

OFFSHORE ENERGY · GHANA · DRILLING

Saipem lands Eni drilling jobs in Ghana, Cyprus

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Saipem has secured two offshore drilling contracts with Eni, covering operations off the coasts of Ghana and Cyprus, with work scheduled to run across 2026 and 2027. The awards, described as multimillion-dollar assignments, will improve fleet utilization for the Italian contractor over the coming two years. The source article does not specify rig names, water depths, block identifications, or individual contract values for either location.

The Ghana contract is the African component of this dual award and signals continued operator commitment to West African offshore activity. Eni has maintained a significant upstream presence in Ghana, and this drilling program indicates the supermajor is advancing work in the country during a period when many operators are rationalizing capital budgets. The precise scope — number of wells, duration of individual mobilizations, or whether the award covers exploration, appraisal, or development drilling — is not detailed in the source reporting.

For the broader West African drilling market, the Saipem-Eni pairing reinforces demand for specialized offshore rigs capable of operating across multiple jurisdictions within a single contract cycle. Fleet mobilization between the Mediterranean and West Africa also points to operators seeking contractors with multi-basin reach, reducing logistical friction across geographically spread programs.

From a market-structure perspective, these awards represent signed contracts rather than letters of intent or framework agreements, which places them at a more advanced stage of commercial certainty than the reconnaissance permits or MoUs

that have characterized much recent West African upstream news flow. For service companies tracking rig availability and subcontract opportunities in Ghana, the confirmed engagement of Saipem and Eni in 2026–2027 provides a credible planning horizon.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

These are signed contracts for drilling operations in Ghana in 2026–2027, making this an appropriate moment for Norwegian well-services and drilling-support companies to initiate outreach to Saipem's procurement teams regarding subcontract and supply opportunities. Partners active in cementing, wellbore fluids, directional drilling, or rig inspection services should track mobilization timelines and qualification windows as they open. Monitoring Eni's broader Ghana block activity in parallel will help identify whether additional well campaigns follow from this initial program.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Saipem's confirmed rig deployment to Ghana in 2026–2027 opens a defined window for Norwegian drilling-support firms to pursue subcontract qualification with Saipem's procurement organisation.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** If drilling results confirm development-ready reserves, Norwegian subsea and FPSO players should position early for any subsequent production infrastructure tendering by Eni in Ghana.
- **Service:** Well-services companies — covering cementing, completion fluids, directional drilling, and wellbore integrity — should initiate supplier registration with Saipem ahead of the 2026 mobilization schedule.
- **Pipeline:** Monitor drilling outcomes; confirmed hydrocarbon volumes could trigger pipeline or flowline tendering tied to field development, warranting early relationship-building with Eni's Ghana asset team.

[Original source: Offshore Energy →](#)

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