

# Unlocking Success in Suriname: A Story of Resilience and Adaptability

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Abstract:

Block 58 covers 5,831 km<sup>2</sup>, located 120 km from shore, with 80 to 2,000 m water depth, and it was seen as the best opportunity to test the extent of the "Golden Lane" play, following Exxon's discovery on Liza in Guyana (2015). The exploration campaign started in 2019 with the first offshore discovery in Suriname at the Maka Central-1 well that was followed by a continuous drilling program resulting in 14 wells being drilled in 4 years. During this aggressive campaign, the project team faced many technical, operational, and organizational challenges, becoming an example of how resilience and adaptability can lead to success, unlocking the first deepwater development in Suriname.

The intense drilling campaign which included seven exploration wells, five appraisal wells in the Central trend, and two exploration wells in the northern part of the block, confirmed the presence of multiple stacked reservoirs, stratigraphic traps, and good reservoir quality. In this context, two main oil discoveries were made in 2021 and 2022 - Sapakara South and Krabdagu respectively. The successful appraisal program that followed delineated sufficient resources to launch FEED studies for the first development, targeting first oil by 2028.

The Suriname project has been a cross-functional success story, thanks to the close collaboration between several entities within TotalEnergies and APA Corporation as partner. The project team has demonstrated resilience, agility, flexibility, and anticipation in the face of a changing world, a long and difficult campaign, and a special context. Some of the key success factors and lessons learned are:

- Strong communication with external stakeholders, such as Suriname authorities, local communities, and contractors, to maintain motivation and keep everybody engaged.
- Integrated work across disciplines and locations, leveraging the expertise and experience of the different teams and overcoming the challenges of remote work, travel ban, and time difference.
- Never stop exploring and innovating, developing new way of working, finding new algorithms as Machine Learning, thinking "out of the box".
- Acquire a relevant and complete set of data for the reservoir model, including samples, logs, cores, fluids, and DSTs, from all reservoirs that have been encountered.
- Application of seismic amplitudes, attributes, and inversion to identify and de-risk prospects.

The Suriname project is a remarkable achievement of cross-functional cooperation within TotalEnergies, that has unlocked the first development in a frontier basin with high potential and challenges. The project team has shown resilience, agility, and innovation in the face of a changing world. The project has also contributed to the benefits for Suriname, as one of the three carbon negative countries in the world, and to the growth of TTE's portfolio in the region, with the recent award of Blocks 6, 8, and 64. The story continues in Suriname, with more exploration, appraisal, and development opportunities to come.