

West African Gas Pipeline and Nigeria-Morocco Gas Pipeline extension - international -

Sectors: Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas

Active

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[Project website](#)

Sectors

Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas

Location



Status

Planning Design **Agreement** Construction Operation Closure Decommission

Website

<https://www.wagpco.com/>

The West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) is a 678-kilometre gas pipeline that delivers gas in Nigeria's Niger Delta to markets in Benin, Togo and Ghana, ending in the port city of Takora, Ghana. It is the [first regional gas transmission](#) system in sub-Saharan Africa and was conceived in 1982 by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The WAGP became [operational](#) in 2011.

In 2016, an expansion of the WAGP was proposed, with an agreement being drawn up between the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the Moroccan Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines (ONHYM) to construct the [Nigeria-Morocco Gas Pipeline](#). This pipeline will connect Nigerian gas to every coastal country in West Africa, ending at Tangiers, Morocco. In June 2021, there were reports that [pipeline construction](#) had started, but evidence seems to suggest that the pipeline is still in a pre-construction phase. Construction is expected to take up to 25 years and [would be completed](#) in stages by 2046.

Impact on human rights and communities

Environmental groups in West Africa have expressed [concerns about the pipeline](#) project subverting the countries' rights to seek alternative energy options, as well as strengthening the energy monopoly of oil giants Chevron and Shell in the region. In 2020, a West Africa [sub-regional study](#) was published by civil society groups from Togo, Ghana, Nigeria and the Republic of Benin. The study documented several negative socio-economic impacts linked to fossil fuel projects including the WAGP, as well as community concerns in relation to its expansion to other West African countries.

First of all, there are security measures put in place - including a restriction zone of about 1 km around the gas pipelines - that directly impact the activities of fishermen. The "forbidden zones" mean access to some key fishing areas is no longer possible. The resulting decrease in fish catch leads to lower incomes for fishermen and women fish processors, affecting communities' livelihoods along the coast. Frontline communities that were consulted for the study expressed [their fear of losing their jobs](#) due to fish production in West Africa being impacted by fossil fuel extraction, as well as climate change. This will be exacerbated by the Nigeria-Morocco expansion along the entire West Africa coast.

Communities also had to be [relocated for the construction](#) of the WAGP. The loss of housing and lands made their lives more difficult as compensation processes proved to be inadequate. The relocation of communities from areas they are dependent on for income generation affects their income levels and increases poverty.

Impact on climate

The emissions resulting from gas extraction contributes to global warming that is worsening the climate change impacts already felt across West Africa. In the past decade, the [West African coast](#) has experienced increasing floods, damaging infrastructure as well as people's homes and assets, and upending farmers' livelihoods. Deadly torrential rains have wreaked havoc on the coast, threatening communities and ecosystems.

Three factors contribute to the degradation of the coast: erosion, flooding, and pollution, mainly triggered by poorly designed infrastructure and inadequate management of their environmental impacts. A [World Bank study](#) details how climate change will affect Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Senegal, and Togo. By the end of the century, these countries could experience a rise in sea level of more than one metre.

The World Bank warns that the West Africa coast is already at a tipping point and that climate change will be catastrophic for coastal communities, their health, the natural environment and their livelihoods. As population increases and coastal cities grow, these risks of sea-level rise and natural defences crumbling are severe. Another study focusing on African fisheries suggests that climate change will have a significant impact on Africa's marine fisheries as early as 2050, affecting [food security and revenues](#) of those dependent on the resources for their livelihoods.

Norms & standards

Applicable norms and standards

Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB)

The Paris Agreement

Brief history

The West African Gas Pipeline (WAGP) implementation agreement was signed in 2003, with construction starting in 2005. The offshore pipeline was completed in December 2006 and [scheduled to begin operation](#) in December 2007. The WAGP became operational in 2011 after several delays due to detected leaks in the supply pipelines in Nigeria.

In 2016, an [expansion of the WAGP](#) was proposed. An agreement was drawn up between the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and the Moroccan Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines (ONHYM) to construct the Nigeria-Morocco Gas Pipeline. This pipeline will connect Nigerian gas to every coastal country in West Africa (Benin, Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia, Senegal, and Mauritania), ending at Tangiers, Morocco, and Cádiz, Spain.

The NNPC and ONHYM began a feasibility study for the pipeline in August 2017 and was completed in January 2019. By March 2020, the front-end engineering & design had entered the second phase.

Financiers

While the West African Gas Pipeline was initially estimated to cost USD 700 million, it was completed at a cost of USD 900 million.

The World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) provided guarantees of USD 50 million in 2005. The European Investment Bank (EIB) also supported the project in 2006, providing a loan of USD 98 million, followed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) providing respectively USD 1.6 million and USD 45 million. In 2004, the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) [provided guarantees](#) worth USD 50 million and USD 75 million, respectively.

The Nigeria-Morocco pipeline is estimated to cost around USD [25 billion](#). Two institutions that are funding the Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) Study for the project for both Morocco and Nigeria are the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), for USD 45 million in total, and the OPEC Fund for International Development for USD [14.3 million](#).

Institution type **Finance type** **Year** [Expand all details](#)

Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)

[Website](#)

[Details](#)

Type
Amount
Description
Date
Date end
Source
Debt – project finance
USD 46.6 million
Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) provided two loans of respectively USD 1.6 million and USD 45 million.
December 2006
Not available
source: [link](#)

OPEC Fund for International Development

[Website](#)

[Details](#)

Type
Amount
Description
Date
Date end
Source
Debt – project finance
USD 14.3 million
OPEC Fund for International Development provided a project loan of USD 14.3 million.
15 September 2021
Not available
source: [link](#)

European Investment Bank

[Website](#)

[Details](#)

Type
Amount
Description
Date
Date end
Source

Debt – corporate loan
USD 98 million
European Investment Bank (EIB) provided a loan of USD 98 million.
December 2006
Not available
source: [link](#)

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency - MIGA - (World Bank)

[Website](#)

Details

Type
Amount
Description
Date
Date end
Source
Uncategorised
USD 125 million
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) provided two guarantees of USD 50 million and USD 75 million.
November 2004
Not available
source: [link](#)

World Bank (IBRD, IDA)

[Website](#)

Details

Type
Amount
Description
Date
Date end
Source
Uncategorised
USD 125 million
The World Bank provided two guarantees of USD 50 million and USD 75 million.
November 2004
Not available
source: [link](#)

Related companies

The project is owned and operated by the West African Gas Pipeline Company Limited (WAPCo), a limited liability company that is made up of a consortium of Chevron (36.9 %), Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC, 24.9%), the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited (SPDC, 17.9%), Takoradi Power Company Limited, a subsidiary of Volta River Authority of Ghana (16.3 %), the Benin Gas Company SA (SoBeGaz, 2%), and Togolese Gas Society SA (SoToGaz, 2%).

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A PHP Error was encountered

Severity: Notice

Message: Undefined property: stdClass::\$sponsor_comp

Filename: project/companies.php

Line Number: 10

Backtrace:

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/companies.php

Line: 10

Function: _error_handler

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/helpers/easy_helper.php

Line: 366

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/pdf.php

Line: 106

Function: lv

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/libraries/sections/Dodgydeal.php

Line: 161

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/controllers/Main.php

Line: 318

Function: content

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/index.php

Line: 321

Function: require_once

A PHP Error was encountered

Severity: Notice

Message: Undefined property: stdClass::\$companies

Filename: project/companies.php

Line Number: 10

Backtrace:

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/companies.php

Line: 10

Function: _error_handler

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/helpers/easy_helper.php

Line: 366

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Line: 161

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/controllers/Main.php

Line: 318

Function: content

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/index.php

Line: 321

Function: require_once

A PHP Error was encountered

Severity: Warning

Message: Invalid argument supplied for foreach()

Filename: project/companies.php

Line Number: 11

Backtrace:

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/companies.php

Line: 11

Function: _error_handler

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/helpers/easy_helper.php

Line: 366

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/pdf.php

Line: 106

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File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/controllers/Main.php

Line: 318

Function: content

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/index.php

Line: 321

Function: require_once

Expand all details

A PHP Error was encountered

Severity: Notice

Message: Undefined property: stdClass::\$sponsor_comp

Filename: project/companies.php

Line Number: 30

Backtrace:

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/companies.php

Line: 30

Function: _error_handler

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/helpers/easy_helper.php

Line: 366

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/pdf.php

Line: 106

Function: lv

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/libraries/sections/Dodgydeal.php

Line: 161

Function: view

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/controllers/Main.php

Line: 318

Function: content

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/index.php

Line: 321

Function: require_once

A PHP Error was encountered

Severity: Warning

Message: count(): Parameter must be an array or an object that implements Countable

Filename: project/companies.php

Line Number: 30

Backtrace:

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/views/sections/project/companies.php

Line: 30

Function: _error_handler

File: /home/btwebhost/www/btci3/application/helpers/easy_helper.php

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