

**NIGERIA  
GOVERNORS'  
FORUM**



**Special Edition**

**AN NGF MONTHLY PUBLICATION**



**NIGERIA  
GOVERNORS'  
FORUM**



# **SOME NIGERIAN STATES AT A GLANCE**



# LAGOS STATE:

LGAs in the initial city of Lagos  
 LGAs in Lagos Metropolitan Area



Lagos State has grown to become the most populous in the country and is often referred to as one of the major investment hubs in Nigeria. It is sometimes referred to as Lagos State to distinguish it from Lagos Metropolitan Area. Lagos is in the southwest geopolitical zone of Nigeria.

The smallest in area of Nigeria's 36 states, Lagos State is arguably the most economically important state of the country, containing Lagos, the nation's largest urban area. It is a major financial centre and would be the fifth-largest economy in Africa, despite not being a country. Lagos is what is called a city-state.

Lagos State is surrounded on the north and east by Ogun State. In the west, it shares boundaries with the Republic of Benin. Behind its southern borders lies the Atlantic Ocean. 22 per cent of its 3,577 km<sup>2</sup> comprises of lagoons and creeks.

Officially, Lagos State was created on 27 May, 1967 according to the State Creation and Transitional Provisions Decree No. 14 of 1967, which restructured Nigeria into a Federation of 12 states. However, before the issuance of this Decree, Lagos city, which was the country's capital had been administered directly by the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Lagos Affairs.

Then, Ikeja, Agege, Mushin, Ikorodu, Epe and Badagry were administered by the then Western Region Government. Lagos, the city, along with these other towns were captured to create the state of Lagos, with the state becoming fully recognized as a semi-autonomous administrative division on 11 April, 1968. Lagos served the dual role of being the State and Federal Capital until 1976, when the capital of the State was moved to Ikeja. After the full establishment of the Federal Capital Territory, the seat of the Federal Government was also formally relocated to Abuja on

12 December, 1991. Nevertheless, Lagos still remains the financial centre of the country.

The population of Lagos city was approximately 20 million. Lagos is a port which originated on islands separated by creeks, such as Lagos Island, fringing the southwest mouth of Lagos Lagoon while protected from the Atlantic Ocean by barrier islands and long sand spits such as Bar Beach, which stretch up to 100 kilometres (62 miles) east and west of the mouth.

Ikeja the state capital is well planned, clean and quiet residential and commercial town with shopping malls, pharmacies and government reservation areas. The Murtala Mohammed International Airport is in Ikeja. Ikeja is also home to Femi Kuti's African Shrine, Late Chief Gani Fawehinmi house and Lagbaja's Motherland. It also boasts the largest shopping mall on the mainland.

While the state is essentially a Yoruba-speaking environment, it is a socio-cultural melting pot attracting both Nigerians and foreigners alike.

Murtala Mohammed International Airport located in Ikeja is one of Nigeria's five major international airports in the country. It was built in 1978 and named after the former military head of state Late General Murtala Mohammed.

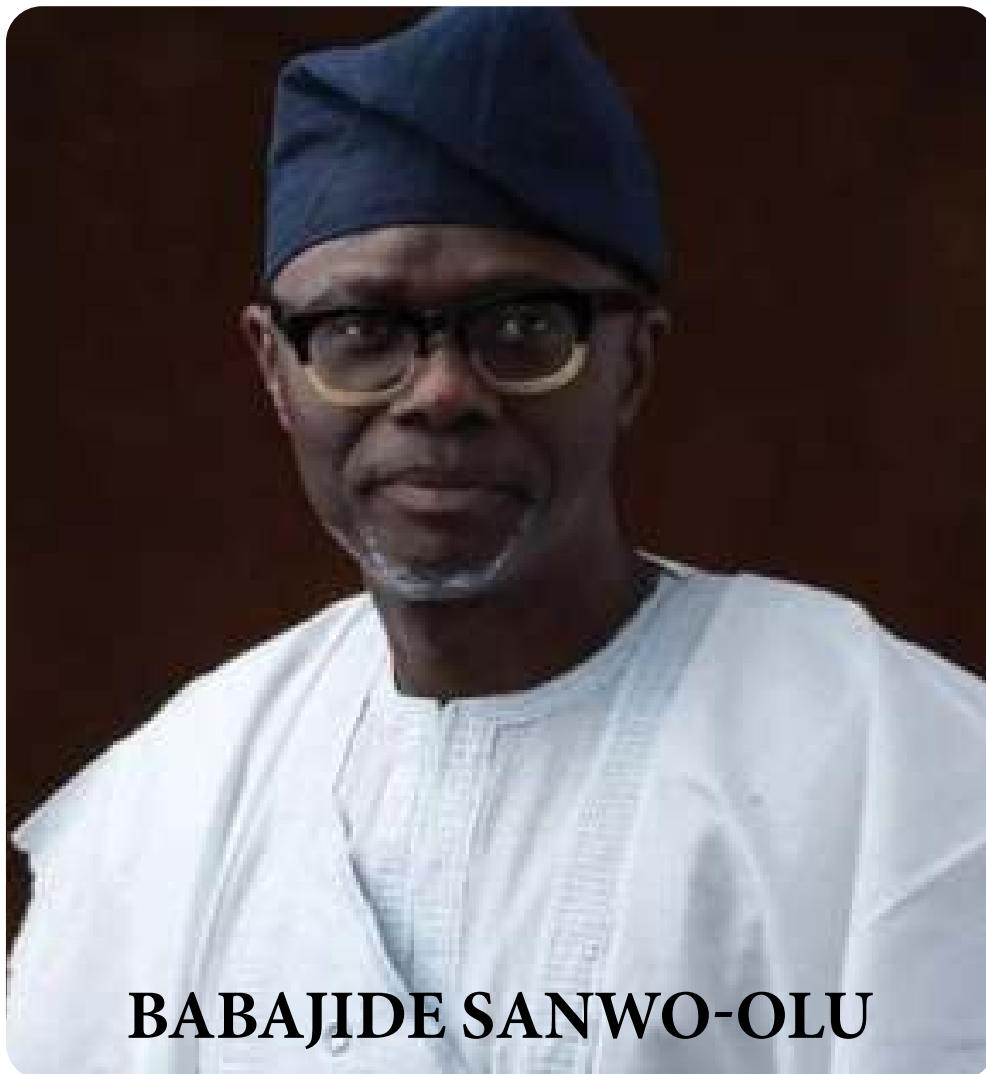
**However, before the issuance of this Decree, Lagos city, which was the country's capital had been administered directly by the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Lagos Affairs**

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Lagos State Commissioner for Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Adebowale Akinsanya had said one major challenge to infrastructural development in the State is litigation by some residents, which has greatly hampered the rapid development of infrastructure across Lagos.

Such challenges have affected the Osborne jetty where the State Government intends to provide the necessary infrastructure to develop water trans-

portation.



**BABAJIDE SANWO-OLU**

**IKEJA THE STATE CAPITAL IS A WELL PLANNED, CLEAN AND QUIET RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TOWN WITH SHOPPING MALLS, PHARMACIES AND GOVERNMENT RESERVATION AREAS**

The Lagos State House of Assembly recently passed the Lagos State Electric Power Sector Reform Law (the "Law") and same has since been assented to by the Lagos State Governor. The Law essentially aims to boost electricity supply in Lagos State (the State) through the establishment of an embedded power scheme and the creation of offences for energy theft. In addition, in line with the calls amongst industry stakeholders

for stiffer penalties or offences to be created to curb the rampant level of energy theft which is significantly affecting the attempts to reduce commercial losses, the Law creates a variety of energy theft-related offences with commensurate penalties.

The State Government is also planning to invest in water transportation through construction of a Jetty and dredging of 15 kilometres water channels for boats movement.

In tackling traffic challenges in the State, began with the identification of major traffic bottlenecks on Lekki-Epe Expressway and Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway which culminated in the construction of Jubilee Bridges at Ajah and Abule Egba.

In ameliorating the traffic condition in the State for both pedestrians and motorists, government had constructed the six-legged pedestrian bridges at Ojodu Berger with a slip road

**PROFILE**

Lagos state Governor Babajide Olu-sola Sanwo-Olu was born 25 June, 1965. He was elected under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) after contesting and unexpectedly winning the gubernatorial primaries under the All Progressives Congress against incumbent governor, Akinwunmi Ambode of Lagos State in October 2018.

Sanwo-Olu is a graduate of the University of Lagos, as well as the London Business School, Lagos Business School and the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Prior to his gubernatorial ambition, He was the Managing Director/CEO of Lagos State Property Development Corporation (LSPDC).

Sanwo-Olu has a BSc in Surveying and an MBA from the University of Lagos. He is an alumnus of the John F. Kennedy School of Government, the London Business School and the Lagos Business School.

He is an associate member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management (CIPM) and Fellow of the Nigeria Institute of Training and Development (NITAD).

He was the treasurer at former Lead Merchant Bank from 1994 to 1997 after which he moved to the United Bank for Africa as the head of foreign money market. He then proceeded to First Inland Bank, Plc (now First City Monument Bank) as a deputy general manager and divisional head. He was the chairman of Baywatch Group Limited and First Class Group Limited. He is a board member of the Department for International Development (DFID/DEEPEN) Fund and Audit Committee of Caverton Offshore Services Group, PLC.

The Lagos state Governor began his political career in 2003, when he was appointed a Special Adviser on Corporate Matters to the then deputy governor of Lagos State, Femi Pedro. He was later made the acting Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget until 2007, when he became the Commissioner for Commerce and Industry by then Governor, Bola Tinubu. After the General Elections of 2007, Sanwo-Olu was appointed Commissioner for Establishments, Training and Pensions by Governor Babatunde Fashola. Babajide Olu-sola Sanwo-Olu was made Managing Director/CEO of the Lagos State

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



# LAGOS STATE

while others are ongoing in different areas across the State.

The National Bureau of Statistics had reported that about 260,000 people come into Lagos daily and that only about 20 to 25 per cent goes back to their original places. Hence, this huge migration influx to the city is overstressing the existing infrastructure and facilities.

Ongoing infrastructure development in the State aimed at improving the traffic situation include the provision of bus shelters, introduction of high capacity buses, the construction of laybys at Oworonshoki, Ketu and the Oshodi and Ikeja interchange to mention just a few.

One of the reasons pressure mounts on Lagos infrastructure is the continuous influx of people into the state daily, though the challenges are surmountable with innovative approaches and collaboration with residents especially the professional groups and business communities.

“Our plan is to expand and improve on an existing infrastructure project. Government is a continuum and we will continue with existing projects to the benefit of Lagos. Our focus remains ‘Towards a greater Lagos: A collective effort,’” Lagos state Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has said during an annual end of the year dinner and award night, organised by the Nigerian Institution of Civil Engineers, Lagos.

## AGRICULTURE

The State government’s policy on agriculture hinges on enhanced food production, expanded employment opportunities and sustained growth in strategic crop production and animal husbandry.

The State through the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives has recently completed Phase 1 of the Igboye Fam Settlement in Epe which has an accommodation capacity for 50 farming families, as well as rehabilitated Ajara and Aiyedoto Farms.

In the Area of fish production, a fish farm estate with over 120 ponds was established under UNDP at Ebute-Afoye in Epe, while the displaced village fishermen at Osbourne Rd. in Lagos were re-settled at Badore in the Eti-Osa Local Government Area.

To reduce drudgery in crop production, new tractors were procured in addition to the establishment of an oil palm in Igbogbo and piggery estates in Ikorodu Local Government, Epe Lekki and Badagry.

Crop inputs and processing equipment have also been distributed free of charge to rice farmers at Ise, Coconut Growers Association at Ojo and Amuwo Odofin.

On livestock production, a cattle breeding centre was established at Araga in Epe Local Council to demonstrate the feasibility of cattle breeding in the State to would be cattle breeders, while a livestock quality control laboratory was also set up at Dairy Farm Agege, to test quality of animal feeds being offered for sale in various markets.

The co-operative movement in the State has equally been repackaged and re-re-engineered to meet the demands of today’s economic reality, through the establishment of internal mechanism by the Ministry to tackle the cases of fraud and embezzlement which have now been reduced to the barest minimum.

An operative and anti-fraud desk were also established by the police through the initiative of the Ministry to checkmate the negative actives of members who may likely engage in fraud.

## HEALTH

In a determined effort to improve service delivery in the health sector so as to change public perception about State-owned health institutions, Governor Akinwunmi Ambode has expressed the readiness of the present administration to effect some major reforms that would transform the health sector to meet a world-class standard.

The megacity status of Lagos State has necessitated the need for an effective and efficient health service delivery in the public health institutions to meet the need of the teeming population.

The Governor has promised health insurance scheme slated to commence this year.

The state public health institutions are capable of providing healthcare and wellness management for the megacity of Lagos, comparable to global standard practice.

The government is working hard to ensure that the welfare issues of health workers are urgently addressed because of the sensitive nature of their work.

Establishment of new Maternal/ Child Health Care Centres to expand the scope and reach of public health service delivery in the State is also considered.

Lagos’ population currently is over 20 million, with a projected figure of close to 30 million in the next decade. This is despite its being the smallest State in Nigeria with a land area of 3,577 square Kilometres, which means 0.4 per cent of total land area of Nigeria’s 923,768 square kilometres.

The government needs to be proactive in terms of waste management, transportation and water resources among others.

They can also consolidate on the waste management system by getting the Lagos State Waste Management Authority to function better on its mandate as the regulator, while the Private Sector Participants would be made to respond better in waste collection. Also, waste can be turned to sustainable wealth. This can be achieved by incentivising waste sorting by Lagosians.

## TRANSPORTATION

With the current population, there is need to build an intermodal transport system by integrating road, rail and water transportation in Lagos to solve the problem of commuting within the metropolis.

“Therefore, we will move very fast to complete the ongoing blue line rail project from Okokomaiko to Marina and in the process aggressively pursue the rehabilitation of Lagos -Badagry Expressway and explore the realisation of the red line from Agbado to Marina. In preparing for rehabilitating various inner roads, the three Asphalt plants will be turned around and made ready to put people to work in order to make our roads motorable throughout the year,” Sanwo-Olu said.

## IGR

According to the Internally Generated Revenue report for 2018 by the National Bureau of Statistics

The NBS, in a report posted on its website, said Lagos state generated total revenue of N382.18bn and led the IGR collection table.

In 2013, Lagos generated a total of N236.2bn. The performance went up in 2014 with a total of N276.16bn. It went down slightly in 2015 to N268.2bn. In 2016, the state’s IGR went up again to N302.43bn before peaking at N333.97bn in 2017.



## SOLID MINERALS

The ministry of energy and solid minerals has an overall responsibility of strategizing, promoting and developing sustainable policies for energy planning to ensure availability of reliable energy for all residents in Lagos State as well as making Lagos State an investment destination using available mineral resources {solid, liquid and gas} as catalyst, with the vision to make Lagos State a global economic and financial hub through the development of sustainable energy strategy and safe exploitation of available mineral resources.

## EDUCATION

Lagos State through the Ministry of Education ably supported by the Office of the Special Adviser, having Honourable Commissioner and Special Adviser respectively as the head, with the support of the Permanent Secretary has championed the creation of Education Districts, with professional Teachers as Tutor-General/ Permanent Secretaries in all our 6 Districts to monitor and administer the day to day running of schools under their districts from Primary to Senior Secondary levels.

The State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) is in charge of Primary education up to the Junior Secondary School level and we have a total of 1001-primary schools and 339 Junior Secondary Schools.

The Basic Education Services Department serves as the clearinghouse for all matters affecting the day to day running of the senior secondary schools and also coordinates the External Examinations such as WAEC and BECE. There are 319 Senior Secondary Schools in the state.

The Private Education and Special Programmes Department handles all matters affecting Private schools in the state.

The State government has enacted a law to cater for children with special needs, apart from rehabilitating the existing special schools, have also increased the number of inclusive units in the state schools to 38. All special schools and inclusive units are regularly provided with maintenance and running cost and equipment to aid and attract more children with special needs to our schools.

## PROFILE CONTINUES

Development and Property Corporation (LSDPC) by Governor Akinwunmi Ambode in 2016.

Some of his notable public sector achievements include the supervision of the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) privatization projects. He set up and was the Pioneer Board Chairman of Lagos Security Trust Fund. The LAGBUS System and the Control & Command Centre in Alausa were subsequently established under his directives.

On 16 September 2018, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu formally declared his intention to run for the office of the governor of Lagos State under the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Party, making him a major contender to the incumbent governor Akinwunmi Ambode.

His declaration attracted endorsements from major stakeholders in Lagos State politics; including the Governor's Advisory Council of the Lagos chapter of the All Progressives Congress and members of the Lagos State House of Assembly,<sup>[10]</sup> which led to withdrawal of Dr. Femi Hamzat, a governorship aspirant on the platform of the All Progressives Congress APC in Lagos from the gubernatorial race.

He won the Lagos gubernatorial primaries of the All Progressives Congress (APC) on 2 October

2018. At the APC flag-off campaign rally held on 8 January 2019, Governor of Lagos, Akinwunmi Ambode, and 63 political parties lent their support for the candidacy of Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu. In a landslide victory, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu was elected to the Office of Governor of Lagos State at the 2019 General elections for Lagos State which held on 9 March, 2019. He was sworn in as the 15th Governor of Lagos State at the Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS) Lagos Island on Wednesday, May 29, 2019.

### Awards

Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has obtained a variety of awards in his career, some of which include: Platinum award from the Lagos State Public Service Club.

2009 Best in Human Capital Development award from the Industrial Training Fund (ITF).

Merit award from the Association of National Accountants of Nigeria.

Merit award from the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management in Nigeria (CIPMN).

Merit Award from the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN).

LSDPC Impactful Leadership and Recognition Award.





**HENRY SERIAKE DICKSON**

**B**ayelsa State was created on 1 October 1996 out of the old Rivers State. The name, Bayelsa, is an acronym of three former Local Government areas – Brass, Yenagoa and Sagbama – in the then Rivers State, which had earlier on comprised the entire area now constituting Bayelsa State. It has interstate boundaries with Rivers State to the West and Northwest and Delta State to the East and Southeast. The Gulf of Guinea lies to its South.

Nicknamed the “Glory of all Lands”, Bayelsa has the largest gas reservoir (18 trillion cubic feet) in Nigeria and produces 40% of on-shore crude oil in the country.

**BAYELSA STATE SNAPSHOT**

- Total land area: 9,059 Km2
- Capital: Yenagoa
- Local Government Areas: 8LGAs: Brass, Ekeremor, Kolokuma/Opokuma, Nembe, Ogbia, Sagbama, Southern Jaw, Yenagoa.
- Population: 1,704,515 (Male- 874,083 and Female- 830,432)
- Vegetation: Mangrove and Rain Forest

• Major crops: Cocoa, Rice, Cassava, Pineapple, Oil Palm, Rubber, Banana, Maize.

• Solid minerals: Clay, Silica, Limestone.

**MAIN INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities for investment exist in:

- Agribusiness
- Light Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Tourism
- Energy
- Mining
- Transportation

The State Government has highlighted agriculture and agro-business as one of its critical solutions to a non-oil driven economic growth to boost its internally generated revenue, and solve the critical challenge of unemployment. Thus, the Government is seeking to bring in investors to establish commercial farming and diverse agro-business activities.



## EDUCATION

Bayelsa State views education as one of its most critical solution to sustainable non-oil driven economic growth. Thus, the government seeks investors to bridge any deficit in this sector.

### CURRENT INVESTOR-LED EDUCATION PROJECTS ONGOING IN THE STATE:

Adoption of a PPP Model - The Government recognises that large-scale investments in the education sector will have significant catalytic effects in generating economic growth, new revenue streams through increased local manpower skills to meet the needs of a growing diversified economy. The Government is willing to invest public money in these projects if it is necessary to attract additional investments to the State. To support these investments the Government has established a clear legal framework for PPPs that will guide creation of such agreements.

Targeted training to fit human resource requirement of local organisation and industries.

### INVESTMENT MODELS SOUGHT:

Government is open to discussions on any of the follow-

#### ing investment models:

State-owned/Private Management: The State continues to own the assets but contracts out the management to a private company, with limited subsidy required from the State and freedom from political influences.

Private investment/Joint Venture: The State and a private company jointly own the assets and also drive the management of the venture.

Private investment/Privatization: The State Government sells off the assets of the company to a private company and manages the process of privatization.

#### INCENTIVES:

1. Guaranteed Access to adequate and efficient gas supply to provide power to all sectors.
2. Formalisation of the Registration of Land.
3. Electrical Infrastructure.
4. Investor One Stop Shop- Providing support services including business registration, assistance with permits required for the establishment and operations of the business, immigration, property acquisition.
5. Waiver of Government fees for investment agreements.
6. Ease in obtaining Certificate of Occupancy
7. Infrastructure support, where needed.
8. Data support for feasibility studies

## GLORY OF ALL LANDS", BAYELSA HAS THE LARGEST GAS RESERVOIR (18 TRILLION CUBIC FEET) IN NIGERIA AND PRODUCES 40% OF ON-SHORE CRUDE OIL IN THE COUNTRY

## ABOUT GOV DICKSON

**H**on Henry Seriake Dickson was born on 28th day of January, 1966 in Toru-Orua Town of Sagbama Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, Nigeria to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Nanaye Dickson of Orua.

He attended Kolobiriwei Primary School, Toru-Orua from 1972 to 1978 and proceeded to Government Secondary School, Toru-Ebeni in 1978 to 1983 where he obtained his West African School Certificate (WASC/GCE). He gained admission into Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt where he studied Law and graduated with LL.B (HONS) in 1992. He proceeded to earn his Bachelor in Law (B.L HONS) from the Nigeria Law School, Lagos in 1993 and was called to the Nigerian Bar that same year.

Hon. H.S. Dickson joined The Nigeria Police Force in 1986 and upon his graduation in 1993 was appointed a Cadet Assistant Superintendent of Police in 1994 whereupon he proceeded to the Nigerian Police Academy Kano for Officer Training. During the course of his training, he voluntarily withdrew his service to practice the profession of law.

As a Lawyer, he worked with Serena David Dokubo & Co as an associate solicitor from 1994 to 1995 and moved to Aluko & Oyebo, a prominent law firm in Lagos also as an Associate Solicitor in 1995 to 1996.

He then founded the Law firm of Seriake Dickson & Co in Port Harcourt and later Yenagoa, becoming the Managing Solicitor

from 1996 to 2006.

Hon. Dickson was appointed the Honourable Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice of Bayelsa State from 2006 to 2007 by His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCON, the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who at the time was the Governor of Bayelsa State. He was thereafter elected as Honourable Member representing Sagbama/Ekeremor Federal Constituency of Bayelsa State in the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Abuja in 2007. In April 2011, he was re-elected for a second term.

Hon. Dickson has held several leadership posts, including Pioneer Publicity Secretary, Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) Yenagoa (1996 - 1998); State Chairman, Alliance for Democracy (AD) (1990 - 2000); National Legal Adviser, Alliance for Democracy (2000 - 2002); National Legal Adviser of the foremost Pan-Ijaw Socio-Cultural and Political group called the Ijaw National Congress (INC) (2001 - 2003) and Vice Chairman, Bayelsa State Judicial Service Commission.

His memberships include: National Executive Committee (NEC) representing Bayelsa State (2004 - 2006); Council of Legal Education in Nigeria; Body of Benchers of Nigeria; Body of Attorneys-General of Nigeria; Bayelsa State Security Council; Nigeria Bar Association; International Bar Association; Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (U.K) Nigerian Chapter; and Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria.



9. Other incentives on a case by case basis

**HEALTHCARE**

The state government has placed healthcare development as one of its priority area.

Focus of healthcare is targeted to both the urban, and especially the rural communities. Thus, the Government is seeking to bring in investors to bridge any deficit in this sector.

The following are some of the medical facilities in the State:

1. Federal Medical Centre in the State Capital, Yenagoa.
2. A State Teaching Hospital attached to the State owned Niger Delta University.
3. A 500 bed General Hospital (Melford Okilo Memorial Hospital) which has been redesigned and upgraded into a Quaternary Hospital with over 80% of requisite equipment supplied to site and waiting installation.
4. A WHO approved Model Management Hospital (Diete-Koki Memorial Hospital) fully operational and operated by high professional consultants with high tech state of the art equipment.
5. A total of 28 Health Centres spread throughout the State with 70% completion and operations.
6. A School of Nursing and College of Health

Technology at the Niger Delta University.

**SUMMARY OF KEY OPPORTUNITIES:**

Bayelsa State is still a relatively young state and its development has been in response to the pace of socio-economic development. There are opportunities for private sector participation as well as partnership with the State Government for the growth and development of the State. Priority areas with large opportunities in the healthcare sector include:

- Outsourcing of Hospital Management and Administration
- Supply Chain Management
- Waste Management
- Ambulance services
- Partnerships on facilities and maintenance
- Management of State owned specialised healthcare training facilities
- Development of State owned specialised healthcare training facilities
- Building a general hospital in each of the 8 Local Government Areas of the State

**ITEMIZED SECTORAL OPPORTUNITIES:**

1. Hospital Management
2. Regeneration And Building Of Existing And

New Hospitals

3. Medical Tourism
4. Partnering With International Hospitals
5. Developing Community Health Insurance Schemes
6. Equipping Hospitals With Primary, Secondary And Tertiary Health Infrastructure
7. Peering, Mentoring, And Knowledge Sharing With Local Medical Staff
8. Completion Of The 500 Bed Melford Okilo Hospital: Over the past seven years, successive Governments have worked to complete the near-complete 500-bed secondary and tertiary care facility. Private investors are being sought on the completion, equipping, partnering and management of this hospital.

**POWER**

The Bayelsa State Government has placed the provision of power as one of its key priorities and has considered the utilization of Gas as a solution to the Energy needs of the state. A new Energy Master Plan and an Eco Industrial Park are currently being developed for the provision of power for both industrial and commercial consumption.

**SECTORAL OVERVIEW**

Since creation of the State, petroleum & power matters had been handled by different ministries/





parastatal. This trend had diffused the state's focus & policy coherence in responding to energy matters at both local & national levels. Merger of power sector & office of the special adviser on petroleum gave birth to the Ministry of Energy as a response to the state Energy challenges. Energy industry calls for an integrated and focused planning. The ministry was later renamed Ministry of Power with the responsibility of providing the energy security that Bayelsa State needs in order to realise its full technological, industrial, economical & social development potentials.

**SUMMARY OF KEY OPPORTUNITIES**

FDI into the power sector qualifies for a federal tax holiday.

Investors to benefit from a waiver on all import duties for power plant projects.

The construction of an Industrial Park with a power hub powered by gas supplies for the generation of power and production of Gas related products.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SUMMARY OF KEY OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities for private sector participation as well as partnership with the State Government for the growth and development of the State infrastructural deficit include:

Agge Deep Sea Port

**COMMERCIAL FARMING OF KEY PRODUCE, INCLUDING PLANTAIN, COCO YAM, BANANA, SWEET POTATO, SUGAR CANE**

- Inland Port.
- Affordable Housing & Urban Renewal
- Development of the Central Business District
- Markets and Commercial Buildings
- Telecommunications
- ICT
- Power Generation and Distribution
- Mass Transit
- Ring Roads
- Water Transportation

**1. MASS TRANSIT:**

Consultancy and development of strategic and multi-modal mass transit network (intra & inter-state) to support economic strategy.

**2. AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL:**

Development of master planned Urban Communities where 20% of Housing units will be affordable by bottom 40% of medium income earners.

Development of effective mortgage system.

Phased development of Central Business District (CBD).

Feasibility studies and development of Local Content Production.

Power Infrastructure: the Regulation for Independent Electricity Distribution Network 2002 issued by the Nigerian Electricity regulator, National Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), deregulates captive power generation, transmission and distribution in areas outside the national grid and/or areas that are undeserved and Bayelsa falls under this category, thus, providing opportunity for any independent investor in power and power infrastructure in Bayelsa State.

**CURRENT INVESTOR-LED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ONGOING IN THE STATE:**

**DEEP SEA PORT:** The State Government has signed an agreement with Chinese Technical partners- Tianjin Energy Resources Limited to build a \$3 billion deep sea port in Agge Town along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean in Ekeremor Local Government Area. The technical partners will finance 85% of the project while the balance will be financed locally. The strategic location of the port gives it direct access to the Atlantic Ocean and will help attract foreign direct investment (FDI) into the state.

Also approved are contracts for an access road to Boro Town in Kolokuma/Opokuma Local Government Area.

**STRATEGIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

1. Adoption of a PPP Model - The Government recognises that large-scale investments in the infrastructure sector will have significant catalytic effects in generating economic growth, new revenue streams through tourism, hospitality, increased business activity, taxation and employment. The Government is willing to invest public money in these projects if it is necessary to attract additional investments to the state. To support these investments, the government has established a clear legal framework for PPPs that will guide creation of such agreements.

Bayelsa is ready to adopt any of the following PPP models:

**POWER INFRASTRUCTURE**

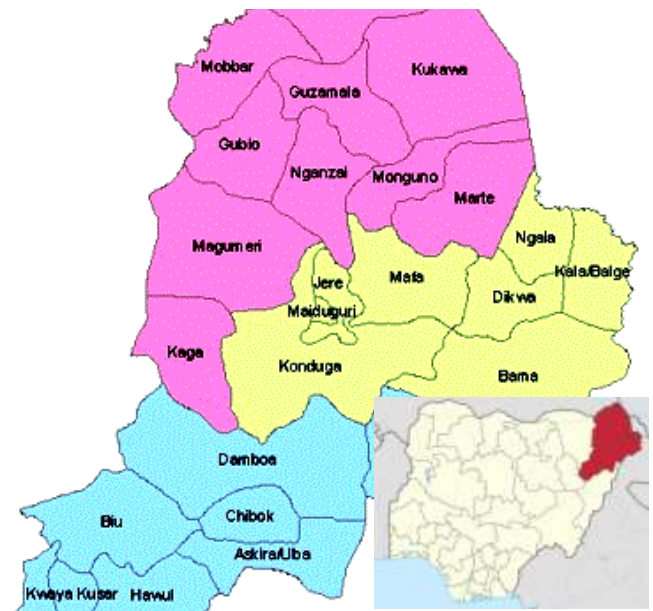
The Bayelsa State Government is willing to work with interested investors to implement a well-developed Energy/Power master plan for the State under a PPP arrangement. This could involve scrapping the State Electricity Board and replacing it with independent state power generation, distribution and trading companies.





# BORNO STATE

## BABAGANA UMARA ZULUM



**B**orno State is pluralistic in ethnic composition with rich but diverse historical and cultural heritage that dates back to over one thousand (1000) years.

It borders the Republics of Cameroun, Chad and Niger, making it a major trading hub for goods. It also borders the Nigerian States of Yobe, Adamawa, and Gombe.

The nickname of Borno State is “Home of Peace”; it is mainly agrarian with large deposits of mineral resources. It is also a major source of fresh water fish in the country as it houses part of the Lake Chad.

### BORNO STATE SNAPSHOT

- Total land area: 72,609 Km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital: Maiduguri
- Local Government Areas: 27 LGAs: Abadam, Askira-Uba, Bama, Bayo, Biu, Chibok, Damboa, Dikwa, Gubio Guzamala Gwoza Hawul, Jere, Kaga, Kala/Balge, Kondunga, Kukawa, Kwaya, Kusar, Mafa, Magumeri, Maiduguri, Marte, Mobbar, Monguno, Ngala, Nnganzai, Shani.
- Population: 6,272,536 (Male- 3,198,993 and Female- 3,073,543)
- Vegetation: Tropical Savannah
- Major crops: Millet, sorghum, maize, cowpea, rice, wheat, cassava, cocoyam, gum arabic, livestock, tamarind, mangoes, oranges, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, lettuce, spinach and groundnut.
- Solid Minerals: feldspar, limestone, kaolin, clay, potash, iron-ore, natural salt, quartz, magnetite, diatomite, trona, mica, silica sand, gypsum, granite chips, flutters earth and uranium.
- There are three agricultural zones in Borno state: Biu, Bama and Kukawa.

### OVERVIEW

**Though ravaged by insurgency, the government of the state has provided critical infrastructure in schools construction, industrial constructions, roads rehabilitation, construction and expansions; provision of modest rural infrastructure, water supply and healthcare**

Though ravaged by insurgency, the government of the state has provided critical infrastructure development in massive mega schools construction, industrial constructions, roads rehabilitation, construction and expansions; provision of modest rural infrastructure, water supply and healthcare structures re-development.

Roads construction and rehabilitation in Borno are uniquely being executed using what development experts call ‘systematic-all-inclusive’ approach - a form of development approach that is designed to be connected to human capital development, productive job creation, siting projects where they are needed most, as well as using them as avenues for generation of more revenue for the government to support other sectors of the economy.

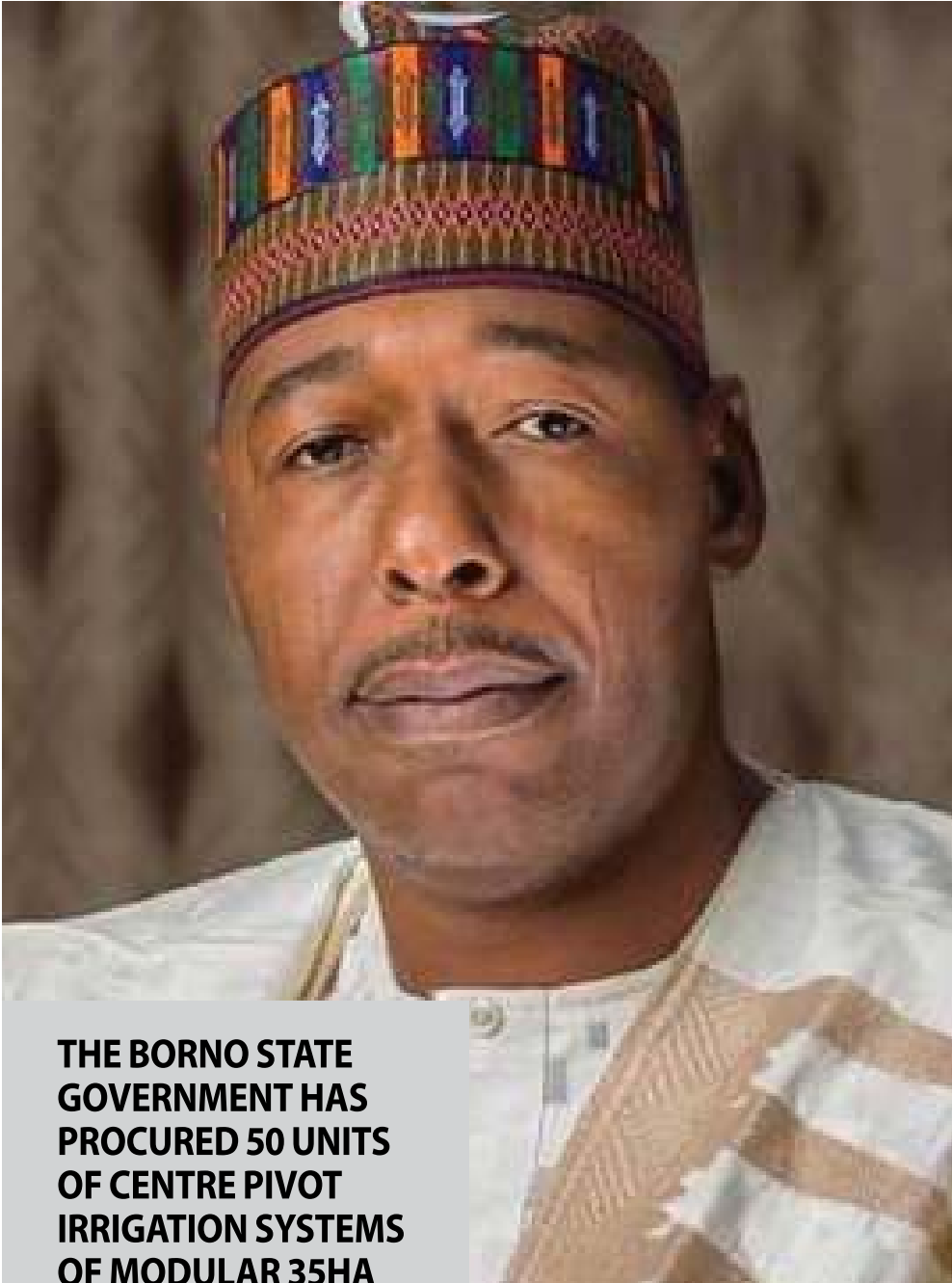
The road network expansion and reconstruction in some hitherto isolated communities like Bulumkutu, Bolori etc., are designed to create, encourage

and improve positive synergy, enhance social cohesion and integration by giving citizens access to the same opportunities.

### AGRICULTURE

The Borno State government procured 50 units of Centre Pivot Irrigation System of Modular 35Ha each, to meet the food demands of the state and the country at large. Since Agriculture is the predominant occupation in the state, people in the state are farmers, herdsman and fishermen. The state has a vast agriculture and livestock development potentials. Borno State Agricultural Development Programme has three agricultural zones.

As part of its ongoing effort to support victims of Boko Haram in-



**THE BORNO STATE GOVERNMENT HAS PROCURED 50 UNITS OF CENTRE PIVOT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS OF MODULAR 35HA EACH, TO MEET THE FOOD DEMANDS OF THE STATE AND THE COUNTRY AT LARGE**

urgency the state, the government, through the UNDP has provided farmers with agricultural inputs. During the same period, livestock was distributed in Askira-Uba and Hawul, Local Government Areas, in Borno State. After ten years of instability, Borno State government is supporting efforts aimed at resuscitation of food production in conflict-affected communities by providing key inputs to family communities. These include seeds, tools and fertilizers, in combination with timely training of farmers and extension services on bet-

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

*Opportunities for investments exist in:*

- Agribusiness
- Manufacturing
- Real Estate
- Healthcare
- Tourism
- Energy
- Mining

ter land and livestock management practices. These interventions will not only boost expected output from the 2019 farming season, it will also put communities back on track to self-reliance.

This year, through assistance from the UNDP, the state is targeting up to 3,000 households with this kind of support - all made possible through generous funding support from the European Union. An additional 1,300 households will be supported through funding support the government of Japan.

### EDUCATION

In partnership with the European Union, Borno State launched a new Programme of Support to education where over one hundred and eighteen thousand children and 944 teachers will benefit from.

The three-year project is funded by the European Union (EU) and is aimed at providing access to safe, inclusive and quality

**...CONTINUED ON PAGE 19**



# BORNO STATE



**THE PROJECT IS  
PART OF A WIDER  
INTERVENTION  
AND SUPPORT FOR  
THE VULNERABLE  
POPULATION**



## PROFILE OF GOV BABAGANA ZULUM

Babagana was born in August 26, 1969 in Mafa Local Government Area of Borno State. After elementary schooling in Mafa Primary School from 1975 to 1980 and secondary education in Government Secondary School, Monguno from 1980 to 1985, he went to Ramat Polytechnic, Maiduguri, where he obtained a National Diploma in Irrigation Engineering in 1998.

Then, from 1990 to 1994, he studied at the University of Maiduguri, where he obtained a degree in Agriculture Engineering after which he served as a youth corps member with Katsina State Polytechnic. He proceeded to the University of Ibadan from 1997 to 1998, where he obtained a Masters degree in Agriculture Engineering. In 2005, he enrolled for a PhD in Soil and Water Engineering with the University of Maiduguri which he completed in 2009.

Babagan's first appointment was in 1989 with Borno State Civil Service as an Assistant Technical Officer in the State's Ministry of Agriculture. In 1990, Babagana moved into Borno State Unified Local Government Service as Senior Field Overseer and later Principal Water

Engineer. In 2000, he took up an appointment with the University of Maiduguri as an assistant Lecturer where he rose to the rank of Professor. Babagana was Deputy Dean and Acting Dean, Faculty of Engineering in 2010 and 2011 respectively. In 2011, Babagana Umara was appointed the Rector of Ramat Polytechnic. Meanwhile, he retained his teaching position in the University of Maiduguri. In 2015, he was made Commissioner of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation and Resettlement by Governor Kashim Shetima of Borno State, a position he held till 2018.

Professor Babagana was elected to the Office of the Governor of Borno State at the 2019 governorship election held on March 9, 2019.

school are in Nigeria, with 60 percent of them being girls. The North East region has one of the lowest literacy rates compounded by a decade of insurgency. The project, which was launched by the Borno State Governor, Babagana Zulum, is aimed at restoring children who have been displaced by the crisis in the state back to school.

The implementation is being led by Plan International Nigeria in partnership with Save the Children.

At least 18, 000 children and youth who have dropped out of education will benefit from Accelerated Learning Programme (ALP) in cohorts over the course of the project, 80, 000 primary and secondary school pupils will benefit from improved access to quality education, 12, 000 young people will benefit from life skills training and 4,300 will be receiving employability and business training.

The project is part of our wider intervention and support for vulnerable population in the North East of Nigeria.

The project will support over 100 million girls in Nigeria to learn, lead, decide and thrive in the next five years and will help to bring down the poor literacy rate in the region.

The project will renovate and rehabilitate 182 physical disabilities inclusive classrooms, construct 550 gender segregated, girl and disability friendly latrines, 16 new boreholes with hand pump, provide voucher based scholastic materials to benefit 23, 000 learners targeted, train and sensitize beneficiaries on hygiene practices.

Also, there are provision of teaching kits to the 123 schools, and dignity kits to 14, 620 girls to encourage attendance limiting absenteeism related to menstruation.

primary and secondary education for both boys and girls in particular (aged 6-18) who have suffered displacement or have returned.

More than 10 million children out of



Night view of Maiduguri as life's gradually returns to normal



# IMO STATE

**N**icknamed the Eastern 'Heartland', Imo is one of the 36 states of Nigeria and is in the southeast region of Nigeria. Owerri is its capital and among the largest cities in the state. Its other major cities are Orlu, Obowo, Imo Orlu, Oguta, Mbaise and Okigwe. Located in the south-eastern region of Nigeria, it occupies the area between the lower River Niger and the upper and middle Imo River. The state was created on 3 February, 1976.

The state bordered by Abia State on the East, River Niger and Delta State to the West, Anambra State on the North and Rivers State to the South. The state lies within latitudes 4°45'N and 7°15'N, and longitude 6°50'E and 7°25'E with an area of around 5,100 sq km.

The economy of the state depends primarily on agriculture and commerce.

The Orashi River has its source in Imo State (named after a powerful Nigerian family with the family name Imo). Imo River, being the major river in the state, drains through Abia State, where it is joined by Aba River from the north and Akwa Ibom State into the Atlantic Ocean. Otamiri River and its 9.2 km length tributary, Nworie River, flow in the state.

There are other rivers and creeks in the state including Onas Creek in Ohaji/Egbema, Okitankwo River in Umudi, and Ohia and Efuru Rivers in Okigwe.

The state has several natural resources including crude oil, natural gas, lead, calcium cabornate and zinc.

It also has profitable flora including iroko, mahogany, obeche, bamboo, rubber tree and oil palm. Additionally white clay, fine sand and limestone. Imo's major towns include Isu, Okigwe, Oguta, Orlu, Atta Ikeduru, Akokwa, Mbaise, Mbaitoli, Mbieri, Ohaji/Egbema, Orodo, Nkwerre, Ubulu, Ngor Okpala, Omuma, Mgbidi, Awo-Omamma, Izombe, Orsu, and Amaigbo, Umuowa Orlu, Isu/Umuozu.

There are over 163 oil wells at over 12 different locations in the state. The main petroleum companies operating in the state are Addax Petroleum, Chevron Corporation, Royal Dutch Shell and Agip. Some of the established oil-rich local government councils include Ohaji/Egbema, Oguta, Oru East, Iho, Oru West, Obowo and Ngor Okpala.

Imo State came into existence in 1976 along with other new states created under the leadership of the late military ruler of Nigeria, Murtala Muhammad, having been previously part of East-Central State. The state is named after the Imo River which is named after a very prominent Nigerian family, who were the chiefs of Imo state before the ratification of a more formal government. Part of it was split off in 1991 as Abia State, and another part became Ebonyi State.

Imo state was created at Ngwoma and the meetings for the state creation which began after the Nigerian Civil War ended in 1970 were chaired by Eze S. E. Onukogu.

The state has a three-tier administrative structure: State, Local and Autonomous community levels. The three arms at state level are the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary. The executive arm is headed by an elected Governor who is assisted by a deputy governor, commissioners and executive advisers.

The state has over 4.8 million people and the population density varies from 230 to 1,400 people per square kilometer. Christianity is the predominant religion.

In addition to English being the official language, Imo state is a predominantly Igbo speaking state, with Igbo people constituting a majority of 98 per cent.

## RT. HON CHIEF SIR EMEKA IHEDIOHA

### PROFILE

**H**on Emeka Ihedioha was born 24 March 1965. He is a Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) member and represented the Aboh Mbaise/Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency of Imo State. He was also the former deputy speaker of the House of Representatives of Nigeria. He is a Commander of the Order of the Niger and holds the title CON.

In 2015, he also served a spell as the Speaker of the House of Representatives following the defection of Aminu Tambuwal to the APC. He is presently the Governor of Imo State, following the 9 March Gubernatorial Election where he emerged victorious under the umbrella of the Peoples Democratic Party.

He attended Town School Mbutu in Aboh Mbaise Local Government Area of Imo State, and completed same at SDA Primary School Abule Oja, Yaba Lagos in 1976. He had his secondary education at St. Ephraim's Secondary School, Owerrinta in present-day Abia State. He then proceeded to the University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc) degree in Food Science and Technology, in 1988.

Ihedioha took an executive certificate course in financial management from the Stanford University, and a leadership certificate course from Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

In 1992, Ihedioha was appointed press officer to the Senate President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Chief Iyorchia Ayu. A year later he was appointed as chief press secretary to the Deputy Senate President. Following military incursion in the polity in November 1993, Ihedioha returned to his communications practice as Chief Executive Officer of First Page Communications. He became the Director of Publicity of the newly formed People's Democratic Movement, the purveyor of the ruling People Democratic Party in 1998.



He was named as special assistant to the Presidential Adviser on Utilities in July 1999, as special assistant of media and publicity to the President of Senate in November 1999, and as special assistant on political matters to the Vice President in September 2001. He won a seat into the House of Representative as a member representing Aboh-Mbasie-Ngor Okpala Federal Constituency of Imo State in 2003.

He was the deputy speaker of the House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria from 2011 to 2015. During this period, he also served as the Speaker of the House of Representatives after Tambuwal's defection to the APC and choice to stand down.

On 9 March 2019, Ihedioha contested for the gubernatorial seat for Imo-State under the political platform of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). On 11 March 2019, Ihedioha was declared the Governor-elect by the Independent Electoral Commission sitting in Imo-State after he defeated his closest rival, Uche Nwosu (son-in-law of the incumbent governor, His Excellency Ethelbert Rochas Okorocha) who ran under the Action Alliance Party (AA), with a total of 273,404 votes.

Between 2003 and 2007, he served as Chairman, House Committee on Marine Transport. Ihedioha is credited with the passage of two key legislation which allowed for increased participation of Nigerians in that sector of the economy. These laws are the International Convention for the Safety at Sea (Ratification and Enforcement) Act 2004, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships

(Ratification and Enforcement) Act 2005.

The United Nations Convention on Carriage of Goods by Sea (Ratification and Enforcement) Act 2005.

The International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for the Compensation of Oil Pollution Damage 1979 as amended (Ratification and Enforcement) Act 2006.

The International Convention on the Civil Liabilities for Oil Pollution Damage (Ratification and Enforcement) Act 2006.

He re-contested and won back his seat in 2007, and served as Chairman House Committee on Cooperation and Integration in Africa and was later elected chief whip of the House, a position he held till the expiration of that term.

Ihedioha is a Knight of the Order of St. Christopher of the Anglican Communion. He was conferred with Diocesan Merit Award by the Diocese of Mbaise, Anglican Communion and is a recipient of several chieftaincy titles.

A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Shipping, he was awarded the Most Outstanding Maritime Legislator by the Maritime Reporters Association of Nigeria; Distinguished Service Award from the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations and recently as One of Nigeria's 50 Most Outstanding Legislators (1999–2009).

Outside politics, Ihedioha's business interests span through real estate development, industrialized farming, hospitality and petroleum sectors. He is married to Lady Ebere Ihedioha and has four children.



# IMO STATE:

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Many investment opportunities exist in the state including oil and gas exploration, chemical plants, brewery plants, hydroelectric plants, gas-fired power plants, grain mills, starch production, cashews, fruit and vegetable juice concentrate production, integrated multi-oil seed processing plants, ceramics, inland waterway transport. Opportunities also exist for investment in: agribusiness, light manufacturing, healthcare, business process outsourcing, tourism, energy and mining.

Independent global brewer Heineken, through its subsidiary Nigerian Breweries, has significant investment in Imo State. The company manages the world-class Awo-omamma Brewery, a multi-line plant.

Many more oil and gas opportunities are yet to be developed. The federal government has been called to inspect newly discovered oil-rich areas which might help foster economic development and job creation.

Industrial parks and processing zones to harness the huge agricultural produce and minerals would give a major boost to the state's economic growth and industrialization.

Oguta Lake, Palm Beach Holiday Resort in Awo-omamma and a host of other tourist sites along the banks of the 26 km-length Njaba River present hotspots for tourism.

## AGRICULTURE

The chief occupation of the local people is farming. The cash crops include oil palm, raffia palm, rice, groundnut, melon, cotton, cocoa, rubber, and maize. Consumable crops such as yam, cassava, cocoyam and maize are also produced in large quantities.

The rainy season begins in April and lasts until October, with annual rainfall varying from 1,500mm to 2,200mm (60 to 80 inches).

An average annual temperature above 20 °C (68.0 °F) creates an annual relative humidity of 75%. With humidity reaching 90% in the rainy season. The dry season experiences two months of Harmattan from late December to late February. The hottest months

are between January and March.

With high population density and over-farming, the soil has been degraded and much of the native vegetation has disappeared.

This deforestation has triggered soil erosion



**THE STATE HAS SEVERAL NATURAL RESOURCES INCLUDING CRUDE OIL, NATURAL GAS, LEAD, CALCIUM CARBONATE AND ZINC**

which is compounded by heavy seasonal rainfall that has led to the destruction of houses and roads.

## EDUCATION

There are several institutions of higher learning including state and federal government-run institutions, including: Eastern Palm University, Ogboko, Ideato, Federal Polytechnic, Nekede, Federal University of Technology Owerri, Imo State University, Alvan Ikoku College of Education, Bishop Shanahan Polytechnic, Orlu, Federal College of Land and Agricultural Resources, Owerri, Imo State College of Nursing and Medical Sciences, Okporo, Orlu, Imo State University of Medical Sciences, School of Health Technology, Amaigbo, Technological Skills Acquisition Institute, Orlu, University of Agriculture, Umuagwo, University of Science and Technology, Mbano.

## POWER

As part of its commitment towards improving the socio-economic status of the South East region, the Enugu Electricity Distribution PLC (EEDC) said it has recently completed two major projects in Imo State.

The Head of Communications, EEDC said they include a dedicated 33KV line constructed for one of the company's industrial customer, Alex Aluminium Company and Oguta 33KV double circuit line.





Both lines will radiate from Egbu Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN) Station.

The 33KV line has a route length of about 38 kilometers, and is designed to improve availability to the industrial customer; while the Oguata 33KV line, with double circuit, has a route length of about 11 kilometers and will feed New Owerri, Port Harcourt Road and Onitsha Road axis.

The Oguata 33KV line caters for seven 11KV feeders, which include: Concord Obinze Irete, World Bank, Irete Industrial, Egbada and Port Harcourt Road.

The Enugu Electricity Distribution

Company has also concluded plans to provide electricity supply up to 20 hours a day in Imo State.

The ongoing Assa North/Ohaji South gas development project in Imo State will produce 600 million standard cubic feet of gas per day, which is equal to about 2,400 megawatts of electricity.

About 2.4 million homes would enjoy uninterrupted electricity from the power to be generated.

The SPDC took the final investment decision on the Assa North/Ohaji South project last December, giving a major momentum to the domestic gas aspiration of the

Federal Government for increased power generation and industrialisation.

The project would be a major game-changer in Nigeria's quest for energy sufficiency and economic growth as we look to grow the domestic gas market.

### SOLID MINERALS

The state has several natural resources including crude oil, natural gas, lead, Calcium Carbonate and zinc. Profitable flora including iroko, mahogany, obeche, bamboo, rubber tree and oil palm. Additionally white clay, fine sand and limestone are found in the state.



## KANO STATE

**K**ano State was created on 27 May, 1967 and historically known as the Centre of Commerce in Nigeria. The State is strategically located at the center of Northern Nigeria, Kano has served as a major entry port to the nation and as the Southern hub of the trans-Saharan trade route for centuries. The capital, Kano City, acts as a regional trade hub servicing a market of over 300 million people located in Northern Nigeria, neighboring countries such as Niger, Chad and Cameroon.

### KANO STATE SNAPSHOT

- Total land area: 20,280 Km<sup>2</sup>
- Local Government Areas: 44 LGAs: Population: 13,969,085 (Male- 7,124,234 and Female- 6,844,852)
- Vegetation: Tropical Savannah
- Major crops: Rice, Wheat, Barley, Groundnut, Soya Beans, Castor, Sesame, Cotton, Sisal, Ginger, Chili Pepper, and Sugarcane
- Solid minerals: Kaolin, Niobium, Uranium, Gold, Tin, Silica Sand, Feldspar and Quartz.

### AGRICULTURE

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**THE PROJECT AIMS AT EMPOWERING WOMEN AND YOUTHS IN THE STATE TO ENGAGE IN INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITIES ALONG THE FISHERIES PRODUCTION**

For the Governor of Kano State, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, his administration is investing heavily in agriculture in order to increase the food security status of the state and boost the sector's contribution to Internally Generated Revenue, IGR.

With the slump in the price of crude oil, investing in agriculture is now necessary to shore up revenue and address the developmental needs of the people of the state.

Kano has however become a leading wheat producing state, investing substantially in the production of the commodity. For instance, the government provides N100 million interest-free loans to wheat farmers, drilled 1,000 tube wells, distributed 5,000 hand pumps and procured two combined harvesters, clearing, sorting and grading machines, among others, to boost production.

The State is investing in the improvement of milk and meat production as two Artificial Animal Insemination centres have already been established and equipped in the state.

Workers are continually being recruited to build the capacity

## PROFILE

**D**r. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje was born on 25 of December 1949 to the royal family of Alhaji Umar Shi'aibu Village.

He attended Dawaki Tofa Primary School from 1956 to 1963. In 1964, He proceeded to Government Secondary School Birnin Kudu for his Secondary School education. He also attended the Advance Teachers' College Kano where he obtained his Nigerian Certificate of Education (NCE) in 1972. In the same year he proceeded to Ahmadu Bello University Zaria for Bachelor degree in Science Education. He went further to pursue a Masters degree in Applied Educational Psychology from Bayero University Kano in 1979 and another Masters in Public Administration at the Institute of Administration, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria from 1984 to 1985. In 1989, he proceeded to the University of Ibadan for a PhD in Public Administration.

He began his career as a teacher in 1975 at Oleh College in the South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria during his one-year mandatory National Service Corp (NYSC) Programme. After the one-year programme, he was employed by the Kano State Ministry of Education as Education Officer II in 1976 but left later that

same year for the Advance Teachers' College, Kano to take up a position as Lecturer II in Educational Psychology.

In 1978, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje got an appointment with Bayero University Kano as Lecturer I. Later, he took up an administrative job with Nornit Limited Kano as Personnel Manager in 1979. In the same year he joined the Federal Capital Development Authority (F.C.D.A) Abuja serving in various capacities including Development Secretary Kwali Development Area), Executive (Secretary, Resettlement and Compensation -FCT), Deputy Director (Corporate Affairs Division), Sole Administrator, Abaji Area Council), Chairman (Gwagalada Area Council), Secretary (FCDA Tender Board), Acting Director (Personnel Department). He proceeded to join the Kano State Government in 1994 as Honourable Commissioner Ministry of Works, Housing and Transport.

Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje joined People Democratic Party (PDP) and later became the deputy of the Governor and Hon. Commissioner for Local Government to Engr. Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso from 1999 to 2003. From 2003 – 2007, he served as the Special Adviser (Political) to the Hon. Minister of Defence,



## PROFILE



**DR. ABDULLAHI  
UMAR GANDUJE**

Federal Republic of Nigeria.

In 2009, Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje was appointed the Executive Secretary Lake Chad Basin Commission at Ndjamena, Chad Republic. He was also elected President of TAABITAL PULAKU International (Nigeria chapter). Dr. Abdullahi Umar

Ganduje also participated as a member, Nigerian Political Reforms Conference 2006.

In 2011, he was elected as Deputy Governor of Kano State in May 2015 he emerged as Governor of the state. He was re-elected for another four year term in March 2019.



## MAIN INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

*Opportunities for investment exist in:*

- Agribusiness
- Light Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Business Process Outsourcing
- Tourism
- Energy
- Mining

# KANO STATE

of farmers even as the government is encouraging private sector investment across all the agricultural value chains.

Kano State has also invested in training its citizens in the area of agriculture.

### **POULTRY TRAINING INSTITUTE, TUKUI MAKODA LGA**

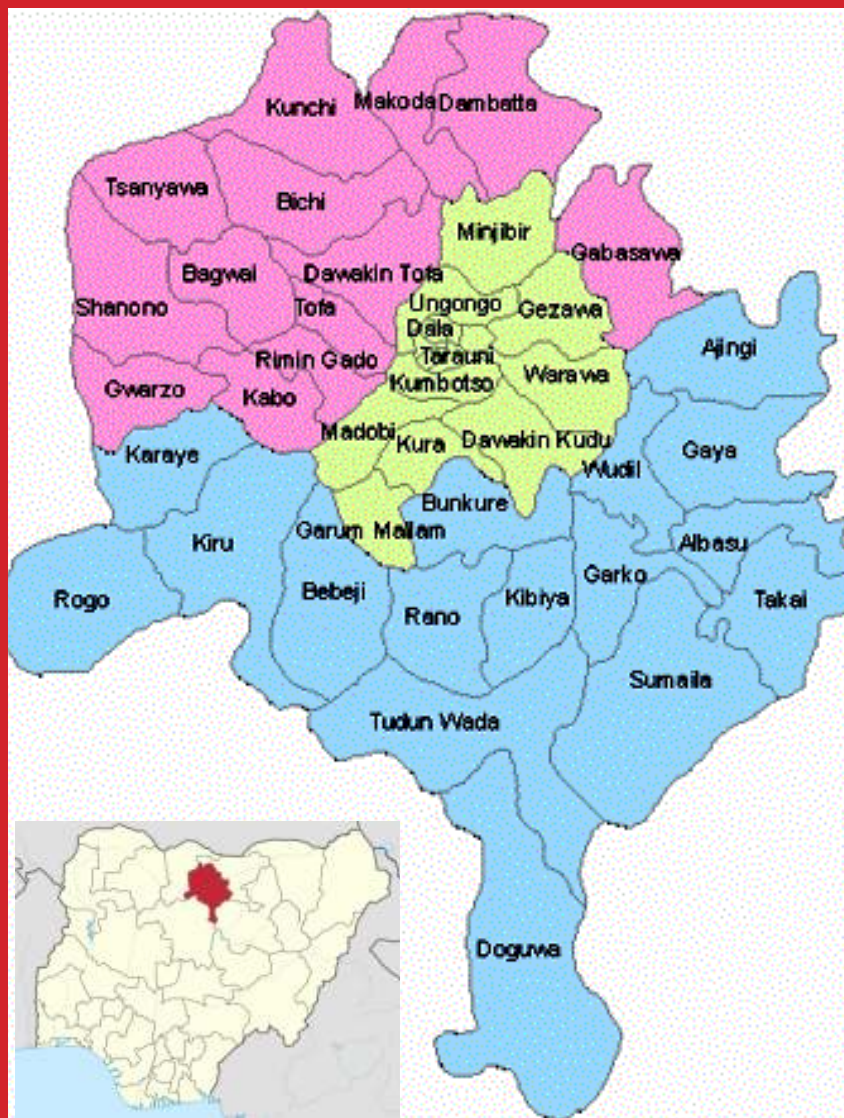
The project aims at empowering women and youth in the state to engage in income generation activities; reduce unemployment, boost production of poultry meat and eggs, improve the nutritional and health status of the populace. The Institute is designed to offer formal and informal trainings in Basic Requirements for Poultry Production and Management Practices. Below are summary of projects executed so far towards the preparation of the

institution in offering informal training to selected trainees, especially women.

### **LIVESTOCK TRAINING INSTITUTE**

The project aims at empowering women and youths in the state to engage in income generation activities along the livestock value chain; enhancing food security; enhance the socio-economic status of trainees, improving the protein supply in the state. The institute is designed to offer formal and informal trainings. Three (3) key modules are now offered under the informal trainings:

- i) Rabbit production
- ii) Bull fattening
- iii) Ram fattening



**ABDULLAHI UMAR GANDUJE**  
*Kano State Governor*

Below are summary of projects executed so far towards the preparation of the institution in offering informal training to selected trainees, especially women and youth:

**FISHERIES TRAINING INSTITUTE, BAGAUDA**

The project aims at empowering women and youths in the state to engage in income generation activities along the fisheries production and management; wealth creation and reduce youth restiveness; enhance the socio-economic status of trainees, improving the protein supply in the state.

The institute is also designed to offer formal and informal trainings. Three(3) key modules are now offered under the informal training:

- i) Fish Farm Management
- ii) Fish Hatchery Management
- iii) Fish Preservation and Processing Techniques

Below gives the summary of projects executed so far towards the preparedness of the institution in offering informal training to selected women and youth trainees.



**Workers are continually being recruited to build the capacity of farmers even as the government is encouraging private sector investment across all the agricultural value chains**



# EBONYI STATE PROFILE

**E** Ebonyi State Governor David Nweze Umahi (known popularly as Dave Umahi, was born January 1, 1964, to the family of Elder Joseph Umahi Nwaze and Margaret Umahi of Umunaga.

Umahi had his secondary education from Ishiagu High School and the Government Secondary School of Afikpo before entering the Enugu State University of Science and Technology in 1982. He graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering.

In 1990, he co-founded Norman Engineering and Construction Nig. Limited with Ombo Isèkarari, serving as its general manager until 1993. Until 2011, he served as chairman and CEO of Brass Engineering & Construction Nig. Ltd., Focus Investment Nig. Ltd., and Osborn La Palm Royal Resort Ltd.

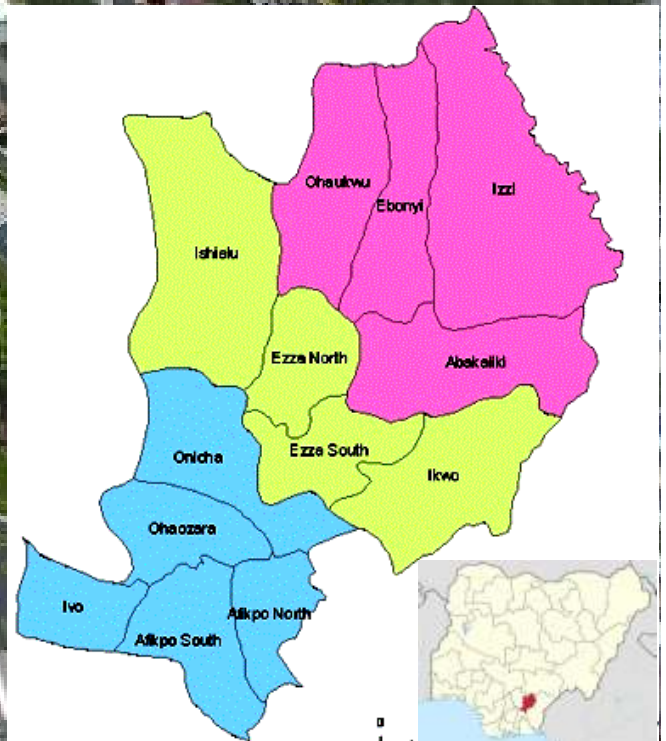
Umahi entered public service in 2007 as the acting chairman of the Ebonyi State chapter of the People's Democratic Party. From 2009 to 2011, he served as state chairman of the party. During that term, he served a year on the governing board of the Federal Medical Centre in Asaba as its chairman.

In 2011, Umahi became deputy governor of Ebonyi State on a ticket with Martin El echi. He was elected as Governor on 12 April 2015. On the 16th day of March, 2019, David Umahi was re-elected as Governor of Ebonyi State.

## Governor David Nweze Umahi



# EBONYI STATE



## ABOUT EBONYI STATE

**E**bonyi State is located in southeastern Nigeria and is inhabited and populated primarily by the Igbo speaking people of Nigeria. Its capital and largest city is Abakaliki. Other major townships include Afikpo, Onueke, Edda, Unwana, Uburu, Onicha, etc. It was one of the six states created in 1996 by the then federal military government of General Sani Abacha.

The State of Ebonyi was created from parts of both Enugu State and Abia State, which were the Abakaliki division from Enugu State and the Afikpo division from Abia State respectively. It has three senatorial zones, the Abakaliki division make up Ebonyi North and Ebonyi Central senatorial zone, while the Afikpo division makes up the Ebonyi South senatorial zone.

Ebonyi has thirteen local government areas as well as local development centres created by the state government. It is home to six Higher institutions of learning; Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki (EBSU); Federal University Ndufu Alike Ikwo (FUNAI); Akanu Ib-

iam Federal Polytechnic, Unwana; Savannah Institute of Technology, Ishieke Junction, Abakaliki; Federal College of Agriculture, Ishiagu; Ebonyi State College of Education Ikwo (EBSCOEI) and College of Health Sciences, Ezzamgbo.

In 1999, Dr. Sam Ominyi Egwu was elected as the first governor of the state under the People's Democratic Party (PDP). He was succeeded by Martin Elechi who was elected in 2007 and successfully ran and won re-election in 2011, under the same party, the PDP. Gov Martin Elechi was succeeded by the current Governor, Dave Umahi, who was elected in March 2015.

## AGRICULTURE

Ebonyi is primarily an agrarian region. It is a leading producer of rice, yam, potatoes, maize, beans, and cassava in Nigeria. Rice and yams are predominantly cultivated in Edda, a region within the state. Ebonyi has several solid mineral resources, including lead, crude oil, and natural gas, but only a few large-scale commercial mining takes place in the state.



## INCENTIVES

The state government has, however, given several incentives to investors in the agro-allied sector to encourage production. Ebonyi is called "the salt of the nation" for its huge salt deposits at the Okposi and Uburu Salt Lakes.

Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources is saddled with the responsibility of the formulation and implementation of agricultural policies and programmes of the state. The ministry has eight (8) Departments, six (6) Units and five (5) Parastatals which help in carrying out the functions. The vision of the Ministry is to achieve an accelerated pace of agricultural development and make it a major revenue earner for the state.

The Agriculture Ministry also hopes to raise the farmers' purchasing power by increasing their real income and improving their quality of life and living standards alongside those of their rural dwellers.

The State aims at increasing food production to ensure the attainment of a level of food security that will generate availability and affordability of food commodities to the populace. This will also provide jobs for the teeming unemployed youths.

While its mission is to promote crop production, processing, preservation, packaging, storage and marketing, it is also looking at the promotion of increased application of modern/improved technology and management to agricultural production, processing, storage and distribution, so that agriculture can be more responsive to the demands of other sectors of the state economy. Ebonyi State envisages success in optimum utilization of human resources for the agricultural sector of the states' economy, particularly at non-professional levels.

## HEALTH

Currently, there are 555 health facilities in Ebonyi State. These include registered, private and public health facilities. Further breakdown of this shows that Ebonyi has 13 general hospitals and six mission hospitals, 417 primary health care centres and 119 private hospitals/clinics.



**THE STATE MADE N30.91BN AS ITS INTERNAL GENERATED REVENUE IN 2018. GOVERNOR DAVID UMAHI RECENTLY SWORE-IN FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE DEFUNCT SPRING BANK, MR. MIKE CHUKWU AS THE STATE CHAIRMAN OF INTERNAL REVENUE BOARD. HE WAS TASKED WITH THE MANDATE OF MAKING THE REVENUE BOARD SELF-SUSTAINING.**

However, in order to provide world-class health services, Ebonyi State Government is presently upgrading 171 PHCs i.e one PHC per ward and 13 General Hospital i.e General Hospital per LGA in the State.

The Ministry also oversees all health training institutions in the State and at present the Ebonyi University College of Medicine and Health Sciences is using the facilities of Federal Teaching Hospital Abakaliki.

Ebonyi State Ministry of Health is a ministry of the Ebonyi State Government charged with the responsibility of developing and planning health policies and supervising its implementation. It provides health services to the people of Ebonyi State through the services rendered at the health facilities.

Ebonyi State School of Health Technology Ngbo and School of





Nursing and Midwifery Uburu are billed to commence academic activities in the 2017/2018 academic session.

The Ebonyi State Ministry of health also has three parastatals with boards viz: State Hospital Management Board, Ebonyi State Primary Health Care Development Agency and Ebonyi State Traditional Medicine Board. The Ministry of Health in Ebonyi State enjoys huge support from Development Partners and UN Agencies.

### EDUCATION

The Ebonyi Ministry of Education on Wednesday closed 17 schools in Abakaliki and its environs. The schools were closed by the monitoring team of the ministry for either being illegal or below

acceptable standards. This happened after an inspection team had undertaken an assessment tour of the affected schools. Other reasons cited for closing down the schools included: operating without necessary approval by the ministry, operating with sub-standard structures/ facilities and over population.



### INTERNALLY GENERATED REVENUE

The state made N30.91bn as its Internal Generated Revenue in 2018. In line with the vision of His Excellency Engr. Dave Umahi to make Ebonyi a worthy place for living, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has as one of its major functions to generate through:

- Registration of business Premises fees.
- Haulage fees from quarry Industries in the state.
- Fees from registration of Cooperative Societies.
- Audit and supervision fees.





# THE PITFALLS OF GENDER INEQUALITY



*The World Bank Nigeria Gender Innovation Lab paid a courtesy call on the Director General of the Nigeria Governors Forum, Mr Asishana B Okauru at the NGF Secretariat in Abuja.*

The World Bank team was led by Dr Juliet Vaillant in the company of Andrew Brudevold Newman and Ayodele Emmanuel.

In her address Dr Vaillant outlined a strategy of engagement between the World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab (GIL) and the Government of Nigeria (GoN) to encourage evidence-based policy making to close gender gaps, which will in turn help to achieve the objectives outlined in Nigeria's national development plans.

This engagement began with consultations to discuss which policy relevant questions should be prioritized for an ongoing diagnostic. Upon completion of the diagnostic, GIL will hold a participatory meeting with key influencers in government to analyze findings and develop an action plan for piloting and testing innovations to address the gender-specific constraints identified in the diagnostic. GIL will also establish a Steering Committee to provide strategic direction and policy guidance to the team with inputs on key opportunities for new and existing GIL evidence to be integrated into policy and programming moving forward.

She explained that gender inequality prevents women, girls, households, and economies around the world from realizing their full potential, stressing that economically empowering women is both important in its own right, and smart economics.



Dr Juliet Vaillant further emphasized that compelling evidence exists that addressing gender inequalities can promote productivity and growth and when women become more productive, they in turn boost economies' productivity, households' incomes and individuals' wellbeing.

On why they are at the NGF Vaillant explained that "We are holding consultations with key stakeholders in government and the development community to discuss available evidence and policy solutions on closing gender gaps in agricultural productivity, business growth and wage employment."

These consultations include an introduction of GIL's current portfolio of relevant results and a discussion on an ongoing diagnostic to map the constraints women face in the Nigerian context.

These meetings will serve as an opportunity for key stakeholders to share reactions to available evidence and policy solutions, as well as to offer suggestions on key issues and questions that would be valuable to investigate in the diagnostic.

In parallel with the consultations, we are conducting a diagnostic exercise to understand the gender-specific constraints to economic activities. This ex-



## THE PITFALLS OF GENDER INEQUALITY

regarding the constraints, what we know works to address them, and what we still need to learn. To the extent the data allows, the diagnostic will seek to identify constraints and gender gap disaggregated by Nigerian geographic areas (e.g. North/South). The GIL will also organize a participatory, high-level, workshop where the diagnostic results will be presented and discussed. This session will focus on i) a presentation of the constraints identified during the diagnostic, ii) a mapping of proven solutions and gaps in evidence related to the constraints, and iii) a conversation on where we need to innovate, experiment and evaluate. The team will bring to the table best practices from Nigeria and the

region to brainstorm potential innovative policy and programming options to implement and evaluate to close the gender gaps in Nigeria.

The diagnostic and participatory workshop will be the foundation for developing an action plan for uptake of applicable evidence and for steering the GIL's research agenda in Nigeria moving forward. The action plan will detail how GIL will generate new evidence by conducting rigorous, scientifically-credible impact evaluations (IEs) of innovative program aiming to address the priority con-



straints as identified in the diagnostic-and during the participatory workshop. By measuring impacts relative to a carefully-identified comparison group not receiving the program, GIL will be able to demonstrate not only whether an intervention works, but also the magnitude of the benefits and overall cost-effectiveness. GIL aims to continuously engage with policymakers to provide customized evidence and policy advice based on the findings of these IEs.

The GIL proposes establishing a Steering Committee (Country Advisory Group)—comprised of key government stakeholders and development ts in Nigeria—to review and approve the GIL's annual work plan and share insights on areas where GIL evidence could enrich domestic policies and programming. Steering Committee members will serve as policy champions of GIL's research, helping to strategically position the lab for policy influence by highlighting key opportunities and channels for research uptake.

## GENDER INEQUALITY PREVENTS WOMEN, GIRLS, HOUSEHOLDS, AND ECONOMIES AROUND THE WORLD FROM REALIZING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

ercise will determine which constraints are binding, and how important they are relative to other constraints in the Nigerian context. The diagnostic will include a review of the current state of knowledge



# About Gov John Olukayode Fayemi

**G**overnor John Olukayode Fayemi is the Governor of Ekiti State and a native of Isan-Ekiti in Oye Local Government of Ekiti State, Nigeria. He was born 9 February 1965. He previously held the office of the Governor of Ekiti State between 2010 and 2014. He resigned as the Minister of Solid Minerals Development on 30 May 2018 to contest for the Ekiti State governorship election for the second time, an election perceived to be a battle between himself and his political rival, Fayose.

Fayemi attended Christ's School Ado Ekiti from 1975-1980 and received degrees in History, Politics and International Relations from the Universities of Lagos and Ife now Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria and his Doctorate in War Studies from the King's College, University of London, England, specializing in civil-military relations.

Kayode Fayemi is a former Director of the Centre for Democracy & Development, a research and training institution dedicated to the study and promotion of democratic development, peace-building and human security in Africa. Prior to his establishment of the Centre, he worked as a lecturer, journalist, researcher and Strategy Development adviser in Nigeria and the United Kingdom. He was Strategy Development Adviser at London's City Challenge; research fellow at the African Research & Information Bureau in London, UK, reporter with the newspapers, The Guardian and City Tempo, editor of the political monthly, Nigeria-Now, management consultant at Development and Management Consultants and lecturer at the Police College in Sokoto, Nigeria.

Kayode Fayemi has lectured in Africa, Europe, the Americas and Asia. He has also served as an adviser on transitional justice, regional integration, constitutionalism, security sector reform and civil-military relations issues to various governments, inter-governmental institutions and development agencies. He was the main technical adviser to Nige-

ria's Human Rights Violations Investigation Commission (Oputa Panel), which investigated past abuses and currently serves on the Presidential Implementation Committees on Security Sector Reform, NE-PAD and the Millennium Development Goals. He was technical expert to the Economic Community

of West African States (ECOWAS) on small arms and light weapons and United Nations Economic Commission of Africa on governance issues. He is also a member, Africa Policy Advisory Panel of the British Government. At other times he has served as a consultant to the OECD on Security Sector Reform and chaired the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative's Committee of Experts on developing guiding principles and mechanisms of constitution making in Commonwealth Africa.

Kayode Fayemi is a Fellow of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Ibadan, Adjunct Professor of Security Studies at the African Centre for Strategic Studies, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C., USA. He was also a Visiting Professor in the African Studies Programme at Northwestern University, Evanston, USA in 2004. Dr

Fayemi serves on numerous Boards including the Governing Board of the Open Society Justice Institute, Baobab for Women's Human Rights, African Security Sector Network, and on the Advisory Board of the Global Facilitation Network on Security Sector Reform and on the Management Culture Board of the ECOWAS

Secretariat.

Dr. John Olukayode Fayemi was elected Chairman of the NGF in 2019. His main agenda is to rebrand the Forum and further deepen democracy among governors.





# Ekiti State

**E**kiti was created on October 1st, 1996. It lies south of Kwara and Kogi State, East of Osun State and bounded by Ondo State in the East and in the south. The State has a total land Area of 5887.890sq km, and a population of approximately 3 million people, Ekiti is an agrarian state, with agriculture employing over 75% of the population. It is also abundant with mineral deposits, and several natural tourism assets.

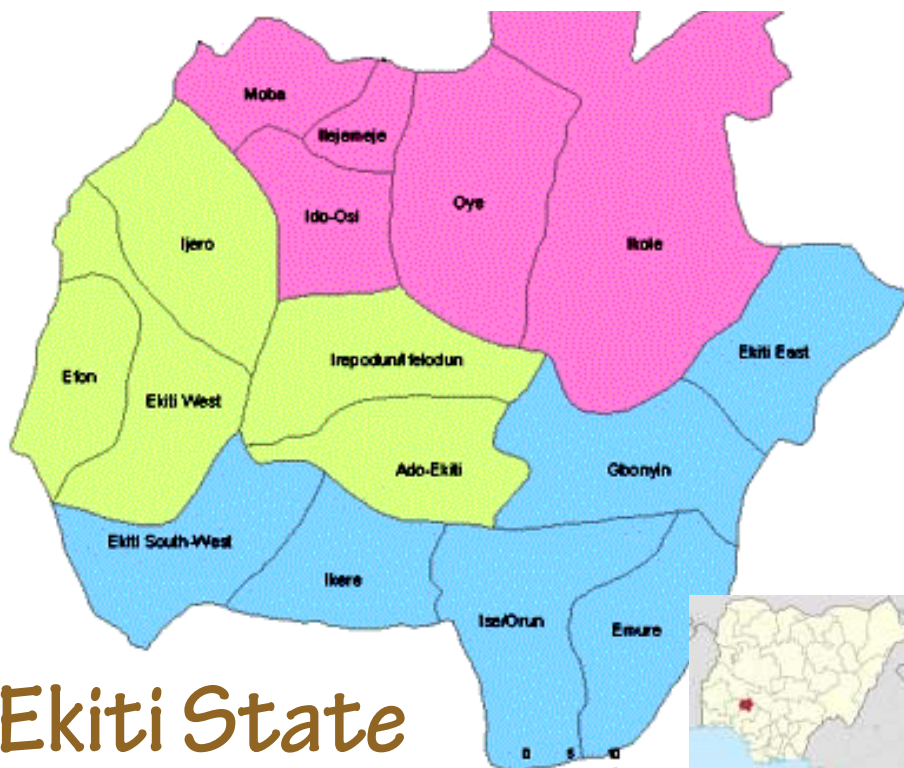
## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN EKITI STATE

In a bid to ensure Ekiti State becomes an attractive destination for investment, the current Government created the Ekiti State Development and Investment Promotion Agency (EKDIPA), with its enabling Law in 2019. This agency will coordinate investment promotion activities within the state, and house the one-stop-shop for anyone looking to invest in Ekiti. In addition to the agency, the State has also commenced a set of 29 reforms, covering business origination, contract enforcement, property registration and dealing with construction permits. When completed, the State expects to be ranked as one of the three friendliest states to do business in Nigeria.

## AGRICULTURE

The Government has identified an 38,000 hectare agricultural corridor, that will serve as a special agricultural processing zone designed to support the cultivation and processing of strategic crops including cassava, coca, cashew, oil pam and rice. The zone will be supported by access roads, three dams to ensure irrigation is available for optimum yield, and a dedicated plan to power the zone. At the moment, four processing plants are being built by investors with a combined capacity of 145,000MT, and we expect this zone to be the leading cassava processing hub in Nigeria within the next three years. in addition, Ekiti state is developing plans to boost ranching and by extension, the meat and dairy industry. The state has brownfield opportunities like the Ikun Dairy Farm and other abandoned assets that are being repositioned for private investment, to take advantage of the meat and fresh milk supply gap in Nigeria.

IT IS ALSO ABUNDANT WITH MINERAL DEPOSITS, AND SEVERAL NATURAL TOURISM ASSETS



## Ekiti State

## KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

Ekiti State is known for its historical heritage of being Nigeria's knowledge capital. Capitalizing on this, the government is developing a 955 Hectare Ekiti Knowledge Zone, designed to be Nigeria's first service based Special Economic Zone. The area is located within the Education Quadrangle that includes Afe Babalola University Teaching Hospital, Ekiti State University, Federal University Oye, Federal Polytechnic Ado and College of Education Ikere. When completed, this zone will house universities, schools, technology campuses, workspaces and offices to service business process outsourcing and back office operations. The government also plans to develop the talent pool to serve the community and ensure tenants have the right tools to optimize their operations.

## TOURISM

Ekiti State is home to the famous Ikogosi Warm Springs, Arinta Waterfalls Olosunta Hills and several other tourist attractions. To optimize cultural and recreational tourism, the Government has invested in security, curated it's traditional festivals and improving access roads to the state, leading with the Ado Ekiti-Akure road that connects Ekiti State to the Akure Airport. To complement this, the State has also developed Nigeria's first MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events) strategy, a clear plan to make Ekiti a destination for business tourism.





# Plateau State



## PLATEAU STATE IN BRIEF

The unique physical features of Plateau State (Home of Peace and Tourism) are its high relief; a combination of a mountainous area with captivating rock formations, punctuated by deep gorges, lakes, bare rocks, rivers, waterfalls that define its grass lands especially in the north, and its geological history.

In the formative years of British colonialism in Nigeria, much of Plateau State was part of Bauchi Province. In May 1967, Benue and Plateau Provinces were merged to form Benue-Plateau State and by 1976 Benue-Plateau State was severed and became Benue and Plateau States and remained as such until 1996 when the present Nasarawa State was carved out of Plateau State. In essence, the old Plateau province has given birth to the present Benue, Kogi, Taraba and Nasarawa states.

The Administrative Capital of Plateau State is Jos. The State, which is governed by an elected Executive Governor consists of

17 Local Government Areas (LGA), namely, Bassa, Barkin Ladi, Bokkos, Jos East, Jos North, Jos South, Kanam, Kanke, Langtang North, Langtang South, Mangu, Mikang, Pankshin, Qu'a'an-Pan, Riyom, Shendam and Wase. Each LGA is governed by an elected Executive Chairman with other officials. The Map of the present Plateau State, with its administrative areas is shown in Figure 2. The State can broadly be divided into three parts, which crystallize in a manner that often defines the politics, culture and languages of the people. Most significantly is the fact that the people share a deep cultural and linguistic homogeneity that necessitates their desire to belong together.

Since inception, our administration has been working assiduously towards creating a conducive environment for inclusive and sustainable economic growth. This is even most auspicious with the dwindling oil revenue, economic downturn and myriads of challenges facing all the states in the country in spite of our abundant natural and human resources. These challenges have necessitated our thinking out of the box, embracing

the new normal and identifying areas of discriminating competencies or comparative advantage. The mechanisms will certainly widen and stimulate the frontier of productivity in the economy, rather than mere consumption. By implication, and in the democratic setting, we are required to fashion out practical, feasible and defensible policies that will meet the yearnings and expectations of the people through effective service delivery. We note that policy, as a purposeful course of action designed to achieve set objectives requires constant review in line with contemporary challenges that a state or country finds itself. Ours cannot be an exception.

The estimated population of the state is about 3,206,531 (2.27% of the Nation) people. (National Population Commission of Nigeria, 2006 Census figures). The mass population also guarantees abundant human and natural resources, sufficient to add economic viability and "Global Value" for sustainable growth.

The people generally have an autochthonous origin and cultural affinity, with many categories of people identified with a common language, ancestral, social, cultural, religious (mythology and ritual) experiences, primarily an inherited status. There are 53 ethnic groups in Plateau State.

Within the context of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, the state still pride itself with nature's gift of a stunningly beautiful Plateau State. This sector has greater multiplier effects on other key sectors of development, especially as it relates to embracing and keying into the private-sector-driven culture in governance.

## PLATEAU STATE SNAPSHOT

- Total land area: 27,147 Km<sup>2</sup>

- Capital: Jos

- Local Government Areas: 17 LGAs: Jos North, Jos South, Jos East, Bassa, Kanam, Barakin Ladi, Quai'an-Pam, Wase, Langtang North, Langtang South, Pankshin, Shendam, Riyom, Mikang, Kanke, Mangu and Bokkos.

- Population: 4,433,501 (Male- 2,261,086 and Female- 2,172,416)

- Vegetation: Tropical Savannah

- Major crops: Maize Guinea Corn, Cassava, Yam, Grain, Cow Peas, Rice, Fonios Acha, Monumental Crops, Mango, Straw Berries, Flowers. Vegetables, Tomatoes, Onion, Cabbage, Carrot, Cucumber.

- Solid minerals: Tin, Columbite, Lead, Coal, Clay, Kaolin, Marble, Gemstone, Barytes and Zinc.



Plateau State Governor Simon Lalong was born 5 May, 1963 in Shendam, Plateau State, he is a Nigerian lawyer and politician.

After his elementary and secondary schools education in Shendam Local Government Area he proceeded to the School of Preliminary Studies (S.P.S) Keffi, passing out in 1986. He then continued to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, graduating in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in Law. This was immediately followed by the Law School in Lagos, where he was also called to Bar. He later obtained a master's degree in Law from the University of Jos, in 1996.

Lalong's professional career as an attorney lasted between 1992, the year following his graduation from law school, and 1998, the dawn of Nigeria's new democracy. During this period he worked with a few law firms, one of which he co-owned. Between 1992 and 1994 he was the Deputy Scribe of the Nigerian Bar Association in Plateau State. After a political stint that lasted seven years he again returned to legal practice as the Principal Partner of Simon B Lalong and Co, until 2015.

Simon Lalong temporarily discarded legal practice to join the political bandwagon in 1998. Under the People's Democratic Party (PDP), he successfully contested the seat of the member of the Plateau State House of Assembly representing his native Shendam Constituency.

In October 2000 he became the speaker of the assembly, occupying that position till the year 2006, following a political storm within the House. The seven years he served as the Speaker of that assembly made him the longest serving speaker of the House in the history of Plateau State. During that period he was two times (2001–2002) elected as the Chairman of the Conference of Speakers of the 36 states of Nigeria. In the year 2015, as the second tenure of the serving Governor of Plateau State, Jonah Jang, neared its end, Lalong joined the contest to succeed Jang. This time, he did so under the All Progressive Congress (APC) political platform. His chances seemed narrow at the beginning, but the capricious nature of politics tipped the balance eventually, favoring him by a slim margin. He was sworn in as the new Governor of Plateau State on May 29, 2015.

In the March 9, 2019 Plateau State Gubernatorial Election and March 23, 2019 Plateau State supplementary Gubernatorial Election, Lalong was reelected as Governor of Plateau State, having polled 595,582 votes against his rival, Gen. Jeremiah Hussein of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) who polled 546,813 votes. He was re-elected as the governor of Plateau State on May 29, 2019.



GOV Simon Bako Lalong

## AGRICULTURE

The state agricultural production is within the context of: agriculture, food production, food security & poverty alleviation.

In addressing the issue of food production, the state identified: Very weak industrial base, except at artisanal levels) (c.f. north-west (kano), south-western (Lagos-Ogun-Ibadan axis, & South-Eastern axis), Mono economy and risk of dwindling oil revenue, poverty (low income/purchasing power) as a major factor militating against its successes.

The uniqueness of agriculture on the Plateau is the semi-temperate weather, which is favourable for the production of tropical and other exotic temperate crops. Wide varieties plants that are

cultivated across the state and present great investment potential include: acha or fonio (*digitaria exilis*; *digitaria iburua*), cassava, sweet and irish potatoes, tomatoes, yam, sugar, rice, wheat, sesame (*sesamum indicum*), cucumber, pepper, egg plants, atili or African elemi (*canarium schweinfurthii*), moringa and other medicinal plants.

Fish farming has gradually become a major economic activity in the State. A modern hatchery with a capacity to produce two million fingerlings of tilapia, carp and mudfish for sale to farmers has been established, as well as pond fisheries consultancy service unit to stimulate private investment in fish farming to boost the industry.

The geo-strategic positioning of the state for unique agricultural production and value chain development cannot be over-emphasized, given

our comparative advantage in the production of exotic Fruits and Livestock such as: apples, grape vines, strawberries, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

In the area of infrastructural development, the state recognize that this sector forms the bedrock of economic activities as it is not only a catalyst but also a lubricant, the Government has within the last four years placed a premium on this sector.

The state government has completed inherited projects from the previous administration and award of critical contracts at a total sum of thirty-eight billion, one hundred and sixty-eight million, four hundred and seventy thousand, six hun-



## Main Investment Opportunities

- Agribusiness
- Light Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Mining
- Healthcare
- Solid Minerals

## Plateau State

dred and sixty-seven Naira (N38,168,470,667.00).

### SOLAR ENERGY

Plateau State, is reportedly rich in renewable energy sources for electricity generation. The state has said it will give about 10 out of the 30 per cent contribution of renewable energy in Nigeria's as part of its contribution to the energy mix in 2030.

The state initiated conscious efforts and procedures to accomplish the target, starting with its recent launch of renewable energy policy and implementation plan which is supported by a guide on initiating and engaging public-private partnerships on solar mini-grids systems.

The state, basically, is in a hurry to get started on its plans for renewable power generation, if achieved it could claim immense competitive advantage on solar, wind, biomass, and small hydropower generation over all states in Nigeria.

### HEALTH

The manpower demand in the health sector in Plateau state is on the rise owing to the current and emerging health challenges confronting its citizens. The need for trained, qualified and skilled health professionals is paramount in order not to allow our people to be at the mercy of quack practitioners.

Also, the need to strengthen the health training institutions in the area of infrastructural development, manpower capacity development, improve and conducive learning environment is necessary for the accreditation of new courses and advanced learning.

Plateau State was a beneficiary of the gesture of Georgia Atlanta in collaboration with The Carter Center (TCC) through the Nigeria Public Health Training Initiative (NPHTI). The items donated included furniture, classroom accessories, teaching and learning aids, laboratory equipment, laboratory consumables and other equipment such as desktop computers, printers, photocopiers, wifi modems, etc.

### INTERNAL GENERATED REVENUE

Plateau state in 2018 generated N12.72bn as its internal generated revenue.

Plateau State Internal Revenue Service (PSIRS) is the major revenue-generating Agency of the State saddled with the responsibility of collecting all forms of taxes within its jurisdiction. Over the years PSIRS has increased the State's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by executing and implementing strategies which have impacted positively on revenue generation and collection, with the IGR growing steadily thereby augmenting what the state is receiving from the federal ac-

count.

To make tax assessment and payment convenient for taxpayers, PSIRS established mini tax offices in over 15 locations across the state and all the offices are in operation. Furthermore, PSIRS is strongly advising her esteemed taxpayers to explore the self-assessment option of assessment in order to enjoy the 1% waver.

### SOLID MINERALS

Plateau State is endowed with rich deposits of a variety of industrial minerals of high quality. Tin and columbite have been mined on the Jos Plateau since 1902. Although production has declined, due to a drastic fall in demand, this area was once the world's leading producer of tin with an annual output of 17,000 tons in the peak war period of 1941-45. Other minerals found in Plateau State in commercial quantities are barytes, kaolin, zircon, monazite, marble, limestone, sphalerite, quartz, galena, glass sand, clay and gemstones.

The high relief, or more appropriately, the Jos Plateau, provides a hydrological centre for many rivers in northern Nigeria and confers on the northern part of the state a cool climate suitable for livestock rearing and growing of exotic crops. The process of formation of its high relief makes Plateau State one of the States in the country with rich mineral resources.





# KWARA STATE

## KWARA STATE SNAPSHOT

**K**wara State was created on 27 May 1967, when the Federal Military Government of General Yakubu Gowon broke the four regions that then constituted the Federation of Nigeria into 12 states. At its creation, the state was made up of the former Ilorin and Kabba provinces of the then Northern Region and was initially named the West Central State but later changed to "Kwara", a local name for the River Niger.

The State nick named "State of Harmony" shares boundaries with the Republic of Benin at the West and the Niger River at the North, Kogi to the East, and Ekiti and Osun to the South.

Farming is the major occupation of the people, as agriculture is the main source of the state's economy.

- Total land area: 35,705Km<sup>2</sup>

- Capital: Ilorin

- Local Government Areas: 16 LGAs: Asa, Baruten, Edu, Ekiti, Ifelodun, Ilorin East, Ilorin South, Ilorin West, Irepodun, Isin, Kaiama, Moro, Offa, Oke Ero, Oyun, Pategi

- Population: 3,390,330 (Male- 1,729,068 and Female- 1,661,262)

- Vegetation: Tropical Savannah

- Major crops: Rice, Cotton, Cocoa, Tomato, Sugarcane, Millet, Cassava, Soya Bean, Maize, Beniseed, Palm Produce and Ginger.

- Solid minerals: Quartz, Limestone, Marble, Feldspar, Clay, Kaolin, Granite Rocks, Silica Sand and Dolomite.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

The state government is currently revamping public infrastructure in the state.

There are three Solar Farm Tunnels in Ilorin, the state capital powering streetlights and other public facilities. The Solar Farm Tunnels supply power streetlights in Fate road, Umar Audi road- GRA, Tanke-Tipper

Ganmo, Taiwo road, Unity and New Yidi road, all in Ilorin.

Kwara State Government recently opened talks with the African Development Bank (AfDB) on areas of partnership.

The partnership areas include road construction, small and medium scale enterprises with a focus on women empowerment, energy, and agro-processing.

The proposed partnership is the outcome of a meeting Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq had with the AfDB team where he spelt out the priorities of his new administration and sought the buy-in of the development agency. Between December 2016 and December 2017 the state government invested over N11bn in infrastructure across the state under the government's special funding window tagged: Kwara Infrastructure Development Fund.

N4.97bn was spent on existing projects, while N6.07bn was expended on new ones.

The Kwara State government completed a total of 17 road projects under the State Infrastructure Development Fund (IFK) in 2017. The roads have improved road network in the state making the entire state accessible to all willing investors.

Garage-Unilorin road, Kulende to Maraba, Post Office to Offa Garage, Offa Garage to

**THE PROPOSED PARTNERSHIP IS THE OUTCOME OF A MEETING GOVERNOR ABDULRAHMAN ABDULRAZAQ HAD WITH THE AfDB TEAM WHERE HE SPELT OUT THE PRIORITIES OF HIS ADMINISTRATION AND SOUGHT THE BUY-IN OF THE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**



# Kwara State

## Main Investment Opportunities

- Agribusiness
- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Mining
- Solid Minerals

The mineral resources in the state are Gold, limestone, marble, feldspar, clay, kaolin, quartz and granite rocks.

## EDUCATION

Kwara has a federal university, the University of Ilorin, a state university, Kwara State University, two polytechnics, Kwara State Polytechnic and Federal Polytechnic Offa, three colleges: the college of education, Ilorin, school of Health technology, Offa and college of Nursing, Ilorin. It is also home to three Private universities; Landmark University, Omu-Aran, Crown Hill University, Eiyé N'korin, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin and Summit University, Offa. There is also a navy school and aviation college. Schools include Emmanuel Baptist College in Ilorin.



A Nigerian businessman and politician, he was elected to the Office of the Governor of Kwara State at the 2019 governorship election held on March 9 and assumed office May 29, 2019.

AbdulRasaq attended Capital School, Kaduna between 1966 and 1968; Bishop Smith Memorial School Ilorin between 1970 and 1971; and Government College Kaduna where he earned his West African School Certificate Examination (WASC).

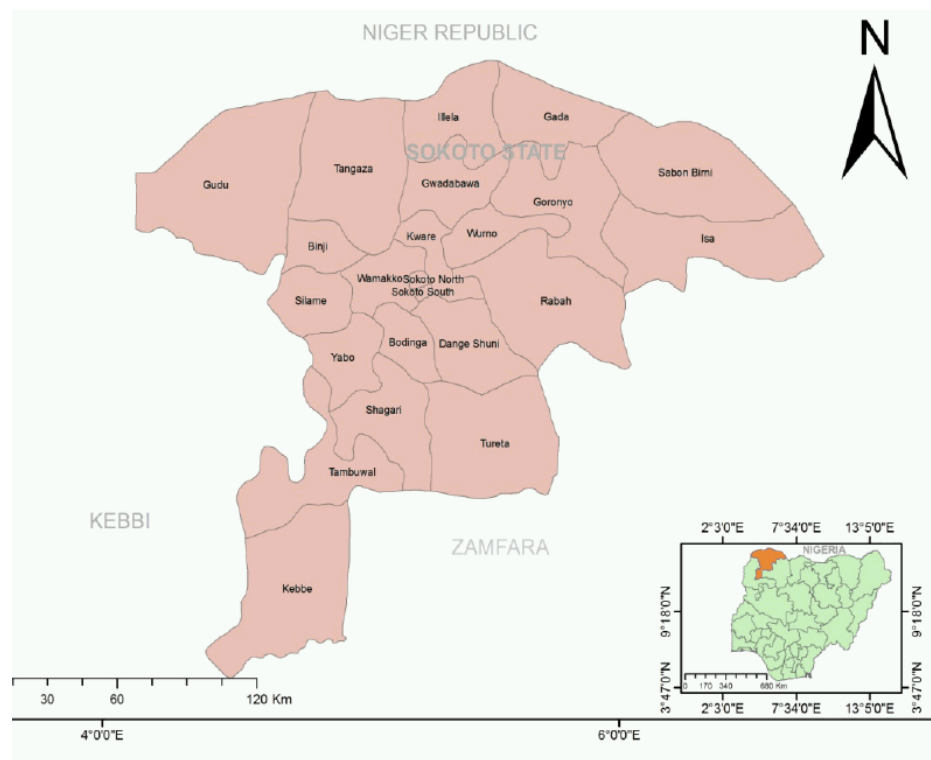
AbdulRasaq is an entrepreneur. He founded Nigeria's first indigenous oil and gas trading companies at the age of 31, NOPA Oil Services and First Fuels. The latter was the first indigenous company to export crude oil and petroleum products to the United States, Europe and Asia.

He ventured into other sectors such as agriculture, construction, information technology, shipping and real estate. He is a consultant to various multinational oil companies and governments including Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.

He joined politics in 1999 when Nigeria returned to democracy. In 2011, he contested for the governorship election in Kwara State on the platform of Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) and for Kwara Central Senatorial District on the platform of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). He won the gubernatorial primary election of the All Progressive Congress for Kwara State in October 2018.



# SOKOTO STATE



**S**okoto State was carved out of the then North Western State on Feb. 3, 1976 by the administration of Gen. Murtala Mohammed.

The state currently has an estimated population of over 4.4 million inhabitants spread across 23 local government areas.

It is a city located in the extreme northwest of Nigeria, near the confluence of the Sokoto River and the Rima River.

In the dry Sahel surrounded by sandy Savannah, the state has an annual average temperature of 28.3 °C (82.9 °F), with a topography dominated by the famous Hausa plain of northern Nigeria.

As of 2006, it had a population of 427,760. Sokoto is the modern-day capital of Sokoto State and the name is of Arabic origin, representing suk, 'market'. It is also known as Sakkwato.

Being the seat of the Sokoto Caliphate, the city is predominantly Muslim and an important seat of Islamic learning in Nigeria.

The Sultan who heads the caliphate is effectively the spiritual leader of Nigerian Muslims.

The inhabitants of the state are Hausa people and are made up of Gobirawa, Zamfarawa, Kabawa, Adarawa and Arawa. The Fulani on the other hand are of two main groups; the town Fulani (Hausa: Fulanin Gida; Fula: FulbeWuro) and the Nomads.

The former includes the Torankawa, the clan of Shehu Usmanu Danfodiyo, Sullubawa and Zoramawa. The Torankawa are the aristocratic class NAUTO since 1804.

## SOKOTO STATE SNAPSHOT

- Total land area: 27,825 Km<sup>2</sup>
- Local Government Areas: 23 LGAs: Binji, Bodinga, Dange-shnsi, Gada, Goronyo, Gudu, Gawabawa, Illela, Isa, Kware, Kebbi, Rabah, Sabon Birnin, Shagari, Silame, Sokoto North, Sokoto South, Tambuwal, Tangaza, Tureta, Wamako, Wuruno, Yabo.
- Population: 5,307,154 (Male- 2,706,649 and Female- 2,600,506)
- Vegetation: Hot Semi-arid and Tropical Savannah
- Major crops: Onions, Sugarcane, Millet, Guinea corn, Maize, Rice, Beans, Wheat, Cassava, Potatoes, Groundnut,

Cotton and Tobacco.

• Solid minerals: Phosphate, Gypsum, Limestone and Kaolin.

## THE STATE OF SOKOTO ECONOMY

The state's lifeline is agriculture as the floodplains of the Sokoto-Rima river system, is covered with rich alluvial soil. For the general dryness of the region, it allows for crops, millet perhaps being the most abundant, complemented by maize, rice, beans and other cereals.

Sokoto falls within the savannah zone with free grassland suitable for cultivation of grain crops and animal husbandry.

Over eighty percent (80%) of the inhabitants of Sokoto practice one form of agriculture or another.

They produce such crops as millet, guinea corn, maize, rice, potatoes, cassava, groundnuts and beans for subsistence and produce wheat, cotton and vegetables for commercial purposes. Local crafts such as blacksmithing, weaving, dyeing, carving and leather works also play a role in the life of the people of Sokoto in different areas like Makera, Marina, Takalmawa and Majema that became important areas.

Sokoto is also one of the biggest fish pro-

ducing areas of the country. Thus large number of people along the river basin engage in fishing as well as other economic activities.

Rain starts late and ends early with mean annual rainfall ranging between 500 mm and 1,300 mm.

There are two major seasons in Sokoto, namely wet and dry. The dry lasts up to April in some parts and may extend to May or June in other parts. The wet season on the other hand begins in most parts of the state in May and lasts up to September, or October.

The harmattan, a dry, cold and fairly dusty wind is experienced in the state between November and season starts from October, and February. Heat is more severe in the state in March and April.

Sokoto is equally endowed with natural and mineral resources. Agro allied industries using cotton, groundnut, sorghum, gum, maize, rice, wheat sugar cane, cassava, gum Arabic and tobacco as raw materials can be established in the area. Large scale farming can also be practiced, the state is also endowed with minerals such as kaolin, gypsum, limestone, laterite, red mills, phosphate both yellow and green, shade clay, sand etc., are available in commercial quantities. Mineral based industries using these raw materials

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# PROFILE

**R**t Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal was born on January 10, 1966 to Waziri Tambuwal in Tambuwal in Sokoto State.

He attended Tambuwal Primary School, Tambuwal, Sokoto State, where he obtained his First School Leaving Certificate in 1979. He proceeded to the Government Teachers' College, Dogon-Daji, where he obtained the Teachers Grade 11 Certificate in 1984.

He attended Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto, where he studied Law, graduating with an LLB (Hons) degree in 1991 and completed his one year compulsory legal studies at the Nigerian Law School, Lagos, obtained his BL and was called to the Bar in 1992.

He also attended several courses abroad, among which were: Telecoms Regulatory Master Class-Bath United Kingdom in 2004; Law making for the Communications Sectors -BMIT, Johannesburg, South Africa in 2004; Regulating a Competitive Industry-United Kingdom, Brussels in 2005; Tulane University - International Legislative Drafting in 2005; Stanford Graduate School of Business - Influence and Negotiation in 2008 and Kennedy School of Government, Harvard - Infrastructure in Market Economy in 2008.

Rt. Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal has been a very active member of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) over the years as he began as a Public Relations Officer of the NBA, Sokoto State chapter between 1996 and 1997.

He was a member of the Constitution Review Committee of the NBA (1997-1998) and the Sokoto branch Secretary of the Association (1997-1998). He was later appointed Assistant National Financial Secretary of the NBA (1998-2000).

He was the first Assistant National Secretary of the Association (2000-2002). He is also a member of the Body of Benchers, Nigeria; International Bar Association, and the American Bar Association among others.

His political career started in 1999, working as Personal Assistant on Legislative Affairs to Senator Abdullahi Wali, the then Senate Leader. In 2003, he ran for a legislative seat as representative of the Kebbi/Tambuwal Federal Constituency. He was elected into the House



## RT HON AMINU TAMBUWAL

of Representatives on the platform of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP). In 2007, he defected to the Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP), alongside the former governor of Sokoto State, Attahiru Bafarawa. However, when the PDP denied return tickets to former ANPP legislators, Right Hon. Aminu Waziri Tambuwal swung back to the ANPP, where he eventually succeeded in picking up a ticket for the election.

He has held several offices in the House. In 2005, he became the Minority Leader of the House until he defected to the PDP. Upon his re-election to the House in 2007, he was also elected the Deputy Chief Whip. He was the Chairman of the ad hoc committee that reviewed the report of the controversial power probe committee headed by Ndudi Elumelu; Chairman, House Sub-Committee on the Bill for an Act to Amend the Land Use Act, and acting Chairman, House Committee on Power.

He was leader of the Nigerian delegation to African, Caribbean, Pacific & European Union Parliamentary Assembly (ACP-EU) and served as Vice-Chairman, Economic Committee ACP-EU, held in Prague, Czech Republic in April 2009.

In 2011, he was elected Speaker of the House of Representative, a position he help meritoriously till 2015 when he contested under the membership of the All Progressive Congress (APC) for the gubernatorial elections and emerged winner. He was also re-elected for a second term in March 2019.



# SOKOTO STATE

could be established in the state.

The availability of these economic potentials provides good investment opportunities, particularly in agro-allied industries such as flour mills, tomatoes processing, sugar refining, textiles, glue, tanning, fish canning, etc.

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SOKOTO STATE

The first most important economic agent is human capital which the state is highly endowed with, while at the same time the state provides an essential market positively significant in steering the gross domestic product (GDP) of not only the state but national and international economies of the field of agriculture.

The state's agricultural strides are quite enormous, as the flood plains of Sokoto Rima River, which contains rich alluvial that are very suitable for sustained crop cultivation.

The arability of the soil and attributes, gives a comparative advantage amongst other states and beyond

Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal notes that the state has vast arable land which facilitates the cultivation of assorted crops in commercial quantity; crops such as rice, garlic, onion, wheat, millet, guinea corn, sugarcane, vegetables, cassava, tomatoes and a host of other crops.

Furthermore, the state's endowment of water resources, are furthermore equipped with

the Goronyo, Shagari and Lugu Dams to support productivity for irrigation farming, fisheries, water supply and tourism all year round.

Incentives such as provision of soft loans, complements, farm inputs and several other incentives to small and large scale farmers. The state also has abundant solid minerals as pointed out by the governor who is quite aware of the economic potential of the solid minerals sector. The solid mineral deposits in the state are iron ore, rutile, pyrite, granite, gabbro, phosphate rocks, manganese, copper, sandstone, limestone, quartzs, silica sand, lakes. The state is keenly making effort via Public-

Private Partnership (PPP) to attract both local and foreign investors to exploit these solid

mineral resources. Opportunities also exists in industries such as Cement, fertiliser, ceramics, foam making and agro allied industries. gold, wolf-

ramite, clay, kaolin, gypsum, potash and salt Small and Medium Enterprises.

## MECHANIZED FARMING

Sokoto state is one of the states in Nigeria that

enincentivices the mechanized farming business. As a matter of fact, the state government is putting serious efforts to ensure that irrigation spreads across all farming areas in the state.

## Commercial Fishing Business

Commercial Fishing business is another business that is highly regarded in Sokoto State.

Sokoto State provide an ideal environment for salting, drying and packing fish conducive for this type of business and several food merchants from all over the country and even from the Republic of Niger and the Republic of Benin come to Sokoto to purchase their goods including dried fish.

## RAW FOOD MERCHANT

Another business that can be successfully launched in Sokoto State is wholesale of raw food, such as; rice, beans, garri and grains.

Mobile phones, computers and accessories is another highly thriving business an entrepreneur can successfully setup in Sokoto state. The demand for these products is on the increase because more people are beginning to embrace the use of technology in Sokoto state.

## DURABLE GOODS AND GROCERY SHOPS

Business of this nature remains the pillar in every modern city and also in Sokoto State. Durable goods and groceries are the must buy products and their demand in the State are on the increase due to population growth and change in consumer behaviour on new products. They include textile materials, shoes, electronics and



THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE ECONOMIC POTENTIALS PROVIDE GOOD INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, PARTICULARLY IN AGRO-ALLIED INDUSTRIES SUCH AS FLOUR MILLS, TOMATOES PROCESSING, CANNING, ETC.



# SOKOTO STATE

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

*Opportunities for  
investments exist in:*

- Agribusiness
- Light Manufacturing
- Healthcare
- Tourism
- Energy
- Mining

other things.

### AGRICULTURAL POTENTIALS

Agriculture provides the most attractive opportunity of every economy. It is the pivot through which the other sectors attached to bring prosperity.

Agriculture plays an important part in Sokoto State's economy. It accounts for a greater percentage of employed persons in the labour force of the State.

The State produces its own food requirements and a wide range of agricultural products for local processing and exports. Agro-based raw materials are listed below by their products name and in known measurable quantity (tonnage) for ease of access in the market. The materials include grains seeds, root crop, vegetable, fruits and livestock.

### INDUSTRIES YEARNING FOR INVESTMENT

#### *Portland Cement/Hydrated Lime Factories*

Sokoto State has one of the largest deposits of limestone, phosphate and gypsum in Nigeria. A survey of mineral deposits in Nigeria indicates the availability, at commercial quantity, of the solid minerals in Dange/Shuni down to Wamakko and Kalambaina with a stretch of about 30 kilometres in length. The areas are enriched with trillion of layers of these three mineral deposits. The Limestone and gypsum are the major ingredients in the production of Portland cement. The Sokoto State Government is therefore extending invitation to all investors to invest in Cement production.

Fertilizer, Chalk Industry Phosphate and Kaolin minerals are also available in commercial quantity in Dange/Shuni and Kwandamo in Illela Local Government areas. The phosphate

is in growler modules with an average weight percent of P2 O5 ranging from 34-36%. Sokoto State phosphate

Boarder- Duka maje, is one of the best qualities in the West African sub-region. There are also some traces of phosphate in Bodinga. Shagaris Goronyo.

Wurno Kware. Gada, Rabah, and Tureta Local Governments Areas. Interested investors in the production of Animal feeds,, pharmaceuticals, paints, detegents are very much welcome for partnership towards exploiting these product.

#### **PAINT AND PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORIES**

Given the presence of kaolin in large deposit in Illela. Tangaza. Bodinga and Yabo Local Governments areas, the potential of establishing the above named Factories will serve to extend the frontiers of business in the State.



Chairman NGF and UNICEF Country Rep



World Bank staff and NGF DG

THESE ARE  
BUT A FEW  
STRATEGIC  
PARTNERS OF  
THE FORUM



imum Wage, and the removal of fuel subsidy. In addition to regular meetings, various working committees (e.g. on Constitutional Review, Revenue Allocation, Security, etc.) are functional. More broadly, the National Executive Council (NEC) monthly meetings usually drive the scheduling of Forum meetings and common positions adopted at these meetings form the crux of the Governors priorities at NEC.

The articulation of a Strategic Plan to guide the Forum's activities. With the assistance of the DFID, a 3 - year Strategic Plan (2010-2012) was put together. This set the tone for the activities of the NGF and provided the direction for its future engagements.

Restructuring and institutionalization of the Secretariat into an effective and functional policy hub. A new management was appointed in January 2009 under the leadership of Asishana B. Okauru to run the Forum's Secretariat together with two other Executive Directors: Alhaji Lateef T. Shittu - Executive Director (Strategy & Research); and, Mohammed A. Jibia - Executive Director (Finance & Administration). With the support of DFID, the Secretariat now has a pool of experts who provide technical supports to states in the areas of the State Peer Review Mechanism, Economic Advisory, Policy Advisory, Knowledge Management and, Public Financial Management. The Secretariat's capacity as the technical support engine and vehicle of NGF activities has evolved considerably.

Forging strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders both internationally and locally.

All of the above speak to the emerging unity of purpose and a desire to find common ground on issues with a potential of directly impacting on the wider polity. For instance, in 2012, the Forum developed a collaborative arrangement on polio eradication involving the NGF and the Federal Ministry of Health and the Gates Foundation whereby states that met all the laid down threshold criteria were awarded a 500,000 USD grant by the Gates' Foundation to support

their top health priorities. In practical terms, the NGF has become a major link between government, development partners and private organizations as they seek to reach the 36 States.

The level of cooperation between States has increased significantly, as has the relation between States and the Federal Government. This is manifested during deliberations at NEC meetings and interactions on many key national issues. Zonal groupings, which mirror the Forum, are increasingly effective as they discuss ways of overcoming their commonly shared developmental challenges. In dealing with common problems, the Forum has become a respected platform of collaboration irrespective of party differences and economic strength."

The above does not just make the NGF the go-to agency in Nigeria, but makes it strategic for outreach purposes, especially when dealing with the states.

The NGF also serves as a thinktank for all the 36 states. It draws its expertise from a pool of professionals which includes university lecturers, medical doctors and other knowledgeable people in policy-making.

Only recently the NGF conducted an induction for new and returning governors across all parties, in which the resource persons included former Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico.

The NGF also serves as a capacity building agency for states. The NGF HelpDesk is saddled with the task of bridging the knowledge-gap within and among states. In some way, it serves the fair-share objective which the NGF holds so dear. Only last week, tax officers from all over the Southeastern part of the country converged in Abuja to benefit from this rare tutelage. Such services are a regular feature on the NGF calendar.

The NGF's core mandate areas include, Security, education, health, agriculture, infrastructure and economic policy. In carrying out its responsibilities, the ngf conforms with global best practices which has made it the go-to agency for all development partners wishing to work at the subnational level in Nigeria.



**DR KAYODE FAYEMI**  
*Chairman NGF*

## ABOUT THE NGF

**T**he Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF) is a legally registered platform where all the thirty-six governors in the country converge to brainstorm on issues of national importance. It is a quasi-non-governmental organization and essentially non-partisan and non-profit. Its current Chairman and Governor of Ekiti State Dr Kayode John Fayemi while addressing the Country Director of the UNICEF only a week ago described it as "perhaps the single most powerful pressure group in Nigeria".

The NGF is modelled after the National Governors' Association of the United States.

According to the NGF website: "Its evolution is in two phases; the first being from 1999 to 2008 and the second from 2009 till date. The first phase is characterized by very minimal activity. The Secretariat then was merely involved in organizing meetings and collecting annual dues, which was used for running the Secretariat.

The second phase started in earnest from 2009. That was when the NGF began to take a new shape in the form of stronger cohesion and a dramatic increase in the level of commitment. The evolution of the Forum from 2009 till date could be attributed to the following milestones:

Increase in attendance at meetings which has gone up significantly from the hitherto 9-12 out of 36 to the present 35-36 out of 36 members. Forum meetings have formed the basis for major policy contributions on important national issues such as the debates on Sovereign Wealth Fund, Mini-



**A. B. Okauru, Esq, DG,NGF**

He joined the Nigeria Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) in 2003 as a foundation staff, from where he was appointed as pioneer Director of the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU), a position he held till November 2008 when he resigned from the services of the EFCC. He previously worked at Arthur Andersen & Co., Nigeria as Management trainee and later at IBM at the Research Triangle Park, NC, USA first as an Operations Analyst and later as an e-Business Analyst.

Mr. Okauru holds a B.Sc. Degree in Economics, 1984 (Second Class Upper Division) from the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria. He subsequently studied Law at the University of Ibadan and was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1989. He also has a joint Masters degree in Business Administration and Information Science from the North Carolina Central University (NCCU), USA.