

GOOGLE NEWS QUERY: PETROCI / BALEINE / CALAO · CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Eni advances Baleine FPSO construction in Côte d'Ivoire

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Eni is progressing with the construction of a production vessel for its Baleine field offshore Côte d'Ivoire, according to reporting by Agence Ecofin. The advancement marks a tangible step forward in the physical delivery of production infrastructure for what is one of West Africa's most closely watched recent discoveries.

Baleine has been a flagship project for Eni in Côte d'Ivoire, developed in partnership with state oil company PETROCI. The field, discovered in 2021, is notable for its dual oil and associated gas production profile and has been positioned by Eni as a fast-track development. The construction progress on the production vessel signals that the project is moving from appraisal and engineering phases into the physical asset delivery stage, a critical transition that typically triggers a cascade of procurement and marine logistics activity.

The production vessel — described in the source as a navire de production pétrolière — is the central processing and offloading infrastructure for the Baleine development. The article does not specify the shipyard carrying out the construction, the vessel's nameplate production capacity, its contract value, or the expected delivery and first-oil date. Norwegian service companies tracking the project should note that vessel construction milestones of this kind generally precede subsea installation campaigns, hookup and commissioning scopes, and marine warranty survey requirements by twelve to twenty-four months, depending on project schedule.

Côte d'Ivoire has worked to position itself as an increasingly stable and commercially attractive upstream environment. The Baleine development has moved at relatively high speed by regional standards, supported by a government keen to monetise its offshore resources and by Eni's appetite for fast-track, low-break-even assets. Progress on the production vessel reinforces the project's forward momentum and underpins expectations of near-term production from the block.

For Norwegian oil and gas service companies, the construction advance is a signal to intensify monitoring of Baleine-related procurement pipelines. Subsea tie-back, installation, and hookup scopes are the most likely near-term opportunities as the vessel approaches completion. Companies with FPSO integration, subsea umbilicals, risers and flowlines (SURF), and marine operations capabilities should ensure they have active relationships with Eni's supply chain and with PETROCI's procurement contacts ahead of what is likely to be a competitive award process.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The confirmed advance in production vessel construction for Baleine places this project in the active hardware-delivery phase, making it a priority monitoring target for Norwegian service companies. Firms specialising in FPSO hookup, SURF installation, subsea controls, and marine warranty surveying should be building or reinforcing direct relationships with Eni's West Africa procurement teams and PETROCI now, ahead of expected installation and commissioning scopes. No open tender has been announced in this article, so direct procurement outreach is premature — but competitive positioning should begin immediately.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** FPSO integration specialists should monitor Baleine vessel completion milestones for upcoming hookup, commissioning, and SURF installation scopes tied to the production vessel.
- **Drilling:** As the production vessel advances toward delivery, development and producer well drilling campaigns are likely to intensify — drilling contractors and well services firms should track Eni's rig procurement signals for Baleine.

- **Pipeline:** Flowline and riser installation contractors should position for potential SURF scopes as the Baleine production vessel moves closer to its offshore deployment date.
- **Service:** Marine warranty surveyors, offshore logistics providers, and inspection companies should initiate relationship-building with Eni West Africa supply chain contacts in anticipation of vessel tow-out and installation phases.

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