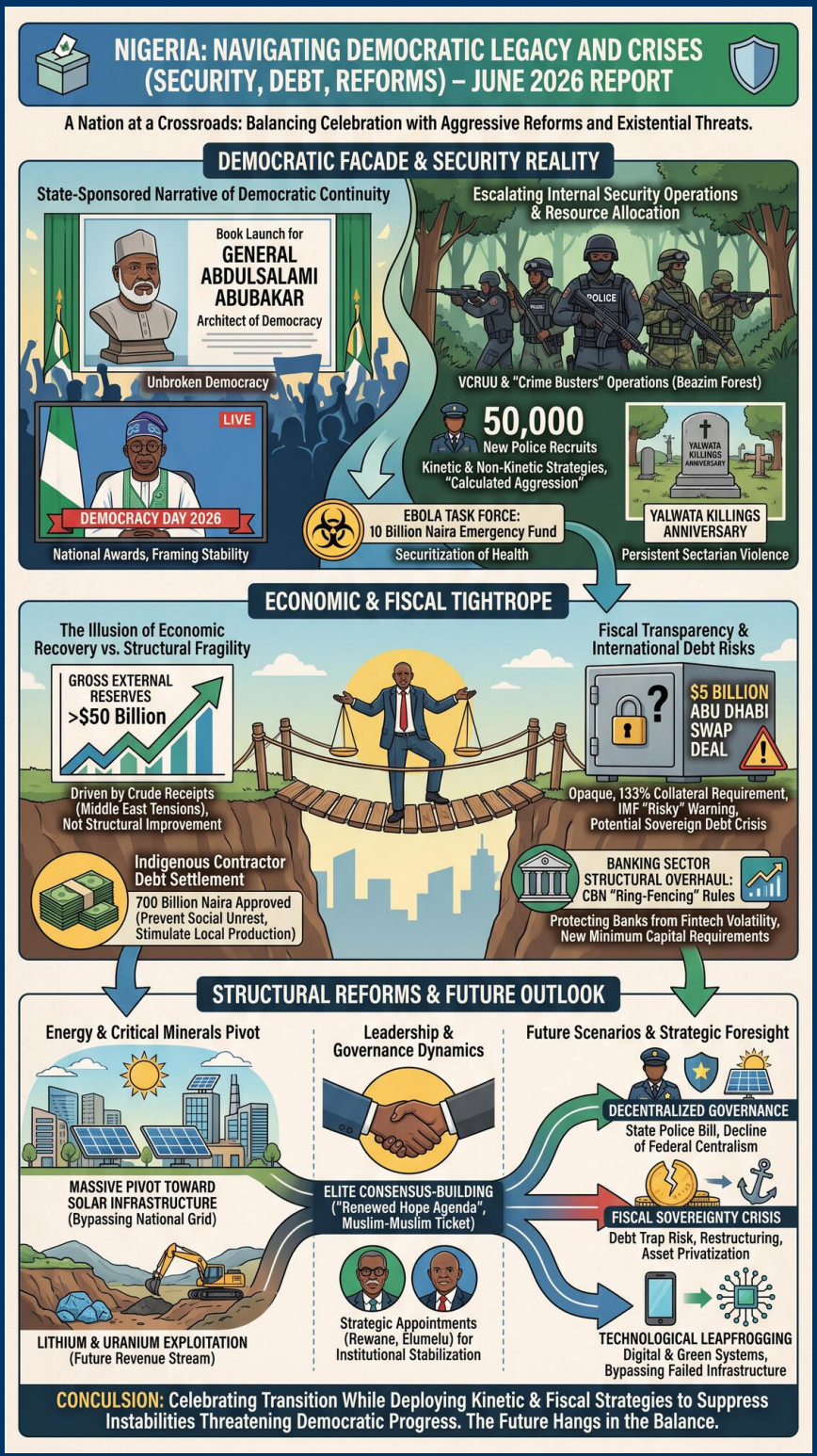
TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

CHANNELSTV

JUNE 13, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT



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NIGERIA LEVERAGES DEMOCRATIC LEGACY AND AGGRESSIVE FISCAL REFORMS TO NAVIGATE PERSISTENT SECURITY THREATS AND OPAQUE INTERNATIONAL DEBT OBLIGATIONS.

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

The broadcast day of June 13, 2026, is dominated by the intersection of Nigeria's democratic legacy and its current existential struggles with security and economic transparency. The government is utilizing the 84th birthday and book launch of former military head of state **General Abdulsalami Abubakar** as a centerpiece for a national narrative on "unbroken democracy," aiming to project stability to both domestic and international audiences. This celebration occurs against a backdrop of severe internal security threats, ranging from the **Yalwata killings anniversary** in Benue to active police operations in the **Beazim forest** to reclaim territory from kidnapping syndicates. The administration's posture is one of "calculated aggression," characterized by the announcement of 50,000 new police recruits and a 10-billion-naira emergency fund for an **Ebola task force**, suggesting a government struggling to manage multiple crises simultaneously.

Economically, Nigeria presents a contradictory picture. While **gross external reserves** have climbed to over $50 billion, the **IMF** has raised significant alarms regarding a "risky" and "opaque" $5 billion dollar swap deal with **Abu Dhabi**, which requires 133% collateral. This suggests a desperate search for liquidity that may compromise long-term fiscal sovereignty. Concurrently, the **Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)** is pushing "ring-fencing" regulations to protect the banking sector from the volatility of fintech and microfinance subsidiaries. The market sentiment remains "cautiously positive" but highly selective, as the state attempts to settle massive debts to indigenous contractors to prevent social unrest and stimulate local production. The day's coverage reflects a nation at a crossroads: celebrating the transition to civil rule while deploying military and kinetic strategies to suppress the very instabilities that threaten to undo that democratic progress.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

State-Sponsored Narrative of Democratic Continuity

- The government organized a massive tribute and book launch for **General Abdulsalami Abubakar**, framing him as the "architect of democracy" to bolster current regime legitimacy arrival of Obasanjo.
- President Bolatinu utilized the June 12 Democracy Day broadcast to announce national awards and emphasize "unbroken democracy" despite pervasive insecurity third Democracy Day broadcast.

Escalating Internal Security Operations and Resource Allocation

- Launch of the **Violent Crime Response Unit (VCRUU)** and specialized raids in the FCT to neutralize kidnapping syndicates Beazim forest.
- Announcement of a "security emergency" and the recruitment of **50,000 police officers** and thousands of military personnel kinetic and non-kinetic strategies.
- Persistent sectarian and bandit violence highlighted by the first anniversary of the **Yalwata massacre** and calls for papal intervention Pope Leo appeal.

Fiscal Transparency and International Debt Risks

- IMF issues a stern warning over the **$5 billion Abu Dhabi swap deal**, citing a lack of transparency and high collateral risks qualified as opaque.
- The **CPPE** endorses IMF warnings regarding Nigeria's over-reliance on volatile foreign portfolio investment (FPI) external sector sustainability.

Banking Sector Structural Overhaul

- The CBN introduces strict "ring-fencing" rules to prevent risks in fintech and other affiliates from spreading to parent banking institutions clearer lines between banks.
- Introduction of new **minimum capital requirements** for holding companies to strengthen market governance minimum capsule requirements.

Public Health Crisis Management

- Establishment of a **presidential task force on Ebola** with an immediate release of 10 billion naira in emergency funding 10 billion nar.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- The transition from "boardroom to battlefield" for police leadership indicates an increasing **militarization of law enforcement** in response to banditry transitioned to the battlefield.
- Major General **Rabi Abu Bakar** died in captivity, highlighting the extreme risks faced even by high-ranking military officials death in captivity.

Leadership Dynamics & Governance

- Elite consensus-building through the "Renewed Hope Agenda," which seeks to transcend religious lines by appointments like the **Muslim-Muslim ticket** renewed hope agenda.
- Conflict in the **Senate** over the characterization of the NMPC (NNPC) leadership, reflecting deep-seated institutional friction bunch of criminals.

Macroeconomics & Trade

- The shift toward "seller's markets" in essential goods like food and transport is driving **cost-push inflation** seller dictates what goes on.
- Government approval of **700 billion naira** to settle debts with 1,240 indigenous contractors to prevent a complete collapse of local business liquidity cleared over 700 billion.

Energy & Critical Minerals

- Massive pivot toward **solar infrastructure**, with 435 billion naira in solar panel imports in 2025, aiming to bypass the "outdated and sabotaged" national grid imported 435 billion.
- Exploitation of **lithium and uranium** in Northern Nigeria is being framed as a key future revenue stream if domestic manufacturing can be established lithium, uranium and so on.

Cybersecurity & Threat Actors

- Ongoing legal battles between the **FCCPC** and value-added services (VAS) companies over digital lending regulations and data protection restrained the FCCPC.
- Concerns regarding **data sovereignty** and the risk of Nigerian data residing in foreign servers sovereignty of our data.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The Illusion of Economic Recovery vs. Structural Fragility

Nigeria's "recovery" is a carefully curated statistical narrative. While **external reserves** show growth, this is largely attributed to elevated **crude receipts** driven by Middle East tensions rather than structural domestic improvement attributed to elevate crude receipts. The IMF's critique of the **Abu Dhabi deal** suggests that the government's "positive" macro-indicators are being propped up by high-risk, non-transparent borrowing. The "cautious optimism" of investors is a thin veneer over a market where **FPIs** (Hot Money) can flee at any sign of further Naira depreciation hot money does not stay.

Kinetic Governance as the New Standard

The administration is increasingly defining its success through "kinetic" actions. The deployment of the **VCRUU** and the heavy focus on forest reclamation projects like the **Beazim operation** signal a realization that economic reform is impossible without territorial control dismantle violent crimes. However, the death of a Major General in captivity and the ongoing **Yalwata anniversary** protests indicate that the state's kinetic reach is still insufficient to secure the Middle Belt and North Central regions.

The Securitization of Health and Infrastructure

Governance is now being delivered through the lens of **security-first infrastructure**. Road projects in the FCT are justified not just for trade, but for "enhancing security" enhance security, improve connectivity. Similarly, the Ebola response is framed as a matter of "emergency preparedness" with military-level funding, suggesting that public health is now viewed as a national security threat that could destabilize the fragile civil order.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Nigeria faces a **crisis of institutional confidence**. The "contractor rebellion," where indigenous businesses were prepared to protest over unpaid debts, highlights the government's struggle to maintain its domestic mandate wanted to have a protest. Furthermore, the **State Police Bill** debate reveals deep fractures between federal and state levels, with critics fearing that governors will "weaponize" local forces against political dissent governors may use

this or weaponize this. The Senate's internal bickering over the **NMPC (NNPC) investigation** suggests that elite infighting over resource control remains a primary driver of legislative friction, potentially stalling critical energy reforms.

- **Youth Disillusionment:** Despite celebrating "Democracy Day," the narrative on the streets (as seen on TikTok) shows bandits flaunting wealth while restless, unemployed youth remain vulnerable to recruitment restless youths all over.
- **Regional Disconnect:** The perception that ethnic groups "capture state power" to the exclusion of others continues to undermine national unity ethnic group that captures state power.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

Nigeria is attempting to project **regional leadership** while being externally constrained by its debt profile. The hosting of leaders from Sierra Leone, Ghana, and South Africa for the **Abubakar tribute** is a strategic effort to frame Nigeria as the "Big Brother" and anchor of West African stability president of Sieralone. However, the IMF's "opaque" labeling of the Abu Dhabi deal is a significant blow to Nigeria's global financial reputation, potentially making future **FDI** harder to attract as investors prioritize transparency ensure that our policies are very stable.

- **Geopolitical Competition:** Nigeria is increasingly looking to "African solutions" via **ECOMOG** and the AU to minimize Western interference, even as it signs migration and border security deals with the **United Kingdom** agreements signed between Nigeria and the UK.
- **Bilateral Friction:** Tensions with **Canada** over the denial of visas to Ghanaian soccer players (Thomas Partey) and the broader "xenophobic" environment in South Africa are shaping a more defensive, Nigeria-centric foreign policy returning from South Africa.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The economic environment is characterized by **selective liquidity** and high **regulatory risk**. The CBN's "ring-fencing" is a defensive maneuver against the "shadow banking" risks of the fintech boom. The markets are currently pricing in significant geopolitical risk, especially concerning the potential for **margin calls** on the Abu Dhabi loan if the Naira continues to fluctuate.

- **Market Indicators:** DAX (Germany) up 1.76% to 24,635; FTSE (London) up 1.63% to 10,471; CAC40 (France) up 1.83% to 8,350; Nikkei (Japan) record high at 66,20 points; Shanghai Index up 1.12% closing in the green.
- **Nigerian Equities (NGX):** All-share index up 0.88%; market cap at 156.97 trillion naira. Insurance led gains (1.63%), while industrial and consumer goods faced pressure sector performance that was also mixed.
- **Commodities:** Brent crude projected to exceed **$110 per barrel** due to Strait of Hormuz tensions; average price forecast for 2027 revised to **$80 per barrel** average $80 per barrel.
- **Corporate Actions: SpaceX IPO** debut on NASDAQ at $150/share (jumping 19%); Elon Musk's net worth reaches **$1.05 trillion** officially become the first person.

- **Liquidity Flows:** Total turnover of $2.15 billion recorded on FMDQ exchange, a **421.07% drop** from the previous week total turnover of $2.15 billion.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Recent appointments signal a shift toward **strategic capital allocation** and institutional stabilization, bringing in high-profile economists and seasoned strategists to manage the boardrooms of critical infrastructure companies.

- **Mr. Bismark Rewane:** Appointed as Chairman of **FCMB**; seen as a move to signal confidence to investors amid new CBN capital rules appointed Mr. Bismark.
- **Tony Elumelu:** Appointed incoming Chairman of **Seplat Energy** (effective January 2027); signals a focus on aggressive capital allocation in the energy sector Seplat energy appointing Tony Ulum.
- **Shola Eniknlaye & Joseph (Surname Unclear):** Sworn in as Minister of State for **Foreign Affairs** and Minister of **Power**, respectively, to address internal process decay in these sectors sworn in two newly appointed ministers.
- **Jason Jackson:** Noted as the first Nigerian-born mayor of Islington (UK), highlighting the growing global influence of the **Nigerian diaspora** first Nigerian-born mayor.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The network's editorial hierarchy strongly prioritizes **reassurance and state capacity**. The "Lead Stories" are the elaborate Democracy Day tributes and the "Crime Busters" segments, which utilize high-production value to show the police "winning" in the forests. "Buried Stories" include the **IMF's stinging critique** of the Abu Dhabi deal and the **Major General's death**, which are placed later in the broadcasts or framed as "external opinions" rather than domestic failures. The tone is **nationalistic but anxious**, oscillating between the trillion-dollar success of Elon Musk and the "epileptic" power supply facing Nigerian homes. **Conspicuous Omissions** include any detailed discussion of the specific terms of the Abu Dhabi collateral or a breakdown of the 133% ratio, and the lack of critical interviews with families of those still in captivity following the Yalwata anniversary.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The global arena is portrayed as a **volatile multipolar system** where Nigeria must aggressively secure its own "African-led" solutions while managing the "hot money" whims of Western investors.

- **Nigeria**: Framed as **competent but besieged**. The state is shown as "taking the war" to the criminals brought the war to had our deployment.
- **Abu Dhabi / UAE**: Framed as a **predatory but necessary** lender of last resort, imposing "opaque" and "risky" terms on a desperate state transaction as opaque.
- **The IMF**: Framed as **skeptical and intrusive**, but the government implicitly acknowledges its macro-analysis as accurate IMF actually acknowledged this.
- **Iran**: Portrayed as **chaotic and dangerous**, yet on the verge of a "breakthrough" deal with the US to end regional war deal with the United States to end the war.

- **United Kingdom**: Framed as a **strategic security partner** for migration and border control, while also serving as a hub for the Nigerian diaspora's political rise migration and border security agreements.

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

The state is actively **shaping the meta-narrative** of "Security via Infrastructure." By framing road projects as anti-kidnapping measures, the government seeks to justify infrastructure spending that might otherwise be seen as pork-barrel politics. There is also a clear **narrative seeding** regarding the "inevitability of solar," which prepares the public for a permanent withdrawal from the national grid as the state admits its inability to protect the centralized power infrastructure impact of sustainables is what we are hoping for.

- **Disinformation Risks:** The "Crime Busters" show may be overstating the success of forest operations to "create a perception" of safety that is not yet backed by long-term security data defines true leadership.
- **Censorship / Control:** The government's warning to "content creators" about "creating panic" suggests a move toward **domestic information control** under the guise of national security warn them seriously, that anybody.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **Decentralized Governance:** The push for State Police and the solar-centric energy policy suggest a long-term **decline of federal centralism**. Future stability may depend on the ability of state governors to manage their own security and power independent of Abuja.
- **Fiscal Sovereignty Crisis:** If the Abu Dhabi swap deal is as "opaque" as the IMF claims, Nigeria is likely setting itself up for a **sovereign debt crisis** in the 3-5 year window, particularly if crude prices fall below the $80/barrel benchmark.
- **Technological Leapfrogging:** The massive investment in solar and fintech "ring-fencing" suggests Nigeria is attempting to **leapfrog failed 20th-century infrastructure** (power grids, traditional retail banking) directly into 21st-century digital and green systems.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect a surge in **Ebola-related lockdowns** or travel restrictions as the 10-billion-naira fund is deployed. Domestic markets will likely experience high volatility as the settle-debt payments to contractors (700B Naira) filter into the economy, potentially spiking inflation.

Medium Term (1-6 Months): The first 50,000 **police recruits** will enter the field, likely leading to more visible "kinetic" raids in the Middle Belt. Regulatory friction will increase between the **CBN** and the **Fintech** sector as the "ring-fencing" rules are enforced, potentially slowing digital banking innovation.

Long Term (1-5 Years): The FCT's road and rail infrastructure will become the "Safer Corridor," but at the cost of **increased regional inequality**. The 133% collateral requirement for the Abu Dhabi deal will likely force the government into a "restructuring" phase by 2029, potentially leading to the **privatization of national assets** to repay the swap.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- **Debt Default Flashpoint:** High-collateral swap deals (Abu Dhabi) could lead to a sudden loss of national assets if the Naira depreciates sharply. **Triggers:** Naira drops below 2,500/USD; Crude falls below $70. **Likelihood:** High. **Impact:** Catastrophic for credit rating. **Mitigations:** Immediate restructuring and IMF-monitored transparency.
- **Sectarian Insurgency Escalation:** Protests on the Yalwata massacre anniversary could ignite wider unrest in the Middle Belt. **Triggers:** High-profile kidnapping of students; Police firing on Democracy Day activists. **Likelihood:** Moderate. **Impact:** Disruption of food supply chains. **Mitigations:** Visible "kinetic" successes and community-led dialogue.
- **Biosecurity Breakdown:** Ebola outbreak reaching the FCT or Lagos ports. **Triggers:** Failure of the 10B Naira task force; cross-border migration from insecure zones. **Likelihood:** Moderate. **Impact:** Total economic shutdown. **Mitigations:** Rapid deployment of the 50,000 recruits to health-border security.
- **Financial Contagion:** Collapse of a major Fintech/VAS player dragging down a tier-one bank. **Triggers:** Failure of "ring-fencing" implementation; major data breach. **Likelihood:** Low-Moderate. **Impact:** Loss of public confidence in the banking system. **Mitigations:** CBN-enforced minimum capital for parent companies.
- **Infrastructure Sabotage:** Coordinated attacks on the "Galaxy Backbone" or new fiber networks. **Triggers:** Geopolitical crisis leading to state-sponsored cyberattacks. **Likelihood:** Low. **Impact:** Collapse of the digital economy. **Mitigations:** Investing in Galaxy Park "sovereign data" infrastructure.

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- **The Cost of 50,000 Recruits:** The broadcast fails to explain how the government will **fund the salaries and equipment** for these new officers given the already strained 5.41 trillion naira security budget our 2026 budget me commits 5.41 trillion.
- **Abu Dhabi Swap Details:** There is zero information on the **interest rate or repayment timeline** for the $5 billion swap, which is essential to assessing fiscal risk 133% collateral requirement.
- **Ebola Strain Particulars:** The 10 billion naira fund is mentioned, but the **severity and current case count** of the Ebola threat are missing, making it unclear if the response is "proactive" or "reactive" emergency intervention funding.

- **Digital Lending Victims:** While the VAS companies are fighting the FCCPC, the **voice of the consumer** regarding "debt shaming" or predatory practices is missing from the legal debate restrained the FCCPC.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

- **The "Potemkin" Police Force:** The 50,000 recruits and "Crime Busters" raids may be a **theatrical diversion** to mask the fact that the army has effectively lost control of the rural north. By focusing on forest operations in the FCT, the state creates an **illusion of control** while its periphery collapses.
- **The Swap as a Hidden Bailout:** The $5 billion Abu Dhabi swap might not be for infrastructure, but a **desperate hidden bailout** for the banking sector following the CBN's "ring-fencing" audit, which may have uncovered massive, undisclosed liabilities in fintech subsidiaries.
- **Black Swan Event:** A **Total Grid Collapse** caused by cyber-sabotage of the new solar-integrated TCN, leading to a "dark winter" and a complete breakdown of urban social order in the middle of an Ebola outbreak.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- Prioritize **fiscal transparency** on the Abu Dhabi deal to stabilize international investor sentiment and satisfy IMF concerns IMF actually acknowledged this.
- Accelerate **State Police legislation** with strong federal oversight to prevent political weaponization at the subnational level weaponize this against the voices.
- Integrate the **50,000 recruits** into a health-security hybrid model to manage both banditry and the burgeoning Ebola threat operational preparedness.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Energy Pivot:** Divest from grid-dependent manufacturing and shift capital to **captive solar solutions**, as the grid is being treated as a "sunset" asset by the state impact of sustainables is what we are hoping for.
- **Banking Exposure:** Monitor the "ring-fencing" process closely; banks with heavy fintech exposure may face **liquidity squeezes** during the transition prevent risk in one entity from spreading.
- **Supply Chain Resilience:** Avoid the "transactional captivity" of the **Apapa Port Complex** by utilizing alternative logistics corridors or digital "eto" systems to bypass extortion syndicates gridlock at the ports.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

The legislative agenda is focused on **securitizing the state** and reforming fiscal governance. Hearings on **State Police** and the **National Health Act** represent a

significant shift toward localizing governance to bypass federal paralysis.

- **BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:**
  - **State Police Bill:** Aims to create subnational law enforcement; currently referred to the constitutional review committee to address concerns of "weaponization" by governors referred it to his constitution review committee.
  - **National Health Act Amendment:** Seeks to increase the healthcare provision fund from 1% to 2% to strengthen domestic financing of healthcare increased allocation to healthcare provision fund.
  - **CBN Ring-Fencing Regulations:** New rules requiring banks to operate fintech and microfinance units as **independent legal entities** with separate capital operate independently with stricter controls.
- **HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:**
  - **Senate NNPC Investigation:** A heated hearing regarding the "bunch of criminals" at the NMPC and their failure to account for deposited trillions senator Adams Oshule describing NMPC.
  - **IMF/CPPE Press Statement:** Endorsement of IMF warnings regarding Nigeria's debt and portfolio investment volatility endorsed the IMF's warning.

KEY STORIES

- **Abubakar 84th Birthday/Book Launch:** Massive regional gathering in Abuja to celebrate General Abdulsalami Abubakar; tributes from Bill Clinton and former Nigerian presidents Nigeria's Grand Patriot General Abdul Salami.
- **Democracy Day 2026 Broadcast:** President Bolatinu outlines economic reforms and security emergency; warns bandits of the "full force of the Nigerian state" President Nubu has issued a strong warning.
- **IMF Abu Dhabi Swap Deal Alarm:** IMF raises concerns over $5B swap deal with 133% collateral, labeling it "opaque" and "risky" raising concerns over the proposed $5 billion dollar swap deal.
- **Operation "Crime Busters" in Beazim Forest:** Nigerian Police Force raids a thick forest in the FCT to rescue **Mrs. John Paul and twins** from a kidnap syndicate decimated a notorious kidnap syndicate.
- **CBN Ring-Fencing Mandate:** New regulations to separate banking operations from volatile fintech and microfinance subsidiaries proposed ring fencing rules.
- **Ebola Task Force/10B Naira Fund:** Presidential directive for emergency Ebola intervention; task force chaired by Chief of Staff Miller presidential task force on Ebola.
- **Indigenous Contractor Debt Settlement:** Approval of 700 billion naira to pay 1,240 contractors to prevent business collapse cleared over 700 billion narr debt.
- **Yalwata Massacre 1st Anniversary:** Commemoration of the 2025 killing of 271 people; call from Pope Leo for protection of Christians in Benue killing of 271 persons on June 13, 2025.
- **Port Extortion/Apapa Gridlock:** Allegations of a 70-billion-naira "rent-seeking" scheme causing 15-day delays for export trucks system is just designed for rent seeking.

- **Nigeria's Solar Pivot:** Report on 435 billion naira in solar panel imports; FCT moving the presidential villa and ASSO Villa clinic to solar power assock moving uh you know from the national grid to solar.
- **Nigeria Equities Mixed Performance:** Market cap stands at 156.97 trillion naira; volume up but value down 49.6% on NESD market cap stood at 2.62 trillion nara.
- **Global Markets Green Trend:** DAX, FTSE, CAC40, and Nikkei show strong gains; Hang Seng also up nearly 2% closing in the green.
- **Elon Musk Net Worth Milestone:** Elon Musk officially becomes the world's first trillionaire with a net worth of $1.05 trillion first person in history to cross the $1 trillion.
- **Anemia Management Segment:** Health expert Dr. Wali van Joko discusses diagnosis and treatment of anemia, particularly in women and children delving into aspect of hematology field.
- **Canada vs. Bosnia World Cup Draw:** Canada grabs 1-1 draw in first-ever World Cup final game on Canadian soil Canada grabbed second half equalizer.
- **Switzerland Immigration Vote:** Swiss voters to decide on capping population at 10 million to ease housing and service pressure cap their population at 10 million.
- **Nigeria's Ebola Task Force Funding:** Release of 10 billion naira to the NCDC for public health emergency readiness strengthen the operational preparedness.
- **Plateau State Malaria Campaign:** Launch of 2026 seasonal malaria chemo prevention targeting 1 million children targeting over 1 million children.
- **Lagos Education/UNICEF Day of Play:** Celebration of International Day of Play; focus on safe learning environments and child development Unicef chief of field office worn.
- **Galaxy Backbone Sovereignty Debate:** Focus on keeping Nigerian data on domestic servers to ensure sovereignty sovereignty of our data cannot be wit away.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Today's Media Trends is a public interest experiment in applying deep thematic trend analysis to television news coverage from around the world to explore how responsibly applied advanced AI can help journalists and scholars better understand the overarching trends, themes and patterns of our global world.

No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

Each morning, in collaboration with the Internet Archive's TV News Archive, we apply Google's Gemini 3 to deeply examine yesterday's coverage from each television news channel to tease out the overarching themes and trends of its news coverage into a richly annotated thematic analysis. Each high-level insight is connected back to the original broadcast, allowing journalists and scholars to understand the dominate themes and trends and instantly click out to the underlying sources for details.

By helping journalists and scholars see the broader trends and patterns of global news coverage, this analysis helps them identify relevant stories and coverage they might not otherwise have encountered and uncover connections, emphases and narrative shifts

that enable more comprehensive reporting and deeper, evidence-based research.

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