

 NEWS

## Ecopetrol, Petrobras make Colombia deepwater gas discovery

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Published: Friday, July 29, 2022

• Natural Gas

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Colombian state-run oil company [Ecopetrol](#) and Brazilian partner [Petrobras](#) announced a new natural gas discovery amid efforts to kickstart offshore drilling in the Andean country.

The companies identified the accumulation while drilling the Uchuva-1 exploratory well in deep waters around 32km off Colombia's Caribbean coast, near the northern port city of Santa Marta, [Ecopetrol](#) said in a statement on

Friday.

"The opening of this new frontier is in line with [Ecopetrol](#)'s strategic pillar to maximize the value of its portfolio, with a focus on exploration of deep and ultra-deep water assets," it said.

"The result increases the possibility for the development of a new exploration and production frontier in the north of the Colombian Caribbean Sea."

Uchuva-1 is part of the [Tayrona block](#), in which Petrobras has a 44.4% operating stake with [Ecopetrol](#) holding the balance.

[Ecopetrol](#) said it would continue activities to verify the size of the discovery.

[Ecopetrol](#) and Petrobras are among several companies that have embarked on exploration campaigns in Colombia's Caribbean Sea this year following the introduction of new incentives

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