

1 (d) ensure that public projects are delivered timely, within scope, and
2 in accordance with approved standards;

3 (e) promote transparency and public confidence in government
4 project execution.

Functions of
the agency

5 **3.** The Agency shall-

6 (a) monitor and evaluate all federally funded or co-funded projects
7 across all sectors in Nigeria;

8 (b) conduct baseline assessments before project commencement and
9 post-project evaluations upon completion;

10 (c) identify and report cases of substandard execution, abandonment,
11 contract inflation, or fraud to relevant authorities;

12 (d) develop and implement national project monitoring standards and
13 tools;

14 (e) maintain a real-time digital database of all public projects and their
15 status;

16 (f) submit quarterly and annual project performance reports to the
17 Presidency and the National Assembly;

18 (g) collaborate with the Budget Office, Bureau of Public
19 Procurement, EFCC, ICPC, and other relevant agencies;

20 (h) recommend sanctions, remediation, or withholding of payments
21 for non-compliant projects;

22 (i) engage with host communities for participatory monitoring where
23 applicable; and

24 (j) carry out such other activities as are necessary for the effective
25 performance of its functions under this Act.

Powers of the
Agency

26 **4.** The Agency shall have powers to-

27 (a) enter any project site at any stage of execution for inspection and
28 verification;

29 (b) request information, documents, drawings, and other relevant data
30 from any MDA, contractor, or consultant;

1 (c) summon any person involved in public project execution to
2 appear before it for clarification or explanation;

3 (d) refer matters involving criminal conduct to law enforcement
4 and anti-corruption agencies;

5 (e) halt or recommend suspension of projects pending further
6 investigation;

7 (f) engage independent experts or auditors to assist in project
8 assessment;

9 (g) impose administrative sanctions, subject to regulations made
10 under this Act; and

11 (h) perform any other acts necessary for carrying out its duties
12 effectively.

13 PART II - STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

14 5.-(1) There is established for the Agency a Governing Board (in
15 this Act referred to as "the Board") which shall be responsible for the overall
16 policy formulation, oversight, and direction of the Agency. Establishment
of the Governing
Board

17 (2) The Board shall ensure that the Agency carries out its functions
18 efficiently, effectively, and in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

19 6. The Board shall consist of-

20 (a) a Chairman, who shall be a person of proven integrity and
21 experience in public infrastructure, governance, law, or development
22 economics, appointed by the President; Composition
of the Board

23 (b) one representative each from the following:

24 (i) Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning;

25 (ii) Federal Ministry of Works and Housing;

26 (iii) Bureau of Public Procurement;

27 (iv) Nigerian Society of Engineers;

28 (v) Civil Society Organization working on transparency and public
29 accountability;

30 (c) one representative from the private sector with expertise in

	1	project management or infrastructure delivery;
	2	(d) the Director-General of the Agency, who shall serve as Secretary
	3	to the Board.
Functions of the Board	4	7. The Board shall-
	5	(a) provide strategic policy direction for the Agency;
	6	(b) approve monitoring and evaluation frameworks, guidelines, and
	7	methodologies;
	8	(c) approve annual work plans, budgets, and reports of the Agency;
	9	(d) oversee the appointment and discipline of senior management
	10	staff;
	11	(e) establish committees or working groups for specialized tasks;
	12	(f) ensure accountability and transparency in the Agency's operations;
	13	(g) perform such other duties as may be necessary to achieve the
	14	objectives of this Act.
Tenure of Office	15	8. -(1) The Chairman and non-ex officio members of the Board shall
	16	hold office for a term of four (4) years, renewable once.
	17	(2) Appointments shall be staggered where possible to ensure
	18	continuity.
Cessation and Removal from Office	19	9. -(1) A member of the Board shall cease to hold office if-
	20	(a) he or she resigns by notice in writing to the President;
	21	(b) is removed by the President for inability to discharge the functions
	22	of the office, misconduct, or conviction for a criminal offence;
	23	(c) becomes bankrupt, insane, or otherwise incapacitated.
	24	(2) The President may, upon recommendation of a majority of the
	25	Board, remove any member who is absent from three consecutive meetings
	26	without good cause.
Meetings and Proceedings of the Board	27	10. -(1) The Board shall meet at least once every quarter and may hold
	28	special meetings as may be necessary.
	29	(2) The quorum for meetings shall be five members, including the
	30	Chairman or his representative.

1 (3) Decisions shall be by simple majority of members present and
2 voting.

3 (4) The Board may regulate its own proceedings.

4 11.-(1) The Board may constitute standing or ad-hoc committees to
5 carry out specific tasks. Committees of
the Board

6 (2) Membership of such committees may include persons who are
7 not members of the Board, but who possess relevant expertise.

8 (3) A committee shall report to the Board on the discharge of its functions.

9 PART III - MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING

10 12.-(1) There shall be appointed by the President, a Director-
11 General of the Agency, who shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of
12 the Agency. Appointment of
the Director-
General

13 (2) The Director-General shall be a person of high moral standing
14 with significant experience in project management, public administration,
15 or related fields, and shall have demonstrated ability to manage complex
16 institutions.

17 (3) The Director-General shall hold office for a term of five (5)
18 years, which may be renewed upon the recommendation of the Board and
19 subject to approval by the President.

20 13. The Director-General shall-

21 (a) be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Agency, in
22 accordance with the policies established by the Board; Functions of the
Director-General

23 (b) represent the Agency in its dealings with the Government,
24 contractors, the public, and other stakeholders;

25 (c) prepare and present the Agency's annual budget, work plans,
26 and reports to the Board;

27 (d) ensure the implementation of monitoring and evaluation
28 strategies for public projects;

29 (e) hire and supervise the staff of the Agency;

1 (f) ensure that the Agency complies with all relevant laws and
2 regulations;

3 (g) report to the Board regularly on the performance and activities of
4 the Agency.

Appointment
of Other Staff

5 **14.**-(1) The Board shall, on the recommendation of the Director-
6 General, approve the appointment of other senior management staff of the
7 Agency.

8 (2) The Director-General may, with the approval of the Board,
9 establish other necessary positions for the proper functioning of the Agency,
10 including but not limited to technical experts, project officers, and
11 administrative personnel.

Conditions of
Service

12 **15.** The terms and conditions of service of the Director-General,
13 senior management staff, and other employees of the Agency shall be
14 determined by the Board in line with the prevailing public service regulations,
15 but with sufficient flexibility to attract and retain highly skilled professionals.
16 The Agency shall have the authority to define competitive remuneration
17 packages based on market rates for specialized expertise.

Staff Secondment
and Transfer

18 **16.**-(1) The Director-General may, with the approval of the Board,
19 second or transfer staff to and from other Government Ministries,
20 Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) for the purpose of fulfilling the objectives
21 of the Agency.

22 (2) The Board shall ensure that such secondment or transfer does not
23 affect the normal operational duties of staff and ensures a mutual exchange of
24 knowledge and expertise.

25 **PART IV - OPERATIONS AND POWERS**

Funding of the
Agency

26 **17.**-(1) The Agency shall be funded from the following sources-

27 (a) annual budgetary allocation from the Federal Government;

28 (b) fees for project monitoring and evaluation services;

29 (c) grants, donations, and aids from national and international
30 organizations, provided they do not conflict with the Agency's objectives;

1 (d) income generated from any other legitimate activities related
2 to the Agency's functions.

3 (2) The Agency shall open and maintain a dedicated account with
4 the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) for the receipt of all its funds.

5 (3) The Director-General shall ensure that the financial operations
6 of the Agency are in line with standard public service financial management
7 practices and applicable laws.

8 **18.**-(1) The financial year of the Agency shall be the same as the Financial
Management
and Auditing
9 Government's fiscal year.

10 (2) The Agency shall, not later than six (6) months after the end of
11 each financial year, submit its financial statements and accounts to the
12 Auditor-General for examination and audit.

13 (3) The Agency shall appoint an independent external auditor to
14 audit its accounts annually.

15 (4) The findings of the audit shall be presented to the Board and
16 subsequently to the National Assembly through the appropriate Committee.

17 **19.**-(1) The Agency shall develop and implement a national Monitoring and
Evaluation Process
18 framework for monitoring and evaluating public projects, ensuring it aligns
19 with internationally recognized best practices.

20 (2) The monitoring and evaluation process shall cover-

21 (a) pre-project assessments, including needs analysis, scope, and
22 cost estimation;

23 (b) ongoing monitoring of project progress, including adherence to
24 timelines, budgets, and quality standards;

25 (c) post-project evaluations to assess project impact, sustainability,
26 and lessons learned.

27 (3) The Agency shall establish and maintain an integrated
28 electronic monitoring system to provide real-time updates on all projects
29 under its review.

Reporting
Requirements 1 **20.**-(1) The Agency shall submit quarterly progress reports on the
2 status of all monitored projects to the President, National Assembly, and
3 relevant MDAs.

4 (2) The Agency shall also issue an annual report detailing the
5 outcomes of the monitoring and evaluation activities, identifying key
6 successes, challenges, and recommendations for future projects.

7 (3) The annual report shall be made publicly available to ensure
8 transparency and accountability in government project execution.

Powers of the
Agency in
Monitoring 9 **21.**-(1) The Agency shall have the power to-

10 (a) access any government project site, records, and documents to
11 conduct monitoring activities;

12 (b) issue directives to contractors, consultants, or MDAs to rectify
13 deviations from approved project plans;

14 (c) stop or suspend projects where there are major non-compliance
15 issues or fraud;

16 (d) make recommendations to relevant authorities for sanctions
17 against contractors, MDAs, or other stakeholders involved in fraudulent,
18 substandard, or non-compliant projects;

19 (e) refer criminal activities to law enforcement agencies and pursue
20 restitution where applicable.

21 (2) The Agency shall have the authority to recommend the
22 termination of contracts or withholding of payments for projects that fail to
23 meet agreed quality standards or timelines.

Collaboration
with Other
Agencies 24 **22.**-(1) The Agency shall collaborate with other relevant government
25 agencies, such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC),
26 Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), Bureau of Public
27 Procurement (BPP), and National Planning Commission, to ensure
28 comprehensive oversight of public projects.

29 (2) The Agency may enter into memoranda of understanding (MOUs)
30 with international development organizations, technical experts, or contractors

1 for specialized project monitoring and evaluation services.

2 PART V - LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND COMPLIANCE

3 23.-(1) In the discharge of its functions, the Agency shall-

Legal Powers
and Immunities

4 (a) have the authority to access, inspect, and audit all public project
5 records and documents, including financial statements and project reports,
6 without hindrance;

7 (b) have the right to request and obtain information from
8 contractors, government officials, and other stakeholders involved in the
9 execution of public projects;

10 (c) enjoy legal immunity for actions taken in good faith and within
11 the scope of its powers, including the issuance of directives, evaluations,
12 and recommendations.

13 (2) The Agency shall not be held liable for any action, judgment, or
14 policy decision taken in accordance with the provisions of this Act, provided
15 that such action is made in good faith and within the scope of its legal
16 mandate.

17 24.-(1) Any contractor or public official who refuses to comply
18 with the Agency's directives may be subject to penalties, including fines,
19 contract termination, or legal action.

Enforcement of
Compliance

20 (2) The Agency shall, where necessary, seek the intervention of the
21 courts or relevant authorities to enforce compliance with its findings and
22 recommendations.

23 (3) The Agency may refer cases of corruption, fraud, or other
24 criminal activities related to project implementation to the appropriate law
25 enforcement agencies for prosecution.

26 25.-(1) In the event of a dispute between the Agency and any
27 contractor, government department, or other relevant parties, the Agency
28 shall, in the first instance, attempt to resolve the matter through negotiations
29 and mediation.

Conflict Resolution
and Dispute
Settlement

30 (2) Where mediation fails, the dispute shall be referred to

1 arbitration or a court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with the
2 Arbitration and Conciliation Act (Cap. A18, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria
3 2004).

4 (3) The Agency may engage legal experts to ensure that the dispute
5 resolution process is fair and transparent.

Compliance with
Public Procurement
Regulations

6 **26.**-(1) The Agency shall ensure that its monitoring and evaluation
7 processes align with the National Public Procurement Policy and Regulations.

8 (2) All project monitoring and evaluation activities shall be
9 conducted in accordance with the principles of transparency, accountability,
10 and value for money.

11 (3) The Agency shall work closely with the Bureau of Public
12 Procurement (BPP) to ensure that all monitored projects comply with approved
13 procurement procedures and guidelines.

Confidentiality
and Protection
of Whistleblowers

14 **27.**-(1) The Agency shall maintain strict confidentiality in respect of
15 any sensitive information it obtains during the course of monitoring and
16 evaluation activities, except where disclosure is necessary for legal or
17 operational purposes.

18 (2) The Agency shall protect whistleblowers who report suspected
19 fraud, corruption, or misconduct related to public projects. Such protection
20 shall include safeguarding the identity of the whistleblower and ensuring that
21 they are not subject to retaliation.

22 (3) A dedicated channel for anonymous reporting of irregularities
23 shall be established to encourage transparency and accountability.

Penal Provisions

24 **28.**-(1) Any individual or entity that knowingly provides false
25 information to the Agency, obstructs its monitoring activities, or fails to
26 comply with its recommendations shall be liable to-

27 (a) a fine of not less than N5,000,000 or imprisonment for a term not
28 exceeding five (5) years, or both;

29 (b) termination of the contract or disqualification from future
30 contracts with the Government or its agencies.

1 (2) Any contractor who fails to comply with the standards or
2 timelines set by the Agency, after being duly notified, shall be liable to-

3 (a) a fine equal to 10% of the total value of the contract;

4 (b) disqualification from future Government contracts.

5 **29.**-(1) The provisions of this Act shall be reviewed every five (5)
6 years to ensure that the Agency's operations and mandates continue to meet
7 evolving needs and challenges.

Review of the
Act

8 (2) The review process shall involve consultations with
9 stakeholders, including contractors, government officials, and civil society
10 organizations, to ensure that the provisions of this Act are effective,
11 transparent, and conducive to good governance.

12 **PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

13 **30.**-(1) The Agency shall, within three (3) months from the
14 commencement of this Act, ensure the establishment of all operational,
15 financial, and administrative systems necessary for the effective
16 performance of its duties.

Transition
Provisions

17 (2) Any existing monitoring and evaluation units in government
18 agencies shall, where applicable, transfer their functions, records, and staff
19 to the Agency in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Federal
20 Government.

21 (3) All existing projects under government monitoring shall be
22 transferred to the Agency for oversight and evaluation, and the Agency shall
23 assume full responsibility for their monitoring and progress evaluation.

24 **31.**-(1) The Agency shall, in consultation with relevant
25 stakeholders, make regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Regulations

26 (2) The regulations made under this section shall include but not be
27 limited to-

28 (a) procedures for the monitoring and evaluation of projects;

29 (b) standards for compliance and quality assurance in project
30 execution;

1 (c) guidelines for reporting, documentation, and public access to
2 project information.

3 (3) The regulations shall be published in the Federal Government's
4 official gazette and shall take effect upon publication.

Power to issue
directives

5 **32.**-(1) The Agency shall have the authority to issue binding
6 directives to contractors, consultants, and government agencies involved in
7 public projects, including the imposition of deadlines for rectifying
8 deficiencies or ensuring compliance with project standards.

9 (2) All contractors and public officials must comply with such
10 directives, and failure to do so shall result in penalties as specified in this Act.

Severability

11 **33.** If any provision of this Act is declared invalid by any court of
12 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the
13 remaining provisions of this Act, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Repeal of
inconsistent
legislation

14 **34.**-(1) Any law, decree, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
15 of this Act shall be deemed to be repealed or amended to the extent of the
16 inconsistency.

17 (2) The provisions of this Act shall supersede any prior laws
18 governing the monitoring, evaluation, and oversight of public projects in
19 Nigeria.

Interpretation

20 **35.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-
21 "Agency" means the National Independent Project Monitoring and Evaluation
22 Agency established under this Act;
23 "Board" means the Governing Board of the Agency as established under this
24 Act;;
25 "Contractor" means any person or entity engaged under a public procurement
26 process to execute a project or supply services or goods for or on behalf of the
27 Government;;
28 "Evaluation" means the systematic assessment of the relevance, performance,
29 efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of a project or programme;
30 "Federal Government" includes all Ministries, Departments, Agencies

1 (MDAs), parastatals, and institutions of the Government of the Federation;
2 "Monitoring" means the continuous or periodic assessment of project
3 implementation in relation to agreed schedules, budgets, and outputs;
4 "Public Project" means any infrastructure, service, programme or activity
5 funded in whole or in part by public funds and implemented by or on behalf
6 of the Government;
7 "Whistleblower" means any person who voluntarily reports or provides
8 information concerning fraud, abuse, substandard execution, or unethical
9 conduct in public projects.

10 **36.** This Bill may be cited as the National Independent Project and Short title
11 Monitoring Agency (NIPMA) Act, 2025.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the National Independent Project and Monitoring Agency (NIPMA) for the purpose of ensuring transparency, accountability, and effective monitoring and evaluation of public projects in Nigeria,