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**From:** Schnittger, David

**Sent:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:14 PM

**Subject:** The Fast-Growing US-Angola Partnership Started Under President Trump

### **The Fast-Growing US-Angola Partnership Started Under President Trump**

President Biden is poised to become the first US president to visit Angola, building upon the profound shift in US-Angola bilateral relations and the strong foundation laid by President Donald J. Trump during his first administration. Following are some quick facts. *If you or your colleagues are interested in scheduling a follow-up discussion for a deeper dive, please respond to this email.*

1. Angola's then-Defense Minister (now President) João Lourenço met in 2017 with US Secretary of Defense James Mattis, with the two leaders [signing an MOU setting the stage for a strategic partnership](#).
2. President Trump later sent US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to Angola, [a high-profile visit that occurred in 2020](#). Later that year, President Lourenço met with US Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross to discuss boosting commercial ties.
3. President Lourenço was the first head of state to virtually brief President Trump's [Advisory Committee on Doing Business in Africa](#), during which he outlined numerous specific projects for which Angola seeks US partners.
4. To muscle-up America's ability to out-compete China, President Trump created the [US International Development Finance Corporation](#) and [Prosper Africa](#), both of which are now deployed and active promoting "Brand USA" in Angola.
5. President Trump also [saved and re-energized](#) the Export-Import Bank of the United States – which is helping finance numerous American projects in Angola – to help catalyze America's ability to counter China.

Today there are multiple US deals being made in Angola. And the Angolan government's National AGOA Utilization Strategy – launched in 2024 to ensure Angola is positioned to maximize commercial

opportunities with the US as the African Growth & Opportunity Act is renewed – will generate even more, creating jobs in both the United States and Angola.

Two successive US administrations have demonstrated the value of maintaining a strong and growing relationship with Angola, who is increasingly choosing the US as its preferred diplomatic, commercial and security partner.

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