

AFRICAN ENERGY CHAMBER · UPSTREAM

Eni Secures 15 Offshore Blocks in Guinea, Signalling MSGBC Basin Momentum

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Italian major Eni has been awarded 15 offshore blocks in Guinea, marking a significant entry into the country's exploration and production sector. The award underlines growing investor confidence in the MSGBC Basin — the geological province spanning Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and Guinea-Conakry — as a frontier destination attracting major international oil companies.

The scale of the concession is notable. Awarding 15 blocks to a single operator in one transaction signals that Guinean authorities are moving decisively to accelerate upstream activity and attract exploration capital. For a basin that has already delivered material discoveries in neighbouring Senegal and Mauritania, Guinea's entry into active licensing rounds represents a meaningful geographic extension of proven MSGBC prospectivity.

The MSGBC Basin has gained considerable profile among international investors following the large-scale gas discoveries offshore Senegal and Mauritania in recent years, and the subsequent progress toward production in those jurisdictions. Guinea's offshore acreage sits within the same broader geological setting, and Eni's willingness to commit to 15 blocks suggests the company sees credible resource potential requiring a broad exploration footprint to de-risk efficiently.

For the Guinean government, securing a partner of Eni's technical and financial standing is a strategic win. It brings not only exploration capital but also operational expertise in deepwater and frontier environments — experience that will be essential as Guinea works to build the regulatory, contractual, and infrastructural foundations for a functioning upstream sector. The concession also sends a signal to other

international operators that Guinea is open for business and capable of structuring commercial terms acceptable to major players.

The broader implication for the MSGBC Basin is one of expanding opportunity. As exploration activity spreads southward along the West African Atlantic margin, the basin is transitioning from a two-country story centred on Senegal and Mauritania into a genuinely regional exploration province. Guinea's emergence as an active licensing jurisdiction adds a further dimension to that narrative and increases the total addressable resource base that investors and service companies must consider when evaluating the region.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Eni's award of 15 blocks in Guinea represents an early-stage exploration commitment that will generate demand for seismic acquisition, drilling services, and subsea studies over the coming years as the operator moves toward exploration wells. Norwegian service companies with MSGBC Basin experience — particularly those already engaged in Senegal or Mauritania — should monitor Eni's Guinea programme closely and position for vendor qualification ahead of anticipated drilling campaigns. The scale of the acreage suggests a multi-year exploration programme, offering a sustained engagement window rather than a single procurement event.



YOUR SAGA CONTACT

Geir Tellefsen

Partner, Market Entry & Local Representation

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** Eni's 15-block programme will require exploration drilling capacity; Norwegian drilling contractors and well-services firms should begin vendor qualification outreach to Eni's West Africa procurement teams now.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** If exploration wells confirm commercial volumes, subsea infrastructure and FPSO solutions will be required; early front-end engineering positioning with Eni is advisable given Norwegian FPSO competence in West African frontier conditions.

- **Service:** Seismic acquisition, well logging, and formation evaluation services will be among the first procurement requirements as Eni characterises the 15-block acreage ahead of drilling commitments.
- **Pipeline:** Any future gas development in Guinea's offshore could require export pipeline infrastructure or tie-in solutions; Norwegian pipeline engineering firms should track basin-wide gas commercialisation discussions across the MSGBC region.
- **LNG:** Given the MSGBC Basin's gas-rich profile demonstrated in Senegal and Mauritania, Norwegian LNG technology and floating LNG specialists should assess whether Guinea's offshore potential could support similar monetisation strategies under Eni's operatorship.

[Original source: African Energy Chamber →](#)

Saga Advisory

Partner contact: geir@saga-advisory.com · General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

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