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2026

LIBYA'S GAS PROJECTS OUTLOOK

OVERVIEW

Libya's gas industry is moving into a year where several projects that have been in development for some time are expected to take visible steps forward. A key milestone in 2026 is the planned start of production from the offshore Structures A and E project, supported by upgrades to compression and processing capacity across the western gas system.

This report reviews the principal gas developments relevant to 2026, including upstream projects, processing facilities, and export infrastructure. It assesses reported timelines, expected capacities, and the operational dependencies that will shape outcomes, based exclusively on publicly available company disclosures, official statements, and industry reporting.

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Scope & Methodology

This report is based on:

- Primary disclosures from operators and infrastructure owners
- Official communications from the National Oil Corporation (NOC)
- Industry and technical publications
- Market and regional energy reporting

The analysis focuses on **projects, infrastructure, timelines, capacities, and operational readiness**. It does not assess political developments or policy outcomes.

Overview of Libya's Gas System

Libya's gas production and export framework is concentrated around the **western gas corridor**, anchored by the **Mellitah Oil & Gas complex**. Gas produced from upstream assets is either:

- Supplied to domestic markets, particularly power generation, or
- Exported via the **Greenstream pipeline** to Italy

According to Eni, Greenstream transports gas produced at the **Wafa onshore field** and the **Bahr Essalam offshore field**, positioning Mellitah as the central processing and compression hub within the system (1).

As a result, system performance depends not only on upstream production but also on the availability and reliability of Mellitah and associated infrastructure.

Structures A & E Offshore Gas Project

Project description

Structures A & E is an offshore gas development located in Contract Area D and operated through the **Mellitah Oil & Gas joint venture** between NOC and Eni. The project involves two offshore structures tied back to existing onshore treatment facilities.

Industry sources consistently identify Structures A & E as the most significant new gas development expected to affect Libya's gas supply outlook around 2026 (2)(3).

Timeline and expected start-up

- Eni states that **combined gas production is scheduled to start in 2026** (2)
- Eni's Libya operations overview reiterates a **2026 launch timeframe** (1)
- Offshore Technology and other industry reporting similarly position initial production in 2026, with some references specifying **end-2026 timing** (3)(4)

Taken together, public disclosures support the conclusion that **initial production is planned for 2026**, subject to execution and commissioning schedules.

Expected capacity and outcomes

According to Eni, Structures A & E is expected to reach a plateau production level of approximately 750 million standard cubic feet per day (2). This figure is corroborated by multiple industry sources (3)(5).

Reported outcomes associated with the project include:

- Increased availability of gas for domestic use
- Incremental volumes for export through Greenstream
- Improved utilisation of existing processing capacity at Mellitah

Project execution and responsibility

- Operator / Joint Venture: Mellitah Oil & Gas (NOC–Eni) (2)
- Project Management: Hill International appointed as Project Management Consultant (5)
- Corporate oversight: Eni CEO Claudio Descalzi reviewed progress of Libya gas projects, including Structures A & E, during meetings in 2025 (6)
- Mellitah governance: Mohamed Bin Shatwan was appointed Chairman of Mellitah's Management Committee in February 2025 (7)

Bahr Essalam Field & Sabratha Compression Project

Role within the gas system

The **Bahr Essalam offshore field** is a key supply source feeding the Mellitah complex and the Greenstream export pipeline (1). Maintaining deliverability from Bahr Essalam is therefore critical to system stability.

Compression project scope and milestones

In 2025, NOC announced the implementation of a major **gas compression unit project** at Bahr Essalam:

- The compression module was installed on the **Sabratha offshore platform** (8)
- Reported capacity of the unit is **up to 100 million cubic feet of raw gas per day** (9)

Industry reporting indicates the project entered its operational phase in **October 2025** (10)

Expected outcomes

NOC states that the compression project is intended to:

- Sustain production levels
- Improve operational efficiency
- Support long-term gas supply reliability (8)

These upgrades are best described as enabling infrastructure, supporting both existing production and the integration of new upstream gas volumes.

Mellitah Gas Processing Complex

The **Mellitah Oil & Gas complex** is Libya's primary gas treatment, compression, and export hub. Gas from offshore and onshore fields is processed at Mellitah before being routed to domestic markets or exported.

As Structures A & E is designed to tie back to Mellitah facilities, the complex's maintenance condition, capacity utilisation, and uptime will directly influence the effectiveness of new gas supply delivery (1)(2).

Greenstream Export Pipeline

Infrastructure overview

According to Greenstream BV:

- Ownership is split 50% Eni North Africa BV / 50% NOC
- The system includes:
 - Mellitah Gas Compression Station
 - An offshore pipeline of approximately 510 km
 - A receiving terminal in Gela, Sicily
- Maximum water depth exceeds 1,100 metres (11)

Operational dependency

Industry reporting indicates that Greenstream exports are sensitive to:

- Maintenance and unplanned outages at Mellitah
- Availability of upstream gas feed

MEES and MEED have reported temporary export interruptions linked to maintenance activity at Mellitah, highlighting the system's reliance on hub reliability rather than pipeline capacity alone (12)(13).

Bouri Gas Utilisation Project

Eni identifies the **Bouri Gas Utilisation Project** as one of three projects sanctioned in 2023 and under progress review during 2025 (6).

While detailed commissioning dates are not consistently published, multiple sources reference 2026 as a period during which progress or start-up milestones may occur. Given variability in reporting, Bouri gas utilisation is best treated as a **2026 monitoring item** rather than a confirmed start-up.

Additional Developments Relevant to 2026

- Exploration drilling: Industry reporting indicates plans to drill deepwater exploration wells targeting gas prospects in early 2026 (14)
- IOC re-engagement: NOC statements confirm resumed exploration and testing activity by international operators, supporting longer-term gas potential (15)

Evidence-Based Expectations for 2026

- Based on consolidated research, the following expectations can be stated:
- Structures A & E represents the most clearly defined new gas supply expected to commence production in 2026, with a stated plateau of 750 mmscfd (2)(3)
- Effective delivery of new volumes depends on Mellitah processing and compression reliability (1)(12)

- Compression upgrades at Bahr Essalam support system stability ahead of new supply integration (8)(9)
- Greenstream remains the primary export route, with performance closely linked to hub operations (11)(12)

Conclusion

Libya's gas outlook for 2026 is shaped by a limited number of high-impact assets and infrastructure systems. Structures A & E, supported by compression upgrades at Bahr Essalam and the continued operation of Mellitah and Greenstream, forms the core of anticipated developments.

Monitoring project execution, infrastructure reliability, and operational continuity will be essential in assessing how gas supply and exports evolve through 2026.

Appendix

(1) Eni – Operations in Libya

<https://www.eni.com/en-IT/operations/libya.html>

(2) Eni – Libya Gas Development Press Release

<https://www.eni.com/en-IT/media/press-release/2023/01/eni-libya-gas-development.html>

(3) Offshore Technology – Structures A & E Project Profile

(4) Agenzia Nova – Eni Libya Gas Reporting

(5) EPC Intel – Structures A & E Project Overview

(6) Eni – Libya Project Progress Statement (May 2025)

(7) Agenzia Nova – Mellitah Management Committee Appointment

(8) National Oil Corporation – Bahr Essalam Compression Project Announcement

(9) Libya Observer – Bahr Essalam Compression Capacity Reporting

(10) Gas Compression Magazine – Sabratha Compression Operational Phase

(11) Greenstream BV – Company and Infrastructure Overview

<https://www.greenstreambv.com>

(12) Middle East Economic Survey – Greenstream Outage Reporting

(13) MEED – Libya Gas Export Interruption Reporting

(14) Argus – Deepwater Exploration Planning

(15) National Oil Corporation – IOC Operations Update