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Maurel & Prom strikes gas at Tanzania's Mnazi Bay

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Maurel & Prom has confirmed a gas discovery at the Mnazi Bay licence in Tanzania, with its Kasa-1X exploration well encountering a gas-bearing reservoir on first penetration. The well was drilled directionally from the coast to a subsea target approximately 4.5 kilometres offshore under 400 metres of water. The immediate success on first penetration is a positive technical signal for the licence's prospectivity.

Following the initial discovery, M&P sidetracked the well with a horizontal section to further appraise and characterise the reservoir. The decision to sidetrack immediately after discovery suggests the operator has confidence in the find and is already moving to define its commercial dimensions. Mnazi Bay is an established gas-producing area in southern Tanzania, and this new well adds to the evidence base for additional resource potential within the licence perimeter.

For Tanzania, the Kasa-1X result arrives at a time when the country is working to develop its considerable natural gas resources, both for domestic power generation and as a potential feedstock for export infrastructure. The Mnazi Bay area has historically supplied gas to onshore Tanzanian consumers, and any meaningful addition to reserves could support both local supply commitments and longer-term LNG or regional pipeline ambitions. M&P's willingness to commit exploration capital to the licence underlines continued industry confidence in Tanzania's gas fairway, even as the broader East African LNG development landscape remains complex.

The well's directional geometry — drilled from shore to a point under 400 metres of water — is technically notable. This approach allows operators to access offshore targets while managing some of the logistical and regulatory complexity associated with fully offshore operations. The horizontal sidetrack in particular reflects modern well-design practice aimed at maximising reservoir contact and early flow-rate potential. Further results from the well, including any flow-test data or reserve estimates, have not been disclosed in available reporting at this stage.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is an exploration discovery — no contract, FID, or tender has been announced — so the appropriate response for Norwegian service companies is monitoring and early relationship-building rather than procurement outreach. As M&P moves toward appraisal and potential development planning, well services, directional drilling, and subsea intervention specialists should track the licence closely and position for conversations when a development concept is firmed up. If the discovery progresses toward a gas development or ties into broader Tanzanian LNG infrastructure, pipeline and subsea equipment suppliers will also want to be known to the operator early.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** The directional, coast-to-offshore well geometry and immediate horizontal sidetrack create early dialogue opportunities for directional drilling and MWD/LWD service providers as M&P plans further appraisal wells.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** If the Kasa-1X discovery is developed as an offshore or near-shore tieback, subsea production systems and flexible flowline suppliers should monitor appraisal results and engage M&P's technical team during concept selection.
- **LNG:** Additional gas volumes at Mnazi Bay could support Tanzania's stalled LNG export ambitions; Norwegian LNG process and marine loading specialists should track reserve estimates as they emerge from appraisal.
- **Pipeline:** Mnazi Bay already feeds onshore Tanzanian gas consumers via pipeline infrastructure, and any reserve upgrade could trigger incremental pipeline capacity work worth monitoring for Norwegian pipeline engineering firms.



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