

NCDMB NIGERIA · NIGERIA · SUBSEA

NCDMB trains 48 Nigerians in subsea engineering

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Nigeria's content regulator, the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB), has launched a subsea engineering training programme covering 48 Nigerian professionals, in partnership with Heritage Energy Operational Services Limited (HEOSL) and Global Oceon Engineers Nigeria Limited. The kick-off ceremony took place on 16 October 2026 in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, marking the formal start of the Human Capacity Development initiative.

The programme is positioned within Nigeria's ongoing drive to grow domestic technical capability in the subsea sector, a discipline that has historically relied heavily on expatriate expertise. NCDMB's mandate requires operators and service companies working in Nigeria to demonstrate measurable investment in local skills development, and this initiative appears to fulfil that obligation for HEOSL's operations. Global Oceon Engineers Nigeria Limited serves as the technical delivery partner providing the engineering curriculum and instruction.

Port Harcourt remains the operational hub for Nigeria's offshore industry, and programmes of this type are directly tied to the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development (NOGICD) Act, which sets minimum thresholds for indigenous participation across all project phases. Developing a trained subsea workforce locally reduces operator dependence on international contractors for routine and specialist subsea tasks alike, and signals that HEOSL is investing in the long-term sustainability of its Nigerian operations.

For international service companies active in Nigeria, the emergence of a larger pool of locally certified subsea engineers has dual implications. On one hand, it accelerates the indigenisation of roles that foreign firms currently fill. On the other, it creates a potential talent base for joint-venture staffing, local-content compliant crew compositions, and technology transfer partnerships — all of which are prerequisites for winning work under Nigerian regulatory frameworks. Companies that engage proactively with NCDMB-aligned training ecosystems are better positioned to demonstrate compliance and secure preferential treatment during contract evaluations.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This programme is at an early capacity-building stage with no procurement or contract opportunity immediately attached; Norwegian subsea service companies should monitor NCDMB-aligned training initiatives as relationship-building entry points rather than procurement targets. Firms such as Subsea 7, Kongsberg, or TechnipFMC's Norwegian operations could explore co-branding or curriculum partnership with NCDMB and Global Ocean Engineers to strengthen local-content compliance credentials ahead of future bid rounds. Building visibility with NCDMB now is low-cost groundwork for the moment HEOSL or similar operators move to tender subsea installation or inspection, repair and maintenance contracts.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea:** Curriculum or technology partnership with Global Ocean Engineers would embed Norwegian subsea methodology into Nigeria's emerging local workforce, supporting local-content compliance on future IRM and installation tenders.
- **Drilling:** A growing subsea-trained Nigerian workforce increases the viable local crew pool for drilling support roles, easing NOGICD compliance pressure on rigs operating in Nigerian waters.
- **FPSO:** FPSO operators requiring subsea umbilical, riser, and flowline (SURF) expertise could engage NCDMB to align training outputs with specific vessel project needs, locking in a compliant talent pipeline.

- **Service:** Well services and inspection companies should monitor NCDMB's training calendar as an early signal of where Nigerian operators are building capacity — and therefore where future service demand is likely to grow.

[Original source: NCDMB Nigeria →](#)

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