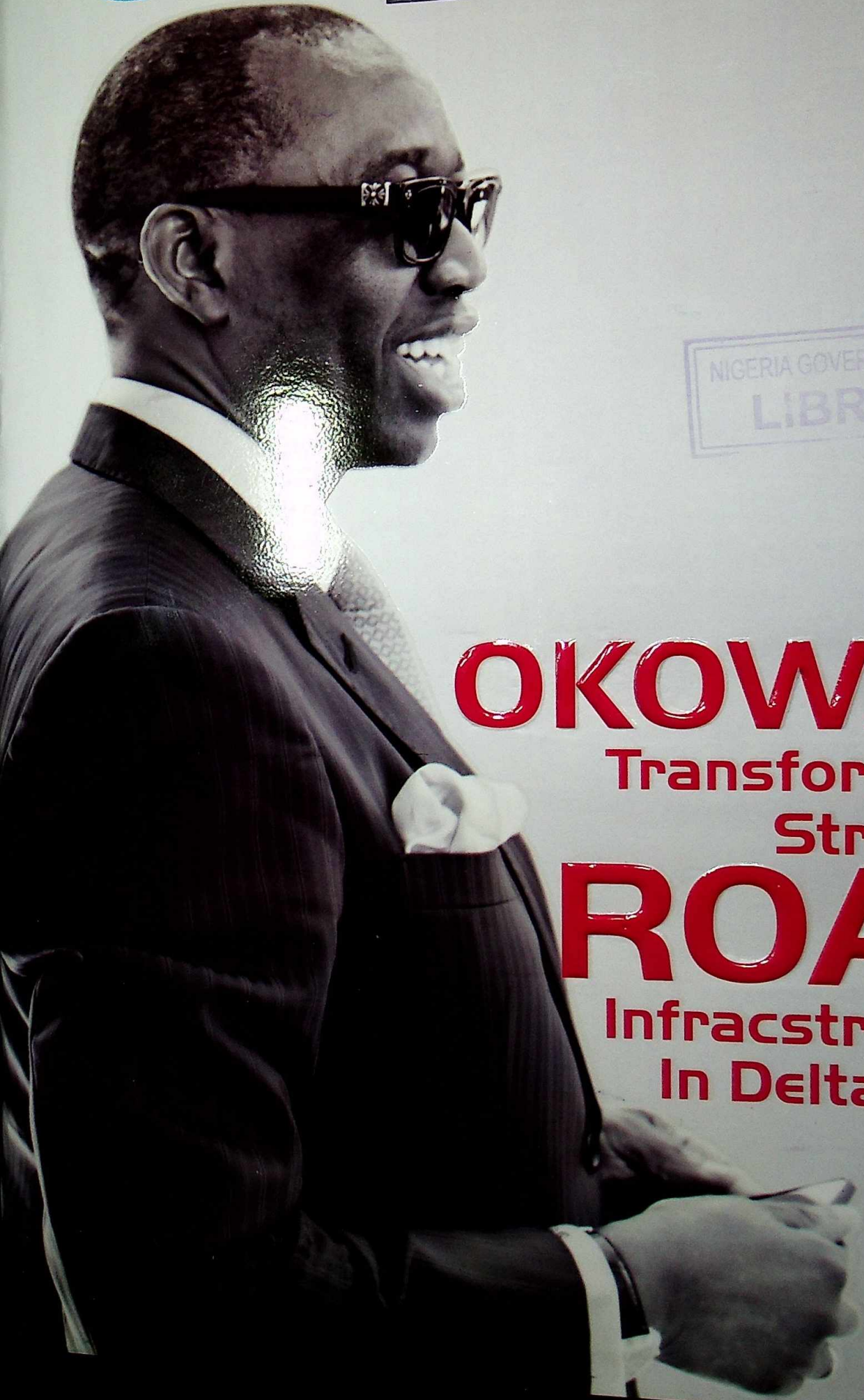


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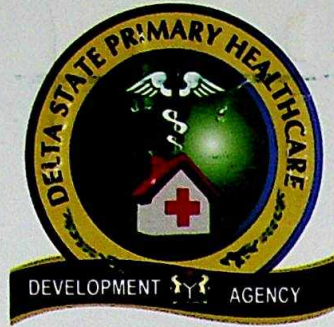
# VERACITY

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF DELTA STATE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION



NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM  
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## OKOWA'S Transformative Strides In ROAD Infracstructure In Delta State



# DELTA STATE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (DSPHCDA)

## **DISEASE SURVEILLANCE, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**

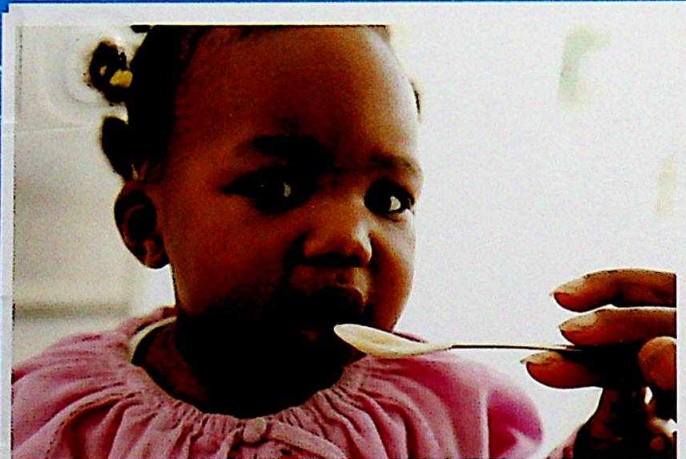
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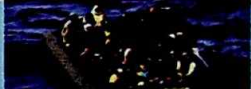
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## From The Publisher's Desk



**T**he administration of His Excellency, Governor Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa has gained reputation for popularizing historical moments and ideals of one Delta, as exemplified by the 2015 epic inauguration and the 2019 revalidation of his mandate.

The arrival of a symbolic game changer in the political timeline of Delta state, particularly drew resounding significance with the concept of a unifying policy thrust S.M.A.R.T, denoting - Strategic wealth creation projects and provision of jobs for all Deltans, Meaningful peace building platforms aimed at political and social stability, Agricultural reforms and accelerated

industrialization, Relevant health and education policies, and Transformed Environment through Urban Renewal.

Working with a man and pioneering leader, who bears an enchanting destiny as a visionary pathfinder in one of the most outstanding states in the Niger Delta, I had no inkling that less than 5 years later, life would locate me as commissioner for Information and publisher of VERACITY magazine, an official journal of Delta state government.

Welcome to a brand new edition of VERACITY, spectacular in package going forward.

Coming under the difficult climate of a nagging global pandemic and telling events of #ENDSARS national challenge, this collection is a product of creative ingenuity and sheer tenacity.

This particular VERACITY is a trophy Publication elegant in design, widespread in perspective and matchless in editorial content.

It carries a rich tapestry of topics, each story excellently told. Topical issues relating to Okowa's SMART Agenda and much more, all celebrating good governance as the gift of democracy - the Delta example.

From thrilling tales of tourism, entertainment, and culture development, to social control measures with mass druggings, Sports, peace building, women training to the flagship accomplishment of road infrastructure where Governor Okowa has won happy hearts as "Road Master" you will definitely come across something that will catch your fancy in this grand edition.

There are also sizzling interviews, insights and policy analysis from some of the most authoritative sources involved in the government of Delta.

It is not all about a VERACITY of how Okowa governs but also how Deltans interact with the administration. A liberal two-way communication medium amplifying the interplay of government policies and programmes and the aggregate needs and desires of the people.

The magazine is a collectors item and I can confidently state that every reader will find it engaging, instructive and useful in understanding the Okowa administration, Delta and her unique people.

From the publisher's desk, I earnestly invite you to relax and go through this marvelous immersive publication.

A vintage copy of VERACITY that makes very delightful read.

**Charles Ehiedu Aniagwu**  
Hon. Commissioner for  
Information.

## Improved Road Infrastructure...A Panacea For Development



The Delta State Government under the leadership of Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, has recorded tremendous successes in infrastructural development especially in improved road network across the state and Storm Water control measures.

Governor Okowa's doggedness and wealth of experience garnered over the years by virtue of the positions he has held starting as the Secretary of the Ika LGA, Commissioner for Water Resources, Agriculture then Health, followed by a stint, first as the Secretary to the State Government and then as a Senator of the Federal Republic prepared him for the onerous task of governance. He came into office as governor very prepared with a lot of competence and capacity.

It was therefore not difficult for him to appreciate the challenges the people were faced with as a result of poor infrastructures that need urgent attention.

Building on the successes of the previous administrations, the Okowa led government took proactive steps in addressing the pressing needs of the people.

Chief amongst them was the construction and repair of deplorable roads across the state and the construction of flood control measures to help check the prevalent cases of flooding in the state.

In line with the promises made to the people during the campaigns prior to May 29 2015, Senator Ifeanyi Okowa hit the ground running by sending a Bill for the establishment of the Delta State Capital Territory Development Authority to the Delta State House of Assembly. The Bill, having gone through the first and second reading before being adopted by the House of Assembly was signed into law by Governor Okowa in 2015.

The Agency having been fully constituted became a special purpose vehicle used for the construction of new roads and the repair of several dilapidated roads in the state capital.

Complementing the huge road projects embarked upon by the administration through the Ministries of Works and Urban Renewal, the Delta State Capital Territory Development Authority engaged in the construction of many roads and repairs of bad roads within the state capital.

The successes achieved by the Delta State

Capital Territory Development Authority coupled with the desire of the administration to bring even development to every part of the state led to the establishment of the Warri, Uvwie and Environs Development Authority. The bill establishing this authority, having gone through the first and second reading before adoption by the House of Assembly was assented to by Governor Ifeanyi Okowa in 2019. This Agency since its establishment has embarked on the repairs of dilapidated roads around Warri, Uvwie and its environs and has also undertaken the construction of mega Storm Water Control measures in the Warri area. The Okowa administration equally did a lot of intervention in road infrastructure through the Delta State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission (DESOPADEC) and the Delta State Direct Labor Agency (DLA) which engaged in the maintenance and repairs of failed portions of roads across the state.

The many gains achieved by the Okowa administration in road infrastructure cannot be overemphasized.

In order to guarantee the durability and quality of roads constructed across the state by contractors under this administration, legal instruments were initiated by the state government with a view to implementing a two-year Defect Liability Clause in all road contract agreements, which seeks to hold the contractor liable for repairs of any defect on a project within two years of its completion.

Some parts of the State have not been spared the devastation caused by flooding, as a result of Climate Change, especially in the coastal communities.

In the years past, the Okowa administration through the establishment of the Internally Displaced People's camp was able to assist victims of flood who had been sacked from their homes through the provision of free feeding, medical supplies and schools in the various camps as well as shelter and bedding.

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, it became imperative for the state government to check the spread of the disease which has ravaged a lot of countries and brought their economies to its knees by deciding not to set up IDP camps but rather went ahead to release funds to the respective Local Government Authorities to provide relief materials to the affected victims.

It also directed the various Local Government Authorities to embark on a broad sensitization and education of the people through their respective community leaders and faith-based organizations on the impending flood to enable them evacuate the affected areas. Issues of erosion around the state was not left out as the administration has committed huge resources to check this menace.

It is the determination of this administration to seek to improve on the socio-economic wellbeing of Deltans, through the promotion of various economic activities in the state, provision of job and wealth creation schemes, invitation of foreign and local investors, improvement of teaching and learning facilities, health and security.

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# Okowa's SMART Transformation In Road Infrastructure In Delta State

BY Omodon Nduka



**O**ne basic and critical factor that shapes the face of development in every economy is Road infrastructure. It provides access to employment, social, health and education services, which are vital to any development agenda.

Nigeria has a national road network of about 200,000km. Of this total, federal roads make up 18 per cent (about 36,000km), State roads 15 per cent (about 30,000km), and local government roads 67 per cent (about 134,000km), with most local government roads being unpaved.

Adequate road infrastructure is central to Nigeria's economic growth, it is at the core of good governance and public welfare. Any improvement in road infrastructure positively impacts the nation's GDP.

The socio-economic development of Nigeria goes as far as road infrastructure improvement can attain. In order to sustain and increase the rate of growth and development of the economy, the requisite road infrastructure must be in place. According to a report ( "Reforming Road Transport in Nigeria" , 2009), Nigeria ranks top compared with other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of road network.

The road sector accounts for about 90 per cent of all freight and passenger movements in the country. Although the federal road network constitutes 18 per cent of the total national network, it accounts for about 70 per cent of the national vehicular and freight traffic bearing in mind a 2.533% population growth rate per annum.

As at 2012, an estimated 40 per cent of the federal road network was in poor condition (in need of rehabilitation, 30 per cent in fair condition (requiring periodic maintenance) and 27 per cent in good condition (requiring only routine maintenance). The remaining 3 per cent consists of unpaved trunk roads that need to be paved.

In the case of state roads, 78 per cent was in poor condition, with 87 per cent of local government roads in extremely poor condition. Stacked with this reality, It may not be out of place to find out what exactly is responsible for the deplorable state of Nigerian roads.

The poor state of the roads can be attributed to inefficient institutional structure for road management, insufficient resources allocated to road rehabilitation, poor maintenance level to preserve the quality of the existing road

infrastructure resulting in annual deterioration. Overloading, blocked drainage structures and the parking of heavy axle vehicles on carriageways also contribute in great measures to additional deterioration of road infrastructure in the country.

The shift in inland transportation from rail and waterways to roads also increased the burden on the roads as they have become the nation's primary mode of passenger and goods transport. The high volumes of petroleum products transported on the national roadways instead of using the pipelines equally contributes to the already limited lifespan of the roads and thereby resulting in higher maintenance needs.

The assessment of the current state of road infrastructure in Nigeria is indicative of the fact that the country has fallen short of international benchmarks. All the indices clearly justify the need to enhance road infrastructure delivery in order to support the expanding populace. Nigerians are getting more cars on the road and this makes reformation and maintenance of the roads very essential.

As a proactive step towards improving on the deplorable conditions of the roads across the state, the Delta state Government under the purposeful and visionary leadership of Governor Ifeanyi Okowa embarked on road sector reforms which basically seek to improve service delivery, enhance management capacity and create a conducive institutional, legal and regulatory framework in the financing and management of the road sector.

The Okowa led administration took off in 2015 amidst paucity of funds occasioned by the dwindling price of crude Oil in the international market and the State Government's high fiscal exposure with a monthly loan repayment of over N4 billion to financial institutions and advances from the federal Government.

In spite of the huge financial challenges the state was confronted with in 2015, the Delta State Government through the Ministries of Works, Urban Renewal and Delta State Capital Territory Development Authority in the last five years recognized the challenges and opportunities inherent within the State road infrastructure sector.

In line with the one of the administration's

SMART AGENDA policy of Transformed Environment through Urban Renewal, fixing of deplorable roads, Construction of Drains and Flood Control Measures became chief amongst the administration's top priorities.

tackling the challenges facing the road sector while harnessing the economic gains of an enhanced road network. Good roads imply reduced travel time, low vehicle operating costs and low cost of transportation.

activities of the state thrived along the various routes where the roads have been fixed by virtue of increased traffic flow and hence profitability. The visible effect of road infrastructure development on real estate property values became evident.

It identified a workable approach to The economic, commercial and business

The administration through the Ministries of Works, Urban Renewal and Delta State Capital Territory Development Authority Between 2015 and 2019, constructed a Total of 1,273.674 Kilometers of roads. The Periodic Breakdown are as Follows

**2015: 24.25KM of Roads (Ministry of Works)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
01	Reconstruction/Expansion/Construction of Kefas Road/Old Emede Road/Uzere Junction, Oleh in Isoko South Local Government Area.	2.10KM
02	Dualization of Nnebisi Road (from Traffic Light Junction to Cable Point) Asaba	1.71KM
03	Completion of Palace Road in Owa-Oyibu, Ika North - East LGA	1.11KM
04	Construction of Ikkogbe/Idumizomor Road, Owa-Oyibu in Ika North-East LGA	1.04KM
05	Construction of Onomigbo Street, Orerakpe, Okpe L.G.A	1.90KM
06	Completion of Oritsejobor Street, Dr. Steve Oru Street, Dr. Steve Oru Close, Okpodjiko Street Extension, and Dualization of Okpodjiko Access Road in Ughelli, Ughelli North Local Govt Area	0.95KM
07	Construction of Okuvo-Kpokpogri-Oपुरaja/Iriama Junction Road in Okpe L.G.A	2.4KM
08	Construction of Ejiyere Street, Dederu Street and Akemu Street(by Church of God Mission) Warri South Local Government Area.	0.63KM
09	Major Road at Okerenkoko, Warri South West Local Government Area.	1.50KM
10	Dualization of Sapele Road from Amukpe Roundabout by Sapele/Warri Expressway to AT & P Roundabout Sapele in Sapele Local Government area	7.50KM
11	Construction of Edwin/Ikechukwu Roads, Owanta/Allosiml in Ika North East LGA.	0.08KM
12	Completion of Esenwa Street, Access Road to Christ Embassy Church Road and Extension of Access road to the Paediatric, Surgical Wards and Doctors Quarters, Asaba	1.07KM
13	Construction of Orikeze Street with a Spur to Orikeze Close In Ika South LGA	1.26KM

**2016: 243.75KM of Roads (Ministry of Works)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
01	Reconstruction of Oteri Township Road Ughelli North LGA	2.05KM
02	Construction of Ogala-Chukwuemeke Street, with A Spur to Orolua Close, Word of Faith Street and Kingsley Street, Owa in Ika North-East LGA	0.59KM
03	Construction of Onyecholem Street in Ika North East LGA	0.6KM
04	Construction of Obi Okolotu/Anthony Annonye Street with access from Madumezie Street	1.09KM
05	Construction of Usonia Street in Asaba	0.84KM
06	Dualization of Owa-Ekei-Owa-Alero Road (from Old Lagos/Asaba Road to Owa Alero Roundabout) in Ika North East LGA	5.27KM
07	Construction of Middle Section of Alisimie/Oza-Nogogo road in Ika South LGA	5.88KM
08	Reconstruction of Old Oleh/Emede -Olomoro Junction, Isoko South Local Government Area	1.95KM
09	Construction of Ughelli-Afiesere-Ofuoma Road in Ughelli North L.G.A	8.5KM
10	Rehabilitation / Resealing of Okpare-Umolo-Ovwodokpok-Kiagbodo	10.80KM
11	Construction of Upper Imudia/Dr. White Street, Agbor, Ika South L. G. A.	1.25KM
12	Construction of Idumu Ugboh Street with a spur of 113m to Godwin Emefiele Close, Agbor	0.52KM
13	Expansion and Upgrading of Tankers Park, Ekpan in Uvwie LGA	0.75KM
14	Construction of the Extension of Ikkogbe / Idumizomor / Palace Road, Owa-Oyibu in Ika North East Local Government Area.	0.47KM
15	Construction of Okere-Urhobo Community Road in Warri South	1.53KM

16	Construction of Anglican Diocese Grammar School Road, Uzuobe Street And Rehabilitation/Overlay Of Other Township Roads, Iyede In Isoko North Local Government Area	5.63KM
17	Construction of Joseph Ebolo and Madonna School Road, Asaba	4.84KM
18	Arugba Okobia/Okwetolor/Okuagbude/Warri-Sapele Junction	3.0KM
19	Completion of the Construction Of Ogwashi-uku/Ubulu-Unor Road	7.50KM
20	Construction of Access Road to Ani-ikpeku, (Palace Road) Igbodo	0.71KM
21	Construction of Odion/Odi/Igunbor and Ewere Street in Ika North East LGA	1.87KM
22	Construction of drainage along Edwin/Ikechukwu Street, Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East LGA), Construction of Monu Olarewaju Crescent, Off Marian Nneamaka Ali Drive, Asaba in Oshimili South LGA	0.35KM
23	Rehabilitation of Warri – Sapele Expressway at Ch 6 + 500 and at Ch 1 + 100 from Effurun Roundabout	0.41KM
24	Widening/Reconstruction Of Owhelegbo/Abbi Road In Isoko North And Ndokwa West Local Government Areas	7.5KM
25	Rehabilitation/Widening of Access Road to Beneku Community in Ndokwa East LGA	4.87KM
26	Construction of Ugbomro Road (Section I: Between DSC Expressway and the Federal University of Petroleum Resources Junction) in Uvwie Local Government Area	2.65KM
27	Rehabilitation of Old Abraka Road (from Traffic Light to Powerline), Owa in Ika North East LGA	2.5KM
28	Construction/Rehabilitation of Kwale Township Roads in Ndokwa East Local Government Area.	3.9KM
29	Construction of Edegbrode-Elume Road in Sapele Local Government Area	2.5KM
30	Construction of Access Road to Awaritse Industrial Park, Obitugbo (Phase 1) in Warri North Local Government Area	2.5KM
31	Rehabilitation/Maintenance of Various Roads to Agbarha in Ughelli North	5.43KM
32	Construction of Discharge Drainage Channel at Ibori Golf Course, Asaba in Oshimili South Local Government Area, Rehabilitation/Asphalt Overlay of Ekakpamre/Ekrokpe/Usiefurun Road in Ughelli South and Udu LGA	7.93KM
33	Rehabilitation of Roundabout at Nnebisi/Okpanam/Anwai Roads and Dr. Emmanuel Eweta Uduaghan Way Intersection, Asaba (Section II)	0.47KM
34	Rehabilitation of Roundabout at Nnebisi/Okpanam/Anwai Roads and Dr. Emmanuel Eweta Uduaghan Way Intersection, Asaba (Section I)	0.39KM
35	Continuation of the Construction Of Issele-Uku/Onicha-Uku/Ugbodu/Ukwu-Nzu/Obomkpa/Idumu-Ogo Road: Completion Of Phase I of the Contract (6.65km Length) from Idumu-Ugo to Obomkpa in Aniocha North Local Government Area, Construction of Drains along Old Emede Road/Emede-Olomoro Junction, Oleh in Isoko South LGA ,Rehabilitation and Overlay of Ogaga Road, Construction of Spur to Rev. Atufe Oyibo Close, Amukpe	0.77KM
36	Rehabilitation of Adeola Road/ New Ogorode Road Junction in Sapele LGA	0.30KM
37	Expansion and Rehabilitation of Sections of Oghara Junction to Otefe Road in Ethiopie West LGA	2.40KM
38	Construction of Word of Faith Street, Owa	1.09KM
38	Rehabilitation of Failed Sections of Agbor /Abayo, Umutu, Eku Road (From College Junction Agbor to Eku Junction)	74.80KM
39	Reconstruction of Ubeji Access Road (from NPA Road Interchange to Trans – Warri Junction, Ubeji)	3.40KM
40	Resurfacing of Ughelli-Agbarha Road in Ughelli North Local Government Area (Phase 2)	4.7KM
41	Construction of Ogbomi Road (Circular Road) and Completion of Hezua Road (Phase I) Akwukwu-Igbo in Oshimili North LGA	1.20KM
42	Construction of Council Road, Akwukwu-Igbo in Oshimili North LGA	1.47KM
43	Maintenance of Roads in Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area	18.8KM
44	Continuation of the Construction Of Issele-Uku/ Onicha-Uku/ Ugbodu/ Ukwu-Nzu/ Obomkpa/ Idumu-Ogo Road: Completion Of Phase I of the Contract (2.43km Length) from Onicha-Uku to Ukwu-Nzu in Aniocha North Local Government Area, Rehabilitation of Ozeru- Oleh Road	8.87KM
46	Reconstruction of Owa-Alera/ute-Okpu Road (from Railway Flyover Bridge to Ute-Okpu Roundabout) in Ika North LGA	4.02KM
47	Construction of Abraka Township Roads (Phase I)	1.51KM
48	Rehabilitation of Charles street and Drainage at Agbor in Ika South LGA	1.51KM
50	Issele-Uku Main Access Road from Benin/Asaba Federal Highway with an Extension to Obi Palace Junction to Market Road, in Issele-Uku Town, Aniocha North LGA	2.47KM
51	Construction of Ogharsa Township Road, Phase VI	1.15KM
52	Construction of Ndebe Road, Off Palace Road, Igbodo, Phase I	0.53KM



**2017: 408.88KM of Roads (Ministry of Works)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
01	Rehabilitation of Esi Road and Marapo (Swamp) Road	1.52KM
02	Continuation of the Construction of Onicha-Ugbo/Ubulu-Uku Road with a spur to Knowledge Centre, Onicha-Ugbo; Phase I: from the Expressway Junction to the Knowledge Centre including Internal Roads within the Centre	2.16KM
03	Reconstruction of Ovwian Main Road, Off Udu Road, Udu LGA	3.10KM
04	Construction of Obodo avenue (Berger Road) Shaguolo Area, Off Warri Refinery and Petrochemical Company, Ekpan in Uvwie Local Government Area	0.45KM
05	Reconstruction of Ugborikoko/Polokor Market/Okere Road	2.45KM
06	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Nsukwa/Ejeme Aniogor/Agbor-Alidinma/Owa-Alidinma in Aniocha South, Ndokwa West, Ika South & Ika North East LGA	24.30KM
07	Rehabilitation of NPA Bye Pass Road (from New Port Gate to Old Port Gate), Warri, Warri South Local Government Area	1.28KM
08	Rehabilitation & Resealing of Otu-Jeremi /Okwagbe Road in Ughelli South LGA	25.60KM
09	Continuation of Amai Ezionum Abbi Road Phase II from Ezionum to Abbi in Ukwani LGA	3.75KM
10	Construction of Owa-Alidinma Road, Ika North East LGA	1.12KM
11	Construction of Oseri / Ayovoriemu Street with a spur to Chief Justice Marshal Umukoro Street in Ughelli	1.04KM
12	Construction of Agbor Alidinma/Obiduhon Road	4.20KM
13	Construction of Abavo Circular Road, Abavo Phase 1 inclusive of the spur into Ogbekile Street in Ika South LGA	5.26KM
14	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Ekreravwe/Orhoakpor/Isiokolo Road, in Ughelli North & Ethiope East LGA	12.0KM
15	Construction of Idumuje-Ugboko/Idumuje-Unor Road	5.60KM
16	Reconstruction of Ikoyo Avenue (Obule School Road), off Shell Road, Sapele	0.7KM
17	Construction of Okpe-Olomu/Umolo Road; Phase I: from Okpe-Olomu to Olomu Secondary School, Otorere	1.10KM
18	Construction of Grace Road, Eketé Waterside, Udu, Udu Local Government Area	0.48KM
19	Rehabilitation and asphalt overlay of Kabowei Road as well as the construction of 700 metres long Reinforced Concrete Rigid Pavement on Marine Road, Potani	3.22KM
20	Reconstruction of the failed portions of Ewhu-Orere road and construction of Etaga Street	1.35KM
21	Construction of Access Road and Parking Lot at the Palace of Ovie of Agbon Kingdom at Isiokolo	0.50KM
22	Construction of Hon. Chief Frank Omare Crescent, Okumagba Layout, Warri	0.60KM
23	Construction of Melekwé Street, Owa	0.61KM
24	Construction of Ushie Township Roads, Ushie	2.00KM
25	Rehabilitation of the Kwale/Ogume/Amai/Obiaruku Road and asphalt overlay of an 11.1 kilometre section	39.60KM
26	Continuation and Completion of the Construction of Storm Water Control Measures in DLA/Jesus Saves Corridor in Asaba, Construction of Group Medical and City of God Roads and Overlay of Entrance at Mosheshe Estate, Effurun, Uvwie Local Government Area	2.40KM
27	Construction of Hon. Joyce Overah street off Dedevo Road, Gana to link Otuedor Street and Ugberikoko Road Sapele	0.70KM
28	Construction of Mbiri Township Roads, Mbiri	1.15KM
29	Completion of the Construction of Iwere College Road, Koko	1.01KM
30	Construction of Lucky Kpenosen Road, Koko	0.60KM

31	Construction of Aslwe Lane, Okubor Street and Obiagbena Lane, all in Owanta	0.34KM
32	Rehabilitation of Aviara/Araya/Okpare Road and Construction of Okpare/Okpawa Road	10.0KM
33	Construction of Entrance Road to Iselegu Town (Phase I)	0.80KM
34	Rehabilitation of Ugbokodo Road, from Jeddo/Ughoton Road Junction to the Market	2.88KM
35	Construction of Emeghai and Uhiere Streets, Agbor	0.70KM
36	Rehabilitation of Issele-Uku (from Obi Palace Junction) to Onicha-Ugbo Road	8.25KM
37	Construction of a Reinforced Concrete Rigid Pavement at Zion Road, Bomadi	1.71KM
38	Rehabilitation of Jesse/Boboroku Road	19.20KM
39	Construction of Alisimie/Igbanke Road with a Spur to Imahiagbe Street	1.09KM
40	Rehabilitation and Resurfacing of Owa-Alero/Owa-Oyibu Road in Ika North East Local Government Area	3.42KM
41	Reconstruction of Owa-Alero/Ute-Okpu Road in Ika North East Local Government Area (from Owa-Alero Roundabout to Railway Fly-Over Bridge)	1.58KM
42	Maintenance of Apalla and Fani-Kayode Roads, Warri	0.40KM
43	Rehabilitation and Resurfacing of Owa-Alero/Idumuesah Road	5.0KM
44	Construction of Idumuesah/Ute-Alohen Road in Ika North East LGA	2.57KM
45	Maintenance of Obi Ikechukwu and Palace Roads Agbor	1.00KM
49	Construction Okerenkoko Township Roads (Phase II), in Warri South West Local Government Area	2.00KM
50	Rehabilitation of Issele-Uku/Issele-Mkpitlme/Onicha-Olona Road	1.00KM
51	Construction of Idumu-Iso Street and Idumu-Ozue Lane, Owa-Alero	1.00KM
52	Construction of concrete drains along Owa-Alidinma Road	1.00KM

**2018: 220.21KM of Roads (Ministry of Works)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
01	Construction of Obobo/Abu-Ise/Umutei Road, Illah	0.94KM
02	Construction of Alero Street (from Meleke Junction to Alika Street), Meleke Lane, Obiagbena Lane II off Obiagbena Street, Boji Boji Owa	0.56KM
03	Construction of Esiri Street with a Spur from Obahor Street to Upper Erejuwa Road, Warri	0.34KM
04	Construction of Storm Water Drainage Along Amb. Raph Uwechue Way to Anwai River, Asaba	3.50KM
05	Construction of Owerre-Olubor/Ekwuoma Road	3.13KM
06	Construction, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of five (5) Roads in Sapele	3.55KM
07	Construction of Okuomowa Road in Osubi to link Etakpo Lane / MacNero Road, Osubi	1.60KM
08	Construction of Bethel Oborovwori Crescent / Iyamu Street in Osubi to link Maroko in Okuokoko, Osubi	1.68KM
09	Reconstruction and resurfacing of Old Umunede/Emuhu Road with a spur to the Asaba/Benin Expressway	3.18KM
10	Reconstruction of Eket Main Road, off DSC Expressway, Eket in Udu Local Government Area	1.50KM
11	Construction of Obiaruku/Umuebu Road, (Phase I: The First 5 Kilometres from Obiaruku)	5.0KM
12	Construction of Mereje Drainage Network, Mereje, Okpe Local Government Area	2.49KM
13	Construction of Edu China Street (Access Road to Daily Independent Newspaper), Asaba	0.79KM
14	Construction of Ede Grammar School Road, off Asaba/Benin Express way, Umunede in Ika North East Local Government Area	0.90KM

15	Construction of Access Road to Awaritse Industrial Park, Obitugbo (Phase 2) in Warri North Local Government Area	0.96KM
16	Construction of Owa-Aliosimi/Abraka Road	1.81KM
17	Construction of Dein Palace/Oza-Nogogo Road, Ika South L.G.A	4.15KM
18	Completion of the Construction of Maryam Babangida Road, Asaba	1.88KM
19	Construction of Emede Ring Road with a Spur to Ovie Palace Road, Emede	4.25KM
20	Construction of Upper Ojekpolor Street in Ika North East Local Government Area	1.15KM
21	Construction of Concrete Drains and Discharge Channel from Refinery Road through Aribogha Street, Jesus is Lord Street to the Natural Waterway by Regal Clinic, Jakpa Road, Effurun in Uvwie Local Government Area	1.33KM
22	Construction of Internal Roads at Orhoakpor in Ethiope East LGA	0.55KM
23	Construction of Ogbeowele Road, Issele-Uku	0.58KM
24	Construction of Catholic Mission Road with a spur to Delta State Skills and Acquisition Centres Road, Umunne Okwani LGA.	0.72KM
25	Rehabilitation of Failed Sections of Link Road from Oghara to Koko / Ugbenu Highway in Ethiope West Local Government Area	7.10KM
26	Construction of DDPA Housing Estate Roads, Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	2.48KM
27	Rehabilitation and Overlay of Irri College/Uzere junction Road In Isoko South L.G.A	1.95KM
28	Construction of Efezomor II Road, Owa-Alero in Ika North East L.G.A.	2.43KM
29	Construction of Lucas Street, Abraka in Ethiope East Local Government Area	0.60KM
30	Construction of Kikanwa, Ebegbomi & Upper Ogbini Streets Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East L.G.A.	1.15KM
31	Construction of Upper Odeh Street (from Imudia Street to Marierie Street) Agbor	0.17KM
32	Construction of Umunne Street with a spur to Eluebo Street, Boji-Boji Owa	0.70KM
33	Reconstruction of Ivie Road Abraka, Ethiope East Local Government Area	0.47KM
34	Construction of NUT Road, Abraka in Ethiope East LGA	1.30KM
35	Construction of 400m Road within the Isoko Development Union (IDU) Secretariat Complex, by Oleh Roundabout	0.40KM
36	Reconstruction/Expansion of 450 Metres Long Sextion of Ovwodokpokpor Grammar School Road in Igbide Isoko South Local Government Area	0.45KM
37	Construction of Cecilia Omo-Agege Road, Effurun in Uvwie Local Government Area	0.31KM
38	Construction of Musheshe Street, Effurun in Uvwie Local Government Area	0.66KM
39	Construction of various Roads in Ekakpamre	5.3KM
40	Construction of Ekawenlu Street, Owa-Alero	0.52KM
41	Construction of Concrete Drains along Agboma/Mokpia Street (Phase I), Owa-Alero in Ika North-East Local Government Area	4.10KM
42	Construction of Walco Layout, off Effurun/Sapele Road	0.53KM
43	Rehabilitation of the Edjeba Waterfront/Warri Industrial Business Park Road in Edjeba	1.62KM
44	Construction of Idesoh Street off Macdermott Road in Warri, Warri South LGA	0.31KM
45	Construction of Idgbori Street/Water-Side Road off Mac Dermott Road in Warri, Warri South LGA	0.60KM
46	Construction of Scot Road Oghara in Ethiope West LGA	0.80KM
47	Construction of Court Road Oghara in Ethiope West Local Government Area	0.23KM

48	Construction of Iselegu/Umuokpala Road (Phase I) in Ndokwa East Local Government Area	0.60KM
49	Construction of Drains to Route Storm Water at the Roundabout at Nnebisi/Okpanam/Anwai Roads and Dr. Emmanuel Eweta Uduaghan Way Intersection, Asaba, oshimili South LGA, Construction of Creme Suites Road, Owa-Ekei	2.74KM
50	Completion of Okerenkoko Township Roads (Phase II) in Warri South West LGA	0.25KM
51	Construction of Uzougba Link Road to Issele-Uku/Otulu Road, Ubulu-Okiti	2.65KM
52	Rehabilitation of Failed Sections of Eku/Agbor Road (from Agbor to Eku)	1.14KM
53	Construction of DDPA Housing Estate Roads, (Phase II) Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	0.41KM
54	Rehabilitation of Failed Sections of Ughelli/Asaba Road by Mobile Police Barrack/Edo-Ogwashi and (Between Ogbe-Ubu Street and Kwale Junction) Ogwashi	0.11KM
55	Rehabilitation of failed Sections of NNPC Housing Estate Complex Road/Bypass in Uvwie Local Government Area	2.0KM
56	Re-construction/Rehabilitation of Mission Road, Ogwashi-Uku	0.55KM
57	Construction of 5 cell 2.5m x 3m Box culvert across Omoja Stream along Jesse-Boboruku Road, Ethiopie Warri LGA, Construction of Ugoani Palace and Aniemeke Street, Okpanam	0.25KM
58	Palliative Repair of the Patani/Agoloma/Toru-Angiama/Uduophori Road	2.81KM
59	Continuation of the Construction of Vanguard Road, Okpanam	0.25KM
60	Asphalt Overlay of Obodo Avenue (Berger Road) Shaguolo Area, off Warri Refinery and Petrochemical Company, Ekpan	0.25KM
61	Construction of Otabor Street off Upper Ojekpolor Street in Ika North East LGA	0.74KM
62	Asphalt overlay of NPA Bye pass Road (From the New Port Gate to Old Port Gate) Warri	1.82KM
63	Rehabilitation of failed Roads in Ugbuwangwe in Warri South Local Government Area	1.85KM
64	Construction of Access Road and Parking Lot at Anglican Church Owa-Alero in Ika North-East LGA	0.12KM
65	Construction of Internal Roads at Cathedral Church of the Ascension Diocese of Ika Church of Anglican Communion at Ika Anglican Grammar School Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East LGA, Construction of Concrete Drain along Agbor-Alidinma Obiduhon Road, Ika South LGA	1.03KM
66	Construction of Akumazi/Owerre-Olubor/Ekwuoma link road (Phase II) with 265 metres long spur to Obior/Ogwashi-uku roads in Ika North East LGA	3.27KM
67	Reconstruction of Igbodo/Obior Road in Ika North East and Aniocha North LGA	3.81KM
68	Construction of Aladja Market road Aladja in Udu LGA	1.32KM
69	Construction of Storm Water Discharge Channel Along DBS/Cabinet/ Umejei Adudu Way to Amilimocha River, Asaba, Construction of Asaba-Ase/Abari Road	6.20KM
70	Construction of access road to Ugbuwangwe New Layout, off Vincent Uduaghan road, Ugbuwangwe, Warri, Warri South Local Government Area	1.01KM
71	Construction of Old Okpe Road, Jeddo	1.8KM
72	Continuation and Completion of the Construction of the Road from Ughelli/Patani Expressway Junction to Bulu-Angiama in Patani LGA	3.4KM
73	Construction of Agidiehi Road, in Ogwashi-Uku Town	1.09KM
74	Maintenance of Oha/Adagbrassa-Ugolo/Ohorhe Road	9.49KM
75	Construction of Arhagba - Orogun Road in Ughelli North Local Government Area (Phase I: From Arhagba /Emonu Junction to Ebor Community)	4.15KM
76	Construction of Ogulagha/Youbebe/Biniebiama Road	1.50KM
77	Reconstruction of the Failed Portions of Okuvo/Okugbogbo/Mereje Road	2.17KM
78	Construction of Ogulagha-Youbebe-Biniebiama Road in Burutu Local Government Area (Consultancy), Construction of a 1200 metres length section of Etua/Utagba-Uno Road in Utagba-Uno	1.20KM

79	Construction of Karien Street with a Spur to Emiberien Street, Okumagba Layout, Warri	0.78KM
80	Construction of Dimony Street, Okumagba Layout, Warri	0.46KM
81	Construction of Internal Roads and Parking Lots within the Premises of the General Hospital Complex, Asaba	1.98KM
82	Rehabilitation and Expansion of Access Road to Uvwie Modern Market Ugbolokposo, Section I measuring 2.153 kilometres, which begins from P.T.I Road/Alegbo Road junction to the market in Effurun	2.15KM
83	Rehabilitation of Ekiugbo-lyede/Oghara-lyede/Emevor Old Road with Construction of Spur (4) at Oghara-lyede	5.13KM
84	Construction of Umunne Street with a spur to Eluebo Street, Boji-Boji Owa	0.70KM
85	Consultancy Services for the Construction of Torugbene/Ojobo Road in Burutu ,Construction Main Axial Road in Erowha Community	1.85KM
86	Continuation of the construction of Ibusa/Achalla/Asaba Road (Phase I: 4.125 kilometres from Ibusa)	4.13KM
87	Construction of Queens Street, Boji-Boji, Agbor	1.78KM
88	Construction of the Oyede Industrial Layout Road, Oyede	1.18KM
89	Construction of Otite Industrial Avenue Road, Okpara Inland Local Government Area	1.16KM
90	Construction of Torugbene/Ojobo Road (Section A: Length 3.104 Kilometres from end of NDDC project to approach of first bridge)	3.10KM
91	Construction of Asaba/Oko-Amakom/Oko-Obiokpu/Oko-Anala Road (Section I: Oko-Amakom/Oko-Obiokpu)	3.60KM
92	Construction of Odua Street using Concrete Interlocking Stones at Aboh	0.95KM
93	Construction of Otor-Owhe Internal Roads, Otor-Owhe in Isoko North LGA	1.37KM
94	Construction of Aje Street and School Road using Interlocking Stones at Egbokodo New Layout in Warri	0.95KM
95	Construction of Umusam Road, Admiral Onah Street and Umeseti Road, Utagba-Uno	1.54KM
96	Construction of Omini/Nigercat Link Road off Refinery Road, Ekpan	0.38KM
97	Construction of Sargin Erhivwieta Street/Mission Road, Jesse	1.30KM
98	Construction of Fish Mill Road in Ekpan	0.15KM
99	Construction of Access Road to Nigeria Maritime University Okerenkoko (Kurutie Campus) in Warri South West LGA	1.30KM
100	Construction of Access Road from NPA Expressway (By former Protea Hotel now BON Hotel) to Warri Refinery Road	1.80KM
101	Construction of Hon. Abinoko way, community road and Ekuobodo village access road, Phase I: Ekuobodo village, Mosogar in Ethiope West LGA	3.10KM
102	Construction of Kwale-Beneku bridge and approach roads in Ndokwa West and Ndokwa-East LGA	0.80KM
103	Construction of Ugbomro Road (Section II) from Ughelli/warri Expressway Junction at Iteregbi Village to the Main gate of Federal University of Petroleum Resources Junction) in Uvwie Local Government Area	1.22KM
104	Construction of Ajagbodudu Township Roads	2.40KM
105	Construction of streets Adjoining Asaba/Okpanam road (from legislative quarters to Okpanam by Post Office) in Oshimili North Local Government Area (Sector A)	4.74KM
106	Construction of streets Adjoining Asaba/Okpanam road (from legislative quarters to Okpanam by Post Office) in Oshimili North Local Government Area (Sector B)	5.84KM
107	Construction of Raph Uwechue Way, Lady Ginika Monye, Price Ikechukwu Iyeke Way and Ejiro Adegor Street in Oshimili South LGA	4.20KM
108	Construction of Tutu Lane/Obodokwu Road, Sapele	1.34KM
109	Rehabilitation of failed Roads in Warri South Local Government Area	5.01KM
110	Rehabilitation of some internal roads in Orerokpe, Okpe LGA	3.25KM
111	Construction of 5,085m (made up of 13Nos. Roads) network of paved roads, using HFP concrete stones in the state	5.09KM

**2019: 231.199KM of Roads (Ministry of Works)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
01	Construction of Ekaeze Street, Agbor-Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.96KM
02	Construction of Obi-Olihe Street, Agbor-Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.53KM
03	Remedial Works on Old Lagos-Asaba Road, Agbor	2.20KM
04	Rehabilitation of 1Km failed section of Ovir Road off Warri-Abraka Road, a Link to Sapele-Abraka Road	1.00KM
05	Construction of Abavo Palace Avenue Road, Abavo in Ika South LGA	0.86KM
06	Rehabilitaion and Resurfacing of Godwin Emeifele Street, Agbor in Ika South LGA	0.43KM
07	Construction of Uloho Avenue Amukpe/Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.11KM
08	Construction of Ushie Township Roads, Ushie (Phase II) in Ndokwa East Local Government Area	0.45KM
09	Rehabilitation/Overlay of NDC Road and Construction of St. Joseph College (technical) Road, Ozoro	3.51KM
10	Rehabilitation and Resurfacing of Prof. Ebie Street Boji-Boji Agbor in Ika South LGA	0.95KM
11	Rehabilitation of Ortuwhorun Main Road and the Construction of Ekrovie Road in Udu LGA	2.47KM
12	Construction of Obiaruku Township Roads, Obiaruku in Ukwuani LGA	1.48KM
13	Construction of Bishop's Court Roads, Obiaruku in Ukwuani LGA	1.52KM
14	Rehabilitation of Ogiyede Road and Construction of Ogiyede Extension off Ogonu Road, Warri	1.25KM
15	Construction of Chief Ede Street off Obi Ikechukwu Road in Ika South Local Government Area	0.41KM
16	Construction/Rehabilitation of Owhelegbo Internal Roads (Phase I) in Isoko North Local Government Area	2.20KM
17	Construction of Internal Roads in Otolokpo Community (Phase I) in Ika North East Local Government Area	1.86KM
18	Construction of Lawrance and Izu Roads, Sapele in Sapele LGA	1.44KM
19	Regulation of failed sections and Asphalt Overlay of 3 kilometres Length of Iselegu Junction/Ugiliamai/Utagba-Uno/Obiaruku Road in Ndokwa West and Ukwuani Local Government Area	3.0KM
20	Construction of Oseji Street (from Hill Street to Baleke Street), Boji-Boji Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	0.58KM
21	Construction of Access Road to Obi's Palace, Ubulu-Uku in Aniocha South Local Government Area	0.40KM
22	Reconstruction of Old Adeje Road, Adeje in Okpe LGA	1.62KM
23	Construction of Iregwa and Ebegboni Street, off Obi Ikechukwu Street, Agbor Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.93KM
24	Maintenance of failed portions of Oteri/Ovwor/Ophorigbala New Road and Oteri/Ovwor Old Road in Ughelli North Local Government Area	3.00KM
25	Rehabilitation and Asphalt of 150M Length of Enerhen Motel Road from Enerhen Road Junction, Uvwie LGA	0.15KM
26	Construction of Drains/Interlocking Tiles in Air Force Housing Estate, Jeddo in Okpe Local Government Area	13.12KM
27	Construction of the Extension of Ebegboni and Upper Ogbini Streets, Boji Boji, Owa in Ika North East LGA	1.66KM
28	Construction of Kpakiana Link Roads in Bomadi Local Government Area	0.97KM
29	Construction of Ebise Road, Ekrudo Road and Odumere Road Oria-Abraka in Ethiopia East Local Government Area	1.91KM
30	Construction of Ogbani Road (Circular Road) and Completion of Hezua Road (Phase I) Akwukwu-Igbo in Oshimili North LGA	1.20KM
31	Construction of Heroes of Faith Street, Upper Agbarho in Ughelli, Emomejere Road and Rehabilitation of Otoho Road, Ughelli	0.74KM

32	Construction of Owhegbo Drainage, Phase I (Ovuzorie Macaulay/Edigre Road), Isoko North LGA , Palliative Repairs on the Failed Sections of Benin/Asaba/Onitsha Expressway at Ubulu-Okiti and the approach of Niger Bridge in Aniocha South and Oshimili South LGA	1.80KM
33	Extension of Lawrence and Izu Roads to Link Akintola Road in Sapele, Sapele LGA	0.4KM
34	Construction of Aliosimi/Abraka Road (Phase II) from Old Abraka Road to the New Abraka Road, in Ika North East LGA	0.65KM
35	Maintenance of Failed Sections of the Road from PTI Junction to DSC Roundabout and Nigercat Junction in Uvwie LGA, Completion of the Construction of Ovie Palace Road and Asphalt Overlay of Emede Ring (Phase II) in Isoko South LGA	4.50KM
36	Replacement of the Rehabilitation of Federal College of Education and Osadenis Road with the Construction of Jonas Okafor Crescent and Rehabilitation of Osadenis Road in Oshimili South LGA	0.54KM
37	Construction of Rahpael Obianke Street with a spur to Obianke Lane (from Owa-Ekei Road to Word of Faith Street) Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East Local Government Area	0.64KM
38	Continuation of the Rehabilitation of Failed Sections Eku/Agbor Road (from Agbor to Eku)	7.48KM
39	Rehabilitation of a Section of Idheze/Ozoro Road in Isoko South LGA	1.54KM
40	Construction of Main Axial Road, Erowha Community, Phase II (Asphalt Overlay of Road and Shoulders) in Isoko South LGA	1.85KM
41	Completion of the Dualisation of Ughelli-Asaba Road (Sector C2)	21.27KM
42	Construction of Ekaeze Street, Agbor-Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.96KM
43	Reconstruction of Old Ekwuoma/Umunede Road in Ika North East LGA	6.15KM
44	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Abavo Circular Road, Phase III (from Udomi-Junction to Old Ekuma-Ekwueze Road) and Additional Works on Abavo Circular Road, Phase II in Ika South LGA	1.05KM
45	Rehabilitation of Otokutu Axial Road and Maintenance of Otokutu/Ekrokpe Road in Ughelli South LGA	4.10KM
46	Construction of Kpakama Link Roads in Bomadi Local Government Area	0.97KM
47	Construction of Niki-Tobi and Market Roads at Esanma in Bomadi Local Government Area	1.10KM
48	Construction of Engr. Oyubu Godspower Street to Link Ibori Road, Oghara in Ethiopie West Local Government Area	2.00KM
49	Construction of Access Road from Otumara Road to Western Delta Univeristy, Oghara in Ethiopie West Local Government Area	3.10KM
50	Construction of Egba Bypass, Igbide, Isoko	1.2KM
51	Construction of Olomoro Internal Roads in Isoko South Local Government Area	1.50KM
52	Construction of Obi-Ogo Eziokpor/Umuoshi Eziokpor Road in Ukwuani Local Government Area	1.55KM
53	Construction of Okerenkoko Township Roads, (Phase III) in Warri South West Local Government Area	2.50KM
54	Rehabilitation of failed sections of Ashaka/ Igbuku/ Aboh Road in Ndokwa East LGA	14.70KM
55	Construction of Baptist Mission Road (Macedonia Baptist Church), Amukpe Sapele LGA	0.68KM
56	Construction of Ushie Township Roads, Ushie (Phase II) in Ndokwa East Local Government Area	0.45KM
57	Rehabilitation of Roads and Desiltation of Drains in GRA (Phase I), Asaba in Oshimili South LGA	3.71KM
58	Rehabilitation of Orhuwhorun Main Road and the Construction of Ekrovie Road in Udu LGA	2.47KM
59	Construction of Obiaruku Township Roads, Obiaruku in Ukwuani LGA	1.48KM
60	Construction of Bishop's Court Roads, Obiaruku in Ukwuani LGA	1.52KM
61	Construction of Heroes of Faith Street, Upper Agbarho in Ughelli, Emomejere Road and Rehabilitation of Otobo Road, Ughelli	0.74KM

62	Rehabilitation of Ogiyede Road and Construction of Ogiyede Extension off Ogonu Road, Warri	1.25KM
63	Construction of Ogbe-Nta Street, Ika South Local Government Area	0.82KM
64	Construction of Amagiya Road off Adeola Road to Link Odiete Road, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.78KM
65	Construction of Oginibo/Ohwahwa Road in Ughelli South LGA	3.15KM
66	Construction of Internal Roads in Otolokpo Community (Phase I) in Ika North East Local Government Area	1.86KM
67	Construction of Approach Roads to Ogrigbene bridge in Bomadi LGA	0.25KM
65	Construction of Oginibo/Ohwahwa Road in Ughelli South LGA	3.15KM
66	Construction of Internal Roads in Otolokpo Community (Phase I) in Ika North East Local Government Area	1.86KM
67	Construction of Approach Roads to Ogrigbene bridge in Bomadi LGA	0.25KM

COMPLETION FOR THE PROVISION OF OBSTACLE FREE ZONE FOR THE RUNWAY OF ASABA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SECTOR A AND C).

68	Construction of Oseji Street (from Hill Street to Baleke Street), Boji-Boji Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	0.93KM
69	Construction of Teachers Road, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.78KM
70	Completion of the construction of Effurn - Otor/Iwhrekekan/Ughevughe/Eruemukohwaren/Otor-Edo /Usiefurun Road in Ughelli South Local Government Area. Phase I: Iwhrekekan/Ughevughe	2.80KM
71	Reconstruction of Old Adeje Road, Adeje in Okpe LGA	1.38KM
72	Completion of the Construction of Ugbolu/Akwukwu-Igbo Road in Oshimili North Local Government Area (Phase I: from end of asphalt at Akwukwu-Igbo LG Council Secretariat to Akwukwu Board Camp (6.00 Kilometres)	6.00KM
73	Completion of the Dualisation of Ughelli/Asaba Road (Sector C1: Km 92 + 000 to Km1 17 + 000, Ossissa to Kwale Junction, Ogwashi-Uku)	25.0KM
74	Construction of Iregwa and Ebegboni Street, off Obi Ikechukwu Stret, Agbor Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.93KM
75	Construction of Kess College Road off Ewhrekepokpor/Ekrejebor/Agbarha Otor Road in Ughelli North LGA , Rehabilitation/Construction of Owa-Oyibu/Udomi-Abavo Road in Ika South LGA	6.40KM
76	Construction/Rehabilitation of Internal roads in Orogun town. (Hospital and Ossai Roads)	1.38KM
77	Construction of Okosome Road, Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East Local Government Area	0.3KM
78	Construction of Flood Control Measures around Asaba Specialist Hospital, Asaba, Oshimili South LGA, Construction of the Extension of Ebegboni and Upper Ogbini Streets, Boji Boji, Owa in Ika North East LGA	0.42KM
79	Construction of Flood Control Measures at Okotomi Quarters, Okpanam, Oshimili North LGA, Construction of Owhelegbo Drainage, Phase I (Ovuzorle Macaulay/Edigre Road), Isoko North LGA ,Rehabilitation of a section of Idheze/Ozoro Road in Isoko South LGA	1.54KM
80	Rehabilitation/Construction of DBS/Isho Road, Ubulu-uku in Anlocha South LGA	2.10KM
81	Completion of the Dualisation of Ughelli-Asaba Road (Sector C2)	21.7KM
82	Construction of Approach Roads to Ogrigbene bridge in Bomadi LGA	0.25KM
83	Construction of Niki-Tobi and Market Roads at Esanma in Bomadi Local Government Area	1.10KM
84	Construction of Engr. Oyubu Godspower Street to Link Ibori Road, Oghara in Ethiope West Local Government Area	2.10KM
85	Construction of Access Road from Otumara Road to Western Delta Univeristy, Oghara in Ethiope West Local Government Area	3.10KM
86	Reconstruction of Old Ekwoma/Umunede Road in Ika North East LGA	6.15KM
87	Construction of Owa-Alero Internal Roads in Ika North East LGA	1.27KM
88	Construction of Chief Ede Street off Obi Ikechukwu Road in Ika South Local Government Area	0.41KM



89	Construction of Ogbe-Nta Street, Ika South Local Government Area	0.82KM
90	Construction of Oseji Street (from Hill Street to Baleke Street), Boji-Boji Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	0.58KM
91	Construction of Iregwa and Ebegboni Street, off Obi Ikechukwu Stret, Agbor Obi in Ika South Local Government Area	0.93KM
92	Rehabilitation/Construction of Owa-Oyibu/Udomi-Abavo Road in Ika South LGA	6.40KM
93	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Abavo Circular Road, Phase III (from Udomi-Junction to Old Ekuma-Ekwueze Road) and Additional Works on Abavo Circular Road, Phase II in Ika South LGA	1.05KM
94	Construction of Egba Bypass, Igbide, Isoko	1.20KM
95	Construction of Olomoro Internal Roads in Isoko South Local Government Area	1.50KM
96	Rehabilitation of failed sections of Ashaka/ Igbuku/ Aboh Road in Ndokwa East LGA	14.70KM
97	Construction of Ushie Township Roads, Ushie (Phase II) in Ndokwa East Local Government Area	0.45KM
98	Regulation of failed sections and Asphalt Overlay of 3 kilometres Length of Iselegu Junction/Ugiliamai/ Utagba-Ujo/Obiaruku Road in Ndokwa West and Ukwuani Local Government Area	3.00KM
99	Rehabilitation of Roads and Desiltation of Drains in GRA (Phase I), Asaba in Oshimili South LGA	3.71KM
100	Completion for the Provision of Obstacle Free Zone for the Runway of Asaba International Airport (Sector A and C), Construction of Baptist Mission Road (Macedonia Baptist Church), Amukpe Sapele LGA	0.68KM
101	Completion of the Dualisation of Ughelli-Asaba Road (Sector C2)	21.27KM
102	Rehabilitation of Old Ekwuoma/Umunede Road in Ika North East LGA	1.05KM
103	Rehabilitation of Otokutu Axial Road and Maintenance of Otokutu/Ekrokpe Road in Ughelli South LGA	4.10KM
104	Construction of Niki-Tobi and Market Roads at Esanma in Bomadi Local Government Area	1.10KM
105	Construction of Engr. Oyubu Godspower Street to Link Ibori Road, Oghara in Ethiopie West Local Government Area	2.00KM
106	Construction of Access Road from Otumara Road to Western Delta Univeristy, Oghara in Ethiopie West Local Government Area	3.10KM
107	Construction of Egba Bypass, Igbide, Isoko	1.20KM
108	Construction of Olomoro Internal Roads in Isoko South Local Government Area	1.50KM
109	Construction of Obi-Ogo Eziokpor/Umuoshi Eziokpor Road in Ukwuani Local Government Area	1.55KM
110	Construction of Okerenkoko Township Roads, (Phase III) in Warri South West Local Government Area	2.50KM
111	Rehabilitation of failed sections of Ashaka/ Igbuku/ Aboh Road in Ndokwa East LGA	14.7KM
112	Construction of Baptist Mission Road (Macedonia Baptist Church), Amukpe Sapele LGA	0.68KM
113	Rehabilitation of Roads and Desiltation of Drains in GRA (Phase I), Asaba in Oshimili South LGA	3.71KM
114	Construction of Ogbe-Nta Street, Ika South Local Government Area	0.82KM
115	Construction of Amagiya Road off Adeola Road to Link Odiete Road, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.78KM
116	Construction of Oginlbo/Ohwahwa Road in Ughelli South LGA	3.15KM
117	Completion for the Provision of Obstacle Free Zone for the Runway of Asaba International Airport (Sector A and C), Construction of Teachers Road, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.77KM
118	Construction of Amagiya Road off Adeola Road to Link Odiete Road, Sapele in Sapele Local Government Area	0.78KM
119	Completion of the construction of Effurn-Otor/Iwhrekekan/Ughevughe/Erudemukohwaren/Otor-Edo/ Uslefurun Road in Ughelli South Local Government Area. Phase I: Iwhrekekan/Ughevughe	2.80KM
120	Rehabilitation/Construction of DBS/Isho Road, Ubulu-uku in Aniocha South LGA	2.10KM

121	Completion of the Construction of Ugbolu/Akwukwu-Igbo Road in Oshimili North Local Government Area (Phase I: from end of asphalt at Akwukwu-Igbo LG Council Secretariat to Akwukwu Board Camp	6.00 KM
122	Completion of the Dualisation of Ughelli/Asaba Road (Sector C1: Km 92 + 000 to Km117 + 000, Ossissa to Kwale Junction, Ogwashi-Uku)	25.00KM
123	Rehabilitation /Construction of Owa-Oyibu/Udomi-Abavo Road in Ika South LGA	6.4KM
124	Construction/Rehabilitation of Internal roads in Orogun town. (Hospital and Ossai Roads)	1.38KM
125	Construction of Owa-Alero Internal Roads in Ika North East LGA	1.27KM
126	Construction of Main Axial Road, Erowha Community, Phase II (Asphalt Overlay of Road and Shoulders), Construction of Egwulemu Street, off Obi Ikechukwu Road, Agbor-Obi in Ika South LGA	0.75KM
127	Construction of Okosome Road, Boji-Boji Owa in Ika North East Local Government Area	0.38KM
128	Construction of Owa-Alero Internal Roads in Ika North East LGA	2.90KM
129	Construction of Flood Control Measures at Okotomi Quarters, Okpanam, Oshimili North LGA	1.68KM
130	Construction of Owhelogbo Drainage, Phase I (Ovuzorie Macaulay/Edigre Road), Isoko North LGA, Rehabilitation of a section of Idheze/Ozoro Road in Isoko South LGA	1.54KM
131	Construction of Approach Roads to Ogriagbene bridge in Bomadi LGA	0.25KM
132	Construction of Kess College Road off Ewhrekpokpor/Ekrejebor/Agbarha Otor Road	0.85KM
133	Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of failed sections of the Warri-Sapele-Benin Dual Carriageway Ughelli North LGA . Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of failed sections of the Warri-Sapele-Benin Dual Carriageway	0.879KM
134	Construction of Benikrukru Township Roads in Warri South-West LGA	2.30KM
135	Construction of Storm Water Discharge Channels and Erosion Control measures for Ogwashi-Uku/Ubaka-Ughelli Road in Aniocha South LGA Widening/Reconstruction of Owa-Alero /Owanta-Aliosimi Road in Ika North East LGA.	1.33KM
136	Palliative Measures on Upper Efeizomor Street, in Ika North East LGA	1.75KM
137	Construction of Francis Uwenedi Road (from Owanta/Aliosimi Road to Old Abraka Road), Owanta in Ika North-East LGA	1.9KM
138	Construction of Christo Ogala Street (from Ola Lagos/Asaba Road to Ijudia Street) Agbor in Ika South LGA	0.86KM
139	Construction of Adjoining Streets around Queens Street, Agbor, Ika South LGA to control Flooding and Erosion	3.45KM
140	Construction of Tripple-Cell Box Culvert/Rehabilitation of Odvaran Road in Ughelli, Ughelli-North LGA	0.67KM
141	Construction of DDPA Housing Estate Roads (Phase III) Agbor in Ika South Local Government Area	1.73KM
142	Extension of Baptist Mission Road to Melekewe Street, Boji Boji Owa in Ika North-East LGA	0.13KM
143	Construction of Group Medical Road with a Spur to Gerald Omezia Street Okpanam in Oshimili North LGA	0.63KM
144	Widening and Reconstruction of Owa-Alero /Owanta-Aliosimi Road in Ika North-East LGA	2.23KM
145	Construction of Owa-Alero Internal Roads in Ika North East LGA	1.27KM

**2015-2019: 48.558KM of Roads (Ministry of Urban Renewal)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
1	Rehabilitation of Charles street with drainage at Agbor	1.505KM
2	Rehabilitation /Construction Amawha layout Ideze road, with Drainage at Oleh	0.7KM
3	Rehabilitation of Oha /Orerokpe / Oviore Road (with bridge)	7.9KM
4	Rehabilitation and Asphalt overlay of Obutobo 1-Obutobo II – Sokebolou- Yokri Road, Burutu	19.71KM
5	Construction of Burutu township Road Burutu	2.50KM
6	Renabilitation and overlay of Irri College/ Uzere junction road, Irri	1.95KM
7	Construction of NCC Institute / state owner-occupiers housing estate / CBN housing estate road, off Asaba -Ugbolu-Illah road, Ugbolu	1.95KM
8	Rehabilitation and resurfacing of Obi Opute II road, Aboh	2.025KM

9	Construction of Burutu township road, (Phase II) Burutu	1.55KM
10	Construction access road to Burutu Grammar School and Burutu modern market, Burutu	0.504KM
11	Construction of Burutu township road (phase III), Burutu	0.425KM
12	Construction of water board / Ebere Adlokpo Road, Off Owa- Eke road, Boji-Boji, Owa with a spur of Benjamin Arinze close in Ika North East	1.0KM
13	Construction of onyeka Alike street, Somekelechukwu street, Jacobean street and water board extension road, Owa-ekel in Ika north-east	0.879KM
14	Also attended to were the Construction of Obinomba / Umukwata-Unor road, Obinomba in Ukwani	2.0KM
15	Construction of Ikromoku and Ikraghwa streets in Eku/comrade Vincent Omojiriemu	1.584KM
16	Crescent, Arlgbodl and Prof. Tonukarl streets in Islokolo both in ethiopo-east	2.431KM
17	Construction of Akugbene community road/ access roads in Akpanaka-Ebodo quarters in Akugbene, Bomadi	1.895KM

**2015-2019: 96.827KM of Roads (Delta State Capital Territory Development Authority)**

S/N	DESCRIPTION	KILOMETERS
1	Jesus Saviour Road, Asaba	1.8KM
2	Construction of Chinedu Ezeyinli Road (Agric Road), Asaba	0.75KM
3	Construction of Obi Emenashi Road, Asaba	0.75KM
4	Construction of the Link Road Between Umuaji Street & Ibusas Road with a Spur to Kwuekagbor Street and 1st Road, Asaba	1.95KM
5	Construction of Umuekwo Road/Umu Ezel Street, Asaba	1.63KM
6	Construction of Onyebuchi Street, Asaba	0.62KM
7	Construction of Osowe Street with a Spur to Umuaji Street, Asaba	0.566KM
8	Construction of Infant Jesus Road, Asaba	1.47KM
9	Construction of ULO Road (NTA), Asaba	1.35KM
10	Construction of Oni Edozien	0.995KM
11	Construction of Isloma Onyeobi road Asaba	1.45KM
12	Construction of Victor Odogwu Road	1.1KM
13	Construction of Marine Road, Asaba	0.6KM
14	Construction of the Link Road Between Isloma Onyeobi Way and Cable Road, Asaba	0.13KM
15	Construction of Biose Amantu Street, Asaba	0.525KM
16	Construction of Ibusa Road (from Nnebisi Road to Coca Junction), Asaba	2.12KM
17	Construction of Chiagoziem Street, Asaba	0.475KM
18	Construction of Nwaezeapu Street, Asaba	0.66KM
19	Construction of Link road between Obi Emenashi Road and Ibusa Road, Asaba	0.55KM
20	Construction of Agu Street, Asaba	0.63KM
21	Palliative Repair of Critical Failed Section of Asaba-Illah Road	0.437KM
22	The Construction of Governor Street, Asaba	0.6KM
23	Construction of Casloba Crescent, Off Nnebisi Road, Umuagu, Asaba	0.5KM
24	Construction of Nduka Iloba Street, Off Obi Emenashi Street, Umuagu, Asaba	0.29KM
25	Construction of Mokolo Street, Off Obi Emenashi Street, Umuagu, Asaba	0.49KM
26	Construction of Ojife Street (By AGGS), Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.6KM
27	Construction of Ebenuwa Street, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.45KM
28	Construction of Odlachi Street (By Skye Bank PLC), Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.525KM
29	Construction of Access Road to Nigeria Immigration Service Headquarters, Asaba	0.54KM
30	Construction of Chukwuka Sylvester Monye Close, Behind NTA Asaba Station, Asaba	0.13KM

31	Reclamation of the Failed Section of the Road Behind Ogbeogonogo Market, Asaba	0.1KM
32	Rehabilitation of Kingsley Emu Street, Off DBS Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.482KM
33	Rehabilitation Of Isioma Onyeobi Way, Off Nnebisi Road and Reconstruction Of Link Road From The Sand Beach Through Ngozi Rapu Street, Across Isioma Onyeobi Way To Cable Point Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	1.86KM
34	Construction Of Stadium & Capwire Roads, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.82KM
35	Construction of Osuzoka Street, Off DLA Road, Asaba in Oshimili South Local Government Area.	0.42KM
36	Maintenance of Tamuno Street (Off NTA Road) and NTA Road (Between Okpanam Dual Carriageway and NIMC Office, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area, Construction of Okelue Street, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba	0.66KM
37	Construction of Chukwudumebi Street, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba	0.20KM
38	Rehabilitation and Overlay of Okwe Market Road, Off Benin/Asaba Expressway, Asaba	1.2KM
39	Construction of Ogbueshi Ojogwu Street/Barr. Anthony Orunkoya Crescent/Ugochukwu Chibuzor Crescent, Off Ambassador Raph Uwachue Road, Asaba	1.149KM
40	Construction of Kanayo Street, Off Dennis Osadebay Way with a spur to Eugene Oba Lane, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.716KM
41	Construction of Obodouku Street, Off Kanayo Street, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.65KM
42	Construction of Onochie Lane, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba	0.35KM
43	Construction of Tom Halim Street Joe/Dansaba Street, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba	0.51KM
44	Maintenance of Ibusa Road (From Nnebisi Road to Benin/Asaba Expressway), Umuezei (From Nnebisi Road to Umuaji Street) and Ezenel Avenue (From Nnebisi Road to Benin/Asaba Expressway), Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	4.45KM
45	Reconstruction of (Fear God Street) Bonaac Road and Construction of Pat Kanayo Okonta Street/Amaechi Uzuegbu Street/Nze Francis Street/Onwa Nwachinemelu Street, Phase I (From Boney Eguatuonwu Street to The End of The Road), Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	1.66KM
46	Construction of Okotomi Road/Obi Okonkwo Crescent/Pato Okonkwo Street/Chukwumeka Lane/Part of Samuel Diateke Street/Diokpa Bishop Odu Street, Off Okpanam Road in Oshimili North Local Government Area	2.72KM
47	Asphalt Overlay of the Upper Section and Construction of the Lower Section of Nwaezeapu Road, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.737KM
48	Construction Of Joel Felix Drive Off Victor Anene Bossua Street, Asaba	0.670KM
49	Construction of Hon. Justice Roseline Bozimo Crescent /Eturhobore Crescent /Alaowei Broderick Bozimo Drive, Off Onwa Bruno Crescent , By Cenotaph, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.860KM
50	Construction Of The Extension of Admiralty Street, Off Ughelli/Asaba Expressway, Ibusa, Oshimili North L.G.A.	0.11KM
51	Construction Of Umuidi Road, Off Umejei Road, Ibusa, Oshimili North L.G.A.	0.62KM
52	The Rehabilitation of Part of Dennis Osadebay Way, Off Asaba/Onitsha Expressway, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory	0.20KM
53	Reconstruction of Nze Francis Street, Opposite MTN Office, Off Benin/Asaba Expressway, Asaba in Oshimili South Local Government Area	1.20KM
54	Construction of Nkpayala Road, Off Umejei Road, Ibusa in Oshimili North Local Government Area	1.26KM
55	Asphalt Overlay of Ezenel Street (From Nnebisi Road to Umuaji Street), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory	0.80KM
56	Construction of Asagba Palace Road, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.59KM
57	Construction of Bolatsi Dudu Lane and Rehabilitation of Part of Nkem Okwuofu Street with One-Side Discharge Drain along High Court, Behind Government House, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.70KM
58	Construction of Chief Clement Ofuani Lane, Behind Government House, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.940KM
59	Completion of New General Hospital Road With A Spur To Joy Ariguzor Street, Off Okpanam Road, Oshimili North Local Government Area of The State Capital Territory	0.761KM
60	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Infant Jesus Road, Off Asaba/Illah Road, Asaba	1.5KM
61	The Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Obi Emenashi Road, Off Nnebisi Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory	1.2KM
62	Construction of Okwe Secondary School/Magistrate Court Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory	0.48KM

63	Construction of Ada Biosah Street, Off Old Anwai Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory	0.37KM
64	Construction of Ambassador Leo Okogwu Road (From Onwuegbuzie Street Junction to Osuzoka Street in Zappa), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.84KM
65	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Jesus Saves Road (From Summit Road Junction to Onwuegbuzie Street Junction) and Onwuegbuzie Street (From Jesus Saves Road Junction to Nnebisi Road By Konwea Plaza), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	2.225KM
66	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Ibusa Road (From Nnebisi Road to Benin/Asaba Expressway), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	2.120KM
67	Flood Control Measures at Lydia Obiajuru Crescent, Off Monu Olanrewaju Street (Core Area, Phase I), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory, Flood Control Measure at Umuagwu Quarters, By Ibusa Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area of the State Capital Territory, Construction of Ogo Chukwurah Street/Elue Anisha Street/Steve Eboka Street, Off Asaba/Ibusa Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.139KM
68	Construction of Internal Roads of Liberty Estate, Off High Court Road, Core Area, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.580KM
69	Construction of Edwin Uzor Street with a Spur to Chukwudi Dafe Close, Off Asaba/Okpanam Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	1.640KM
70	Flood & Erosion Control Measure at Abraka Market, along Dennis Osadebay Way and Asaba/Onitsha Expressway, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A. Construction of Access and Exit Roads to the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Off Sir Ogagifo Road, Asaba in Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.945KM
71	Construction of Access and Internal Roads of Pitason Estate, By Legislative Quarters, Okpanam Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	1.606KM
72	Rehabilitation of Lady Tonia Ojogwu Street, Off DBS Road, Asaba in Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.4KM
73	Asphalt Overlay of Lydia Obiajuru Crescent, Off Monu Olanrewaju Street, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.285KM
74	Rehabilitation Of Jarret Street 1 (Beatrice Edozien Street), Off Dennis Osadebay Way, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.4KM
75	Rehabilitation Of Jarret Street 2 and Construction of Part of Kano Street/Okocha Street, Off Dennis Osadebay Way, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	1.370KM
76	Construction of Barr. Yvonne Odu-Thomas Street/Comrade Mike Okeme/Barr. & Mrs C.Y. Okonye Street /Onwa Bruno Street, Off Barr. Anthony Orunkoya Crescent, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	1.261KM
77	Construction of Patrick Okuna Street, Off NTA Road, By U.L.O. House, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.82KM
78	Construction of Dr. Chuka Chinwokwu Street/Amaechi Iyio Way with a Spur to Roland Achusim Street, Phase 1 (From Madonna School Road Junction to Roland Achusim Street Junction), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.652KM
79	Rehabilitation of Omordi George Ugboma Street, Off Nkem Okwuofu Street, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.590KM
80	Maintenance of The Drain and Asphalt Overlay of Dr. F.U.K Ogeah Close, Off Isioma Onyeobi Way, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.216KM
81	Rehabilitation of Section of Ezenei Road (From Benin/Asaba Expressway to NNPC Mega Station, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.440KM
82	Rehabilitation of Section of Summit Road (From Summit Junction to DLA Road Junction/DBS Road Junction), Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.629KM
83	Completion of Construction of Direct Labour Agency(DLA) Road, Off Summit Road and Construction / Rehabilitation of Some Adjoining Roads (Biosa Amantu Street, Ikuku Adindu Street and Vitalis Okakwu Street ) and Sewer along Ambassador Leo Okogwu Road, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area (On-going).	4.565KM
84	Reconstruction of (Fear God Street) Bonsaac Road and Construction of Pat Kanayo Okonta Street/Amaechi Uzuegbu Street/Nze Francis Street/Onwa Nwachinemelu Street, Phase II (From Boney Eguatuonwu Street to The End of The Road), Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	1.60KM
85	Reconstruction of Victor Anene Bossua Street/Rehabilitation of Part of Nkem Okwuofu Street, Off Dan Okenyi Street, By Cenotaph, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	1.09KM

86	Construction of Julius Njogor Close, Off Dan Okenyi Street (G.R.A.), By Cenotaph, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area	0.11KM
87	Construction of Honourable Ifeanyi Chukwu Egbuniwe Street/Senator Stella Omu Street (G.R.A.), Off Dan Okenyi Street, By Cenotaph, Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Area, (On-going)	0.377KM
88	Construction of Cletus Achi Way/Marble Hill School Road with a Spur to Holy Family Catholic Church Road, Okpanam, Oshimili North Local Government Area	1.750KM
89	(On-going) Construction of Frank Akpoku Crescent/Hon. Paschal Adigwe Lane, Off DBS Road with a Spur to Joseph Opoko Drive and Construction of Hon. Emma Adigwe Nwanze Close, OFF Erhuvwu Club Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.585KM
90	Rehabilitation of Federal College of Education (Technical), Osadennis Street, Off Benin/Asaba Expressway and Asaba Sports Club Street, Off Isioma Onyeobil Way, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.(On-going)	2.040KM
91	Completion of Construction of Bendid Drive/Ifeanyi Ashiedu Avenue, Off High Court Rd/Construction of Davidson Ndidi Oriahi Close, Off Michael Njokanma Avenue & Asphalt Overlay of Michael Njokanma Avenue, Asaba	1.125KM
92	Rehabilitation and Asphalt Overlay of Elueche Street, By Squash Club, Off Government House Road, Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.778KM
93	Construction of Paul Ikedlashi Street/Nonye Ugboma Close/Barr. I.M.O. Nwabuoku Crescent/Chief J. Obi Street, Off Old Anwai Road, Asaba	1.050KM
94	Construction of Shekaina Love Assembly Street Off Raph Uwaechue Road with a Spur to Simon Mbadugha Street, Okpanam, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.463KM
95	Construction of H.P. Otuekueku Street/Ogharadunkun Street/Rehoboth Drive, Off DBS Road, Core Area (PHASE IV), Asaba, Oshimili South L.G.A.	0.610KM
96	Rehabilitation Of Chief Onyia Street And Flood Control Measures By Chief Onyia's Residence, Behind Ogbeogonogo Market, Asaba	0.410KM
97	Construction of prof. Lawrence Eduvie avenue, Asaba.	0.710KM
98	Construction of Tom Adigwu street, off DLA road, Asaba	0.410KM
99	Construction of Dan Ngozi Iylo Drive, Asaba	0.540KM
100	Construction of link roads to Hospital road and Amb. Ralph Uwechel road	0.890KM
101	Construction of Prince Paul Oputa street/ Danla Bright drive/ Ebute street/ Hon. Daniel Yingi street/ Morka Ogoegbulem street/ Thomas avenue/ Justin Ojilinka street, Okpanam	1.983KM
102	Rehabilitation of Agala Monu road and Reconstruction of Umulyibu road in Umuezel Quarters, Asaba	0.765KM
103	Flood control of Ogbe-Awa/ Ogeosowe/ Ogbilo Quarters and Re-Construction of Ogeosowe street, Asaba	0.585KM
104	Construction of roads at GRA Phase V, Asaba	0.577KM

The transformative strides of the Okowa led administration on road infrastructure aimed at creating a STRONGER DELTA is legendary. It has unarguably impacted positively on the lives of Deltans by creating several hundreds of direct and indirect jobs for the teeming youths and citizens of the State.

Restiveness among the youths in the State has experienced a downward trajectory as a result of their meaningful engagement by construction companies at various project sites in the state.

The economic activities of the riverine communities have witnessed a boom as a result of massive road constructions in the area especially in the creeks. Members of these communities were

hitherto cut off from the other parts of the state as a result of bad roads. High level of insecurity/arm robbery activities on the roads have reduced drastically.

Farmers in the state now enjoy the convenience of transporting their farm produce from their respective farms to the market at a very low cost thereby maximizing profits while fishermen freely ply their trade in the various markets unhindered.

The benefits of the improved state of the roads across the state are unquantifiable as Commuters spend less on transport fares, reduced travel time and the lower cost of fixing commercial transport vehicles by their owners.

This giant feat achieved by the administration in road infrastructure

in spite of paucity of funds earned Governor Ifeanyi Okowa the sobriquet "THE ROAD MASTER" from Deltans who are visibly elated at the level of road infrastructural development the state has witnessed in the last five years.

The outbreak of the COVID 19 Pandemic which literally brought the economies of the world to its knees did not deter the administration's avowed commitment to continue with the provision of infrastructures across the state in line with the social contract it entered with Deltans at the inception of this administration. Contractors have mobilized back to site with a view to delivering the various ongoing projects in record time.

# Project Monitoring: Ensuring Quality In Project Implementation

## — Erijo



Hon. Johnson Erijo

**H**on. Prince Johnson Erijo is the Special Adviser to Governor Ifeanyi Okowa on Project Implementation and Evaluation. In this interview with Nelson Egware and Donald Monu, he spoke on the mandate of the Office and how they are contributing to changing the narrative of shoddy jobs in Delta State. Excerpts

**Q- What is the mandate of your office?**

The mandate of my office is to ensure that all projects across the state are properly monitored and evaluated for proper project delivery in quality and standard.

Breaking it further, it simply means that the office ensures that all projects in Delta State being executed by all the Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are properly monitored to ensure that they adhere strictly to specifications in terms of contract award. It's not just what we used to have before where we probably had measurement monitoring, where they just go to a project and ensure the level of completion of the project.

Now we have the additional mandate of

ensuring quality control that is to ensure proper standards are followed in all milestones of a project and projects are properly monitored to ensure that they adhere strictly to international best practices.

**Q- There have been complaints about low quality jobs by contractors, what is your Office doing to ensure that the state and the people get value for their money?**

Absolutely, that is what the office is all about. Before now, because of the high volume of contracts that is usually given out by government, it was realised that most of the MDAs that award these contracts do not effectively follow up to monitor the activities of the contractors on almost on a day-to-day basis or even periodically. Probably what they were doing before now is to say we achieved this milestone or probably they need evaluation for the purposes of payment.

Most of the MDAs sometimes sit at the comfort of their office and just issue certificates for the purpose of payment. But right now, what we are doing like I told

you earlier, the office has been charged with the mandate of policing the activities of the MDAs in relation to contract execution and inclusive of the contractors to ensure that they follow due procedures in executing the contracts from the very foundation of such projects.

Before now we have come to realise that most of the contractors just go to the field and do very shoddy jobs, be it road construction, building and every aspect of contracts because there have never been any serious project monitoring. So this is where we actually have come in to ensure that we go to site, my engineering teams follow all the processes as laid out in your Bill of Quantities (BOQ) and your Engineering drawings, they will look at it very religiously whether you are following what is contained in that Bill of Engineering Measurement and Evaluation (BEME) and by so doing, we have to ensure that the quality of work and standards are adhered to strictly and when that is done, the outcome of such a project will be a lasting one for the people and it will give value for the money expended on such projects.

So the mandate, as it were, was to ensure that within two years of our existence in office, we would have achieved certain milestones in project implementation and evaluation in the state.

One of my mission statements when I resumed office was to see that in the next two years we would have been able to change the way contracts are being executed across the state in terms of quality delivery, because it is not just as it used to be when you probably go to site and look at the quality of job.

Using the State Secretariat Complex project as a practical example, most times when His Excellency, Senator Dr Ifeanyi Okowa visits the project site, he goes there to see the level of work that has been done, but my team have been there severally to ensure that even if it is electrical, mechanical or civil work, the quality of wires being used are the right ones and that every aspect of the job is properly done because we have instruments to test everything the contractor is doing. If it is a building, we will go as much as testing the gauge of your windows, glasses, roofing sheets etc to ensure that they are in strict compliance with the specifications as contained in the contract documents.

**Q- How far have you gone with your two years target in ensuring that you change the entire narrative?**

I can tell you that it's not been easy but if



you have put your ears to the ground, contractors are now very jittery of us because we operate more now like the EFCC. When we get to your site, we just go straight to business looking at every aspect of the job.

I can tell you that it's not easy because first, the contracts are very many and that puts a lot of pressure on us because we have to be on the road everyday. The Office of course have different teams assigned to different projects at a periodic time to look at and evaluate. These teams are not very rigid to a particular project because I can decide to change the team that has been monitoring a particular project to ensure that there is no compromise.

**Q- What sanctions have your office meted out to contractors and supervising engineers who execute shoddy jobs?**

You know this is a new office and before now they've not been used to this office so what I have been preaching is that they do the right thing in the interest of the people. Just last week, I was in the Warri, Uvwie, Okpe, Ndokwa axis and part of Isoko to look at a number of projects and what I keep telling them because some of them now already see us as their enemy. So I tell them that we are not enemies, we are partners in progress.

Sometimes some of the supervising

engineers don't get to the site particularly in the riverine areas. And sometimes when we go to the riverine areas we are forced to go with them because when we are going to site it is mandatory for the supervising

**“The mandate of my office is to ensure that all projects across the state are properly monitored and evaluated for proper project delivery in quality and standard.”**

ministry to be on site alongside with the contractors. Sometimes we realise that will be the first time, the engineers of the supervising ministry are getting to the project site. From our investigations that is what we have found, so some of them are very happy, that now that we are coming, we are assisting them to ensure that some

of these contractors don't short change the government and the people.

Note that some of these contractors are very "big contractors" and some of these MDAs get scared of some of these contractors. They can't talk to them and sometimes when they request for payment evaluation they just approve whatever is at their request. Sometimes, it is not out of their own will but may be out of fear and compulsion that they do that, but with us now they have just cause to say look we can't do this because this Office will come now and sanctions will be placed.

Usually what sanctions ought to be and what we are looking at ultimately is to ensure that the Office formally give a final approval for every certificate that is issued. But the office at the moment have also come up with another means to checkmate them and we are just trying to develop it to a proper format to ensure that when we get to site and we find out any shortcomings, of course we write it down, send it to the MDA

with an instruction that until we clear those areas, they must not evaluate this job for payment. Of course that places some restrictions and some amount of compliance on both the MDAs and the contractors.



# New Delta State Secretariat: Legacy Of A Promise Keeper

By Norbert Chiazor



**F**lower like quick sliver. It vanishes in fleeting crescendo. Evaporating within the shortness of time and tomorrow. Governor Ifeanyi Okowa understanding the transience of human circumstance has contemplated a dream that would outlive his tenure. Far ahead into interminable future.

At the heart of Asaba, the Delta state capital, the Okowa administration is building the biggest secretariat in the Niger Delta. Located at the Maryam Babangida road opened recently into a four lane drive by Okowa, rises a mega edifice.

The secretariat is a sprawling spectacle of Olympian architecture rolling up to seven stairs at the peak, kissing the skyline of Asaba in amazing elegance. The dimension is breath taking, sitting on 65,000 square metres space. It stretches over two standard football pitches.

Awarded in December 2016 to an international firm with civil engineering reputation, North China Construction conglomerate, the multi-billion Naira secretariat complex is now on the final stage of completion. It is designed in five clusters to house 27 ministries, departments and agencies of government as well as bank, clinic and crèche.

The vision of Okowa is that commissioners, permanent secretaries, directors and other civil servants would work under one giant roof to deliver

government business in seamless liaison. An initiative unprecedented in history.

With entrenched drawbacks like civil service bureaucracy, lethargy of most public officers, inept work culture and nondescript atmosphere, the expansive ultra-modern secretariat will inspire the rank and file of Delta Labour force.

Civil servants on statutory duty have a lot to gain and give in a cozy environment. The new secretariat would offer them the appetite to serve. Then good governance would be guaranteed for the people of Delta.

There is also the happy optimism that the new secretariat with its one-stop accommodation stand to boost the economic profile of the state by cutting off wastage of huge funds often spent on rent by so many government establishments in the state capital. The key advantage is savings for other critical projects and programmes of the state government.

The landmark particularly decorates Asaba in magnificence and urbanization. A public relations milestone and symbol of popular prestige for one of the most important states in the south-south geopolitical zone.

Government attention is understandable. Asaba is a state capital. It deserves a befitting status.

Hopes are high that the secretariat would be opened in 2020 baring the menace of the coronavirus global pandemic. But the

state government is unrelenting as the project handlers are on site, toiling day and night.

Governor Okowa recently toured the secretariat in an upbeat mood

"I am happy that soon, there will be more efficiency in service-delivery as all the MDAs will be in one location" to enhance " functionality, discipline and shared engagement"

The Commissioner for Special Duties in charge of the secretariat project, Mr Henry Sakpra explained that the complex is named " intelligence building" thanks to a comprehensive installation of Information and Communication Technology.

Sakpra stated that the smart secretariat envisioned by the Okowa regime would help to execute "government business in record time with the proximity of offices"

Coming at a time of uncertain economic climate, the massive project underscores the audacity of the initiator and the capacity for fiscal discipline.

For a governor enamoured with social impact and legacy of service, Okowa deserves pat on the back from all quarters. The grandeur and high standards of the building would make it stand evergreen like Samuel Ogbemudia 's iconic "Palm House" in old Bendel.

With the gigantic Delta secretariat, Okowa has etched his name in timeless value.

# FLOOD: Why There Are No IDP Camps in Delta — Onogba



Hon. Christian Onogba

**H**on. Christian Onogba, the Commissioner for Environment Delta State in an interview recently spoke with Nelson Egwere, Nduka Omodon, Johnson Ebigide and Vida Oputa on the efforts Governor Ifeanyi Okowa led administration is combating the incidences of flooding and other environmental issues in the State.

**Question:** Several communities in Delta have been submerged by the ravaging flood. What is the State government doing about it?

**Ans:** All the communities along the bank of River Niger like Oko axis have all been submerged. It is becoming perennial especially in this era of climate change. A couple of days ago I was in Patani Local Government Area to assess the level of flooding and what I saw there was actually shocking, Patani is also submerged as I speak to you, parts of Ughelli North, Ughelli South, Isoko South are also submerged. I can tell you categorically that over 10 local government areas in Delta State are under water at the moment and from the earlier prediction, it is believed that there would be flooding as a result of the upsurge in the volume of water in the River Niger and where we have it worst hit are the communities along the coastal bank of the River Niger.

At the moment, the questions in the mind of the people is what government is going to do about it? From what we know, the flooding is as a result of the upsurge in the volume of water in the River Niger and there is little or nothing the state government can actually do in that direction and that is because the only solution to it is to dredge the entire

stretch of the River Niger for instance from Kogi and from the point where it joined the River Benue and down to Bayelsa and that would have been able to open the River to accommodate the anticipated volume of water and that can only be done by the Federal Government.

The next thing is to embark on shore protection and considering the times we are in now, we have a very great economic downturn and I do not

see how any government will be able to muster the financial resources required to do all that. But that being said, the Okowa led administration, as a very proactive government has taken several proactive steps towards mitigating the effect of flooding knowing that the flooding is very inevitable? . Government desilted the Anwai river, and the Iyabi river to serve as a collection point and also a discharge point to the storm drainage systems constructed in Asaba and after every rainfall we discover that because the Anwai river is a collection point, it receives huge volume of water.

The government through the Ministry of Environment is also involved in the desilting of internal drainages in Sapele and Oshimili South Local Government Area. We have also completed the construction of culverts to control flooding in Ughelli and Oghior in Udu Local Government Areas. We also did that in Mosogar and so overtime, because the government is very proactive in so many actions towards mitigating the impact of flooding on the people. We have also had continuous engagement with the people to improve on environmental sanitation awareness. All the internal drainages built by government over time, has been converted to dump sites by the people, so when you generate your waste and you put them in the drain with the impression that when rain falls the water will help to evacuate the waste in the drain, it doesn't always happen that way. Some even go as far as building on natural water ways which is a very poor attitude towards the environment. The Ministry of

environment with other sister agencies have continued to synergize to engage and educate the people. The advocacy has been on for long and all we need to do as a people is to change our attitude towards the environment.

**Question-:** The State Government has said it will not be establishing IDP camps due to COVID-19. What plans does government have for the flood victims in view of their present predicament?

**Answer:** The reason we are not setting up IDP camps this year are two pronged. Number one reason is the COVID-19 and a lot of the people who were accommodated in the camps in the previous years were not actually IDPs. People took advantage of the fact that government was there to provide three square meals daily, some come to the camp in the morning to take their breakfast, then go back to their jobs and in the afternoon they come for their lunch and again in the evening they come for their dinner. We discovered that a number of persons who were accommodated in those camps were people who were not actually displaced. How did we know that? In the mist of the flooding, I was always visiting the communities that were flooded and there were a number of persons whose communities were flooded but never came to the IDP camp and that is because there are persons with strong attachment to their place of birth and they have this very strong sentiment to the extent that they do not relocate no matter how much you try to convince them. They will tell you this is the place of our birth and our forefathers lived and died here and were buried here, so a lot of the people who were affected by the flood didn't come to camp whereas camps were built and were populated by people who were not actually displaced.

Now in this era of COVID-19, I do not think any sane government will want to build camps and if you do that, it will amount to creating a breeding ground for the spread of COVID-19 and that is because the people that has been displaced are people who belong to that class of the society who don't in the first place believe in the existence of COVID-19 left alone adhering to the protocols of COVID-19, so if we bring these categories of people together, you will just end up creating a breeding ground for the spread of Corona virus. As much as government would want to build camps, government can't do that

now but if there is anything that can be done to reduce or cushion the impact of the flooding on the people, government will not hesitate to do that.

Government is also being very careful because it will not try to cushion the effect of the flooding on the people and create a further challenge on the health of the people because of COVID-19 but that is not to say government will close its eyes to the plights of the people. As I speak to you, on very strong authority, the Governor has approved that funds be channeled through the local government system to provide palliatives in form of food for these people.

The State Government is also providing medical supplies to the people. Don't forget that in this era of flooding, the people need basic medical supplies that will help them to cure fever, malaria and all those sicknesses that come with water. The Governor being very prudent and knowing that government exists for the people, didn't take time to approve that. And I can confirm on very strong authority that monies have been released to the local government that are heavily impacted to provide palliatives in terms of food to the people.

Because we have a way of living as Africans, we have this communal sense of living and brotherly bond that exists amongst us and so when the flood victims relocate they go to their brothers and relatives who live upland. Now if a family of four for instance lives upland and another family of four join them from the flooded environment, that makes it a family of eight. So what we have told the local government chairmen who have provided the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the disbursement of these palliatives is that they should follow the people to their new places. If they have relocated to a new place, they should use the traditional institutions and faith based institutions, to trace the people to their current places because if you don't do that you will be putting pressure on their host.

So what we are saying to the local government chairmen is that that they should also follow them to where they stay now so that they will be able to provide the palliatives to their host to reduce the pressure on them.

**Question: How is government meeting the people halfway, now that their means of livelihood have been eroded?**

Government is providing palliatives in forms of food because their farm lands have been submerged, all of their land have been eroded by this ravaging flood. One of the way, government is meeting them half way is providing food because all

their agricultural products have been destroyed. So government is mulling the idea of rearranging the planting season. If there is away we can rearrange the planting season so that the people can take advantage of the window provided and plant early within the time space provided by the leverage given to us by climate change, it will go along way to assisting the people.

There are improved species of agricultural products that can bear fruits within a short period so government is thinking of providing improved species for these people so that they can be planted within a short time and harvest same before the flood comes. Government is thinking along that direction and to be able to do that, government through the Ministry of

**“Government is providing palliatives in forms of food because their farm lands have been submerged, all of their land have been eroded by this ravaging flood.”**

Agriculture is to provide extension services to the people. Our farmers need a lot of education so that they can change the planting season and style to provide our them the opportunity to do well even in the midst of the flood.

**Question: The State Government has done so much in terms of constructing erosion control measures, what is responsible for the reoccurrence of flood on the roads?**

**Answer:** The storm drainages being constructed are the first of its kind in the history of Delta State. We are still having that flooding on the road and that is because this storm drainage have not been linked up and once that is done, I can tell you that issues of flooding in Asaba will be a thing of the past. Once all the drains are functional it will be a thing of the past and that is the whole essence of building the storm drainages in Asaba and we are also doing that in Warri at the moment.

**Question: The State Government is doing**

**a lot on erosion control in parts of the state, can you give us an update on that?**

**Answer:** From the beginning I inherited as a Commissioner the challenge of heavy gully erosion in Owanta, Ukwunzu, Obomkpa and of course you know that most part of Delta North have a very difficult terrain and it is ravaged by heavy gully erosion. The one at Owanta in Ika North East Local Government Area we are doing in collaboration with the World Bank and it was awarded to the tune of N2.5 billion and the contractors, Levante Construction is doing well in that regard and we are at about 60 per cent completion. At Ukwunzu, we have awarded the contract and we have also handed over the sight to the contractor and they have achieved some level of milestone and I trust the capability of Levante to do a great job because they are also handling that.

The one at Obomkpa is awarded to a company called EmmyBless and the last time I visited the site I was actually happy with what I saw. One thing I do is that I visit all sites where government is intervening regularly so I can tell you that we have gone very far in all of those sites. We are awaiting a no objection to award for the Ubulu-Uku and Jesse sites. Once we are able to do that, I am sure government would have been able to intervene in a lot of areas that have been ravaged by gully erosion. That is not to say that we have eradicated the gully erosion challenges in the state. If you go by the side of the NNPC Mega Station in Asaba, you will see the gully erosion developing in that place and very many other areas.

I am one of those who are of the argument that Ecological Fund process be unbundled because if you don't unbundle it, I can tell you for sure that the state government is not actually benefiting from that fund and that is because the entire process of the fund is centralised where you have to go cap in hand begging the Federal Government for such funds.

I am of the opinion that the process could be unbundled and decentralised such that states can have access to the fund because it requires huge financial resources to be able to intervene in these areas where we have these gully erosion. It costs so much and I do not see how state governments alone can muster such heavy financial resources to be able to do that so we need this fund from the federal government.

But for the assistance of the World Bank I am sure we won't be able to do that so we need to unbundle that process and decentralise it so that states can be able to access this fund so that we can intervene in all these areas.

# Dame Okowa's Fight Against Sickle Cell Anaemia

By Nelson Egware



Governor Ifeanyi Okowa Commissions the variant new born screening Machine at the State Sickle Cell Referral Centre, Asaba.

**S**ickle cell disease is an inherited red blood cell disorder in which there are insufficient healthy red blood cells to carry oxygen throughout the body. There's no cure for most people with sickle cell anaemia. But treatments can relieve pain and help prevent complications associated with the disease. Medical science however exists through bone marrow transplant to completely mitigate the effect of the scourge.

The disease predominates in sub-Saharan Africa, East Mediterranean areas, Middle East, and India. Nigeria, being the most populous black nation in the world, bears its greatest burden in sub-Saharan Africa. As one of the most prevalent disease especially in Nigeria, Sickle cell disease (SCD) is one of the most common genetic diseases worldwide.

In Nigeria, carrier prevalence is about 20 to 30% SCD affects about 2-3% of the Nigerian population of more than 160 million people. According to Nwogoh et al, recent estimate from a large retrospective study in Benin City, South-South Nigeria revealed an SCD prevalence of 2.39% and a carrier rate of about 23%.

It is from this background that one understands the import of the huge interest shown by the wife of the Governor of Delta State and Founder of the 05 Initiative, Dame Edith Okowa in the fight against the scourge.

She has taken the fight against Sickle Cell in Delta a notch higher with the establishment of 13 Sickle Cell Clinics at Ughelli, Sapele, Oleh, Kwale, Eku, Patani, Koko, Otu-Jeremi, Agbor, Orerokpe, Issele-Uku and Umunede with a Referral Centre at the Asaba Specialist Hospital, Asaba.

Dame Okowa explained that the establishment of Sickle Cell Clinics in the state was part of 05 Initiative's health programme which focuses on the effective management of occasional distress associated with the sickle cell hereditary disorder.

She stated that the mission of the 05 Initiative was in line with the Prosperity and Stronger Delta Agenda of the current administration, aimed at giving hope to the hopeless and transforming lives.

"The 05 Initiative has established five Sickle Cell Clinics in Agbor, Oleh, Sapele, Ughelli and Kwale. So far, we have recorded huge successes in all the centres where we already have committed genetic counselors who attend to patients on a daily basis. As part of our commitment to bringing succour to the poor in the society, the 05 Initiative has a goal to establish Sickle Cell Clinics in every town where there is a Central Hospital in Delta State. We also aim at having a Model Clinic in Asaba. It is a huge task, but with God on our side and contributions from well

earning Deltans, we will achieve our goal."

She commended Deltans for their contributions in the actualization of the sickle cell clinics in the state and called on parents, care givers and sufferers not to rest on their oars in the fight against the disease, but to come together to ensure improved advocacy and support at all times.

At the inauguration of the sickle cell clinic at the General Hospital, Orerokpe in October, 2017, Dame Okowa, who said the event was significant in the journey of the 05 Initiative as a result of the goodness of God, revealing that: "This is our Tenth Sickle Cell Clinic and the number TEN stands for the completion of a circle. So far, huge successes have been recorded in Agbor, Oleh, Sapele, Ughelli, Kwale, Koko, Eku, Patani, OtuJeremi with committed genetic counselors who attend to patients on daily basis. This is worth celebrating but there are more territories to conquer".

The Delta First Lady lauded the 05 Initiative team for effectively educating and sensitizing members of the public against acts of stigmatization and misconceptions surrounding the sickle cell disorder.

While inspecting the medical equipment which include Haematology auto analyzer, Haemoglobin electro phoresis and Haematocrit centrifuge provided by the 05 Initiative, she said "It is my sincere hope



**Governor Ifeanyi Okowa Commissions the variant new born screening Machine at the State Sickle Cell Referral Centre, Asaba.**

that the facility will to a great extent eradicate the sufferings of our people and ensure joy, my Survival and Success Children.

As the Director General of the O5 Initiative, Mrs. Oghenekevwè Agas said the O5 Initiative was passion driven, adding that the scheme was established to ensure that the survival rate of people with sickle cell disorder is higher, just as the equipment at the clinics were to help eradicate encumbrances faced in accessing health facilities. She appealed to men and women of goodwill to support the project in order to sustain the campaign to curb the prevalence of Sickle Cell disorder in the state.

In a goodwill message during the inauguration of 12th Sickle Cell Clinic at Umunede, in October 2018, the State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Mordi Ononye, represented by the Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Dr. Mini Oseji disclosed that a total of 2,388 sickle cell patients have been seen in ten of the eleven inaugurated clinics in 2018, adding that haemoglobin genotype has been determined for 3,575 persons in eight of the clinics among other services. This passion for the survival of people with the Sickle Cell Disorder led to the establishment of the Sickle Cell Referral Centre, Asaba and as Dame Okowa said the centre was in fulfilment of her promise to build a world class sickle cell referral centre in the state to bring succour to carriers, adding that the O5 Initiative had earlier established 12 centres in other areas of the state. "With the addition of this centre, it brings to 13 the total number of

sickle cell clinics established by the O5 Initiative in its relatively short history. The other 12 clinics are at Ughelli, Sapele, Oleh, Kwale, Eku, Patani, Koko, Otu-Jeremi, Agbor, Orokpe, Issele-Uku and Umunede.

"Every one of these clinics is fitted with modern equipment, quality furniture, and manned by skilled and knowledgeable personnel because, as some of us here may be aware, sickle cell patients face peculiar health challenges, including episodes of pain, frequent infections, delayed growth and vision problems," she said.

In a keynote address at the inauguration of the Referral Centre, Dr. (Mrs.) Annette Akinsete of the National Sickle Cell Centre, Lagos, said that, every year, at least 150,000 children are born with sickle cell disorder in Nigeria and around 100,000 die before they get to the prime of their lives. She said Nigeria should be at the forefront of the fight against the disease.

An orthopaedic surgeon, Professor Iwegbu, highlighted the latest breakthroughs in managing sickle cell disorder, urging carriers not to be discouraged, as the right intervention would address permanently the crises associated with the condition. The professor said sickle cell disorder was not a lost battle as it could be cured through bone marrow transplant.

Prof. Epiphany Azinge (SAN) on his part, scored O5 Initiative high in meeting its vision, stating that "Activities of O5 Initiative have blossomed tremendously. The scorecard is impressive, as O5 Initiative is giving hope to the hopeless. This sickle cell centre is the second of its kind in

Nigeria and I congratulate and commend the founder of O5 initiative, Dame Okowa, for her commitment to leaving a legacy that will endure for all time."

Some survivors of the dreaded disease recount their experiences and commended O5 Initiative's gesture in fighting the disease, saying they were impressed by her passion to help people living with the disease.

Mrs. Bridget Ochuko Augustus, a 50-year-old mother of five, has already overcome her major health challenge in life. She is a carrier of the dreaded sickle cell disorder, one of the major irreversible conditions in the world.

But her experience is a declarative affirmation that the disorder is not a death sentence after all. Sharing her experience, Mrs. Augustus said she was diagnosed of sickle cell at the age of three, and her father died when she was 15. According to her, with determination and adherence to guiding principles, she survived the trauma, attained education to the university level, and has had a stable marriage for over 21 years, with children.

Mrs. Augustus spoke alongside other sickle cell carriers in Asaba, Delta State, during the inauguration of the Sickle Cell Referral Centre built by the O5 Initiative.

She said that "there is a lifestyle for sickle cell patients who want to stay healthy and alive. Sickle cell disorder is not a death sentence. As for me, in the past nine years I sleep regularly in a mosquito net. I eat natural food cooked by me and no opportunity for junk. I live happy at all times; and, above all, I hold my God closely as my only help, strength and healer".

Mrs. Vera Atagbonna, a 68-year-old retired

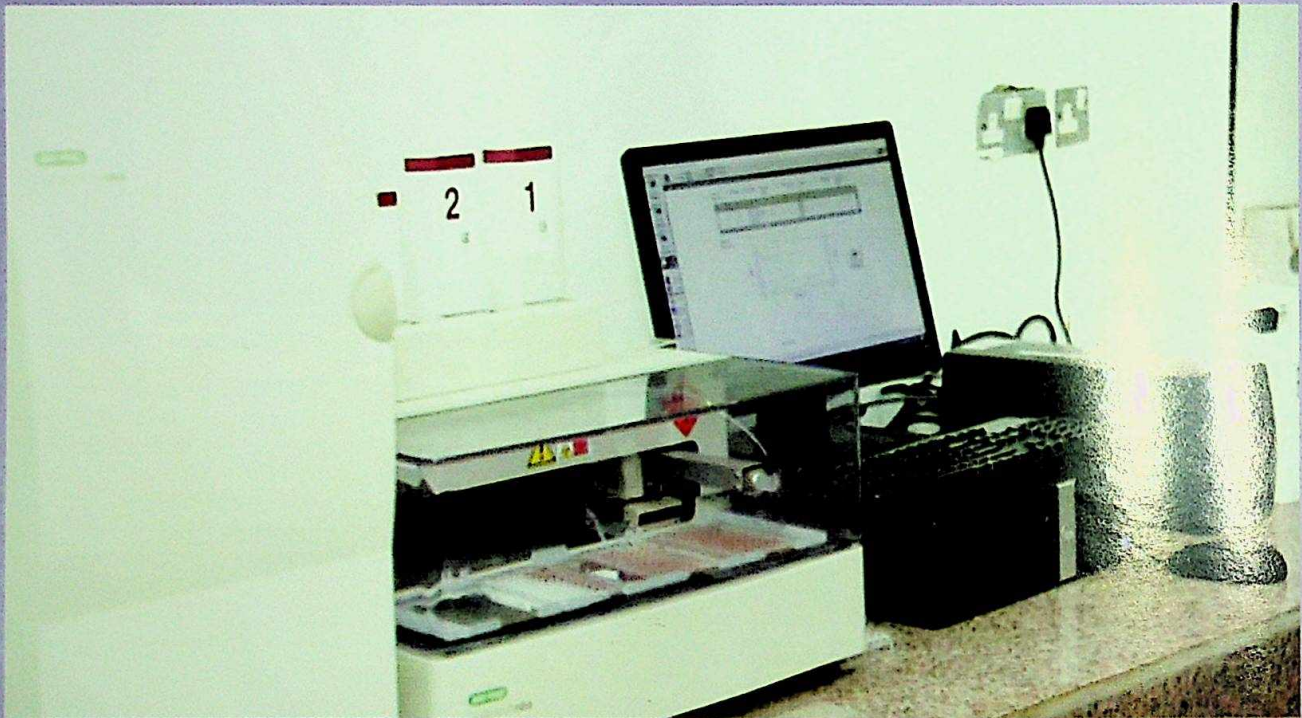
chief laboratory scientist, said she has been able to survive with the disorder. She said young people who have sickle cell should not despair, as there is a future for them. She encouraged young people to be open with their genotype status to ensure that only the right match with AA and AS/AA and AA can get married.

A judge of the state high court, Justice Timi Excel, who is also a sickle cell carrier, insisted that one could live with sickle cell

several ways, said "Nigeria is the headquarters of sickle cell disorder globally and unfortunately we have not paid more attention to the fight against the disease. It is important that we screen them early enough to prevent them from dying needlessly. We need to come out with appropriate legislation that will enable us to make it compulsory for every child that is born to be tested and there is a need to work on this. In this regard

wish to see any parent or child go through the same pain. This is why I continually advise intending couples to be aware of their genotype status before walking down the aisle because no child deserves the pains of sickle cell anaemia", she explained.

The Delta First Lady noted that as much as the grace is given, the goal of her Initiative was to have sickle cell clinics in all the 25 local government areas of Delta State and



and make meaning out of life. She advised parents to come to terms with the realities of the disorder, against the superstitions surrounding it.

The highlight of Dame Okowa's passion in tackling Sickle Cell Order in the state was the inauguration of Newborn Screening equipment for the treatment of sickle cell in Delta State, donated by the O5 Initiative at the Specialist Hospital, Asaba. This puts Delta State as the first state in Nigeria to have a newborn and adult screening machine in one system under High Performance Liquid Chromatography, HPLC.

In her address, an elated Dame Okowa said "the inauguration of the newborn screening machine was a dream come true", she commended Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr Godwin Emefiele and the member representing Ika Federal Constituency at the House of Representatives, Mr Victor Nwokolo, for donating the money used for the purchase of the equipment for the referral clinic.

Governor Ifeanyi Okowa who congratulated the O5 Initiative for truly impacting on the lives of the people in

whatever the government ought to do is to also offer support to ensure that screening is done for our children. We will try to do our best. It is in the best interest of this nation to attend to them early enough because a lot of them die within the first six months to one year because we have failed to recognise that they are suffering from sickle cell disorder and we failed to attend to them.

"It is important that somebody ought to be a role model and I believe Delta State is able to do so, just as we have become the role model in the issue of health insurance to our people. Currently, we are approaching the one million mark, but it is our hope that we will be able to scale up our health insurance scheme to the two million mark as we approach 2023." the governor stated.

Dame Okowa recently explained her passion for Sickle-Cell warrior and the reason for her continuous campaign on genotype awareness, "I have known the pains of caring for a carrier as a parent. I also know the unexplainable pain the children have to go through almost on a daily basis for no fault of theirs and I do not

promised to work assiduously in that regard.

"Do not be the reason any of these ones is discouraged, give hope and love to them, make them see a reason to live life to the fullest even in spite of the pains they go through. If we are able to sow love into the lives of these ones just as God has loved us unconditionally, then we would all be keying into the vision of the O5 Initiative of 'changing our world, one person at a time", she said.

Dame Edith Okowa has always reiterated that Sickle Cell is not a death sentence and enjoined those living with the disorder to remain positive as better days had come. This clearly defines her passion to tackle the disorder in the state and provide succor to the warriors. With the establishment of 13 sickle cell clinics and the world class sickle cell Referral Centre in Asaba, Delta State is tackling the scourge.

Dame Okowa's laudable feat has etched her name in the sands of time and in the history of Nigeria's fight against the Sickle Cell Disease.



KOROBE ROAD, WARRI NORTH L.G.A



OGHARA AXIAL ROAD



OZORO, OLEH ROAD

# Okowa's Footprint...New Delta Sta



Front view



Side view



Inside view



# Ultra Modern Secretariat Asaba





## Twin Evils: Diabetes and Hypertension

### Hypertension And Diabetes It Is Said, Go Hand In Hand

By Obiageli Okwudarue

**D**iabetes is a chronic disease that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces. It is a metabolic disease that causes high blood sugar.

There are a few different types of diabetes:

Type 1 diabetes which is an autoimmune disease where the immune system attacks and destroys cells in the pancreas, where insulin is made.

Type 2 diabetes occurs when your body becomes resistant to insulin, and sugar builds up in your blood.

Prediabetes occurs when your blood sugar is higher than normal, but it's not high enough for a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes and,

Gestational diabetes is high blood sugar during pregnancy. Insulin-blocking hormones produced by the placenta cause this type of diabetes.

There is no known cause of Type 1 diabetes. It is mostly assumed to be caused by a genetic disorder where the immune system mistakenly attacks and destroys insulin-producing beta cells in the pancreas.

Type 2 diabetes, which is the most common form of diabetes, is caused by a combination of genetics and lifestyle factors. Being overweight or obese increases your risk as carrying extra weight, especially in your belly, makes your cells more resistant to the effects of insulin on your blood sugar.

Gestational diabetes is the result of

hormonal changes during pregnancy. The placenta produces hormones that make a pregnant woman's cells less sensitive to the effects of insulin. This can cause high blood sugar during pregnancy.

Diabetes in all its forms is known to cause a variety of complications that can be life threatening, some of which are; heart disease, heart attack, and stroke, vision loss, hearing loss, foot damage (such as infections and sores that don't heal), skin conditions such as bacterial and fungal infections, depression, dementia, premature birth, higher-than-normal weight at birth, low blood sugar, jaundice and stillbirths.

On the other hand Hypertension (High BP) is the repeatedly elevated blood pressure exceeding 140 over 90



ning. It causes blood vessel changes in the back of the eye (retina), abnormal thickening of the heart muscle, kidney failure, and brain damage.

Once it was associated with the aged but sadly it is no longer the case as young people, even those in their twenties fall victim to this disease.

Like the Type 1 diabetes, there has been no clearly defined cause for high blood pressure, though its onset is usually tied to stress and an unhealthy lifestyle.

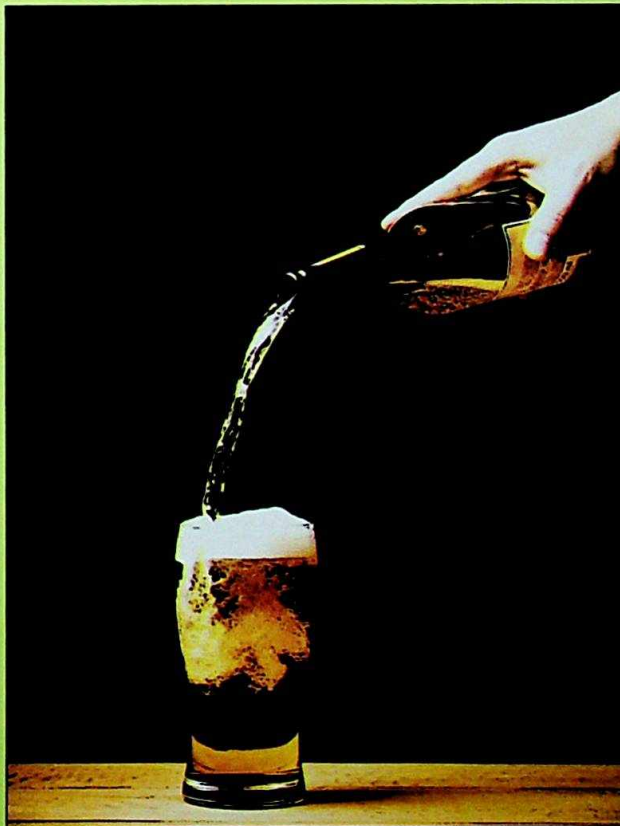
Diabetes and hypertension can be prevented or controlled in a variety of ways some of which include;

Regular exercise which makes cells more sensitive to insulin as well as helps one lose excess body fat as being overweight is a big risk factor.

Consumption of a variety of fruits of vegetables, as a dietary pattern with low calories reduces the risk of

diabetes.

Regular consumption of water, as this helps in getting rid of body's toxins,



maintains immunity and blood reduction in alcohol intake

Since stress triggers the release of several hormones that increase blood sugar, it should be avoided at all costs.

Physical activity and social support have been known to help relieve

Having a regular sleep pattern also helps. Studies have shown that chronic sleep deprivation and poor quality sleep increase the risk for diabetes.

Watch your waistline. Take extra care to maintain a healthy diet and exercise regularly

Reduce sodium in your diet.

Quit smoking (for those who do).

Cutback in caffeine intake (applies to coffee and 'energy drinks'.

Monitor your blood pressure regularly at home.

Most importantly, always visit your doctor and do a regular checkup!

# The Place Of Legal Instrument In Guaranteeing The Quality And Durability Of Roads In Delta State

*By Aruoriwo Ivovi*

implementation of Exco decision to insert a two-year defect liability clause in all its road contract agreements.

What this means is that 5% of the total contract sum is retained or withheld by Government for a period of two years and will only be released to the contractor if health certificates are submitted by the contracting contractor to the awarding Ministries, Departments and Agencies indicating that there were no defect liabilities within the period.

Under the new arrangement, 50% of the 5% retention fund is released to the road contractor after the first one year of no defect liability period, the balance is released at the end of the second year.

Where any part of the portion of any constructed road under the administration suffers defect within the stipulated period of two years, the contractor is legally liable to return the road back to site to fix the failed portion or forfeits the defect liability sum of 5% of the contract amount, which will then be used to correct the defect.

The State Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Peter Mrakpor whose office is saddled with the responsibility of drafting contract agreements and ensuring that government transact all its businesses and dealings within the ambit of the law asserted that

"Government is desirous in constructing roads that are solid, strong and durable. What we have done as a Government is to use legal instruments to actualize our dream of bequeathing durable roads to Deltans. The two years defect liability clause was part of Exco conclusion which must be inserted in all our contract agreements for road projects. This decision was taken in the best interest of the State Government and good people of Delta State in bequeathing long-lasting roads for the use of our people and motorists from outside the State. So far so good, we are getting the desired result."

The insertion of this clause in road contract agreements, no doubt has yielded enormous results as the Delta State Government has shown irrevocable commitment in constructing solid, quality and standard roads that are durable and



**Barr. Peter Mrakpor**  
Attorney-General/ Commissioner for Justice

Going by the massive road construction projects embarked upon by the Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa's administration across the twenty-five (25) Local Government Areas of the State to open up rural areas, increase socio-economic activities as well as attracted investors to the state, the Delta State Government is also blazing the trail in using legal instruments to guarantee the quality and durability of roads constructed under the present administration.

To ensure that contractors especially road contractors keep faith in constructing

durable roads, the present administration decided to introduce new initiatives and legal instruments to tackle lapses in previous road projects that principally bothered on failure of some portion or entire stretch of road which became serious concern to Government.

The state government through an Executive council's decision at its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting held on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 review the defect liability period for road construction projects to two years and directed the Attorney-General of the State and Commissioner for Justice to commence the immediate

can stand the test of time.

Another legal instrument employed by the Delta State Government is the Delta State Public and Private Properties Protection Law, 2018, an executive bill that was assented to by the State Governor, His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa and came into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

The Law criminalizes the illegal and forceful entry into development sites in the State to demand various sum of money popularly known as "deve" in local parlance. Section 7 of the Law provides "Prohibition of destruction of public property" inter alia;

"Any person or group of person who steals, destroys or vandalizes public property commits an offence under this law and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven (7) years or to a fine of N1,000,000.00 or both and the cost of restituting the stolen, destroyed or vandalized public property."

Section 7 subsection 2 reads thus;

"The Executive members of any Community, Landlords Association, or Civil Defence Group or any group of persons other than Traditional Rulers, charged with the management of the affairs of a Community, quarter or clan where Public Property is situate shall be additionally responsible for their safety and prevention from being stolen, destroyed and vandalized"

From the foregoing, making of bonfire on roads by community youths, vigilante group or Landlords Association for perhaps, security purpose or any other activity that could jeopardize the life span of road infrastructure or forceful entry into construction site(s) to stop construction work or demand for development levy is now illegal and a criminal offence.

As succinctly put in section 7(2), Community leaders, Landlords

Association or Civil Defence Groups shall be held liable for such damage arising from either bonfire on roads or any other activity that may endanger the lifespan of roads.

This provision has been described by stakeholders as laudable as it is intended to protect critical Government infrastructure including roads as community leaders where such infrastructure are situated are now held accountable for wanton or malicious damage of Government property.

Arguably, the Delta State Government is a trail blazer in this regard in using law as a



tool of social engineering to consolidate on its developmental strides as encapsulated in the STRONGER DELTA mantra.

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# DTSG Dealing With Challenges Of Flood In The State

By Oghenero Orowuje



Dredging of the Anwai River

Floods are major disasters affecting many countries in the world annually including Nigeria and they do not only damage properties and endanger lives of human and animals but also produce other secondary effects like outbreak of diseases such as cholera and malaria.

Factors that can cause flooding include heavy or prolonged rains, reservoir failure, storm surge and melting of snow or glaciers. It could also be attributed to other human driven elements such as the depleting of the ozone layer and climate change due to man's activities on the earth, building on water channels which blocks free flow of water and blocking of drainages with refuse.

Flooding is a common disaster in Nigeria with majority of States increasingly suffering from annual flooding during the raining seasons caused by increased

precipitation linked to climate change. The flood that ravaged most parts of the country in 2012 did not come as a surprise, this is because the Nigeria Metrological Agency (NIMET) had predicted and warned of heavy rainfall that year. The Agency categorically stated that the rain would be more than the 2011 rains.

The Cameroonian authority had also warned Nigeria that it would be opening up the lagdo dam which flowed directly to River Benue from the highland of Cameroon and because the River Benue is naturally steep, the low land areas of Adamawa, Plateau, Benue, Kogi, Delta and some other States were flooded with high volume of water dispensed from the dam. Incidents of flooding have become frequent in Nigeria. The 2012 in Nigeria have been described as one of the worst floods in the history of Nigeria.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) reported that the 2012 flood displaced over 1.4 million people in 32 States across Nigeria, injured 18,000 and killed 337 persons, while over 350,000 homes were destroyed.

According to the Director- General of NEMA, Nigeria lost N2.29 trillion to the flood, which he said was equivalent to 1.4% of Nigeria Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

As predicted by NIHSA, Delta State was equally impacted by the 2012 flood which affected 14 LGA's in the State and displaced a lot of persons from their homes which resulted in government setting up Camps for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) whose communities had been impacted by the flood in 2012, and also set up 18 Camps then to cater for the (IDP's).

After the 2012 flood the State did not



**Storm Control Drainage in Asaba**

experience any serious flooding in the years ranging from 2013 to 2017 to warrant the setting of Camps.

The year 2018 and 2019 saw a recurrence of flooding in the State, which made the government set up 11 Camps in various part of the State to accommodate displaced persons where the inmates were quartered.

At the Camp Government through the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education set up make shift classes for pupils and students in the Camps so that their academic activities would not be disrupted.

The State government also established

Clinics in the Camps to take care of the health and medical needs of the inmates.

It should be noted that Asaba had 4 camps, 2 camps were located on the Ughelli/Patani Expressway, one Camp each in Ashaka, Oleh, Ozoro, Kwale and Ewulu communities.

These and many other measures were put in place by the government of Senator, Dr Ifeanyi Okowa to cushion the impact of the floods on Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's) during the last flood that affected communities in the State.

It is pertinent to note that in Delta State, NIHSA 2020 annual flood outlook for the

State predicted that 18 Local Government Areas in the State would experience flooding in 2020. In the Annual Flood Outlook (AFO) released by the Nigeria Hydrological Survey Agency (NIHSA) in April 2020, it stated that 102 Local Government Areas in 28 States across the nation including Delta State would be flooded in 2020.

At the official presentation of the outlook in Abuja, the Minister of Water Resources, Alhaji Suleman Adamu noted that the outlook was a fallout from the devastating effect of the 2012 flood. He said although the flood outlook had shown that the 2020 floods might not be as severe as previous years, it was important for all stakeholders to carry out an aggressive awareness campaign for preparedness.

As a responsive and proactive government, the Delta State government under the leadership of Senator, Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, after studying the NIHSA 2020 Annual Flood Outlook Report set up a 10-man 2020 Flood Management Committee chaired by the Secretary to the Delta State Government (SSG) Mr. Chiedu Ebie to proffer solutions to probable humanitarian challenges that would be triggered by incidents of flooding in the State as predicted by the Nigeria Hydrological Service Agency (NIHSA) in their 2020 Annual flood outlook for Delta State.

While inaugurating the Committee, the SSG stated that the Committee's terms of reference would include to liaise with the Local Government Council

Chairmen to identify vulnerable communities and places of relative safety in their localities where displaced persons could be sheltered; they are also to identify credible leadership structures in the vulnerable communities including traditional rulers and President-Generals through which the State government could mitigate the adverse effects of the flood in affected communities.

As part of its commitment to mitigate the effect of the 2020 flood in the State, the State Government reiterated its commitment to collaborate with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to reduce the incidents of flooding in flood prone areas of the State. He

explained that 21 LGAs in the State would be affected by flood as against the 18 LGAs earlier mentioned by the NIHSA 2020 annual flood outlook report.

Mr Ebie said the State government would adapt a different strategy in catering for displaced person that might be affected by the flood as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic and emphasized that focus would be more on sensitizing the people on the effects of the flood through advocacy and noted that there would be no camp for displaced persons to avoid the spread of corona virus.

In its bid to also ensure that the effect of the flood is controlled in flood prone areas, the Government through the instrumentality of the State Ministry of

setup by the State government to cater for displaced persons from flood prone areas, the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the narratives and this has made the government rule out the setting up of Camps this year so as to curb the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

To this end, the State Ministry of Information and the Directorate of Orientation commenced series of advocacy and sensitization outreaches in the flood prone areas on the need to locate to safer areas when the floods begin to come up in their communities. It is believed that with the various measures that have been put in place by the State government, the impact of the 2020 flood in 21 LGAs identified to be affected by the flood would be greatly

2. There should be laws and regulations that guide the operations of the Ecological fund accounts which should spell out the purpose for the release of the funds as well as how it is used.

3. Local Government authorities should be directed to set up Local Emergency Management Agency as prescribed by NEMA as this would go a long way in addressing the problems suffered by victims at the Local Government level.

4. There should be political will to construct more dams in the country in other to stem the tide of increase in water released from the lagdo dam.

5. There should be strict implementation of government policies and laws



Discharge Culverts at Anwai River

Environment commenced the mechanical de-siltation/widening of Anwai River and Iyiabi River both in Oshimili South LGA and the Orogodo River in Agbor in Ika South LGA.

The Commissioner for Environment, Christian Onogba said the mechanical de-siltation of the three Rivers would clear the blocked natural waterways to ensure free flow of water and by this, flooding in those areas would be greatly controlled and checked, even as he assured that other water channels in the state that are prone to flooding would also be de-silted.

Unlike in the past where Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps were

controlled.

While National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), has commended the State Government for taking proactive measures in addressing the issues of flooding in the State and urged it to carry out more enlightenment campaigns targeting vulnerable communities to prepare them for evacuation to safe grounds, There is the need to consider the following recommendations so as to mitigate the impacts of flooding in the country;

1. The Federal Government should adopt a comprehensive plan to add ecological structure to complement Engineering infrastructure.

regarding the environment. Citizens who deliberately block drainages should be prosecuted and punished for their actions which would serve as a deterrent to others.

6. Lastly the Federal and State government should increase the funding appropriated to NEMA and SEMA for them to effectively carry out their responsibilities.

In conclusion, in as much as flooding is a natural disaster which often than not, cannot be stopped, man has a major role to play in determining whether the impact of the flood would be devastating or not especially if they choose to distort God's already designed master plan for the earth.



2020

FASHION

Trends

with Obiageli Okwudarue

It is often said that one is addressed based on the way he/she is dressed. Often viewed as an overused cliché, this statement has been proved true time and time again. Fashion is any new style that is in vogue. It is usually generic. Style is who you are, your character, your ability to combine attires and your ability to wear them with poise and elegance.

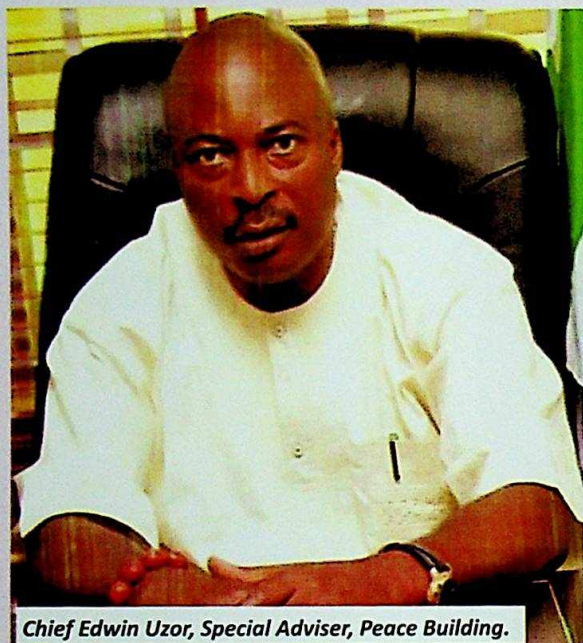
With the proliferation of textile materials, in different styles and colors, we appreciate so much the traditional styles and potential tendencies that become the end result of Nigerian fashion and style.

With that said, I give to you my picks for the year 2020.



# Peace Building In Delta: Okowa As A Pacifist

By Norbert Chiazor.



Chief Edwin Uzor, Special Adviser, Peace Building.

One of the finest dividends of democracy in Delta state remains the enthronement of Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa as Governor. Okowa's reign as governor, historic and momentous gave Delta peace.

Delta state is defined by complex ethnicity. Five distinct groups-Anioma, Itsekiri, Urhobo, Ijaw and Isoko form its structural identity. Each with sub clusters except the Itsekiris, Izons and Isokos who are largely homogeneous.

Anioma, home to Delta North senatorial district is a loose coalition of the cultural quadrants of Aniocha, Oshimili, Ika and Ndokwa propounded by political potentate Late Dennis Osadebay premier of defunct Midwest region. Urhobos are credited with 24 aboriginal classifications with Okpe as the largest.

This explains why ethnicity is so pronounced in Delta. It is indeed miniature Nigeria which is characterized by over 250 tribal groups.

Heterogeneity has spurned ethnic mistrust among Deltans since the 1991 state creation. But beginning from 1999, the rotation of governorship seat in Delta was conceived among the three senatorial districts of Delta central, Delta South and Delta North.

Delta central got the gubernatorial slot as Chief James Ibori served for eight years from 1999-2007 and handed over to Delta South through Dr. Emmanuel Ewetan

Uduaghan, 2007-2015. But stiff opposition fueled by political subterfuge greeted the turn of Delta North almost to a brick wall. Three factors- tenacity of Anioma people, goodwill of Deltans and divine providence combined to break down what seemed like iron curtain against the quest of Delta North.

It took the mythic destiny of one man, Ifeanyi Okowa to consummate the search for Anioma governorship of Delta on 29th May 2015.

His re-election in 2019 towards eight years marked the balance of power in Delta.

Okowa has a subtle carriage. Never a boisterous being. He is not a dove. Mortal frailties do not permit such adulation. But Okowa has integrity, self worth. When he served as Senator from 2011, he made interesting headlines and came back without scandal. As governor, the Urhobos love him as much as the Isokos, Izons, Itsekiris and the Aniomas. He appeals to the sensibilities of Deltans. He is a unifying factor among the various ethnic groups in Delta. The Okowa governorship is a popular mandate that fell on the shoulders of a populist leader admired by friends and respected by foes. Even Anioma collective quest for power shift in 2014 was Okowa's fortune. He never made issue over it.

That he emerged the first choice of his cultural group Anioma among over 21 aspirants and overwhelmingly won the PDP governorship ticket on December 8, 2014, against all odds, was by strength of character blessed with divine grace.

Today, Okowa is firmly on the saddle. He has proved a peaceful leader by socialization. A governor who loves Delta. An accommodating administrator. A pacifist.

His template of governance is LIVE AND LET LIVE. A responsible governor who appreciates the reality that he rose on the wings of equity. A political patriarch who sees power as a common patrimony of all

Deltans. A sane first son of the soil who clearly understands that Delta is a plural society. A wise governor who knows that the diverse state can only make progress when there is peace and unity.

The gamut of his leadership agenda is codified as S.M.A.R.T - Strategic wealth creation projects and provision of jobs for all Deltans, Meaningful peace building platforms aimed at political and social stability, Agricultural reforms and accelerated industrialization, Relevant health and education policies, and Transformed Environment through Urban Renewal.

To strengthen social cohesion and peaceful co-existence, the Okowa administration has provided social infrastructure in towns and villages across the three senatorial districts in Delta. His vision is exemplified by the development of road network, health, educational and agricultural projects.

From Asaba, Isaba, Akugbene to Agbor, Okpanam to Okpe, Warri to Iri, Isselele to Shekelewu, Ogume to Ogulagha, Gboko to Odimodi, Koko to Kokodiagbene.....Okowa has made salutary impact in various facets of urbanization and rural integration.

He realizes that when people are given the basic necessities of life, through physical development of communities, they will stay happy and peaceful.

If there is anywhere Governor Okowa deserves the loudest drum beat from Deltans, it is empowerment of the people. Thousands of youths have been trained and engaged for self sustenance in a novel skill acquisition scheme designed to enhance prosperity for all Deltans.

A humane leader himself, the Okowa administration has a human face as shown vividly with the appointment of thousands of Deltans into key political offices to help turn the wheel of governance for the good of all.

With all hands on the till, most people occupied with the pursuit of collective goals and consummation of personal dreams, social tension is mitigated, creating a climate of peace and harmony.

In demonstration of his respect for inclusiveness, Governor Okowa, inaugurated a 42-member State Advisory and Peace-Building Council in October 2019, under the chairmanship of former Information Minister, Prof. Sam Oyovbaire to "support the government regularly



Vigilante groups and community youth organizations have also been encouraged to work with the state government in the task of peace building and security safeguard through necessary motivation.

The peace and security agenda of Governor Okowa is driven by multi-lateral strategy beyond civilian synergy. In February 2020, he donated 35 pick-up vans to security agencies in the state to strengthen their operations, boosting peace and public order.

Okowa presented the vehicles to the state Commissioner of Police, Mr Hafiz Inuwa at the Government House, Asaba urging "the security agencies to work together and share intelligence to ensure effective security in the state"

Insecurity is no doubt a nation-wide phenomenon that looms above Delta. Although there are security challenges in the state especially with the menace of vicious herdsmen and other criminal gangs as well communal conflicts, the Okowa administration has shown sincerity and courage in tackling the gauntlet.

Delta stands as one of the most peaceful states in Nigeria today, progressive in democracy and open to investors and visitors because it has a governor that loves peace.

Sure footed, well groomed, mellow and meticulous in governance, Delta's number one citizen is a study in character and competence.

Beyond all rhetorics, the Okowa personae, ever soothing is a metaphor of peace in

...and study the general socio-economic and political situation in the state and advise the government appropriately, including offering counsel that would engender a harmonious relationship among the three arms of government- Executive, Legislature and Judiciary in the state.

The elite council of respected personages with diverse experience in public policy administration is also charged to study the causes of conflicts among various communities in the state and advise on measures to effectively mitigate them, and further advise on appropriate peace-building mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of various programmes of the government."

traditional rulers in Delta state. Okowa regarding the Kings as custodians of culture and age-old moral values, is in partnership with them for peace building in the state. The paramount rulers have so far played their roles as royal fathers promoting peace and order in their kingdoms.

An appreciative Okowa has built an elegant secretariat for the traditional rulers at Asaba, the Delta state capital, providing a befitting canopy for them to assist the government on peace and security while they reign.

Life is symbiotic. Relationship is reciprocal. The traditional rulers having identified Okowa as a good son honoured him in December 2019, with distinguished



Wisdom has also moved the governor to maintain a chummy liaison with

service award for his passion for peace and development in the state.

plural Delta.

# The History And Culture Of Uvwie People

By Theresa Adiabua Oliko And Ambrose Ologide

Uvwie Rhorho) amongst other places, till they finally arrived at Ugboroke/ Ekpan onward to their present abode or settlement amidst brief stops at different kingdoms.

## THE MONARCHY

The Ovie of Uvwie Kingdom who is fondly called Umogun, is the father and custodian of the Uvwie people's culture and tradition. Ascension to the throne of Uvwie kingdom is on rotational basis amongst three ruling houses of : Eruohwo, Abe and Imedo.

The revered Uvwie throne in the contemporary World was initially occupied by HRH Johnson Uwiewkoko Edjekohwo JP , Eruohwo 11 , from the Eruohwo ruling house, who reigned between 1954 and 2003. The throne is presently being occupied by HRH Dr. Emmanuel Ekemejewa Sideso Abe 1, Abe 1. The monarch is of the Abe ruling house but hails maternally from the great Ologide Dynasty of the neighbouring Agbarha Warri Kingdom in Warri South Local Government Area. He ascended the throne on Monday February 18th, 2008.

## TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The king is ably assisted by principal traditional chiefs. The traditional chiefs are; The Unueworo (traditional mouth piece) , Isiawwe (traditional key) and Isirierha (the most senior chief in terms of chieftaincy conferment) who is saddled with the responsibility of saying prayers at all traditional/cultural events. The traditional chiefs are heads of the traditional administrative units otherwise known as "etches" in Uvwie Kingdom.

The traditional administrative units were established for administrative purposes.

Uvwie Kingdom is comprised of nine etches. The nine etches are: Alegbo , Ogbe , Ekpan , Ugboroke, Ohorie, Oriokpor and Owori. Each traditional administrative unit has an Unueworo, Isiawwe and Isirierha. On ascension to the throne, HRH Abe 1 built an ultra-modern permanent palace. He also established an Uvwie Educational/ Scholarship Administration Scheme for indigenes and non-indigenes



HRH Emmanuel Sideso, Abe 1

The people of Uvwie inhabit the area roughly between longitude 540' and 550' East, of approximately 150' square and bounded to the North by Okpe Kingdom (Okpe Local Government Area) and North West by Udu Kingdom ( Udu Local Government Area ) , Ughewien Kingdom (Ughelli South Local Government Area) and Agbarho Kingdom (Ughelli North Local Government Area) in the North East. To the East of Uvwie Kingdom is Agbarha Ame Kingdom ( Agbarha Warri,) and

Okere Urhobo ( both in Warri South Local Government Area ) and Itsekiri (Warri South Local Government Area ) in the South West.

## ORIGIN

According to tradition, the people of Uvwie believe they migrated from the Middle East, sometime between 11th and 13th century as a result of the Arab uprising in the Middle East. They journeyed down to Egypt and further migrated down to Ife, from Ife to Benin, Arogbo, Patani, Orhobiri , Effurun-Otor (



of the Kingdom. The Uvwie research also instituted a palace security committee that was composed of non-indigenes in Uvwie Local Government Area. He also rejuvenated the Uvwie Executive Council of Chiefs, Uvwie Traditional Council of Chiefs, Eghweyare (mothers in Uvwie), Uvwie (traditional foot soldiers) and Aduviekerare (wives of chiefs of Uvwie Kingdom). The monarch integrated all these various groups in the administration of the kingdom by regular meetings with them on the state of affairs in the Kingdom. The annual "Uvwie Praise and Worship Day" is celebrated on every first day of

observe and celebrate all-round the year. This love for celebration of cultural festivities earned them the appellation of 'Uvwie Edjedjo' which has been transformed in modern times to 'Uvwie Ididono'. The prominent dances of the Uvwie people are Emah (Royal Dance), Ighovwan, Udje, Igbirimire, Ikenike amongst others. **OCCUPATION** The Uvwie people are mainly farmers, hunters and partly fishermen. The farmers engage in cultivation of crops such as yam, plantain, cassava, cocoyam, rubber, palm trees (and its extraction), banana etc Animal husbandry is also practised in

porridge), Oghwo r' garri (melon blend with bitter leaves soup) pepper soup amongst others.

**FESTIVALS**

The festivals of the Uvwie people are: the Edjuvwie Feast and Ohworu Feast which feature the major deities in the Kingdom: Edjuvwie and Ohworu

**Edjuvwie** This is referred to as the deity of protection of Uvwie people and the kingdom. It is celebrated annually in the

month of April with beautiful masquerades of different shades and sizes at Afieki Shrine, located near the well-known Effurun Market.

**Ohworu**

This is the deity responsible for cleansing the Uvwie kingdom of all that is bad and evil. This is celebrated annually in the month of April with beautiful masquerades of different shades and sizes at the legendary Effurun Market.

It is traditionally prohibited to take snapshots of any kind during the celebration of these festivals.

Violation of this age-long order attracts severe disciplinary action from the disciples of the deities, ranging from monetary fines, sacrifice of cows or other livestock.

Other indigenes of Uvwie also celebrate these festivals in their respective communities and quarters in the kingdom.

Two years before the ascension to the Uvwie throne by HRH, Abe 1, the annual "Uvwie Day" was instituted and it is being celebrated on every 26th day of December by the Uvwie General Improvement Union (UGIU). The permanent venue of the celebration is Urhobo College, Effurun. The elaborate festival is celebrated with friends and well-wishers of Uvwie kingdom from Edo, Ishan, Oduduwa, Arewa and Ohanze Ndigbo e.t.c

It is also interesting to note that the Uvwie people have an "anthem", composed in Uvwie dialect of Urhobo language. This anthem is usually sung at the commencement of major traditional events in Uvwie Kingdom.



October, powered by clergies of Uvwie origin and sponsored by the Ovie of Uvwie Kingdom. This event takes place at the palace of the Ovie of Uvwie kingdom.

**CULTURE**

The people of Uvwie are immensely endowed culturally and are ardent lovers of their rich cultural heritage which they

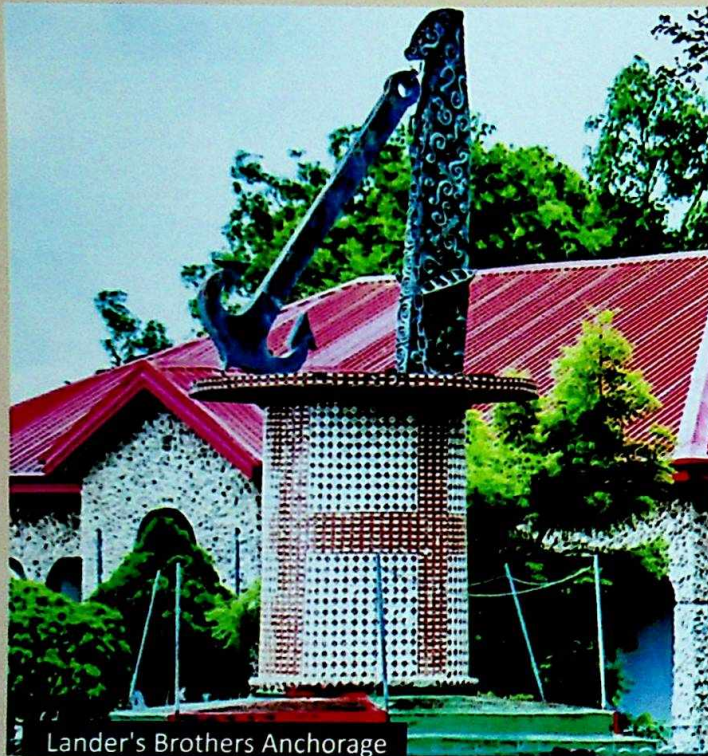
small scale.

**DELICACIES**

The favourite and perhaps the commonest delicacies of the Uvwie people are Oghw' ewwri (oil soup) with starch, Oghwo r' amiedi (banga soup) with starch or eba, Ukodo (black

# Diversifying Delta Economy Through Tourism

By JOHNSON EBIGIDE



Lander's Brothers Anchorage

The resolve of the Delta State Government to diversify the state economy from the vagaries of oil fortune started almost with the creation of the state from the defunct Bendel State on August 27, 1991.

From the administration of Olorogun Felix Ibru through the military interregnum to the boisterous years of Chief James Onanefelbori as Governor down to the administration of Dr Emmanuel EwetaUduaghan up to the present stronger determination of the Senator (Dr) Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa Administration, efforts have been made to shift the reliance on earnings from the mono economic oil sector to other viable sub sectors of the state economy, particularly Tourism.

However, it was during the administration of James Ibori that concrete decisions to tap into the hidden potentials available in

tourist potentials that abound in the state.

With the creation of a separate directorate to deeply tinker on Culture and Tourism, the journey to harness the ever widening tourism potentials in the state took off. It became clearer that there was the urgent need to identify and develop the various tourist sites in the state while also putting the needed infrastructure in place for Tourism development. Roads and bridges, adequate water supply, efficient telecommunications system, reliable power, and most importantly, a clean environment and peaceful Delta state were taken as urgent priorities in the quest to make the state the foremost tourism destination in the country. Commendable achievements in the development of the Tourism sub-sector of the state economy have been recorded with the

Tourism were determinedly taken with the creation of the Directorate of Arts, Culture and Tourism, which was later restructured as the Directorate of Culture and Tourism to lend greater emphasis on the need to market the cultural and

identification, development and creation of tourist sites in the state. There are so many tourist sites in the state which have been getting the needed attention from not only the state government but private spirited individuals who are interested in Tourism development. These include, but not exhaustible, the Ethiope River Source, the Araya Bible Site, Landers Brothers Anchorage, Nana Palace, Asaba Beach, Akaka Surf (Beach), Mungo Park House, Mona Ranch, Ned Nwoko Shrine, The Film Village, the Leisure Park, the Royal Cemetery of Warri Kingdom, etc.

During the administration of Dr Emmanuel Uduaghan, Tourism came also to the fore with the slogan, "Delta Beyond Oil". A kind of an unseen gong, sounding loud, the note to start thinking hard and putting substitutes in place ahead the future when oil would be no more! The tourism subsector was a beehive of activities so much so that a team of the Naija 7Wonders, led by Mr. Ikechi Uko, visited some major tourist sites in the state to ascertain the possibility of any of the sites making the list of one of the ten most wonderful tourist sites, such as the Benin Moat, the War Museum in Umuahia, Yankari Game Reserve, Idanre Hills, etc, in Nigeria.

However, one major disappointing reality in tourism development during the administration was the inability to actualise the vision of making the state the hub of tourism destination in not only the country, but in the West Africa sub-region and beyond through the Delta Leisure Resorts at Oleri in Udu Local Government Area of the state. The establishment of the resorts was a



River Ethiopia Source

public/private initiative between the state government and Sarner Park (Africa) an American tourism development consortium. The resorts which was to be developed at a whopping sum of \$250m as disclosed by the then Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Mr. Richard Mofe-Damijor, died in the pipeline.

Since the inception of the Okowa Administration in 2015, genuine efforts have been determinedly geared towards creating the much needed propitious environment to enhance tourism development in the state. Not only are the needed infrastructure, such as good network of roads, potable water supply, electricity, etc, being put in place, hospitality business has received a major boost, just as peace and security has constantly reigned in the state. Again, the aesthetics of major cities and town has been ensured with the removal of shanties along major roads in such cities and towns and beautifying the drive ways with well kept flowers, cultural and stunning sculptural artifacts as well as keeping the environment clean from indiscriminate dumping of refuse.

Of note is the recent and ongoing resurfacing of some tourist sites in the state. These include the Mungo Park House and the Landers Brothers Anchorage in Asaba and the source of the River Ethiope at the sleepy village of Umuaja in Ukwuani Local Government Area of the state. Other major tourist sites are equally receiving the much needed attention from the state government, while a new film village to attract the shooting and patronage of Nollywood movies and a well thought out Leisure Park are being built in the state to further the aspirations of the state government determination to diversify its earnings from oil. The Asaba Township Stadium, now renamed Stephen Keshi Stadium, has been upgraded into an international standard and has recently played host to major international sports meets in the state capital.

Speaking recently during the celebration of the 2020 World Tourism Day in Asaba, the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Engr. Lawrence Ejiofor, said that the state government through the Directorate of Culture and Tourism had taken urgent steps

to further identify, document, develop and promote through the right publicity the various cultural and tourism potentials that abound in the state towards the actualisation of making the state the preferred tourism destination in the country.

The commissioner added that : " Thus through the gracious approval of the Governor and despite the adverse effects of the global Covid-19 Pandemic, we have been able to achieve a major feat in the Tourism industry, which is the ongoing construction of

the Leisure Park and the Film Village in the state."

He added that efforts were geared towards the actualisation of the Stronger Delta vision of the state government through the development of Tourism in the state. The commissioner maintained that "considering the aftermath of the Covid-19 Pandemic that had wrecked immeasurable damage in the global economy, Tourism is not only capable of creating new employment opportunities, increasing income potentials for local residents and diversifying the local economic base for rural areas, but could increase community visibility and cultural opportunities for residents to showcase their innate talents."

With the current enthusiasm and tempo at which the various tourism potentials are being identified and meticulously developed by the state government through public/private partnership, it is hoped that the incessant anguish of facing the reality of over reliance on the vagaries of oil fortune would be gradually shoved aside soon for a better option in Tourism earnings.

# DTSG Domesticates "Violence Against Persons Prohibition" Act ....To Open Sexual Offenders Register.

By Aruoriwo Ivovi



**G**overnor Ifeanyi Okowa on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 has signed into law the much talked about bill which seeks to eliminate violence in private and public life, that prohibits all forms of violence against persons and provides maximum protection and offers effective remedies for victims and for punishment of offenders; and other matters connected therewith.

Findings by Veracity Magazine into the various aspect of the law, which has been hailed and celebrated by advocates of Women Rights, revealed that the law now prohibits all forms of traditional harmful practices, widowhood maltreatment, female circumcision and genital mutilation, also made far reaching provisions relating to the offence of rape, indecent assault, spousal violence, stalking, and political violence.

domestic violence with adequate programmes for the victims including compensation and also seeks to punish the perpetrators of such crimes. Another novel provision in the Law which has been applauded by stakeholders especially Women and Child Right

of rape that now defines rape to include a woman raping a man. There has been decades of outcry and clamour by men who may have suffered one form of sexual abuse or the other in the hands of women but could not seek judicial remedy because of the lopsidedness and restrictive definition of rape as espoused in the Criminal Code. This provision has therefore, addressed the imbalance and an equilibrium established as law enforcement agencies are now empowerment to arrest, investigate and prosecute reported cases of alleged rape against men.



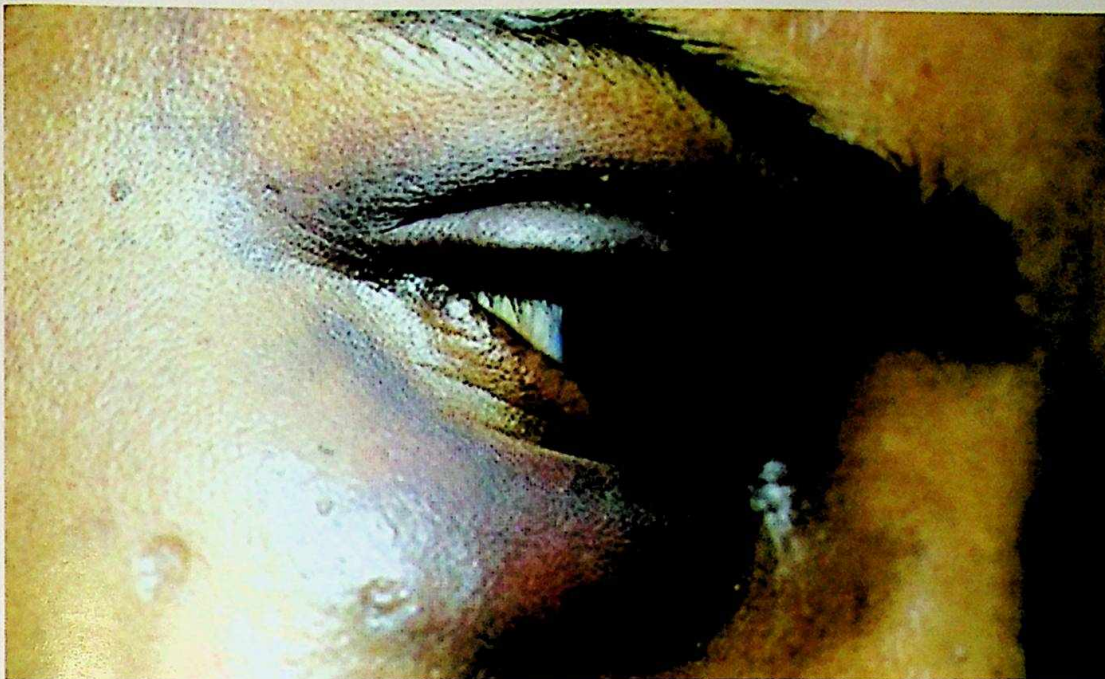
Groups, is the provision that deals with opening of offenders register. By this, it means that the State is required to maintain a register of convicted Sexual Offenders in the State which will be made available to the public to shame the offender.

Another notable innovative provision of the law is the expansion of the definition

Threat to upload or posting of the nude photographs of a woman or that of a man for any reason now constitute an offence under the VAPP law and offenders are liable to imprisonment while under the new law, a girl below the age of 18 years is incapable of giving consent. While assenting to the bill, the Governor posited that the law was relevant and important to all families as it sought to ensure adequate protection of

It provides for the protection for victims of





spouse of that other person where the person is married.

The maximum punishment for the offence is life Imprisonment while the Court may impose a minimum sentence of 12 years imprisonment while in the case of a gang rape a minimum of 20 years imprisonment is imposed for all involved. In addition the Court shall order the convict to pay a d e q u a t e

women, girls, children and men.

"We realize that to have a decent society, such a law must be in place and I believe that this will ensure greater peace and harmony in the home and in public places.

Beyond this, it will enable us to live in peace and live as human beings we were created to be. By the grace of God, this law will provide enough punishment for all offenders. I read through it and I am pleased with the punishments that have been spelt out in the law for people who will be offenders and I urge all Deltans to find time to go through it so that they will be guided accordingly"

It would be recalled that the member representing Patani Constituency in the Delta State House of Assembly, Honourable Tonye Timi of the 6th Assembly presented a private member's Bill to the House that sought to domesticate the VAPP Act in Delta State, nonetheless the Bill failed to scale through second reading.

However, the State Governor took the bold initiative by forwarding the VAPP Bill as an Executive Bill to the 7th Assembly for consideration and passage in response to call on States to domesticate the VAPP Act which may not be unconnected with the upsurge in case of offences of rape, spousal battery, and other forms of violent crimes particularly against women and the vulnerable in the society.

The law is made up of forty-nine (49) Sections and four (4) parts. Part 1 (Sections 3 to 27) deals with offences, Part 2 Jurisdiction of the Courts (Sections 30 to 41), Part 3 Accredited Service Providers

(Sections 42 to 44) and Part 4 Final Provisions (Sections 45 to 49). Section 3 dealing with the offence of Rape defines the offence in a more detailed manner unlike the provisions of Section 257 of the Criminal Code which is more restrictive. The restrictive definition in the Criminal Code Law did not take into cognizance the incidence of gang rape, rape by women and other dangerous and sordid forms which this offence has now assumed.

Section 3 of the Bill defines Rape as:

"3 (1) A person commits the offence of rape if-

a. he or she intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person with any body part, object or anything else, or the mouth of another person with his or her sexual organ, or

b. he or she intentionally inserts or causes to be inserted, into his or her mouth or anus the sexual organ of another person, or

c. having a vagina, intentionally inserts or causes to be inserted into it the penis or mouth of another person, and

2(a) the other person-

(i) does not consent to the penetration or insertion; or

(ii) is incapable of giving consent by reason of diminished mental capacity; or

(iii) purportedly gives consent where such consent is obtained by force or means of threat or intimidation of any kind or by fear of harm or by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act; or

(iv) is administered any substance or additive capable of taking away his or her will; or

(v) is below the age of 18 years; or

(b) for that purpose, impersonates the

compensation to the victim of the rape. By virtue of Section 4(6), the State is required to maintain a register of convicted Sexual Offenders in the State which will be made available to the public. The law also makes provisions criminalizing forced evictions from matrimonial homes and spousal battery at Sections 13 and 22. It is expected that with these provisions the law enforcement agencies are now compelled to investigate such cases rather than treating them as domestic disputes which the parties are encouraged to "go home and settle".

Sections 26 and 27 of the law deals with Political violence and seeks to punish all those who engage in violence in the course of political activities. The offenders are liable to be sent to jail for four (4) years.

The Speaker of the House of Assembly, Chief Sheriff Oborewori, had while presenting the Bill for the Governor's assent, disclosed that the Bill passed through diligent legislative procedures and processes required in making laws.

The Speaker while emphasizing the scope of the Bill, explained that it would effectively regulate the rampant violence against the girl child and women in the society.

With the enactment of the law into the State statute books, rights of the child irrespective of gender, women and men are now better espoused and protected against violence.

# Covid- 19 & Education: Meeting The Challenges Of The New Normal

By Donald Monu



Following the advent of the COVID-19 virus into our world and onto the Nigerian shores in February, 2020, an infectious virulent swathe was cut among the populace and in a few short weeks after its arrival in Lagos, it had spread to almost all the states in the Federation, leading to a lockdown of all sectors of the economy in a bid to stem the rate of infection and flatten the curve. This move by the government while necessary, negatively affected all sectors of the nation's economy, most notably the Educational sector. Bear in mind that Education which is a form of self-development in shape of learning, knowledge, skills and habits to be conveyed from one generation to the next, is the bedrock of every society and is a significant sector in any nation, by virtue of its being a major investment in the human capital development and the economic, social and moral development of any nation can be gauged by the importance it places on education.

With the lockdown in full sway and all sectors of the economy in stasis, in Delta State, the government in its characteristic proactive nature, began laying plans for the eventual phased reopening of schools.

To keep the children occupied for the period before the eventual reopening of the economy, the government through the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, took advantage of the still

experimental electronic education initiative and set up an online educational program which was particularly aimed at those in certificate classes. This program was broadcast on both the state owned and private media houses as well as the state's social media pages, thereby ensuring maximum reach.

While laying plans for the eventual reopening of schools which it had signaled would be phased, the government began a campaign to ensure the proper qualification of teachers in the state by encouraging them to undertake

culminated in the TRCN exams in July, for which a record number of 315 teachers sat.

Keeping up this pace, the state government through the Delta State Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, in collaboration with Ministry of Health on the 28th of July, trained 5,697 teachers, drawn from both public and private schools in the state, on COVID-19 protocols with a view to equipping them with the necessary knowledge in forestalling the spread of the disease when schools eventually reopened.



professional courses to update their qualifications and keep abreast with modern trends in education, which

These teachers were in turn expected to go back to their schools and train others in these protocols.



The two-day training programme took place in three centres with large halls in each of the 25 local governments of the state to ensure that social distance was maintained.

Addressing the teachers during a monitoring visit to St. Patrick's College, Asaba, the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Chief Patrick Ukah, said that the Dr. Okowa led administration was irrevocably committed to safeguarding the health of residents, especially teachers and school children in the state at all times.

He further encouraged the teachers to remain committed and participate fully in the training, saying that the state government would provide everything required to avert the spread of the coronavirus in the wake of school resumption.

Mr Ukah reiterated government's commitment to supply personal protective items such as hand sanitizers and face masks needed to curtail the virus in the learning environment, adding that sickbays would be provided for schools where none was available.

Not stopping there, the state government, through the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education and the Ministry of Environment, began an intense fumigation campaign of all of its facilities with particular attention being paid to schools. All schools across the 25 local governments

To guarantee the continued safety of pupils and teachers alike, the state government began distributing water storage tanks to schools that did not have boreholes or water supply in a bid to enhance adequate sanitation and especially to enable teachers and

students wash their hands in compliance with COVID 19 protocols.

The Basic and Secondary Education Commissioner, Mr. Patrick Ukah who was on hand to monitor the distribution of these materials added that the supply of other items needed to curtail the spread of the virus when schools eventually resume would be made available.

On the 4th of August, 2020, school resumed for 29,525 SS3 students in State. This was to allow for academic activities preparatory to their West African School Certificate Examination slated to come up later in the month.

Arrangements made to ensure the safety of teachers and students included the suspension of the usual morning assembly and prayers will no longer be holding, instead, prayers would now hold in each class that was to be occupied by a maximum of 20 students only to ensure physical distance, just as temperature tests were to be carried out on the teachers and students daily.

A teacher and a student were appointed to be Minders in each class to enforce strict compliance with the protocols that had been outlined by the National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC). School hostels were also been arranged in such a way that appropriate physical distance was maintained by boarding students, and students were expected to be in the school premises only when necessary.

With the resumption of teaching and learning activities for the Senior Certificate class, a resumption test was instituted to gauge the knowledge of the students to enable the teacher's adjust the lessons to be taught the students ahead of their WAEC exams billed to come up later that month.

Still thinking up ways to guarantee the

safety of all actors in the educational sector in the state especially in light of the upcoming certificate exams, the state government through the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education approved an additional ten private schools in the state as centres for the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) organised by the National Examination Council (NECO).

This was to allow for adequate social distancing during the exams, as previously students from all schools in the the state were made to sit for the exams in the few approved centers.

In its characteristic bid to provide a conducive atmosphere for teaching and learning activities especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state government provided a total of 1,642 chairs and tables for students and teachers in public primary and secondary schools which was distributed to three Local Government Areas namely Patani, Bomadi and Burutu.

Earlier, 550 and 40 students' and teachers' furniture respectively were earlier delivered to Warri South, 150 and 20 to Warri South West, 474 and 48 to Isoko South, 736 and 8 to Isoko North and 300 and 40 to Warri North local government areas. Other beneficiaries were Udu Local Government which got 938 sets of furniture, while Uvwie Local Government received 855.

This was going on while the state government was building more schools in across the state. One such is the primary school with 20 classrooms and administrative blocks being built by the state government inside the junior staff quarters in Asaba. Another is the Model Secondary School built by NNPC/Total Upstream Company and Partners at Oginibo, Ughelli South Local Government Area.

The government revealed that the establishment of the new schools, was a deliberate measure to mitigate the incidence of over population in other public primary schools in the state capital as well as bringing schools much closer to the children in order for them to access



quality education without going through stress from their locations.

With the long awaited certificate exams arriving, the measures put in place by the government was put to the test. The students were confronted with a safe and conducive environment in which to sit for their exams. Personal protective exams were handed out to students free of charge, water was on hand to ensure sanitation and there was adequate room to ensure social distancing as per established COVID-19 protocols.

In short, the state governments preparations were a success.

Not to be deterred by the 'new normal' to allow lapses in the examination monitoring, the state's Ministry of Basic and Secondary education was on hand to monitor the exams to ensure and absence of examination malpractice resulting in the discovery of some sharp practices among some teachers which resulted in the sanctioning of 41 teachers for examination malpractice during the 2019 West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE).

They were to suffer deferment of promotion by one year and banned from supervision of any school examination for a period of three years. Also a school was fined N100,000:00 for examination malpractice as was recommended by the Examination Ethics Disciplinary Committee, headed by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Comrade Sam Dietake, with representatives from Post Primary Education Board, Ministry of

Justice, Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT), All Nigeria Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools (ANCOPPS), Association of Private School Owners of Nigeria (APSON), National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS) and other officials of the Ministry.

To ensure faster marking of examination scripts and deliver results on record time, the Delta State Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education installed Optical Marks Readers (OMR) machines with the capacity to scan 12,000 A5 papers per hour, and 8,000 A4 papers in one hour.

It was expected that the three OMR machines would be able to scan and mark the 214,000 sheets of the recently conducted BECE in the 25 Local Government Areas of the state in a maximum of 6 hours.

This initiative was aimed at reducing human errors and the amount of time in marking of examination scripts as a result of the increase in the population of students in the state.

To further bolster the education workforce in the state, 1,000 teachers and 75 Education Officers were recruited in the state. A two-day orientation course was held, in which the new recruits were given every prerequisite knowledge of their job schedules and what was expected of them.

The Secretary to the State Government, Mr. Chiedu Ebie, charged them to strive towards qualitative service delivery and discharge their duties to the benefits of the state especially children in schools who need the right foundation in their

quest to become future leaders and complete the cycle of excellence despite the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Encouraged by the success of the safety measures put in place, the state government approved the reopening of primary and secondary schools in the state for the conclusion of the 2019/2020 academic session and the commencement of the 2020/2021 new academic session.

Secondary school students in JSS 1, JSS 2, SS 1 and SS 2 that were yet to write the second term examination would resume from Monday, September 28, 2020 for lessons that would enable them prepare for and write their second term examinations in order to conclude the 2019/2020 academic session, while boarders would resume on Sunday, September 27, 2020. Also, Primary School Pupils in primary 4 and 5 that were yet to complete the second term examination would resume on Tuesday October 6, 2020 to Friday, October 9, 2020. However, second term examinations would be waived for pupils in primaries 1 to 3.

The students resumed to the New Normal with all the precautions already in place to ensure that teaching and learning continued unabated and the health and safety of the teachers, students and communities were properly taken care of in line with the Covid-19 protocols.

# The War Against Human Trafficking In Delta State

By Aruoriwo Ivo



**H**uman trafficking is a very serious crime against humanity and a gross violation of human rights which has taken the front burner in our National Discourse while Government at all levels are grappling on how to stem the tide.

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, Delta State Governor, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, inaugurated a 17-Man State Taskforce on Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration in the sprawling and beautiful Executive Council Chambers of Government House, Asaba with the State Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Peter Mrakpor Esq. as Chairman to tackle the barbaric and evil human trafficking menace also referred to as modern day slavery, that was rapidly manifesting its monstrous presence in some parts of the State. Nine Local Government were identified as flashpoints for these criminal activities of human trafficking.

Other Members of the Task Force include the Benin Zonal Commandant of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), the Honourable Commissioner for Information and that of Women Affairs, Director-General Bureau for Orientation (who was later coopted into the Task Force), the Nigerian Police Force, Department of State Security (DSS), Immigration, Civil Defence, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Road Safety, Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society Organization, Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on International Relations

and one Special Assistant to the Governor on Youth Development.

Inaugurating the 17-Man Task Force, the Governor who expressed worry at the high and disturbing state of human trafficking and irregular migration in some parts of the State, restated his administration's commitment to stem the ugly tide.

"We are very worried as a State that we occupy a high position among the States affected by human trafficking and irregular migration. We are committed as a State to stem the tide and that is why we have set up this serious Task Force.

"We need to reach out to our people and discourage them from seeking greener pastures that do not exist; irregular migration and human trafficking are evils that have visited our State and it must be checked."

He enjoined them to carry out advocacy and sensitization of all relevant groups including the youths and traditional rulers and leaders, stressing "we need partners for the message to get to a lot of persons within the shortest possible time to check irregular migration and human trafficking" \*

\*Veracity Magazine\*, shall be taking a deep look at the activities of the Task Force from when it was inaugurated viz-a-vi its mandate. The salient questions we shall strive to find answers to bothers essentially on whether or not the menace has reduced. Has there been any arrest made or breakthrough recorded in smashing the activities of the syndicate notoriously responsible for trafficking innocent girls

and boys to Africa, Europe, Asia and other parts of the world ostensibly for sexual exploitation, organ harvest or as domestic slaves? What are the various strategies and collaborative efforts with NAPTIP and other stakeholders the Task Force has employed to drastically reduce to the barest minimum, the upsurge of the crime using the five pronged approach of Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnership and policies.

Veracity unveiled that sequel to various post inaugural meetings of the Task Force and series of consultative meetings held with its technical partners, NAPTIP and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Task Force carefully mapped out a detailed and well thought-out work plan on how to go about the herculean assignment.

As part of preventive measures adopted by the Task Force to eradicate the obnoxious trafficking in persons in the state, aggressive media and series of sensitization/awareness campaigns was carried out on both radio and Television stations, newspapers, the social media as well as to public places including markets, parks and churches. This measure is anchored on the belief that the media plays a pivotal role in shaping perceptions and guiding the public conversation about human trafficking.

Notably, the Task Force has embarked on two major road shows in Asaba, the Delta State Capital through the ever busy Nnebisi road that terminated at Oshimili South Arcade, with the active participation

of Youth Corps Members, Market Women Association, religious organizations, NGOs, Student Unions and School Teachers. Rescued victims and returnees from Libya, Mali, Italy and other European nations and Asia were given the opportunity to share their tales of horror that sent goose pimples down the spine of listeners.

Town hall meetings with traditional rulers, women groups and youths held in collaboration with International Organization For Migration was also part of a prophylactic approach adopted by the Task Force to engage critical stakeholders with a view to exterminate the human trafficking scourge in the State while it has also taken its campaign to some churches at Agbor, Warri and Okpanam.

When asked "why churches?" the Chairman said "Pastors and clergies have been identified as social influencers, therefore they play an important role in disabusing the minds of our people.

Their members listen to them and believe them and we are convinced that the pulpit is a veritable platform to spread our message very fast"

Anti-human trafficking posters and fliers as well as sustained Television and radio jingles in English, Pidgin English and all the major local languages spoken in the state, were produced and aired with remarkable results.

#### PROTECTION

Veracity Magazine gathered that the Task Force in collaboration with NAPTIP, IOM, NCFRMI and the Ministry of Women Affairs has been involved in the rescue, counseling and re-integration of some rescued victims back to society while those yet to be re-integrated are kept in shelters.

The National Commission for Refugee, Migrant and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) also partnering with the Delta State Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force in giving rescued victims business training and starter packs was quite commendable. This makes it easy for rescued victims/returnees to venture into profitable businesses and cater for

themselves and their dependants. This initiative by NCFRMI and IOM has helped in building resistance to the greener pasture dummy and lure sold to them by agents of the nefarious and illicit trade of smuggling of persons.

#### PROSECUTION

A couple of arrest was said to have been made using the security apparatus within the Task Force through intelligence gathering and after diligent investigations the culprits were charged to court for prosecution. It is worthy of note, that prosecution of offenders is



done either under the Child Right Law or the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administrative Act (TIPPEA). The State can only prosecute under the Child Right Law in cases where children are involved while NAPTIP prosecutes under the TIPPEA Act.

Investigation by Veracity revealed that about five (5) convictions have been secured within the period under review while other matters are ongoing.

Prominent among the convictions was the case of one Ufor Papa Samuel who was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment by a Federal High Court, Asaba without an option of fine for the offence of human trafficking.

The Federal High Court presided over by Honourable Justice T.B. Adegoke on the 21st day of July, 2020 found the 38 years old defendant (Ufor Samuel) guilty of the three count charge preferred against him by the National Agency for the Prohibition in Persons (NAPTIP) and was accordingly sentenced to 5 years imprisonment on count 1 of the charge and another 7 years on count two without an option of fine.

Hailing the court verdict, the Chairman of the Task Force, Peter Mrakpor, Esq., condemned the illicit trade which he

described as "cruel, barbaric and a serious offence against humanity. It is our commitment that human trafficking will not be allowed to thrive in any part of the State"

#### PARTNERSHIP

The Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force partnership with NAPTIP, IOM, NCFRMI and NGOs was reported to be very robust and progressive, given the technical nature of its assignment that calls for collaborative efforts.

#### POLICIES

The Delta State Government has formulated and adopted several policy positions in checkmating the scourge which include its free education policy for primary and secondary Education, overseas scholarship programmes for indigenes, bursary for students in tertiary institutions, establishment of Technical Colleges across the State, entrepreneurial empowerment programmes through skills acquisition programmes;

Training Entrepreneurship Programme (STEP) and Youth Agricultural Entrepreneurs Programme (YAGEP) and establishment of industrial parks to stimulate economic activities in the state and create jobs.

Others include the recently signed Violence Against Persons law to protect the right of children, women and men in society, employment of qualified persons into the State Civic Service, massive construction of roads in all parts of the State to open up rural areas, improved security architecture, its urban renewal and agricultural revolution projects and the State Government Health insurance scheme are amongst several policies to bring rapid development to the State.

Though the Task Force has made remarkable progress within a short space of time, stakeholders opined that there is still much work to be done as perpetrators of the crime have devised other means to carry out their nefarious activity. The Task Force has however expressed its commitment to wage the war until human trafficking is eradicated in the state.

# Okowa And Sports: The Pride Of Delta.

By NORBERT CHIAZOR



Triumphant Delta State Contingent lifting the 1st place trophy at the 2018, 19th National Sport Festival held in Abuja

Sport is an engaging human activity. One of the greatest pleasures of mankind. It has diverse appeal.

Whether as fun-inducing, revenue earner, unifying force or sheer safe net for relaxation, the advantages of sport are priceless.

Frontline sports from football, athletics to boxing among others, make the world a better place. Such preoccupation boosts popular prestige, promotes peace and enhances enterprise.

This explains why perceptive governments pay all attention to sports

development. In Delta state where there is a governor so enamoured with sports, a positive change reigns.

A visitor to Delta would marvel at Governor Ifeanyi Okowa's passion for sports.

Last week at the constitution of the Delta state sports commission, Okowa recalled that Delta retained its premier status in athletics, coming first in all National Youth Games and the National Sports Festival 2019. As the governor stood happy highlighting the exploits of Delta before members of the sports commission—Chief

Tonobok Okowa, Rev. Omatshola Williams, Chief Chinonye Daphey and Chief Ernest Juweto, his emotions were emphatic.

,2016 at the age of 54.

The story of Stephen Keshi stadium is not a palatable narrative. It is a shocking tale of denial and decay.

The stadium was conceived by the people of Asaba through self help in the 60s. But it would suffer still birth for 44 years!

The government of Midwestern state took over the building of the stadium in 1974 under the unforgettable Samuel Ogbemudia as sports-loving governor.

Colonel George Agbazika Innih as military administrator would inherit the stadium in 1975. He abandoned it in the hands of successor, Commodore Husaini

Abdullahi under a new era called Bendel state in 1976.

None of the seven other governors that ruled Bendel till its end in 1991, was able to complete the stadium. Abubakar Waziri, Ambros Alli, Samuel Ogbemudia, Jeremiah Useni, John Inienger, Tunde ogbeha and John Yeri.

When Delta came in 1991 with administrator Luke Ochulor, followed by the first son of Delta to govern, Felix Ibru, 1992, both men exited with no succour for the stadium.



Governor Ifeanyi Okowa (2nd left); President of Nigeria Football Federation, Mr. Amaju Pinnick (left) and Nigeria Super Eagles Captain, Ahmed Musa, during the International Friendly Match between the Nigeria Super Eagles and Uganda, at Stephen Keshi Stadium Asaba

"It is also gratifying to note that the state successfully hosted the 21st African Senior Athletics Championship, also known as Asaba 2018, at the Stephen Keshi Stadium and it is expected that this board will strive to sustain this momentum and break new grounds."

The outstanding example of Delta's colourful outing in sports is best drawn from the stadium named after late Stephen Okechukwu Keshi, former captain and coach of Nigeria's national football team, a sports maestro who died 7th June



**Governor Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa (2nd left), receiving the Torch of Unity for the Upcoming Edo 2020 National Sports Festival in Asaba**

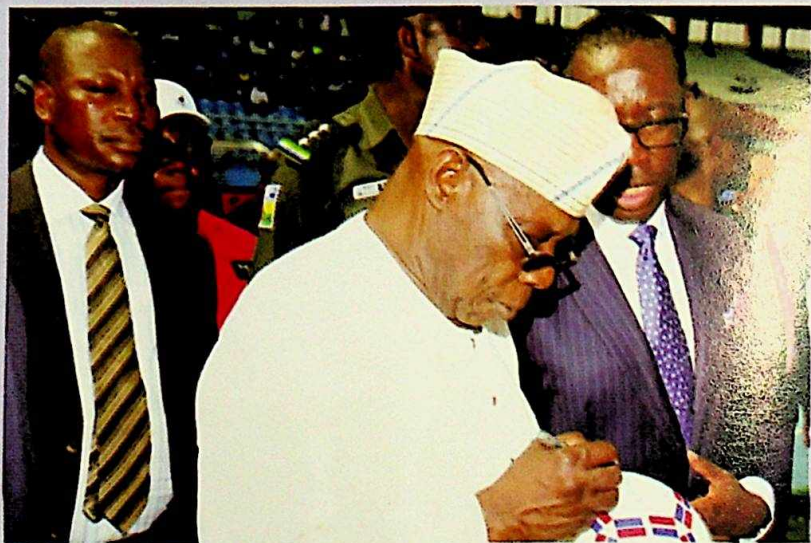
For policeman Abdulkadiri Shehu and other military administrators - Bassey Asuquo, Ibrahim Kefas, John Dungs and Walter Faghebor, Asaba stadium meant nothing but deadly bush.

They must have learnt a piece of negative history from their military predecessors. In the 70s, Asaba stadium was used by the military authorities as a hideous forest where condemned armed robbers were sent to hell by firing squad.

A frightening memory of a particular criminal exterminated with hot bullets inside the stadium keep encoding in my retention. I remember in adolescence. Flamboyant to the loudest vanity, he rode in town with gleaming black Mercedes benz and beautiful women, enveloped in wild feasting. But his busy hooliganism ended one day in one bushy corner!

James Ibori walked into Asaba in 1999 as governor, moved perhaps by the excessive rape of the bleeding stadium, cleared

overgrown weeds at the left flank and built



**Governor Ifeanyi Okowa (right) and former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, during the Official Opening and Commissioning of Stephen Keshi Stadium, Asaba**

an indoorsports hall. Emmanuel Uduaghan inherited the stadium in 2007 making efforts in maintenance of the indoorsports hall. Enter the administration of governor Okowa in 2015.

History beckoned in 2018..... The main bowl of Stephen Keshi stadium Asaba would dress up first time in history to embrace the world after protracted lull slipping through the hands of 19 military and civilian leaders from Midwest, Bendel to Delta.

54 African countries came to the Stadium at Asaba for the Senior African athletics championship - the biggest sporting event in the continent in August 2018.

Today, from the rot and ruins of a long forgotten treasure has risen a monument amazing in sight and glorious in standing. The sprawling presence of the Stephen

Keshi Stadium built by Okowa lives as one of best landmarks on the skyline of Asaba. Now a favourite destination, it has hosted countless continental and global soccer events.

Emboldened by the height of Stephen Keshi Stadium, Okowa is developing youth sports in communities, elementary and secondary schools with incentives and infrastructure across the state. A new generation of sportsmen and women that would take Nigeria to global stage is evolving.

Under Okowa, Delta is reinventing itself as an off shoot of the defunct Bendel, famous for matchless excellence in sports.



**Governor Ifeanyi Okowa and his Edo State Counterpart, Governor Godwin Obaseki hold aloft the 1st place trophy at the 19th National Sport Festival held in Abuja while the former Minister of Sports, Mr. Solomon Dalung looks on**



# #ENDSARS: Youths Search For A Better Nigeria And Okowa's Dedication To A Society That Works

By Nobert Chiazor



Gov. Ifeanyi Okowa addresses ENDSARS PROTESTERS

Two worrisome phenomena occurred this year to show Governor Ifeanyi Okowa's strength of character in a season of great national dilemma. The Coronavirus pandemic and the #ENDSARS protests. A double - take challenge that tasked the governor's capacity to govern and immediately established him as a sure footed leader with sterner stuff.

His suave management of COVID- 19 through informed regular advocacy, quick medical intervention and the cushion of the negative social impact with sustained state wide palliatives helped to stem the risks of the virus.

That he tested positive while fighting the novel pandemic and came out free of the virus with his entire family, to mobilize Deltans with renewed vigor to successfully contain the public health

problem was not only personal triumph but bravery in leadership.

He would subsequently score a bull eye in rising gallantly to the riotous occasion of the #ENDSARS Protests against police brutality which rocked the entire nation recently.

Governor Okowa's handling of the #ENDSARS crisis has been outstanding and exemplary. He personally walked to the streets to engage the protesting youths, one of the very few governors to come out to pacify them directly. His words while publicly addressing the protesters at Government House, Asaba were kind, mellow and placative, typical of a doting father speaking to his children. He was frank, sincere and rational.

Governor Okowa, told the youths point blank that the nationwide protests for an

end to victimization by the police was a reflection of leadership and family failures over the years.

He said there wouldn't have been need for the protests if leaders were accountable and responsive to the people.

According to him, the youths have the rights to protest perceived injustice as citizens of the Nation and integral part of the society. He was particularly enthused with the peaceful conduct of the protests as the youths lined the street to government house in orderly mass.

Okowa spoke with all clarity:

"I want to appreciate all of you for conducting a very peaceful protest. There can be nothing better than peace and that gives me a lot of feeling that our youths can be better organised.

"I am glad that you have gathered yourself nationwide to protest this

injustice as regards police brutality.

"I know that through the social media we are able to organise ourselves, but I can see a lot of maturity in your organisation and I must commend you for that.

"On our part as leaders we acknowledge the gap and that we have failed even as parents. In my own home, when my children spoke concerning this protest, I realised that they were as pained as you and that is the same pain that every Nigerian youth is going through.

"Your voices have been heard loud and clear; SARS has been disbanded but I assure you that we are not keeping quiet.

"There is a need for further reform and

better in the best interest of our nation, Nigeria, where youths will be able to go out without being harassed or exploited by security agencies.

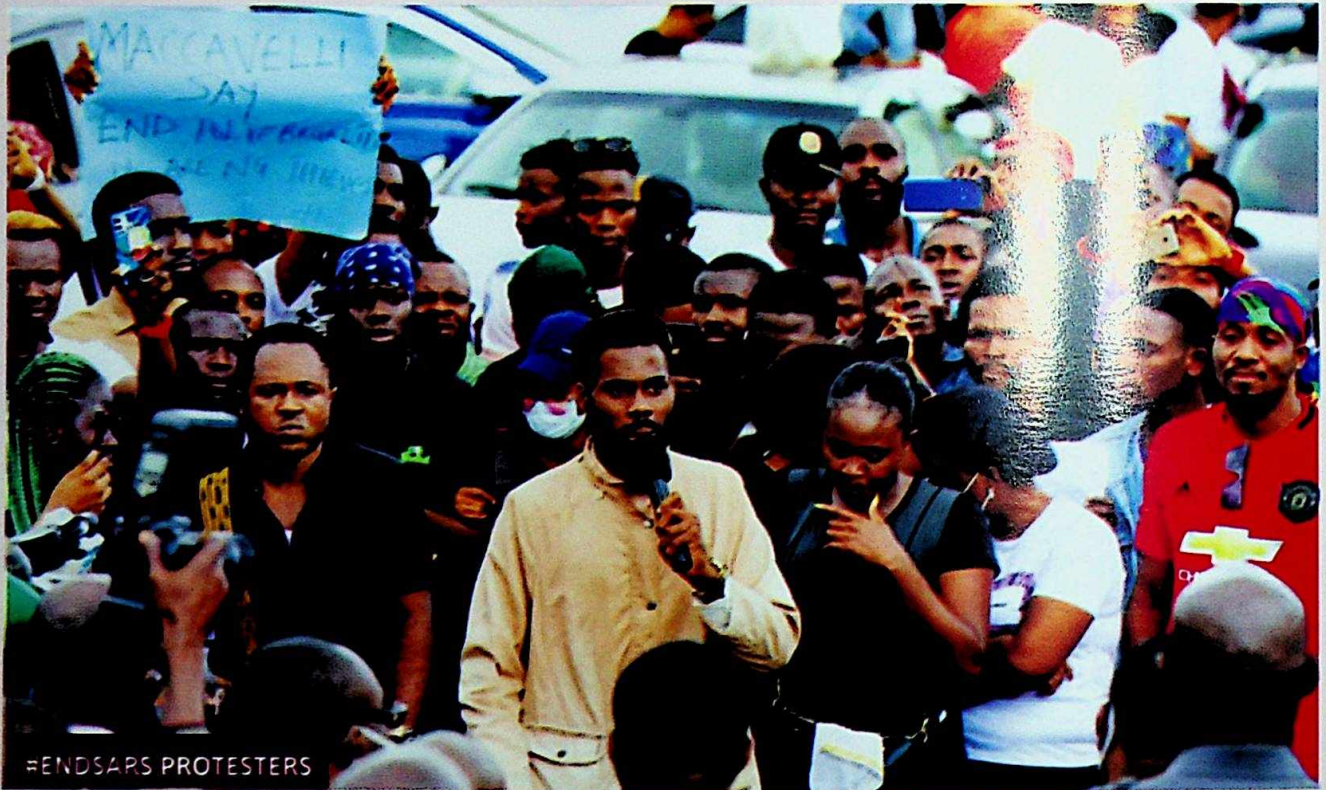
"I appeal to you to counsel others to remain peaceful and be law-abiding as you go about your daily activities.

"Having made your voices heard and having made our elders realise that we have failed as leaders, please give us some time to work things out with key stakeholders"

The Spokesman of the protesters, Mr Emmanuel Udezua, had earlier in a strident voice informed the governor that youths across the nation were bitter over

Governor Okowa moved to match words with action. The Delta state government promptly set up a panel to investigate all allegations of police brutality in the state.

A statement signed by the Secretary to the State government, Mr. Chiedu Ebie said that the panel, as approved by Governor Okowa, will receive and investigate complaints of police brutality or related extra-judicial killings in the state from victims of the disbanded Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) or any other police unit, with a view to ascertaining their authenticity.



#ENDSARS PROTESTERS

re-orientation of the entire Police Force.

"The issues of adequate remuneration, training and discipline of the Police Force must be looked into critically in the reform process.

"It is about reformation of the entire police and it is about ensuring that our nation is peaceful.

"We do realise that the police have a role to play in ensuring democratic governance, but they must be played in such a manner that is in favour of civil defence.

"Unfortunately, some of them have put the name of the police in bad light.

"I plead that you organise yourselves

police brutality.

"On behalf of the youths of Delta we have come to express our anger and grievances at the incessant molestation of youths by the police nationwide.

"We want a better Delta and a better Nigeria where youths can go about their normal activities without the brutality of the police.

"Stop the exploitation and the oppression of youths. Use your power everywhere you can to end this for us, sir,"

Hours later after addressing the youths,

The statement added that the panel headed by Justice Celestine Ogisi (Rtd) will recommend compensation or other remedies appropriate for each case.

Other members of the panel are Omamuzo Erebe Secretary, AIG David Igbodo (Rtd), Harrison Gwamnishu representing the youths, Comrade Godwin Oyovweadjebore representing students, Freedom Atsepoyi and Ambassador Eris Jewo-Ibi representing the civil society groups and Nicholas Osador representing the Human Rights Commission.



Gov. Ifeanyi Okowa addresses Town Hall meeting with Delta Youths

At the meeting, during the configuration of the 8 - member panel, Governor Okowa announced that the state government would establish a Special Victims' Support Fund for the payment of monetary compensation to deserving victims of police brutality or related extra-judicial killings in the state.

While the constitution of the panel came in line with the directive of the National Economic Council (NEC) headed by Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, it bears emphasis to state that Delta was among the first to adhere, showing the hand of a competent governor with empathy.

Having handled the #ENDSARS protests with the highest level of maturity, sincerity and goodwill, Okowa instantly won admiration and respect from all quarters, culminating in his listing as a member of a Federal government committee charged to assuage the feelings of youths and meet their demands in the face of police high handedness and intimidation.

This explains why the criminal hijack of the #ENDSARS protests by hoodlums came as a rude shock, a despicable diversion from the positive original intent.

A senseless orgy of unimaginable violence by vandals who unleashed evil across the state, especially Asaba the state capital, looting, maiming and destroying.

By the time the mayhem ended, Koka Modern Leisure Park, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) office Asaba and the High Court Complex on Ibusa road were bunt down.

Livid and totally disappointed, Governor Okowa imposed dusk to dawn curfew in the state amidst other security measures. These not only stemmed wave of insecurity in Delta but also sent strong signals to hooligans that no criminal can test the will of the state government to protect lives and property.

"I know that is not the intention of those who started the protest but the criminal elements have come in and tried to perpetrate this level of arson and violence. "It is obviously unacceptable and people must generally condemn it and I believe that even our youths, themselves, are quite unhappy with this.

"I urge our youths to stay vigilant because we cannot allow miscreants and criminals to destroy our collective will to

develop this place,"

"We will continue to dialogue with our youths, those who meant well by asking for reforms, but for the criminal elements, the law will have to take its course." He warns.

This blight in the well intentioned #ENDSARS movement however did not deter Governor Okowa from helping to consummate the lawful agenda of the youths who are peacefully seeking their rights.

In demonstration of his avowed commitment to engage genuine youths in the state, the governor hosted a Town hall meeting on the #ENDSARS issue in Warri.

The town hall meeting was attended by youth organizations including #ENDSARS protesters, civil society groups, students, social clusters, community leaders and stakeholders on Thursday, 29th October 2020.

Speakers at the Town hall meeting said the #EndSARS protests were an expression of the anger and frustration of the youths against police brutality as well as bad governance, unemployment and



general decay in Nigeria.

Addressing the youths, Governor Okowa appealed to the federal government to pay urgent attention to the development of the Warri port to create employment for the younger generation.

He announced that his administration adopted various skill acquisition and entrepreneurship programmes to empower the youths. Thousands he said have benefited from the state government's initiative through gainful employment. He gave assurance that some of the issues raised in the town hall meeting would be speedily addressed. Okowa tasked the youths to show interest in governance especially in elective offices to enable them engender the change they desire.

A similar Town hall meeting was held days later at Asaba where Governor Okowa affirmed.

"We will continue to allow youths, including females, to be part of the governance process because in learning you are building yourself for the future.

"If you are a youth and you want to be active in politics you must respect your leaders and you must learn to pray a lot"

The Governor had earlier received the Delta state caucus in the House of Representatives, led by the minority leader, Honourable Ndudi Elumelu who paid him a solidarity visit on Wednesday 28th October 2020. They commended his efforts in addressing the demands of the youths pledging partnership with the state government in building a greater Delta.

To consolidate his resolve for a stronger Delta that would meet the dreams of the active youths, Dr. Okowa has presented an Appropriation Bill of N378.48 billion for 2021 to the state's House of Assembly for consideration.

Code named "Budget of Recovery," the Bill is made up of N207.52 billion for Capital Expenditure and N171.32 billion for Recurrent Expenditure.

Facing the press after the presentation the governor said on youth development:

"We have initiated a lot of programmes to engage our youths through the ministry and various agencies.

"Job and wealth creation bureau is there, we have provided funds for the training of our youths.

"The Ministry of Youths Development and Rural Youths Acquisition Programme

are there to train the youths.

"The Ministry of Women Affairs will make impact on the girl child entrepreneurship programme.

"It will also make impact on our women strongly in 2021 to take them away from the devastating impact of COVID-19.

"And through the Ministry of Science and Technology, we have a lot on Information Communication Technology to engage our youths and take them away from poverty.

"A lot of programmes have been initiated to engage our youths and this is very important because of what have been brought to the fore with the #EndSARS protests.

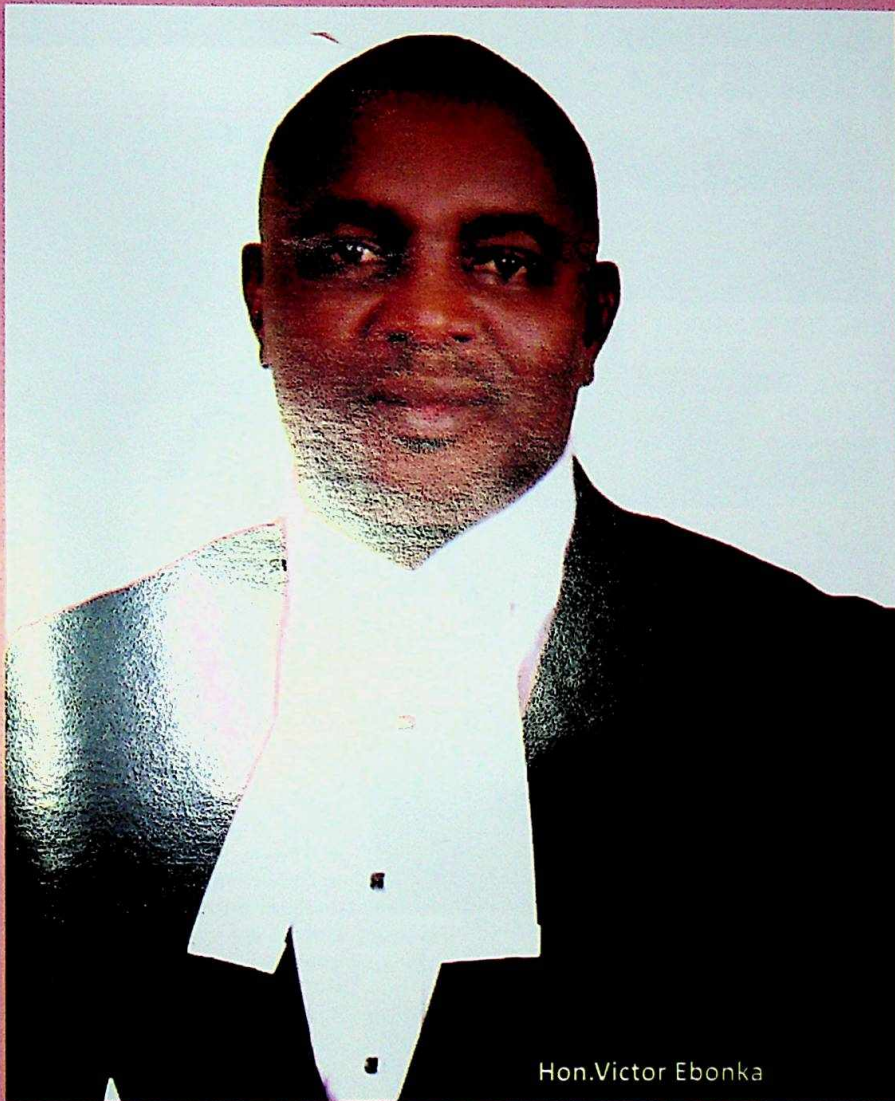
"This is not just directed at ending SARS but drawing government's attention to the neglect of the youths and the need to encourage them by providing skills and jobs for them"

While the #ENDSARS question remains a revealing turning - point in the affairs of Africa's most populous Nation, the devotion of one man towards youths' search for a better Nigeria vividly paints a picture of singular patriotism.

Truly Governor Ifeanyi Okowa deserves all commendation for his trail blazing initiatives on youths enamoured with a new progressive Nigeria.

# Victor Ebonka: Making A Bold Statement In Ika North East LGA Through Infrastructures

By Power Osiweighor



Hon. Victor Ebonka

Ika North East Local Government Area of Delta State, was created August 29th, 1991 out of the defunct Ika Local Government Area. Governor Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa was the pioneer Executive Chairman of the council between 1991 – 1993. The council has an area of 463km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 183,657 at the 2006 census and it is demarcated into fourteen (14) Federal Political Wards which was further subdivided into 19 State Wards DSIEC.

It is located in the Northern axis of the state and shares borders with Ika South, Aniocha North, Aniocha South L.G.As, Ukwani and Esan (Edo State).

Ika North East is made up of nine Clans/Districts/Kingdoms to wit:- Owa, Akumazi, Idumuesah, Igbodo, Mbiri, Otolokpo, Umunede, Ute-Ogbeje and Ute-Okpu. Each clan has an Obi or Okparan as their traditional head.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION:

Hon. Victor Eghe Ebonka Esq, the current chairman, was elected into office in January 2018 and in the last two years made policies and programmes to make life more meaningful for

grassroots dwellers and meeting their basic needs in terms of providing quality healthcare, security and infrastructure development. He, on assumption of office, defined the direction of his administration by injecting new initiatives and policies that have engendered conducive environment for both staff and management of the council.

#### CARDINAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

Construction of an Ultra Modern Market in Alizomor Community. Business has commence there...

Reactivation of abandoned NDDC Water supply scheme to supply neighbouring communities around Alizomor clean and portable water.

Ongoing construction of BojiBoji International Market with 750 lockup shops. The first phase of 132 lockup shops is scheduled to be completed before the end of October, 2020.

Reconstruction and Expansion of Ebu-Owa Market which is now designated as food

market in Delta State.

Face lift of council Secretariat, Owa-Oyibu.

Restructuring and furnishing of the Chairman's Office and the Legislative Chamber of the L.G.A.

Revamping of NULGE and LEGISLATIVE buses

Purchase of official vehicle for the Vice-Chairman, leader of the legislative arm and other top officials of the Council.

Revamped Project Vehicle for works department for effective project monitoring.

#### ENVIRONMENT:

In the period under review, the administration has:

Revamp the abandoned local government REFUSE VAN/COMPACTOR for prompt evacuation of refuse to major dumpsites.

Inaugurated 80 man Environmental Task Force (Environmental Marshals) who are charged with the responsibility of monitoring environmental compliance in the their various localities.

To ensure effectiveness of the Environmental Marshals, he refurbished an abandoned Utility Vehicle and equipped same with public address system to improve environmental awareness campaign;

Delineation of the Local Government Area into 13 zones and franchising of the zones to Private Service Providers (PSP) for effective evacuation of solid wastes in line with global standard.

Ensured the evacuation of aged-long (spanning over 15 years) refuse heap in Umunede and Ute-Okpu Markets respectively.

Constant pushing and/or maintenance of Umunede and Owa-Ofie Refuse Dump Sites.

Cleared bushes on the road shoulders to wit: Owa-Oyibu to Boji- Boji Urban through Owa-Alizomor, Owa-Ofie, Owanta to Old Abraka Road and Owa-Alero to Ute-Okpu, Otolokpo to Umunede, Ekuoma to Ute-ogbeni, 15km Road shoulders leading to Train Station, Ewere village, Owa-Oyibu.

Desilting and evacuation of blocked drainages in the Boji-Boji Urban, particularly old Abraka Road.

Demolition of illegal shanties that has blocked Oranu and Hausa Streets over a period of 30years, making the road inaccessible from Old Lagos Asaba Road

#### INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT (CONSTRUCTION OF DAMAGED CULVERTS/DRAINAGES):

The administration also embarked on the construction of culverts/drainages in Boji- Boji Urban including:

Efeizomor/Onyibe and Owanta Street Junction (Perky Junction);

The damaged drain at Itch Street by Coment

Junction;  
 Abandoned damaged Slab at Obiazikwor Street ;  
 Melekwbe by Convent street;  
 Morka by Okobi;  
 Alika by Lagos Asaba road;  
 Melekwbe by Okobi;  
 Obiazikwor street;  
 Ute-Okpu road ;  
 Upper-Ojekpolor Junction by Ajuebor;  
 Alika by Okobi;

**AGRICULTURE**

The area is highly agrarian and the administration has leveraged on this to improve the economic fortunes of the local government through effective and efficient management of the council's oil palm farms and mill at the council secretariat and Ute-okpu respectively.

**ELECTRIFICATION:**

The administration has within the period under review;

Connected the Local Government Secretariat to electricity and ensured constant electricity power supply during working hours to enable members of staff work in a conducive environment.

Reconnected Owa-Alizomor community to PHCN after sixteen (16) months of total blackout.

Influenced the delivery of a 500KVA Transformer to Owa-Alizomor Community

**UNAUTHORISED PARKING/PARKING GARAGE**



navigation.

**EDUCATION /SPORTS:**

Education is the bedrock of any nation and as such, Hon Ebonka places high premium on early education of citizens so as to shape their future and prepare them for the life ahead.

enhanced Community Participation (Sensitization of households on the need to maintain good health practices), Inter-sectoral Coordination, Appropriate Technology and Support Mechanism (Employment and transfer of Health Officers to Centres where there are shortages).

The Health Officer's INITIATIVE GRASSROOTS MEDICAL OUTREACH BY HER EXCELLENCY LADY EDITH OKOWA which have yielded positive testimonies of about 30 people receiving their sights after many years of blindness and treatment of other ailments, and successful implementation of immunization programmes.

Approved the Renovation of Owa-Alizomor Primary Healthcare Centre. Procurement of Generating Set and Refrigerators for the storage of vaccines for the Primary Healthcare Department of the local government council.

**SECURITY**

No meaningful investment can take place in an environment that does not have adequate security for investors and investment. In line with these, the administration has zero tolerance for insecurity in the local government area and has worked closely with security agencies to ensure safety of lives and property for citizens living and doing business in the area. In order to achieve this the Chairman ensures;

Constant security meeting with different security bodies and traditional rulers who interfaces with citizens on daily basis which has resulted in peaceful coexistence amongst the people.

Ika Anticult Outfit was reconstituted with the mandate of curtailing cult activities within the LGA.

Employing the services of vigilante outfit in maintaining peace and security within the L.G.A.

To address the menace of unauthorised/unregulated parking of vehicles, street trading in Old Abraka Road, Convent Street, Market/Garage Axis, the administration created alternative packing garage at Buzugbe by Convent Street;

Erection of reflective signage in major streets within Boji-Boji metropolis for easy

Provision of School uniforms, Bags, Sandals and Writing materials to schools/ award of scholarship for deserving students.

**HEALTHCARE:**

His Policies and quest for good healthcare for the people of the LGA has in no little way yielded excellent results. This is evident in the improved Primary Health-care Centres across the LGA and

# Patani LGA: Taking Development To The Grassroots

By Anslem Etolor



Hon. Perez Omoun Esq.

Patani Local Government Area of Delta State was created on October 1, 1996 from the old Bomadi Local Government Area with an estimated population of 92,800 and has its headquarters in Patani town on the bank of the river bordering Bayelsa state on the East-West road. It is also a famous bridge town and one of the foremost towns that the early missionaries established the St. Matthew's Anglican Church in 1904.

Patani local government area is made up of three ancestral clans, namely Kabowei, Kumbowei and Tarakiri clans. The local government area is predominantly made up of Ijaws in Kabowei, Kumbowei and Tarakiri clans while the Urhobos are found in Tarakiri clan.

The people are predominantly farmers who are also into fishing and the local government is majorly blessed with palm produce, cassava and plantain which is sold in large quantities to merchants who come from neighboring states.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

The current local government administration led by Hon. Perez Omoun Esq., was sworn as the elected chairman of the local government council on January 8th, 2018.

Upon resumption of office and in line with the Smart Agenda policy of the state government, he embarked on rapid transformation of the local government

with the reconstruction and rehabilitation of decaying infrastructure that will serve the common good of the people.

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

To ensure easy movement of goods and services and to improve the socio-economic lives of the people, the Local Government Council since 2018 has carried out a number of infrastructural projects.

These include:

Maintenance / Rehabilitation of R.E.B. Link road, Patani town 130m x 6.7m

Construction of Access Road (Rigid Pavement)

with Drainage / Renovation, Fencing, Landscaping / Maintenance Works at Cottage Hospital, Agoloma Town;

Maintenance / Rehabilitation of Damaged road, Side drains, Wing wall and Construction of Retaining wall and Approach slab at Aven Community; Maintenance / Rehabilitation of Health Centre road, Ekise Quarters. Patani measuring 158m x 6m

Maintenance / Rehabilitation of Rigid pavement and Damaged drains at Rahi Hospital Road, Ekise, Patani measuring 120m x 5m

Construction of Rigid pavement linking Hospital road to Market road at Osuware/Olozi Quarters, Patani measuring 177m x 3m

Construction of Rigid pavement at Iwisikeye road, Uduophori Town.

Construction of Drainage, Manhole, Wing wall and Head wall at Afinaaware Quarters, Patani.

Construction of Rigid pavement at Larry Seinbiri road, Agoloma Community.

Renovation of 3-Bedroom bungalow building for Nigerian Marine Police, Agoloma Town.

Rehabilitation of failed section of Road Pavement linking East-West road to Patani.

Rehabilitation of failed sections along Kabowei Road Patani.

Construction of Pedestrian Wooden

Bridge across Aven Creek

Construction of Pedestrian Wooden bridge across Koloware Creek.

Maintenance / Rehabilitation of damaged side drains, Wing wall and Head wall at Akoware and Ekise Quarters.

Construction of Health Centre/Nurses Quarters at Toru-Angiama Community.

Renovation / Maintenance of Toru-Apelebiri Health Centre.

Renovation of Abari Health Centre /Nurses Quarters

Renovation of Bulu-Apelebiri Health Centre/Nurses Quarters.

Renovation of Adobu Health Centre.

Construction of Pedestrian wooden bridge, Provision of Mono-pump and Minor maintenance works at Odorubu Health Centre

Construction of bore hole / Installation of solar water scheme at Bulu-Angiama and Uduophori Health Centres.

Rehabilitation/Installation of Solar power water scheme and Construction of Water reticulation system at Akubiri, Bulu-Angiama Town.

Construction of 4 Mono-pumps at Toru - Angiama Ward 12.

Construction of 1 Mono-pump at Tamukunu Community.

Procurement and Installation of 300KVA, 33/0415KVA transformer/Rehabilitation of HT line and Extension of LT line in Uduophori Community

Extension/Rehabilitation of LT electricity line in Agoloma Town.

Extension/Rehabilitation of LT Electricity line at Koloware Town.

Establishment of 5 additional Adult Education learning centres in Agoloma, Aven, Koloware, Toru-angiama and Uduophori.

Provision of over 6000 free writing / instructional materials ( customized notebooks) 500 textbooks, 180 packets of pencils, 50 packets of biros, 2000 erasers and rulers to pupils in both nursery and primary schools.

ICT training / knowledge acquisition for key staff of Patani Local Government Council.

## PEACE AND SECURITY

Due to the incessant cases of kidnapping in the area, The Council in 2018 organized a security summit involving all stakeholders and security agencies with a view to finding lasting solution to cases of kidnapping and other crimes in the area.

THE NEW TORU ANGIAMA HEALTH CENTRE



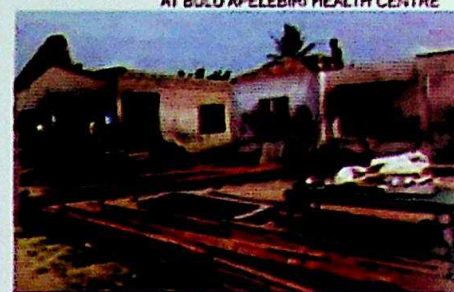
THE OLD TORU ANGIAMA HEALTH CENTRE



BULU APELEBIRI HEALTH CENTRE AND NURSES QUARTERS AFTER THE RENOVATION



ONGOING RENOVATION WORK AT BULU APELEBIRI HEALTH CENTRE



The following measures were put in place to stem the tide of crime and criminality in the local government area.

Establishment of a Marine Police Base in Agoloma with a state of the art gun boat for security surveillance of the waterways town bordering Delta and Bayelsa which was done in collaboration with the Delta State Government.

Procurement of two Yamaha 85HP outboard engines and 12-seater fibre speed boat for surveillance patrol & other usage.

Purchase of Ford Van for the Joint Task Force (JTF).

Purchase of Toyota Sienna for Patani Division of the Nigerian Police force.

The Council Chairman also initiated a collaborative effort between Patani (Delta) & Sagbama (Bayelsa) LGAs in order to strengthen border security operations.

In order to coordinate the activities of the various security agencies, the Council installed communication gadgets in the offices of the NPF, DSS, JTF and also provided handsets and walkie talkie for the members of vigilante groups and the security outfits for easy communication. It is important to note that the gadgets are solar powered.

In the order avoid the ravaging crisis between herdsmen and farmers in the country, the council Chairman held several peace meetings with community leaders

and the local government peace and security committee members with the chairmen of various communities and it was resolved that; Community leaders

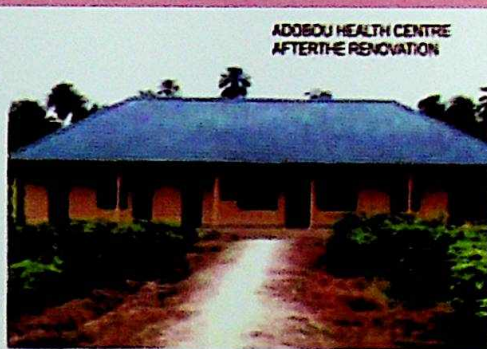
at eradicating illiteracy amongst the people.

One cardinal principle that stood the Patani Local Government Council out in

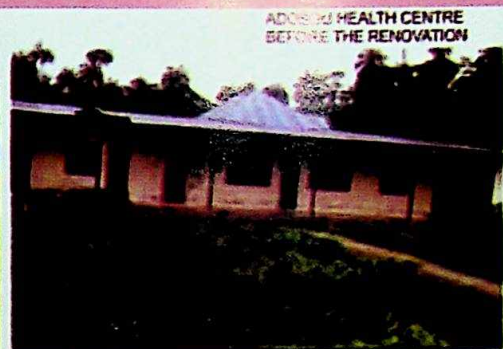
(PLOGCAR), to train 500 persons on snail and grasscutter farming. It also established and financed 11 multipurpose cooperative societies to enhance businesses for the women and youths of the area

**CONCLUSION**

It is interesting to note that Hon. Perez Omoun led administration has changed the narrative and perception of the people towards grassroots administration, he has given priority importance to primary healthcare, construction and maintenance of roads and drains as well as establishment of adult literacy programmes in various communities aimed



ADDOBU HEALTH CENTRE AFTER THE RENOVATION



ADDOBU HEALTH CENTRE BEFORE THE RENOVATION

**HEALTH PROGRAMME**



should not grant grazing rights to herdsmen by collecting monies before allowing them to graze on their lands.

The council has also resolved some intra- and inter- communal disputes in the area during the period under review

**AGRICULTURE**

In September, 2019, the current administration embarked on an Agricultural Revolution Programme tagged "Patani Local Government Council Agricultural Revolution 2019"

grassroots administration, is the commitment towards ensuring that projects awarded are done in line with specifications provided in the Bills of Quantities as well as embarking on adequate supervision of such projects.

The effect of this is the construction of quality projects and participation of the communities in the supervision of the projects





# **VERACITY**

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