

JEUNE AFRIQUE ÉCONOMIE

Nigeria Hits Six-Year Output High, Exceeding OPEC Quota in June

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Nigeria produced an average of 1.56 million barrels of crude oil per day in June, its highest output level in six years, according to reporting by Jeune Afrique Économie. The figure places Africa's largest oil producer above its assigned OPEC production quota, signalling a meaningful recovery in a sector that has struggled with chronic underperformance driven by pipeline vandalism, theft, and aging infrastructure.

The June milestone is significant not only as a statistical record but as a marker of operational momentum. Sustained production at or above 1.5 million barrels per day has historically been difficult for Nigeria to maintain, and the country has repeatedly missed its OPEC targets in recent years due to upstream disruptions and force majeure events across the Niger Delta. A return to this output level suggests that remediation efforts — whether through improved security, new well interventions, or incremental capacity additions — are beginning to yield measurable results.

For international oil companies and service providers active in Nigeria, the data point carries practical implications. Higher sustained production typically precedes increased capital expenditure cycles, as operators seek to protect and expand output capacity. It also improves Nigeria's fiscal position, providing the government and the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC) with greater revenue headroom to advance upstream licensing, infrastructure investment, and the ongoing reform agenda under the Petroleum Industry Act.

The production recovery also comes at a time when Nigeria is working to attract fresh investment into its upstream sector following years of divestments by

international majors. Independent operators and indigenous companies have absorbed many of the onshore and shallow-water assets divested by majors, and the June output figures suggest these operators are ramping up effectively. Deepwater assets, traditionally operated by the international majors, remain a core production pillar and will likely require continued investment in subsea and FPSO infrastructure to sustain output at these levels.

For Norwegian service companies, Nigeria's production rebound is a material signal. The country remains Sub-Saharan Africa's single largest oil market by volume, and a sustained recovery trajectory opens renewed commercial conversations across multiple service segments. Companies that have maintained relationships through the downturn are better positioned to capture the upcoming activity cycle, particularly as aging deepwater facilities require maintenance, life extension, and potential tieback development to sustain the gains reflected in the June figures.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Nigeria at 1.56 million bpd represents the region's most active upstream market and the recovery trend is likely to accelerate capex commitments from both majors and independents. Norwegian service companies should be actively engaging operators and NNPC on upcoming maintenance, well intervention, and infrastructure tenders. This is a monitor-and-bid environment, not a wait-and-see one.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Ageing deepwater FPSO assets in Nigeria's offshore fields will require life extension, inspection, and potential tieback work to sustain the production levels recorded in June — a direct opportunity for subsea and FPSO service providers.
- **Drilling:** Sustained output above quota suggests operators are successfully completing well programmes; positioning for upcoming drilling campaigns — both infill and new wells — is timely as budgets are likely to expand.
- **Well Services:** Production recovery at this scale typically involves active well intervention and workover programmes; well services companies should be mapping which operators are driving the June gains and engaging directly.

- **Pipeline:** Chronic pipeline vandalism has historically suppressed Nigerian output, and any infrastructure rehabilitation or new evacuation pipeline work associated with the recovery represents a clear entry point for pipeline service providers.
- **Service:** Independent Nigerian operators who absorbed divested assets are now demonstrating production capability and will need qualified international service partners to scale operations efficiently and meet compliance standards.

[Original source: Jeune Afrique Économie →](#)

Saga Advisory

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

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