



KOGI STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR ON YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, P.M.B. 1030, LOKOJA

3rd August, 2009

REPORT ON THE ACTUALIZED MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT OF THE KOGI STATE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SCHEME (ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS EXCELLENCY, ALHAJI IBRAHIM IDRIS THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR OF KOGI STATE)

We cannot run away from the ageless proverb that says; “an idle mind is the devils workshop.” As succinctly put by the man who so much believes in youth’s development, His Excellency, **Alhaji Ibrahim Idris**: “I will teach the youth how to fish than given them fish to eat.” In fact, this is the concept of youth empowerment in kogi state.

This concept of youth empowerment programme delivered by our youth loving Governor has in no small measure made positive impact on the youth.

Below are some of the strategic result oriented approaches of our dynamic Governor His Excellency, **Alhaji Ibrahim Idris** to youth empowerment in the state;

1. Establishment of an Experimental Skill Acquisition Centre:

The vision and mission of His Excellency, **Alhaji Ibrahim Idris** in this area is to rescue and develop the so-called wretched of the earth’s, the down trodden, the less-privileged and distasteful description of the under-dog from shackles of poverty, degradation, exploitation and use-and –dump syndrome of the past political leaders in the State.

His main thrust is to establish skill acquisition centers throughout the entire state where youth empowerment scheme beneficiaries would be exposed to practical training on any trade of their choice. After the training, the beneficiaries would be given micro-credit facilities to establish their own business and be gainfully self employed youths.

At the skill acquisition center, there are Eleven (11) departments which are;

- a. **Computer Department:** Students in this department undergoes training in either all or one of the following sub departments;

I, Computer Appreciation

II, Computer Engineering

III, Computer Maintenance and Repairs

- b. **Event Decoration Department:** Student in this department are specially trained on how to handle, decorate and manage social occasion and gathering.
- c. **Photography Department:** Here, Students are taught how to handle various type of cameras, how to capture photographic posture and various type of exposure development.
- d. **Fashion Designing Department:** In this department, the students learn how to use various type of sewing machine, fabric designing machine to produce beautiful attires for both men and women, young and old.
- e. **Paint Production Department:** In this department, students are taught how to mix different chemicals to produce various types of paint and also taught how to make choice of paint on structures and mode of application in painting.
- f. **Carpentry Department:** Here they learn various type of furniture making e.g. Chairs, Tables, Beds and Dressing Mirror Stand etc.

- g. Aluminium Department:** In this department, students learn how to use aluminium materials to construct tables, windows, doors and different aluminium shapes.
- h. Saloon Department:** Here, we have students that learn how to use electric clippers who are also taught basic hygienic principles in a barber's saloon environment.
- i. Industrial Art and Design Department:** Students are taught basic drawing and painting skills.

2. Granting of Soft Loan to Beneficiaries of Kogi State Youth Empowerment Scheme: The youth Governor commitment to this project motivated him to personally commission the skill acquisition centre and also personally chaired the graduation ceremony of the first batch of grandaunts of Kogi State Experimental Skill Acquisition Centre. An occasion were the Governor approved the sum of **₦30,000,000.00** to enable the grandaunts achieve government targeted aim of self reliance.

3. Payment of Monthly Stipend to Youth Empowerment Scheme Beneficiaries: As part of measures to sensitize the youth for the challenges of youth empowerment scheme, the people's Governor, **Alhaji Ibrahim Idris** has placed over **5000** youths on monthly stipends of **₦ 4, 000.00** each.

The essence of this arrangement is to provide for the beneficiaries in terms of feeding and logistics in the cause of acquiring practical skills for self employment.

The above project takes the government a commitment of **₦ 15,000,000.00** monthly and has been consistent since the inception of this administration to date. The cost of establishing the Kogi State Experimental Skill Acquisition Centre is estimated at **₦30,000,000.00** between **2008-2009**.

This indeed is a welcome development as beneficiaries should be emotionally, psychologically and financially stable to grab the main gist of the youth empowerment programme.

4. Recruitment of 4000 Youth Trained in the Areas of Building Technology/Bricklaying. A program which led to the award of contract of about **₦ 1,200,000,000.00** on renovation of Hospitals and Secondary Schools across the state between **February 2009** and currently ongoing.

5. Distribution of Keke Napep, Tri-Cycles and Tractors to Youths:

As part of the implementation of His Excellency's Youth development programme, he has purchased **1050 Tri-Cycles** and **500 Tractors**. These items have been distributed to youth across the Twenty-One (21) Local Government Areas in Kogi State. This is no doubt, this initiative has improve the economic status of so many indigene's of the state. A project which the present administration spent about **₦ 200,000,000.00** between **2004 – 2006**.

6. Micro-Credit Facilities:

His Excellency, **Alhaji Ibrahim Idris** is adopting a holistic approach in the execution of Youth Empowerment project in Kogi Sate.

At the terminal stage of this project, he ensure that Youth Empowerment Scheme beneficiaries who have acquire one form of practical skills are encourage to form Cooperative Societies so as to benefit from the State Government micro-credit scheme to enable them kick-start their self employment ventures.

With all these in place, it is our believe that Kogi State Youth Empowerment Scheme will bring succor and relief to the entire youth in the State and enhancing loaded minds with lots of positive opportunities where devil will no more have workshop.

7. **Summary Breakdown of the above achievements of this present Administration is as follows;**

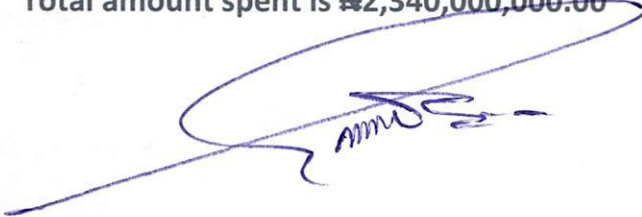
- a. **5,000 youths placed on monthly stipends since 2003 – to date which amounted to 30,000 youths for the period of Six (6) Years.**
- b. **4,000 youths for Building Technology/Bricklaying.**
- c. **250 youths were grandaunts of the first batch beneficiaries of the skill Acquisition Programme.**
- d. **350 Cooperative Society of not less than Ten (10) membership each. Making a total number of youths in the cooperative society 3,500.**

With the above, **37,750 youths** has benefited from the youth empowerment programme since the inception of this administration to date.

Total Estimated Expenditure of Government on This Project since 2003 – To Date

- A. **₦ 30,000,000.00** – For the establishment of an Experimental Skill Acquisition Centre Lokoja.
- B. **₦ 1,080,000,000.00** – Monthly stipends since 2003 to date.
- C. **₦ 200,000,000.00** – Procurement of Tricycle and Tractors.
- D. **₦ 1,000,000,000.00** – Renovation of Secondary Schools and Hospital to Youths.
- E. **₦ 30,000,000.00** – Soft Loan for First Batch of Youth Empowerment Scheme Programme.

Total amount spent is ₦2,340,000,000.00



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