MERCADO (ANGOLA) · ANGOLA · UPSTREAM

Angola strikes oil in Kwanza Basin pre-salt

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Angola has recorded a new oil discovery in the Kwanza Basin after exploration drilling at the Burututu-1 well in Block 5/06 identified hydrocarbons in pre-salt reservoirs. The find marks the first confirmed presence of hydrocarbons in pre-salt rock formations within this concession, extending the known petroleum system of the basin into a deeper and previously unproven play type.

The Burututu-1 well is located in the offshore portion of the Kwanza Basin, a sedimentary basin positioned along Angola's Atlantic coastline that has historically produced oil from post-salt reservoirs. The confirmation of hydrocarbons in the pre-salt section of Block 5/06 opens a new exploration frontier within an established basin, mirroring the significance that pre-salt discoveries have held in other Atlantic-margin provinces.

Pre-salt exploration in offshore Angola has attracted sustained interest following analogous discoveries along the South Atlantic conjugate margin, and the Kwanza Basin has been a focal point for this geological hypothesis. A positive result at Burututu-1 provides technical validation that pre-salt traps in this concession can retain commercial hydrocarbon volumes, though the article does not disclose flow-test data, estimated resource volumes, or the operator and partner identities associated with Block 5/06.

The discovery is likely to accelerate appraisal planning for Block 5/06 and may stimulate fresh exploration interest in neighbouring pre-salt acreage across the Kwanza Basin. Angola's national concessionaire Agência Nacional de Petróleo, Gás e

Biocombustíveis (ANPG) has in recent licensing rounds actively promoted pre-salt blocks in this basin as a priority exploration target, and a confirmed discovery strengthens that commercial narrative for future rounds.

For the broader Angolan upstream sector, the Burututu-1 result adds to a sequence of exploration outcomes that underpin the government's ambition to stabilise and ultimately grow national oil production, which has been in structural decline for over a decade. A new pre-salt play fairway, if appraised successfully, would require a distinct set of subsurface and surface infrastructure solutions compared with the mature post-salt deepwater fields that currently dominate Angolan output, creating a potential new cycle of project development activity in the medium term.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is an early-stage exploration result — no appraisal plan, FID, or tender has been announced — so Norwegian service companies should monitor Block 5/06 closely and prioritise relationship-building with the operator and ANPG as appraisal drilling intentions become clearer. If the discovery proceeds to appraisal and development, pre-salt offshore Angola would generate demand for subsea wellheads, trees, umbilicals, risers and flowlines, as well as FPSO engineering and mooring systems. Companies with pre-salt deepwater credentials from comparable Atlantic-margin projects should position early with the block operator once identity is publicly confirmed.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea:** Pre-salt offshore development would require a full subsea production system; monitor operator identity and appraisal timeline to position for FEED and EPCI scopes.
- **FPSO:** A standalone pre-salt discovery in Block 5/06 would likely require a dedicated FPSO or semi-submersible; track concept-selection announcements as appraisal progresses.
- **Drilling:** Appraisal drilling of Burututu-1 and potential step-out wells represents near-term rig and well-services demand; engage with the block operator early to understand appraisal scheduling.

- **Pipeline:** If pre-salt volumes prove commercial, intra-field and export pipeline engineering will be required; relevant for companies with deepwater flexible or rigid pipe experience in Angola.
- **Service:** Well logging, testing, and reservoir characterisation services will be needed during appraisal; companies active in Angolan pre-salt geology should seek early engagement with the operator.

Original source: Mercado (Angola) →

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