ECOFIN AGENCY · CAMEROON · PIPELINE

Douala Port signs deal for 300 MW gas plant

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The Port Authority of Douala (DPPC) has signed a technical agreement with a Chinese consortium to develop a 300-megawatt gas-fired power plant at the port, to be built in two phases and supplied via a 200-kilometre pipeline from Kribi. The agreement was concluded in Douala and marks the formal initiation of project development work, though it remains a technical — not financial — instrument at this stage.

The plant is to be constructed in two phases, though the article does not specify the capacity split between phases or the projected construction timeline for either. The gas supply infrastructure would require a dedicated 200-kilometre pipeline linking the facility to Kribi, where Cameroon's existing offshore gas production and processing assets are located. The pipeline scope represents a substantial civil and mechanical engineering undertaking in its own right.

Notably, the DPPC has stated that neither the port authority nor the Cameroonian state will contribute equity or provide financial guarantees for the project. This positions the development as a privately financed initiative, with the Chinese consortium expected to carry the capital burden. The financing model, offtake arrangements, and identity of the consortium members have not been disclosed in the available information.

The 300 MW project responds to longstanding power supply constraints at the Port of Douala, which handles the vast majority of landlocked Central African trade flows and has faced reliability issues that affect operational competitiveness. A dedicated on-

site gas generation facility of this scale would substantially improve energy security for port operations and potentially supply industrial users in the surrounding zone.

The project remains at an early development stage. A technical agreement — sometimes referred to as a heads of agreement or memorandum of understanding on technical parameters — precedes feasibility studies, environmental and social impact assessments, financing negotiations, and eventual contract awards. No date has been given for a final investment decision or for the commencement of construction. Market participants and potential suppliers should treat this as a project to monitor closely, as the pipeline and power plant scopes, if realised, would generate significant procurement demand across engineering, procurement, and construction disciplines.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This project warrants monitoring rather than procurement outreach at this stage, as only a technical agreement has been signed and no FID or tender process has been announced. The 200 km gas pipeline from Kribi and the two-phase power plant represent potential future scopes relevant to Norwegian pipeline engineering, compression, and gas processing service companies. Relationship-building with the DPPC and efforts to identify the Chinese consortium members would be appropriate preparatory steps.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Pipeline:** A 200 km onshore gas pipeline from Kribi to Douala is a core scope to monitor; Norwegian pipeline engineering and integrity firms should track the project as it moves toward feasibility and EPC tender stages.
- **LNG:** If gas supply from Kribi involves offshore or processing infrastructure upgrades, Norwegian LNG and gas processing technology providers may find entry points as the project develops.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** No subsea scope is indicated at this stage, but any expansion of Kribi gas offtake could indirectly affect upstream tie-in requirements worth monitoring.
- **Service:** Norwegian project management and owner's engineer consultancies could position for advisory roles as DPPC advances feasibility studies and procurement planning without committing state capital.

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