



## Southern Africa Business Dialogue – Country Profiles

### ANGOLA

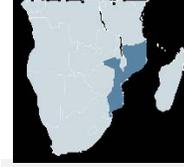


GDP:	124.2 milliard USD
Population:	29.8 million
Export to NL (2017):	€4.8 million
Import from NL (2017):	€153 million
Foreign Investments from NL (2016):	€279 million

**Economic climate:** Angola's economy heavily relies on the country's oil sector: oil production and its supporting activities contribute to about 50% of the country's GDP. The economy is expected to strengthen next year with growth projected to reach 2.8% in 2019. Consumer spending is forecast to benefit from softening inflationary pressures, while easing financing conditions should support fixed investment.

**Political climate:** In September 2017, Angola elected a new president, Joao Lourenco, ending almost four decades of Jose Eduardo Dos Santos' repressive rule. Although Angola still deals with major problems and challenges, there is reason for optimism: In just a year since the transition, Lourenco has accomplished more to stop corruption than any previous Angolan administration.

### MOZAMBIQUE



GDP:	12.33 milliard USD
Population:	29.7 million
Export to NL (2017):	€165 million
Import from NL (2017):	€44.8 million
Foreign Investments from NL (2015):	€33 million

**Economic climate:** Mozambique is on the road to recovery after the economic downturn that started in 2015 due to declining prices for traditional export commodities, persistent drought and a hidden debt scandal. Growth is expected to pick up again next year. Purchasing power of Mozambicans is low and the business climate is challenging. Major sectors include agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure and logistics, energy (mining, gas and renewables) and tourism. Huge investments are foreseen in the exploitation of the enormous gas reserves.

**Political climate:** Since a cease fire in 2016 the country can be regarded as politically stable. In 2018 real progress has been made in the peace negotiations between ruling party FRELIMO and opposition party RENAMO. It can be expected that an overall peace agreement will soon be reached that will draw a final line under the Mozambican conflict.

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### SOUTH AFRICA



GDP:	349.4 milliard USD
Population:	56,7 million
Export to NL (20xx):	€1.3 milliard
Import from NL (2017):	€1.9 milliard
Foreign Investments from NL (2016):	€15.246 million

**Economic climate:** South Africa has a developed economy with advanced economic infrastructure and abundant supply of natural resources. While the South African economy slipped into recession during the second quarter of 2018 the outlook is optimistic. Ramaphosa's economic reforms are likely to support growth over the medium term and economic growth is projected to reach 1.6% in 2019.

**Political climate:** Following Jacob Zuma's resignation as South Africa's president, Cyril Ramaphosa was elected as the new president beginning of 2018. Although the hoped-for fresh-start is taking longer than expected, the new government has shown commitment to stimulate job creation, create policy certainty for investors and to restore trust in public governance.

### ZIMBABWE



GDP:	17,85 milliard USD
Population:	17 million
Export to NL (2017):	€58.6 million
Import from NL (2017):	€17.6 million
Foreign Investments from NL (2014):	€4 million

**Economic climate:** Zimbabwe's economy consists of diversified sectors such mining, agriculture, energy and tourism and the country has a well-educated workforce. However the economy of Zimbabwe continues to face structural challenges as high informality, foreign currency challenges, high public debt, weak investor confidence, and a changing political environment. Progress has been made to improve the ease of doing business, but governance and accountability remain problematic.

**Political climate:** Robert Mugabe, who dominated the country's political scene for almost four decades, resigned in November 2017. Zimbabwe has just held elections in July 2018. Emmerson Mnangagwa is the new president. According to the EU monitoring mission, the elections were competitive and the campaign mostly

peaceful and overall political freedoms were respected. However there was not a true level playing field. After the elections, the excessive use of force by the security forces led to the death of 7 protestors.

## Southern Africa Business Dialogue – Priority Sectors

### TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

Transport is a significant sector in Southern Africa. Almost half of the SADC member states are landlocked and depend on efficient regional transport links for access to the sea, markets and investment. Notable transport corridors include the North-South Corridor (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, DRC, Tanzania); the Maputo Development Corridor (Mozambique, South Africa) and the Lobita Lusaka Corridor (Angola, DRC, Tanzania).

#### Opportunities

- Port planning, development and infrastructure
- Intermodal solutions
- Smart logistics
- Transport solutions for the offshore gas sector
- Cold chain

### WATER

Achieving a water secure future is one of the biggest challenges for Southern Africa in the 21st century. The region is facing climate change and severe droughts, as well as rapidly rising water demand to meet the needs of a fast growing and urbanizing population and changing lifestyles. Economic growth and development is also leading to industrialization in water-scarce regions.

#### Opportunities

- Climate change solutions to address a warmer and drier future, longer and more extreme droughts and more intense floods
- Improving water efficiency, waste water treatment, water re-use and water quality in municipalities, industry and agriculture
- Water infrastructure (pipes, solutions for non-revenue water, dams, irrigation)
- Integrated water resources management

### HORTICULTURE

Africa has the potential to be the foodbasket of the world. To capitalise on its position countries in Southern Africa have to address unstable weather patterns due to Climate Change and the growing demand for higher quality products by both local and international markets.

#### Opportunities

Skills development and training

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- Climate smart agriculture
- Agro-processing and post-harvest management
- Financing models
- Linking farmers to the market

### RENEWABLE ENERGY AND GAS

Southern African countries are struggling to meet the energy demand of their **populations while at the same time committing to 'greening' the economy.** Although **the vast majority of the region's primary energy consumption is** still coal-based, significant developments in the wind, solar, biomass and gas sectors are expected in the coming years.

#### Opportunities:

- Small scale wind solutions
- Solar energy
- Mini grids
- Waste-to-energy
- Gas-to-Power
- Energy Efficiency.