

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

Ivory Coast Baleine gas field enters production

Saga deep read · 28 August 2023 · Score 50

Production has started at the Baleine gas field in Côte d'Ivoire, marking a significant milestone for the country's domestic energy sector. The field, described in reporting as a mega gas field, has moved from development into active output, signalling that upstream work is now translating into live hydrocarbon flow off the West African nation's coast.

The start of production at Baleine is a landmark moment for Côte d'Ivoire, a country that has long sought to leverage its offshore resources to reduce dependence on power imports and strengthen energy security. Gas from the field is expected to feed into domestic electricity generation, addressing chronic shortfalls that have constrained industrial and residential supply across the country. The progression from discovery through development to first production represents a full upstream cycle being executed in the country, which will now require sustained operational and technical support to maintain and grow output.

For the broader West African energy market, a producing mega gas field on the Ivorian shelf carries regional significance. Côte d'Ivoire sits within a basin that spans neighbouring countries, and successful production at scale could reinforce investor confidence in the sub-region's offshore potential. It also raises questions about future capacity expansions, gas processing infrastructure, and the long-term export or domestic allocation of reserves — all of which will require substantial service and engineering input over the coming years.

With the field now in production, the focus shifts from project execution to optimising reservoir performance, maintaining subsea and surface infrastructure, and managing the supply chain for ongoing operations. This operational phase typically triggers demand for well intervention services, subsea inspection and maintenance contracts, and rotating equipment support — areas where international service companies with deepwater and offshore expertise are regularly engaged by field operators at comparable producing assets across the Gulf of Guinea.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

With Baleine now in active production, Norwegian service companies should monitor upcoming operations and maintenance tenders, as producing offshore gas fields in the Gulf of Guinea consistently generate demand for subsea IMR, well services, and topside maintenance contracts. Relationship-building with the field operator and PETROCI is the appropriate step at this stage, ahead of anticipated procurement cycles for operational support work. Companies with West African track records in subsea inspection, well intervention, or rotating equipment services are best positioned to engage early.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** A producing offshore field will require subsea inspection, maintenance and repair services — monitor for IMR framework tenders as operations ramp up.
- **Drilling:** Production growth and reservoir management at a mega gas field typically drive infill and development well programmes — watch for rig contract opportunities in the near term.
- **Well Services:** Live production means ongoing well integrity, intervention, and stimulation work; Norwegian well-services firms should seek introductions to the operator's subsurface team now.
- **Pipeline:** Onshore and nearshore gas gathering and distribution infrastructure may be needed to connect field output to domestic power consumers — scope for pipeline engineering and installation services.

- **LNG:** If production volumes exceed domestic absorption capacity, gas monetisation through LNG or regional pipeline export could become a future workstream worth tracking.

[Original source: Google News query: PETROCI / Baleine / Calao →](#)

Saga Advisory

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

STAVANGER · CAPE TOWN