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OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY · SUBSEA

SLB OneSubsea Secures EPC Contract for Baleine Phase 3 Offshore Côte d'Ivoire

Saga deep read · 14 July 2026 · Score 80

SLB OneSubsea has been awarded an engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract by Eni for Phase 3 of the Baleine field development, located offshore Côte d'Ivoire. The contract was reported by Offshore Technology and confirms that the Baleine project continues its staged development trajectory under Eni's operatorship.

The Baleine field has been one of West Africa's more closely watched deepwater developments in recent years, with Eni advancing the project through successive phases. The award of a Phase 3 EPC contract to SLB OneSubsea signals that earlier phases have progressed sufficiently to justify committing capital to the next stage of subsea infrastructure buildout. SLB OneSubsea, the subsea technologies joint venture between SLB and OneSubsea, brings integrated engineering and construction capabilities to the scope, which would typically encompass subsea production systems, flowlines, and associated infrastructure — though the article does not detail specific contract scope items.

Côte d'Ivoire has been working to consolidate its position as a meaningful offshore producer in the Gulf of Guinea. The Baleine development, operated by Eni, represents the country's most active deepwater programme and has attracted sustained international contractor interest. The Phase 3 EPC award reinforces that the project's development schedule remains on track and that Eni is prepared to continue accelerating production capacity offshore.

For the broader West African subsea supply chain, the Baleine Phase 3 award is a concrete signal that multi-phase deepwater developments in the region continue to generate substantial contract flow. As a phased development, Baleine creates recurring procurement cycles — each phase requiring discrete engineering, equipment, and installation scopes — making it a structurally attractive programme for service companies positioned in the region. The selection of SLB OneSubsea for the EPC role indicates that integrated contractors with strong subsea system capabilities are best placed to capture anchor contracts on such programmes.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian subsea and FPSO service companies should monitor the Baleine Phase 3 EPC execution closely, as SLB OneSubsea will likely require subcontractors and specialist vendors across installation, inspection, and equipment supply. Companies not positioned on the prime contract should assess whether partnership or subcontract routes into the SLB OneSubsea supply chain are viable for Phase 3 and any subsequent phases.

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PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea:** Norwegian subsea technology and equipment suppliers should approach SLB OneSubsea directly to explore subcontract or vendor qualification opportunities within the Phase 3 EPC scope.
- **FPSO:** If Phase 3 involves topside or floating production expansion, Norwegian FPSO operators and marine contractors should monitor tender activity closely for any associated hook-up or modification work.
- **Drilling:** Phase 3 development drilling requirements tied to the subsea infrastructure buildout may generate rig demand — Norwegian drilling contractors with Gulf of Guinea presence should track Eni's upcoming well programme.

- **Pipeline:** Flowline and riser installation associated with the EPC scope represents a potential opportunity for Norwegian pipeline contractors with West Africa operational capability.
- **Service:** Inspection, maintenance, and repair service providers should position now for long-term IMR frameworks that typically follow major subsea EPC completions on phased developments like Baleine.

[Original source: Offshore Technology →]

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