PIPELINE TECHNOLOGY JOURNAL · LNG

ECOWAS States Sign $25bn Nigeria-Morocco Atlantic Gas Pipeline Agreement

Saga deep read · 21 July 2026 · Score 87

West African heads of state have formally signed an intergovernmental agreement backing the Nigeria-Morocco Atlantic Gas Pipeline, a $25 billion infrastructure project that ranks among the most ambitious energy undertakings on the African continent. The agreement was finalised during an ECOWAS summit held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and represents the culmination of years of diplomatic groundwork first initiated by the Moroccan King and Nigerian president approximately a decade ago.

The pipeline will follow a 6,900-kilometre hybrid offshore-onshore route, traversing 13 West African nations from Nigeria northward to Morocco. According to a joint statement from Morocco's hydrocarbons and mining agency ONHYM and Nigeria's state oil company NNPC, the project has already cleared its feasibility study and front-end engineering design (FEED) stages — a significant threshold that signals readiness to progress toward detailed engineering and procurement. At full capacity, the pipeline is designed to transport up to 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually, with 15 billion cubic meters earmarked for Moroccan and European markets via an existing pipeline link between Morocco and Spain.

The project's stated ambitions extend well beyond export revenues. ONHYM has previously outlined that the infrastructure is engineered to drive West African economic integration by expanding regional electricity generation, supporting industrial development, and accelerating mining activity across the corridor. For Morocco, the pipeline simultaneously consolidates its strategic positioning as an

energy transit hub between sub-Saharan Africa and European import markets — a role that gains additional relevance as European buyers seek to diversify away from Russian gas supplies.

The signing of the multilateral accord marks a transition from regional endorsement to bilateral execution. The next scheduled step is a separate agreement between Morocco and gas-rich Mauritania, an event that will take place in the presence of Nigeria's president, according to the joint statement. This bilateral layer suggests the project's route architecture and gas sourcing arrangements are being formalised incrementally, nation by nation, as political and commercial conditions allow.

For the international energy services sector, the pipeline's progression through FEED and into a post-IGA phase signals that detailed engineering contracts and equipment procurement windows are likely approaching. The hybrid offshore-onshore route — crossing multiple jurisdictions and marine environments along the West African coastline — will require a broad spectrum of technical capabilities, from subsea survey and installation to onshore pipeline construction, compression, and metering infrastructure. Norwegian service companies with established West African track records are well placed to position themselves ahead of what would be one of the largest pipeline construction programmes the region has ever seen.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

With FEED complete and an intergovernmental agreement now signed, the Nigeria-Morocco pipeline is entering a phase where detailed engineering, subsea survey, and early procurement mandates will begin to materialise. Norwegian service companies should engage now with NNPC, ONHYM, and appointed project developers to register capabilities and explore teaming arrangements before major contract packages are defined. Given the hybrid offshore-onshore route across 13 jurisdictions, early positioning — rather than waiting for formal tenders — is the pragmatic approach.

YOUR SAGA CONTACT

Bjørn Kahrs

Partner, Oil & Gas & Industry

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea:** The 6,900 km hybrid offshore-onshore route will require extensive seabed survey, subsea pipeline design, and installation contracting along the West African coastline — a core competency for Norwegian subsea players.
- **Pipeline:** Onshore pipeline construction and compression across 13 West African nations represents a multi-year, multi-contract programme where Norwegian pipeline engineering firms and material suppliers can compete for early-phase packages.
- **LNG:** Although the project is pipeline-based, gas processing and conditioning facilities at origination points in Nigeria and along the route may create adjacent opportunities for gas handling and metering specialists.
- **Drilling/Well Services:** Upstream tie-in development in Nigeria to feed 30 bcm annually into the pipeline system will likely require incremental well drilling and completion activity, benefiting Norwegian well services providers already active in Nigeria.
- **Service:** Project management, HSSE, and integrity assurance services will be in sustained demand across a corridor spanning 13 nations — Norwegian consultancies with African infrastructure experience should pursue framework agreements with lead contractors early.

Original source: Pipeline Technology Journal →

Saga Advisory

Partner contact: bjorn@saga-advisory.com · General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN