

Egypt First Digital E&P Bid Round - Delivering a Digital Subsurface Information Platform via Egypt Upstream Gateway NDR

Hammad Mohamed¹, Mohamed Radwan², Adel El Sayad³, Maged Abdel Hamiod¹, Ahmed Atif¹

¹Schlumberger

²Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Egypt

³The Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company (EGAS)

Abstract

Egypt was able to launch the first Digital E&P Bid round during a challenging time in 2021 when the COVID-19 pandemic was impacting the whole Oil and Gas value chain and in particular, Exploration activities. The Egyptian government represented by the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral resources worked with Schlumberger on a massive digitalization program to unlock the potential of Egypt's energy sector and promote Exploration and Production activities to investors across the globe. The outcome of this collaboration is the birth and launch of the Egypt Upstream Gateway (EUG).

The foundation of Egypt Upstream Gateway (EUG) is the National Data Repository (NDR) of Egypt E&P Data. Traditionally building an NDR is a very challenging process and could take multiple years of solid work. The reason being the vast amount of data that has accumulated across many years going back to more than 80 years ago. Those data could be recorded on different media and in varying states of quality. A smart approach was followed in building EUG NDR that enables NDR to go live on operation while the construction phase was still ongoing. This was achieved by prioritizing construction activities based on data types, Bid round data and Open Acreage data.

EUG NDR securely provide digital access to Egypt E&P data anytime from anywhere. This is done through portal access and the data is displayed to end users in the context of regional maps and different visualization tools. For this the Egypt First Digital Bid Round was launched and EUG NDR provided national and international investors with tools to check bid round blocks and complete preliminary evaluation and analysis via a virtual data room without having to physically be in Egypt. This saves significant time and travel costs, especially during the era of COVID-19 restrictions. Additionally, International investors will now have digital access to regional insights and can order legacy and reimaged data instantly online. This minimizes the risk in decision-making and maximizes investment potential.