

11 November, 2025

# ANGOLA

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE WITH REMARKABLE PROGRESS

**GULF TIMES**  
FOCUS PUBLICATION

**INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE:**  
DRIVING INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSFORMATION

**TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT**  
IN THE POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD

**THE EVOLUTION OF EDUCATION**

**SPORT:**  
A UNIFYING FACTOR AMONG ANGOLANS

**GULF TIMES**

in association with



GOVERNO DE  
**ANGOLA**

Embassy of  
Angola in Qatar



# DISCOVER ANGOLA THE TREASURE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



Angola is a true hidden gem in the heart of Southern Africa. With stunning landscapes ranging from pristine beaches to majestic mountains and a rich diversity of wildlife and flora, this country offers a unique experience for nature and adventure enthusiasts.

Come and explore the wonders of Angola and discover an untouched world of beauty that will leave you speechless.



Embassy of  
Angola in Qatar

# Ambassador's Message

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of National Independence



In the State of Qatar, this mission has been realized through constructive dialogue and growing bilateral cooperation across political, economic, cultural, educational, and technological fields. Relations between Angola and the State of Qatar have been experiencing promising momentum, based on mutual respect, friendship, and a shared vision of cooperation for development.

The partnership between the two countries reflects a common commitment to economic diversification, innovation, and sustainable investment, with a particular focus on the energy, agriculture, tourism, information technology, education, and culture sectors. This rapprochement reflects the political will of both governments to strengthen South-South cooperation and build new bridges of understanding and prosperity between our peoples.

As we celebrate this anniversary, we reaffirm our pride in belonging to a nation that is modernizing while preserving its identity, a nation that values knowledge, youth, and innovation, and that believes in the power of solidarity and international cooperation as tools for the common good.

The magazine we present today, published by the Embassy of Angola in the State of Qatar in partnership with Gulf Times, is intended to be more than a commemorative supplement. It stands as a testimony of hope, achievements, and vision for the future. It revisits our history, highlights the political, diplomatic, sporting, and cultural milestones that have shaped our destiny, and looks ahead to the challenges and opportunities that define a new chapter for independent Angola.

To all those who have contributed to this journey—military, politicians, peacekeepers, diplomats, ordinary citizens, partners, and friends of Angola—I express my deepest gratitude.

May this celebration inspire new generations to continue, with determination and patriotism, to build an increasingly prosperous, just, and supportive Angola.

Long live Angola! Long live 50 years of independence!

**António Coelho Ramos da Cruz**

Ambassador of the Republic of Angola to the State of Qatar.

**C**elebrating half a century of independence is celebrating the strength, dignity, and determination of a people who believed, from the very beginning, in the supreme value of freedom and national sovereignty.

It is also a time for deep reflection on the path traveled and for affirming the collective commitment to the development, national unity, and progress of Angola.

Over the past 50 years, Angola has embarked on a remarkable journey of infrastructure reconstruction and social transformation. It has consolidated its institutions, strengthened democracy, diversified its economy, and established itself as an important regional player, promoting peace, cooperation, and dialogue between nations.

Angolan diplomacy, faithful to its vocation of service and under the guidance of the Head of State, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, has played an essential role in projecting the country's image, promoting strategic partnerships, and defending Angola's interests in the world. Notably, it has been recognized by the African Union as a champion of peace and reconciliation for its active role in conflict mediation across the continent.



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Texts by the Embassy of the Republic of Angola in the State of Qatar, written by national writers, invited for this purpose.

# 50 years of independence with significant progress

**O**n November 11 this year, Angola celebrates 50 years of independence, marked by a journey of advances and steps backward, especially during the dark period of war, which dragged on until April 2002 and only ended with the signing of the Peace Agreement that remains in force to this day.

However, the war is not the only factor behind the lack of development, as there are others such as geopolitical interests and a lack of rigor in the functioning of some key internal institutions and sectors, which have hampered the country's economic growth.

Due to the war effort, many financial resources that should have been channeled

into health, education, and housing were allocated to defense in order to preserve the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

History shows that a war economy mobilizes most of its resources for the war effort, placing other areas on the back burner when it comes to defending the country from war. We

**11<sup>TH</sup> NOV** **ANGOLA**  
INDEPENDENCE DAY



have examples from Mozambique, Palestine, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, and Colombia, to name a few.

Angola's existence was dependent on global geopolitics, with its territory becoming, by proxy, the stage for the "cold war" between the antagonistic blocs that bipolarized the world, delaying its development.

The little that had been achieved disappeared with the post-election war. Schools, bridges, hospitals, roads, villages, towns, and cities were partially or completely destroyed.

Access to robust sources of financing for bold projects to boost its economy was blocked, and those available were predatory.

The new world order, resulting from the fall of the socialist bloc and dominated by the major economies, imposed unfair economic relations, turning loans into veritable "Trojan horses" with terms of access, handling, and interest

rates that stifled any efforts at development.

After the end of the war in 2002, Angola launched its diplomacy and lobbying efforts to hold an international donor conference to raise funds for the reconstruction and development of the country, as was common in similar cases.

Then-President José Eduardo dos Santos, on several occasions, called on the international community to mobilize in this effort, which had become standard practice after a country emerged from devastating wars. However, the world turned its back on Angola, at the time dubbed a "communist country."

The international community claimed that the country had sufficient resources for its reconstruction without the need for external aid.

This attitude led Angola to seek "unorthodox" partnerships, in the Western view, turning to

China, which provided loans that led to the construction of roads, new housing areas, and related social infrastructure such as health facilities and schools.

The most visible was the construction of housing such as the city of Kilamba and the Sequele central district in Luanda, in record time and with innovation for traditional Angolan architecture and engineering.

During this period, however, the management of public affairs was not always the best, as there were situations of lack of parsimony, sometimes corruption, which prevented the country from achieving better results.

The fight against corruption has therefore become the banner of the mandate of the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, since he took over the leadership of the country in 2017.

## The influence of the Carnation Revolution on Angola's independence

The Carnation Revolution in Portugal, which took place on April 25, 1974, was decisive for Angola's independence, where three movements had been waging an armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism since 1961.

In fact, the fall of the dictatorship in Portugal greatly helped to weaken the Portuguese presence in the country, leading to the granting of independence to Angola, which celebrates its 50th anniversary on November 11 this year.

The change of regime in Portugal enabled direct negotiations between the Portuguese government and the three independence movements in Angola (MPLA, UNITA, and FNLA), precipitating the granting of independence after 14 years of liberation struggle.

The political and social movement that took place on April 25, 1974, which overthrew the dictatorial regime in place since 1933, served to liberate the former colonies from the backward system and the Portuguese themselves.

This was the culmination of a series of anti-dictatorship actions triggered by liberation movements and initiatives that, both inside and outside Portugal, called for reforms in Portugal.

It was fundamentally a consequence of the pressure, especially military pressure, that the nationalist movements in Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau put on the colonial power, leading to the colonial war becoming a lost cause for the then colonizing power.

Regardless of the internal contradictions that arose within the colonial power, with the Portuguese population kept under dictatorial rule, armed struggle was decisive in accelerating and overthrowing the colonial regime in Portuguese-speaking African countries.

*The revolution, which was swift and peaceful, was orchestrated by around 200 captains and majors, and ended one of the longest authoritarian regimes of the 20th century.*

By 1975, all Portuguese colonies in Africa had become independent, while in Brazil a Portuguese democratic revolution galvanized hope for the end of the military dictatorship.

The overthrow of the dictatorship in Portugal was largely due to the struggle of the colonized peoples for freedom, an armed, political, but also cultural struggle, as it left several traces of unity, notably the Portuguese language.

Since then, there has been a process of transformation and appropriation of the Portuguese language, which has gone from being the language of colonial occupation to the language of freedom, independence, and national unity.

The revolution, which was swift and peaceful, was orchestrated by around 200 captains and majors, and ended one of the longest authoritarian regimes of the 20th century.

April 25, considered by the Portuguese to be the country's most important date, was named the Carnation Revolution, thanks to civil servant Celeste Martins Caeiro, who on that day distributed red carnations to the soldiers who overthrew the government of Marcelo Caetano.

She worked for a company that had organized a party that day, before it was canceled due to the deployment of troops on the streets of Lisbon. Celeste kept the carnations, which had been bought for the occasion, and when she went out onto the street and saw the soldiers being greeted by the population, she began to distribute them to the military.



Aerial view of Luanda, Angola, showcasing urban development and historical landmarks.

# Independence and peace power infrastructure transformation

**A**ngola's independence, proclaimed on November 11, 1975, and the peace achieved on April 4, 2002, have paved the way for the construction and rehabilitation of major infrastructure including ports, airports, roads, bridges, and hydroelectric dams, all of which have contributed significantly to the country's economic development.

Angola achieved its independence in an environment of strong tensions between the liberation movements (MPLA, UNITA, and FNLA) and, until the signing of the peace agreement in April 2002, the country experienced an armed conflict that tore apart the social fabric and literally destroyed its infrastructure.

A huge effort was required on the part of the government to recover and rebuild the country from the trail of indiscriminate destruction, transforming it into a construction site. The new environment enabled substantial progress in opening up access routes, with approximately thousands of kilometers of paved roads and several bridges built on the main sections of the national road network.



*Angola has rebuilt and expanded critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges, ports, airports, and hydroelectric dams, restoring connectivity, supporting economic growth, and enabling the movement of people and goods nationwide.*

2,171 megawatts of electricity, allowing annual savings of 2,850,000 tons of coal and, consequently, a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of around nine million tons.

The Nduê and Calucuve dams, both in the province of Cunene, are also under construction, in a project of enormous importance for the progress of the region, since, in addition to producing electricity, it will bring improvements in the field of agriculture and livestock.

As part of the diversification of the national energy matrix, the government has invested in renewable energies, with an estimated 500 million kwanzas (1 kwanza equals US\$911) spent on such projects in 2024, focusing on the integration of solar systems in rural communities, which have benefited more than 50,000 families.

These indicators reflect the soundness of the growth strategy for this segment and the Angolan government's commitment to continuously improving electricity supply and promoting the country's development. The goal is to achieve 73% renewable energy production by 2027.

To this end, several projects are underway that will add 500 megawatts of solar energy to the national energy matrix. Another investment in this area is the construction of the Saurimo photovoltaic park, budgeted at €38.8 million, with the capacity to generate 26.14 MW of electricity.

The project includes 44,850 solar panels for the production of clean electricity to supply more than 170,000 families, a solution that helps save more than 19 million liters of fuel per year.

With these investments, the national electricity grid comprises 59.79% hydroelectric energy, 35.74% thermal energy, 3.81% solar energy, and 0.57% hybrid energy, which are essential for the country's socio-economic development and for attracting national and international private investors who wish to do business in Angola.

Another gain in the 50 years of independence is the construction of three refineries in the province of Cabinda and in the cities of Soyo (Zaire) and Lobito (Benguela).

The Cabinda refinery, the first phase of which was inaugurated in September this year with a production capacity of 30,000 barrels per day, will refine 60,000 barrels per day after the completion of the second and final phase.

The first phase of the refinery was budgeted at USD 473 million, with USD 38 million provided by partners and USD 335 million in syndicated financing.

The Soyo refinery, with a capacity to process 100,000 barrels per day, and the Lobito refinery (200,000 barrels per day) are currently under construction.

The new scenario has led to the resumption of the normal movement of people and goods throughout the country, which had previously been hampered by the advanced state of deterioration of the country's main roads.

In the energy sector, an installed capacity of 6,283 megawatts has been achieved, which has met the current demand of 2,375 megawatts, thanks to the construction of several dams, notably Laúca, Capanda, in the province of Malanje.

Another electrical project rehabilitated in the post-independence period is the Cambambe hydroelectric power station, located in the province of Cuanza Norte, which has optimized water and electricity production.

Also during these years, the Luachimo hydroelectric plant in Lunda-Norte gained a new hydraulic circuit and a power plant with 34 MW of installed capacity, equipped with four generator sets of 8.5 MW each.

The commissioning of this circuit has helped to meet the needs of industries, especially in the mining sector, which previously depended on generator sets.

Currently, the Caculo Cabaça dam in the province of Cuanza Norte, the largest in Angola and the third largest in Africa, is also under construction and is expected to be completed in 2026. the Caculo Cabaça dam in the province of Cuanza Norte, the largest in Angola and the third largest in Africa, designed to produce



# Transport development in the post-independence period

Among the various investments made in this area after independence, the António Agostinho Neto International Airport (AIAAN) stands out. It was inaugurated in 2023 in the then municipality of Icolo e Bengo, now a province.

This airport infrastructure places Angola among the African countries with modern airports, equipped to receive large aircraft, including the Boeing B747 and Airbus A380, and to accommodate 15 million passengers, as well as processing 130,000 tons of cargo per year.

Budgeted at around US\$2.8 billion, Angola's largest and most modern airport has 31 boarding and disembarking gates, 19 of which are for international services, and nine baggage carousels, including six dedicated to international flights.

It also has 26 Immigration and Foreigners Service (SME) counters, a parking lot for 1,710 vehicles, 22 VIP lounges, a clinic, and a first aid center attached to the passenger terminal.

It is essential for connections between Africa and the rest of the world, given Angola's geostrategic position, and will be a driving

force for tourism by providing good services to visitors.

In terms of operational access to this development, public transport is available,

with the public company TCUL operating 23 semi-express buses, each with 27 seats, while the Luanda Railway (CFL) runs an express train from Bungo Station in the city center to AIAAN, with more than six daily departures.





In addition to this airport, Angola has obtained certification for Catumbela Airport, in Benguela province, to operate international passenger and cargo flights.

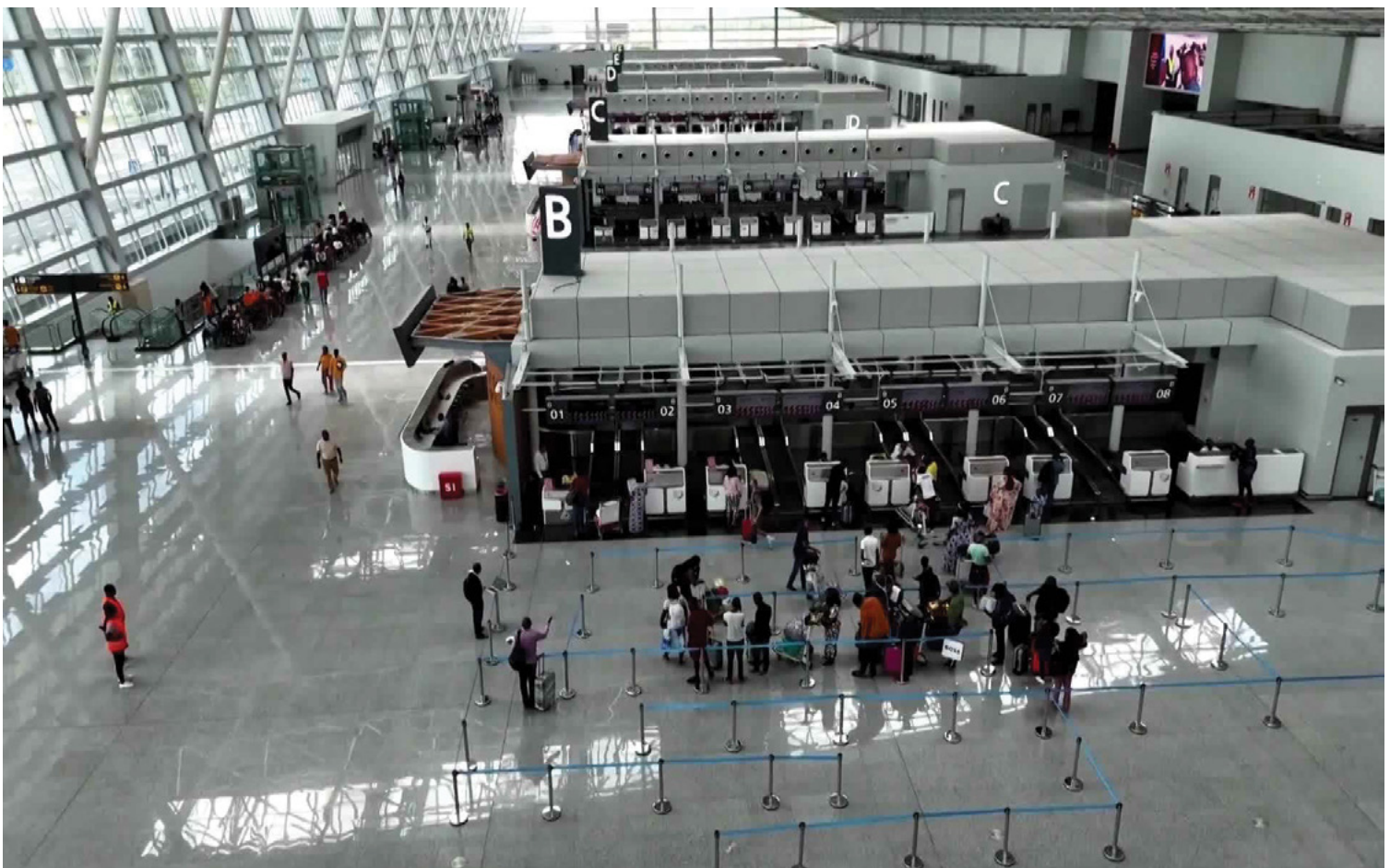
The Paulo Teixeira Jorge International Airport received T-7 certification from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which represents a decisive step towards expanding its operational capacity and strengthening its position as an alternative to AIAAN.

Another ambitious project during this period is the expansion and development of the Lobito Corridor and adjacent infrastructure, which consolidates the idea of regional integration and sustainable economic development.

In this regard, the combination of services between the air and rail sectors is highlighted, with the certification of Paulo Teixeira Jorge International Airport, combined with the capabilities of the Benguela Railway (CFB) in the corridor.

To reinforce rail transport in this impressive project, the Lobito Atlantic Railway consortium acquired 275 container wagons with a load capacity of 60.5 tons each.

The investment in the project that will connect the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, financed by the United States of America (USA) and partners, brought the then US President, Joe Biden, to Angola in 2024.



The infrastructure of António Agostinho Neto International Airport places Angola among African countries with modern airports, capable of accommodating large aircraft such as the Boeing 747 and Airbus A380, handling up to 15 million passengers, and processing 130,000 tons of cargo annually.



The holding of a Multilateral Summit on the Lobito Corridor was one of the “highlights” of the visit, which brought together, on Angolan territory, the heads of state of the countries involved in the project (Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia) and representatives of international institutions.

The participants were unanimous on the need to increase investment in important areas, expand agricultural infrastructure, build high-speed mobile networks, and continue the reform of the Benguela Railway.

The Lobito Corridor appears to be the shortest route for exports and imports, connecting the main mining regions, agricultural hubs, and companies in Zambia and the DRC to the Port of Lobito, as a strategic alternative route to international markets for these two African countries.

By providing direct access to the Atlantic Ocean and global markets, the corridor offers an effective and economically viable logistics route for exports and imports from Angola and neighboring countries, and can significantly improve rail and road infrastructure along its route, facilitating the movement of people and goods.

In the maritime domain, with the achievement of peace, the country has invested in the modernization of its national ports, making them innovative, resilient, sustainable, and at the service of the country’s and the region’s economy.

The strategy involves establishing port jurisdictions with a specific economic and commercial vocation, as well as ensuring that national port companies respond effectively to economic dynamics, with the highest

standards and facilitation of maritime and port activity.

Angola needs to be aligned with international best practices and recommendations in the areas of corporate governance, operational efficiency, technological innovation, and environmental sustainability.

The Port of Luanda handles the most containerized cargo, with a volume of 80% of the goods entering the country, followed by the ports of Lobito, Namibe, and Cabinda.

There are other smaller ports such as Soyo, in Zaire province, and Porto Amboim, in Cuanza-

Sul province, which mainly serve the offshore oil and gas industry.

The Angolan government is also investing in the construction of the Caio Deepwater Terminal in Cabinda, the Namibe Bay Integrated Development Project, and the rehabilitation of the Saco Mar Terminal (Namibe), in order to facilitate the mineral economy of the southern region of the country.

At the same time, the cargo and passenger terminals in Soyo, in the province of Zaire, and Cabinda are in the final stages of completion.



Caio Deepwater Terminal, a major port development project in the Caio village of Angola’s Cabinda Province.

# The evolution of education

Despite all opinions to the contrary, the education sector in Angola is one of the areas that has stood out most in the 50 years since independence, thanks to the government's policy of free education, including public higher education, which enabled those born in 1969-1970 to receive education from primary school through to higher education.

Those born from 1975 onwards have grown to become teachers, doctors, engineers, architects, economists, lawyers, and politicians.

Most of these "new men" came out of Angolan schools and others abroad, through scholarships, as part of the policy of training cadres.

All benefited in one way or another from independence, although after its proclamation there were problems with the education sector, especially for teaching staff at all levels of education. Due to a shortage of teachers, there was a mass recruitment of teaching staff, most of whom, however, lacked the vocation and skills to practice the art of teaching.

As a result, this sector was also forced to recruit foreign personnel to cover the shortage of teachers. Foreigners were even hired to teach up to the 5th grade. Most of the schools inherited from the colonial era were vandalized, leaving them without desks and other teaching equipment.

*Angola's education sector has flourished over 50 years of independence, providing free education from primary to higher levels and producing generations of professionals who now serve as teachers, doctors, engineers, architects, economists, lawyers, and politicians.*

Gradually, the situation changed with the construction of more schools, including universities, and an increase in the number of national teaching staff.

Today there are 12,547 schools and another 5,000 new ones are under construction, out of a total of 6,371 needed to accommodate 1,302,760 children outside the education system.

There are 204,703 teachers in the country, 8,653 of whom have been hired in the last two years.

There are 106 higher education institutions, 31 public and 75 private, offering 1,300 undergraduate and 200 postgraduate courses.

According to information from the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, this sector is developing actions for the construction and equipping of university campuses, namely for the works of the Lueji University in N'Konde, with organic units in Dundo, its headquarters, in Lunda-Norte, and in Saurimo, Lunda-Sul, for the Polytechnic Institute of that University.

Similarly, construction is expected to begin on Higher Polytechnic Institutes in N'Dalatando, in the province of Cuanza-Norte, in Cuito (Bié), in Soyo (Zaire), and a Polytechnic Institute in Cunene, an Organic Unit of Mandume Ya Ndemufayo University.

# The focus on habitation

Three hundred and fifty thousand houses have been built in Angola since the country gained independence, providing housing for more than two million people. However, these figures do not meet the significant housing needs of its population, which may be close to or above 35 million inhabitants.

The general census conducted in 2014 indicated that there were 30 million people in Angola, with a tendency to reach 35 to 38 million by 2025. This means that another part of the population, mostly, lives in houses inherited from the colonial era or in medium- and high-income condominiums or even in houses built by the users themselves in neighborhoods that were built in a disorderly manner.

In 2024, the Ministry of Public Works, Urban Planning, and Housing acknowledged the existence of a housing deficit of 2.2 million homes, which could worsen if bold housing policies are not devised, as the population growth trend is 3.3 percent per year, according to projections by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Housing is one of the areas most in need of investment, especially in Luanda, which, under pressure from the exodus, has never been able to accommodate with dignity the majority of people who crowd into its territory. Currently, nearly 10 million people live in this national metropolis, corresponding to one-third of the Angolan population.

It all started with the intensification of the war, when people began to flee unstable areas in search of refuge with relatives in Luanda. Two- or three-bedroom apartments came to house more than two families, in the hope that normality would be restored and they would be able to return home soon.

However, the situation worsened, and the coexistence of multiple families in limited spaces became unsustainable for the home and the environment. As an alternative, people began to build on terraces, in family backyards, then on vacant lots, and later in places far from urbanized areas, giving rise to new neighborhoods.

This overcrowding of the country's capital, which transformed Luanda into a truly cosmopolitan city, caught the government without immediate housing solutions. Only in the 1980s was there a timid initiative to construct buildings.

But all housing trials failed to come close to meeting the population's housing needs.

Hence the beginning of the saga of the largest post-independence single-story construction: Zango (1, 2, 3, and 4), with 38,000 houses, simultaneously with Panguila, with some 7,000 housing units, followed by Sapu and "Calemba II," all built within an emergency housing policy.

These constructions also proved insufficient for the ever-growing number of inhabitants, so much so that, although initially designed for low-income people, a large part of the houses in these neighborhoods were rented or sold to people

with above-average incomes, who improved their them.

However, in a short time, city dwellers were surprised by two of the largest housing centers ever built in Angola in a relatively short period of time: the city of Kilamba (710 buildings) and the "centralities" of Sequele (10,000 apartments) and KK 5 Mil, expanding the suburbs of Luanda, which later added Zango 0, Zango 5, and KM44.

At the same time, the suburbs expanded with buildings for high-income people, ranging from single-story houses, duplexes, and triplexes to multi-story buildings with luxurious and spacious apartments in the Talatona area.

With private initiative, many gated communities with various architectural styles were built on the outskirts of Luanda, housing people with a high standard of living, including Angolans and foreigners.

Later, other housing projects were implemented in other provinces of the country, including Baía Farta, Luhongo, and Lobito, in the province of Benguela, Andulo (Bié), Quibala (Cuanza-Sul), Caála and Halavala (Huambo), Quilemba (Huila), 5 de Abril and Praia Amélia (Namibe), Luena (Moxico), and Quilomoço (Uige).

The Tchibodo and 4 de Abril urban developments were built in Cabinda, the "centrality" of Mussungue, Dundo, in the province of Lunda-Norte, in addition to the centrality of Bucula, under construction in the province of Bengo, Marconi and Kalawenda, in Luanda.

*Angola has 106 higher education institutions – 31 public and 75 private – offering 1,300 undergraduate and 200 postgraduate programs.*









REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA  
EMBASSY IN QATAR

**Funge** is one of Angola's most traditional dishes. It is made from cassava flour or cornmeal, cooked in hot water until it reaches a creamy, elastic texture. It is usually served with sauces, fish, meat, or beans, and is a staple in the daily life of many Angolan families.



# Welcome to Angola

## A land of warm hospitality and rich culture.



### Angolan Dance

Angolan dance is vibrant and expressive, deeply connected to the country's culture and traditions.

social gatherings. Styles like Semba and Kuduro are internationally recognized and reflect Angola's rich cultural heritage.



**NATIONAL  
INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA  
1975-2025**

Preserving and valuating the achievements made  
building a better future



## Country Overview

CAPITAL	REGION	GDP PER CAPITA PPP
Luanda	African Scroll	\$6,054
GDP	POPULATION	AREA
\$72.5 billion	39,359,588	1,246,700 KM <sup>2</sup>

The country is rich in natural resources, including oil, diamonds, and other minerals. Angola has vast areas of arable land and a climate favorable to agriculture. Its economy has grown rapidly in recent years, making it an attractive destination for foreign investors. Angola is also the second-largest economy in the region.

Angola's economy is partially based on oil exploration and marketing. These activities contribute approximately 50% of GDP, over 70% of government revenue, and over 90% of the country's exports. The main destinations are China, India, the United States of America, Taiwan, and Spain.

Industry is the predominant sector of the Angolan economy, with emphasis on mining, petrochemicals, textiles, ship repair, tobacco, and food processing. Agricultural production is also extremely important to the country, as it not only provides food for the population but also accounts for 56.1% of Angola's total workforce.



National Assembly

## Business environment

Angola is a lower-middle-income country with a large market and potential business opportunities. Luanda is a relatively high-cost location for expatriates and business operations.

Many changes have been made across all areas, and more are underway to improve the country's ease of doing business ranking.

Since January 2018, the Angolan Government has been implementing the macroeconomic stabilization program with the technical support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which has allowed the implementation of macroeconomic and financial



reforms, creating conditions for sustainable economic growth and a catalyst for economic and social development.

The diversification of the economy has allowed the oil sector to increase its contribution to GDP from 42% in 2011 to 28% in 2021, with the intention of this contribution representing around 20% by 2027.

The Angolan government is implementing a series of reforms to attract foreign investment and diversify the economy, making it an attractive destination for investors worldwide. Reforms implemented over the past five years have improved macroeconomic management and public sector governance.

## Angola's Potential

### Agriculture

The agricultural sector is growing rapidly and offers opportunities for investment in food production and processing, as well as the export of agricultural products such as coffee, fruits, and vegetables. There is also significant cultivation of sugarcane, sisal, corn, peanuts, rice, cocoa, bananas, citrus fruits, pineapples, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cotton, cassava, and tobacco. Angola is one of Africa's largest coffee producers.

### Tourism

Angola is very attractive to tourists, with its natural attractions - almost 1,600 kilometers of ocean coastline, lush rainforest, picturesque savannah and the great Namib Desert to the south.

### Mines

Angola has a mining potential greater than that apparent from recent production figures. The country possesses a vast array of mineral resources, which have so far been only partially explored, and many of which have yet to be investigated and evaluated.

Currently, oil and diamonds are the main products, and less important commodities are raw minerals cement, gypsum and asphalt.

### Stability

Angola also enjoys political, economic, and social stability. The country is one of the most stable in Southern Africa. Angola is capable of contributing to peacekeeping efforts in the Great Lakes region and throughout the African continent.

### Challenges and perspectives

The country has faced significant challenges in recent years. However, the government has recognized the need to diversify the economy and reduce dependence on oil. Despite these challenges, there are opportunities for investors.

The financial rating agency Fitch Ratings forecasts economic growth for Angola of 2.7% in 2023 and 2.5% in 2024, a year in which public debt is expected to remain at 54.5% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Growth in the non-oil economy, especially in agriculture, construction and services, is expected to remain robust, with annual non-oil GDP growth exceeding 4%.

For this year, the outlook points to a growth in Gross Domestic Product of 2.7% in 2022 and, on average, for the five-year period 2023-2027, a growth of 3.5% in GDP is expected.



## Investment Opportunities

Over the past five years, profound macroeconomic and institutional reforms have been implemented to establish a business environment capable of attracting national and international investors.

These reforms aim, among other objectives, to increase the presence of private companies in the management of public assets, whether through management concessions or through public-private partnerships.

Within the scope of PPPs, the Government made available an operational plan with 41 projects in nine sectors, with emphasis on Energy, Water, Construction, Tourism, Agribusiness, Environment, Transport, Infrastructure and Housing, which can be operationalized under the “build, operate and transfer” (BOT) modality.

On the other hand, the implementation of the State Assets and Participation Preservation Program (PROPRIV) allowed the privatization of many assets, of the approximately 200 to be privatized.

Privatization processes are underway for significant state assets and holdings in the financial, telecommunications, and industrial sectors, and the initial public offering process has already begun, which will allow the capital of these assets to be dispersed, also to small investors.

## Benefits of Investing in Angola

- ▶ Access to the African Continental Free Trade Zone, with a population of over 1.2 billion people.
- ▶ Access to a large and growing market in Africa, with a population of over 30 million people.



## Position of Angola's Production in the world

- ▶ 1st largest banana producer in Africa and 7th largest producer in the world (4,345,799 tn/year).
- ▶ 2nd largest oil producer in Sub-Saharan Africa (1,136.7 million b/day).
- ▶ 5th largest sweet potato producer in the world (1,788,342 tn/year).

- ▶ Favorable investment climate, with a stable political environment and a growing economy.
- ▶ Abundant natural resources, including oil, gas and minerals.
- ▶ Tax incentives.



- ▶ 6th largest citrus producer in the world (445,300 tn/year).
- ▶ 7th largest diamond producer in the world (7,734 ql/year).
- ▶ 8th largest cassava producer in the world (9,866,553 ql/year).



REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA  
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# ANGOLA



## ANGOLA: LAND OF OPPORTUNITIES

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The President of the Republic of Angola João Lourenço

# Developing countries advocate for an inclusive and equitable international financial architecture



It is therefore necessary for international financial institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to rethink how developing countries can be properly represented within a fairer and more appropriate framework, taking into account the current international situation.

African countries should be better represented in this international financial architecture, benefit from a review of the debt issue, and have access to financing on more acceptable and fair terms in order to achieve the goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

It should be noted that Agenda 2030 is a global action plan that brings together 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets, created to eradicate poverty and promote a dignified life for all, and Agenda 2063 envisions a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.

The relevance of initiating a practical negotiation process to enable the achievement of these strategic goals was defended during the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development.

FFD4, held from June 30 to July 3 this year in Seville, Spain

The Seville Consensus, adopted during the meeting organized by the United Nations, which brought together more than 60 world leaders and 4,000 representatives of civil society, points to solutions to global development challenges in a context marked by profound inequalities between rich and developing countries.

The countries of the Global South expect a spirit of commitment from developed countries to increase Official Development Assistance (ODA) towards the target of 0.7 percent of Gross National Income (GNI), alleviate the external debt of poor nations, and promote fairer international trade.

The aim is to comply with the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the first conference in Mexico in 2002, a historic agreement that recognized the shared responsibilities of developed and developing countries to achieve sustainable development.

The implementation of the Monterrey Consensus recommendations was reviewed in 2008 at the second conference, held in the capital of Qatar, which reaffirmed the commitments made in 2002 and culminated in the Doha Declaration.

This document emphasizes the relevance of global partnerships for sustainable development and calls for enhanced cooperation between countries, the private sector, and civil society to mobilize the resources necessary to achieve development goals.

Seven years later (2015), the UN promoted the third conference in the capital of Ethiopia, which adopted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, aligned with the new generation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and establishing a global framework for financing sustainable development.

The aim was to align all financial flows (public, private, domestic, and international) with economic, social, and environmental priorities, including measures to mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and strengthen the role of development banks.

However, this forum did not produce the expected results due to political differences during the negotiations, preventing progress on certain ambitious systemic reforms, such as the creation of a multilateral sovereign debt resolution mechanism and the establishment of an intergovernmental tax agency at the UN to combat illicit financial flows and tax evasion.

The first three conferences aimed to enable global sustainable development through adequate financing and effective partnerships, by mobilizing financial resources and strategies to mobilize domestic and international resources.

Another objective was to seek solutions to unsustainable external debt in order to strengthen the macroeconomic management of developing countries and increase their resilience to external shocks, which requires establishing global partnerships and international cooperation.

Since seven years have passed since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and only about 16 percent of the 169 targets can be achieved within the deadline, it is important that significant steps be taken towards development.

Delays are mainly in education, health, agriculture, and infrastructure, which makes it impossible to combat poverty, a situation aggravated by the fact that the annual funding gap to achieve the SDGs in developing countries is around four trillion dollars.

It is therefore urgent that the Seville Consensus drives the mobilization of this amount, with contributions from developed countries.

Thus, Angolan President and African Union Chair João Lourenço appealed at the Seville conference for the need to define more agile and functional mechanisms for mobilizing financial resources to address the recurring challenges faced by developing countries.

In his speech at the event, the Head of State pointed out the challenges of climate shocks, commodity price fluctuations, erosion of confidence in the multilateral system and, above all, the unsustainable burden of sovereign debt, which consumes more resources than those allocated to health and education combined and drastically limits the room for maneuver to finance development.

There is consensus that for the countries of the Global South to achieve the SDGs, a more inclusive and equitable international financial architecture is essential, one that equips these nations with the capacity to better cope with financial crises, armed conflicts, pandemics—such as Covid-19—climate change, and other challenges that cause lethargy in the economic growth of peoples.

**A**t the Seville conference, Angolan President João Lourenço highlighted the need to tackle unsustainable debt and strengthen financing mechanisms to achieve the UN 2030 Agenda and Africa's Agenda 2063

After three previous international conferences on financing for development without concrete results, countries in the Global South hope that the Seville Consensus will have a practical effect, especially in terms of reconfiguring the current architecture of the global financial system.

This system is considered to penalize developing countries, particularly in terms of debt servicing and access to international financing, delaying their development. Hence the need to reform it so that all nations can benefit in the best possible way.



# Sport – a unifying factor among Angolans

Sport confirmed its role in bringing Angolans together during the recently concluded African Senior Men’s Basketball Championship, “Afrobasket 2025,” held in Angola from August 12 to 24 this year and won by the host country.

From the start of the competition to the conquest of the trophy, sports lovers “forgot” their daily problems and formed a positive chain for the success of the national team. In the end, almost everyone celebrated with joy.

This was the 12th African title in the sport, an achievement made possible by the policies devised by the government over the country’s 50 years of independence, focused on recreational and high-performance sports.

In terms of continental titles, men’s basketball is now close to women’s handball, which has 15 titles in Africa.

This success was reflected in the unprecedented entry of an Angolan player into the North American Basketball League (NBA). This is Bruno Fernando, selected by the Philadelphia 76ers as the 34th overall pick in the 2019 NBA draft and loaned to the Atlanta Hawks, currently playing for Real Madrid in Spain.

The 15 African handball titles, which place Angola at the top of the continental ranking, are only the most prominent, as the Babacar Fall Super Cup and the African Cup Winners’ Cup also reside in the galleries of the Angolan Handball Federation and the clubs 1º de Agosto, Petro de Luanda, and Ferroviário de Angola.

The numbers accurately reflect the specific weight of the 15-time African champions, 13 World Championship appearances, and eight Olympic Games appearances.

All this success is justified by the unprecedented entry of an Angolan player into the North American Basketball League (NBA), Bruno Fernando. He was selected by the Philadelphia 76ers as the 34th overall pick in the 2019 NBA draft and loaned to the Atlanta Hawks.

Although soccer is the most popular sport in Angola, it has not performed particularly well, with its high point being participation in the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

However, it is the sport that draws the largest crowds, constituting a factor of socialization capable of overcoming political differences or religious beliefs.



In fact, soccer monopolized the national debate during the country’s presence at the 2006 World Cup and the African Cup of Nations, held in Angola in 2010, which led to the construction of four new stadiums in the provinces of Luanda, Cabinda, Benguela, and Huambo, something praised by the International Soccer Federation.



GOVERNO DE  
**ANGOLA**

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ANGOLA NO QATAR



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