

Algerian Security Augmentation

Social Risk Mitigation Using Big Data Analytics



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“The inability of the Algerian government to provide effective security increases the risk of attacks from insiders and terrorist groups.”

Overview:

Algeria’s security environment presents significant challenges that prevent multinational oil and gas companies from safeguarding their operations. Increased Social Risks compound the problems stemming from regional terrorist threats, economic malaise due to decreased energy prices, and political instability regarding the future leadership of the Algerian government. This nexus of threats continuously strains the government’s ability to manage a socially and geographically diverse set of dynamic and complex security challenges.

Problem:

Following the 2013 In Amenas attack, security at oil and gas facilities in Algeria remains tenuous despite an increased military presence. This is partly due to Algerian government regulations that force multinationals to rely on the Algerian military or local subcontractors for their security. This restricts foreign companies from bolstering physical and technical security measures or working with communities outside facilities to reduce vulnerabilities to their personnel and operations.

Compounding these security challenges are Social Risks, which are increasing in both frequency and magnitude across Algerian society. Worsening employment prospects, labor unrest, increased living costs, and government austerity measures reinforce underlying tensions against the government. Corruption, radical Islam, language differences, and religious and cultural conflicts exacerbate declining economic conditions and increase demand for limited resources. Unaddressed, Social Risks are likely to further erode security at hydrocarbon facilities, disrupt logistical and transportation networks across the supply chain, and endanger critical supply and evacuation procedures at isolated facilities.

Algeria’s growing Social Risks increase the likelihood of negative impacts and costly outcomes on oil and gas operations. Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb capitalize on growing corruption and labor unrest to exploit disgruntled security subcontractors—who initiated a series of work stoppages over the past five years—creating opportunities to obtain technical knowledge about operations or gain access to facilities. In addition to insider threats, cultural conflicts between local communities and the Algiers government make it impossible for companies to effectively cooperate with marginalized communities near key oil and gas facilities.



“Reliance upon and continued investment in traditional security protocols will not safeguard personnel or facilities.”

Solution:

ENODO recommends incorporating Social Risk analysis as part of an active intelligence platform to: (1) create autonomous indication and warning networks, (2) identify threats to facilities, critical supply nodes, and transportation hubs, and (3) enhance existing security protocols. ENODO’s platform collects and analyzes—near real-time—open source information, social media and local, regional, and national news outlets in Arabic, French, and English. It delivers an additional layer of security across time and space to overcome limitations of the host government and contracted security forces. By understanding the drivers of Social Risks across their operating environments, companies can understand and address local grievances, proactively redefine their relationships with local security forces, and refine their crisis management plans to better reflect changing societal conditions.

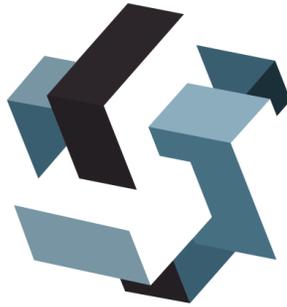
“ENODO creates active intelligence platforms that integrate large volumes of open source information, validated with local content, to measure and forecast Social Risk.”

Platform Design:

ENODO’s intelligence platform is customized for each client’s unique security requirements and the information and geographic environments where they operate. It consists of three steps: (1) data collection and baseline assessments, (2) Social Risk analysis and active monitoring, and (3) trend analysis and security augmentation. The steps build upon one another to provide in-depth understanding of the risk environment to safeguard personnel, and enhance the physical and technical security of oil and gas facilities. The platform uses big data analytics, computational linguistics, and advanced statistical techniques to efficiently leverage the vast amount of data available on the myriad of Algerian Social Risks. It is scalable and can seamlessly incorporate existing information, new data sources, and additional operational requirements as risks in the country evolve.

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