

AFRICA OIL+GAS REPORT · DRILLING

TotalEnergies Accelerates Kaminho First Oil Timeline Ahead of Original Schedule

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TotalEnergies has announced that first oil from the Kaminho project is expected to arrive sooner than the timeline projected at the time of the project's sanctioning. The acceleration signals positive execution progress on one of the more significant upstream developments currently underway in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Kaminho project, operated by TotalEnergies, represents a major deepwater development offshore Angola. The fact that the operator is now guiding toward an earlier first oil date than originally communicated suggests that key project milestones — spanning subsea installation, FPSO readiness, and well completion activities — are tracking ahead of schedule. Early delivery on large-scale offshore developments of this nature is relatively uncommon and reflects both operator discipline and, likely, favourable contractor performance across the supply chain.

For the Angolan upstream sector, an accelerated Kaminho timeline carries meaningful implications. Angola has been working to sustain production levels amid natural decline from mature fields, and new project start-ups ahead of schedule provide a direct boost to national output targets. Sonangol and the Angolan government have placed considerable emphasis on attracting continued investment from majors such as TotalEnergies, and on-schedule or early delivery strengthens the investment case for future licensing rounds and project sanctions in the country.

From a commercial standpoint, every month of acceleration on a project of this scale translates into material additional revenue for the operator and its partners, while

also freeing up contracted rigs, vessels, and service capacity for redeployment. This dynamic has a knock-on effect across the service and supply chain ecosystem active in Angolan waters, potentially opening windows for follow-on scopes or contract extensions on related infrastructure.

The broader context is one of renewed momentum in Angolan deepwater. TotalEnergies has maintained a strong operational footprint in the country across multiple blocks, and Kaminho's progression ahead of schedule reinforces Angola's status as a priority deepwater jurisdiction in the region. For service companies tracking entry points or contract renewals in the Angolan market, the Kaminho acceleration is a useful indicator that execution conditions — logistics, regulatory clearances, and offshore weather windows — have been manageable, which bodes well for near-term activity levels more broadly.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies with existing Angolan relationships should monitor Kaminho's revised first oil date closely, as accelerated schedules can create short-notice demand for hook-up, commissioning, and early-production support services. Companies not yet active in Angola should treat this as a market-entry signal, given that a successful early start-up typically catalyses operator appetite for the next development phase. Monitoring TotalEnergies' Angola contracting pipeline over the next 12-18 months is warranted.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Accelerated first oil implies subsea hook-up and FPSO commissioning milestones are ahead of plan, creating potential short-notice demand for specialist intervention and marine support vessels.
- **Drilling:** Earlier well completion than scheduled may indicate rig capacity becoming available sooner, worth tracking for redeployment opportunities on adjacent Angolan blocks.
- **Service:** Well services and production chemistry companies should position for early-production optimisation scopes that typically arise in the months immediately following first oil.

- **Pipeline:** Subsea flowline and umbilical contractors should monitor whether the accelerated schedule has pulled forward any remaining tie-in or connection scopes requiring specialist support.

[Original source: Africa Oil+Gas Report →](#)

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