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Under President Tinubu, Economic Growth Follows National Security

The counterterrorism security partnership forged between President Trump and President Tinubu isn't just delivering safer communities for Christians and all Nigerians, it's also laying the groundwork for deeper economic cooperation. The new U.S.-Nigeria mining investment agreement offers a concrete opportunity to turn that cooperation into lasting prosperity.

A partnership with economic promise

In September, Nigeria and the United States [signed a framework agreement](#) to deepen American investment in Nigeria's mining sector. The agreement, which covers geological data, exploration, mineral development and processing, infrastructure, and technical capacity building, represents an opportunity to expand economic ties while supporting Nigeria's effort to diversify beyond oil.

For Nigeria, the potential benefits extend across the economy. Developing mineral resources can generate demand for engineers, construction workers, transport operators, equipment suppliers, and local businesses. Processing more minerals domestically can also help Nigeria retain more of the value created from its natural wealth. For the United States, the partnership offers an opportunity to diversify supplies of minerals essential to modern industry and technology. Those shared interests give both countries a reason to invest in the relationship's success.

The latest *African Business* [reporting](#) highlights both Nigeria's mineral potential and the work needed to develop it effectively. With the new agreement inked, U.S. businesses are increasingly interested in partnering with Nigeria to that end.

Security provides the foundation

Mining projects require years of planning, substantial capital, and reliable infrastructure. Investors must assess whether workers can travel safely, whether equipment can reach project sites, and whether operations can continue without disruption. The Trump-Tinubu counterterrorism security partnership, therefore, has an economic dimension. Protecting communities and confronting violent criminal and terrorist networks are essential to making long-term investment possible.

Back in May, U.S. Africa Command announced that an operation conducted in coordination with Nigeria had killed senior Islamic State leader Abu-Bilal al-Minuki and other terrorist leaders in northeastern Nigeria. This month, Nigerian security forces [killed](#) senior ISIS commander Abdussamad Ohida along with close to 100 other terrorists and arrested more than 350 suspected terrorists.

Such operations demonstrate the practical value of a U.S.-Nigeria partnership focused on eliminating shared security threats, which in turn forms the foundation for a broader relationship encompassing investment, infrastructure, and economic opportunity.

Banks and market makers are taking notice

This week, Deutsche Bank [announced](#) their position that the Nigerian naira will strengthen against the US dollar. The Bank also added the currency to its Frontier FX Watchlist, an internal monitoring framework the bank uses to keep an eye on actionable investment opportunities in smaller emerging or frontier economies where a currency may be significantly mispriced or offer lucrative yields. The Bank's strategists and economists believe the naira is undervalued.

Just days after the Deutsche Bank announcement, JPMorgan Chase & Co deposited 50 billion naira (\$38 million) with the Central Bank of Nigeria, signaling progress as the Bank moves to secure a banking license in Nigeria. The deposit, according to [Blomberg](#), is "one of the final regulatory requirements for obtaining approval, signaling the largest US lender's readiness to launch a merchant-banking operation in Nigeria should its application be approved."

From national security to financial security

Security and economic development reinforce each other. Safer communities are better positioned to attract investment while productive investment expands employment and gives more families a stake in lasting stability. President Tinubu's partnership with President Trump offers an opportunity to strengthen that cycle. Continued counterterrorism cooperation, matched by serious

investment and accountable implementation, will help Nigeria turn its considerable potential into greater financial security for its people.

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