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# **Oil At USD60/bbl: Who Is Most Vulnerable?**

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Mark Schaltuper – Head of Americas Research

[www.businessmonitor.com](http://www.businessmonitor.com)



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# Core Scenario: Lower Oil Prices Ahead

Weaker global economic conditions have seen us lower our oil price forecasts.

- **Brent crude oil prices will average USD86/bbl** between 2014 and 2018.
- **Weak global demand** is the main reason behind structurally lower oil prices.
- **Upcoming OPEC meeting (November 27)** should pave the way for production cuts, offering temporary support to oil prices.

USD85-95/bbl Is The New Norm

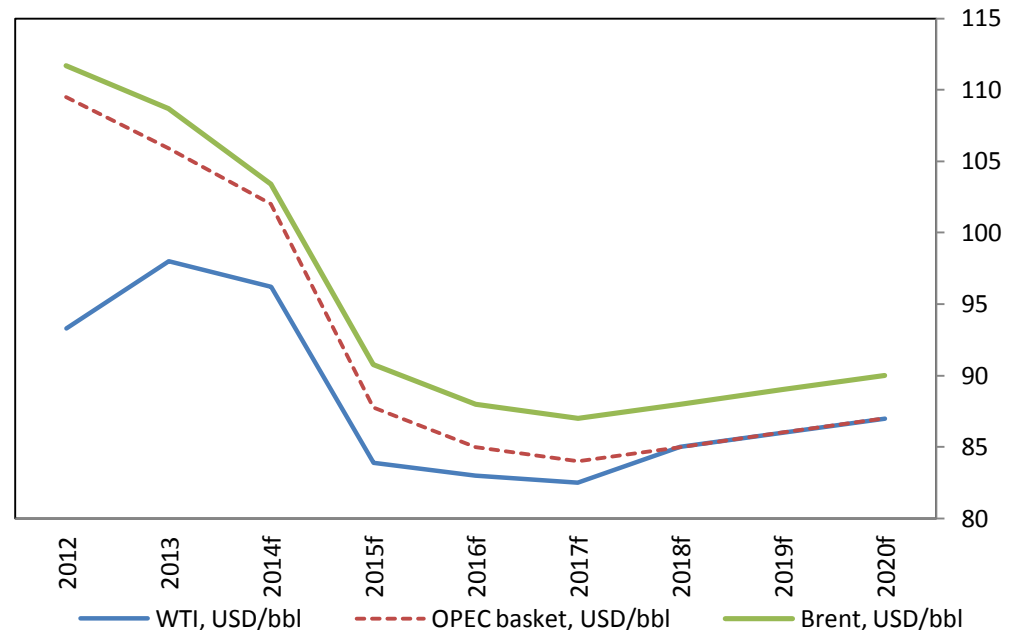


Table: Median Forecasts WTI And Brent, Front Month (USD/BBL)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
WTI - Bloomberg Consensus	95.3	91.4	93.9	95.0	89.3
WTI - BMI Forecast	96.1	83.9	83.0	82.5	85.0
Brent - Bloomberg Consensus	101.8	97.0	98.0	96.9	92.5
Brent - BMI Forecast	103.3	90.8	88.0	87.0	88.0

# OPEC Meeting: **Assessing Potential Scenarios**

- **Core View:** We see a 60% likelihood of OPEC agreeing an output cut (circa 500,000bpd).
- **Cut will temporarily stabilise oil prices** around the USD80-90/bbl range over Q414-Q115.
- **Risk of no agreement rising:** If no cuts are agreed, Brent could hit USD60/bbl by early 2015.
- **Secular oil price decline will not be reversed** regardless of outcome from OPEC meeting.

Table: OPEC Oil Production And BMI Assessment of stance going into November 27 meeting

BMI View: Willing to hold out	OPEC Share (Oct 2014)	Fiscal Breakeven Oil Price, USD/bbl	Production % Y-o-Y chg	Production % chg vs. 2010 average	BMI View: Willing To Coordinate A Cut	OPEC Share (Oct 2014)	Fiscal Breakeven Oil Price, USD/bbl	Production % Y-o-Y chg	Production % chg vs. 2010 average
Saudi Arabia	31.7%	89	-2.4%	16.2%	Iran	9.1%	136	3.4%	-26.0%
UAE	9.2%	81	-0.5%	20.3%	Venezuela	7.7%	117	-1.1%	-0.4%
Kuwait	9.2%	52	-2.1%	20.6%	Nigeria	6.3%	124	-0.5%	-7.7%
					Angola	5.5%	94	-4.4%	-7.0%
					Algeria	3.8%	107	-0.9%	-7.1%
					Libya	2.8%	106	78.0%	-46.0%
					Qatar	2.3%	59	-3.3%	-10.5%
					Ecuador	1.8%	122	3.7%	13.1%
Total Production Share	50.1%					39.3%			

Note: Iraq currently operates outside of OPEC quota system.

Source: OPEC, IMF, Reuters, BMI Research

# Downside Risks: What If OPEC Doesn't Deliver?

OPEC inaction on November 27 would **exacerbate downside pressures** on oil prices.

- **USD60/bbl for Brent is a realistic downside target** should OPEC fail to agree on production cuts in its November meeting.
- **US is increasingly a price setter** in light of rising oil production.
- **Weak global demand** will maintain downside pressure on oil prices.
- **USD will rally over the coming years** amid rising interest rates, putting additional downside pressure on oil.

USD60/bbl Next For Brent?



Table: Real GDP Growth Forecasts (% chg)

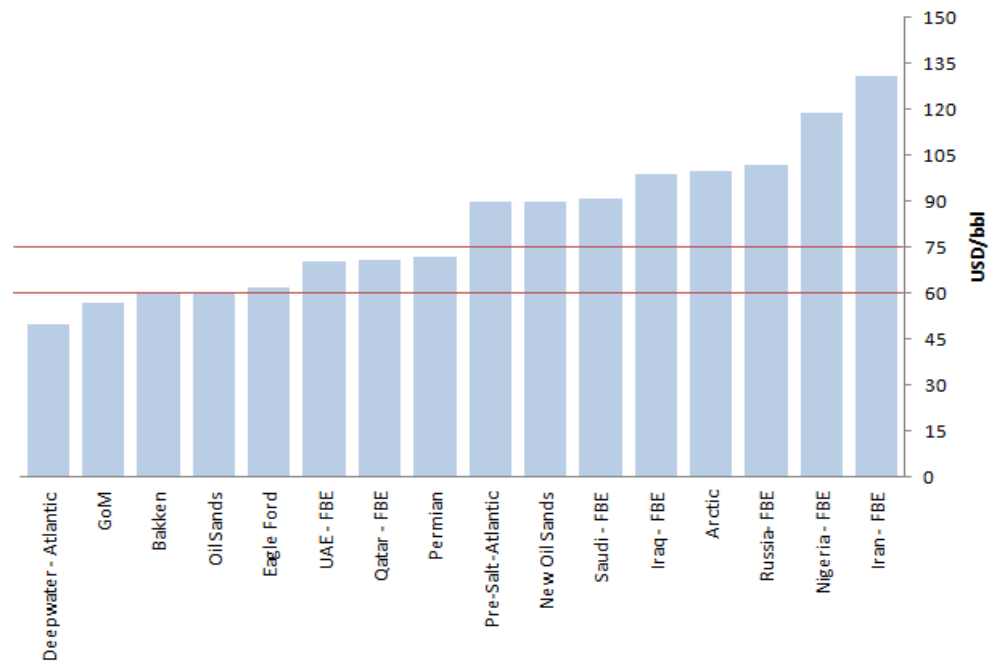
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
US	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4
China	7.7	7.3	6.7	5.8	5.8	5.8
Eurozone	-0.4	0.7	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Japan	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7

# Implications: Fiscal And Commercial Viability

Oil price decline, US dollar strength and global economic uncertainty have encouraged us to identify the **net oil exporting countries most vulnerable** - economically, politically and commercially - to a prolonged period of lower oil prices.

- **Sub-Saharan Africa most vulnerable** to low oil prices.
- **OPEC ill placed for lower oil prices** judging by fiscal and projects breakeven oil prices.
- **Venezuela at risk of default.**
- **Political stability in Iraq and Iran is on the line.**

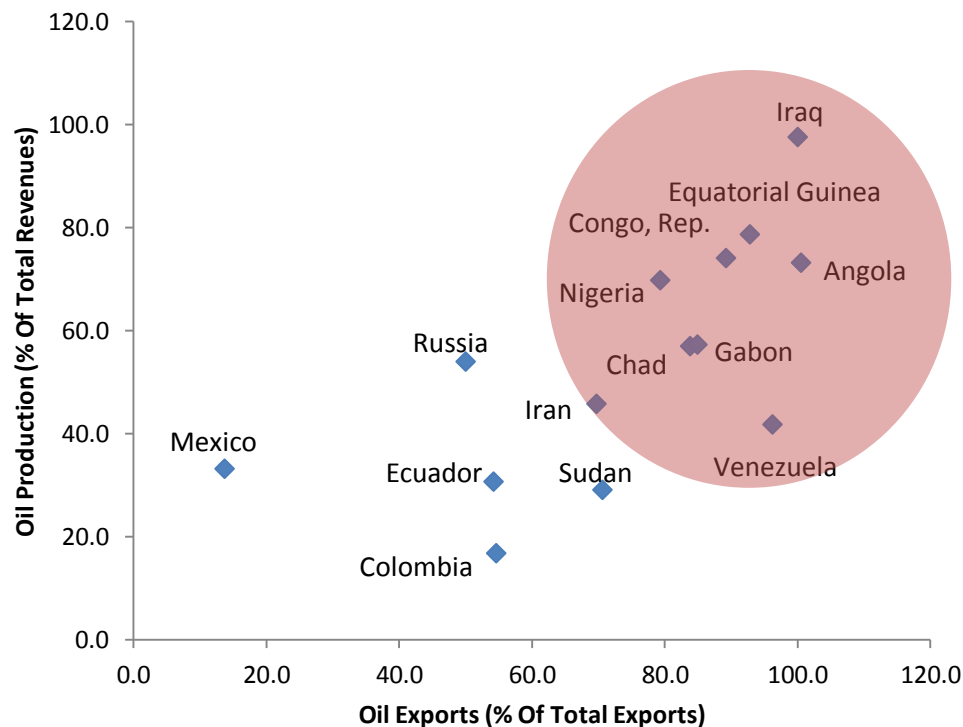
A Lot At Stake For OPEC



# Picking The Most Vulnerable Net Exporters

Net exporters with a high reliance on oil production for fiscal revenue, as well as foreign currency earnings, are most vulnerable to a prolonged period of low oil prices.

Highly Reliant On Oil Proceeds

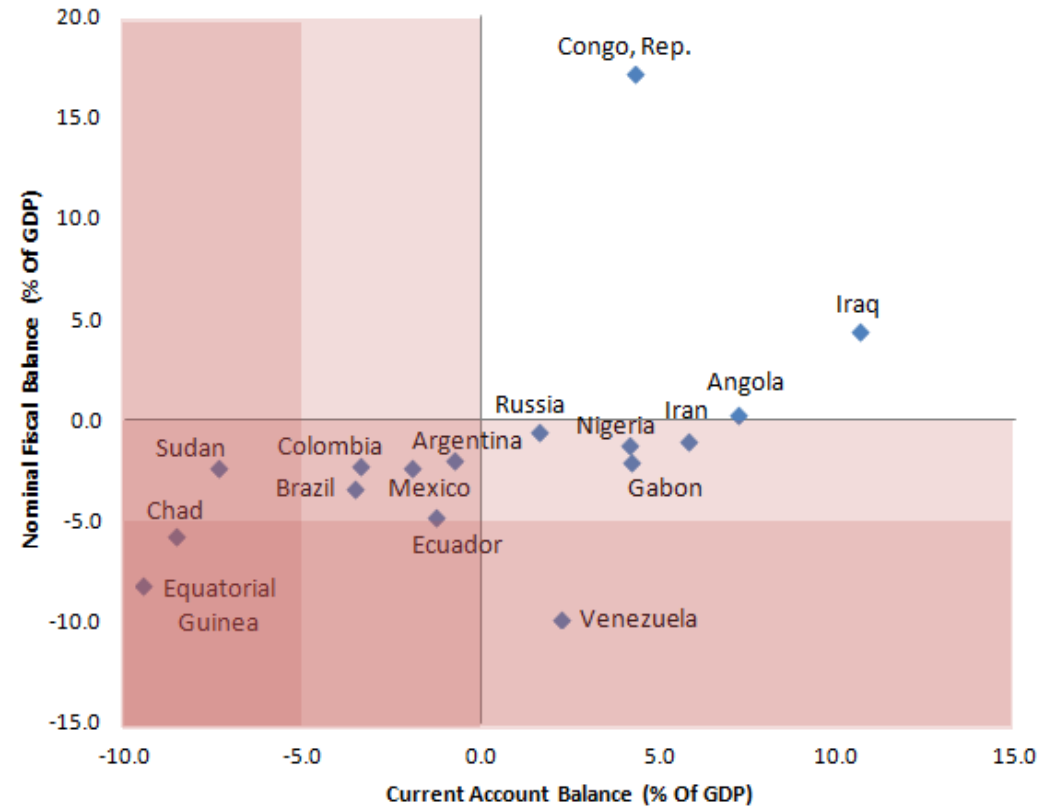


# Identifying The Structural Weak Spots

Such vulnerabilities become even more acute in cases where structural weaknesses are prevalent.

- **Twin deficit countries** are in the severe risk category.
- The **political environment** and **access to foreign capital** also play a key role in determining the degree of risk.
- Although a large fiscal surplus may offer a buffer, **high dependence on oil proceeds** and **large social spending commitments** mean that such **buffers can rapidly be eroded**.

Existing Imbalances Will Be Exacerbated







# Ranking The Risk To Stability

Equatorial Guinea	Severe Risk
Chad	
Venezuela	
Angola	
Iran	
Iraq	High Risk
Nigeria	
Gabon	
Sudan	
Congon, Rep.	
Ecuador	Moderate Risk
Russia	
Colombia	
Mexico	



# Countries Facing **Moderate Crisis Risks**

# Mexico: Fiscally Exposed, Reforms At Risk

Lower oil prices could temper investor interest in the liberalised energy sector.

- Declining oil revenue would undermine fiscal stability even with the formation of an oil stabilisation fund.

- Oil production outlook could prove overly optimistic.

- Manufacturing output growth should offset the impact of lower oil prices on the current account balance.

Low Prices Could Stymie Reform Rebound

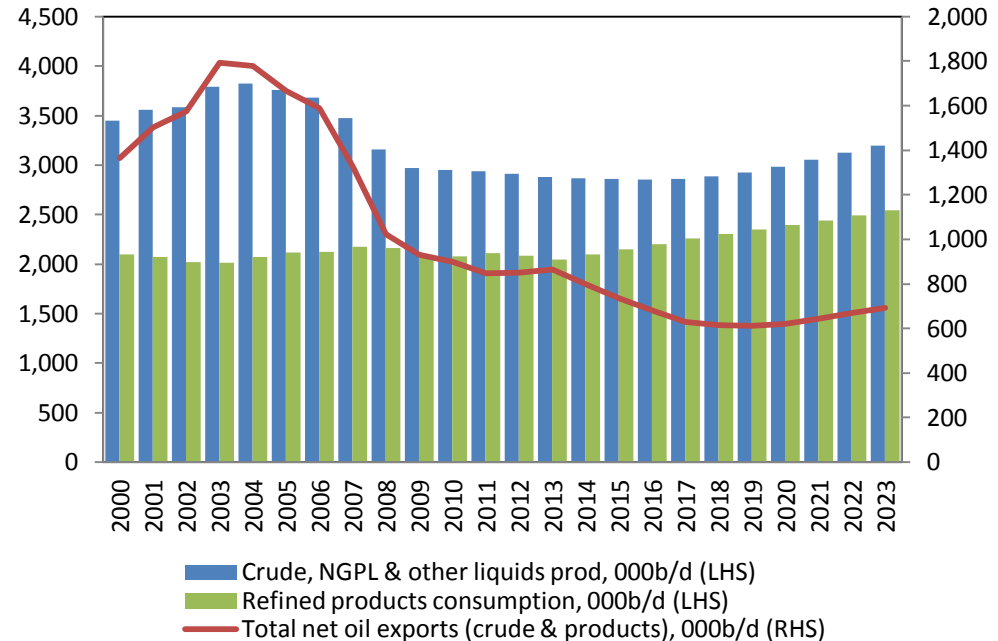


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	1.1	2.6	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.2
Current account balance, % of GDP	-2.0	-1.6	-1.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6
Budget balance, % of GDP	-2.3	-3.4	-3.1	-2.5	-2.1	-1.6
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	2,882.5	2,866.5	2,857.0	2,854.0	2,857.3	2,885.9
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	863.6	797.5	736.7	681.1	630.5	615.2

# Colombia: An Uncertain Economic Outlook

Lower oil prices will exacerbate an already difficult security environment and uncertain below-ground picture for future investment in the energy sector.

- **Economic growth would slow down** from lower fixed investment and exports.
- **A painful economic rebalancing** away from a high reliance on the oil sector would take several years.
- **Public finances would take a hit** from lower oil revenues, undoing recent fiscal consolidation efforts.

Security Issues Already Threatening Oil Revenues

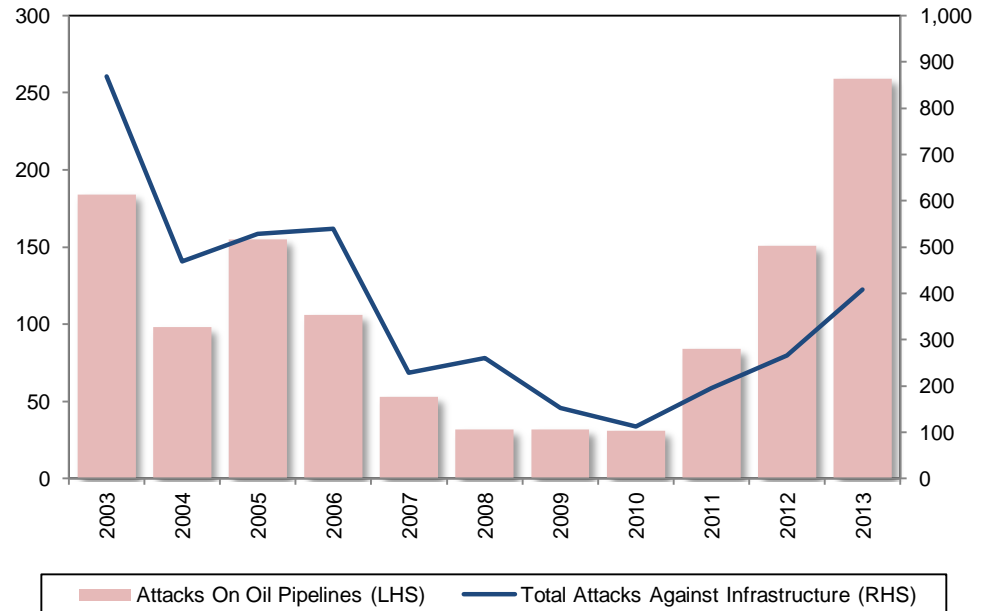


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	4.7	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.6	4.6
Current account balance, % of GDP	-3.4	-3.0	-3.1	-3.2	-2.9	-2.9
Budget balance, % of GDP	-2.2	-2.6	-2.3	-2.2	-2.1	-2.0
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	1,022.0	1,004.5	1,029.7	1,055.5	1,082.0	1,103.9
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	722.5	700.1	720.3	741.0	762.2	777.7

# Russia: FX Sell-Off Will Offset Fiscal Impact

Falling oil prices are a major risk to the Russian economy, with growth stagnating and capital outflows potentially picking up.

- Oil revenues are key to sustain its current account surplus and prevent fiscal slippage.

- Fiscal breakevens of above USD100/bbl for oil suggest deteriorating public finances. However, FX weakness will provide a silver lining, effectively moving the breakeven oil price lower.

**Fiscal Breakeven Shifts With RUB Weakness**

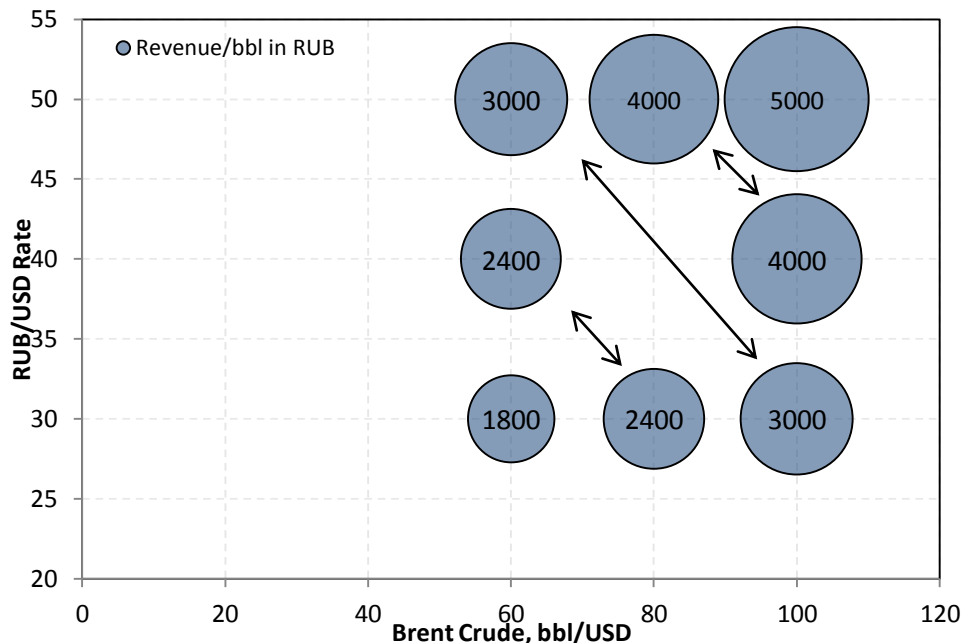


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	1.3	0.5	1.2	2.6	2.8	2.8
Current account balance, % of GDP	1.6	2.0	1.7	0.7	-0.5	-1.5
Budget balance, % of GDP	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	10,602.5	10,536.0	10,458.6	10,420.4	10,372.0	10,304.0
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	7,369.2	7,298.9	7,192.9	7,074.8	6,935.9	6,773.4

# Ecuador: Return To Capital Markets At Risk

Ecuador's economy is highly reliant on oil exports for hard currency generation and fiscal stability.

- Ecuador's return to capital markets could be complicated by declining oil revenues and rising borrowing costs.

- These dynamics will exacerbate an already-challenging fiscal picture for Ecuador.

- A sharper decline in oil exports could shift the current account deeper into the red, increasing pressure to secure foreign funding.

Need For Financing On The Rise

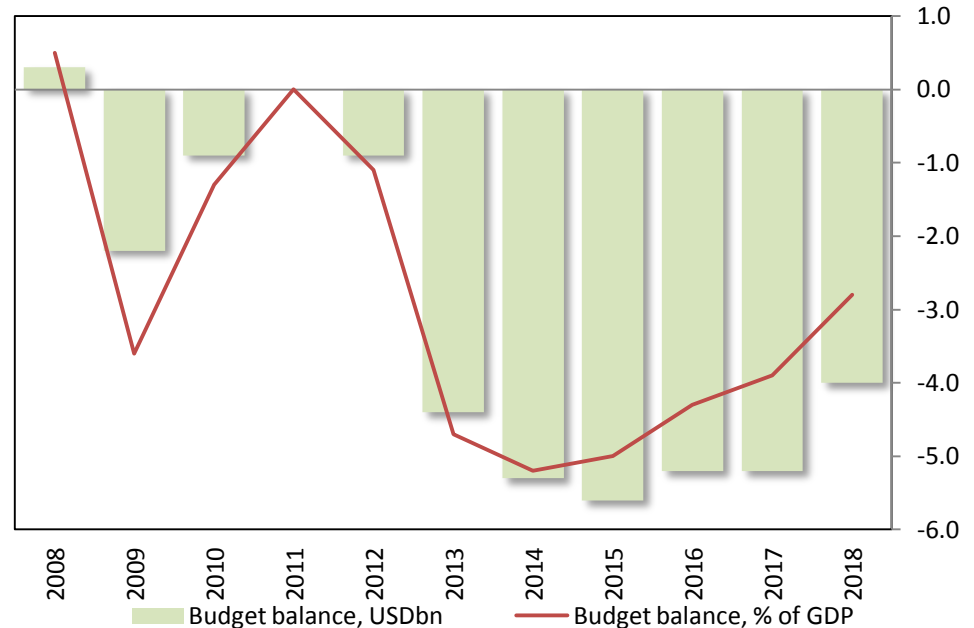


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	4.6	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.4	3.0
Current account balance, % of GDP	-1.3	-1.0	-0.9	-1.0	-0.5	0.2
Budget balance, % of GDP	-4.7	-5.2	-5.0	-4.2	-3.9	-2.8
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	524.8	525.9	531.2	533.9	536.7	539.6
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	307.7	300.2	297.0	291.1	284.8	279.5



# Countries Facing High Crisis Risks

# Congo-Brazzaville: Diversification Plans At Risk

Fiscal stability is highly contingent on oil revenues.

- **High reliance on oil for revenue** could see a more rapid erosion of the budget surplus.
- **Long-term investment into iron ore mining** could be jeopardised if fiscal buffers disappear.
- **Rising oil production would be offset** by lower proceeds, leaving the economy increasingly unstable.

Strong Oil Production Outlook

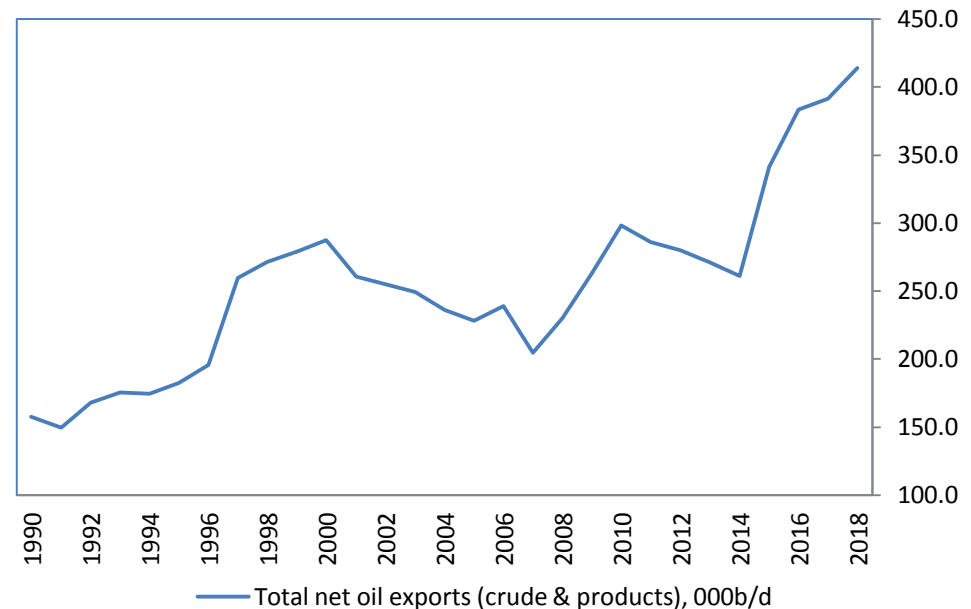


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	3.1	6.2	6.8	8.1	9.1	6.1
Current account balance, % of GDP	4.3	3.0	8.5	7.0	7.5	4.2
Budget balance, % of GDP	17.2	12.1	3.1	1.5	2.6	2.7
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	283.6	274.8	355.8	398.9	408.3	431.7
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	270.8	261.1	341.2	383.3	391.6	413.8



# Sudan: Balance Of Payments Crisis?

Sudan is highly vulnerable to economic and political instability amid painful reforms.

- External accounts are most at risk of lower oil prices with less than 2 months import cover.
- Heightened risk of debt distress due to high non-concessional borrowing by regional standards.
- Reduced budget revenues could lead to heightened public unrest.

Renewed Devaluation Pressure Mounting

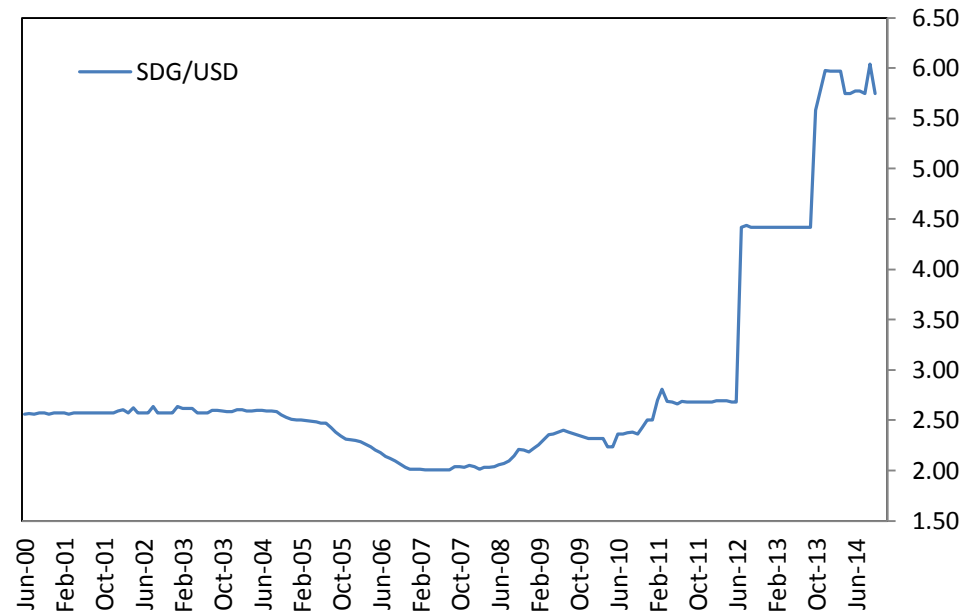


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	2.9	2.6	3.9	4.6	4.6	4.5
Current account balance, % of GDP	-7.4	-7.3	-6.6	-6.5	-6.4	-6.3
Budget balance, % of GDP	-2.3	-2.5	-3.1	-3.5	-3.7	-4.0
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	250.4	240.4	336.5	386.9	417.9	408.7
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	152.5	143.6	238.2	286.8	313.1	299.1

# Gabon: Exacerbating Structural Deficits

Lower oil prices will stress Gabon's deteriorating fiscal situation, while an ambitious government investment programme may need to be delayed.

- **Fiscal balance already under strain** from high investment spending.
- **External account deteriorating** as we already forecast a current account deficit under a baseline scenario.
- **Oil output decline** would occur more rapidly than we currently forecast exacerbating structural weaknesses.

Declining Production Paints A Bleak Outlook

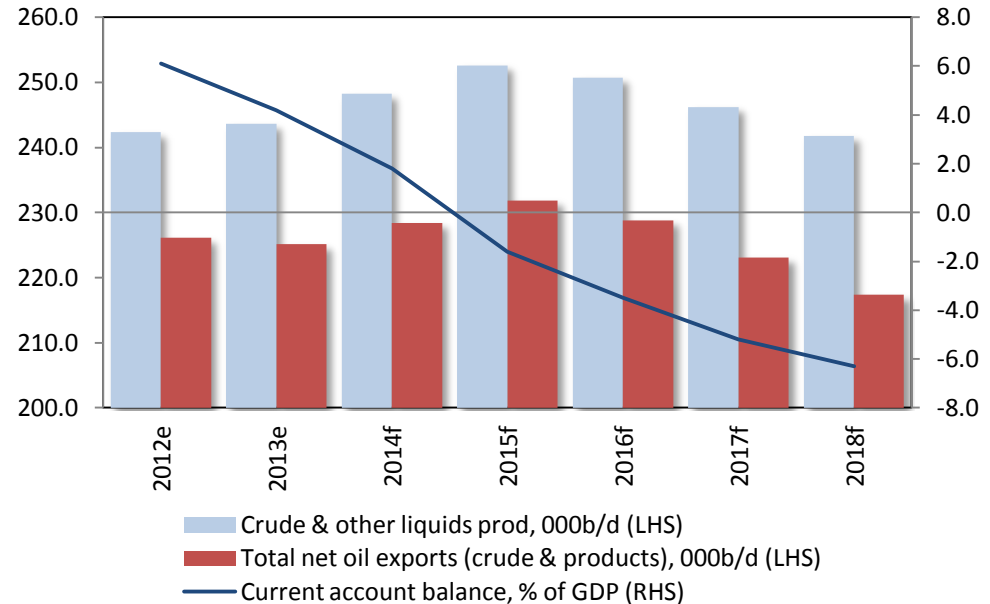


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	5.5	5.1	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.2
Current account balance, % of GDP	4.2	1.8	-1.6	-3.5	-5.2	-6.3
Budget balance, % of GDP	-2.0	-3.8	-5.4	-5.3	-5.3	-5.6
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	243.6	248.2	252.6	250.7	246.2	241.8
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	225.1	228.4	231.8	228.8	223.1	217.4

# Nigeria: Fiscal And FX Targets At Risk

A sharper drop in oil prices means that the cost of defending the naira will take its toll on Nigeria's reserve position and external account stability.

- Upcoming elections make a devaluation unlikely given the inflationary impact.
- Cost of defending naira on the rise with reserves (USD37.7bn on November 11) starting to decline.
- Rapid budget deficit widening likely if oil prices keep dropping.

FX Stability On The Line

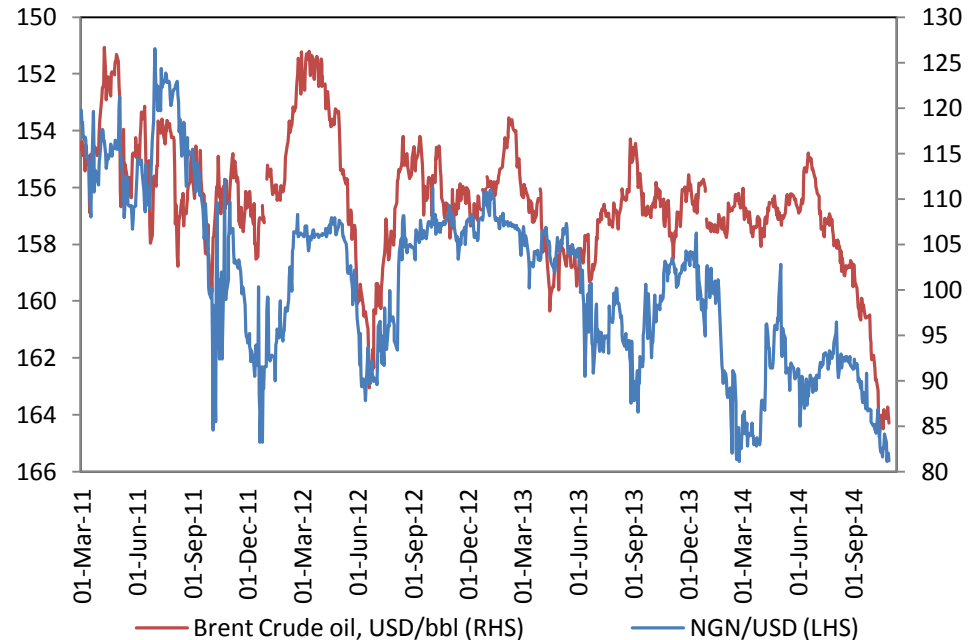


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	5.5	6.2	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.0
Current account balance, % of GDP	4.1	4.1	3.5	2.4	2.2	1.3
Budget balance, % of GDP	-1.2	-2.2	-1.5	-1.8	-2.0	-2.3
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	2,369.0	2,388.0	2,413.2	2,449.4	2,510.6	2,598.5
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	2,071.1	2,083.8	2,102.9	2,132.9	2,189.6	2,270.7

# Iraq: High Exposure To Test Financial Stability

Iraq is the country most dependent on oil for its financial stability in the MENA region.

- Erosion of current account surplus could occur far more rapidly.
- Budget could fall into deficit in the near term.
- Popular discontent and social unrest could flare up should Iraq be forced to cut food subsidies. Financial external support would become fundamental.

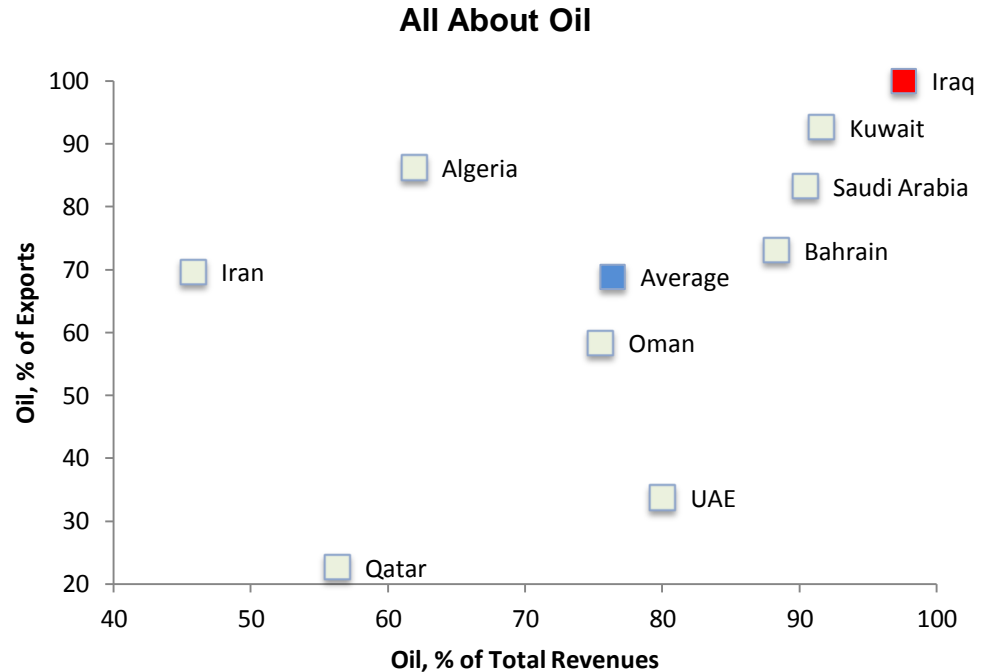


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	5.9	6.9	7.0	6.2	4.0	3.2
Current account balance, % of GDP	10.6	10.7	6.5	3.8	1.5	-0.2
Budget balance, % of GDP	4.5	3.3	0.7	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	3,039.5	3,403.0	3,817.3	3,981.5	4,123.8	4,165.3
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	2,344.5	2,701.3	3,094.7	3,234.6	3,351.8	3,367.2



# Countries Facing **Severe Crisis Risks**

# Iran: Political Stability On The Line

Fiscal deterioration and falling current account surplus would erode support for a moderate government.

- Elevated risk of another recession in the event of lower oil prices.
- Government may be forced to abandon subsidies and accelerate currency devaluation, causing higher inflation.
- Political stability would be in doubt and nuclear negotiations would likely suffer a setback.

External Surplus To Shield From Falling Oil Prices

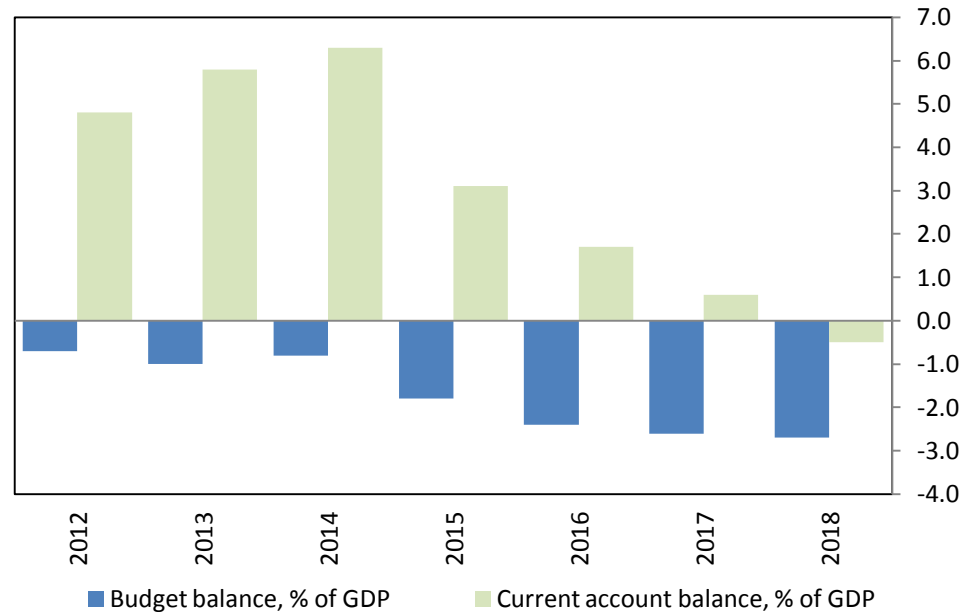


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	-2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.5
Current account balance, % of GDP	5.8	6.7	4.9	3.7	2.1	0.6
Budget balance, % of GDP	-1.0	-0.8	-1.2	-1.7	-1.9	-2.0
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	3,307.7	3,436.5	3,446.6	3,460.0	3,473.6	3,487.3
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	1,512.7	1,605.7	1,606.6	1,601.7	1,554.1	1,510.4

# Angola: Major Fiscal Deterioration Ahead

Oil accounts for over 95% of total exports, with declining output already informing our expectations for a shrinking current account surplus.

- **Shift into fiscal shortfalls** could occur more rapidly.
- **External position will deteriorate sharply** in the event of a prolonged period of lower oil prices.
- **Investment in offshore exploration could be jeopardised** amid high breakeven costs.

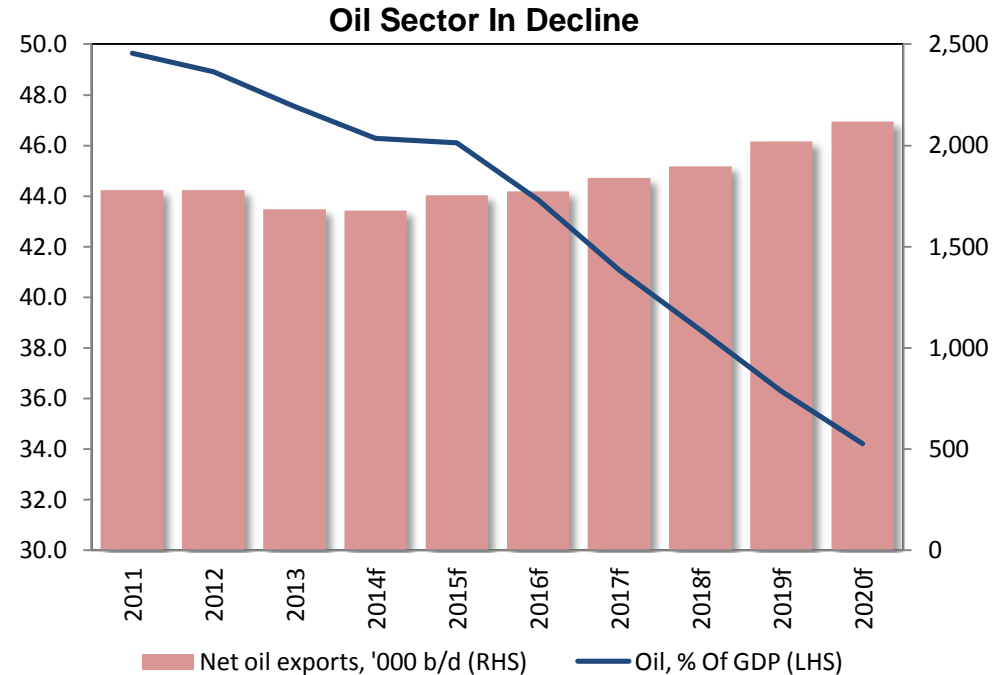


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	5.9	4.4	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.2
Current account balance, % of GDP	7.2	7.9	6.2	4.3	2.3	0.7
Budget balance, % of GDP	0.3	-5.3	-5.5	-6.1	-5.9	-6.0
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	1,781.2	1,782.8	1,862.2	1,889.2	1,964.2	2,032.6
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	1,683.2	1,679.1	1,752.2	1,772.2	1,837.7	1,897.0

# Venezuela: Approaching Breaking Point

Oil lies at the centre of Venezuela's economy, accounting for 95% of all exports and over half of government revenues.

- **Precarious public finances are fast becoming unsustainable** with borrowing costs soaring.

- **Inability to maintain high social spending** would exacerbate political instability.

- **Lack of hard currency** already restricts vital goods imports, exacerbating social tensions.

Pricing In A High Risk Of Default

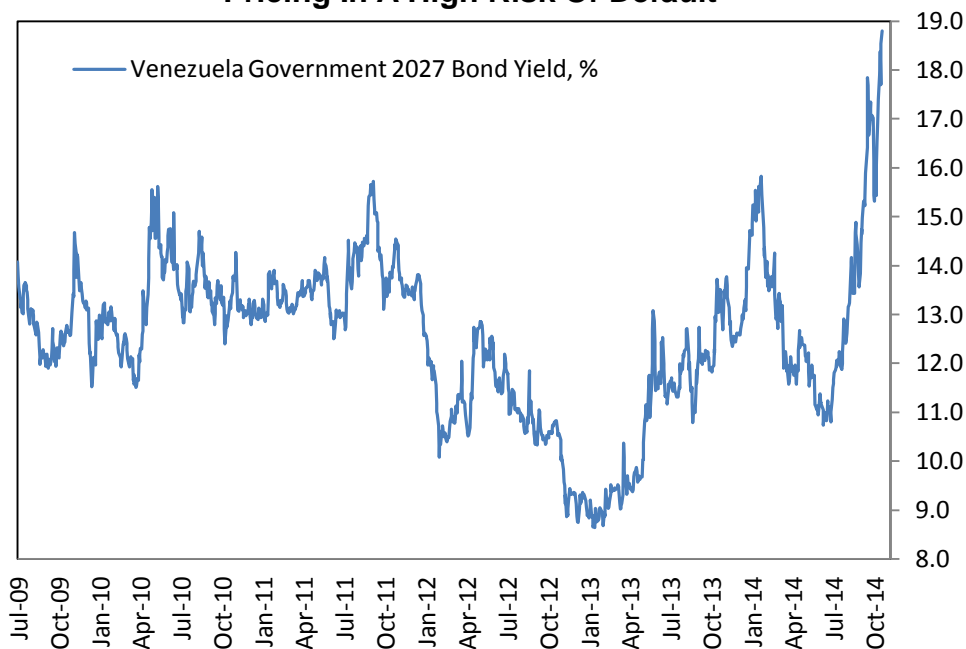


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	1.3	-2.0	0.8	1.9	2.3	2.7
Current account balance, % of GDP	2.2	1.5	3.3	2.7	1.6	1.3
Budget balance, % of GDP	-9.3	-12.6	-10.3	-8.2	-9.4	-10.5
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	2,475.0	2,496.4	2,536.5	2,589.1	2,654.8	2,734.4
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	1,705.2	1,705.1	1,723.1	1,752.9	1,795.2	1,850.8



# Chad: Twin Deficits Could Test Political Stability

Oil output is entering a structural decline, with a lack of economic diversification exacerbating political instability.

- **High risk of regime change** in the event of a fiscal crisis.
- **Heavy reliance on oil revenues** raise risks of more severe fiscal adjustment.
- **External stability would be undermined** if oil exports decline, but currency peg offers some stability for now.

**External Account Stability At Risk**

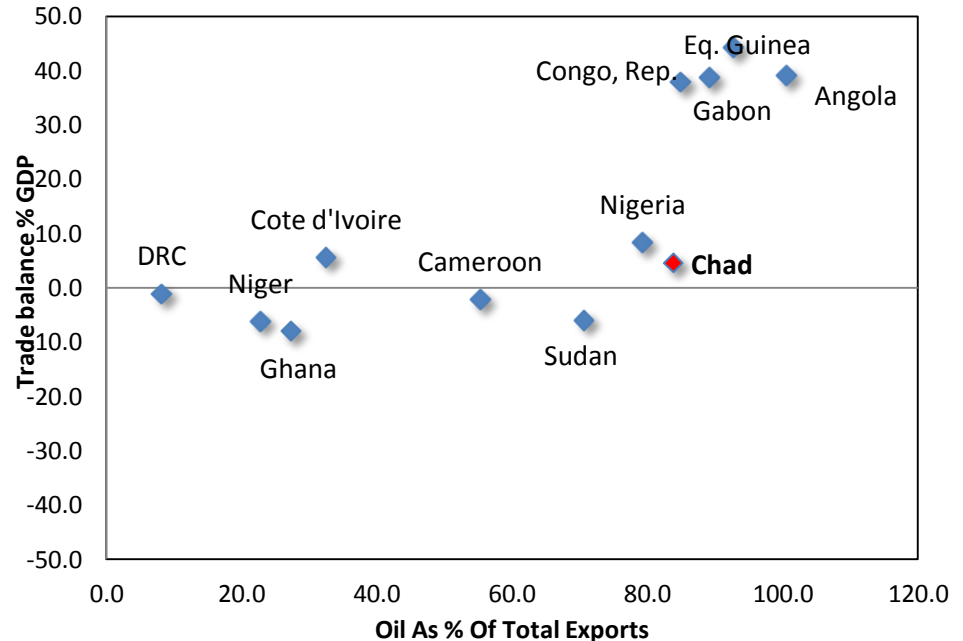


Table: Key Macroeconomic Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	3.6	9.9	6.7	4.9	4.0	2.9
Current account balance, % of GDP	-8.6	-1.8	-1.9	-4.0	-7.1	-10.4
Budget balance, % of GDP	-5.7	-1.3	0.3	-0.6	-1.1	-2.4

# Equatorial Guinea: Most Exposed, On The Brink

Oil production is declining and the state has few other industries it can rely on for growth.

- **Fiscal deficit will balloon** if oil revenues drop and government spending continues.
- **External position will grow more precarious** as current account deficit widens.
- **Unconstitutional transition of power** a distinct risk if spending programmes are cancelled.

Share Of Net Exporters' Budget Derived From Oil, %

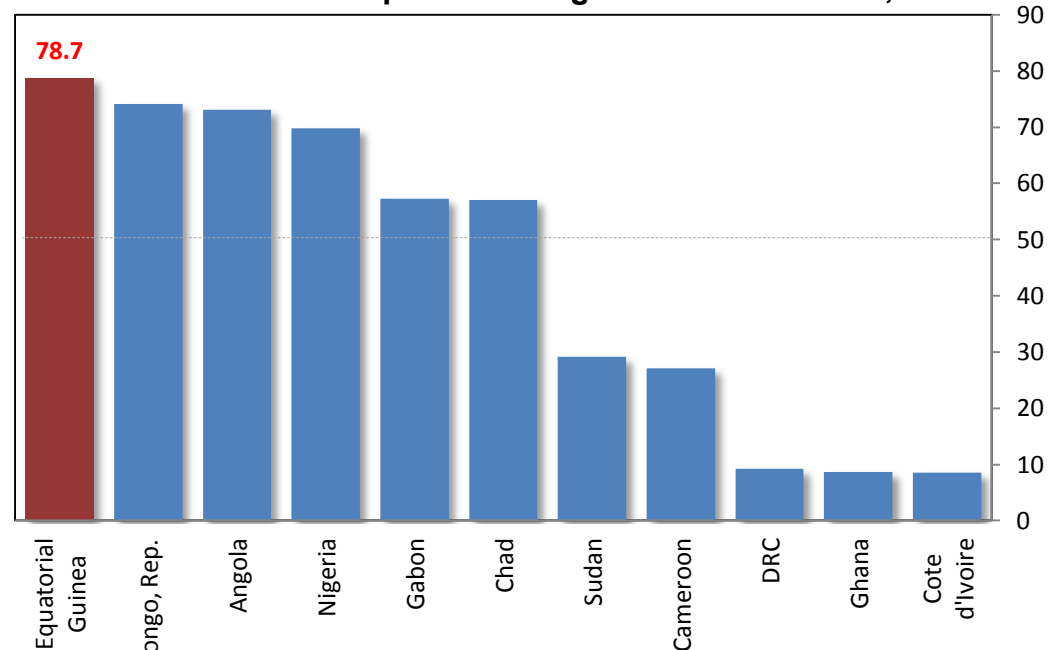


Table: Key Macroeconomic & Oil and Gas Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Real GDP growth, % y-o-y	-1.5	-1.6	-3.8	-1.4	-1.0	-1.8
Current account balance, % of GDP	-9.5	-12.5	-19.0	-22.9	-25.0	-25.7
Budget balance, % of GDP	-8.1	-8.7	-6.9	-4.9	-5.8	-6.5
Crude, NGPL & other liquids prod, 000b/d	346.1	363.5	375.5	369.1	366.4	363.8
Total net oil exports (crude & products), 000b/d	343.2	360.5	372.5	366.2	363.5	360.9



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