

OFFSHORE TECHNOLOGY · EGYPT · UPSTREAM

Eni's Meleiha Phase 2 delivers early gas trickle into energy-starved Egypt

Saga deep read · 21 October 2026 · Score 58

Eni has commenced start-up operations at the Meleiha Phase 2 gas project in Egypt's Western Desert, with Africa Oil+Gas Report characterising the initial output as a modest trickle into one of the region's most supply-constrained energy markets. The project advances the build-out of an integrated gas production and gathering hub within the Merged Meleiha concession, consolidating multiple reservoir targets under a single operational framework in a mature onshore province where Eni has maintained a long-standing presence.

The Africa Oil+Gas Report framing — describing output as a 'trickle' — adds meaningful context to the start-up announcement. While Eni's own communications emphasise the strategic significance of the phase, the trade press characterisation suggests that initial production volumes are modest relative to Egypt's acute gas deficit. This distinction matters for assessing near-term impact: the project is live and generating output, but ramp-up to plateau rates will require continued investment in compression, well tie-ins, and gathering infrastructure over the coming months. No specific production capacity figures are cited in either source.

Egypt's domestic gas market has faced sustained supply pressure as consumption from power generation and industrial users continues to outpace available volumes. The country's return to LNG import status in recent years has made restoration of upstream supply a governmental priority, and Western Desert developments such as Meleiha Phase 2 sit at the centre of that recovery effort. Administered through EGPC and supported by EGAS, Egypt's upstream gas regulatory environment is familiar to

international operators, and Eni's established concession position reduces the contractual uncertainty that can complicate new supplier market entry.

The gap between initial trickle output and full plateau production is precisely where service company opportunity is concentrated. Brownfield ramp-up typically requires workover campaigns on existing wells, additional perforation and stimulation programmes, gathering line extensions, incremental compression train additions, and separation facility upgrades — all discrete procurement scopes that will be activated progressively as Eni pushes volumes toward design capacity. The live commissioning status of Meleiha Phase 2 means these scopes are current considerations rather than future prospects.

Norwegian service firms with capabilities in onshore gas compression, surface production facilities, well intervention, or brownfield project management should treat this active ramp-up phase as the optimal window for supply chain engagement. Phase completions and ramp-up programmes frequently precede announcements of subsequent tie-back or expansion phases, and suppliers who establish procurement relationships during early operations are consistently better positioned on invitation-to-tender lists for follow-on scopes.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The Africa Oil+Gas Report framing of Meleiha Phase 2 output as a 'trickle' confirms that ramp-up infrastructure investment is ongoing, making near-term procurement engagement by Norwegian compression, well services, and surface facility specialists both timely and commercially rational. Norwegian companies should initiate direct outreach to Eni's Egypt supply chain now, before plateau-phase tenders are formalised. Monitoring subsequent Eni announcements within the Merged Meleiha concession will identify the next discrete bidding windows.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Onshore compression specialists:** Ramp-up from trickle to plateau production requires incremental compression additions; Norwegian firms with skid-mounted or modular compression solutions are well suited to brownfield tie-in scopes.

- **Well intervention and workover contractors:** Maximising output from existing Meleiha wells through perforation, stimulation, and workover programmes is a standard ramp-up tool; Norwegian well services companies should position with Eni's Egypt operations team.
- **Surface facility and separation engineers:** Gathering line extensions and additional separation train capacity are likely as production volumes build; Norwegian EPC and brownfield modification specialists have relevant competence to offer.

[Original source: Offshore Technology →](#)

Saga Advisory

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

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