

AFRICA OIL+GAS REPORT · GHANA · LNG

ENI Expands Gas Processing Capacity on Yinson FPSO at Ghana's Sankofa Field

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Italian major ENI has executed a contract amendment with Malaysian FPSO operator Yinson Production to increase the non-associated gas (NAG) processing capacity of the floating production, storage and offloading vessel currently serving Ghana's Sankofa field. The amendment represents a meaningful expansion of the scope originally agreed between the two parties, signalling ENI's intention to accelerate gas monetisation from the asset.

The Sankofa field, operated by ENI offshore Ghana, has been a significant upstream investment in West Africa. The decision to pursue a NAG modification rather than simply optimising associated gas handling reflects a deliberate upstream strategy: the operator appears to be targeting dedicated gas reserves within the reservoir rather than relying solely on gas produced alongside oil. This distinction matters commercially, as NAG development typically requires more sustained infrastructure commitment and points to longer plateau production ambitions.

For Yinson Production, the contract amendment extends and deepens its operational role on the vessel. FPSO operators frequently absorb modification scopes of this kind through amendments to existing operations and maintenance agreements, with the contractor managing the engineering, procurement and installation of new or upgraded processing modules on board. The financial and operational details of the amendment have not been disclosed in available reporting, but modifications of this

nature on producing FPSOs are generally complex undertakings requiring careful integration with live production systems.

The timing is noteworthy in the broader context of West African gas strategy. Ghana has faced persistent challenges in maximising domestic gas utilisation, and upstream investments that increase offshore gas processing throughput can support both export ambitions and in-country energy security goals. ENI's willingness to commit capital to expanding the FPSO's NAG capacity suggests confidence in the reservoir's gas volumes and in the commercial pathways available for that gas.

For the Norwegian oil and gas service sector, the Sankofa FPSO modification is a live, active project opportunity. Modifications to producing FPSOs in West Africa routinely draw on specialised subsea, topside engineering and marine services providers. Norwegian companies with FPSO modification experience, gas processing module expertise or subsea tie-in capabilities are well positioned to engage with either ENI or Yinson as the modification scope is defined and executed. The project is at contract amendment stage, meaning detailed engineering and procurement activity is likely at an early phase — an advantageous entry point for service providers seeking to position themselves in the supply chain.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian companies with FPSO topside modification, gas processing module engineering or subsea integration capabilities should engage directly with Yinson Production and ENI's Ghana procurement teams as early as possible, given the project appears to be in pre-FEED or early engineering phases. Monitoring subcontract awards and modification tender releases from both parties is advisable. This is an active opportunity, not one to simply track.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **FPSO:** Yinson is the FPSO contractor managing the modification scope, making them the primary entry point for Norwegian topside engineering and module integration specialists.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** If the NAG expansion requires new subsea infrastructure or riser modifications to handle increased gas throughput, Norwegian subsea contractors with West Africa FPSO experience should monitor tender activity closely.
- **Service:** Gas processing module vendors and rotating equipment specialists familiar with live-FPSO modification constraints have a direct product fit for this NAG capacity upgrade.
- **LNG:** Depending on Ghana's gas export pathway decisions, increased NAG processing capacity could feed future LNG or gas export infrastructure — worth tracking for Norwegian LNG technology providers.
- **Pipeline:** Higher offshore gas volumes may require assessment of existing export pipeline or riser capacity, creating potential scope for pipeline engineering and integrity service providers.

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