA-ZAMBIA OIL PIPELINE (AZOP) PROJECT** will link the Lobito refinery with the city of Lusaka.

ANGOLA

The *African Development Bank (AfDB)* will finance local projects in the **ANGOLAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR** starting in 2019, with priority will be given to projects that include agricultural production, industrial processing and marketing.

ANGOLA

The *World Bank* is in the process of financing the **COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT** in Angola.

COMOROS

The *World Bank* has awarded the government of Comoros a grant of US\$10 million in order for it continue its **NATIONAL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY**.

CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC)

The *African Development Bank (AfDB)*, *Africa50* and the Government of the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have signed an agreement for the development and finance of the first **ROAD-RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT** linking the capitals, Kinshasa and Brazzaville. transport networks between the cities, which are currently only linked by ferries.

CONGO (REPUBLIC)

The *African Development Bank (AfDB)*, *Africa50* and the Government of the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have signed an agreement for the development and finance of the first **ROAD-RAIL BRIDGE PROJECT** linking the capitals, Kinshasa and Brazzaville.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

African Battery Metals (ABM) has begun geological work on its recently acquired 380 square kilometres **LIZETTA II NICKEL/COBALT/CHROME EXPLORATION PROJECT** in Côte d'Ivoire.

ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia is set to launch its first **EARTH OBSERVATORY SATELLITE** in September 2019.

ETHIOPIA

The Ethiopian government aims to achieve full electrification of the country by 2025. The current electrification coverage rate is 58.13%. The country's current electricity generation capacity is 4 280 MW, which the government plans to increase to 17 300 MW by 2025. Through the **ETHIOPIA ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM (ELEAP)**, the government is pushing power generation development with large hydropower, wind, geothermal and biomass projects.

ETHIOPIA

The *African Development Bank (AfDB)* has approved an additional US\$123 million grant towards Ethiopia's **BASIC SERVICES TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME**.

GABON

According to the seismic service provider, *Spectrum*, the Gabonese government is set to launch its twelfth call for tenders to obtain **OIL EXPLORATION PERMITS** in shallow and deep waters offshore Gabon.

GABON

The government of Gabon has signed a concession agreement with the *Gabonese Strategic Investment Fund (FGIS)* and pan-African industrial group, *Eranove* for the construction of **TWO HYDRO POWER PLANTS**.

GHANA

The Ministry for Railways Development has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the South African-based *Africa Investment (Ai) SkyTrain Consortium* for the construction of the **ACCRA SKY TRAIN PROJECT**.

GHANA

Ghana's Minister of Communications, *Ursula Owusu-Ekuful* has announced that the government has made significant progress in its implementation of the **NATIONAL RURAL MOBILE TELEPHONY SITES PROGRAMME**.

KENYA

Former Kenyan President *Mwai Kibaki* has announced his plans to build a **FIVE-STAR HOTEL** next to the Menengai Crater in Nakuru.

KENYA

Square Pharmaceuticals Limited (SPL) of Bangladesh is currently building a new **PHARMACEUTICALS MANUFACTURING PLANT** in Nairobi.

KENYA

The **INLAND PORT CONTAINER TERMINAL in Nairobi was inaugurated early this year. However, the *Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)* is seeking further investments in the project.

MALAWI

Sovereign Metals has conducted a pre-feasibility study (PFS) at its **MALINGUNDE SAPROLITE-HOSTED GRAPHITE PROJECT** in Malawi.

MALAWI

The government of Malawi is set to receive a US\$15 million grant from the *African Development Fund (ADF)* for its **NKHATA BAY WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROJECT**.

MAURITIUS

African mezzanine fund manager, *Vantage Capital* has announced that it has provided US\$10 million of mezzanine funding to **CAP TAMARIN VILLAGE**.

MOZAMBIQUE

Portuguese group *Gabriel Couto* has been hired by US-based *Anadarko Petroleum* to build an **AERODROME** in Afungi, northern Mozambique.

MOZAMBIQUE

The *European Union (EU)* has disbursed around €900 000 for **TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** on Ibo Island in Cabo Delgado province.

NIGERIA

The government of Nigeria through the *Family Homes Fund (FHF)* intends to invest US\$1 billion towards bridging the housing deficit. The aim of the project is to build **SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSES** for Nigerians in order to bridge its 17 million housing deficit.

SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

The *National Oil Agency* of São Tomé and Príncipe has announced that it has begun negotiations with a consortium to sign an **OIL EXPLORATION CONTRACT**.

SOUTH AFRICA

Private education group, *AdvTech* is in discussion with sugar and property heavyweight, *Tongaat Hulett* to set up an all-new **PRIVATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS** for 10 000 students in KwaZulu-Natal's burgeoning Sibaya development node near Umdloti, north of Durban.

SOUTH AFRICA

Diamond exploration company, *Botswana Diamonds* has concluded a mining contract with *Palaeo Minerals* covering both bulk sampling activities and potentially future full-scale mining services at the **THORNY RIVER DIAMOND PROJECT** in South Africa.

SOUTH SUDAN

Russia's *Gazprom Neft* has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the South Sudanese Government for the exploration of four **OIL BLOCKS**.

SUDAN

In an attempt to lure Western companies to reinvest in its petroleum industry, the Government of Sudan has announced that it is preparing to launch about 35 **OIL EXPLORATION BIDS** in the second half of 2019.

TANZANIA

Plans are underway for the construction of the new **DODOMA REFERRAL HOSPITAL** on the outskirts of the capital city in central Tanzania.

ZAMBIA

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ZIMBABWE

The Zimbabwean government is set to invest US\$1.6 million in the **BEITBRIDGE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**.

ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe's Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing is set to construct a new **PARLIAMENT BUILDING** in Mount Hampden, a village in the Mashonaland East province of Zimbabwe.

REGIONAL

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION, HOTELS, LEISURE DEVELOPMENTS AND TOURISM-RELATED PROJECTS

(Projects in North Africa/Maghreb Countries are included in this section)

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SPOTLIGHT ON AID AGENCIES, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS, FUNDS & SELECTED RELATED ORGANISATIONS

The **DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (DBSA)** has received US\$55.6 million from the *Green Climate Fund (GCF)*. The funding will enable the bank to establish a R2 billion Climate Finance Facility (CFF). The *DBSA* will provide R650 million and is in discussions with a local institution for the balance. The CFF will co-fund projects and businesses that aim to mitigate or adapt to climate change. The *GCF* is a global fund set up as a funding mechanism of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* to support developing countries in responding to climate change. The CFF is a debt facility that aims to address market constraints in the private sector and play a catalytic role with a blended finance approach in increasing climate-related investments. In addition to South Africa, the facility will also extend financing to the Common Monetary Area (CMA), which includes Namibia, Swaziland and Lesotho.

According to the **WORLD BANK's** 2019 Doing Business Report: Training for Reform, Ghana has improved its ranking to 114 out of 190 economies, up six places from 120 in the 2018 Doing Business

Report. Ghana's ease of doing business score has increased 2.06 points and moved to 59.22. The country's progress can be attributed to reforms in three key areas. The first being that the government has made it easier to deal with construction permits by strengthening construction quality control by imposing stricter qualification requirements for professionals in charge of technical inspections. Secondly, the government has made it easier to pay taxes, by allowing financial losses to be fully carried forward during any of the following five years of assessment. Lastly, the government has made it easier to trade across borders, by implementing a paperless customs clearance processing system. Four African economies – Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and Rwanda – are among the top 10 most improved economies globally.

The **AFRICAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK (AFREXIMBANK)** has signed an agreement with *Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations du Gabon (CDC Gabon)*. According to the agreement, the bank will grant €30 million (US\$34 million) revolving trade financing facility to *CDC Gabon* in order to support the operations of the tenants of the Gabon Special Economic Zone and to provide them with the capacity to export their products. Under the terms of the agreement, the facility would be used to finance the working capital needs of eligible companies in the Gabon Special Economic Zone to help them process timber and make it ready for export. According to *Afreximbank* President *Prof. Benedict Oramah*, most of the processed exports coming out of the Special Economic Zone are directed at neighbouring African countries, which in turn is ultimately strengthening regional economic integration. The facility would indirectly support the Special Economic Zone to succeed as the first and largest industrial park in Gabon.

The Government of Seychelles has launched the world's first **SOVEREIGN BLUE BOND** in order to support sustainable marine and fisheries projects. The bond is valued at US\$15 million over a 10-year period and is partially guaranteed by a US\$5 million guarantee from the *World Bank* and further supported by a US\$5 million concessional loan from the Global Environment Fund (GEF) which will partially cover interest payments for the bond. Proceeds from the bond will be used to support the expansion of marine protected areas, improve governance of priority fisheries and develop the Seychelles' blue economy. Grants and loans will also be provided through the Blue Grants Fund and Blue Investment Fund, managed by the *Seychelles' Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT)* and the *Development Bank of Seychelles*. Proceeds from the bond will also contribute to *the World Bank's* South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Programme, which supports countries in the region to sustainably manage their fisheries resources and increase economic benefits from their fisheries sectors. As one of the world's biodiversity hotspots, Seychelles with an Exclusive Economic Zone of 1.4 million square kilometres, is balancing the need to both develop economically and to protect its natural endowment.

The US Government has established a new agency, the **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION (IDFC)**. It has the seed capital of US\$60 billion for investing in both equity and debt in infrastructure projects such as roads, ports, energy, railways and dams across emerging markets. East Africa will be a key beneficiary as American companies seek to bid for infrastructure construction as the new fund will offer them an avenue to mobilise project funding. Although the US remains Africa's largest donor, committing US\$12.2 billion in 2017 for health, education and agriculture, China and its agencies dominate in infrastructure projects.

TRAVEL NOTES

Travellers are advised to choose reputable, known airlines for regional African connecting flights. **FLIGHT CANCELLATIONS** by smaller airlines can be frequent.

While **VISAS FOR GHANA** can be obtained on arrival in Accra, travellers should know that if they are passing through Côte d'Ivoire to Ghana, the Ivorian authorities will demand a visa for Ghana before allowing entry onto the flight.

Angolan bus operator, *Macon* has launched a route linking Luanda and Windhoek. 47 seater buses will ferry passengers from **LUANDA TO WINDHOEK** three times a week; on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays. The Windhoek to Luanda journey will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Passengers wanting to travel on the route are to pay US\$79 (Kwanzas 24.400) for the trip, with stopovers at several Angolan cities such as Sumbe, Benguela, Lubango and Ondjiva. Additional routes to link Angola to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Botswana, Zambia and South Africa will soon be launched.

The **NAIROBI-MOGADISHU FLIGHTS** are effective from 15 November 2018. National air carrier, *Kenya Airways* is set to launch direct flights from Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) to the Somali capital Mogadishu. The daily non-stop flight will leave JKIA at 07:40 am to arrive in Mogadishu at 9:55 am local time. It will then depart Aden Adde International Airport, Mogadishu at 10:45am to arrive back in Nairobi at 1:00pm.

AFRICA & THE WORLD

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Nigerian President *Muhammad Buhari* is set to sign the **AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)** agreement. The *Buhari* administration had refused to sign the agreement on the grounds that it wished to defend its own businesses and industry. The agreement was signed in March 2018 by 44 African countries. South Africa signed up in early July 2018. Six countries, including Nigeria, are yet to sign the agreement. Nigeria and South Africa have the two largest economies in Africa and along with Angola, they make up about three-fifths of sub-Saharan Africa's annual economic output.

According to South African President *Cyril Ramaphosa*, the **AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)** has the potential to fundamentally transform economies on the continent as it is going to be the largest integrated market on the African continent. It also provides a clear demonstration that Africa is not only on the rise but also on the move. The agreement, which was signed in March 2018, will include a combined GDP of US\$3.2 trillion covering 1.2 billion people. *Ramaphosa* has reiterated the role of the private sector in growing the economy and providing jobs as the private sector and private markets are key players in the African investment landscape, supported by the lending capacity of financial institutions, both on the continent and beyond. 44 countries have signed the deal, including economic powerhouses South Africa, Egypt and Kenya.

URBAN GROWTH in Africa now stands at 3.1% per annum, which is the highest growth rate of all continent.

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ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR SUBSCRIBERS & ACTIVITIES OF AFRICA HOUSE

Roelof van Tonder of Africa House undertook a group visit to Mozambique, 30 October – 2 November 2018 to identify opportunities in and around Nacala.

Roelof van Tonder of Africa House conducted a virtual visit of Nacala, 30 October 2018.

Duncan Bonnett of Africa House presented at the Africa 2019 Business Breakfast Seminar at the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI), 7 November 2018. The seminar explored and discussed the political and economic outlook in the African continent for 2019.

A Côte d'Ivoire roundtable discussion was held at the Africa House offices in Houghton, 15 November 2018, and the lead participants were Paul Runge of Africa House, Mbiya Baudouin of the Export Credit Insurance Corporation (ECIC) of South Africa and Ian Davis of the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) of SA Ltd.

Paul Runge of Africa House attended East Africa Rail 2018 held in Nairobi, 21-22 November 2018.

Africa House hosted a business seminar on the political, economic and business trends in Africa for 2019 at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) offices in Midrand, 27 November 2018.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We no longer talk of 'brain drain' but rather of 'brain circulation'."

(Dr Daan du Toit, Deputy Director General, South Africa Department of Science & Technology on harnessing the skills of African diaspora innovators)

FACT OF THE MONTH

13% of the world's population is estimated to live in sub-Saharan Africa today. That number is projected to more than double by 2050. Four billion (or 36% of the world's population) could live in the region by 2100, according to the UN Population Division. Africa is projected to have over 840 million youth by 2050 with the continent having the youngest population on earth.

FURTHER INFORMATION & INDEMNITY

**IN-DEPTH PROJECT INFORMATION
IS AVAILABLE
FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ABOVE MARKED **
(NO CHARGE FOR SUBSCRIBERS)**

- Inland Port Container Terminal, Kenya

INDEMNITY

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Inserts in bold and italics font indicate participation by Africa House:

The list of Forthcoming Events will be sent to subscribers as a separate document.

