

# E&P DAILY NEWS

## 2013 EAGE Conference & Exhibition

OFFICIAL SHOW DAILY PUBLISHER OF THE 75TH EAGE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

# Supporting TPDC with Deepwater License Round

ION is working to help oil and gas companies understand East Africa's potential petroleum systems.

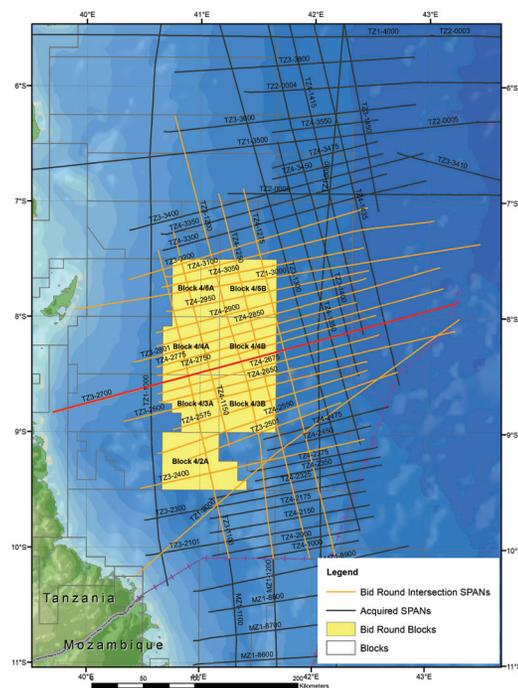
CONTRIBUTED BY ION GEOPHYSICAL

Recent discoveries offshore Tanzania and Mozambique highlight East Africa as an emerging world-class petroleum province. Oil and gas recoverable reserve estimates for this province total 12.5 Bbbl and 250 Tcf of gas, according to US Geological Survey assessment Brownfield et al, 2012. These estimates would appear to underestimate the ultimate potential of the area given the magnitude of recent discoveries. In addition, the activity and analysis in producing areas on the conjugate margin are spurring renewed exploration interest.

Tanzania will open its fourth deepwater license round in Dar Es Salaam Oct. 25, 2013. The Tanzania Petroleum Development Corp. (TPDC) will offer nine deepwater blocks covering more than 6,577 sq km (2,539 sq miles). ION Geophysical's Geo-Ventures group is working directly with the TPDC to provide technical support in evaluating the offshore areas and their prospectivity.

As part of this evaluation, ION has acquired, processed, and interpreted approximately 30,000 km (18,641 miles) of regional 2-D seismic data offshore Africa's east coast. Known as East AfricaSPAN, this program is focused on the integration of offshore margins of Mozambique, Tanzania, and Kenya. ION acquired these data with the intent to develop a regional context to evaluate the entire margin and help oil and gas companies understand the various aspects of potential petroleum systems along this and the conjugate margins of Madagascar and West India. The Tanzania data were acquired in cooperation with TPDC to enable both TPDC and operators to perform a thorough assessment of the deepwater potential in this area.

ION has worked with TPDC to develop the framework for an evaluation of known and potential petroleum systems in the basin. This technical work underpins the bid round data package that will be provided to all oil companies interested in bidding in this license round. The data package contains information from historical sources and also new interpretation and evaluation from the East Africa regional interpretation team and outside vendors. The package identifies potential play types present in deep water, a summary of basin modeling results, and



Offshore Tanzania license blocks are shown in yellow, and the ION East Africa SPAN data coverage is indicated by yellow and black lines. (Image courtesy of ION)

crustal thickness modeling using gravity inversion and includes a detailed ArcGIS project containing links to all legacy data and studies. The data package was designed to allow E&P operators to quickly evaluate the license round blocks and high-grade a lead portfolio within the context of the entire East African margin.

ION is continuing to provide bid round support by helping to promote the license round, market the data, provide data room access, and discuss interpretation of potential play concepts. To learn more about the company's geophysical and geological evaluation and/or about the Tanzania bid round, visit ION at booth 630 for passes to a technical presentation on East Africa to take place Thursday, June 13. ■