Prospectivity in the Netherlands
Undiscovered resources: exploration potential

The exploration potential is the producible volume that may be assumed to be present in as yet undiscovered accumulations in the subsurface of the Netherlands on the basis of geological information. Economic factors are not taken into account in this estimate. In estimating the exploration potential for natural gas, TNO focuses on evaluating those geological units (so-called plays), in which geological conditions are favourable for gas accumulations and which have been sufficiently proven by drilling. Within these geological plays, only those prospective structures (‘prospects’) are considered that have been identified and assessed on the basis of existing data. Prospects of which the volume is very small – in case of success smaller than 0.5 billion Sm³ onshore or smaller than 2 billion Sm³ offshore – are not included in the potential estimate. The exploration potential that may be present in hypothetical plays, or in not actually identified geological structures, is not taken into account because of its speculative nature. The estimate of the exploration potential includes prospects located in environmentally sensitive areas. The estimate of the exploration potential is expressed as a numerical range, to stress the inherent highly uncertain nature.

Expectation (Risked Volume in bcm)
Number of prospects
Prospect Portfolio
Output Exploration simulation runs with different economic scenario's

For information on Exploration and Production issues and E&P data see the Netherlands Oil and Gas Portal www.nlog.nl