

Nigeria's president approves set up of \$2.6bn infrastructure firm

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Nigeria's president has approved the creation of a new company that will focus on infrastructure development, with a seed capital of \$2.63bn, the head of state's office said on Friday, 12 February.



Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari (Reuters/Siphiwe Sibeko)

The company, named Infra-Co, will be a public-private partnership, and the initial capital will come from the central bank, the Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA), and the Africa Finance Corporation, it said.

"Infra-Co will finance public asset development, rehabilitation and reconstruction as well as invest in cutting edge infrastructure projects for roads, rail, power and other key sectors," President Muhammadu Buhari's office said in a statement.

Its board will be chaired by the central bank governor, the managing director Nigeria's sovereign wealth fund, the president of the Africa Finance Corporation, and three independent directors from the private sector, the statement said.

The aim is for the entity to grow to ₦15tn in assets and capital, it added.

Nigeria's poor transport and power networks have stymied economic growth for decades, holding back the distribution of wealth in the country which has Africa's biggest economy but 40% of people live below the national poverty line of ₦137,430 (\$360.99) per year.

Source: Reuters

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