

Delta Govt Completes Reconstruction Of 32.5km Emu-Obodeh-Abbi-Abraka Road

The Delta State Government has announced the successful completion of the reconstruction and asphalt overlay of 32.5-kilometre Emu-Obodeh-Abbi-Abraka Road, a key artery linking communities in Ndokwa West and

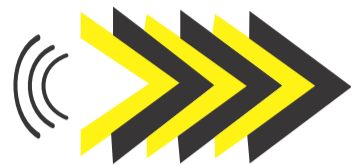
CONTINUES ON P2

Oyo Approves Counterpart Funding For Road Maintenance, Procures 100 Vehicles

The Oyo State Government has approved the release of ₦900,000,000 as counterpart funding for the construction of

68km roads across the state. The counterpart funding will ensure that the state government accesses ₦16,273,711,000 from two international financial bodies: the International Development Association and the L'Agence

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TRANSPORTATION

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Lagos State Govt Completes Section Of Lekki-Ajah Exp'way Ahead Of Schedule

The Lagos State Government has completed the rehabilitation of a key section of the Lekki-Ajah

Expressway ahead of its projected timeline. The 9-kilometre Lagos-bound stretch from

Chevron to Admiralty Way in Lekki was delivered in 27 days, earlier than the initial

41-day schedule. The Special Adviser to the Governor on Infrastructure, Olufemi

Daramola, disclosed this during an inspection of the project alongside

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Zamfara Splashes N125bn On 28 Road Construction Projects

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Hon Oluwaseun Osiyemi and Engr Daramola on the Lekki-Ajah Expressway

Nigeria, IMO Develops Action Plan To Decarbonise Maritime Sector

Nigeria has entered a partnership with the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) under the GreenVoyage

2050 Project to develop a comprehensive National Action Plan (NAP) for maritime decarbonisation.

Speaking yesterday at the IMO GreenVoyage 2050 national stakeholders' workshop in Lagos,

organised by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Dr Adegboyega

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MOWCA Commits To Blue Economy Promotion

P5

Local Transport News

Keyamo Presents N184.4bn Aviation Budget To NASS

Culled

The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, on Wednesday, 25 February, presented a proposed ₦184,392,160,433.00 budget for the Ministry to the Senate and House of Representatives Committees on Aviation at the National Assembly.

Addressing the lawmakers, Keyamo expressed gratitude to the Committees for their “unwavering support and cooperation” since the inception of the current administration.

He reiterated the Ministry's commitment to strengthening its partnership with the National Assembly to advance the growth and transformation of Nigeria's aviation industry.

A statement signed by Margaret Oyinboade, Ag. Head, Press and Public Affairs quoted the minister as saying: “The 2026 budget proposal is strategically designed to modernise safety systems, upgrade digital infrastructure, and strengthen human capacity development across the

aviation ecosystem.”

He added that the Ministry remains focused on improving operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and service delivery in line with global best practices.

Keyamo highlighted milestones recorded in the 2025 fiscal year despite funding constraints, including the Federal Government's clearance of outstanding debts owed to foreign airlines.

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Keyamo

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Speaking yesterday at the IMO GreenVoyage 2050 national stakeholders' workshop in Lagos, organised by the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), the Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Dr Adegboyega Oyetola, said the overall goal of the action plan was to support the implementation of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy and assist developing countries in their efforts to reduce emissions from ships.

Oyetola, who was represented by the Deputy Director of Maritime Safety and Security at the ministry, John Ogwuche, said the collaboration with the IMO would provide Nigeria with the technical expertise and global network required to navigate the complex landscape of the

green transition.

According to the minister, the maritime industry remains the backbone of global trade, yet it faces unprecedented challenges that have necessitated a transformative shift towards sustainability, driven by the urgent need to mitigate climate change.

He added that the development of an action plan serves as a bridge between international instruments and domestic implementation.

Oyetola said the objective of the workshop was to identify priority areas that would form the bedrock of the NAP, adding that the IMO has set ambitious targets aimed at achieving net-zero GHG emissions by international shipping by or around 2050.

The Director General of NIMASA, Dr Dayo Moberola, who was represented by the Executive Director of Operations, Fatayi Adeyemi, said decarbonisation of Nigeria's maritime industry has been one of the most pressing challenges and current transformative opportunities.

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Delta Govt Completes Reconstruction Of 32.5km Emu-Obodeh-Abbi-Abraka Road

Culled

The Delta State Government has announced the successful completion of the reconstruction and asphalt overlay of failed sections of the 32.5-kilometre Emu-Obodeh-Abbi-Abraka Road, a key artery linking communities in Ndokwa West and Ethiope East Local Government Areas.

Reuben Izeze, the State Commissioner for Works (Highways and Urban Roads) disclosed this on Tuesday during an inspection of the project, which stretches from Emu-Obodeh Junction to Abraka.

He was accompanied by Solomon Aghagba, an engineer and the Functioning Permanent Secretary in the Ministry.

The project, executed by Bryhilvan Integrated, was awarded on September 16, 2025, at a contract sum of N2,681,236,071.75. Izeze said that the rehabilitation covered failed and completely deteriorated sections between kilometre 20 and kilometre 32, which have now been fully



Reuben Izeze

reconstructed.

He also drew attention to additional remedial work voluntarily undertaken by the contracting firm at the problematic Police Station Junction in Abraka, an area with a history of repeated failure.

The Commissioner explained that the extra intervention, carried out at the contractor's discretion, was aimed at

easing traffic congestion and reducing hardship for commuters pending action by the Federal Government, which has an existing contract covering that portion.

“They wanted us to see the level of their commitment to ensuring that government does not just deal with the 32 kilometres provided for in the contract. They carried out additional

work to make that junction more motorable, especially considering the man-hours lost in traffic due to the failure of that section,” he said.

He described the gesture as a demonstration of corporate social responsibility, Izeze noted that the government would review the claims made by the contractor regarding the additional work.

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Local Transport News

NAHCON Signs Hajj Airlift Agreement with Airlines

Culled

The National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) has signed 'Hajj Airlift Agreement' with airlines.

The agreement is part of its preparations for the forthcoming pilgrimage.

The participating airlines were told to strictly adhere to operational standards and timelines.

Speaking during the signing, the Chairman/Chief Executive Officer of NAHCON, Ambassador Ismail Yusuf Abba, described the event as a defining milestone in the commission's readiness for this year's Hajj.

He stressed that the airlift operation is a critical component of arrangements for the pilgrimage and must be handled with utmost professionalism, precision, and commitment.

He commended the airlines for their previous performances but emphasised that strict compliance with the provisions of the agreement remains non-negotiable.

He noted that Hajj operations are time-bound and require careful coordination to ensure that all Nigerian pilgrims are transported to and from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia within stipulated timelines.

Ambassador Abba explained that the agreement includes clear compliance measures, including recovery timelines for any airline that falls behind schedule, as well as alternative arrangements where necessary to prevent disruptions.

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NAHCON

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The 9-kilometre Lagos-bound stretch from Chevron to Admiralty Way in Lekki was delivered in 27 days, earlier than the initial 41-day schedule.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Infrastructure, Olufemi Daramola, disclosed this during an inspection of the project alongside the Commissioner for Transportation, Oluwaseun Osiyemi, and other officials.

Mr Daramola said the state government had earlier announced plans to rehabilitate the corridor from the Lekki-Ajah Bridge to the Admiralty Way intersection, covering 28 kilometres on both the Lagos-bound and Epe-bound carriageways.

He stated that following the completion of the critical Lagos-bound section, arrangements are underway to begin work on the Epe-bound carriageway.

According to him, the project is being prioritised due to the strategic importance of the corridor and the need to conclude major construction activities before the onset of the rainy season, which could disrupt works.

Mr Daramola added that the rehabilitation was carried out in line with established engineering standards, noting that road furniture installation would follow to enhance safety and durability. He also said travel time along the corridor has improved.

In his remarks, Mr Osiyemi said comprehensive traffic management strategies were implemented to reduce disruption during construction.

He commended motorists for complying with the first phase of traffic arrangements, which he said contributed to the early completion of the section.

The commissioner noted that similar traffic management measures would be deployed as work shifts to the Epe-bound carriageway, with minor adjustments to improve traffic flow.

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Oyo Approves Counterpart Funding For Road Maintenance, Procures 100 Vehicles

Culled

The Oyo State Government has approved the release of ₦900,000,000 as counterpart funding for the construction of 68km roads across the state.

The counterpart funding will ensure that the state government accesses ₦16,273,711,000 from two international financial bodies: the International Development Association and the L'Agence Française de Développement.

This was conveyed through a release issued on Wednesday by the Commissioner for Information, Prince Dotun Oyelade, after the executive council meeting held at the Executive Council Chamber, and made available to the PUNCH's Correspondent in Ibadan, the Oyo State capital.

The Commissioner said many critical road maintenance works would commence following the executive council's approval of the counterpart funding.

According to Oyelade, the



Governor Makinde

maintenance works include the rehabilitation of the 8.43km Fashola Farm Settlement, the 37km Alako/Ildilya/Batake/Olowa Farm Settlement and Ijaye roads, the 22km Oloko/Oyo Junction and Ikere roads, among others.

The Commissioner disclosed that the executive council also approved the improvement of the Light-Up Oyo State infrastructure, which he said had now

extended beyond Ibadan metropolis, at a total cost of ₦2,602,800,000 as operational and maintenance expenditure for the year 2026.

Additionally, he said Council also approved the upward review of the contract sum for the Oyo State Business Process Automation project. According to him, the project which was the vision of Governor Seyi Makinde since 2022, is focused on modernising

the civil service through technology.

He said, "The project, which was initially awarded for ₦400,000,000, will now be awarded for ₦578,035,714 in the light of contemporary economic reality

"Some of the benefits of the Business Process Automation project are to streamline civil service operations, strengthen record management and accountability across MDAs, enhance the speed and quality of government services to the public, and train technical staff to ensure long-term maintenance of the software solution."

"In pursuit of its objective to keep Oyo State safe and secured, Council also approved the purchase of 100 double-cabin pick-up trucks – 80 Mitsubishi L200 and 20 Toyota Hilux at a cost of ₦5,772,500,000," the Commissioner said.

Recall that in November 2025, the state government approved over N38 billion for the reconstruction of the 30-kilometre Igboho-Kishi Road in the Oke-Ogun area of the state.

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Local Transport News

Mother, Son Escape Death As Car Overturns In Lagos

Culled

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority has confirmed that a mother and her son narrowly escaped death after a Lexus sport utility vehicle overturned multiple times at the NYSC Bus Stop along the LASU-Isheri Expressway in Lagos.

In a statement issued on Wednesday and signed by Director, Public Affairs and Enlightenment Department of LASTMA, Adebayo Taofiq, the agency described the early morning crash as a lone but serious traffic mishap.

According to the statement, the Lexus Jeep with registration number KJA 39 JT, travelling from Isheri inward Igando, suddenly lost stability and "overturned thrice before finally coming to rest" amid heavy peak-hour traffic along the busy corridor.

LASTMA said its operatives deployed within the axis responded swiftly to the emergency.

The agency noted that officers "rapidly mobilised to the location and executed a coordinated rescue intervention,"

successfully extricating the occupants from the severely damaged vehicle.

The mother and her son were rescued with "visible bruises and mild physiological trauma," narrowly avoiding what the agency described as a potentially fatal catastrophe.

Security personnel of the Nigeria Police Force attached to the Igando Division reportedly reinforced the rescue operation, maintaining crowd control and securing the scene throughout the evacuation process.

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LASTMA

Culled

The Secretary-General of the Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA), Dr Paul Adalikwu, has pledged to promote an inclusive African blue economy drive aimed at achieving greater economic development and diversification among the organisation's 25 member countries.

Adalikwu also reaffirmed his commitment to pursuing a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable shipping agenda, while promoting broader inclusivity and participation of all African coastal and landlocked countries in maritime affairs.

Adalikwu made the pledge following his re-election for a renewed four-year term after a unanimous decision at the 19th General Assembly of MOWCA held in Banjul, The Gambia.

According to him, MOWCA will continue to provide technical support to all member states with potential for seaport activities, as well as assist landlocked countries in establishing dry ports across different parts of the

MOWCA Commits To Blue Economy Promotion

continent.

Adalikwu further promised to sustain the push for MOWCA's transformation into the broader African Maritime Organisation (AMO) to unify the continent's voice on global maritime issues.

Gambian Minister of Transport, Works and Infrastructure, who also doubles as MOWCA's Chairman, Ebrima Sillah, commended Adalikwu's renewed mandate, stating that his re-election is truly deserved and on merit.

He said Adalikwu has reinforced the importance of West and Central African countries to the global maritime ecosystem through strategic engagements with other stakeholders within and outside the continent.

Find Full Story In The Link

Senate Backs FRSC Modernisation, Calls For Enhanced NIPSS Funding

keep pace with evolving road safety demands, emerging technologies and global best practices.

According to a statement issued by his Special Adviser on Publicity and Communications, Peter Oriri, the lawmaker emphasised that structured and continuous retraining would strengthen discipline, improve operational efficiency and enhance service delivery nationwide.

He stated, "The FRSC must institutionalize regular training and retraining programmes for its personnel. Road safety management is dynamic, and our officers must be equipped with modern skills, technology-driven knowledge, and global best practices to meet emerging challenges."

The Corps Marshal of the FRSC, Shehu Mohammed, in his presentation, disclosed that the agency generated over ₦4bn in revenue in 2025.

He explained that the revenue was realised from fines, number plate

registrations and driver's licence fees, reflecting improved enforcement and compliance mechanisms.

While commending the FRSC for renewed professionalism and its prompt response to road safety matters despite funding challenges, the Committee reiterated the need for sustained training and retraining of officers in active service to meet world standards in prevention and rescue operations.

For the 2026 fiscal year, the FRSC proposed a total expenditure of ₦129bn broken down into Personnel Cost – ₦99,737,554,653; Overhead Cost – ₦26,964,914,587 and Capital Expenditure – ₦2,425,987,544.

The Committee also reviewed the 2026 budget proposal of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, presented by its Director-General and Chief Executive Officer, Ayo Omotayo.

The Institute proposed a total budget of ₦4,016,023,688 for the 2026 fiscal year.

Following deliberations, the

Committee urged improved funding for the effective implementation of NIPSS programmes and encouraged the institution to sustain its ongoing reforms despite prevailing challenges.

It also advised the Institute to review its age criteria to accommodate younger applicants seeking to enhance their policy knowledge and leadership capacity.

Speaking on inclusivity and generational renewal in policy development, Onyesoh said, "While preserving the Institute's standards and traditions, there is a compelling need to review certain age requirements to create room for younger, brilliant Nigerians who are eager to contribute fresh perspectives to national policy and strategic development."

In addition, the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, represented by David Eze on behalf of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, submitted a proposed budget of ₦22,294,833,817 for 2026.

Find Full Story In The Link



The senate

The Senate has underscored the need for sustained training, capacity building and enhanced safety programmes for personnel of the Federal Road Safety Corps, stressing that continuous professional development remains critical to efficient road safety administration across the country.

The call came on Wednesday during the agency's 2025 budget performance review and consideration of its 2026 budget proposal before the Senate Committee on Federal Character and Inter-Governmental Affairs.

Chairman of the Committee, Allwell Onyesoh, said modernising training frameworks within the Corps was non-negotiable if Nigeria must



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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

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QUALITY EMULSION

...quality speaks

Local Transport News

Boat Owners Seek Approval To Access CVFF For Fleet Upgrade

Culled

The Strategy at Sustainable Waterways Awareness Advancement Advocacy (SWAAADO) has urged the Federal Government to give indigenous boat operators access to the Cabotage Vessel Financing Fund (CVFF) to acquire standard vessels, strengthen local maritime capacity and enhance safety on the country's inland waterways.

SWAAADO also proposed a revolving loan scheme to enable boat operators acquire standard vessels and repay the loans over a period of five to 10 years, highlighting the urgent need for investment in a safer transport system.

The group, in its recent research, revealed that inland ferry services and coastal mass transportation fall within the mandate of the CVFF, supporting the inclusion of local boat operators under the scheme.

Head of Desk, SWAAADO, Gold Raymond, noted that if the funds cannot



Famuyiwa

cover the acquisition of large ocean-going vessels, part of it should be directed to inland waterways, where it would have a more immediate and significant impact on safety and operations. Raymond cited in the partially redirected to report the successful improve the safety and implementation of quality of vessels used for local transportation. countries such as India, “The coastal inland where it would have a the Philippines, and shipping lines where funds capitalised and defined initially meant for sea areas for post-seagoing ships were worldly purposes as

promoting indigenous ship ownership and providing credit facilities to maritime operators, including inland operators. Ferries for mass transportation clearly fall within this mandate, especially for coastal and inland waterways,” the report stated.

Raymond emphasised that this clearly supports the inclusion of local boat operators under the fund's provisions.

Also speaking, a board member of the Waterfront Boat Owners and Transporters Association of Nigeria (WABOTAN), Larry Osaeren, supported the call for amendment of the Cabotage Act.

He said boats used on inland waterways and coastal routes operations are conventional means of transportation and should not be exempted from benefiting under the law.

Osaeren further argued that if the CVFF is insufficient to acquire large ocean-going vessels due to high capital requirements, the government should channel part of it towards strengthening inland water transport, where the impact would be more immediate and visible.

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Zamfara Splashes N125bn On 28 Road Construction Projects



Governor Lawal

Zamfara State is spending N125.4 billion on the construction and rehabilitation of urban and rural roads and bridges across the state this year.

Analysis of the 2026 approved budget has shown that a total of 28 roads across the 14 local government areas of the state have been pencilled down for construction or reconstruction.

Governor Lawal presented a proposed budget of N861.3 billion for the 2026 fiscal year to the Zamfara State House of Assembly on December 4, 2025.

The governor signed the N871.337 billion appropriation bill into law on December 19

after deliberations and approval by the state legislature.

The N871.3 billion budget, with a capital expenditure component of N714 billion (83%) and recurrent expenditure of N147.28 billion (17%), prioritizes infrastructure, security, education, health, agriculture, among others.

Some of the road projects include the 105km Gusau Magami to Dansadau road (N20 billion), Kantin Daji to Unguwar Gwaza, Roundabout to Airport (N15 billion), Kantin Daji road, linking Bebeji, Aminu Aliyu road to Tudun Wada Roundabout Gusau (N12 billion), the 94.85km Yandoton Daji – Doka –Yanwaren Daji-Hayin Alhaji-Bedi-Yankuzo-Tsafe (N10 billion), 53km Gusau Jauri-Dogon Kade-Nasarawa Mailayi Nasarawar Godal (N10 billion).

Others are Daza to Gidan Dawa link to Sokoto Dual Carriageway, Gusau (N10 billion), Maradun to Magami to Faru road (N5 billion), General

Muhammadu Buhari Way, Tudun Wada, JB Yakubu Road (Canteen Area), Aminu Aliyu Road and Bebeji road (N5 billion).

Governor Lawal is also constructing emergency roads in the Western, Northern and Southern Senatorial Zones at N5 billion each.

There are also Mallamawa-Zarummai Bukkuyum road with spur Zarummai Masama road (23km) at N4 billion, reconstruction of the 14Km Lalan to Lalan road Gusau (N3 billion), Maru to Lugga road (N3 billion), and 10Km Zurmi Rukudawa road (N2 billion).

The governor will also reconstruct the Titin Bala Mande to Gadar Abu Magaji road (N1 billion), 21Km Tasha Babba to Lambar Kyambarawa Nahuche (N500 million), Premier Road link to Sadiqu Sadiq Road, Gusau (N500 million), Gwalli Bridge in Gummi LGA (N400 million), 15Km Kwatarkwashi to Tofa, Samawa, Rawayya Bela road (N300 million),

among others.

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Ethiopian Airlines Justifies Opening New Domestic Airports



Culled
Ethiopian Airlines has explained that its decision to inaugurate three new domestic airports and commence passenger services to the destinations by mid-April 2026 is part of a broader strategy to deepen connectivity, stimulate economic growth and promote inclusive national development.

The airline said the new airports, located in Negele Borena, Gore Metu and Debre Markos, would each receive thrice-weekly passenger flights, thereby expanding its domestic network to 26 destinations.

A statement by the Group Chief Executive Officer of the airline, Mesfin Tasew, described the move as a milestone for the airline and the country.

According to him, the expansion highlights the carrier's commitment to strengthening air transport

links within Ethiopia, particularly in underserved and emerging regions.

He said the inauguration of the three airports was designed to empower

local communities, unlock economic opportunities and support regional integration by improving access to safe, reliable and efficient air travel.

“The inauguration of

these three new airports, along with the commencement of passenger services, represents a major milestone for Ethiopian Airlines and for the nation.

“The expansion reflects our steadfast commitment to enhancing connectivity within Ethiopia and serves as a powerful driver of economic growth

and regional development. Our mission is to build an inclusive and integrated air transport network that empowers communities, unlocks economic opportunities, and supports national development by making safe, reliable and efficient air travel accessible to all.”

Tasew added that expanding air links to cities such as Negele Borena, Gore Metu and Debre Markos was expected to facilitate trade, boost tourism, ease the movement of people and goods and encourage balanced regional development.

Ethiopian Airlines also said it has integrated the new destinations into its network and remained focused on modernising the domestic travel experience through ongoing infrastructure upgrades and service enhancements.

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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PUBLISHER

Greatpen Global Media Limited
(RC SCUML RC)

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General News

US Congress Recommends Measures To End Christian Persecution In Nigeria

Culled:

The US Congress has recommended measures to address the escalating persecution of Christians in Nigeria, calling for strengthening of the country's institutions, including improving policing, enhanced anti-money laundering methods, and support for legal reforms.

Recall that President Donald Trump had set up a Rep panel to investigate persecution of Christians in Nigeria and submit the report to him.

The Federal Government in a swift reaction, said Nigeria had no policy on religious persecution, describing the development as an opportunity for deeper engagement and broader cooperation between both countries.

But the US lawmakers, for the umpteenth time, urged the US president to invoke and announce the Country of Particular Concern, CPC, presidential directive to name and shame perpetrators of violence against Christians, implement sanctions against the individuals, and continue its on-going visa restrictions against perpetrators.

The recommendations put forward by the Congress, in conjunction with House Foreign Affairs Committee and House Appropriations Committee, followed months of



The US Congress

investigations into alleged Christian genocide in Nigeria after Trump redesignated Nigeria as a Country of Particular Concern.

Insisting that Nigeria was the deadliest place in the world to be a Christian, the lawmakers called for repeal of sharia codes and blasphemy laws in Nigeria's northern states, which had been used to silence dissent and target minorities.

They urged the Trump's administration to leverage its

position to compel Fulani herdsmen to disarm, potentially by blocking beef exports to countries such as Ghana, South Africa and Senegal.

To counter the influence of extremist groups, the lawmakers called on the government to allow farmers to engage in legitimate self-defence and also implement programmes to disrupt terrorist financing networks.

Additionally, the Congress recommended divesting

from Russian military equipment for American military equipment and countering Chinese influence in Nigeria, especially "their destabilising practice of paying protection money to Fulani militias."

They further recommended that the US should require a "GAO audit report" on the effectiveness of aid to Nigeria to ensure transparency and accountability in the use of funds.

Find Full Story In The Link

EU, Nigeria Open Talks On Science Pact

Culled:

The European Union and Nigeria have formally launched negotiations for a bilateral Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement in what both sides describe as a historic step to deepen research collaboration, accelerate innovation and anchor long-term strategic cooperation under the EU's Global Gateway strategy.

The talks, inaugurated at Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology in Abuja, signal a decisive push to strengthen innovation ecosystems, expand Nigeria's participation in Horizon Europe, and align joint scientific efforts with shared priorities for sustainable growth and economic transformation.

The negotiations come ahead of the second EU-Nigeria Science and Innovation Day.

The proposed agreement, rooted in commitments made during the 2023 EU-Nigeria Strategic Dialogue and the 2024 EU-Nigeria Summit, will align with the AU-EU Innovation Agenda (2023-2033).

It is designed to provide a long-term political and legal framework to review past cooperation, reinforce institutional partnerships and define clear future actions.

EU Ambassador to Nigeria and ECOWAS, Gautier Mignot, described the move as both historic and strategic, noting that collaboration between researchers on both sides is already active.

"We are not starting from scratch. Our researchers already cooperate actively, particularly under Horizon Europe, the largest research and innovation programme in the world," he said.

"This agreement will provide the legal and political framework to accelerate and scale up our collaboration. It sends a strong signal that the European Union is committed to deepening its partnership with Nigeria in science, technology and innovation."

Find Full Story In The Link

Nigeria's Crypto Surge Sparks Debate Over Risks, Regulation



Golden Tether

Culled:

Golden Tether cryptocurrency placed on a reflective surface, surrounded by additional coins, with a blurred digital screen in the background. Nigeria growing appetite for cryptocurrency is placing it among the most

active digital asset markets in the world, with industry advocates claiming the country ranks second globally in crypto engagement.

At a press conference in Abuja, organised by DAMA Academy in collaboration with the Department of

Science, Technology and Innovation, Education Secretariat, speakers argued that a significant portion of Nigeria's youth and workforce now earns income from digital assets.

Attempts in the past to restrict banking channels linked to peer-to-peer crypto trading, they said, did little to curb activity because blockchain technology operated outside centralised financial controls. Instead, trading shifted platforms, reinforcing calls for clearer regulation rather than outright restriction.

Yet, despite rising adoption, concerns over money laundering and illicit finance have continued to shadow it. Government authorities have previously raised alarms that digital assets could be used to move funds linked to

criminality or insurgency.

Responding to these concerns, Chief Executive Officer of academy, Nwankwo Ozioma said while financial crimes predate cryptocurrency, blockchain transactions are, in fact, traceable through public ledgers and Know Your Customer (KYC) compliance on regulated exchanges.

Ozioma noted that while blockchain transactions are pseudonymous, they are not invisible, and that law enforcement agencies globally have successfully tracked illicit flows using digital forensic tools. According to him, the debate should focus on strengthening oversight frameworks rather than portraying the technology itself as inherently criminal.

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Jamara Homes

Jamara Homes Reinforces C'ttment To Comfort, Value, Family Living

Culled:

As Muslims across Nigeria prepare to observe the holy month of Ramadan, Jamara Home, Nigeria's leading wholesale and retail destination for electronics and home appliances, extends heartfelt goodwill to its customers while showcasing its ongoing promo for exclusive in-store deals throughout the season.

In line with its commitment to supporting comfortable and functional homes, Jamara Home is currently running a customer-focused promotional campaign, 'Heart & Home Deals', which runs from February 3 to February 23, across

multiple product categories.

The Heart & Home Deals campaign encourages families to invest in dependable appliances that make daily living easier, whether it is preserving food for Iftar gatherings, ensuring cool and restful nights, or keeping homes powered and functional. The promotion reflects Jamara's belief that the home is more than a physical space; it is the heart of shared memories, traditions, and togetherness.

In light of this, Oluwatomi Faniran, Head of Marketing, at Jamara, reaffirmed the brand's customer-first philosophy: "Through this promo and

ongoing in-store deals, we want to ensure that families have access to quality, dependable appliances that support a comfortable and welcoming home environment throughout February."

She further noted that the promo is a gesture of appreciation to Nigerians: "Our customers' loyalty is the foundation of our growth. These initiatives are part of our broader commitment to making reliable home solutions more accessible, while giving back in a way that truly supports everyday living."

Widely recognized for delivering durable, functional, and affordable

home appliances tailored to households, Jamara Home provides access to over 30 trusted international brands. Its extensive product range includes TVs, fridges and freezers, audio systems, gas cookers, cooking appliances, air conditioners, washing machines, power solutions and more — all available to browse at jamarahome.com, designed to meet the practical realities of modern homes.

The Heart & Home Deals campaign encourages families to invest in dependable appliances that make daily living easier, whether it is preserving food for Iftar gatherings,

Find Full Story In The Link

Adeleke Lauds Tinubu's Assurance On State Police

Osun State Governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke has commended President Ahmed Bola Tinubu assurance to ensure the establishment of State Police to solidify the country security architecture.

Adeleke who made the remarks in a statement issued to congratulate the appointment of Olatunji Disu as the new Inspector General of Police said that with the establishment of the state police the subnational will be more

empower to tackle insecurity within their domain and not make insecurity a nightmare.

Adeleke said in the congratulatory message that the choice of Disu as the new police chief is a strong pointer to better and fair policing.

He expressed faith in Disu as having deep respect for the rule of law to guide the Nigeria Police Force to effectively serve its core mandate.

While maintaining strong hope in Mr

Disu's deep experience in policing, which stretches across all zones in the country, Governor Adeleke tasked the new police chief to uphold professionalism and insulate the force from political influence and partisanship to restore the confidence of Nigerians in the discharge of its constitutional role.

"I rejoice with Mr Olatunji Rilwan Disu on his appointment as the Acting Inspector-General of the Nigeria Police

Force by President Bola Tinubu. Mr Disu is an outstanding professional, devoting most part of his life to the security of citizens," Governor Adeleke was quoted as saying in a congratulatory message.

"Having Mr Disu as the head of the country's Police is quite a masterstroke, giving his deep knowledge about most parts of Nigeria as only a few policemen have had the privilege of serving in all the six zones of the country.

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



GRANTS

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.

CAPACITY DEV.

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.

NETWORKING

Your participation in our community platforms opens up new business relationship opportunities with operators, Regulators, Vendors, Researchers and Investors across the globe as membership is open worldwide.

GOOD BUSINESS

PROFILE/LEVERAGE

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

Our community development projects such as the Safe School Volunteer Project as well as our Road Safety advocacy activities creates a positive brand footprint for all our Members and Affiliates. Membership of DSSAA elevates your Corporate ethical persona.

OTHER BENEFITS

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DSSAA will promote your business from time to time on our growing social media handles.

JOB FAIR

Your Road Safety organization or Driving School qualifies as a Job Fair Agent. You earn money from this.

HONORARIUM

You earn money from time to time facilitating Road Safety Courses and Seminars online and physically in different Countries.

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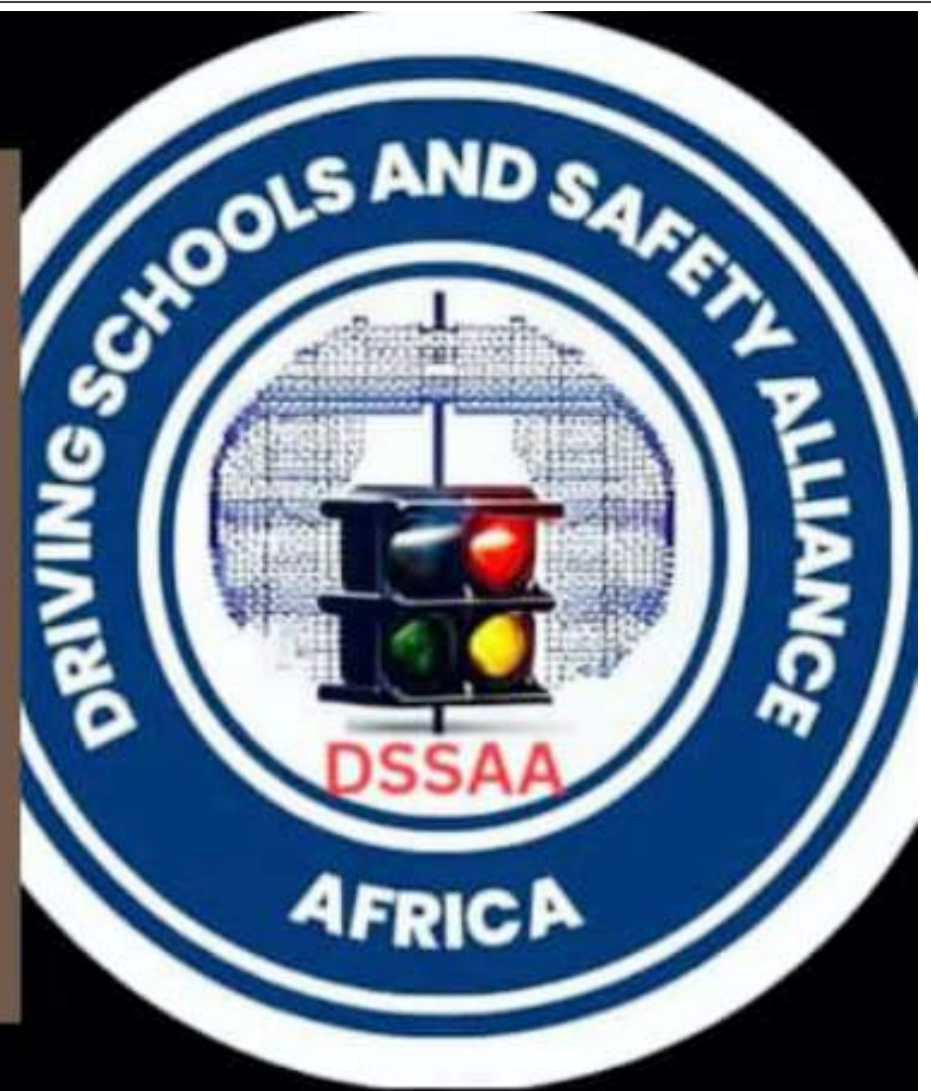


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