

Customs, Navy Deepen Partnership To Secure Cargo Movement At Apapa Port

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has called for sustained collaboration with the Nigerian Navy along the Apapa port corridor to secure vessels and ensure seamless cargo movement. Emmanuel Oshoba, on Wednesday during a courtesy visit to the Flag Area Command, Officer Commanding

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NNPCL To Fuel Portland Gas As AKK Opens First Value In Gwagwalada July

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL) on Thursday, expressed its preparedness to supply the Portland

Gas Limited Mini LNG/LCNG Station in Gwagwalada, Abuja

The state-owned oil and gas firm disclosed that the first valve of the AKK project will open in Gwagwalada in July

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Fri, February 27th 2026

Lagos Unveils 64-Day Traffic Diversion For Lekki-Ajah Road Rehabilitation

In line with the successful completion of the Chevron to Admiralty Way stretch on the Lagos-

bound carriageway, the Lagos State government on Thursday released a

comprehensive 64-day traffic management plan to facilitate rehabilitation works on

the Epe-bound carriageway of the Lekki-Ajah Expressway.

As part of the traffic management strategy, the Epe-bound

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MMIA Terminal Fire May Affect Aviation Reforms, Says Ganduje

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Oyetola, IGP Agree To Strengthen Maritime Security

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Traffic Diversion

Abiodun Inaugurates Iworo-Ogbogbo-Igbeba Road, Targets More In Ijebu Axis

Dapo Abiodun, governor of Ogun state, has inaugurated the 5.2-km Iworo-Ogbogbo-Igbeba road in Ijebu north-east

LGA.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony on Thursday, Abiodun said the project fulfills

a campaign promise made during his 2023 re-election bid and provides critical access to farmlands in the area.

Abiodun said his administration is working to deliver two additional roads in the council before the end of the year.

CONTINUES ON P2

NIWA Lagos Boss Bags Nelson Mandela Award

P5

Local Transport News

President Tinubu Approves Additional 306km Road Projects

Culled

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has approved the immediate reconstruction of Mokwa–Bida Road (120km), Mokwa–Makeri Road (63km), and Bida–Lata Road (123.5km) in Niger State, totalling 306.5 kilometres, kms using reinforced concrete pavement to ensure durability and long-term value.

The president has also approved the extension of the Bodo–Bonny Road to connect with the East–West Road. The project will be executed on a dual carriageway capacity, constructed with concrete pavement, and equipped with solar-powered street lighting. The project will be delivered through a competitive bidding process.

Minister of Works Senator David Umahi, according to a statement signed by his senior media aide, Francis Nwaze, has expressed deep appreciation to Mr President for the strategic approvals, noting that the projects fall within critical national economic corridors and will significantly enhance connectivity,

trade, and development.

He called on Nigerians to acknowledge and appreciate the administration's sustained commitment to infrastructure development across the six geopolitical zones, particularly in the delivery of quality roads and bridges nationwide.

The minister congratulated the governors and good people of Niger and Rivers States, as well as all Nigerians who stand to benefit from these landmark approvals.

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President Bola Tinubu

MMIA Terminal Fire May Affect Aviation Reforms, Says Ganduje

Culled

Chairman of the Board of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Abdullahi Umaru Ganduje, has expressed concern over the impact of the recent fire outbreak at Terminal 1 of the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Lagos, warning that the damage to facilities and equipment could affect ongoing reforms in the aviation sector.

Ganduje spoke on Thursday after inspecting the affected areas of the terminal, describing the incident as a major setback.

He, however, acknowledged the swift intervention of emergency responders and firefighters who mobilised to safeguard passengers, staff and infrastructure.

"We decided to be here in order to see for ourselves, because we say seeing is believing. We have seen the damage that occurred, but at the same time we have to congratulate the Managing Director and her management team,

especially the firefighters, over 150 of them who were around until the fire was completely quenched. This is an unfortunate situation," he said.

He noted that an official report on the cause and extent of the damage was still being compiled by the Managing Director, adding that while the incident poses challenges, aviation personnel remain capable of sustaining reform efforts initiated under President Bola Tinubu.

"From what we have seen, the firefighters did a lot of work. A lot of very sensitive equipment has been destroyed, but no death was recorded. I think the situation is under control, but it is unfortunate," Ganduje added.

The FAAN Board Chairman also commended the media for keeping the public informed about both the outbreak and its containment.

During the visit, Ganduje was also briefed on the ongoing remodelling of the international airport terminal, noting that construction work is progressing.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Abiodun Inaugurates Iworo-Ogbogbo-Igbeba Road, Targets More In Ijebu Axis

Culled

Dapo Abiodun, governor of Ogun state, has inaugurated the 5.2-kilometre Iworo–Ogbogbo–Igbeba road in Ijebu north-east LGA.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony on Thursday, Abiodun said the project fulfills a campaign promise made during his 2023 re-election bid and provides critical access to farmlands in the area.

Abiodun said his administration is working to deliver two additional roads in the council before the end of the year.

He assured residents that the Central Mosque–Ilese to Benin–Sagamu expressway would be prioritised, noting that the request had been repeatedly presented to his administration.

The governor said the road links Ijebu north-east with Ijebu-Ode, easing the transportation of farm produce to markets.

He noted that the road is a continuation of the Igbeba road in Ijebu-Ode inaugurated in 2025.

Abiodun said his administration is deliberate about infrastructure renewal



Governor Abiodun inaugurates the Iworo-Ogbogbo-Igbeba road

across Ijebuland, adding that improved road networks have begun to attract private sector interest, including companies willing to provide taxi services in the area.

He also thanked President Bola Tinubu for providing an enabling environment for subnational governments to execute impactful projects.

The governor said his administration

would continue to respond to critics with "visible and measurable" developmental projects.

Femi Ogunbanwo, lawmaker representing Odogbolu, Ijebu-Ode and Ijebu north-east federal constituency, said the area has benefitted from the administration's infrastructural drive and pledged continued support.

Kehinde Onasanya, the head of service,

said the project underscores the government's commitment to development across the state.

In his remarks, Ade Akinsanya, commissioner for works and infrastructure, said the previously dilapidated road has been reconstructed with reinforced concrete drainage to ensure durability and improved connectivity.

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Local Transport News

Oyetola, IGP Agree To Strengthen Maritime Security

Culled

The Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Dr. Adegboyega Oyetola, and the newly appointed Inspector-General of Police, Tunji Disu, have agreed to strengthen coordinated operations in the country's coastal and inland waterways.

Both leaders highlighted the growing strategic importance of the maritime domain to national prosperity, noting that enhanced security and surveillance are essential to protecting the waterways and other critical assets.

These were the discussions on Thursday when the Minister received the IGP in Abuja.

In a statement by the Special Adviser to the Minister, Dr Bolaji Akinola, both leaders focused on deepening institutional collaboration between the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy and the Nigeria Police Force.

Oyetola described the visit as timely, stressing that inter-agency synergy remains central to the Federal Government's blue economy agenda.

He said the ministry was committed to working closely with law enforcement and security institutions to ensure that Nigeria's waters remain safe, secure and conducive to investment and sustainable use.

"The maritime sector holds enormous promise for economic diversification and job creation. To unlock its full potential, we must guarantee safety and order across our waterways through seamless cooperation among all relevant agencies,"

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



Oyetola and Disu

NCAT Approves Gusau International Airport For Aviation Training

Culled

The Gusau International Airport in Zamfara State has prospects for economic opportunities and would serve as a hub for real-time aviation training.

This was revealed by a delegation from the Nigerian College of Aviation Technology (NCAT), which visited the airport for a technical assessment recently.

The NCAT delegation, led by Mr. Nasir Muhammad Bungura, conducted a thorough inspection of the facility alongside the Permanent Secretary of the Zamfara State Ministry of Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Haruna Dikko Gusau.

The visit formed part of an assessment of the airport's infrastructure and readiness to support practical aviation training activities.

During the tour, the NCAT delegation inspected major components of the facility, including the runway, terminal buildings, navigational systems, and

safety installations.

After the inspection, Mr Bungura described the progress recorded at the airport as encouraging, adding that the infrastructure provides a solid base for operational and training purposes.

He said NCAT was interested in identifying facilities that can offer students real-time operational exposure, particularly in areas such as airport safety management, air traffic services and aircraft ground operations.

He said partnerships of this nature would strengthen hands-on learning and contribute to improved aviation standards across Nigeria. It also commended the state government for its foresight in constructing a smart airport capable of handling modern aviation demands.

The airport, according to the delegation, is expected to stimulate economic growth, create job opportunities, and enhance security in the region by facilitating faster movement of goods and personnel.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Lagos Unveils 64-Day Traffic Diversion For Lekki-Ajah Road Rehabilitation

Culled

In line with the successful completion of the Chevron to Admiralty Way stretch on the Lagos-bound carriageway, the Lagos State government on Thursday released a comprehensive 64-day traffic management plan to facilitate rehabilitation works on the Epe-bound carriageway of the Lekki-Ajah Expressway.

As part of the traffic management strategy, the Epe-bound carriageway will be closed from Admiralty Way Junction to Jubilee Bridge, Ajah. This measure will enable uninterrupted construction work from intersection to intersection.

As a result, vehicular traffic will be diverted to the Lagos-bound carriageway, with preference during peak periods. During the morning peak between 5 am and 10 am, two lanes will serve Lagos-bound traffic, while one lane will serve Epe-bound traffic.

During the evening cum night peak, between 3 pm and 3am, two lanes will serve Epe-bound traffic while one lane will serve Lagos-bound traffic.



Traffic Diversion

The Commissioner for Transportation, Oluwaseun Osiyemi, implored motorists to utilise the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Road as an alternative route where feasible.

"Officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) and other traffic management personnel will be strategically deployed along the corridor to ensure seamless movements. Also, a tow truck will be

stationed on-site to provide swift response to breakdowns and emergencies.

"Partial closures and restricted traffic flow will be enforced at strategic intersections during nighttime operations. The affected locations include: Admiralty Way Junction, Maruwa Intersection, Freedom Way Intersection, Chisco Intersection, Jakande Intersection, Igbo-Efon

Intersection, Chevron Intersection, Lekki Conservation Toll Plaza to VGC and VGC to Jubilee Bridge, Ajah.

"In addition, all intersections along the corridor will be fully closed for eight hours at night during asphalt laying operations to ensure quality delivery and operational safety. Similar to the Lagos-bound rehabilitation, works on the Epe-bound carriageway will be executed in clearly defined phases as outlined below.

"Lekki Admiralty Way Junction to Maruwa Intersection – 1,790m (7 days); Maruwa Intersection to Freedom Way Intersection – 1,500m (6 days); Freedom Way to Chisco Intersection – 970m (5 days); Chisco to Jakande Intersection – 1,880m (9 days); Jakande to Igbo-Efon Intersection – 1,570m (8 days); Igbo-Efon to Chevron Intersection – 1,060m (6 days); Chevron to Lekki Conservation Toll Plaza – 970m (5 days); Lekki Conservation Toll Plaza to VGC U-Turn – 3,460m (13 days) and VGC U-Turn to Ajah Jubilee Bridge – 910m (5 days).

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Local Transport News

Customs, Navy Deepen P'ship To Secure Cargo Movement at Apapa Port

Culled

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has called for sustained collaboration with the Nigerian Navy along the Apapa port corridor to secure vessels and ensure seamless cargo movement.

The Customs Area Controller of the Apapa Area Command, Emmanuel Oshoba, made the statement on Wednesday during a courtesy visit to the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC), Western Naval Command, Rear Admiral Abubakar Abdullahi Mustapha, to deepen operational collaboration.

In a statement signed by the Public Relations Officer of the Customs Command, Isah Sulaiman, the Controller said the collaboration was in line with the Comptroller-General of Customs, Dr Bashir Adeniyi's, three policy thrusts of Consolidation, Collaboration and Innovation.

Oshoba appreciated the Navy for securing Nigeria's waters, stating that no vessel can enter the country without safe waters. "We commend the Nigerian Navy for

keeping the maritime environment secure. I resolved to consolidate on the gains already achieved and improve the existing relationship between Apapa Command and the Nigerian Navy within this axis," he said.

On collaboration, Oshoba noted that modern border management requires agencies to work in tandem, adding that while Customs is known for trade facilitation and revenue generation, it also performs critical security functions.

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Nigerian Customs and Navy

Culled

The Lagos Area Manager of the National Inland Waterways Authority, Sarat Braimah, has been conferred with the Nelson Mandela Pan-African Leadership Award by the Stay Africa Youth Development Initiative in recognition of her hard work and dedication to national service.

According to a statement on Wednesday, the Accra, Ghana-based organisation, led by its President, Dominic Mensah, was in Lagos to formally present the award.

Mensah explained that the Nigerian chapter of SAYDI nominated Engineer Braimah, following "the positive transformation recorded at the NIWA Lagos Area Office since she assumed office".

He highlighted her promotion of student and youth empowerment, "support for the Executive Governor of Lagos State, zero tolerance for nepotism and favouritism, commitment to teamwork, and selfless leadership style that reflects African moral values."

He added that her career progression serves as an inspiration to young

NIWA Lagos Boss Bags Nelson Mandela Award

Africans, particularly women aspiring to build careers in the maritime sector.

"Our core objective is to identify tomorrow's leaders today by inspiring and educating young people in Africa to remain on the continent and contribute to its sustainable development across all fields of human endeavour. This is where mentorship becomes essential. We seek achievers like you who have risen through the ranks to inspire other young Africans to stay back and contribute to the growth of the continent," he said.

During the ceremony, Mensah also presented a certificate of excellence to Braimah and announced her automatic induction into the Pan-African Leadership Hall of Fame as an amazon of nation-building in Africa.

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Enugu Governor To Build Access Road For FEDPOLY Ohodo



Governor Peter Mbah

The Enugu State Governor Peter Ndubuisi Mbah hosted the Governing Council and management of Federal Polytechnic, Ohodo, Igbo-Etiti Local Council recently, pledging his government's support for the infrastructural development of the institution. He promised to construct the seven kilometer road leading to the polytechnic from the Otukpo-Obollo-Afor-9th Mile-Enugu Road, assuring that his administration would support the institution to become a citadel of excellence in technological, engineering and skills training.

Members of the Governing Council and Management led by the Chairman, Senator Emmanuel Dangana Ocheja had recently

visited the governor for the first time since the inception of the institution to intimate him of the progress and challenges facing the institution. The visit was facilitated by the member representing Nsukka Igbo-Eze South Federal Constituency of the state in the National Assembly, Hon. Chidi Mark Obetta.

The governor, in his response to the requests presented by Senator Ocheja, further directed the State Commissioner for Education, Prof Ndubueze Mbah, to liaise with the authorities of the polytechnic to determine critical areas of needs in the institution where the state government could render support. He also promised to resolve the lingering issue of non-payment of compensation to land owners who had donated hectares of land for the permanent site of the institution.

The governor further noted that the institution will be a highly valuable partnership for the realisation of the government's science, technical and vocational capacity development of the

youth under the Smart Green School Initiative of the administration which is expected to Produce no fewer than 260,000 technically inclined students annually.

While commending the Polytechnic for its giant strides within its short period of existence noted that the state government has a robust scholarship scheme that will encourage youth in their academic endeavours

Senator Ocheja had in his presentation highlighted the achievements recorded by the institution within five years of its existence, especially in the commencement of academic programme, accreditation of some courses by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) and subsequent admission of students across four Schools. He also recounted the building of classroom blocks through TETFund sponsorship, and sought the support of the state government and other stakeholders in addressing the challenge of low students' enrolment facing the institution.

"Our polytechnic was designed to bridge skills gap, expand access to quality technical education and empower our youths to become self-reliant contributors to national and state development", he noted.

The Council Chairman noted that the Polytechnic took cognizance of the Enugu landscape and keyed into the state government's policy initiative to produce skilled graduates that would become the drivers of technical development. He lauded the governor for prioritising education as the pillar of the government's development initiatives, describing the allocating of a whopping 33 percent of the state's annual budget to the education sector as remarkable.

"A thriving Federal Polytechnic Ohodo would produce skilled, job-ready graduates who directly fuel your agenda for industrial growth, entrepreneurship and a knowledge driven economy, thereby complementing your Smart Green Schools and new Science Technical and Vocational (STV) institutions", he explained.

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- Spray paint outdoors or in special booths
- Never smoke or have any source of fire in the vicinity
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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

Local Transport News

NNPCL To Fuel Portland Gas As AKK Opens First Value In Gwagwalada July

Culled

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL) on Thursday, expressed its preparedness to supply the Portland Gas Limited Mini LNG/LCNG Station in Gwagwalada, Abuja from the Ajaokuta Kaduna Kano (AKK) Pipeline.

The state-owned oil and gas firm disclosed that the first valve of the AKK project will open in Gwagwalada in July 2026.

Speaking at the Stakeholders' Workshop in Emerging Investment Opportunities in the Portland Gas Limited Mini LNG/LCNG Station in Gwagwalada, NNPCL, Executive Vice President for Power Gas and New Energy, Mr. Olalekan Ogunleye, said the station will not simply release gas, it will release productivity, industrial growth, and economic renewal.

NNPCL Manager Business Development, Mr. Kachalla Suleiman, who represented him said, "The countdown to July 2026 has begun. When the first valve opens in Gwagwalada, it will not simply release



AKK

gas, it will release ambition."

productivity, industrial growth, and economic renewal.

"To Portland Gas: Your facility is a strategic pioneer along the AKK corridor. NNPC stands ready to fuel your

The station is scheduled for completion in the next 12 to 16 months.

The theme of the workshop was: "Powering the Future- Leveraging CNG Infrastructure to Drive

Nigeria's Energy Transition and Sustainable Growth."

He added that the Ajaokuta-Gwagwalada segment of the AKK is projected to be commissioned, with first gas flowing by July 2026,

linking northern industrial zones to Nigeria's gas fields, and structurally addressing national energy deficits.

He said the AKK unlocks; Northern industrial demand, competitive power generation, manufacturing growth, Auto-CNG and Mini-LNG expansion, and employment across the value chain.

According to him, the station is being sited in Gwagwalada because it sits at a strategic transport intersection linking Kogi and key northern hubs.

Olalekan said it has become a logistics and commercial center with demand from transport and haulage fleets, manufacturing SMEs, Real Estate energy demand, Agro-processing clusters, among others.

The Mini-LNG/L-CNG station, according to him, will fuel vehicles, power industry, reduce diesel dependence, and strengthen energy resilience.

The Executive Vice President said positioned at the AKK Abuja take-off node, the project aligns strongly with market demand and investor appetite.

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FCCPC Accuses Local Airlines Of Price Fixing

According to the report, preliminary analysis of data obtained from local airlines showed that ticket fares during the festive peak were significantly higher than post-peak levels in January 2026, despite relative stability in key operating variables such as aviation fuel, government taxes and foreign exchange.

The Commission, in a statement signed by its Director of Corporate Affairs, Ondaje Ijagwu, on Thursday, said the forensic exercise compared domestic pricing trends during the December festive rush with subsequent fare levels.

It noted that the differences observed in ticket prices appeared to reflect airlines' discretionary pricing decisions rather than external cost pressures.

The statement read in part, "A review undertaken by the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has uncovered patterns of price manipulation perpetrated by some

local airlines during the last festive season.

"The forensic exercise benefitted from data collated by the Commission from airlines operating local routes in the country. The report compares domestic airline pricing from the December 2025 festive period with post-peak January 2026 fare levels.

"Preliminary analysis indicates that fares recorded during the December peak were materially higher than those observed in the post-peak period across several routes, despite relative stability in critical operating variables like fuel price, government taxes and foreign exchange.

"The differences observed in fares therefore appear to reflect airlines' arbitrary pricing decisions, including yield management and capacity allocation, rather than any variation in regulatory fees."

The Commission said route-level analysis showed that fare increases coincided with periods of reduced seat availability during predictable

seasonal demand peaks, suggesting deliberate supply constraints.

It added that on high-density routes, peak fares were often clustered within narrow ranges across several operators, a pattern that may indicate coordinated behaviour.

"For instance, on certain corridors such as Abuja-Port Harcourt, peak fares were several times higher than corresponding post-peak levels. On selected routes, the difference in the price of a single ticket reached approximately N405,000," the report stated.

It further noted that median fares across sampled routes rose sharply during the festive window compared with January benchmarks.

However, the Commission acknowledged that seasonal demand, fleet utilisation, and scheduling constraints could also affect pricing during peak travel periods, noting that, "these factors remain under consideration as part of the Commission's ongoing review."

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)



FCCPC

The Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission has uncovered patterns of price manipulation by some domestic airlines during the December 2025 festive season, raising fresh concerns about consumer exploitation and competition in Nigeria's aviation sector, according to an interim review released by the agency on Thursday.

It said the development raising fresh concerns over consumer exploitation and market competition in Nigeria's aviation sector.

The interim report released by the Commission's Department of Surveillance and Investigations, followed an industry-wide probe announced in January.

IATA Opens Nominations For 2026 Edition Of Diversity And Inclusion

Culled

Nominations are now open for the 2026 edition of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Awards, which recognise individuals and airlines advancing diversity across the global aviation sector.

The annual awards highlight excellence in promoting inclusive workplaces and leadership within air transport, with a focus on measurable impact and long-term cultural change.

Three categories are open for nominations – the Inspirational Role Model Award, the High Flyer Award, and the Diversity & Inclusion Team Award.

The Inspirational Role Model Award recognises a woman in a senior air transport position who has had a substantial global impact on D&I through her influence and leadership.



The High Flyer Award honours a female aviation professional under the age of 40 who has demonstrated leadership through concrete action in

support of D&I, making a positive contribution to the industry.

The Diversity & Inclusion Team Award recognises an airline that has achieved measurable

positive change in D&I as a result of dedicated initiatives. This category is open to all IATA member airlines.

Willie Walsh, IATA's director general, said: "A

diverse and inclusive aviation sector is essential to attract the talent needed to support the growth of the industry and enable it to deliver connectivity that

underpins trade, tourism, jobs, and economic development."

Each award includes a USD 25,000 prize, generously sponsored by long-standing partner Qatar Airways, payable either directly to the recipient or to a charity of their choice supporting D&I.

A spokesman from Qatar Airways said: "Diversity is fundamental to aviation and to the way our industry operates every day. Working across cultures and backgrounds is what makes aviation a dynamic and inspiring workplace."

An independent judging panel will evaluate the nominations which close on April 5. The winners to be announced at IATA's 82nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) & World Air Transport Summit (WATS) on June 6-8, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Culled

Morocco is preparing a major shift in how people move across its cities and regions. The government has committed USD 7.8 B to build a cleaner, more connected public transport system by 2029, marking one of the country's biggest mobility investments to date.

The announcement came during a COP30 side event in Belém, where Abdellatif Maâzouz, president of the Casablanca-Settat regional council, detailed the scale and structure of the national plan.

Officials said the goal is to push public transport to the center of

Morocco Commits USD 7.8bn Plan To Green Its Public Transport By 2029

daily travel and cut reliance on private cars. The strategy puts heavy emphasis on cleaner technologies, modern infrastructure, and stronger coordination between regions.

A large share of the funding, roughly USD 1.1 B, will support the purchase of 3,750 new buses designed to meet modern efficiency and environmental standards. The rest, about USD 6.7 B, will go into long-term infrastructure, including new tram corridors, regional express trains, and expanded rail links that connect fast-growing cities.

The Ministry of Interior and regional councils describe the initiative as a "clean, multimodal system" intended to ease movement across Morocco while cutting transport emissions, one of the country's most persistent environmental challenges.

Casablanca-Settat has stepped in as the main driver of the transition. The region has committed USD 2.5 B, nearly 40% of its updated development plan, to modernizing mobility across both urban centers and rural zones.

Its model relies on a non-polluting train-tramway backbone, expanded with a fully modernized

bus network. A new digital multimodal platform will tie the system together, offering real-time passenger information, smarter traffic management, and simpler transfers between transport modes.

Officials say the platform could become one of the most advanced in Africa, designed to reduce congestion and make public transport more predictable for commuters.

Several parts of the country have already seen early changes. Road expansions in and around major cities have eased traffic pressure, and monitoring stations have recorded better air quality between 2023 and 2025. Local councils attribute these improvements to a steady shift toward shared transport, helped by more reliable services and better regional planning.

Speaking at COP30, Maâzouz stressed that Morocco's ecological transition is being driven by the country's advanced regionalization policy. Regions now design and execute their own mobility strategies while aligning with national climate targets.

He said this regional approach has accelerated the rollout of major projects, improved coordination between institutions, and encouraged innovation in both planning and service delivery.

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General News

Nigeria Leads M-KOPA Growth As 1 Million Customers Access N320bn In Credit

Culled: Nigeria has emerged as the fastest-growing market for M-KOPA, with the company unlocking ₦320 billion in credit for more than one million customers, according to its inaugural Nigeria Impact Report released yesterday.

The report shows that Nigeria is the quickest market within M-KOPA's operations to reach the ₦320 billion credit milestone, reflecting rapid adoption of smartphone financing and digital financial tools among low-income and informal workers.

Since launching operations in Nigeria in 2019, the company has focused on addressing financial exclusion by aligning credit products with the irregular income patterns of everyday earners.

According to the report, 77 per cent of customers use smartphones or digital loans obtained through M-KOPA to generate income, while 75 per cent say their earnings have increased since joining the platform.

It also found that 81 per cent of long-term customers reported improvements in household expenses, pointing to a link between sustained digital access and financial stability.



M-KOPA

M-KOPA said it has enabled about 290,000 Nigerians to become first-time smartphone users.

Commenting on the report, General Manager of M-KOPA Nigeria, Babajide Duroshola, said the figures demonstrate how access to digital and financial tools can translate into long-term economic progress.

He noted that customers are using smartphones not only for communication, but as essential tools to

manage businesses, reach suppliers, coordinate workers and market products online.

Nigeria also recorded the strongest performance across M-KOPA's agent network.

The company currently has about 11,000 active direct sales agents nationwide, with an agent turnover rate of 0.1 per cent, the lowest across all its markets.

The report states that 99 per cent of agents reported

increased earnings, while 56 per cent accessed their first income opportunity through M-KOPA.

Women now account for 53 per cent of active sales agents, representing a 42 per cent increase, while women's participation among customers rose from 29 per cent in 2024 to 33 per cent in 2025.

More than half of female customers accessed their first formal loan through the platform.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

NITDA, Abia Partner On Enterprise Architecture Reform

Culled:

In alignment with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's priority areas of economic reform, digital innovation, and improved governance, the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) has reiterated its commitment to supporting sub-national governments in building integrated, data-driven systems that enhance service delivery and drive sustainable growth.

This commitment was reinforced at the Future Enterprise & Data Architecture of Abia State workshop themed "One Citizen, One Identity: Unlocking Data-Driven Governance." The high-level engagement brought together policymakers, technocrats, and development partners to chart a pathway toward a unified digital public sector anchored on interoperability and citizen-centric governance.

The workshop, organised by the state's Ministry of Budget and Planning and declared open by Governor Alex Otti, who was represented by the Deputy Governor, Engr Ikechukwu Emetu, focused on strengthening interoperability among Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to enhance revenue generation and improve service delivery across the state.

Speaking during a panel session titled "Breaking Silos, Building One Government," the Director General of NITDA, Kashifu Inuwa CCIE, who was represented by the Agency's Director of Stakeholder Management and Partnership, Dr Aristotle Onumo, emphasised that collaboration remains the cornerstone of successful digital transformation.

"One thing that is very clear is partnership and collaboration. If you want to take advantage of collective intelligence, then partnership is the key. If you want to succeed in building a unified government system, collaboration is the way to go,"

He stressed that digital transformation is not merely about deploying technology but about transforming people and culture.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria To Broadcast In Chinese Language Soon, Says FG



Muhammed Idris

Culled: Minister of Information and National Orientation has said Nigeria will soon begin broadcasting in Mandarin from Abuja, as part of efforts to reposition the country's global media presence and strengthen public

communication.

The minister made the disclosure while receiving the Director-General and management team of the Bureau of Public Service Reforms (BPSR) in Abuja, where both sides reaffirmed their commitment to deepening reforms,

improving transparency and enhancing communication across government institutions.

The visit provided the duo with an opportunity to review ongoing reform initiatives, particularly in public financial management, digitisation, media literacy, archiving, and the use of artificial intelligence in governance.

Speaking at the meeting, Idris explained that the initiative would be executed from the nation's capital, using newly refurbished transmission facilities and in collaboration with a Chinese media company.

"In a short while, Nigeria will be able to broadcast even in Mandarin and in the Chinese language from here, from Abuja," the minister stated.

He stressed that reforms within

the public service must not only be implemented but also effectively communicated.

Idris outlined the scope of the public service, noting that, out of a population of over 230 million, about five million individuals work directly in the civil service.

He said the reforms were designed to benefit the wider population, ensuring that citizens see evidence of transformation in service delivery and that the improvements are institutionalised across the nation.

Beyond technological enhancements, the minister outlined the importance of attitudinal changes within the public service.

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Bosun Tijani

Nigeria Secures \$100m EBRD Funding To Expand Nationwide Fibre Network

Culled: Nigeria has secured fresh international backing for its ambitious broadband expansion drive, with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development approving a \$100 million investment in the federal government's Project BRIDGE initiative.

Bosun Tijani, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, disclosed the development on Wednesday via X, describing the approval as a major milestone in the government's ongoing investment roadshow across Europe.

According to Tijani, the funding from the EBRD board comes as part of broader efforts to mobilise global capital for Project BRIDGE a special purpose vehicle established to accelerate fibre-optic deployment nationwide.

The minister noted that the latest commitment follows a series of high-level engagements during a two-week tour of six European countries aimed at attracting strategic partners.

The EBRD financing adds to the \$500 million previously secured from the World Bank Group to support the large-scale rollout.

In addition, the European Union has

pledged a €22 million grant under a wider €45 million digital economy support package for Nigeria.

A breakdown of the EU package shows that €18 million has been earmarked to strengthen digital public infrastructure, while €5 million will be channelled towards the government's 3 Million Technical Talent (3MTT) programme, designed to expand the country's digital skills base.

Unveiled on August 5, 2025, Project BRIDGE is structured to crowd in private capital and technical expertise for the deployment of 90,000 kilometres of fibre-optic cable across the country.

The initiative targets a significant leap in connectivity, with projections to raise internet penetration by 70 percent overall and extend access to 80 percent of underserved communities by 2027.

The latest round of funding signals growing international confidence in Nigeria's digital transformation agenda and its strategy to close the country's broadband infrastructure gap.

Bosun Tijani, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, disclosed the development on Wednesday via X, describing the approval as a major

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

Nigeria, Israel Move To Deepen Strategic Partnership

Nigeria and Israel have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral ties, with discussions centred on security, health, technology, and economic cooperation.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Bianca Odumegwu-Ojukwu, restated Nigeria's position when the Israeli Ambassador to Nigeria, Michael Freeman, paid her a courtesy visit at Tafawa Balewa House, Abuja. According to a statement issued on

Thursday by the minister's Special Assistant on Communication and New Media, Dr Magnus Eze, discussions between both officials covered defence and intelligence, economic cooperation, consular matters, religious tourism, and bilateral and multilateral relations.

Odumegwu-Ojukwu said Nigeria could benefit from Israel's expertise in border security management, particularly amid ongoing efforts to

tackle insurgency and terrorism.

She noted that enhanced cooperation would be further strengthened if the Nigeria-Israel Joint Commission was fully operationalised.

The minister also commended Israel's pledge to donate about 60 fully equipped ambulances to Nigeria, describing the initiative as timely.

"These kinds of initiatives are very significant because we have challenges regarding first responders.

For me, this is just the beginning of integrating an ambulance culture in Nigeria," she said.

On his part, Freeman said Israel was keen to strengthen relations with Nigeria, describing the move as strategic, given Nigeria's status as Africa's most populous nation.

He stated that stronger ties would be driven by sustained international dialogue and official exchanges between both countries.

[Find Full Story In The Link](#)

DRIVING SCHOOLS AND SAFETY ALLIANCE AFRICA - DSSAA

DSSAA INITIATIVES AND CAUSES

1. African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP) - This will be an online Academy for the training of Driving School Instructors and Road Safety professionals.
2. Africa Road Transport Safety Summit and Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO) - The largest gathering of Researchers and Industry Leaders in Road Transport Safety featuring exhibitions of technology devices and Innovations.
3. Africa Safe School Volunteer Project (ASSVP) - A social responsibility project that members of DSSAA will get directly involved in their various countries which includes volunteering to control traffic and help Children cross the Road during school hours in schools, funding installation of STOP Road signs and marking of zebra crossings at school Intersections, as well as carrying out the training of children on Road Safety practices in schools.
4. Africa Road Safety Partnerships and Research board (ARSPARB)- A hub for the advancement of partnerships with development agencies, National Governments and corporations as well as a Research Faculty for Road Safety Research Projects.

About DSSAA

Driving Schools and Safety Alliance Africa - DSSAA is Africa's premier Professional Association of Driving School Owners, Instructors, Driver Assessors and Road Safety professionals.

It is registered in the Gambia and UK with National offices in all the Capital cities in Africa.

DSSAA aims to bring all the critical stakeholders together to build the capacity of Driving School operators and support Road Safety through advocacy, public education, lobbying, fund raising, training and certification.

We are the promoters of various Road Transport Safety initiatives and programmes among which are the African Institute of Driving Instructors and Road Safety professionals (ADRIP), Africa Road Transport Safety Exhibition (ARTSS EXPO), Africa Safe school volunteer project (ASSVP) and the Africa Road Safety Partnership and Research board (ARSPARB) domiciled in our Overseas Office in Bournemouth United Kingdom.

Membership is open to Road Safety advocates all over the world.

DSSAA

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



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There are available grants from National Governments, multinational corporations and NGOS.

The leadership of DSSAA is committed to pursuing these grants at the African Union Secretariat, Ecowas NGO Roundtable and other multilateral Initiatives and making them available to Members only.

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Membership gives you access to our robust learning portal where you get latest Road Safety Research, scholarship opportunities and internships. Admission to ADPRIP is at a discounted rate. Our interfaces with Government authorities gives you Industry advantages.

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You are entitled to use DSSAA Member logo on your website, office branding, Letterhead and Business Cards.

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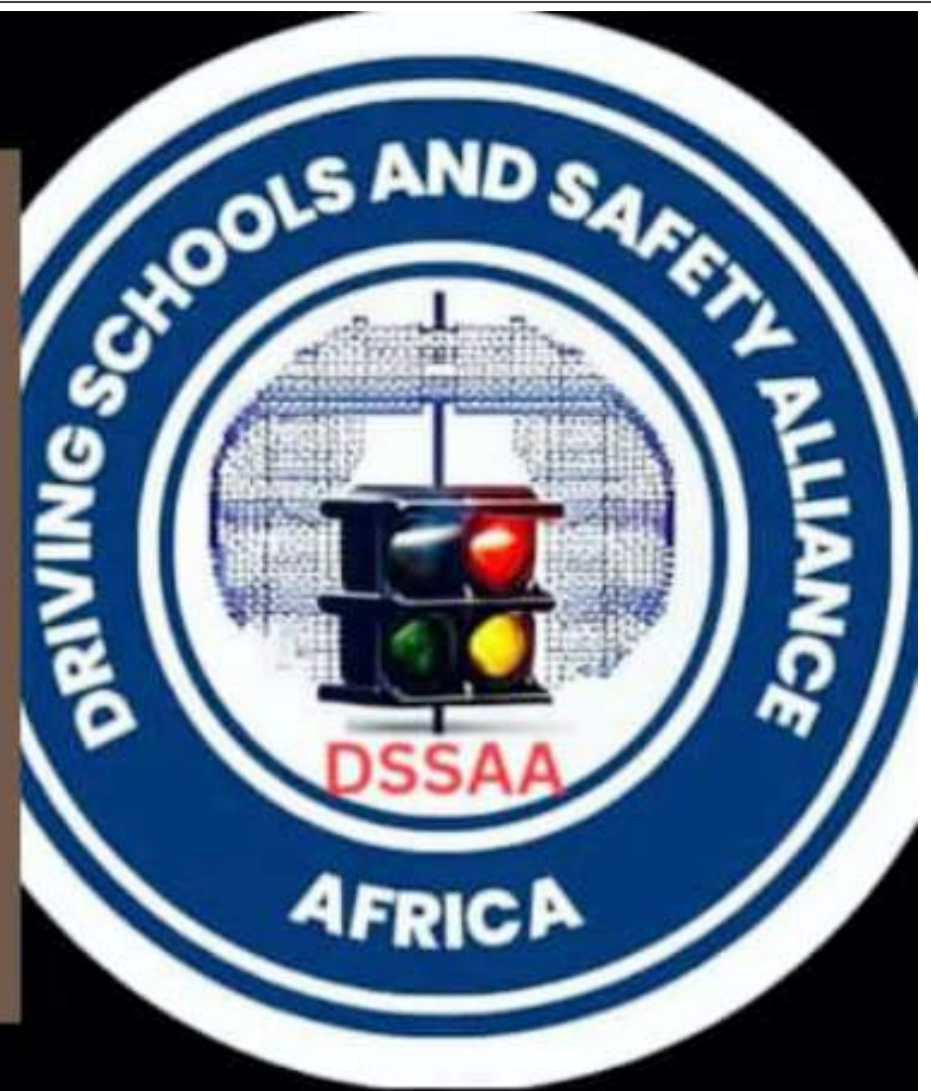


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