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# Indaba 2018: Lourenco restores interest after Dos Santos era

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Investors flocked to the forum on mining opportunities in Angola held on February 6, as part of the *Investing in African Mining Indaba* conference. While a lot of them do not currently hold assets in the country, they were certainly interested in what changes president **Joao Lourenco** has been bringing in since he came into office last September.

**Charles Skinner**, head of exploration of South African diamond giant **De Beers**, made an appearance although his group has not held any assets in Angola since the early 2010s.

Angola's iron and copper resources seemed to have sparked a growing interest. **Nevan Pillay**, general manager Africa for **Rio Tinto**, and his colleague, **Kevin Fox**, head of new ventures for the Australian giant, both attended the event. As Luanda asserts that the country is an extension of the Copperbelt, **Peter Pelly**, head of exploration for Australian firm **MMG** in Zambia, and **Louis Watum**, who oversees Canadian firm **Ivanhoe Mines'** Congolese projects, came to enquire about available data.

Russian-born Israeli businessman **Arcadi Gaydamak**, a familiar face in Angola's mining sector who was condemned as part of the Angolagate scandal, stayed for the entire presentation.

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