11. Baynes Hydropower Project

**Project description and objectives**

The Baynes Hydropower Project is a joint project between *Angola* and *Namibia*. The project involves the construction of a hydropower dam on the Cunene River, 48 km downstream of the Epupa Falls. It is envisaged that the Baynes mid-merit/peaking power station’s capacity will be in the range of 600 MW, which will be shared equally by Namibia and Angola. Like the Ruacana Power Station, the new dam will function as a mid-merit peaking station, which will help to offset costly power imports during peak hours. During the wet season the Baynes Power Station is predicted to run at full capacity, while during the dry season the generators will generate at maximum during mid-merit/peak periods only, while 71 MW would be generated during the off-peak periods. The *project objectives* are to:

- **Provide clean energy** and contribute to **sustainable industrial** and **economic development** in the two countries
- **Reduce the current levels of power deficits** in the two countries and increase access to electricity to various parts of the two countries
- **Contribute to increased SAPP Energy Market capacity.**

**Location on Map**

![Location Map](image)

**Project status**

The project is at a **Feasibility stage** (S2B) since the documents highlight that both the technical and environmental studies previously developed are being updated, and ToRs for the remaining Bankability Studies and Transmission Power lines studies have been issued.

**Financial needs**

USD 1.3 Billion (civil: USD 880 Million; electro-mechanical: USD 310 Million; environmental cost: USD 7.5 Million; Indirect costs: USD 108 Million), total project cost exclude interest during construction (reference date 2014).

The above cost assumes a 7-year construction period. The techno-economic data is currently being updated, and it is assumed that with technological advancements, the construction period is likely to be reduced to 5 years, which could result in significant project cost savings.

**Key parties**

- Angola
- Namibia

**Private sector opportunities**

In accordance with SADC gender policy and guidelines and small-scale industry and agriculture development involving women is envisaged.

**Link:** [https://pp2.au-pida.org/approved-project/entry/cr15r/](https://pp2.au-pida.org/approved-project/entry/cr15r/)