



Lowering of pipes during the initial stages of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project. The project is now left with only 15% of the works to be commissioned



Ongoing works at the EACOP pump station one in Hoima district. The area marks the starting point of the EACOP on its journey to Tanga in Tanzania

EACOP, TILenga, KINGFISHER ENTER FINAL STRETCH

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of Inspect Africa, a local company, but of the joint ventures undertaking the EACOP pre-commissioning activities, confirmed that the works are underway in both countries.

"As Inspect Africa and as a Ugandan company, we are honoured to have been contracted alongside Kent as part of a joint venture partnership for such work. We have jointly deployed teams in Uganda and Tanzania to execute the quality works," he said.

STATUS ON EACOP CIVIL WORKS

In Uganda for instance, the progress report shows that works at pump station one, located in Hoima district, are 64% complete, while the works at pump station two in Sembabule district, stand at 59.3%.

There will be a total of six pump stations, with two in Uganda and four in Tanzania, which will push the crude oil through the EACOP from Hoima to Tanga.

While pump stations one and two are in Uganda, the pump stations three, four, five and six are within Tanzania.

Works are at different levels of completion, with Pump Station 3 standing at 64.7%, pump station four at 66.6%, pump station five at 66.7% and Pump station 6 at 66.9%.

Relatedly, the status report on EACOP shows that works are progressing well at the Tanga Terminal in Tanzania.

According to the report, overall progress at the Marine Terminal stands at 60.9%, but the overall progress of the four storage tanks, which will store Uganda's crude oil at the terminal, stands at

ECONOMIC BOOM

The flow of crude oil through EACOP will be a huge turning point for Uganda's economy.

Several projections, including the April projection by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), have predicted that Uganda will become the third fastest growing economy on the African continent and the top in East Africa by 2027.

The 2026 IMF projections have placed Uganda in third with a projected economic growth of 7.5%, in a pack led by Ethiopia with 9.2% and Guinea in second with 8.7%.

Uganda's projected economic boom is premised on a number of factors,

including the expected oil revenues once we hit production later this year.

Next year, the country is expected to grow at 8.2%, behind Guinea, whose economy is expected to grow at 9.3%.

In East Africa, Uganda will be followed by Rwanda, projected to grow at 7.2% this year and 7.6% in 2027.

In his press release dated April 16, 2026, Abebe Selassie, the IMF director of the African department, explained that oil exporters in 2026, including Uganda, may benefit from higher revenues, but remain vulnerable to volatility and the risk of procyclical fiscal responses.

89.2%.

The contractor has since completed tank A insulation and painting works, while the same works are ongoing at tanks B, C and D. These are expected to be concluded within this quarter.

Relatedly, the overall works at oil jetty, which will load vessels deep in the sea, stands at 88.1%, with marine loading arms A, B and C mechanical, hydraulic and electrical installation works completed.

KINGFISHER, TILenga

On the other hand, both Kingfisher and the Tilenga projects are moving fast, with double

or triple shifts introduced to fast-track the projects.

A status report shared by China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), the lead entity in the development of the Kingfisher project, shows that the project is in its final development phase.

Under the Kingfisher project, the major infrastructure

has been completed and the remaining activities are focused on testing, finishing works and commissioning ahead of First Oil.

The Kingfisher project status report on civil works shows that the feeder pipeline, which will take crude oil from the Central Processing Facility (CPF) in Kikuube to the Export hub in Hoima, stands at 99.4%

complete, with just the installation of the metering and power system left.

In addition, the report says, the construction of the Kingfisher flowlines, which will take crude from the oil wells to the CPF, has been

completed, while the general works around the CPF stand at 99%.

At the Kingfisher CPF, the major works have been completed, with ongoing heating, ventilation and air conditioning tests, used to detect air leakage, fire and gas damper inspection ongoing, as well as facility finishing.

In addition, the water intake system construction is largely complete with electrical, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and finishing works ongoing.

Regarding technical tests, the report says: "Mechanical equipment installation is complete. Test runs and performance verification are ongoing for key systems including pumps, motors, generators and compressors. Pre-commissioning is underway, followed by joint commissioning with production teams."

Equally, the Tilenga project has progressed well.

Gloria Sebikari, the manager corporate affairs at Petroleum Authority of Uganda, the sector regulators, indicated that the teams at both the Tilenga and Kingfisher projects, have surpassed the needed oil wells for first oil during drilling.

Although 170 oil wells were needed for first oil under the Tilenga project, Sebikari indicated that 212 of them have been successfully drilled.

This implies that the oil wells have commercially viable resources, as it was indicated in earlier studies.

"Under the Tilenga project, a total of three oil rigs are currently undertaking drilling and a total of 317km depth has been drilled," she said.

For Kingfisher, where

TIME FOR OIL TO REACH TANGA

The Government and its partners are projected to complete the technical works in July 2026. During this time, the facilities will be tested and prepared for production.

However, according to sources familiar with the ongoing oil developments, the first delivery of crude oil to the export point in Tanga through EACOP is expected to take up to three months.

Going by this, it implies that if the technical works are completed around July, Uganda and its partners will have to wait for three more months for crude to get to Tanga.

Once it gets there, it will then be sold to clients and the partners will get receipts for the first payment from the sale.

However, it is already confirmed that the country will start earning from its oil resources in the coming financial year 2026/2027.

one oil rig is being used, a total of 22 oil wells have been successfully drilled, with only 19 needed for first oil.

"In some projects, three shifts have been introduced since November 2025 to fast-track progress of the critical facilities required for first oil," she said.



Nick Mugira, the managing director of Inspect Africa

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