

Webinar Concept Note

The Nexus between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Tanzania and Mozambique

31 March 2026 1400Hrs SAST | Zoom - [register here!](#) | Language – English & Portuguese

African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), Christian Council of Tanzania, Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CDD) and Fossil Fuel Treaty Initiative

1. Background

Oil, gas, and mineral resources are widely available across sub-Saharan Africa. Yet, this resource abundance continues to exist alongside persistent poverty, rising debt distress and deepening inequality in many countries. Rather than automatically driving development, resource wealth has often exposed structural weaknesses in governance, public finance management, and economic diversification.

Two policy papers, *Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Mozambique* and *Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Tanzania*, examine how political economy dynamics and debt pressures interact with major oil and gas investments in these two countries. Both Tanzania and Mozambique have attracted significant foreign direct investment following large natural gas discoveries. While these developments have generated optimism about economic growth and future revenues, the research presents a more cautious picture.

The papers show that oil and gas projects in both countries continue to operate largely as enclaves, with limited linkages to the wider domestic economy and few meaningful spillover effects. They also highlight growing debt pressures, often shaped by expectations that future resource revenues will resolve fiscal constraints. At the same time, institutional weaknesses and governance gaps create space for rent-seeking and elite capture. In resource-hosting regions, inequalities have widened, with instances of community displacement and rising social tensions. The continued expansion of fossil fuel investments also raises important questions about how these strategies align with national climate commitments and the broader shift toward a just energy transition. In both Tanzania and Mozambique, oil and gas investments have therefore not yet translated into structural transformation or inclusive growth. Concerns remain around debt sustainability, equitable benefit sharing, local content implementation, conflict dynamics and policy coherence in the context of the energy transition.

It is against this backdrop that AFRODAD proposes to host a webinar to officially launch the two papers and to facilitate a focused policy discussion on the findings, implications and possible pathways forward.

2. Objectives of the webinar

- **Overall Objective:** To officially launch the two policy papers, *Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Mozambique* and *Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Tanzania* and foster interactive discussions on the development, debt and governance implications of oil and gas investments in the two countries.
- **Specific Objectives:**
 - a. To examine and unpack the key findings of the two papers with a focused view on the relationship between oil and gas investments and debt dynamics and in Tanzania and Mozambique.
 - b. To examine how expectations of future natural resource revenues are shaping public borrowing patterns and fiscal risk in resource-rich economies.
 - c. Formulate concrete, multi-stakeholder recommendations for African governments, industry, civil society and international partners to move from mere transparency to genuine accountability in leveraging mineral wealth.

3. Expected Outputs and Outcomes

- a. Increased awareness among policymakers, civil society actors and development partners of the debt, governance and development risks associated with oil and gas investments in Tanzania and Mozambique.
- b. Enhanced policy dialogue on responsible resource governance, debt sustainability, and the alignment of fossil fuel development with long-term structural transformation and energy transition goals.

Speaking Panel:

Moderator: Riska Koopman, Policy Officer. African Forum and Network on Debt & Development (AFRODAD)

Speakers:

1. Godlisten Moshi, Executive Director, Tanzania Coalition on Debt and Development (TCDD)
2. Gabriel Manguela, Programme Manager, Centre for Democracy and Human Rights (CDD)
3. Veronica Zano, Extractives Expert
4. Seble Samuel, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative



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Webinar overview

Time (Hrs)	Description	Speaker/s
1400 - 1410	Welcome and contextualisation of the webinar	Riska Koopman, AFRODAD
Presentation of two case studies		
	<i>Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Tanzania</i>	Godlisten Moshi, TCDD
1410 - 1440	<i>Exploring the Nexus Between Oil and Gas Investments and Development in Mozambique</i>	Gabriel Manguela, CDD
1440 - 1455	Reflections on extractives & development narratives	Veronica Zano, Extractives Expert
1455 - 1510	Development beyond fossil fuels?	Seble Samuel, Fossil Fuel Treaty Initiative
1510 - 1525	Question and Answers	Elshaday Alemayehu, AFRODAD
1525 - 1530	Way forward and closure	Riska Koopman, AFRODAD