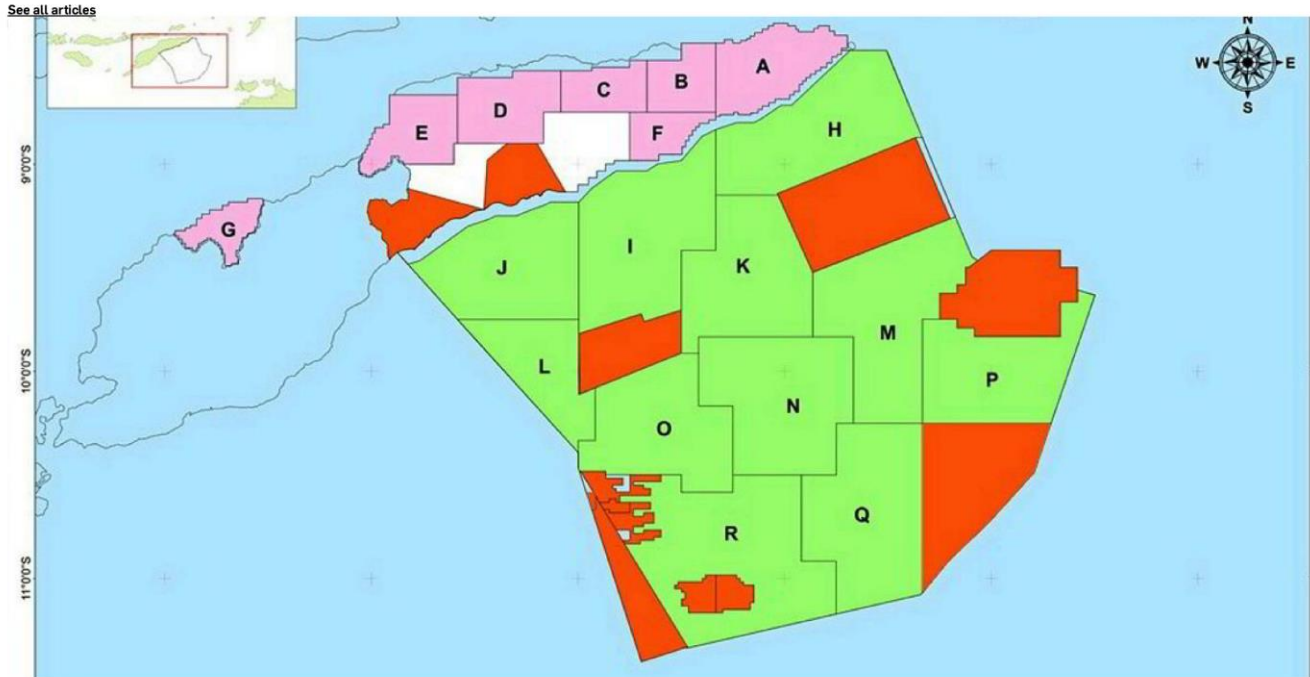


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## EXPLORATION



Up for grabs: the onshore and offshore exploration blocks in Timor-Leste's 2020 licensing round Photo: ANPM

### Timor-Leste finalises onshore petroleum rules

Regulations are required for all petroleum activities in country's unexplored onshore play

27 May 2020 5:55 GMT

The Timor-Leste government has approved a long-awaited set of regulations to govern onshore oil and gas activities in the country.

The regulations have been years in the making and will have an important impact on ongoing and future onshore operations, "especially exploration currently being conducted and planned on the south coast, and will also apply to the new blocks awarded during the ongoing licensing round", said Ricardo Silva, partner and co-head of energy and natural resources at Miranda Law Firm.

The government enacted the "onshore petroleum operations regulations" by means of a new law passed on 13 May 2020.

The new rules cover all petroleum operations in Timor-Leste's onshore play, from exploration, appraisal development and production to abandonment, including the transport, processing and storage of oil and gas in an upstream context.

It also applies to facilities located onshore but used in relation to offshore operations.