NOG ENERGY WEEK 25 ANNIVERSARY

5 - 9 July 2026 | Abuja, Nigeria

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NNPC

Forging Africa's Strategic Energy Growth Through Global Collaboration

Communiqué Issued at the End Of the 25th Anniversary Edition Of NOG Energy Week Conference & Exhibition

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> I want to extend my gratitude to the visionaries who, 25 years ago, conceived the idea that Nigeria's energy story deserved an identity of its own. That vision gave birth to the annual NOG Energy Week, and it is the reason we are all gathered here today. I congratulate them for creating a platform that continues to bring together government, academia, industry and stakeholders each year to shape the future of Nigeria's oil and gas sector.
>
> Nigeria is positioning itself as one of Africa's most attractive destinations for gas investment through fiscal reforms, regulatory stability and strategic infrastructure development. Nigeria's estimated 215 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves, the largest in Africa, will serve not only export markets but also power domestic industries, fertiliser plants, petrochemical facilities, transportation and clean cooking initiatives.

H.E. Sen. Heineken Lokpobiri
Honourable Minister of State
for Petroleum Resources (Oil)
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Conference Overview

dmg Nigeria events successfully hosted the 25th edition of NOG Energy Week from July 5 - 9, 2026, at the Bola Ahmed Tinubu International Conference Centre, Abuja, under the theme, "Forging Africa's Strategic Energy Growth Through Global Collaboration."

As Africa's leading energy conference and exhibition, NOG Energy Week 2026 convened government leaders, policymakers, regulators, national and international energy companies, indigenous operators, financiers, investors, manufacturers, service and technology providers, development partners, global research and advisory firms and other stakeholders to deliberate on the policies, investments, technologies and partnerships required to accelerate Africa's energy development.

The conference attracted several participants, including 1,232 delegates from over 58 countries, featured 247 distinguished speakers, 2,863 participating companies, and more than 50 strategic conference sessions. It also welcomed ministerial participation from Nigeria, Niger and Zimbabwe, alongside several government delegations, reinforcing its position as one of the continent's foremost platforms for policy dialogue, investment promotion and regional collaboration.

Over five days, participants examined opportunities and challenges across the upstream, midstream, downstream, gas, power, renewable energy, maritime and digital technology sectors. Discussions focused on strengthening energy security, accelerating industrialisation, expanding domestic gas utilisation, attracting long-term investment, advancing local content, deploying artificial intelligence, promoting regional integration, developing human capital and supporting Africa's evolving energy transition.

NOG Energy Week 2026 in Numbers

11,000	300	58	2,000	247	50
Attendees	Global Exhibitors	Participating Countries	Delegates	Speakers	Conference Sessions

Conference Themes

Some of the strategic themes deliberated during the conference included:

- Building Africa's Local Content Alliances – Progress, Gaps & Opportunities
- Emerging Leaders – Shaping the Future of Energy
- Upscaling Capacity & Supply Chains to Meet Evolving Energy Demands
- Offshore Frontiers & Local Content – Nurturing Local Capacity to Support Production Growth
- Strengthening Domestic Value Creation – Import Substitution & Strategic Partnerships
- Turning Impact into Opportunity in a Realigning World Energy System
- Unlocking the Next Wave of Upstream Investment Opportunities
- Maximising Gas Export Potential through Regional Integration
- Scaling Downstream Capacity & Optimising Africa's Oil Value
- Synchronising Gas Strategies - Strengthening Energy Security
- Artificial Intelligence & Digital Transformation in Energy
- Maximising Offshore Investments in Complex Energy Frontiers
- Achieving Equitable Energy Ambitions While Accelerating Decarbonisation
- Production Optimisation Strategies - Maximising investments in the New Energy Landscape
- Financing the Next Phase of African Energy Growth
- Advancing the Hydrogen Economy
- Re-engineering Africa's Electricity Market
- Maritime Training & Capacity Development
- Driving Energy Innovation through Technology
- Strengthening Supply Security through Floating LNG Development

Major Highlights

NOG Energy Week 2026 reinforced Nigeria's position as one of Africa's leading energy investment destinations while demonstrating growing confidence in the country's policy reforms, expanding gas economy and long-term industrialisation agenda.

A defining feature of the conference was the strong alignment between government and industry leaders on the need to shift from policy formulation to disciplined execution. Across keynote addresses and strategic sessions, participants agreed that sustained investment, regulatory certainty, collaboration and project delivery will determine Africa's future energy competitiveness.

In his keynote address, the Group Chief Executive Officer of NNPC Limited, Bashir Bayo Ojulari, reaffirmed the company's commitment to performance, transparency and accountability while calling for stronger collaboration among governments, regulators, investors, financiers, research institutions and industry operators. He identified fragmented energy ecosystems - not resource availability - as Africa's greatest challenge and emphasised that integrated partnerships, commercial discipline and execution would drive the continent's next phase of energy growth. He also highlighted significant operational improvements, including approximately 98 per cent pipeline availability, improved cash call discipline, commercial financing for the AKK Gas Pipeline through Project Nexus and the repositioning of NNPC Limited's refinery business towards long-term commercial sustainability.

Delivering the industry keynote address, Adegbite Falade, Chairman of the Independent Petroleum Producers' Group (IPPG), noted that recent Federal Government reforms have restored investor confidence, attracted more than US$8 billion in upstream investments since 2023 and contributed to renewed production growth. He urged stakeholders to accelerate investment, reduce regulatory burdens, harmonise industry fees and transition from resource extraction to value creation through industrialisation and domestic processing.

Representing the Federal Government, the Special Adviser to the President on Oil and Gas, Olu Verheijen, described Nigeria's ongoing reforms as entering "The Age of Nigerian Ambition," stressing that global investment now depends on credible governance, predictable regulation and disciplined execution. She highlighted more than US$50 billion in visible upstream investment opportunities, increased indigenous participation across the gas sector and the Federal Government's determination to convert hydrocarbon resources into long-term industrial development.

The Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Gas), Rt. Hon. Ekperikpe Ekpo, reaffirmed natural gas as the cornerstone of Nigeria's economic transformation strategy, highlighting continued progress on the Decade of Gas Initiative, the AKK and OB3 gas pipelines, Nigeria LNG Train 7, regional gas infrastructure and domestic gas utilisation programmes. He also reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to maintaining a stable and competitive investment environment capable of supporting industrialisation, energy security and cleaner energy development.

The Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (Oil), Senator Heineken Lokpobiri, celebrated the 25th anniversary of NOG Energy Week while highlighting Nigeria's continued recovery in crude oil production, increased drilling activity, stronger indigenous participation following recent IOC divestments and ongoing reforms designed to strengthen investment competitiveness. He reaffirmed government's ambition to restore production beyond 2.5 million barrels per day and announced continued efforts to harmonise industry taxes, fees and levies.

The Executive Secretary of the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB), represented by the Director of Capacity Building, Engr. Abayomi Bamidele, outlined the next phase of Nigeria's local content agenda, built around competence, capacity expansion and collaboration. He announced new initiatives including a harmonised framework for grading indigenous service providers and manufacturers, a joint industry capacity audit, expanded vendor development programmes and continued reforms to improve Ease of Doing Business across the sector.

The conference also featured a goodwill address by the Minister of State for Industry, Senator John Owan Enoh, who emphasised that Nigeria's energy resources must become catalysts for industrialisation, manufacturing and value addition rather than simply supporting commodity exports. He called for stronger alignment between the country's energy and industrial development strategies to maximise economic growth and job creation.

Another major milestone was the official launch of the Nigeria Gas & Power Infrastructure Map 2026 and the Nigeria Gas Market Report 2026, developed by Gas for Africa in partnership with NNPC Limited. Together, the publications provide one of the most comprehensive assessments of Nigeria's gas value chain, supporting investors, policymakers and industry stakeholders with strategic market intelligence, infrastructure mapping and insights into the country's rapidly expanding gas economy.

Beyond policy discussions, the conference recorded several landmark commercial achievements. ExxonMobil and its partners announced a US$1 billion investment in the Usan Infill Project within OML 138, representing the company's first major drilling commitment in Nigeria since 2016 and expected to increase production by approximately 40,000 barrels of oil per day.

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) formally presented 19 Petroleum Prospecting Licences to 12 successful companies following the successful conclusion of the 2022/2023 Mini Bid Round and the 2024 Licensing Round, reinforcing Nigeria's commitment to transparent licensing and sustained upstream investment.

NNPC Limited also executed a series of strategic agreements covering gas supply, transportation, industrial development and infrastructure expansion, including a landmark 15-year Wet Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement between the NNPC Ltd/ Seplat Joint Venture and UTM FLNG Limited, which will provide feed gas for Nigeria's pioneering Floating LNG project.

Further strengthening investor confidence, the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) signed an agreement with Powergas Nigeria Limited to support the development of a small-scale LNG facility through a feasibility study aimed at expanding reliable gas supply to industries and underserved communities.

The conference also welcomed the announcement by Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited of a significant h ydrocarbon discovery in OML 74 following the successful drilling of the JK-004 exploration well, reinforcing continued exploration success and Nigeria's long-term upstream potential.

Collectively, these policy announcements, strategic partnerships, project launches, investment commitments and commercial agreements underscored a common message throughout NOG Energy Week 2026: Africa's energy future will depend on stronger collaboration, sustained investment, disciplined execution, technological innovation, industrialisation and the development of integrated energy ecosystems capable of delivering long-term economic growth and energy security.

Overall Findings

Following extensive deliberations across the conference's ministerial sessions, strategic panels, technical conferences and industry dialogues, participants observed that Africa's energy sector has entered a defining phase of transformation driven by policy reforms, renewed investor confidence, technological innovation and expanding regional cooperation.

The conference recognised that while significant progress has been made in strengthening Nigeria's investment environment through the implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), Executive Orders and regulatory reforms, the industry's immediate priority is the effective execution of projects capable of delivering measurable economic growth, energy security and long-term value creation.

Participants further observed that natural gas has emerged as the cornerstone of Nigeria's energy strategy, serving as the critical link between industrialisation, electricity generation, cleaner energy development and export competitiveness. Discussions consistently emphasised the need to accelerate gas infrastructure, deepen domestic utilisation and strengthen regional integration to maximise the country's abundant gas resources.

The conference also noted that Africa's competitiveness will increasingly depend on its ability to move beyond the export of raw resources towards greater domestic value addition through refining, petrochemicals, manufacturing, gas-based industries and other industrial activities capable of creating jobs and strengthening economic resilience.

Participants agreed that attracting sustained investment requires more than abundant natural resources. Policy consistency, regulatory certainty, transparent governance, efficient project delivery and commercially viable financing structures remain fundamental to maintaining investor confidence and accelerating energy development across the continent.

The conference recognised that technological innovation, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), digitalisation, automation and advanced data analytics, is rapidly transforming the global energy industry. However, participants stressed that technology adoption must be accompanied by robust digital infrastructure, high-quality data, cybersecurity, workforce readiness and measurable business outcomes.

Participants further observed that Nigeria's local content journey has entered a new phase, shifting from compliance-driven participation towards competitiveness, manufacturing, technology transfer, innovation and regional leadership. Sustaining this progress will require stronger indigenous capacity, increased project activity and greater collaboration across the public and private sectors.

The conference also recognised that Africa's growing energy ambitions cannot be realised without sustained investment in human capital. Developing a future-ready workforce through technical education, leadership development, mentorship, practical training and industry-academia collaboration was identified as essential to long-term competitiveness.

Regional integration emerged as another strategic priority throughout the conference. Participants emphasised that harmonised regulations, cross-border infrastructure, regional gas markets and stronger collaboration among African governments, regulators and private sector organisations will improve energy security, expand investment opportunities and strengthen the continent's global competitiveness.

Finally, participants agreed that collaboration remains the defining enabler of Africa's energy future. Governments, regulators, operators, indigenous companies, financiers, technology providers, development partners, research institutions and academia must work together to accelerate project execution, mobilise investment, strengthen innovation and deliver sustainable energy solutions capable of driving industrialisation and shared prosperity across the continent.

Conference-Wide Strategic Priorities

1 Accelerating Investment Through Policy Stability and Effective Execution

Participants agreed that recent reforms have significantly improved investor confidence. The next phase of industry growth will depend on consistent implementation of existing policies, transparent regulation, efficient approvals and faster project execution.

Recommendations:

- Sustain policy consistency and regulatory certainty to attract long-term investment
- Accelerate project approvals and licensing processes through digitalisation and institutional collaboration
- Preserve competitive fiscal frameworks that encourage investment across the energy value chain
- Strengthen governance, accountability and transparency in project implementation

2 Positioning Natural Gas as the Engine of Industrial Growth

The conference reaffirmed natural gas as Nigeria's transition fuel and the principal driver of industrialisation, electricity generation, manufacturing, cleaner transportation and regional energy trade.

Recommendations:

- Accelerate completion of strategic gas infrastructure, including the AKK and OB3 pipelines
- Expand domestic gas utilisation across power generation, manufacturing and gas-based industries
- Support commercially viable gas pricing and market reforms
- Continue developing regional gas infrastructure and export opportunities

3 Expanding Upstream Investment and Production

Participants welcomed renewed upstream investment and growing exploration activity while emphasising the importance of increasing production, protecting existing assets and accelerating field development.

Recommendations:

- Sustain annual licensing rounds and investment-friendly policies
- Encourage exploration and development drilling
- Improve security across energy infrastructure
- Promote partnerships that strengthen indigenous participation and technology transfer

Conference-Wide Strategic Priorities

4 Advancing Local Content Through Industrialisation

The conference concluded that Nigerian Content should increasingly focus on manufacturing, innovation, technology transfer & globally competitive indigenous enterprises rather than compliance alone.

Recommendations:

- Expand domestic manufacturing and fabrication capacity
- Implement structured supplier and vendor development programmes
- Promote early engagement of indigenous manufacturers in project planning
- Continue strengthening local capacity through strategic partnerships

5 Mobilising Sustainable Financing for Energy Development

Participants recognised that achieving Africa's energy ambitions will require innovative financing models capable of supporting large-scale infrastructure, gas development & industrial projects.

Recommendations:

- Expand blended finance and infrastructure investment mechanisms
- Encourage greater participation by pension funds and institutional investors
- Improve project bankability through sound governance and commercial discipline
- Strengthen partnerships between governments, financiers and development institutions

6 Accelerating Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence

The conference recognised Artificial Intelligence and digital technologies as strategic enablers of operational excellence, productivity, emissions reduction & informed decision-making.

Recommendations:

- Invest in digital infrastructure, cloud computing and integrated enterprise systems
- Strengthen data governance and cybersecurity
- Develop AI competencies across the workforce
- Promote enterprise-wide digital transformation strategies linked to measurable business outcomes

7 Developing a Future-Ready Workforce

Participants identified human capital as the industry's greatest long-term competitive advantage.

Recommendations:

- Expand technical education, graduate development and apprenticeship programmes
- Strengthen collaboration between academia and industry
- Institutionalise mentorship and leadership development initiatives
- Promote continuous professional development across the energy sector

8 Strengthening Regional Collaboration and Market Integration

The conference emphasised that Africa's energy future depends on greater regional cooperation.

Recommendations:

- Harmonise regulatory frameworks where practicable
- Accelerate cross-border energy infrastructure
- Promote intra-African trade and investment
- Strengthen collaboration among governments, regulators and industry organisations

9 Driving Sustainable Energy Development

Participants agreed that energy security, industrialisation and decarbonisation should advance together through pragmatic & commercially sustainable solutions.

Recommendations:

- Expand gas commercialisation initiatives
- Increase access to climate finance
- Accelerate emissions reduction technologies
- Promote balanced energy transition strategies aligned with national development priorities

10 Strengthening Collaboration Across the Energy Ecosystem

The conference concluded that lasting progress requires coordinated action across the public & private sectors.

Recommendations:

- Deepen partnerships among government, industry and development partners
- Encourage collaborative research and technology transfer
- Promote shared infrastructure and joint investment models
- Sustain regular dialogue that supports innovation, investment and long-term sector growth

The Energy Alliance: Strategic Partnerships, Investments & Project Milestones

NOG Energy Week 2026 served as a catalyst for major investment decisions, strategic partnerships and commercial agreements that reinforced confidence in Nigeria's energy sector and underscored the country's growing attractiveness as a destination for energy investment.

Upstream Investment and Exploration

A major highlight of the conference was ExxonMobil's announcement of a US$1 billion investment in the Usan Infill Project within OML 138. The project, expected to deliver approximately 40,000 barrels of oil per day at peak production, represents ExxonMobil's first major drilling campaign in Nigeria since 2016 and signals renewed international confidence in the country's upstream investment environment.

The conference also witnessed the announcement by Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited of a significant hydrocarbon discovery in OML 74 following the successful drilling of the JK-004 exploration well. Preliminary evaluations confirmed substantial light oil-bearing reservoirs, further strengthening Nigeria's long-term exploration and production outlook while demonstrating the growing technical capabilities of indigenous operators.

Licensing and Regulatory Milestones

The Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC) formally presented 19 Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPLs) to 12 successful companies following the successful completion of the 2022/2023 Mini Bid Round and the 2024 Licensing Round.

Participants recognised the transparent licensing process as an important milestone in sustaining upstream investment, expanding exploration activities and strengthening investor confidence in Nigeria's regulatory framework.

Gas Infrastructure and Commercialisation

NNPC Limited and its partners signed six strategic agreements designed to accelerate gas commercialisation, expand domestic utilisation and strengthen Nigeria's position as a regional gas hub.

The agreements included:

- Memorandum of Understanding with Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited
- Gas Sale and Aggregation Agreement with Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited
- Gas Sale Agreement with UTM FLNG Limited
- Network Entry Agreements with Chevron Nigeria Limited
- Network Entry Agreement with AGPC
- Network Entry Agreement with NNPC Exploration and Production Limited

Among the most significant was the execution of a 15-year Wet Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement between the NNPC Ltd / Seplat Joint Venture and UTM FLNG Limited. The agreement will provide feed gas for Nigeria's first Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) facility and is expected to enhance domestic gas monetisation while expanding LNG export opportunities.

The conference also highlighted continued progress on nationally strategic gas infrastructure projects, including the AKK and OB3 pipelines, as well as ongoing investments in LNG, compressed natural gas (CNG), gas processing facilities and regional pipeline initiatives.

International Cooperation and Project Development

The United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) signed a grant agreement with Powergas Nigeria Limited to support the development of a small-scale LNG facility through a comprehensive feasibility study.

Participants welcomed the partnership as an example of international collaboration that will improve access to cleaner energy, strengthen industrial gas supply and stimulate private sector investment in Nigeria's expanding gas market.

Strategic Significance

Collectively, the commercial agreements, investment commitments, licensing milestones and project announcements made during NOG Energy Week 2026 demonstrated growing confidence in Nigeria's reform agenda and reinforced the conference's role as a platform for translating policy dialogue into tangible investment outcomes.

Participants observed that these initiatives align closely with Nigeria's broader objectives of increasing hydrocarbon production, expanding gas utilisation, strengthening indigenous participation, accelerating industrialisation and enhancing energy security. They further agreed that sustained collaboration between government, regulators, investors, operators and development partners will be essential to ensuring that these commitments progress from announcement to successful implementation.

Strategic Actions For Key Stakeholders

In line with the deliberations and consensus reached during NOG Energy Week 2026, participants identified the following priority actions for key stakeholders to accelerate investment, strengthen energy security and advance Africa's industrial and economic development.

Federal and State Governments

- Sustain policy consistency and regulatory certainty to enhance investor confidence
- Accelerate the implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), Executive Orders and other energy sector reforms
- Strengthen collaboration across government institutions to improve project delivery and reduce administrative bottlenecks
- Continue to prioritise energy infrastructure as a catalyst for industrialisation and economic diversification

Industry Regulators

- Promote transparent, predictable and efficient regulatory processes
- Accelerate licensing, permitting and project approvals through digital transformation and institutional coordination
- Support a competitive fiscal and regulatory environment that encourages investment across the energy value chain
- Strengthen engagement with industry stakeholders to ensure responsive and effective regulation
- National and International Energy Companies
- Accelerate the execution of approved projects and investment commitments
- Expand investments in gas development, refining, petrochemicals and other value-adding industries
- Strengthen operational excellence through digital technologies, artificial intelligence and innovation
- Continue investing in local capacity development, technology transfer and sustainable business practices

Indigenous Companies

- Increase investment in manufacturing, fabrication, research and technological innovation
- Strengthen partnerships with international operators to enhance competitiveness and knowledge transfer
- Expand participation across the upstream, midstream, downstream and renewable energy value chains
- Continue developing globally competitive Nigerian energy companies capable of serving regional and international markets

Financial Institutions and Development Partners

- Develop innovative financing solutions for large-scale energy infrastructure and industrial projects
- Increase support for commercially viable gas, power and clean energy investments
- Expand blended finance mechanisms that reduce investment risks and unlock private capital
- Strengthen partnerships that promote sustainable economic development across Africa

Research Institutions and Academia

- Strengthen collaboration with industry to align research, innovation and skills development with evolving market needs
- Expand research in artificial intelligence, digital technologies, energy efficiency, decarbonisation and emerging energy systems
- Support the development of future industry leaders through practical training, innovation and entrepreneurship

Industry Associations and Professional Bodies

- Continue promoting dialogue, collaboration and knowledge sharing across the energy sector
- Support policy advocacy that strengthens competitiveness and long-term investment
- Facilitate capacity-building initiatives that prepare professionals for the evolving energy landscape
- Encourage greater participation by women, young professionals and future industry leaders across the sector

Data-Driven Analysis & Emerging Trends

Analysis of the strategic panel discussions, technical sessions, executive dialogues and partnership announcements held during NOG Energy Week 2026 reveals several dominant trends that are expected to shape Nigeria's energy industry over the coming decade.

Execution Has Become the Industry's Highest Priority

Across virtually all conference sessions, participants agreed that Nigeria has largely completed the policy reform phase. The Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), Executive Orders, fiscal incentives and regulatory improvements have substantially improved investor confidence. The industry's next challenge is disciplined execution.

Several discussions emphasised that project approvals, field development, gas infrastructure, refinery expansion, local manufacturing and financing initiatives must now progress at a pace capable of meeting both national production targets and investor expectations.

Natural Gas Has Become the Centrepiece of Nigeria's Energy Strategy

Gas emerged as the dominant theme throughout the conference. Discussions consistently positioned natural gas as the bridge between energy security, industrialisation and the energy transition.

Major announcements involving domestic gas transportation, LNG, Floating LNG, gas commercialisation, gas-based industries and regional pipeline development reinforced Nigeria's ambition to become Africa's leading gas economy. Nigeria has intentionally increased domestic gas utilisation from about one billion cubic feet per day to approximately 2.1 billion cubic feet per day, while gas currently accounts for about 70 per cent of the country's electricity generation. The emphasis shifted from resource availability to commercial execution, infrastructure delivery and market development.

Artificial Intelligence Is Moving from Experimentation to Enterprise Application

Unlike previous conferences where AI discussions focused largely on future possibilities, NOG 2026 demonstrated that artificial intelligence is already becoming integrated into production optimisation, predictive maintenance, emissions monitoring, asset integrity, geological modelling and operational decision-making. However, while approximately 80 per cent of organisations have adopted AI in some form, a similar proportion have not generated significant bottom-line impact because AI has not been fully integrated into operational workflows. Participants consistently emphasised that AI investments must produce measurable operational and commercial outcomes rather than technology adoption for its own sake.

Data-Driven Analysis & Emerging Trends

Local Content Is Entering a New Phase

The conference demonstrated that Nigeria's local content agenda is evolving beyond compliance requirements. Discussions increasingly focused on competitiveness, technology transfer, manufacturing capability, innovation, research and export readiness.

Participants agreed that the future success of Nigerian Content will be measured not only by participation levels but by the ability of indigenous companies to compete successfully across Africa and internationally.

Human Capital Is Becoming the Industry's Greatest Competitive Advantage

Several strategic sessions concluded that talent development will ultimately determine Nigeria's long-term competitiveness. Whether discussing offshore operations, artificial intelligence, gas development, hydrogen, maritime services or manufacturing, participants consistently identified workforce capability as the industry's most valuable strategic asset. The conversation shifted from simply creating jobs to developing globally competitive professionals.

Collaboration Is Replacing Competition

Another recurring theme throughout the conference was collaboration. Participants repeatedly advocated greater cooperation among operators, regulators, financial institutions, academia, researchinstitutions, OEMs and technology providers.

Rather than operating independently, stakeholders increasingly recognised that shared infrastructure, joint investments, collaborative research and regional partnerships reduce costs while accelerating development.

Africa Is Increasingly Being Viewed as a Single Energy Market

Several discussions highlighted the growing importance of regional integration. Participants advocated harmonised regulations, cross-border infrastructure, regional gas pipelines, continental local contentalliances and expanded intra-African trade.

The conference reinforced the view that Africa's future competitiveness depends on cooperation rather than fragmented national markets.

Strategic Recommendations For Key Stakeholders

Stakeholder Group	Key Recommendation
Federal Government	The Federal Government should prioritise policy consistency, accelerate project approvals, sustain implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act and continue investing in enabling infrastructure that supports upstream, midstream and downstream growth. Government should also strengthen industrial policies that encourage domestic manufacturing, gas utilisation and regional energy integration.
Industry Regulator	Regulatory institutions, like NUPRC, the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA), the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) etc, should continue improving transparency, digitalising approval processes and maintaining investor confidence through predictable regulatory frameworks. Regulators should also strengthen collaboration with industry, academia and development partners to support innovation, workforce development and technology transfer.
National Oil Companies & Operators	Operators should accelerate project execution, deepen investments in digital technologies, artificial intelligence and emissions reduction while strengthening partnerships with indigenous companies. Greater attention should also be given to workforce development, knowledge transfer and local manufacturing.
Indigenous Companies	Indigenous operators should continue strengthening technical competence, corporate governance and financial management while expanding investments in research, innovation and internationally recognised certifications. Companies should increasingly position themselves to compete within regional and global energy markets.
Financial Institutions	Banks, pension funds, private equity firms and development finance institutions should expand financing solutions tailored to the unique requirements of energy projects. Greater emphasis should be placed on blended finance, infrastructure financing and innovative capital market instruments capable of mobilising long-term investment.
Academic & Reseach Institutions	Universities and research institutions should strengthen collaboration with industry to ensure academic curricula remain aligned with emerging workforce requirements. Increased investment in applied research, technology commercialisation and innovation will support Nigeria's transition towards a knowledge-driven energy economy.
Development Partners	International development organisations should continue supporting capacity development, technology transfer, climate finance and institutional strengthening while encouraging regional cooperation and private sector investment across Africa's energy value chain.

Conclusion

NOG Energy Week 2026 marked an important milestone in shaping the future of Nigeria's and Africa's energy industries. As the conference celebrated its 25th anniversary, it demonstrated not only the scale and resilience of the sector but also a shared determination to transform dialogue into measurable action.

The conference reaffirmed that Africa possesses the resources, talent and partnerships required to build a secure, competitive and sustainable energy future. However, participants agreed that future success will depend less on resource abundance and more on disciplined execution, policy consistency, technological innovation, commercial viability and sustained collaboration among governments, regulators, industry, financiers, research institutions and development partners.

Participants reaffirmed natural gas as the cornerstone of Nigeria's industrialisation strategy, while recognising that crude oil, renewable energy, digital technologies and emerging energy solutions will continue to play complementary roles in achieving energy security, economic diversification and inclusive growth.

The conference further underscored the importance of strengthening local content beyond compliance by expanding manufacturing, technology transfer, innovation, workforce development and indigenous enterprise. Equally, participants recognised that attracting long-term investment requires transparent governance, predictable regulation, efficient institutions and the timely execution of strategic projects.

Participants therefore committed to strengthening collaboration across the energy ecosystem to accelerate project delivery, expand gas commercialisation, increase investment in critical infrastructure, deepen regional cooperation, promote innovation and develop the skilled workforce required to sustain Africa's energy transformation.

The strategic partnerships, investment commitments, policy announcements and commercial agreements concluded during NOG Energy Week 2026 provide a strong foundation for the next phase of industry growth. Participants called on all stakeholders to maintain the momentum generated during the conference by translating commitments into concrete actions that deliver measurable economic, social and environmental benefits.

As Africa advances its energy ambitions, NOG Energy Week will continue to serve as a leading platform for policy dialogue, investment promotion, technological innovation and strategic collaboration, helping to transform ideas into projects, partnerships into investments, and ambition into sustainable development for Nigeria, Africa and the global energy community.

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