

Conference Agenda
The Financial Crisis and the Future of National Gas in Africa
Libreville, Gabon
4-5 June 2009



Opening Dinner: Wednesday June 3rd 2009

19h00 – 22h00

Keynote Speaker:

Day One: Thursday June 4th 2009

Registration

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Opening Session

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

This opening session will allow a selected number of key actors to deliver a crisp opening message to the attendance.

- Welcome message: French Ambassador to Gabon
- Objectives of the seminar: Mary Barton-Dock, Country Director, World Bank
- Opening speech: Casimir Oye Mba, Minister of Hydrocarbons of Gabon

Plenary N° 1: Assessing Africa's Natural Gas Resource Wealth

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

This first working session will provide a detailed overview of natural gas reserves in sub-Saharan Africa, and their importance to world gas supply. This plenary will discuss basic geology and production (the distinction between associated gas and dry gas will be important), trade volumes, current and projected revenues, and end on a strategic note discussing what the stakes are for the sound management sub-Saharan African natural gas resources in the current international environment.

Moderator: Jean-Baptiste Tati Loutard, Minister of Hydrocarbons of the Republic of Congo, President of the Council of Ministers of APPA

- Argus Media Group: Dr. Peter Caddy, Director
- The Geopolitical implications of the development of the natural gas industry in Africa

Plenary N° 2: The Necessary Legal, Fiscal and Regulatory Framework for Natural Gas Exploration, Production and Utilization
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This plenary session will aim at identifying the legal, fiscal and regulatory requirements specific to natural gas producing African countries, in general terms, but also placed in the context of the current economic crisis.

Moderator: *tba*

- COCPO, World Bank Oil, Gas and Mining Division
- Legal Expert on the gas industry
- Gaz de France / Marathon Oil

Plenary N° 3: The Global Gas Flaring Reduction Initiative and Carbon Credit Trading
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Africa flares around 40 bcm of natural gas every year. This represents a major waste of natural resources, an environmental disaster, a gigantic monetization loss. The Global Gas Flaring Reduction Initiative will detail the barriers to gas flaring reduction projects implementation in sub-Saharan Africa. Emphasis will be given to the benefits of regional co-operation between sub-Saharan countries. A substantial portion of the session will be reserved to the role that carbon credit can play in this context. Concrete examples of successful initiatives will be given.

Moderator: *tba*

- GGFR: Jean Eric Molinard and Francisco Sucre

Wrap-up session: What did we learn today?
5:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Moderator: Olivier Fremond

Day Two: Friday June 5th 2009

Plenary N° 4: Natural Gas Valorization Projects
Sub-session a): Export Projects
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The overriding priority for the export valorization of natural gas in sub-Saharan Africa has been so far Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). What is the future of LNG in this region of the world, provided that several projects exist and many are at the drawing board stage? Is there space for Gas-To-Liquids (GTL)? The session will give an independent view on those strategic aspects.

Moderator: *tba*

- Poten and Partners (New York)

Sub-session b): Domestic Gas Utilization
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

The domestic gas utilization is becoming an important element of the social, industrial and environmental aspects of the development of emerging countries. The session will detail the barriers and impacts of this newly promoted national strategy in some key countries of the region. The fundamental role of Gas To Power will be emphasized.

Moderator: *tba*

- Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)
- Gas Strategies (London)

Plenary N° 5: Natural Gas in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Viewpoints of an NOC and of an IOC
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A NOC and an IOC will be given the chance to review their regional natural gas strategy.

Moderator: *tba*

- Société Nationale des Hydrocarbures, Jean Jacques Koum, Director for Gas
- Marathon Oil
- Shell

Plenary N° 6: Sustainable Development, Governance and Transparency in the Gas Industry
4:30pm to 6:30pm

This plenary will build on the advancements made in EITI and look at the possibility for fully incorporating natural gas into the governance and transparency debate. Furthermore, the tension between environmental protection and the development of natural gas industries will be explored in detail.

Moderator: *tba*

- Revenue Watch
- EITI
- Environmental NGO (*WCS, WWF,...*)

Wrap-up session: What Now?
6:45 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Moderator: Mary Barton-Dock