

ECOFIN AGENCY · GUINEA-BISSAU · DRILLING

TGS reprocesses 11,000 km² seismic offshore Guinea-Bissau

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Norwegian data company TGS will reprocess more than 11,000 square kilometres of offshore seismic data in Guinea-Bissau, with results expected in late 2027. The project is designed to give oil companies an improved picture of the country's hydrocarbon exploration potential ahead of any future licensing activity. Guinea-Bissau has yet to confirm a commercial oil or gas discovery, meaning this reprocessing campaign represents an early-stage data effort rather than a prelude to imminent drilling.

Reprocessing existing seismic datasets is a cost-efficient way for frontier basins to attract exploration interest without committing to new acquisition programmes. By applying modern processing algorithms to legacy data, TGS aims to sharpen subsurface imaging and reduce geological uncertainty for prospective operators. The results, due in late 2027, will be marketed as a multi-client product available to companies evaluating whether to pursue acreage in Guinea-Bissau's offshore sector.

Guinea-Bissau sits along the West African transform margin, a geological province that has attracted growing attention from explorers active in neighbouring Senegal and Guinea. The country has made several attempts to kick-start an upstream sector but has so far lacked the data quality and fiscal framework needed to draw sustained operator commitment. A successful reprocessing campaign that reveals credible leads or prospects could provide the technical foundation for a future licensing round, though any such round would still be years away.

For the broader Norwegian service and technology community, the TGS initiative is a useful early signal. Data reprocessing at this scale is typically the first step in a multi-year exploration cycle: if the reprocessed data attracts operator interest, it would eventually trigger new seismic acquisition, then exploration drilling, and ultimately — if discoveries are made — development contracting. None of those downstream phases are imminent, but the 2027 delivery date gives companies a clear horizon for when Guinea-Bissau might begin generating tangible commercial conversations.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a reconnaissance-phase data project; no procurement or supplier outreach is warranted at this stage. Norwegian seismic acquisition and processing companies should monitor the TGS results when published in late 2027, as positive outcomes could trigger new acquisition campaigns or exploration drilling programmes. Relationship-building with TGS and with any operators who license the reprocessed data would be the appropriate preparatory step over the next two to three years.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** No drilling activity is imminent, but a positive 2027 data result could define drillable prospects — flag Guinea-Bissau for rig availability planning post-2028.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Far too early for subsea or FPSO positioning; monitor whether reprocessed data attracts a named operator before allocating business-development resource.
- **Service:** Seismic vessel and geophysical service companies should track whether TGS commissions new acquisition surveys in Guinea-Bissau following the reprocessing deliverable in late 2027.
- **Pipeline:** No pipeline scope exists yet; relevance is contingent on a commercial discovery that does not currently exist in Guinea-Bissau.

[Original source: Ecofin Agency →](#)

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