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Daily InfoNews...

Daily News Bulletin is a daily publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information and Orientation for the entertainment and Education of all Cross Riverians and the general public about the daily events, activities and programmes of government and the private sector operating in all parts of the State.



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RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION: THE VOICE OF THE WORLD

Greater Calabar Summit: Commissioner Cobham Seeks 50-Year Master Plan

By Daniel Nsa



The Cross River State Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Pastor Ekpenyong Cobham, has called for a comprehensive 40- to 50-year master plan for Greater Calabar as stakeholders prepare for the Greater Calabar Summit 2026 scheduled for September 29 in Calabar.

Cobham made the call when the Director-General of the Greater Calabar Capital City Development Authority (GCCDA), Hon. Bassey Ekpo, led a delegation of the Authority on a courtesy visit to him in his temporary office at the Cross River Broadcasting Corporation (CRBC), Calabar.

The Commissioner

said the forthcoming summit provided an opportunity for government, professionals and other stakeholders to develop a long-term vision capable of guiding the sustainable expansion of Greater Calabar in response to population growth and emerging economic opportunities.



"We need a master plan that will look at Greater Calabar not just for the next five or 10 years, but for the next 40 to 50 years. We must begin to plan today for the city

we want our children and grandchildren to inherit," he said.

Cobham stressed that modern urban planning must go beyond allocating plots and

constructing roads to include adequate drainage systems, recreational facilities, social amenities, housing, transportation networks and



other infrastructure required for a functional and liveable city.

He noted that Cross River's peace and security could attract major investors, particularly in housing and other sectors, but said investors would require clear and detailed long-term development plans before committing substantial

resources.

"Investors want to know what the future holds. If we have a clear and detailed development plan backed by law, it gives investors the confidence to put their money here because they can see where the city is going," Cobham said.

The Commissioner also advocated the enactment and

enforcement of appropriate laws to protect approved layouts and prevent the indiscriminate conversion of residential areas into commercial centres, which he said was contributing to congestion in Calabar.

He commended the GCCDA for its initiative and assured the



Authority of the Ministry's support in strategic communication, public enlightenment and information dissemination, stressing that residents must be properly informed and carried along in government development projects.

Earlier, the GCCDA Director-General, Hon. Bassey Ekpo, sought the Ministry's support

in driving public awareness and stakeholder participation in the Greater Calabar development initiative, explaining that the Authority was established under Law No. 2 of 2016 to facilitate the planned development of the Greater Calabar corridor.

Ekpo said the corridor covers Bakassi, Akpabuyo, Calabar South, Calabar Municipal,

Odukpani, Akamkpa and Biase Local Government Areas, adding that the initiative was designed to decongest Calabar metropolis through properly planned residential, commercial and industrial areas.

He said the Authority was also working to support the state government's vision of providing housing



opportunities for civil servants, low-income earners and other residents, while collaborating with relevant government institutions, professionals and security agencies to ensure effective planning, safety

and sustainable development.

Ekpo disclosed that the Greater Calabar Summit 2026 would hold on September 29 at the Transcorp Metropolitan Hotel, Calabar, bringing together academics, consultants, experts and relevant

Ministries, Departments and Agencies to deliberate on strategies for the sustainable development and decongestion of Calabar.

Red Cross Honours CR-SEMA DG Nyong for Humanitarian Service, Collaboration

By Kingsley Agim



The Nigerian Red Cross Society, Calabar Branch, has honoured the Director General of the Cross River State Emergency Management Agency (CR-SEMA), Mr. Efa Nyong, with an

Award of Excellence for his contribution to humanity and commitment to strengthening collaboration in disaster management.

The award was presented to

Nyong on Saturday, September 12, 2026, during the Calabar Branch's World AIDS Day event, in recognition of his contributions to disaster management and the positive



impact of his leadership at CR-SEMA barely two months after assuming office.

Nyong was honoured alongside the Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs, Dr. (Mrs.) Helen Agan Isamoh, and seasoned

academician and physician, Elder Dr. (Mrs.) Nkese Mkpanam, for their contributions to humanitarian service and the advancement of the Red Cross mandate.

Speaking at the event, Nyong congratulated the Nigerian Red Cross

Society and conveyed the goodwill of the Cross River State Government and Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, to the organisation.

He reaffirmed his commitment to proactive and people-oriented disaster



management in the state, stressing the need for sustained collaboration between CR-SEMA, the Nigerian Red Cross Society and other relevant stakeholders.

Reacting to the recognition, Nyong expressed

appreciation to the Red Cross for considering him worthy of the honour barely 60 days after assuming office. "This award is an encouragement to do more," he said, assuring that his administration would remain focused on putting people at the centre of

emergency management while strengthening partnerships that would improve the state's capacity to respond to disasters.

"We will continue to synergise with the Nigerian Red Cross Society and other critical



stakeholders in advancing disaster preparedness, response and humanitarian interventions across the state," Nyong said.

Chairman of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, Calabar Branch, Prof. Chris Eneji, commended Nyong for his efforts since assuming office, noting the positive impact of his leadership on

the agency's engagement with the Red Cross.

Eneji advocated for the CR-SEMA DG to formally become a member of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, saying, "His membership of the Red Cross will further strengthen the existing relationship and deepen collaboration between both organisations."

Similarly, the

Branch Secretary of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, Calabar, Mr. Eni Joseph, commended Nyong, describing his impact within CR-SEMA and the humanitarian space as "noticeable within the short period" since his assumption of office.

Edodi Empowers Over 100, Gives Car to APC Chairman, Motorcycles to Ward Leaders

By Daniel Nsa



The Executive Chairman of Biase Local Government Council, Hon. Edodi Edodi Eyong, has empowered more than 100 indigenes across the 11 wards of the council with equipment to support small businesses, while

also providing a vehicle to the APC Chapter Chairman and motorcycles to ward chairmen to strengthen grassroots mobilisation and coordination.

The interventions are part of the Chairman's broader grassroots development

agenda, which has focused on economic empowerment, education, security, social welfare and political organisation since he assumed office in 2024.

Under the recent business empowerment





programme, beneficiaries received practical equipment including deep freezers, sewing machines, generators, hair dryers and clippers, among other items intended to help them establish or strengthen income-generating ventures.

The initiative reflects the administration's emphasis on providing productive tools rather than one-off assistance, with beneficiaries expected to deploy the equipment to build sustainable livelihoods and, in some cases, create employment opportunities for

others.

The Chairman has also invested in youth development through a skills-acquisition programme that trained 55 young women in soap making, baking and pastry production, jelly production, body-cream production and perfume





making, among other skills. The beneficiaries were subsequently provided with start-up cash to enable them to commence their businesses.

In the area of education, more than 120 tertiary institution students have benefited from the Council's scholarship intervention. Selected undergraduates received ₦200,000

each, while postgraduate beneficiaries received ₦250,000 each to support their academic pursuits.

The administration has equally prioritised social welfare, with hundreds of women across the 11 wards receiving wrappers and cash support as part of efforts to cushion hardship and extend government assistance to

vulnerable residents.

Edodi's interventions have also extended to peace and security, with the Council responding to security challenges involving Biakpan and Etono 2, intra-communal clashes among Erei communities and the interstate crisis involving Biase and Ebonyi State.

In the political sphere, the



Chairman, a former APC Chapter Chairman in Biase, recently presented motorcycles to APC Ward Chairmen across the council and a Hyundai Sonata to the APC Chapter Chairman, Rt. Hon. Bassey Sunday Bassey.

The gesture is expected to enhance the

mobility of the party's grassroots leadership, improve coordination across the wards and strengthen engagement with communities as political activities build towards the 2027 general elections.

Receiving the vehicle, Bassey appreciated the Chairman for the

support, noting that it would enhance his mobility and strengthen grassroots coordination across Biase. The Paramount Ruler, HRH Apostle Nicholas Odum, who received a generator under the empowerment programme, also commended the Chairman for

extending the initiative to the traditional institution.

Other beneficiaries expressed similar appreciation.

Comr. Owai Obo, who received a generator, said the equipment would strengthen his business and help address the challenges posed by irregular electricity supply, while Mr. Egan-Ojoi Anakari, who received a deep freezer, said the intervention would enable him to venture into a new line of business.

The Chairman's record has also attracted recognition beyond the local government, including a recent National Merit Award in Abuja,

alongside other local awards and commendations. The recognition reflects the growing attention to his grassroots interventions and development initiatives.

The breadth of the interventions positions the Edodi administration as one focused on combining immediate support with longer-term investments in human capital and livelihoods.

Through economic empowerment, scholarships, skills acquisition, social welfare, security interventions and grassroots organisation, the administration is seeking to translate government presence into tangible benefits for residents across

Biase.

The approach is consistent with the People First agenda of Governor Bassey Edet Otu, which places the welfare, empowerment and prosperity of citizens at the centre of governance. In Biase, the Chairman's interventions are aimed at bringing that philosophy closer to the people through programmes designed to improve livelihoods, strengthen communities and expand opportunities.

CRIRS Urges LG Councils to Embrace Technology for Revenue Administration

By Achiane Adams



The Cross River Internal Revenue Service (CRIRS) has urged Local Government Councils in the state to embrace technology and automation in revenue

administration to enhance efficiency, transparency and accountability.

The call was made by the Director of Administration, Mr. Uket Bassey, who represented the Executive Chairman of

CRIRS, Prince Edwin Okon, Ph.D., at a one-day sensitisation conference on tax harmonisation, policy and reform between the state and local governments in Ikom.



Bassey said the adoption of technology by Local Government Councils had become imperative in line with the provisions and direction of the new tax laws, particularly in strengthening revenue administration and curbing

revenue leakages.

He noted that an automated revenue system would also promote a more coordinated and transparent tax environment for taxpayers across the state, while improving the efficiency of collection and administration.

Bassey disclosed that the Cross River Taxes and Levies Harmonisation Bill, currently before the State House of Assembly, was still undergoing public hearings and stakeholder analysis. He said the proposed legislation would





be made public upon its passage into law, assuring stakeholders that their contributions would continue to form part of the legislative process.

The Director of Administration further disclosed that the Joint Revenue Board (JRB) was collaborating with

the Office of the Inspector-General of Police to establish security committees aimed at addressing the challenges posed by revenue roadblocks across the country.

He said the initiative was part of efforts to promote a more coordinated revenue

administration system and tackle practices that negatively affect businesses and taxpayers.

Earlier, the Chairman of the Ikom Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (IKOMCCIMA), Mrs. Flora Takim-Ndifon, said taxation was

more than a means of generating revenue for government, describing it as a fundamental instrument for financing development, strengthening institutions, providing public services and building a sustainable economy.

She said tax harmonisation provided an opportunity for governments and tax authorities to work together towards common standards and simplified processes, while taking into account the legal and economic circumstances of individual jurisdictions.

Takim-Ndifon also stressed the importance of technology and information sharing in tax administration, noting that differences in tax laws, rates, procedures and administrative requirements could create unnecessary complexities for taxpayers and businesses in an increasingly interconnected economy.

“Digital tax administration can improve compliance, reduce human intervention, minimise opportunities for corruption and make collection and administration more efficient,” she said.

She said the resolutions

reached at the sensitisation conference would be presented to the State Government, Local Government Councils and other stakeholders in the tax sector, adding that the outcome would contribute to effective policy formulation and implementation.

The conference was attended by representatives of Local Government Councils, organised labour, market associations, women’s groups and other stakeholders in the tax sector.

Effiwatt Commends Civil Servants' Support for Otu's Re-election

By Iloke Egbe



The Chairman of the Cross River State Civil Service Commission, Sir Maurice Effiwatt, has commended the Progressive Vanguard, a group of civil servants recruited by Governor Bassey Edet Otu between 2024 and 2025, for mobilising support for the governor's re-election in 2027.

Effiwatt spoke

when the group, led by its Director-General, Sir Edwin Orok-Edet Duke, paid him a courtesy visit at the Commission's office at the New Secretariat Complex, Calabar. He also commended the group for cultivating the spirit of thanksgiving by recognising what the governor had done for its members.

He said Governor

Otu had demonstrated that his administration was committed to people who had previously felt abandoned, neglected or rejected. "The governor has established it clearly that Jesus Christ is the boss of the state, and he has demonstrated it by reaching out to those that feel abandoned,



neglected or rejected," he stated.

According to Effiwatt, casual workers in the Cross River Broadcasting Corporation, State Internal Revenue Service and several ministries, departments and agencies, some of whom had worked for more than 16 years, were regularised and absorbed into the civil service under the governor's administration.

He assured the Progressive Vanguard that he would convey its message to Governor Otu and pledged his support when necessary, while urging members to take their official duties seriously. He said the governor had changed the course of many people's lives, stressing that "it takes one man to change the course of history."

Earlier, Duke said the Progressive Vanguard was formed by civil

servants whose long-held dream of becoming career public servants was revived through Governor Otu's visionary leadership. He said more than 3,500 civil servants recruited by the state government between 2024 and 2025 had joined the group.

Duke described the Vanguard as a non-partisan assembly of civil servants recruited into the state service from 2024 to date, adding



THINK CROSS RIVER

that its membership had expanded to include senior civil servants willing to support the governor's re-election.

He said the group had established its structure across the 18 local government areas and three senatorial districts of the state, with more civil servants indicating interest

in joining. According to him, the group's objective is to reciprocate the governor's people-oriented governance with their votes in 2027.

Duke expressed confidence that Governor Otu's re-election would consolidate the developmental gains recorded by his administration and create opportunities for more Cross

Riverians to secure employment in the state and local government services. He also appreciated Effiwatt for his fatherly role during the recruitment exercise and his selfless service to the state.

Cross River Govt Pledges Support for Development Partners

By Iloke Egbe



The Cross River State Government has pledged to strengthen systems at the rural community level and support development partners in expanding interventions across the state.

The Commissioner for International Donor Coordination, Elder Dr. Hippolatus Ogar

Lukpata, made the commitment during the monthly meeting of the Cross River State Development Partners Forum at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) field office in Calabar.

Lukpata said the administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu was abreast of developments

across the state and had deliberately established the systems, institutions and processes required to sustain progress and development.

He said government was addressing staffing requirements and ensuring proper deployment of personnel to critical areas,



while urging development partners to submit reports on project drawdowns and challenges to enable government take proactive measures.

The commissioner also called on partners to strengthen collaboration with relevant organisations and expand their areas of intervention to minimise gaps, particularly in hard-to-reach communities.

The partners, in turn, called on the state government to prioritise the construction of rural roads to facilitate the delivery of development interventions to communities in the hinterland.

They commended Governor Otu for restoring peace and security across the state, saying the improved security situation had enabled them to access hard-to-reach communities without security

threats, including at late hours.

According to them, their interventions extend beyond the state's 196 political wards and cover agriculture, water and sanitation, child health, environmental protection, maternal and child nutrition, gender equity, HIV/AIDS, livestock development and land restoration.

Other areas include



infrastructure support, governance and accountability, healthcare and education. Lukpata also said Cross River should begin benefiting from carbon credits, stressing

that the process should commence with REDD+ at the forefront.

The meeting featured progress reports from the State Nutrition Office, AIDS Healthcare

Foundation and State Bureau of Statistics, with 36 development partners operating across Cross River in attendance.





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NACA, SACA, Partners Push to Tackle Human Rights, Gender Barriers in HIV Response

By Asari Eso



The National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA), in collaboration with the Cross River State Agency for the Control of AIDS (CR-SACA)





and other stakeholders, has commenced a four-day training and assessment programme to strengthen human rights and gender-responsive interventions for key and vulnerable populations in Cross River State.

The programme, which opened on Monday at the Marian Hotel Conference Hall, Calabar, brings

together implementing partners, development partners, government institutions, community representatives, and other allies in the HIV response.

Declaring the programme open, the Director-General of CR-SACA, Dr. Charles Iwara, called for stronger collaboration among stakeholders,

stressing that meaningful progress in the HIV response depends on collective action and deliberate efforts to reach vulnerable populations.

Iwara emphasized the need for community-centred interventions that reflect the realities of vulnerable groups, noting that stakeholders must



continuously assess their progress, identify operational gaps, and improve service delivery.

He described the establishment of the Human Rights and Gender Response Team as a critical component of the HIV response framework, urging participants to leverage the training to deepen their knowledge and strengthen

collaboration.

"Every meeting is a learning process," Iwara said, encouraging participants to approach the sessions with open minds.

He reaffirmed CR-SACA's commitment to working with partners and networks to sustain the HIV response, particularly as community structures assume greater roles in

service delivery.

In her welcome address, Mrs. Favour Iyamu of NACA explained that the programme goes beyond conventional capacity building. She described it as an assessment of gender and human rights interventions in the State, with a capacity-building component.

According to her, the programme is



designed to help stakeholders examine their interventions and understand how they intersect with

gender and human rights concerns affecting vulnerable populations.

Also speaking, the

Human Rights Director, Mr. Remijus Ajuga, said the training would expose participants to

gender and human rights self-assessment tools designed to help individuals and organisations critically evaluate their approaches to vulnerable populations.

Ajuga said the assessment would focus on issues such as discrimination, victimisation, and harassment, describing them as human rights concerns requiring deliberate action.

He expressed optimism that the sessions would equip stakeholders with practical knowledge to enhance their roles as implementing partners.

Representing the Nigeria Police Force, Mr. Maurice

Bisong said the police have a responsibility to protect citizens' rights and respond to complaints irrespective of status. He highlighted the importance of appropriate responses to violence, sexual abuse, and other rights violations, adding that the training would enhance police effectiveness in this regard.

Goodwill messages were also delivered by Mr. Nepwhan Umoh Essien, Mr. Edmond Cishan, Mr. Shanaan Abdullahi of the Muslim Community, Mrs. Rose Anyafulu of CCRN, and Mr. Arikpo of the TB Network, Ministry of Health.

Abdullahi, who conveyed greetings

from the Chairman of the League of Imams and Scholars, Captain Zakari, noted that human rights concerns also exist within religious communities.

He said the programme would help religious leaders better understand such issues and improve services to their congregations.

Anyafulu emphasized the need for sustained collaboration between community organisations, the police, and human rights institutions in advancing interventions that protect vulnerable populations.

Cishan observed that while several organisations work

with vulnerable groups, gender and human rights interventions often receive less attention, making the assessment and renewed focus timely and important.

The technical sessions, facilitated by Mr. Emeka Nwafor of NACA, covered access to justice, discrimination, and non-discriminatory healthcare provision.

Participants examined barriers to justice and avenues through which key and vulnerable populations can seek redress. The sessions also addressed equitable access to HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria services, and

approaches to tackling such barriers.

Nwafor led discussions on forms, types, and settings of discrimination — including gender, HIV-related, religious, disability, ethnic, and age-based discrimination. Participants also examined direct, indirect, systemic/institutional, and multiple forms of discrimination across settings such as workplaces, schools, healthcare facilities, communities, religious centres, homes, and online platforms.

The training further introduced an assessment framework through which stakeholders can evaluate their

target population, objectives, identified gaps, implementation challenges, progress, achievements, and opportunities for improvement.

The four-day programme is expected to strengthen stakeholders' capacity to identify and address human rights and gender-related barriers, promote non-discriminatory access to healthcare and justice, and contribute to a more inclusive and effective HIV response in Cross River State.



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OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF SERVICE
CROSS RIVER STATE

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PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



Below is the list of presidential candidates and their running mates as displayed by INEC on **August 1, 2026**.

SN/	POLITICAL PARTY (OFFICIAL INEC NAME)	ACRONYM	PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE	VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
1.	Action Alliance	AA	Adekunle Rufai Omoaje	Shehu Hussaini
2.	African Action Congress	AAC	Omoyele Sowore	Magashi Haruna Garba
3.	African Democratic Congress	ADC	Atiku Abubakar	Rotimi Amaechi
4.	Action Democratic Party	ADP	Abbas-Bin Aliyu	Ike Chinazam
5.	All Progressives Congress	APC	Bola Ahmed Tinubu	Kashim Shettima
6.	Allied Peoples Movement	APM	Seyi Makinde	Ibrahim Adamu Bala
7.	All Peoples Party	DP	Yusuf Kabiru	Ofordile Peace Egobia
8.	Boot Party	BP	Adenuga Sunday	Mustapha Usman Turaki
9.	Democratic League of Africa	DLA	Memeh Samuel	Balogun Alex
10.	Labour Party	LP	Okereke Sunday Chibuzor	Konto Hajja Bintu
11.	Nigeria Democratic Congress	NDC	Peter Obi	Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso
12.	National Democratic Party	NDP	Okwori Ada Elizabeth Frederick	Chikwuemeka Uchenna Anthony
13.	New Nigeria Peoples Party	NNPP	Dikwa Suleiman Mohammed	Abubakar Isah
14.	National Rescue Movement	NRM	Okereke Iken Esther	Samuel Magdalene Gali
15.	Peoples Democratic Party	PDP	Senator Sandy Onor	Umaru Babangida
16.	Peoples Redemption Party	PRP	Donald Duke	Buba Musa
17.	Social Democratic Party	SDP	Adebayo Adewole Ebenezer	Bugaje Usman Mohammed
18.	Young Progressives Party	YPP	Chukwu Anita Zugwai	Egbeola Olawale Mertins
19.	Zenith Labour Party	ZLP	Nwanyanwu Daniel Danerechukwu	Hassan Khalid



This is a preliminary publication of personal particulars displayed by INEC under Section 29(3) of the Electoral Act, 2026.
It is not the final list of nominated candidates.



TRANSPARENCY



ACCOUNTABILITY



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INEC ANNOUNCES 2027 CAMPAIGN TIMETABLE

The Independent National Electoral Commission has released the approved campaign periods for Nigeria's 2027 General Elections, in accordance with the Electoral Act 2026.

KEY CAMPAIGN DATES



PRESIDENTIAL & NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Campaign opens
19 August 2026



Campaign closes
15 January 2027



Election day
16 January 2027



GOVERNORSHIP & STATE ASSEMBLY



Campaign opens
9 September 2026



Campaign closes
5 February 2027



Election day
6 February 2027



WHAT THE ELECTORAL ACT REQUIRES

- Campaigns may begin no earlier than **150 days** before an election.
- Every campaign must end **24 hours** before polling begins.
- Parties, candidates and supporters must follow the approved dates.
- Breaches may attract sanctions under the law.



Political parties and stakeholders are urged to respect the timetable and support a **peaceful, transparent and credible electoral process.**





Federal Ministry of
Health & Social Welfare
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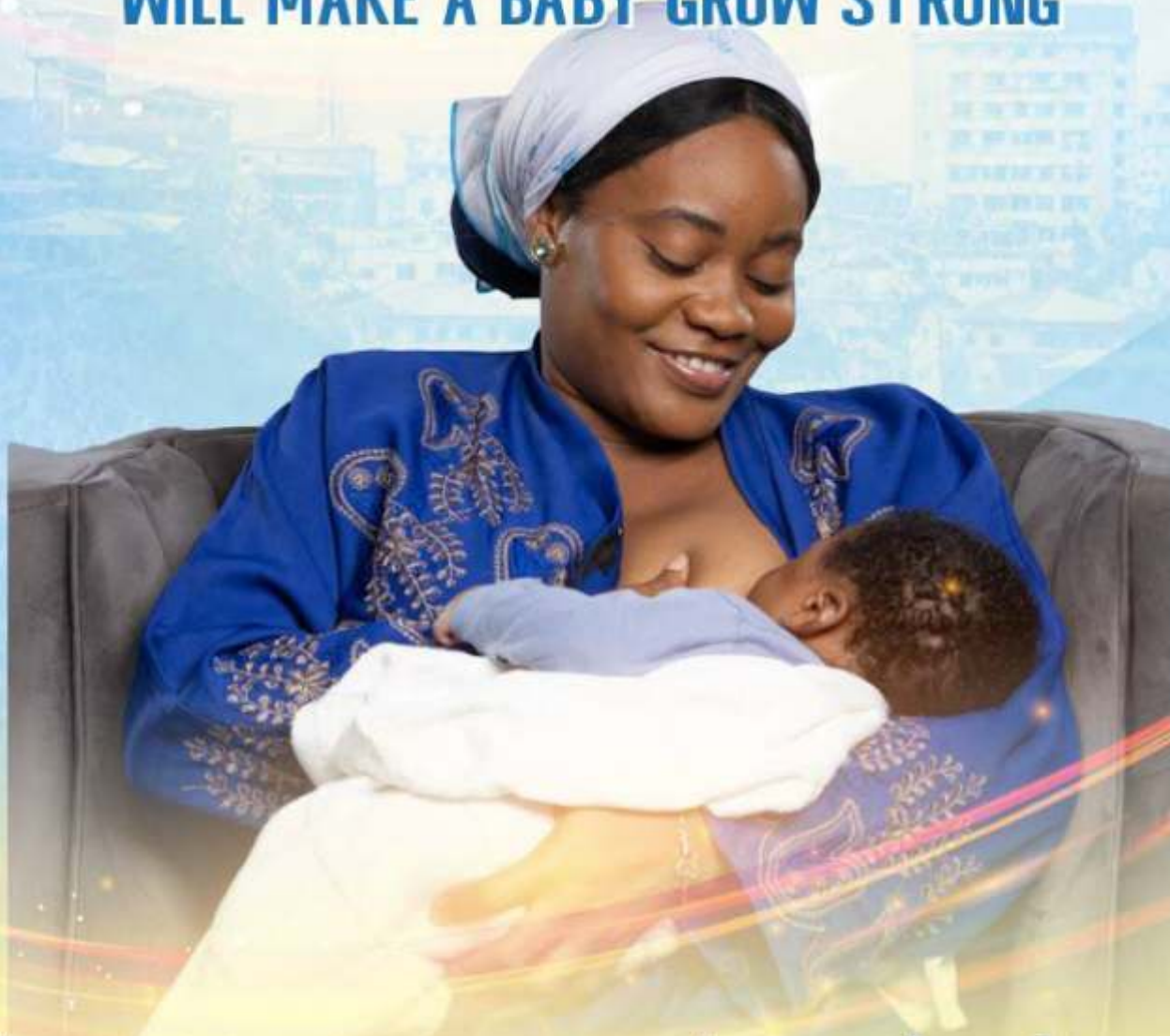


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EVERY GREAT STORY NEEDS A STRONG BEGINNING



Federal Ministry of
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That first thick yellow milk, called colostrum, protects your baby
and contains the water and nourishment they need.**

EVERY GREAT STORY NEEDS A STRONG BEGINNING

A woman with a warm smile, wearing a red headwrap and a vibrant, patterned dress in red, yellow, and black. She is holding a long, red stick with yellow and white floral patterns, which is positioned over a blue plastic bucket. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**Na Family
Support Dey
Make Mama And
Pikin Strong**

**Help Mama wey
just born pikin
do house work,
make she fit rest
come give pikin
breast well-well.**



Federal Ministry of
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**E GO SOON REACH
YOUR SIDE**

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THROUGH EXPERT
SESSIONS**

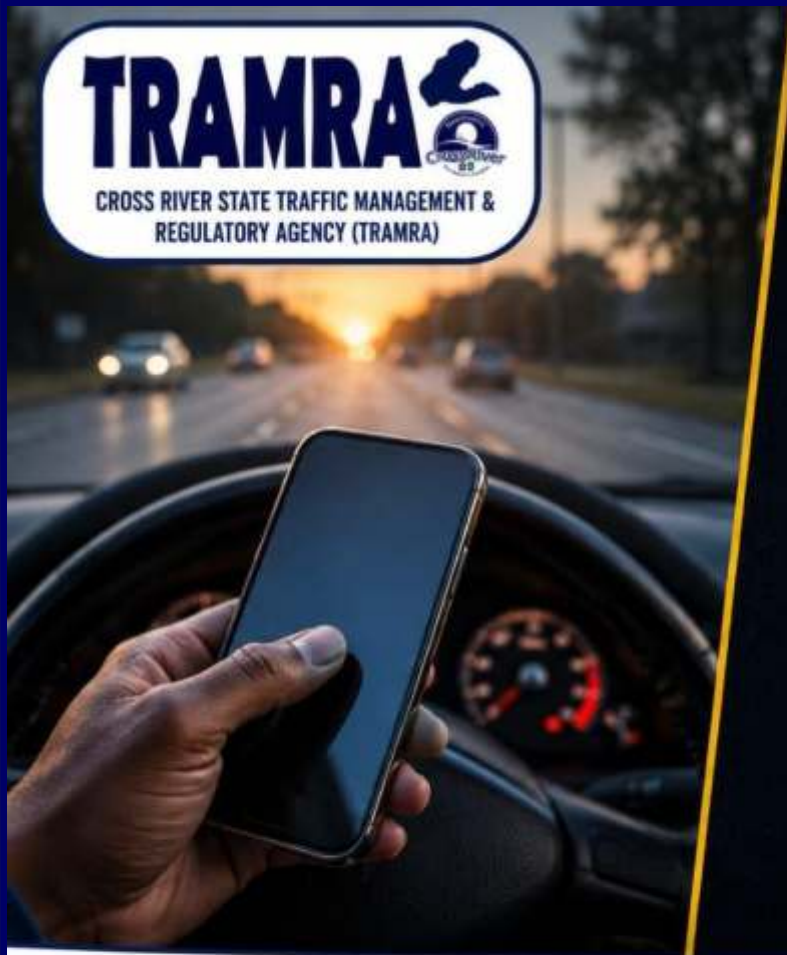


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| SAFETY TODAY

| ORDER ALWAYS

| MOBILITY FOR ALL



FLOOD ALERT

BE PREPARED, STAY SAFE



The rainy season is here again
how can we **prevent flooding?**

WHAT TO DO



**CLEAR THE GUTTERS
AND DRAINAGE.**



**AVOID DUMPING
REFUSE AND PLASTICS
IN THE GUTTER.**



**STAY UPDATED ON
WEATHER NEWS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

DURING THE FLOOD



**DO NOT WALK OR
DRIVE IN FLOODED
PLACES.**



**LIFT IMPORTANT
THINGS TO A
HIGH LEVEL.**



**FOLLOW
EVACUATION
ORDERS.**



**EVACUATE IF
NECESSARY.**



**TURN OFF ALL
ELECTRICAL
APPLIANCES AND GAS.**



**YOUR SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY.
TOGETHER, WE CAN REDUCE
RISK AND SAVE LIVES.**



**POWERED BY
CROSS RIVER STATE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**



Listen to
authorities.



Help your
neighbors.



Be prepared,
stay safe.



Government of Cross River State, Nigeria

23rd July 2026

PRESS RELEASE

EXTENSION OF THE SUSPENSION OF ALL SCRAP-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN CROSS RIVER STATE

Further to the Press Release dated the 23rd of February 2026, communicating His Excellency, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu's approval of the suspension of all scrap-related activities, the Cross River State Government hereby notifies the general public that the suspension has been extended for a further period of one (1) month expiring on the 23rd August 2026.

As stated in the previous Press Release, the suspension was necessitated by the increasing incidents of vandalism, theft and destruction of public infrastructure by scavengers, scrap dealers and their agents, and the significant security threat posed to the State. This extension is intended to enable Government conclude the ongoing review of the laws, policies and regulatory framework governing scrap-related activities in Cross River State. The objective is to strengthen the regulatory regime, identify and protect legitimate operators, and implement measures that effectively prevent the infiltration of criminal elements into the sector.

Government regrets any inconvenience caused to legitimate businesses and law-abiding operators. However, the protection of public infrastructure, the preservation of public order and security remain paramount. Members of the general public are accordingly informed that the suspension remains in full force and that any person or organization found engaging in scrap-related activities in contravention of this directive shall be dealt with strictly in accordance with the law.



Ededem Charles Ani, Esq

Attorney General & Commissioner for Justice



Office of the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice Cross River State



Ministry of Justice, New Secretariat Complex,
Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar



Attorneygeneral@crossriverstate.gov.ng



www.crossriverstate.gov.ng



PUBLIC ADVISORY



RAINY SEASON DRIVING STAY SAFE. ARRIVE ALIVE.

KEY SAFETY TIPS



REDUCE YOUR SPEED

Wet roads, longer stopping distance.



KEEP SAFE DISTANCE

Leave enough space between vehicles.



USE HEADLIGHTS

Improve visibility during rain.



AVOID FLOODED ROADS

Water hides dangers.



NO MOBILE PHONES

Stay focused. No distractions.



CHECK YOUR VEHICLE

Tyres, wipers, brakes & lights must be good.



WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT

Protect yourself and your passengers.



USE INDICATORS

Signal before you turn or change lanes.



AVOID OVERTAKING

Be patient. Drive responsibly.



POOR VISIBILITY?

Pull over safely and wait for conditions to improve.



LET'S PROTECT LIVES ON OUR ROADS

Obey traffic rules. Drive responsibly. Together, we can prevent accidents.



STAY ALERT. DRIVE SAFELY. ARRIVE ALIVE.

E-signed :

ASP EITOKPAH SUNDAY AKATA, anipr, misma
Police Public Relations Officer
Cross River State Police Command





FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS
RS6.2 CROSS RIVER SECTOR COMMAND

RAINY SEASON DRIVING TIPS

Drive Smart. Arrive Safe.

Rain changes road conditions.
Good decisions behind the wheel
save lives.



CC INNOCENT TOMMY ETUK
Sector Commander
RS6.2 Cross River Sector Command
Your Safety, Our Priority.

ADDITIONAL REMINDERS

- ✓ Avoid sudden braking and sharp turns.
- ✓ Do not overtake on wet or slippery roads.
- ✓ Pedestrians: Use walkways and cross at safe points.
- ✓ Motorcycle riders: Wear your helmet and rain gear.
- ✓ Commercial drivers: Do not overload.
- ✓ Take breaks and stay rested.

SAFE DRIVING TIPS



01

CHECK YOUR VEHICLE

Ensure your wipers, headlights, brake lights, tyres, brakes and windscreen are in good condition.



02

REDUCE SPEED

Wet roads reduce tyre grip. Drive within the speed limit and adjust to road and weather conditions.



03

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE

Maintain a longer following distance. It gives you more time to react and stop safely.



04

USE YOUR LIGHTS

Switch on your headlights even during the day to improve visibility and help others see you.



05

AVOID FLOODED ROADS

Do not drive through flood water. You may not know how deep it is. Turn back or find a safer route.



06

STAY FOCUSED

Avoid distractions. Do not use your phone while driving. Keep your eyes on the road at all times.



07

BUCKLE UP – EVERY TIME

Wear your seat belt and ensure all passengers do the same.

Be Road Safety Conscious. Your Family Needs You Home Safe.

FRSC EMERGENCY NUMBER
122

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Stay Alive**

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Information Agency



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RESPECT CYCLISTS,
MOTORCYCLISTS AND
PEDESTRIANS TO CREATE
A SAFER ROAD



RESPECT
SHARE
PROTECT
SAVE LIVES



RESPECT
CYCLISTS



RESPECT
MOTORCYCLISTS



RESPECT
PEDESTRIANS



SHARE TODAY,
SAVE TOMORROW

TRAMRA

Cross River State Traffic
Management and Regulatory Agency



TRAMRA

Cross River State Traffic Management and Regulatory Agency

CARNIVAL calabar 2026

UNVEILING OF CARNIVAL THEME	CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM	STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE ON E-VOTING	CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM
MAY 31ST	JUNE 27TH	JULY 2026	JULY 18TH
CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM	RELEASE OF ESSAY COMPETITION FORMS	CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM	ESSAY COMPETITION EXAMS
AUG. 12TH	AUG. 18TH	SEPT. 14TH	OCT. 2ND
CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM	AWARDS OF PRIZES (ESSAY COMPETITION)	FIRST DRY RUN	CARNIVAL FITNESS JAM
OCT. 10TH	OCT. 16TH	OCT. 18TH	NOV. 14TH
IGBO AMAKA FESTIVAL	2ND DRY RUN	IKOM OGOJA CARNIVAL	FINAL DRY RUN
NOV. 15TH	NOV. 22ND	NOVEMBER	DEC. 6TH
JUNIOR DRY RUN	CULTURAL CARNIVAL	KNIGHT OF KINGS AND QUEENS	JUNIOR CARNIVAL
DEC. 13TH	DEC. 26TH	DEC. 26TH	DEC. 27TH
PARADE OF THE BANDS	BIKERS CARNIVAL	STREET PARTY/ COLOUR RUNS	
DEC. 28TH	DEC. 29TH	DEC. 30TH	



THEME
Rethinking
OUR COLLECTIVE
Destiny

Kingsley Agim, anipr

SECTORIAL STRIDES is a special analytical column that chronicles and evaluates the achievements of the administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu under the People First Agenda. Written by Kingsley Agim, the column takes readers beyond headlines and project commissioning ceremonies to examine the impact of government policies, programmes, and interventions across key sectors of the state's economy and public service.

Each edition will spotlight a specific sector, providing a fact-based assessment of milestones recorded by ministries, departments, and agencies, while highlighting how these achievements are

improving the lives of Cross Riverians and advancing the state's development objectives.

From infrastructure and healthcare to education, agriculture, tourism, economic development, and social welfare, etc, Sectorial Strides offers a comprehensive account of the administration's journey, achievements, and legacy, one sector at a time.

The inaugural edition focuses on the Infrastructure Cluster, examining the transformative investments in roads, power, water resources, transportation, aviation, and border community development that are helping to reshape Cross River State's socio-economic landscape.



COMPLETED RENOVATION AND FURNISHING OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE COMPLEX, CALABAR

INFORMATION SECTOR

Gov. Otu: Repositioning Cross River's Information Sector for Transparency, Digital Governance, Global Visibility



Kingsley Agim, anipr

Information is the lifeblood of governance. It shapes public perception, inspires confidence, preserves history and connects government with the governed. Recognising this reality, Governor Bassey

Edet Otu made the revitalisation of Cross River State's information ecosystem a strategic component of his People First Agenda, transforming what had long been regarded as a routine government communication apparatus



into a dynamic instrument for transparency, citizen engagement and institutional efficiency.

Three years into the administration, the information sector has emerged as one of the state's most improved sectors, recording remarkable progress in digital transformation, public communication, media relations, broadcasting, institutional strengthening and archival documentation. The reforms implemented between 2023 and 2026 have not only modernised government information management but have also significantly enhanced Cross River

State's visibility on the national and international stage.

Prior to 2023, many of the structures responsible for government information management had suffered years of neglect. Critical communication infrastructure was outdated, public engagement had diminished, digital platforms were inactive, and the Ministry of Information operated with severe manpower and technological limitations.

Governor Otu's administration responded with deliberate investments





aimed at rebuilding the Ministry into a modern public communication institution capable of meeting the demands of contemporary governance.

For the first time in well over a decade, the Ministry underwent comprehensive institutional revitalisation. Modern ICT equipment was procured, digital workflows introduced, and office operations significantly improved through technology-driven systems. Equally significant was the recruitment of 20 new personnel (information officers), ending a manpower deficit that had persisted for more than 13 years and injecting fresh capacity into government information management.

These reforms improved operational efficiency while

laying the foundation for a more responsive and professional information service.

Perhaps one of the administration's most visible achievements has been the deliberate repositioning of Cross River State within the national media landscape.

Under Governor Otu, the Commissioner for



Information maintained consistent appearances on leading national television networks including Channels Television, AIT, ARISE News, TVC, NTA and other major platforms. These engagements provided opportunities to explain government policies, address public concerns, counter misinformation and showcase development initiatives across multiple sectors.

According to official records, Cross River's national media visibility rose dramatically from approximately 28 percent in 2022 to about 78 percent by 2025, representing one of the most

significant improvements in government media presence in recent years.

Beyond publicity, the initiative strengthened transparency, improved policy communication and restored public confidence in government information.

One of the landmark achievements of the administration was the revival of the Ministry of Information's official website, www.moi.cr.gov.ng, which had remained inactive since 2015.

The restoration of the website was



accompanied by the establishment of official social media platforms on Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter), creating an integrated digital communication ecosystem capable of reaching citizens both within Nigeria and across the diaspora.

These platforms now provide timely updates on government activities, policy decisions, public announcements and developmental projects, ensuring that citizens receive information directly from official sources.

Government estimates indicate that the

digital platforms currently account for approximately 70 percent of the Ministry's publicity reach, with a target of increasing coverage to 95 percent by 2027 through full integration with the state's official digital platforms.

The daily publication and electronic distribution of government news bulletins to Ministries, Departments and Agencies have further strengthened real-time information dissemination and inter-agency communication.

One of the less publicised but highly significant reforms has been the



restoration of official government documentation.

For years, several statutory government publications had suffered irregular production, affecting record keeping and legal documentation.

The Otu administration reversed this trend through the commercial printing and publication of Government Gazettes, White Papers, Tender Journals and all enacted state laws, including the 2025 Appropriation Law.

These publications have strengthened

institutional memory, improved legal documentation, enhanced transparency and preserved important government decisions for future generations.

Similarly, the resumption and sustained production of official government bulletins since January 2023 has restored a vital information channel that had previously become inactive.

Another landmark achievement has been the revival of Giant Strides Magazine, the Ministry's flagship publication showcasing government projects, programmes and development



initiatives.

The magazine, which had not been published since July 2017, resumed publication in October 2023 and has remained consistent.

Within three years, seven editions have been completed, and more than 13,000 copies have been distributed across Nigeria.

Beyond public enlightenment, the publication now serves as an enduring documentary record of the Otu administration's developmental journey and a valuable archival resource for future generations.

Governor Otu's administration also demonstrated an appreciation for strategic storytelling as a tool for investment promotion and image building.

The production and nationwide broadcast of the documentary "Governor Otu @2" represented a significant milestone in government communication.

Aired on Channels Television, AIT, ARISE News, TVC, NTA and other national networks between May and June 2025, the documentary highlighted achievements across multiple sectors, projecting Cross River State to a nationwide audience and strengthening

investor confidence in the state's development agenda.

Combined with regular press briefings and sustained media engagements, these initiatives have ensured that government activities remain accessible, verifiable and visible.

While embracing digital communication, the administration equally recognised the importance of grassroots engagement.

Through sustained mass mobilisation campaigns, coordinated press releases, Information Officers deployed across Ministries, Departments and Agencies, and the Village Square Broadcast Programme, government information

reached communities that traditionally had limited access to digital media.

The Village Square initiative particularly strengthened communication with traditional institutions, promoted indigenous values and ensured that government policies were explained in culturally relevant ways.

This combination of digital innovation and community engagement has significantly expanded the reach of government communication across urban and rural communities alike.

CRBC's Digital Revolution

If the Ministry of Information experienced institutional renewal, the





Cross River Broadcasting Corporation underwent a complete technological transformation.

Over the last three years, CRBC evolved from a conventional broadcasting station into a modern multimedia organisation.

The Corporation introduced a fully paperless digital newsroom, enabling

real-time news production and significantly improving operational efficiency.

To guarantee uninterrupted broadcasting despite Nigeria's persistent power challenges, four television and radio studios were equipped with inverter systems, virtually eliminating on-air interruptions caused by electricity



outages.

Additional investments included the installation of a new 20/2-kilowatt radio transmitter, a 13KVA electrical substation, comprehensive remodelling of radio studios, reception areas, conference facilities and newsroom infrastructure, as well as the acquisition of a new operational vehicle.

These improvements have substantially enhanced staff productivity and broadcast quality.

Perhaps the most transformative

achievement at CRBC has been the expansion of its audience beyond traditional terrestrial broadcasting.

Television services were migrated to satellite and Free-to-Air platforms, while Radio Garden integration enabled global online radio streaming.

The launch of the Naija TV mobile application, migration to the GOtv platform and government-supported NIGOSAT carriage services further expanded access to Cross River programming.

Today, CRBC reaches audiences across more



than ten local government areas while simultaneously serving viewers and listeners across Nigeria and the international diaspora.

For the first time, Cross River's stories are being told simultaneously to local communities and global audiences.

Understanding the changing media landscape, has CRBC established a modern podcast studio through collaboration with diaspora media partners in the United States.

This initiative has opened new opportunities for digital content production while positioning the Corporation to compete within today's evolving multimedia environment.

Equally important was the expansion of indigenous language programming following the acquisition of National Broadcasting Commission thematic language licences.

Combined with tourism-focused programmes, these initiatives have strengthened cultural preservation while

promoting Cross River's rich heritage to wider audiences.

Strengthening Institutional Capacity

Beyond infrastructure and technology, the administration has invested heavily in institutional development.

Participation in national fora of Information Commissioners under the Progressive Governors' Forum has enhanced intergovernmental collaboration while improving policy coordination and professional networking.

The remarkable transformation recorded in the information sector has also attracted national recognition for the Honourable Commissioner for Information, Dr. Erasmus Ekpang, whose leadership has earned him several prestigious media and public communication awards from reputable professional bodies and organizations across the country. In further affirmation of Cross River State's growing influence in public communication, the Commissioner was unanimously elected Secretary of the Forum of Commissioners for Information in All Progressives Congress (APC)-governed states, a development widely regarded as a testament to the administration's innovative communication strategy, institutional reforms and outstanding

contributions to information management at both the state and national levels.

Coverage of major state ceremonies, including Democracy Day, Independence Day, Children's Day and anniversary celebrations of the People First Administration, has ensured that important moments in the state's history are professionally documented and preserved.

Meanwhile, the continued publication of over 173 editions of the Nigerian Chronicle and Weekend Chronicle has sustained the state's print media presence and enriched the historical archive of government activities.

Another significant milestone has been the near-completion of the comprehensive restoration of the Cross River State Newspaper Corporation complex, which was extensively vandalised and destroyed during the #EndSARS protests in 2020.

The rehabilitation of the corporation's facilities represents the administration's commitment to rebuilding critical public institutions and restoring the state's capacity for public information dissemination through its flagship newspapers.

In furtherance of this objective, the Otu administration has also procured modern digital printing equipment for the restoration of the Government Printing Press. When fully operational, the facility

will not only guarantee greater confidentiality in the printing of sensitive government documents, gazettes, white papers and other official publications, but will also position the state to generate additional revenue through commercial printing services for public and private organisations.

These complementary investments underscore Governor Otu's broader vision of rebuilding the entire government information value chain, from content creation and documentation to printing, publishing and distribution, while strengthening institutional self-reliance, improving operational efficiency and creating new economic opportunities within the information sector.

Ultimately, the achievements recorded in the information sector extend far beyond improved publicity.

They represent the deliberate construction of an open, digitally connected and citizen-focused governance system.

Through stronger communication channels, modern broadcasting infrastructure, revitalised institutional capacity, enhanced digital engagement, improved archival systems and broader media visibility, Governor Bassey Otu has repositioned information as a strategic instrument for development rather than merely a vehicle for publicity.

The reforms have strengthened transparency, increased citizen participation, expanded access to government information and restored confidence in public communication.

Three years after assuming office, Governor Bassey Edet Otu has transformed Cross River's information sector from a largely analogue, under-resourced system into a modern, technology-driven communication ecosystem.

From reviving dormant digital platforms and modernising government documentation to repositioning CRBC for global broadcasting and restoring Cross River's voice on the national media stage, the administration has demonstrated that effective governance depends as much on how government communicates as on what it delivers.

As the state advances toward deeper digital governance, broader citizen engagement and stronger institutional transparency, the reforms implemented between 2023 and 2026 have laid a durable foundation for an information sector that is not only more efficient and innovative but also better equipped to serve the people of Cross River State in the years ahead.







SECTORIAL STRIDES









THIS IS CROSS RIVER STATE

TOGETHER LET'S KEEP IT **CLEAN, GREEN & SERENE**



Refuse in the gutters blocks the drains



Use the skip bins closest to you



Dumping refuse outside the skip bins is unpleasant



A clean Environment starts with proper waste disposal



A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS



REFUSE DISPOSAL OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED TIME OF 6:00 PM TO 10:00 PM IS HIGHLY PROHIBITED

This message is brought to you by

**THE CROSS RIVER STATE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**





Statewide Environmental Sanitation

Holds Every Last Saturday of the Month

from 7:00am -10:00am



His Excellency,
Senator (Prince) Bassey Edet Otu
Governor, Cross River State



Bassey Offiong Mensah, esq.
Commissioner for Environment,
Cross River State



KEEP CROSS RIVER STATE

CLEAN & GREEN

WHAT TO DO

Sweep your surroundings



Cut the Grasses around you



Clear drains/gutters



Dispose Garbage Appropriately



This Message is brought to you by:
The Cross River State Ministry of Environment



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Cross River State

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01-4482998





STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN CROSS RIVER STATE

- 1** Obtain an Application Form at CRGIA's Office, Old Secretariat Road, Off Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar, Cross River State
- 2** Submit Application Form with Required Documents
Fill and submit the form along with necessary documents, e.g. Registered Title Document, survey plan, identification, etc.
- 3** Assessment and Payment of Fees.
The office will assess applicable charges, registration fees, processing fees, etc. Make the required payment.
- 4** Inspection and Publication (for private land)
Property is inspected by LUAC officials
Notice of application is published for 21 days to allow for objections.
After clearance, Governor's Approval in Principle is obtained.
- 5** C of O (Certificate of Occupancy) Engrossment and Signing
The Certificate of Occupancy is prepared (engrossed) and signed by the Governor or delegated authority.
- 6** Registration and Delivery
Final registration is completed at the Lands Registry.
Registered documents are delivered to the applicant (client).

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Overspeeding:**

**Speed thrills
But Kills.**

**Always obey
speed limits**

— FRSC —

CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND