MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & MINERAL RESOURCES - NEWS (EGYPT) · EGYPT · OFFSHORE

Egypt signs $42m gas exploration deal, East Alexandria offshore

Saga deep read · 10 November 2026 · Score 66

Egypt's Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources witnessed the signing of a new gas exploration agreement covering the East Alexandria offshore area, with committed investments exceeding $42 million, according to a statement from the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources.

The agreement marks a formal block award and exploration commitment in a region that has historically attracted significant upstream interest following major gas discoveries in Egypt's Mediterranean waters. The East Alexandria offshore area sits within the broader Egyptian Mediterranean basin, which has been a focal point for gas exploration activity in recent years as Egypt works to sustain and grow domestic production and its LNG export capacity.

The ministry provided no further details on the identity of the contracting company or companies, the duration of the exploration period, the size of the acreage awarded, or the specific work programme commitments attached to the $42 million investment figure. The signing ceremony's high-level ministerial presence signals the Egyptian government's continued active engagement in attracting upstream capital to its offshore acreage.

Egypt has maintained an aggressive licensing posture across its Mediterranean and Red Sea acreage in recent years, using competitive bid rounds and direct negotiations to draw international oil companies into exploration partnerships. The country's upstream regulator, the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC), and the Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company (EGAS) typically serve as state

partners in such agreements, though the article does not specify which entity is party to this particular deal.

The East Alexandria offshore area is geographically proximate to acreage that has seen prior exploration and development activity, though no specific field names or geological targets were referenced in the ministerial announcement. With investments of more than $42 million committed at the exploration stage, the deal represents a meaningful near-term capital deployment into Egyptian offshore gas, adding to the pipeline of upstream work programmes active in the country's Mediterranean sector.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The deal is a signed exploration agreement — an appropriate point for Norwegian service companies to begin monitoring and early relationship-building with the operator once identity is confirmed, rather than procurement outreach. When the work programme advances to seismic campaigns or well planning, geophysical services, drilling, and well services suppliers should be positioned. Norwegian subsea and well-services firms with existing Egyptian presence should track the operator announcement closely.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Exploration well commitment likely to follow; drilling contractors should monitor operator identity and rig requirement timeline once disclosed.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** If gas discovery results, East Alexandria offshore proximity to existing infrastructure could favour subsea tie-back solutions — worth early positioning.
- **Service:** Seismic acquisition and well-site services will be first to market; build relationships now ahead of work-programme tender release.
- **LNG/Pipeline:** Any commercial discovery in East Alexandria would feed Egypt's existing LNG export infrastructure, reinforcing downstream gas handling demand.

Original source: Ministry of Petroleum & Mineral Resources - News (Egypt) →

Saga Advisory

General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN