

NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA - OIL & GAS (NIGERIA) · NIGERIA · PIPELINE

Nigeria PLAN calls for national pipeline database

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The Pipeline Professionals Association of Nigeria (PLAN) has called on Nigerian authorities to establish a national pipeline database designed to enable real-time incident reporting and help prevent pipeline disasters across the country. The call was made by PLAN and reported by the News Agency of Nigeria, signalling growing pressure from industry professionals for improved infrastructure oversight and data governance in Nigeria's pipeline sector.

PLAN's proposal centres on creating a centralised data infrastructure that would aggregate pipeline information nationwide, allowing operators, regulators, and emergency responders to monitor the condition of pipelines in real time and react swiftly to incidents. The association argues that the absence of such a system leaves Nigeria's extensive pipeline network — which spans crude oil export lines, domestic product distribution systems, and gas transmission infrastructure — vulnerable to undetected failures, third-party interference, and the kind of catastrophic spills and explosions that have repeatedly affected communities and disrupted supply chains.

Nigeria's pipeline infrastructure has long suffered from a combination of sabotage, illegal tapping, corrosion, and inadequate maintenance. These challenges have undermined both oil production reliability and product supply to domestic refineries and export terminals. A functional national database, as envisioned by PLAN, would represent a structural upgrade to how Nigeria manages one of its most critical and geographically dispersed categories of energy infrastructure. The association's push aligns with broader regulatory reform efforts under the Petroleum Industry Act,

which established new mandates for transparency and operational standards across the upstream, midstream, and downstream sectors.

At this stage, PLAN's proposal is a policy recommendation — no government commitment, legislation, or procurement process has been announced. The initiative remains at the advocacy and dialogue phase, and no contracts or tenders have been issued in connection with this proposal. Whether the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) or another body would take ownership of such a database, and how it would be funded or built, has not been specified in the available reporting.

For the broader energy services industry, however, the direction of travel is clear. Nigeria is signalling, through professional associations and regulatory reform, an intent to modernise its pipeline monitoring and management capabilities. If translated into policy and procurement, a national pipeline database initiative would likely require pipeline integrity assessment tools, remote sensing and SCADA systems, geographic information system (GIS) mapping, and associated technical services — areas where international service companies with established competencies in pipeline management and digital infrastructure carry competitive advantage. Norwegian companies with experience in pipeline integrity and data-driven asset management in harsh or complex environments should monitor this space for any formal procurement signal.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This is a policy advocacy initiative with no contract, tender, or government commitment yet announced, so Norwegian service companies should monitor rather than approach procurement. If NMDPRA or another Nigerian body formalises the database programme, opportunities may emerge in pipeline integrity software, SCADA integration, and GIS mapping — areas where Norwegian firms carry strong credentials. Relationship-building with PLAN and Nigeria's midstream regulator now could position companies favourably ahead of any future procurement process.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Pipeline:** Monitor PLAN advocacy closely — a formalised national pipeline database could create tenders for integrity assessment, leak detection, and SCADA system integration across Nigeria's grid.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Offshore pipeline tie-ins and subsea export lines could fall within scope of a national database mandate, creating demand for subsea inspection and data management services.
- **Service:** GIS mapping, remote sensing, and digital twin solutions for pipeline corridors are natural entry points if the database initiative moves from advocacy to procurement.
- **Drilling:** Limited direct relevance at this stage, but improved pipeline oversight infrastructure indirectly supports drilling programme logistics and production offtake reliability.

[Original source: News Agency of Nigeria - Oil & Gas \(Nigeria\) →](#)

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