

Northwest Africa Atlantic Margin – MSGBC Basin Prospectivity

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Geological Evolution of the MSGBC Basin



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Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Bissau, Conakry (MSGBC) Basin



The pre-rift section is made up of:

- Palaeozoic extensional tectonics in the **south** with horsts, grabens and tilted fault blocks preserved from Pre-Hercynian; and
- Compressional tectonics in the **north and central** parts of the basin with effects of Hercynian and Caledonian orogenies.







- The basin was formed at the end of the Permian in a Triassic Rift system.
- Lacustrine source rocks were deposited followed by continental Triassic clastics 1500m thick.







- A thick sequence of Triassic/Early Jurassic evaporites were deposited in the basin. Up to 2000m of salt.
- Transgressing seas brought post-rift marine sediments.









- 2000-3000m thick carbonates reservoirs were deposited form an active carbonate factory.
- The platform both prograded and regressed through time.





- Thick marine shales interbedded with marginal marine sandstones deposited after the **opening of the Atlantic** in the Cenomanian.
- Black, bituminous Turonian shales were deposited marking the maximum Cretaceous transgression

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- Senonian marine regression which culminated in deposition of thick Maastrichtian sandstones. Up to 1200m thick.
- Tertiary sediments are unconformable and consist of marine shales, carbonates with influx of sandy turbidites





The Basin has undergone a complex history that can be divided into 3 main stages of development:

- the pre-rift (Precambrian to Paleozoic)
- syn-rift (Permian to Early Jurassic)
- post-rift (Middle Jurassic onwards)







Exploration History



Drilling Summary

- To date 177 exploration wells have been drilled in the basin with 115 encountering hydrocarbons 66%!
- Of the 110 offshore wells:
 - only 60 are in water depth of greater than 100m;
 - only 30 in water depths greater than 1000m;
 - And only 2 in water depths greater than 2000m.



(Source FAR website)

Adapted from Grant et al. 2013. Copyright SIEP BV.













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NWAAM Phase 2

Acquisition May - November 2012

Covered Area 140,000 km²

NWAAM Phase 1

Acquisition April – October 2011

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Covered Area 220,000 km²



Streamer Length: 8km

Recording Chs: 640

Record Length: 14 sec (NWAAM Ph2) 9 sec (NWAAM Ph1)

More info: http://www.tgs.com/

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NWAAM Regional Stratigraphy





M. Brownfield and R. Charpentier, 2003

Play Concepts





NWAAM Data Play Examples



NWAAM - Mauritania Sub Basin

Coppolani-1





NWAAM – Southern Mauritania Sub Basin



- Salt diapir creates traps for updip migration
- Faucon-1 drilled HC bearing sandstones from the Lower Campanian

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Salt present throughout the majority of the basin.

NWAAM – Sangomar Basin



- 2 recent discoveries in the basin, both Albian sandstone reservoirs sourced from Aptian sources.
- FAN-1 is a set of stack fans
- SNE-1 96 metre oil column in 24% PHIE shelf edge sands
- FAN-1 & SNE-1 have a combined p-50 reserve estimate of over a Billion barrels of Oil of API 32°





NWAAM – Casamance Basin



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• Evidence of Pre-salt Triassic play

NWAAM - Casamance Sub Basin (AGC)



- Salt tectonics have controlled sand deposition
- Amplitude anomalies in the Lower Albian related to HC charge or high porosity sands

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NWAAM - Southern Sub Basin (Guinea Bissau)



- Hydrocarbon Related Diagenetic Zones (HRDZ) indicate a highly charged hydrocarbon system.
- Aptian-Albian sediments pinching out against the Jurassic carbonate platform and showing high amplitude anomaly.
- Aptian sand channels pinching out over the flank of salt.



NWAAM - Southern Sub Basin (Guinea Bissau)



syn-rift sands below the salt.



NWAAM - Offshore Guinea Conakry



- Thinner Mesozoic sediments due to basement geometry.
- Triassic source rocks in oil window
- Possible evidence of presence of Silurian sources and Devonian clastics

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Northern Sierra Leone



Top Cretaceous Top Aptian

A series of Mid-Albian (syn-rift) fault terraces with some bright amplitudes within the fault blocks that relate to sand-prone sequences within the syn-rift sediments.



NWAAM – Southern Mauritanian Sub Basin





- 150m gross hydrocarbon bearing interval in the Upper Cenomanian
- 160m gross interval with 3 distinct MULTI-Darcy reservoirs in Lower Cenomanian
- Other plays deeper in the Cretaceous are also expected



NWAAM - Casamance Sub Basin (AGC)





NWAAM - Northern Sub Basin (Offshore The Gambia)





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NWAAM – The Gambia 3D





Summary - Prospectivity

There are three main petroleum systems present in the MSGBC basin:

- A post-rift sequence:
 - **Source -** proven Aptian / Albian / Turonian;
 - Reservoirs Upper Cretaceous / Tertiary clastic rocks and Jurassic carbonates;
 - Seals Upper Cretaceous/Tertiary marine shales or allochthonous salt.
- A pre-salt sequence:
 - Source rocks Triassic lacustrine;
 - **Reservoirs** Triassic syn-rift clastic rocks and/or Jurassic early postrift limestones;
 - Seals interbedded shales or salt.
- A pre-rift Silurian/Devonian level:
 - proven onshore and probably extending offshore in the shallow shelf area of Guinea Conakry.



Conclusions

Basin and Sub-basin evolution and architecture is controlled by preexistent basement geometry, syn-rift faults, transform movements and salt tectonics.

The complex structural evolution has led to the formation of numerous **structural and stratigraphic traps** identified across the study area.

Potential DHIs such as bright spot and gas related features have been highlighted.

The numerous discoveries in the Basin **prove the existence of working petroleum systems** along the North West African Passive Margin and FAN-1 and SNE-1 prove these systems can be **commercial**.



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Thank you

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