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## IMF UPGRADES NIGERIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH FORECAST TO 4.4% IN 2026

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The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected that Nigeria's economy will grow by 4.4 percent in 2026, from 4.2 percent in 2025, reflecting the impact of ongoing government reforms and improving macroeconomic conditions.

According to the IMF, growth across sub-Saharan Africa is expected to strengthen, rising from 4.4 percent in 2025 to 4.6 percent in both 2026 and 2027. This acceleration is attributed to macroeconomic stabilization efforts and structural reforms in several key economies across the region.

This upward revision reflects a nuanced understanding of the economic landscape, considering various factors driving growth and development within the country. The upgrade also indicates a degree of confidence in the resilience of the Nigerian economy to navigate both domestic and global challenges.

The organization anticipates global economic growth to rise by 3.3 percent this year. However, a slight slowdown to 3.2 percent is expected in 2027. This signifies a near-term boost followed by a moderation in the pace of global expansion. The recent upward revision for 2026 represents a notable improvement from the October 2025 projection of 3.1 percent for 2026, highlighting the evolving economic environment and the IMF's responsiveness to changing circumstances.

The IMF's comprehensive analysis underscores the interconnectedness of global and regional economies, particularly within the context of Nigeria's growth trajectory and its ties to the African continent as a whole. The updated forecasts are predicated on a variety of global conditions and internal factors that would be helpful to Nigeria's economy in the coming years.

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