

LIBERIA PETROLEUM REGULATORY AUTHORITY (LPRA) · LIBERIA

Liberia awards eight offshore blocks to TotalEnergies and partners as regulatory framework matures

Saga deep read · 10 June 2026 · Score 58

The Petroleum Commission of Ghana (PCG) is emerging as a regional anchor institution for petroleum regulatory cooperation in West Africa, having formalised bilateral agreements with both the Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) and the Petroleum Commission of The Gambia. The Gambia agreement was signed at a ceremony in Bijilo, Kombo North, and is described as a landmark step aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation and promoting institutional and technical collaboration in the development and regulation of the petroleum sector. These regulatory-to-regulatory instruments are designed to align governance practices and share institutional experience between countries at different stages of upstream development — but Liberia has now moved decisively beyond the governance-building phase into active commercial activity.

The Liberian Legislature has ratified petroleum contracts covering eight offshore blocks, representing a significant acceleration in the country's upstream development. According to a press release from the LPRA's Office of the Director General dated 18 December 2025, TotalEnergies EP Liberia has been awarded blocks LB-06, LB-11, LB-17, and LB-29, while a second contractor — whose full identity was not captured in the available summary — has received awards covering blocks LB-15, LB-16, LB-22, and a fourth block. The LPRA commended the legislature for the ratifications and affirmed the contractors' capacity while committing to strict contract enforcement. This is a material development: Liberia's offshore basin, which

had attracted only periodic exploration interest in recent years, now has a major international operator with ratified contractual standing across four blocks.

The entry of TotalEnergies EP Liberia as a confirmed licence-holder transforms the commercial landscape for service companies tracking the country. TotalEnergies carries established supply chain relationships and procurement standards that Norwegian service companies will recognise from operations elsewhere in West Africa and globally. Ratified contracts — as opposed to provisional awards — signal that exploration planning, environmental baseline work, and ultimately drilling campaigns can now be sequenced with greater certainty. The LPRA's public commitment to strict contract enforcement also suggests the regulatory environment is being actively professionalised, consistent with the capacity-building intent behind its MoU with Ghana's PCG.

For Norwegian suppliers, the combination of a credible major operator, eight ratified blocks, and a maturing regulatory authority creates a materially different opportunity profile than existed when the Ghana-Liberia MoU was first noted. Seismic reprocessing, environmental and geotechnical survey services, subsea engineering consultancy, and early-stage logistics and marine support are all service categories that typically enter the procurement cycle ahead of any drilling decision. The identity and role of the second contractor awarded blocks LB-15, LB-16, LB-22, and the fourth unnamed block has not yet been confirmed and should be tracked, as it may represent an additional entry point. Parties should now treat Liberia as an active frontier market requiring direct monitoring rather than a passive governance story.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The ratification of eight offshore blocks — four to TotalEnergies EP Liberia — converts Liberia from a regulatory-watch story into an active prospecting opportunity for Norwegian service companies with West Africa exposure. Norwegian suppliers should initiate contact with TotalEnergies' regional supply chain teams, monitor the identity of the second contractor awarded LB-15, LB-16, LB-22, and the fourth block, and engage the LPRA directly given its stated commitment to strict contract enforcement and its existing capacity-sharing relationship with Ghana's PCG.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **TotalEnergies EP Liberia supply chain:** TotalEnergies holds four ratified blocks (LB-06, LB-11, LB-17, LB-29) and will require seismic, survey, subsea engineering, and drilling-support services as exploration planning advances — Norwegian companies with existing TotalEnergies relationships elsewhere should engage regional procurement teams now.
- **Second unnamed contractor (LB-15, LB-16, LB-22 + one block):** Identity not yet confirmed; once known, this operator represents a second independent entry point for service company engagement in Liberian offshore acreage.
- **Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA):** LPRA's public commitment to strict contract enforcement and its MoU with Ghana's PCG indicate an institution actively building capacity; Norwegian consultancies offering regulatory advisory or HSE framework services could find a receptive counterpart.
- **Petroleum Commission of The Gambia:** Still at an early governance stage, but the Ghana MoU network suggests The Gambia may follow Liberia's trajectory; early relationship-building with the Commission costs little and positions Norwegian firms ahead of any future licensing round.

[Original source: Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority \(Liberia\) →](#)

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