

THE PROJECT HERALD

THE PROJECT HERALD NEWSPAPER

EDITION NO. 008

VOL. 4 • 14-19 SEPTEMBER 2026

PAGE 1

**THIS WEEK, VOL. 4: BENIN GAS PIPELINE • MOROCCO
RENEWABLE ENERGY • ERITREA SOLAR
PROCUREMENT • GHANA GAS INFRASTRUCTURE • DRC
SOLAR & BATTERY STORAGE**



GAS INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Benin's \$1.5bn Industrial Zone Gas Pipeline Nears Commissioning

*New gas infrastructure moves toward operation as industrial demand takes shape around Benin's
major development zone*

A major gas pipeline serving industrial customers within Benin's new \$1.5 billion industrial zone is approaching commissioning, marking another step in the development of the country's industrial and energy infrastructure.

The pipeline is being developed to provide gas supply to industrial offtakers operating within the zone, linking energy infrastructure directly to an expanding industrial base. Its progress is significant because reliable gas supply is a key requirement for industrial users that depend on continuous and competitively priced energy.

The development forms part of a wider industrialisation push around Benin's Glo-Djigbé Industrial Zone, where manufacturing and processing activities are being developed with the intention of increasing domestic production and export capacity.

With the pipeline nearing commissioning, the project is moving from infrastructure development toward the operational stage. This changes the commercial profile of the development from primarily construction and delivery activity to gas supply, operations, maintenance, industrial offtake and additional infrastructure requirements.

For energy companies, engineering firms, pipeline-service providers and industrial operators, the development provides a signal that demand for gas-linked infrastructure in Benin is moving alongside the country's industrial expansion.

The project also illustrates the importance of connecting industrial-zone development with dedicated energy infrastructure. Rather than relying solely on existing national supply arrangements, dedicated gas infrastructure can provide industrial zones with a more direct energy supply structure.

Commercial Signal

The immediate opportunity is shifting toward commissioning support, pipeline operations, maintenance, gas supply arrangements and industrial offtake. As industrial activity expands within the zone, additional requirements could emerge around utilities, storage, process infrastructure, engineering services and logistics.

What Happens Next

The key milestone is commissioning of the pipeline and the transition into operational gas supply for industrial customers. Subsequent activity will depend on the pace at which industrial facilities within the zone ramp up operations and gas demand.

Source date: 18 September 2026

Morocco Opens a New Renewable Procurement Cycle

State utility outlines multi-billion-dollar renewable build-out with private-sector participation

Morocco is preparing a major new renewable-energy procurement programme as state utility Office National de l'Électricité et de l'Eau Potable (ONEE) sets out plans to procure gigawatts of additional renewable generation capacity.

The programme is expected to rely substantially on private-sector participation, creating a pipeline of potential opportunities across renewable generation, project development, engineering, construction, financing and associated grid infrastructure. The move adds to Morocco's existing renewable-energy portfolio and reinforces the country's continued use of private capital and project development structures to expand generation capacity.

For developers and investors, the significance is less about a single project than the potential creation of a broader procurement pipeline. A multi-gigawatt programme can generate opportunities across several stages of the project cycle, from development rights and feasibility studies through financing, EPC contracting, equipment supply and long-term operations. The programme also creates potential demand for transmission and grid-related infrastructure required to connect new renewable generation to the electricity system.

Project Signal

The announcement represents an early-stage procurement and pipeline signal rather than evidence that every proposed capacity tranche has reached financial close or construction. The next important information will be the specific procurement structures, capacity allocations, project locations, qualification requirements and timelines that emerge from ONEE.

Morocco's Long-Delayed Solar and Storage Project Moves Into EPC

Concentrated solar power, photovoltaic generation and battery storage come together in a renewed project development

A long-delayed Moroccan renewable-energy development combining concentrated solar power, solar photovoltaic generation and battery energy storage has moved forward with the award of an engineering, procurement and construction contract.

The project is significant because it combines several renewable technologies within a single development structure. The inclusion of concentrated solar power is particularly notable because thermal storage associated with CSP can provide dispatchable electricity beyond periods of direct solar generation.

The EPC award represents a material change in project status. After years of delays, the development has moved from an uncertain project pipeline position toward implementation. For the construction and engineering market, the development creates a defined contracting pathway around EPC delivery, equipment integration, electrical infrastructure, storage systems and associated project works.

For investors and lenders, the EPC award also provides a clearer basis for assessing the project's execution phase, although construction progress, financing arrangements and final commissioning remain separate milestones.

Commercial Signal

Morocco's renewable pipeline is increasingly moving beyond conventional solar PV into hybrid projects involving storage and dispatchable renewable technologies. This creates potential demand for specialist EPC contractors, storage technology providers, electrical-system integrators, engineering consultants and project-finance participants.

What Happens Next

The key indicators will be mobilisation, construction commencement, equipment delivery and progress toward commissioning.

Source dates: 17 September 2026

Eritrea Opens New Procurement Package for Dekemhare 30 MW Solar Project

African Development Fund-backed project moves into another procurement stage covering specialist tools and equipment

Eritrea has issued a new procurement notice connected to the Dekemhare 30 MW Solar PV Project, adding another procurement milestone to a renewable-energy development supported by the African Development Fund.

The September 17 notice covers two procurement lots. The first concerns professional tools, including personal protective equipment, specialised electrical testing instruments and scientific laboratory tools. The second covers professional equipment associated with IT infrastructure, network cabling, video conferencing and backup power equipment.

The procurement is being undertaken with financing received from the African Development Fund for the Dekemhare Solar PV Project. Although the procurement package is not itself the construction contract for the solar plant, it demonstrates continued implementation activity around the project and provides a visible procurement entry point for eligible suppliers.

The Dekemhare development forms part of Eritrea's broader effort to expand renewable generation and strengthen its electricity infrastructure. The project includes solar generation alongside battery storage and associated grid infrastructure.

The latest procurement notice is therefore relevant beyond the immediate value of the equipment being purchased. It shows the project moving through the supporting procurement requirements necessary for implementation.

Procurement Signal

The opportunity is particularly relevant to suppliers of industrial PPE, electrical testing equipment, laboratory equipment, IT infrastructure, networking systems, video-conferencing equipment and backup-power systems. Companies tracking African Development Fund-backed procurement can also use the notice as an indicator of additional procurement activity that may

emerge as the project advances.

What Happens Next

The immediate process is procurement and evaluation of eligible bids for the two lots. Further procurement requirements may emerge as the project progresses through implementation. The key commercial consideration is that this is a project-linked procurement opportunity, rather than a general government supply announcement.

Procurement notice: 17 September 2026

GAS & MIDSTREAM INFRASTRUCTURE

Genser Builds Ghana's Next Gas Infrastructure Layer

Midstream expansion and new processing capacity position the company beyond power generation

Genser Energy is approaching a new stage in its expansion as substantial gas-to-power and midstream facilities move toward commissioning in Ghana.

The company has developed Ghana's only privately operated midstream gas network, with pipelines forming a significant portion of the country's installed privately operated gas infrastructure.

The latest developments show Genser expanding the role of gas infrastructure beyond supplying its own power-generation assets. Its network is being positioned to support a wider base of industrial and power-sector customers. This matters because Ghana's industrial economy requires reliable fuel supply while power generators and industrial users continue to manage the cost and availability of alternative fuels.

The expansion therefore combines infrastructure development with a commercial gas-market strategy. Pipelines, processing facilities and associated infrastructure can create the physical capacity needed to increase gas offtake while reducing dependence on more expensive liquid fuels for eligible industrial users.

Natural Gas Liquids Plant Adds a New Commercial Layer

Genser is also approaching commissioning of Ghana's first privately owned natural gas liquids processing facility. The facility is designed to produce gas-derived products for local and regional markets, giving Genser a downstream position in addition to its existing power and midstream operations.

The development at Prestea and associated infrastructure around Takoradi adds processing and storage dimensions to Ghana's gas value chain.

The commercial significance lies in the integration of infrastructure across the gas chain. Gas supply can move through pipelines into processing facilities, while resulting products can then be marketed to industrial and regional customers. This creates opportunities beyond traditional power-sector contracting, particularly in processing, storage, logistics, equipment supply,

maintenance and downstream distribution.

Commercial Signal

Genser's current expansion illustrates how privately funded gas infrastructure can develop around industrial demand rather than solely around national utility infrastructure. For EPC companies, equipment suppliers, logistics operators, gas traders and industrial customers, the emerging network represents a growing physical platform for commercial activity.

What Happens Next

The immediate milestones are commissioning of the new facilities, operational ramp-up and expansion of gas offtake. The performance of the network and the growth of industrial demand will determine how quickly further infrastructure becomes commercially justified.

Development dates: 16–17 September 2026

DRC's Mining Sector Turns to Large-Scale Solar and Battery Power

Kamoa-Kakula demonstrates how private renewable infrastructure is being deployed around industrial power demand

A large solar photovoltaic and battery-storage installation at the Kamoa-Kakula copper complex in the Democratic Republic of Congo is now providing continuous renewable power to one of Africa's major mining operations.

The development combines more than 300,000 solar panels with battery storage infrastructure and has moved into operation as the mining complex seeks additional reliable power for its expanding processing activities.

The project is part of a broader shift in the DRC mining sector, where large industrial operators are increasingly looking to private renewable-energy infrastructure to supplement grid electricity and reduce dependence on diesel generation.

Kamoa-Kakula's electricity requirement is expected to increase substantially as its processing capacity expands. This makes energy infrastructure a strategic component of the mine's continued development rather than simply a supporting utility.

The deployment also demonstrates a growing model for African industrial projects: renewable generation and storage can be developed specifically around the power requirements of a large commercial customer.

Commercial Signal

The model has implications for other mines and industrial facilities across Africa where grid supply is insufficient or unreliable. Potential opportunities include solar development, battery storage, power-as-a-service structures, electrical infrastructure, operations and maintenance, energy management and project finance.

The DRC's mining sector provides a particularly significant market because mineral processing requires large quantities of continuous electricity.

South Africa Becomes a Key Node in Africa's Digital Infrastructure Capital Flow

US development finance backs WIOCC as investment moves into the physical infrastructure supporting Africa's digital economy

The United States International Development Finance Corporation has approved a major investment programme that includes support for WIOCC Group, an African digital infrastructure company with subsea fibre and terrestrial-network assets across the continent.

The investment is significant for South Africa because WIOCC's infrastructure includes fibre capacity connected to major subsea cable systems landing in the country. The transaction illustrates the growing role of development finance in digital infrastructure, particularly as demand for cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data centres and high-capacity connectivity increases across African markets.

South Africa sits at an important point in this infrastructure network. WIOCC has capacity on subsea systems including Equiano and 2Africa, linking the country's digital infrastructure to wider African and international networks. The investment therefore extends beyond a single fibre asset — it represents capital moving into the physical infrastructure layer that supports Africa's digital economy.

Commercial Signal

Digital infrastructure is increasingly becoming an investable infrastructure category alongside power, transport and conventional telecommunications. The opportunity set includes subsea cables, terrestrial fibre, carrier-neutral data centres, network infrastructure, power supply, cooling systems, construction, engineering and supporting digital infrastructure services. For South Africa, the development reinforces its role as one of the continent's principal digital infrastructure markets while also demonstrating the increasing involvement of international development finance in African connectivity assets.

What Happens Next

The key milestones are transaction completion, continued network expansion and deployment of capital into digital infrastructure assets across African markets.

Development dates: 16–17 September 2026