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ABSTRACT

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Moving Overseas – The International Expansion of China's NOCs and their Impact on Exploration in South East Asia

Overseas expansion is now a firmly established goal of the Chinese NOCs, both as a method of increasing the country's oil and gas supply security and developing these companies from national to international players. Given the aggressive targets for overseas growth among China's NOCs, the extent of this ambition is now being realised in virtually every major hydrocarbon region.

While South East Asia, and Indonesia in particular, was one of the first regions the Chinese NOCs entered in the 1990s, deals in recent years have been limited. However, with Chinese interest in oil and greenfield LNG projects, South East Asia will continue to be a strategic area for these companies, with opportunities and consequences for both NOCs and incumbents across the region.