

Information sheet

The following tables provide useful information on the Palmalfi area:

Inhabited areas

Palmalfi City	Palmalfi City is the capital city of the Palmalfi area. It has a population of 180,000 with an annual growth of about 5.5%. The old town centre is an important tourist attraction drawing more than 250,000 visitors a year to the region, worth in excess of €100,000,000 to the local economy.
Towns and villages	<p>There is a small town to the north of the oil terminal. The inhabitants have traditionally been reliant on fishing and farming. The village has been expanding following the expansion of oil and gas production in the area; the population is now approximately 2,500.</p> <p>A village with a population of 1,200 is located further to the west in the Delta area. The village economy is dependent on fishing.</p>

Commercial resources

Power plant	The 350 MW power plant is coal-fired with supplementary diesel-fuelled generators. Fuels are delivered to the plant by rail and road transport. The plant is an important contributor to the national electrical grid. Seawater is used as a coolant, resulting in a 2–3 knot current at the intake.
Oil terminal	<p>The oil terminal is an import and storage point for crude oil for the national refinery located inland. It also imports and stores products like gas oil, heavy fuel oil, gasoline and lubricating oil.</p> <p>The terminal imports around 200,000 tonnes of crude every week, delivered by two 100,000 DWT tankers. Product is delivered in smaller parcel sizes by 10,000 DWT tankers.</p> <p>The plant also houses a newly built processing plant for gas and condensate from an inshore field. The gas and condensate is exported by 12" pipelines overland.</p>
Offshore production	<p>The OSP Field, located approximately six miles south of Kidney Island, produces 150,000 barrels of Palmalfi crude oil per day.</p> <p>The oil is stored in a 150,000 tonne capacity tanker which is permanently moored outside the main shipping lanes. The oil storage installation has 18 cargo tanks flanked and segregated by 4.8 m wide seawater ballast tanks. There is a 500 m exclusion zone around all offshore installations. The installations and exclusion zones are constantly monitored by standby vessels.</p>
Palmalfi Docks	Palmalfi Docks is an important import and export point for a large variety of goods. Container vessels with a capacity of up to 650 TEUs visit the port six times a week. A substantial amount of wood is also exported through the port. An international ferry operates on a daily return lifeline service to a number of offshore islands.

Environmental sensitivities

Shell fisheries	<p>There are two main areas for shell fisheries, one to the south of the power plant ($55^{\circ}09.5'N\ 04^{\circ}31'W$) intakes and the second located a mile offshore from the stretch of cliffs south of the marine terminal. The industry is worth approximately €10,000,000 annually. The majority of the harvest is exported with a small proportion sold locally.</p> <p>Leisure fishing occurs at various areas along the shoreline.</p>
Sea fisheries	<p>The main area for sea fisheries lies to the east and up to five (5) miles to the south-west of Kidney Island. Twenty local fishing boats operate out of Palmalfi, international vessels regularly fish in the area too. The annual catch of 2,000 tonnes is worth over €16,000,000 annually.</p> <p>A proportion of the fish are processed locally providing employment for a staff of 25 full time employees with additional 100 seasonal and part-time staff.</p>
Marine leisure	<p>There is a marina located in the Palmalfi Harbour area, providing berths for over 150 yachts. The sea area to the south of Palmalfi City is also a popular area for leisure use including waterskiing and power-boating.</p>
Tourism	<p>The sandy beach at Palmalfi City is very popular, attracting local and foreign tourists. There is a large hotel located seven (7) miles to the west of the city.</p> <p>There are a number of popular sandy beaches in the following locations:</p> <p>City Beach: $55^{\circ}13'.8'N\ 04^{\circ}09'.7'W$ to $55^{\circ}16.4'N\ 04^{\circ}11'.6'W$ Hotel Beach: $55^{\circ}17'.2'N\ 04^{\circ}17'.2'W$ to $55^{\circ}16.4'N\ 04^{\circ}19'.7'W$ Delta Beach: $55^{\circ}12'.4'N\ 04^{\circ}30'.6'W$ to $55^{\circ}14.6'N\ 04^{\circ}33'.8'W$</p> <p>The industry attracts over 250,000 visitors a year and contributes an estimated €100,000,000 to the local economy.</p>
Seabirds	<p>Kidney Island is uninhabited. It is home to various colonies of seabirds and the cliffs on the east side are an important nesting site.</p> <p>A colony of wading birds occupies Delta Marshes, located sixteen (16) miles to the west of Palmalfi City, The marsh and wetlands area covers approximately twenty (20) square miles, stretching west to $04^{\circ}34'.5'W$. This area also hosts large numbers of migratory birds.</p> <p>There is also a colony of birds nesting on the cliffs to the south of the oil terminal.</p>
Mammals	<p>Marine mammals are regularly seen in the area south of a line between positions line $55^{\circ}06'N\ 04^{\circ}25'W$ to $55^{\circ}06'N\ 04^{\circ}31'W$.</p> <p>The sandy beach on the south-east of Kidney Island, $55^{\circ}11'.1'N\ 04^{\circ}14'.8'W$ to $55^{\circ}11'.1'N\ 04^{\circ}15'.3'W$, is an important area for the loggerhead turtle which return each year to breed in the area.</p>