CARDUCHI

CONSULTING · LONDON

SAMPLE EXTRACT

KURDISTAN'S OIL & GAS SECTOR REPORTS

Topkhana *Block*

A political, social, environmental and security risk assessment

Kurdistan Region of Iraq

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

Gas and condensate potential stalled by politics

Carduchi Consulting rates the Topkhana block as medium political and environmental risk, with low social and security risk.

1.7 tcf	55m	2 / 4	2–3
2C GAS RESOURCES	BARRELS 2C CONDENSATE	CATEGORIES RATED LOW	WEEKS OF FIELDWORK

This extract previews a field-based assessment prepared for an international oil company. The block lies in AwaSpi sub-district of Kifri, in the Garmian region of Sulaymaniyah province, and extends into neighbouring Kurdamir.

The area is rural, sparsely populated and homogeneous. Development has stalled over approvals and a gas sales agreement, and the main risks are political rather than local.

> *"The resumption of operations is likely to increase localised political risks."*

The assessment reflects conditions at the time of fieldwork (late 2019). Carduchi can update any section to current conditions on request.

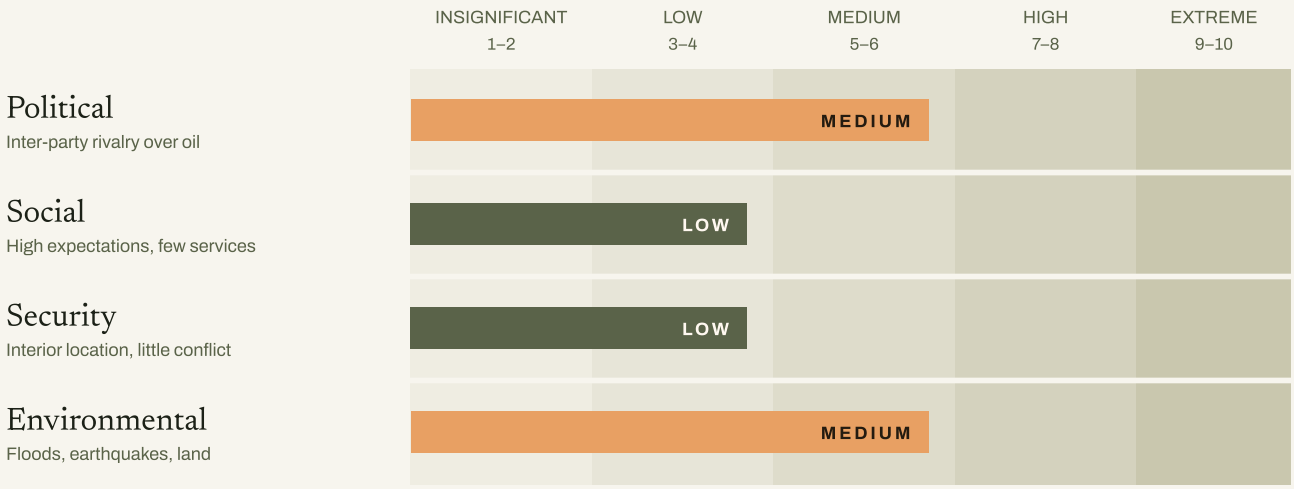


The Topkhana block (shaded) in Garmian, south-east of Kirkuk. Base map © OpenStreetMap contributors.

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RISK SNAPSHOT

Politics, not security, is the main constraint



Carduchi Consulting risk scale, 1–10. Ratings reflect conditions at the time of fieldwork.

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KEY FINDINGS

Political

MEDIUM

Garmian is controlled by a party faction at odds with the oil policymakers in Erbil, and parts of Kifri district are disputed with Baghdad. Development plans have waited years for approval.

Social

LOW

The population is entirely Kurdish and Sunni, with few tribal conflicts. Services and infrastructure are poor, and residents expect jobs and investment once work resumes.

Security

LOW

The southern parts of Kifri are exposed to militant attacks, but the block lies further inside the district and was not directly affected by recent conflicts.

Environment

MEDIUM

Flooding, frequent small earthquakes, wildlife protection and land use would all need managing, and operations would have a high impact on a largely rural landscape.



Settlements and river network around the block. Base map © OpenStreetMap contributors.

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CONTEXT

A frontier district shaped by conflict

1986–88 **Anfal campaign**
Garmian, a party stronghold, suffers mass killing, displacement and destruction

2003 **Front line**
Kifri city is shelled during fighting between Kurdish forces and the Iraqi army

2011 **Licence and discovery**
An option is converted to a production sharing contract; the first well finds gas-condensate

2015 **Commerciality declared**
The contract moves from exploration to development

2016 **Plans submitted**
Joint development plans with Kurdamir are submitted and remain pending

2019 **Carduchi field assessment**
Fieldwork as operations stand still and staff are laid off

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SAMPLE EXTRACT

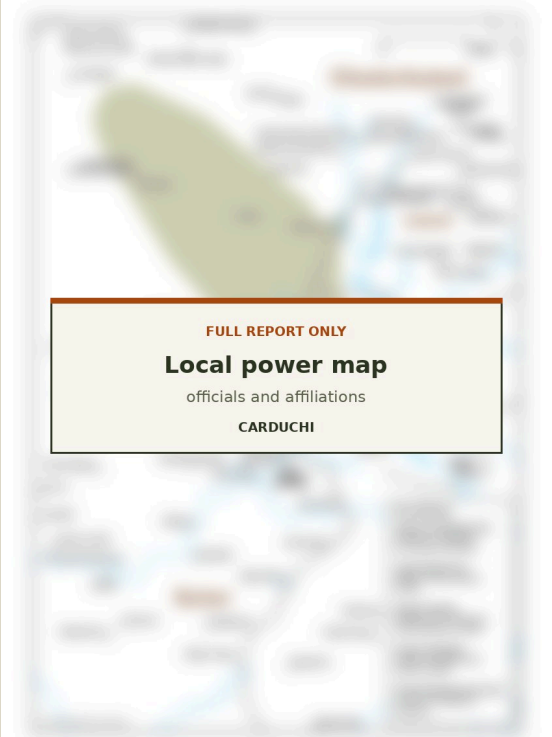
Gas for the domestic market, if approvals come

Topkhana is planned for joint development with Kurdamir, feeding gas to power plants via a pipeline to Chamchamal. The full report maps the officials and factions whose backing any restart will need.

ITEM	DETAIL
Condensate (2C)	55 million bbl
Gas (2C)	1,665 bcf
Best well test	2,146 bopd + 30.6 mmcfd
Phase 1 plan	150 mmcfd with Kurdamir

Source: public company and government disclosures, as of 2019.

> *A pipeline to Chamchamal is the missing link.*



Key officials and their affiliations across the block are mapped in the full report.



The block's southern reaches in Garmian. Base map © OpenStreetMap contributors.

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INSIDE THE FULL REPORT

49 pages of field intelligence

01 **Executive summary & recommendations** — operating environment, engagement, environmental practice

02 **Block overview** — contract history, exploration, reserves, delays

03 **Political environment** — inter-party dynamics, disputed status, local factions

04 **Administrative structure** — district and sub-district authorities

05 **Social environment** — population, displacement, tribes, economy

06 **Operator engagement** — social initiatives and community expectations

07 **Environment** — floods, earthquakes, wildlife

08 **Stakeholder profiles** — political, security and tribal figures

METHODOLOGY

Each category is scored 1–10 against defined indicators, combining field observation, open-source research and expert interviews. The full report is available in English.

SCORE	RATING	MEANING
1–2	Insignificant	Negligible impact
3–4	Low	Rare, manageable
5–6	Medium	Intermittent risk
7–8	High	Frequent, persistent
9–10	**Extreme**	Disruption, staff safety

REQUEST THE FULL REPORT

Confident decisions start with *clarity*

The full report, an updated assessment, or a bespoke study of another block or asset in Iraq and the Kurdistan Region is available on request.

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