NEW PETROLEUM EXPLORATION BLOCK MAP

The State Department for Petroleum undertook to reconstitute petroleum blocks aligning it with exploration potential and best petroleum industry practices, to attract investment and promote exploration. This resulted in a new petroleum exploration block map as constituted under Gazette Notice No. 4832 of 16th April 2025.

A. CRITERIA FOR BLOCK RECONSTITUTION

The following criteria was used in reconstituting the blocks:

1. Merging of low and medium prospectivity blocks to include at least one lead with sufficient probability of success and un-risked in place volumes.
2. Designing high prospectivity blocks to attract investors and prioritize them for licensing.
3. Optimizing block size to encourage prospect de-risking, lead identification and maturation; and
4. For blocks in the transition zones, ensure sufficient continuity of blocks between the onshore and offshore areas for ease of further Geoscientific data acquisition.
5. Sizes of the blocks are optimized to ensure work programs and budgets are manageable and achievable within the exploration periods to be provided in the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs).

B. RESULTS OF BLOCK RECONSTITUTION AND RECONFIGURATION

The reconstitution, reconfiguration of Kenya's petroleum exploration blocks yielded the following outcomes:

1. Optimized exploration blocks

The total number of exploration blocks was reduced from 63 to 50, ensuring optimum block sizes for effective exploration. Block demarcation aligns with best

petroleum industry practice to make Kenya's upstream sector more attractive to investors as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1: Evolution of Block number across all Basins

Basin	Previous Number of Blocks	New Number of Blocks
Tertiary Rift	13	12
Anza	8	6
Mandera	5	3
Lamu	37	29
TOTAL	**63**	**50**

2. Renamed Exploration Blocks

Renaming blocks was based on best petroleum industry practice and features a prefix relating to the Basin within which the block is located in the Block Name for ease of identification.

3. Enhanced Geological Targeting

Tailored strategies were applied for each basin, ensuring focus on regions with sufficient geological indications of hydrocarbon presence. Integration of geoscientific data, including seismic data and well results, improved block boundary definitions and geological confidence.

4. Increased Exploration Potential

This included categorization of Lamu Basin blocks (*see Table 2*) into onshore, transition zone and offshore areas.

The reconstitution resulted in creation of high-potential blocks, particularly in the transition zone and offshore Lamu and in Anza basin. This enhances the blocks' attractiveness. The blocks will therefore be ranked before licensing.

Table 2: Categorization of Lamu Basin Blocks

Category	Blocks within the Category	Total No. of Blocks Within the Category
Onshore	L29, L28, L27, L26, L25, L24, L23, L13, L14, L12, L11	11
Transition	L9, L15, L22, L21	4
Offshore	L10, L6, L5, L1, L4, L7, L8, L3, L2, L18, L17, L16, L20, L19	14

The proposed and renamed 50 blocks are shown on the map under Figure 1:

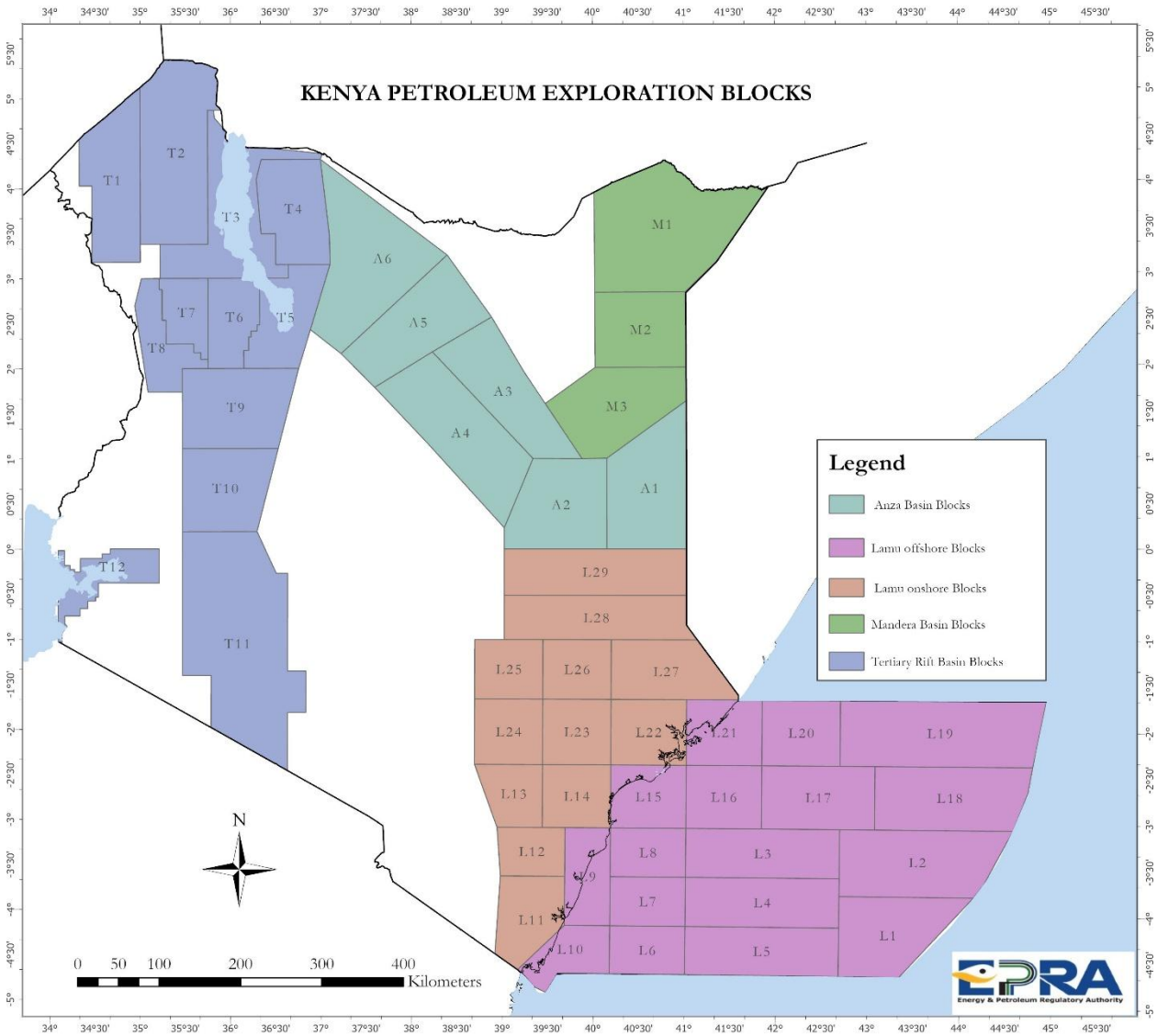

Figure 1: Kenya's Proposed Block Map