

GOOGLE NEWS QUERY: NIGERIA RIG CONTRACT / FID · NIGERIA · DRILLING

ADES lands three jack-up contracts plus extension in Nigeria

Saga deep read · 16 April 2026 · Score 66

ADES has secured three new jack-up drilling contracts and one rig contract extension in Nigeria, adding to the company's operational footprint in one of Africa's most active offshore drilling markets. The awards confirm continued upstream activity in Nigerian waters and signal sustained operator appetite for mobile offshore drilling units in the country.

The contracts cover jack-up rigs, a class of mobile drilling unit typically deployed in shallow to moderate water depths. Beyond confirming the instrument type — signed drilling contracts — the source does not specify the operators commissioning the work, the individual rigs assigned, contract durations, or the combined financial value of the four deals. ADES, a Middle East and Africa-focused drilling contractor, has been expanding its Nigerian presence alongside broader regional growth, and these awards represent a concrete step in that strategy.

Nigeria remains a priority market for international drilling contractors. The country's upstream sector has seen renewed contracting activity as operators work to maintain and grow production levels, supported in part by fiscal reforms under the Petroleum Industry Act. Jack-up demand in Nigerian waters reflects ongoing development and appraisal drilling programmes across the shallow offshore shelf, where a significant share of the country's proved reserves are located. The extension component of this announcement also suggests that at least one existing ADES rig has been performing satisfactorily under a prior contract, reinforcing the company's operational credibility with Nigerian clients.

For service and equipment companies monitoring the Nigerian drilling market, multiple simultaneous rig activations by a single contractor can create near-term demand across a range of well-services categories. Drilling campaigns of this nature typically require tubular running services, cementing, directional drilling, mud engineering, and associated topside and subsea equipment — though specific well programmes and procurement timelines have not been disclosed in relation to these contracts.

The Nigerian jack-up market is expected to remain competitive but active. Operators continue to balance cost discipline with the need to sustain reservoir pressure and meet production targets, and contractors able to offer reliable rigs with strong local content compliance are well-positioned to capture further work. ADES's simultaneous capture of three new jobs and a contract extension in a single market suggests the company is consolidating a meaningful operational base in Nigeria, which may attract further operator interest as additional drilling slots come up for tender.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

These are signed drilling contracts, making this an appropriate moment for Norwegian well-services and drilling-equipment suppliers to initiate supplier outreach toward ADES's Nigerian operations. Companies offering directional drilling, cementing, tubular running, or mud engineering services should map their local-content capability and approach ADES's procurement team. Those without an established Nigerian presence should prioritise monitoring and use this signal to assess market-entry timing.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling:** ADES's four simultaneous jack-up activations create an immediate opening for rig equipment suppliers and drilling-system vendors to engage the contractor's Nigerian procurement chain.
- **Well Services:** Multiple concurrent jack-up campaigns will require directional drilling, cementing, and completion services — Norwegian well-services firms should assess ADES as a new client target in Nigeria.

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Active shallow-water drilling programmes are a precursor to production infrastructure decisions; monitor these campaigns for development wells that may trigger future FPSO or subsea tie-back work.
- **Pipeline:** Incremental Nigerian shelf production arising from these wells may eventually require flowline and pipeline tie-ins; pipeline contractors should log this activity as an early-stage market signal.

[Original source: Google News query: Nigeria rig contract / FID →](#)

Saga Advisory

General: info@saga-advisory.com · saga-advisory.com

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN