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# Equatorial Guinea holds ConocoPhillips gas talks in Houston

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Equatorial Guinea's Vice-President Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangue met with ConocoPhillips management in Houston to discuss the company's existing projects in the country and prospects for further investment in the gas sector. The meeting, convened as a working session, forms part of a broader government push to attract new capital into Equatorial Guinea's gas industry and expand the country's gas resource base.

The engagement is framed as exploratory at this stage. No block award, contract signing, or formal agreement has been announced — this is a government-to-operator dialogue, the earliest stage of a potential investment process. Equatorial Guinea's state gas company SONAGAS is the domestic entity driving the campaign to promote new opportunities, and the Houston meeting signals that the government is actively targeting established operators with existing in-country presence rather than prospecting entirely new entrants.

Equatorial Guinea has built its gas infrastructure around the Punta Europa complex on Bioko Island, which hosts the Alba liquefied natural gas plant and methanol facilities. The country has in recent years faced declining output from mature fields, making fresh upstream investment a strategic priority. ConocoPhillips has maintained an operational footprint in Equatorial Guinea, giving the Houston talks a degree of commercial grounding, though the source article does not specify which projects or acreage are under discussion.

For the broader service and supply chain community, the significance of this meeting lies in direction rather than immediacy. A government actively courting a major operator for expanded gas development is a leading indicator of future drilling, tie-back, and potentially LNG-related activity — but procurement opportunities remain contingent on a deal being struck and an investment decision being taken. Norwegian service companies should treat this as an early monitoring signal, not an actionable tender. Maintaining relationships with both ConocoPhillips supply chain teams and SONAGAS technical contacts would be the appropriate posture at this stage.

### Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is an MoU-stage or pre-MoU government-to-operator dialogue, so no procurement outreach is warranted yet. Norwegian service companies with existing Equatorial Guinea exposure — particularly in subsea, well services, or LNG — should monitor for any formal block award or investment decision that follows. Building or reinforcing relationships with ConocoPhillips regional procurement and SONAGAS technical teams now positions firms advantageously if a development programme is confirmed.

#### PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Any ConocoPhillips gas development in Equatorial Guinea could feed or expand the Punta Europa LNG infrastructure, making Norwegian LNG technology and brownfield modification contractors worth positioning early.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** New upstream gas investment may require subsea tie-backs or floating production solutions; Norwegian subsea contractors should track whether ConocoPhillips activity involves offshore development.
- **Drilling:** Exploration or appraisal drilling would be an early-stage requirement if ConocoPhillips advances new gas acreage; drilling contractors and well services firms should monitor for rig tender signals.
- **Service:** Well integrity, inspection, and maintenance services for maturing Equatorial Guinea gas fields remain an ongoing need regardless of new investment outcomes — a foothold worth maintaining.

[Original source: SONAGAS G.E. - Blog/Noticias \(Equatorial Guinea\) →](#)

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