



2025

September

The LNG Landscape in 2025: Challenges, Opportunities, and Emerging Trends



Webinar White Paper

The Al-Attiyah Foundation



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The Al-Attiah Foundation's third webinar of 2025, "The LNG Landscape in 2025: Challenges, Opportunities, and Emerging Trends", was held in partnership with the London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG). The discussion brought together leading experts from industry, research, and policy to assess how global LNG markets are evolving amid unprecedented uncertainty. The debate highlighted the interplay of rising supply, shifting demand patterns in Asia, emerging technologies such as floating LNG, and the risks posed by price volatility, geopolitical disruption, and project delays. Panelists shared perspectives on how these dynamics will shape the LNG sector in the near term, and what they mean for the future role of gas in the global energy mix.

WEBINAR WHITE PAPER

H.E. Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiah founded the Foundation as a platform for knowledge exchange and support for the global community in the quest towards a sustainable energy future.

The Webinar Series is a crucial networking and learning opportunity in the calendar of industry CEOs, members, and Foundation partners.



The global liquefied natural gas (LNG) market is entering a pivotal phase, with supply rising steadily as new projects come online and recently commissioned facilities increase output.

At the same time, demand is accelerating—particularly in Asia—fuelled by industrial decarbonisation, electrification of heavy transport, and broader geopolitical and technological shifts.

Woodside Energy projects a 50% rise in global LNG demand by 2030, while Shell forecasts a 60% increase by 2040. As these trends converge, the LNG sector faces a complex mix of challenges and opportunities that will shape the market for years to come.

Among the key developments is the rising adoption of floating LNG (FLNG) infrastructure. Offering a more flexible and lower-footprint alternative to onshore liquefaction, FLNG capacity reached 14.35 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) by early 2025, according to the International Gas Union, with projects proposed across 15 countries.

Meanwhile, tougher environmental regulations are spurring the maritime industry to transition to LNG from heavy fuel oil. Data from DNV's Alternative Fuels Insight platform shows 642 LNG-fueled ships—excluding LNG carriers—are now in operation. A record 264 new orders were placed in 2024 alone, more than double the previous year.

Much of the new supply is expected from North America, but delays until 2026 or later raise the prospect of near-term imbalances. Global LNG Hub forecasts import demand could increase by nearly 50 billion cubic meters (bcm) in 2025, outpacing supply growth by approximately 10 bcm. Further delays—such as Golden Pass LNG in Texas pushing its start date to late 2025—are tightening the outlook even more.

Outside North America, momentum is building in other regions. TotalEnergies aims to restart construction on its long-delayed \$20-billion Mozambique LNG project by mid-2025. In West Africa, BP's FLNG Gimi, part of the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim development off Mauritania and Senegal, entered commercial operations in June and is expected to ramp up to its full 2.7 MTPA capacity in the months ahead.



Yet the industry's biggest game-changer may still lie ahead. Qatar's massive North Field East expansion, slated to begin production in 2026, is set to increase the country's LNG output by nearly 85 percent – a move that could decisively tilt global supply dynamics.

According to current projections, the LNG sector is preparing for a prolonged growth cycle. Of 301 LNG projects in the pipeline globally, 177 focus on regasification and 124 on liquefaction. Around 175 MTPA of capacity is under construction, with a further 90 MTPA expected to reach final investment decision (FID) by 2027. But cost inflation is tempering some of the optimism.

Asia will drive additional demand for LNG, with Southeast Asian countries forecast to become net gas importers by the 2030s.

Declining prices could further accelerate this trend, especially in markets with rising power generation needs, expanding infrastructure, and policies promoting fuel-switching from coal to gas.

Nevertheless, near-term headwinds persist. Price volatility, geopolitical risks, and competition from renewable alternatives may limit immediate gains, particularly in countries facing infrastructure bottlenecks or regulatory uncertainty.

LNG prices have declined "substantially" since the start of the summer, explained Samuel Good, Research Lead for LNG at London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG), kicking off a wide-ranging discussion that examined the extent to which new supply, the likelihood of project delays and shifting Asian demand will reshape the global market.

WEBINAR SPEAKERS

Moderator:



Stephen Cole,
International Journalist
and Executive Producer

Speaker



Bill Farren-Price,
Head of Gas Programme,
Oxford Institute for
Energy Studies

Speaker



Arif Hirji,
Chief Business Officer &
Head of Analytics, LNG
Centrica Energy

Speaker



Samuel Good, Research
Lead – LNG, London
Stock Exchange Group

Speaker



Daniel Toleman,
Director LNG Research,
Wood Mackenzie

Speaker



Peter Zeniewski,
Senior Energy Analyst,
International Energy
Agency (IEA)

Mr Good gave a presentation at the start of the session detailing the factors driving supply and demand in the LNG industry as well as pricing trends and forecasts.

LNG supply contract prices for the 2025–2026 winter period have slumped to below \$11.50 per MMBtu, down from above \$14.50/MMBtu in June, LSEG data shows.

Forward pricing on Asian and European contracts will fall further to below \$10/MMBtu by mid-2026 and will remain subdued until at least mid-2028, LSEG forecasts.

Supply rose to 288 bcm in September from 278 bcm in the summer of 2024 as production increased in the U.S. and Nigeria, Mr Good explained.

This additional production fulfilled increased demand from Egypt, Europe, South Korea and Taiwan. Demand from Japan and China declined, LSEG data shows.

"Demand side growth has come mostly from Europe, with LNG coming to meet the shortfall left by the cessation of Russian pipeline gas," said Mr Good.

In a first audience poll, participants were asked which recent development would have the most significant impact on the LNG industry in the next 12 to 18 months. A clear majority – 71 percent – chose the startup of new liquefaction capacity, while 14 percent pointed to rising LNG demand in Asia and another 14 percent highlighted delays in major LNG project timelines.

"What I find to be an immense game changer for the next 12 to 18 months and also beyond to 2030 is the rising supply of LNG from all these new projects," said Peter Zeniewski, a

Senior Energy Analyst at the International Energy Agency (IEA).

"We've never seen this amount of capacity coming online in such a short space of time. Changes in capacity will upend the market in many ways. (There's) a lot of expectation about Asia's capacity to absorb all of that new capacity, but when you look at country-level trends where exactly will all this LNG go?"

Mr Zeniewski estimates around 300 bcm of new LNG supply will be added annually over the next four to five years.

"Even if we assume a bit of project slippage, that's still a window where there's a massive amount of supply coming online," he said.





"In terms of how the market prices all of this in, I don't think that (project) delays are going to make a massive difference to the huge (forecasted) downward pressure on prices."

Yet project delays are probable. Mr Good noted that markets expect LNG prices to rise again next summer, in part because of construction setbacks.

"There aren't many people who can build these (plants) ... we've seen constraints on the EPC (engineering, procurement, and construction) side for at least a couple of years now and that doesn't look like it's going away just yet," he said.

For Bill Farren-Price, Head of the gas programme at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, the biggest risks in the LNG industry aren't geopolitical, but economic.

"It's rising costs and the potential for delays to new projects," he explained.

"Delays aren't unusual. There are issues around labour availability. There are issues around sticky inflation that could keep interest rates higher."

The implication of such delays, several speakers noted, is that existing producers may benefit from sustained higher prices in the near term.

Daniel Toleman, Director LNG Research at Wood Mackenzie, said project delays would create opportunities for existing producers. As such, LNG prices may remain elevated in 2026 and 2027 before more definitive supply-demand rebalancing occurs in 2028 and 2029.

Mr Farren-Price warned that newly operational projects will also face commercial pressure. These facilities must "edge their way into what will become a more competitive supply market," he said.

"Nevertheless, the longer-term pricing trajectory remains downward. "If there are delays, we would expect to see that forward curve flatten a little," Mr Farren-Price added.

Falling prices could support increased LNG consumption, particularly in Asia. "In a cyclical opportunistic market when the prices drop, demand has multiple ways of adjusting itself," said Arif Hirji, Chief Business Officer and Head of Analytics at LNG Centrica Energy.

Currently, Asian LNG prices are around \$11 per MMBtu, Mr Farren-Price noted, but would likely need to drop to \$6–7 to trigger a significant wave of demand growth. Long-term supply contracts indexed to oil prices can provide a hedge against LNG price volatility, explained Mr Zeniewski.

In a second poll, audience members were asked to identify the biggest current challenge for LNG project developers. One-third selected the difficulty in securing financing amid market uncertainty, while another one-third chose geopolitical instability and trade disruption. Project cost inflation and supply chain constraints garnered 22 percent of the vote, and environmental regulatory pressures attracted 11 percent.

In response, Mr Farren-Price observed that macro-level dynamics could also influence LNG trade flows. For example, China wants to increase its supply of discounted, pipelined gas which may limit its need for additional LNG.

Also, the U.S. is seeking increasingly to include commitments to buy the country's LNG in trade agreements with other nations, he said, noting that Russian supply to former customers could also resume to some extent if the Ukraine war ends.

Demand-side dynamics were the focus of the third poll, which asked what would drive LNG consumption growth in Asia. Just over half (56 percent) of attendees said power generation needs and electrification would be the primary driver, while 44 percent selected industrial fuel switching and decarbonisation.

In response, Mr Toleman pointed to structural supply constraints across Asia, noting there was Only one Asian country, China, in which supply is increasing.

"(In many) legacy supply fields in Southeast Asia and South Asia, there has been a lack of investment and as a result we're seeing that supply decline. Yet gas demand is still growing," he added.



As a wave of new liquefaction projects nears completion, the LNG sector will undergo substantial change. Although project delays may temporarily support higher prices and benefit existing producers, the broader trend is clear: a more competitive, better-supplied market is emerging.

For buyers, particularly in Asia, falling prices could accelerate switching from coal and oil, boosting LNG's role in the energy mix. But volatility and uncertainty remain, especially around construction timelines, financing and geopolitical risks.

Developers, investors and policymakers must adapt quickly as the global LNG market shifts.



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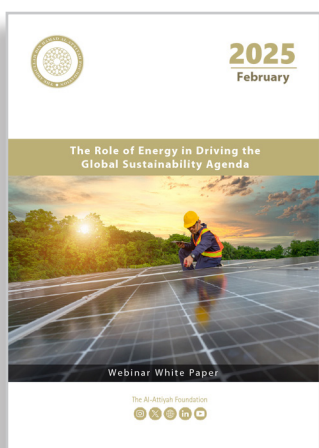
June – 2025

Harnessing AI for a Sustainable Energy Future

The Al-Attiyah Foundation's second webinar of 2025, "Harnessing AI for a Sustainable Energy Future", was held on the 5th of June. The debate convened an expert panel—featuring leaders in energy systems, AI, and data science— to explore the challenges organisations face in Artificial Intelligence (AI) adoption and practical strategies to overcome them.



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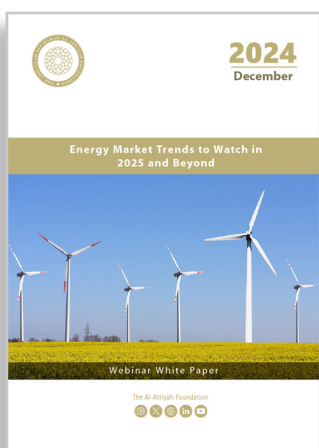
February – 2025

The Role of Energy in Driving the Global Sustainability Agenda

The Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah International Foundation for Energy and Sustainable Development provides robust and practical knowledge and insights into global energy and sustainable development topics, sharing these for the benefit of the Foundation's members and community.



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December – 2024

Energy Market Trends to Watch in 2025 and Beyond

The webinar "Energy Market Trends to Watch in 2025 and Beyond," held on December 5, explored the critical factors shaping the global energy landscape amid economic and geopolitical uncertainties, shifting oil and gas supply dynamics, and the rapid expansion of renewables.



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Our partners collaborate with The Al-Attiyah Foundation on various projects and research within the themes of energy and sustainable development.





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