

## Case Study

# A Common Language for Powering Africa: Mission 300 and the Lusophone Path to Clean Energy Investment



The Mission 300 (M300) initiative is one of the most ambitious cooperation efforts currently underway in Africa. Launched in 2024 by the World Bank Group and the African Development Bank, the initiative sets a bold target: connecting 300 million Africans to electricity by 2030. This ambition responds to a stark reality – nearly 600 million people across the continent still live without power, a gap that continues to constrain education, healthcare, industrial productivity, digital inclusion, and overall economic growth.

M300 initiative seeks to close this gap by combining grid expansion, off-grid and mini-grid solutions, policy and regulatory reforms, regional integration and large-scale mobilization of public and private finance. At the center of this approach are country-level energy compacts, designed to align political commitment with long-term planning and translate national ambitions into clear, investable project pipelines.

This process is already taking shape in Lusophone Africa. Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe have finalized their national energy compacts as part of M300 Cohort 2, while Angola and Guinea-Bissau are preparing their own. These experiences were shared during a High-Level Ministerial Roundtable organized by ALER, at the [II Energy Conference of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries](#). The discussion highlighted both the opportunities M300 creates – greater visibility, coordination, and investment readiness – and the challenges countries face in turning ambition into implementation.

One of those challenges lies in policy coordination. African countries already operate within dense and often fragmented policy landscapes that include national development plans, energy master plans, climate commitments, utility reform programs, and donor-supported strategies. When new initiatives are layered on top without coordination, the result is often duplication, contradictory incentives, and stretched institutional capacity. ALER has been working closely with governments to address this risk, helping align energy compacts with existing policy frameworks. When properly integrated, compacts can act as accelerators; when they are not, they risk becoming yet another well-intentioned document that struggles to deliver. Alignment, therefore, is not a technical detail, it is a precondition for lasting impact.

Beyond coordination, M300 places strong emphasis on investment readiness. By anchoring reforms and priorities in energy compacts, the initiative encourages governments to develop

clear, realistic, and sequential project pipelines, projects that can move from planning to procurement and construction. For investors, this clarity matters. A credible pipeline signals long-term commitment and policy consistency, helping reduce perceived risk and unlock private capital. For countries facing limited fiscal space and high debt levels, this can make the difference between sporadic, donor-driven projects and sustained investment flows into clean energy infrastructure.

In this context, ALER is currently supporting the preparation of high-quality energy project pipelines in Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe, with the objective of showcasing them internationally in 2026. Connecting governments with private companies, financial institutions, international investors, and multilateral partners based on a concrete and bankable project pipeline is essential – not only to mobilize capital, but also to improve procurement quality, encourage joint bidding, and accelerate investment in clean, resilient energy systems. The [5th RENMOZ business conference](#), taking place between 9-12 June in Maputo will stage this dynamic, with deals being prepared in advance during a pre-event RENMOZ in Europe 16-17 of March in Brussels, where an investment driven project pipeline will be presented first hand to developers, investors and financiers.

Finally, the energy compacts reinforce a broader recognition that effective energy planning is the backbone of successful energy transitions. This aligns with the outcomes of the G20 Brazilian Presidency, which championed the creation of the Global Coalition for Energy Planning. The Coalition underscores that robust, transparent, and long-term energy planning is essential for energy security, investment attraction, and innovation, particularly in the Global South. This same principle underpins the [2030 Cooperation Roadmap for Energy and Climate for Portuguese-Speaking Countries](#), prepared by ALER and launched at COP30, which places energy planning at the center of a shared vision for clean energy, climate action, and green finance.

When investment pipelines, policies, planning tools, and regional cooperation frameworks speak the same language, countries are far better positioned to attract finance, accelerate clean energy transitions, and turn long-term strategies into tangible results on the ground. ALER is a non-profit association dedicated to accelerating the energy transitions in Portuguese-speaking countries by fostering public-private cooperation and advancing equitable access to clean and sustainable energy, guided by social justice, sustainability, and multilateral cooperation.