APANEWS - AGENCE DE PRESSE AFRICAINE · SENEGAL

Sangomar production reported declining after 2.07 million barrel October export

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Senegal's Sangomar oil field, which exported 2.07 million barrels of crude in October of its first full year of commercial operations, is now reported to be experiencing a decline in production, according to Senegalese outlet LeQuotidien. The development marks a notable shift in the trajectory of the country's first offshore oil project, operated by Woodside Energy in partnership with national oil company Petrosen.

The October export figure, reported earlier by Agence de Presse Africaine, translated to an average daily export rate of approximately 66,800 barrels per day, and had been viewed as a positive signal of commercial momentum following Sangomar's 2024 first oil milestone. The reported production decline, if confirmed by official lifting data, would represent a meaningful setback for a field that has been closely monitored by African energy markets and global oil traders since operations commenced.

Sangomar Phase 1 was developed around a floating production, storage and offloading vessel connected to a subsea production system linking multiple seafloor wells. Production performance in these early operational months carries particular weight, as it informs decisions around potential phased expansions of the development. A sustained dip in output would prompt scrutiny of well productivity, reservoir behaviour, and FPSO uptime, while also raising questions about the timeline for any Phase 2 investment decision.

Petrosen's equity stake means that production volumes translate directly into state revenues, making the output trajectory a matter of significant fiscal consequence for the Senegalese government, which has prioritised maximising domestic economic benefit from its hydrocarbon resources. Regulatory and fiscal frameworks governing the sector continue to evolve as the country accumulates operational experience.

At this stage, the precise scale and cause of the reported decline have not been detailed in available reporting, and it is not yet clear whether the reduction reflects temporary operational factors — such as scheduled maintenance, well interventions, or FPSO downtime — or a more structural reservoir performance issue. Further official data from Woodside Energy or Petrosen would be required to assess the severity and duration of the decline. Nonetheless, the report introduces a note of caution into what had appeared to be a steady early production ramp-up for West Africa's most closely watched new offshore development.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

A production decline at Sangomar typically triggers well intervention, subsea inspection, and FPSO maintenance activity — all areas where Norwegian service companies hold strong capabilities. If the decline reflects well productivity issues, wireline, coiled tubing, or subsea IMR procurement could follow. Norwegian suppliers already engaged in West African offshore markets should monitor Woodside and Petrosen communications closely for tender signals.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea IMR contractors:** Production decline may indicate subsea system issues requiring inspection, repair or maintenance work on the seafloor infrastructure.
- **Well services companies:** Reduced well productivity is a common early-life issue on new FPSO developments; stimulation, intervention or workover services may be required.
- **FPSO operations & maintenance providers:** If decline is facilities-related, FPSO uptime optimisation and maintenance support services become relevant procurement targets.

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Saga Advisory

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

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN