

MERCADO (ANGOLA) · ANGOLA · LNG

Sonangol advances Katambi-2 gas find in Benguela Basin

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Sonangol is moving toward development of a natural gas discovery in the Benguela Basin, offshore Angola, following results from the Katambi-2 appraisal well. The well recorded a production rate of 41 million cubic feet of gas per day alongside 1,160 barrels of condensate per day, establishing a commercial flow basis for further planning. No development concept, contractor appointments, or final investment decision has been announced at this stage.

The Benguela Basin find is framed as a potential contributor to Angola's domestic energy supply, though the article does not specify whether gas would be directed toward LNG export, domestic power generation, or gas-to-wire schemes. Sonangol has not yet indicated a preferred monetisation route, and no partner or co-venturer is named in the source reporting. The project therefore remains at early pre-development stage — a discovery with confirmed flow rates but no sanctioned development framework.

A practical complication flagged in the reporting is the overlap between the prospective development area and active fishing grounds in the Benguela Basin. Reconciling hydrocarbon extraction with fishing activities is identified as a material challenge, suggesting that environmental permitting, community engagement, and regulatory design work will be required before any development proceeds. The Benguela Basin is a biologically productive upwelling zone, making this tension more acute than in typical deepwater frontier settings, and it may influence field layout, infrastructure placement, and timing.

For the broader Angolan gas sector, the Katambi-2 result adds to a growing inventory of gas resources that Sonangol and the Angolan government are seeking to monetise as the country works to sustain and diversify hydrocarbon revenues beyond oil. Angola LNG at Soyo remains the country's primary gas export infrastructure, and any new Benguela Basin volumes would ultimately need a defined route to market — whether via pipeline tie-in, a new processing hub, or reinjection. None of those options has been confirmed for this project.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

At this stage, Katambi-2 is a pre-development discovery with confirmed flow rates but no sanctioned concept, contractor framework, or tender process in place. Norwegian service companies should monitor Sonangol's development planning announcements and use this period to engage at a relationship and technical dialogue level — particularly firms with subsea tieback, gas processing, and FPSO expertise relevant to Angolan offshore conditions. Procurement outreach is premature; the priority now is positioning ahead of concept selection.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Subsea/FPSO:** Monitor concept selection closely — if Sonangol pursues a floating production solution for Benguela Basin gas, early technical dialogue on FPSO or FLNG configurations could be valuable positioning ahead of any FEED tender.
- **LNG:** Track whether Katambi-2 volumes are earmarked for Angola LNG expansion or a new export route, as either scenario would generate upstream gas processing and compression scope relevant to Norwegian LNG technology providers.
- **Pipeline:** A pipeline tie-back to existing Benguela Basin infrastructure or to the Soyo LNG plant is a plausible development route; Norwegian pipeline engineering firms should monitor any corridor studies or front-end work Sonangol commissions.
- **Drilling:** Further appraisal wells may be required before FID; drilling contractors and well services companies should track Sonangol's rig contracting activity in Angola for Benguela Basin campaign slots.

- **Service:** The fishing-activity conflict will require environmental baseline surveys and subsea infrastructure siting studies — specialist environmental and marine survey firms may find early engagement opportunities through Sonangol's permitting process.

[Original source: Mercado \(Angola\) →](#)

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