

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

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.



Articles and stories in this publication may be reproduced.

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SUB-EDITORS

Achiane Adams
Daniel Bebia
Blessing Enagu
Nchajeno Richard-Odu

ICT/PRODUCTION MANAGER

Hinang-ovai Uno

PHOTOGRAPHS

Daniel Williams
Joe Alah

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CROSS RIVER STATE

VISION STATEMENT

To become a leading Nigerian State with prosperous, healthy and well educated citizens; living in harmony with people and nature, and pursuing legitimate interest in freedom moderated by good governance.

MINISTERIAL MANDATE

To project and protect the image of Government and act as Chief Image Maker/Spokesman for the State as well as supervision of the State Media Organisation.

VISION

To be the best organ of the State for the promotion of positive values, its image and overall endowment to Cross Riverians, Nigerians and the Diaspora.

Mission

To utilize in harmony all apparatus of government media to effectively disseminate information, educate and entertain the public, using the electronic, print media and interpersonal communication channels.



THE GOVERNMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA

HIS EXCELLENCY, SENATOR, PRINCE **BASSEY EDET OTU,PNIPR**, GOVERNOR OF CROSS RIVER STATE
SPECIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE RE-ACTIVATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVELY REMODELED
ICONIC CROSS RIVER STATE NEWSPAPER CORPORATION AND THE COMMISSIONING
OF NEWLY INSTALLED STATE-OF-THE-ART GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS NOW

"CROSS RIVER INFORMATION HUB"

Diamond Guest Of Honour

Chief Clement David Ebri,CON
Former Governor of Cross River State

Special Guest Of Honour

Alhaji Mohammed Idris Malagi,fnipr
Honourable Minister of Information and
National Orientation

Date & Time

Thursday, 3rd September, 2026
10:00am Prompt

Event Venue

Cross River State Newspaper
Corporation Complex,
Barracks Road, Calabar.

State Chief of Protocol

Mr. Sylvester Abang

Dr. Erasmus Ekpang,^{mnipr,ftifuh}
+234 803 724 1080



His Excellency,
PRINCE BASSEY EDET OTU,PNIPR
Governor, Cross River State

With Esteemed Regards From His Excellency, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu,PNIPR

2027: Cross River Not for Political Experiment, Gov. Otu Declares

By Daniel Bebia



Cross River State Governor, Senator Bassey Edet Otu, has declared that the State is "not for experiment", urging those aspiring to lead it to present their antecedents and demonstrate what

they have done for the people.

Governor Otu gave the warning, Friday, on his return to the state from national engagements, when he was received by members of the All Progressives Congress (APC), supporters and

other well-wishers at the Margaret Ekpo International Airport, Calabar.

Speaking against the backdrop of emerging political activities, the Governor said Cross River had gone beyond the era of entrusting



its future to individuals without verifiable experience and records of service. "The state is not for experiment. We have gone past that," Otu declared.

He challenged political opponents to show their antecedents and demonstrate their capacity to lead, stressing that

those seeking to govern the state should not simply "wake up from anywhere and jump" into the contest.

"Every relationship we have gone, we have had antecedents. We cannot play with the future of Cross Riverians anymore. So if you want to come out, let us see your antecedents.

Let us see what you have done," he said.

The Governor said his administration had spent the past three years laying a solid foundation for a productive Cross River State, attributing the progress recorded to sacrifice and divine intervention. "What we have done in the space of three years is



something that a lot of people marvel... it is by divine intervention," he said.

Otu said the administration came into office with a mandate to restore the state, noting that several assets that had remained moribund or were lost over the years had been revived.

He added that his government had expanded the state's economic base, increased its GDP and touched all major development areas.

Acknowledging challenges along the way, the Governor said his administration remained focused on confronting the facts and moving forward, declaring:

"Forward ever, backward never." He assured Cross Riverians that the state was headed for the next level and that "nothing can take us back."

On the national economy, Governor Otu acknowledged the difficult times confronting Nigerians and commended President Bola



Ahmed Tinubu for his efforts at repositioning the economy. He noted that the alignment of the country's three major international credit rating agencies was evidence of

progress.

The Governor, however, said the ultimate objective was for the benefits of economic reforms to trickle down to ordinary Nigerians, assuring that his

administration would continue to work towards ensuring that Cross Riverians benefit from emerging opportunities.

He also appealed for patience



among party members and supporters, explaining that it was impossible for everyone to occupy political positions simultaneously. "Everybody cannot be a billionaire at the same time. We cannot all hold positions at the same time. But what I want to assure you is that it will go around,

and it will touch everyone," he said.

As political activities intensify, Otu urged his supporters to remain focused and united, stressing that genuine political strength was not determined by social media activities but by how leaders relate with the people. "Remember, the thing is not social media. It is how

you relate with people, and this is People First Government," he said, assuring that his administration would continue to work with Cross Riverians to build a stronger future for the state.











Deputy Governor Odey Launches N100m 40-Bed Facility for Mbube Community

By Ukongikwen Adie



For residents of Idum-Mbube and neighbouring communities in Ogoja Local Government Area, access to medical care may soon become a matter of minutes rather than long journeys. That prospect came

closer to reality on Saturday when the Deputy Governor of Cross River State, Rt. Hon. Peter Odey, broke ground for the construction of a 40-bed Oturikang Hospital in the community.

The hospital, being established

through Odey's personal initiative, is designed to bring quality healthcare closer to people who often have to travel considerable distances in search of medical attention. For families, expectant



mothers, children and elderly residents in Idum and surrounding communities, the facility is expected to provide a critical healthcare lifeline when completed.

Performing the groundbreaking ceremony, Odey said the occasion was not merely symbolic, assuring residents

that construction would commence immediately. He said the project reflected his personal commitment to improving the wellbeing of his people and contributing meaningfully to the development of Idum and Mbube Nation.

The Deputy Governor appealed

to the people to take ownership of the facility, stressing that the hospital was being provided for their benefit. He assured them that he would pursue the project to completion within months, while commending the traditional rulers and residents for their continued support for the



administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu.

For the community, the project represents more than a new building. The Buturo of Idum Community, HRH Buturo Peter Ejue, said the hospital would

reduce the burden on residents who currently travel long distances to access medical attention, describing the initiative as a demonstration of the Deputy Governor's genuine concern for the welfare of his people.

Ejue commended Odey as a proud son of the land and assured him of the community's cooperation in ensuring the successful completion and effective utilisation of the facility. He also



reaffirmed the community's support for the Deputy Governor and the Governor Bassey Edet Otu-led administration.

At the ceremony, Lekwel E' Mbe 1 of Mbube also highlighted the importance of infrastructure to the wellbeing and economic prospects of the people,

reaffirming the administration's commitment to completing ongoing projects, particularly the Ndok-Mbube Road.

He reiterated the government's promise to extend the road to Utugwang in Obudu Local Government Area, noting that improved connectivity would open up

communities, facilitate movement and stimulate economic activities across the area.

The ceremony was attended by the Director-General of the State Primary Healthcare Development Agency, Dr. Mrs. Vivien Otu; Director-General of the State



Health Insurance Agency, Chief Godwin Iyala; Chairman of Ogoja LGA, Hon. Chris Agbeh; Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy Governor, Dr. Chris Ojikpong; Chief Dr. Peter Ojie; Mr. Emmanuel Anoh; His Highness Buturo Franklin Odey Agba, Clan Head of Idum South; traditional rulers,

government officials and other stakeholders.

The highpoint was the N100 million personal donation by Deputy Governor Peter Odey towards the commencement of construction, after which he laid the foundation stone for the 40-bed Oturikang Hospital.

When completed, the facility is

expected to do more than add another healthcare infrastructure to Ogoja: it will bring medical care closer to the doorstep of the people of Idum-Mbube and give families a greater sense of security when illness strikes.



Assembly Service Commission Audit Will Help Address Funding Gaps — Chairman

By Iloke Egbe



The Chairman of the Cross River State House of Assembly Service Commission, Hon. Ntufam Victor Okon, has called on auditors in the state public service to uphold the ethics and standards of their

profession, saying their reports are critical to identifying funding gaps and enabling government to address them through the budgetary process.

Okon gave the charge when he received a team of

auditors at the House of Assembly Service Commission Complex during a routine audit visit to assess the Commission's financial position and compliance with public sector financial regulations.



Welcoming the auditors, the Chairman expressed satisfaction with their visit, saying their independent assessment would provide government with a clearer understanding of the Commission's financial situation and enable appropriate advice on issues requiring

attention.

"I am happy you are here to see things for yourself," Okon said, noting that the audit exercise would also serve as evidence of the financial constraints confronting the Commission.

He explained that the Commission had viable plans and experienced

commissioners capable of repositioning the institution, but stressed that adequate funding remained essential to translating its plans into tangible results.

Okon expressed optimism that Governor Bassey Edet Otu would give the Commission the necessary



attention and support, describing the Governor as a progressive-minded leader who, he said, was committed to improving the fortunes of the state.

The Chairman urged staff of the Commission to continue to demonstrate understanding and support for

government, noting that dwindling public resources was not peculiar to Cross River State.

He further called on the staff to keep the Governor and the state in their prayers, particularly as the administration pursues initiatives aimed at strengthening the state's economic base.

Okon cited the Governor's efforts to restore Cross River State to oil-producing status as one of the initiatives that could significantly transform the state's economic fortunes, expressing optimism that the benefits would ultimately outweigh the challenges being

experienced at present.

Earlier, the team leader, Ms. Victoria Bassey Etim, said the auditors were at the Commission as part of their routine official duties within the Civil Service to promote sound financial management and prevent poor financial performance and reporting by government establishments.

Etim explained that credible financial reporting was essential to safeguarding the integrity and rating of the administration, adding that the exercise was designed to ensure that accountability in the management of public funds was

not compromised.

She said the auditors would examine the Commission's financial records to ensure that they were maintained transparently, prevent diversion of public funds and ensure that retirements of funds were carried out promptly in accordance with financial regulations.

The team leader expressed satisfaction with the performance of the Commission's Director of Accounts, Mr. David Ajoronor, describing him as an experienced and seasoned accountant with considerable versatility in the discharge of his responsibilities.

The audit exercise featured the inspection of the Commission's financial records and an interactive session between the auditors and officials of the Commission.

Other members of the audit team included Mr. Essien Nyong, Head of Department and Supervisor; Mrs. Ekpoanwan Ekpenyong Nsa; Mrs. Mary Peter Imong; Mr. Joseph Ekpenyong Okon; and Miss Esther Akiba Ekpenyong.

FG Trains Health Workers Ahead of State Food Bank Rollout in C'River

By Offiong Itang



A national-level team has commenced a two-day training for healthcare workers in preparation for the state's upcoming Food Bank Programme. The Director General of the Cross River State Primary

Health Care Development Agency (CRSPHCDA), Dr Vivien Mesembe Otu, stated that the training aims to equip healthcare personnel with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively support the programme and ensure beneficiaries

receive appropriate nutritional and health-related services. Dr Otu noted that the selected health workers are from Calabar Municipality, Ikom, and Ogoja Local Government Areas. She explained that participants will be trained on proper



beneficiary screening and identification of health and nutritional needs during the programme. The

CRSPHCDA boss urged the health workers to actively participate and listen attentively to the facilitators, stressing that the

exercise is a serious capacity-building session, not a time for levity. She encouraged participants to fully utilize the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills required for the successful implementation of the Food Bank Programme. The Director of Nutrition at the National Primary



Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Dr Victoria Adebiyi, stated that the programme primarily focuses on addressing the nutritional needs of malnourished children aged 0–6 years, as well as pregnant women and lactating mothers. She explained that the intervention is designed to identify vulnerable

beneficiaries and provide the necessary nutritional support to improve their health and well-being. Dr Adebiyi further emphasized the critical role of health workers, noting that proper screening and identification of beneficiaries are essential to ensure the intervention reaches those most in need. She urged participants to pay

close attention during the training and effectively apply their new knowledge during the rollout. The Principal Medical Officer of the NPHCDA, Dr Philippa Odiaka, trained the healthcare workers on the proper use of Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) tapes to screen children for acute malnutrition. She demonstrated



the correct measurement procedure for identifying children who may require further assessment and nutritional intervention. Dr Odiaka stressed the importance of accuracy during screening, emphasizing that precise measurement is essential for correctly identifying

malnourished children. She encouraged the health workers to adhere strictly to prescribed guidelines and ensure every beneficiary is properly assessed before enrollment. Other participants at the training included UNICEF Nutrition Specialist Dr Ngozi Onuora, CRSPHCDA Director of Nutrition

Dr Winifred Ogar, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Mrs Bassey Edet, BHCPF Desk Officer Princess Ekaette Ekpenyong, and other relevant stakeholders.





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and



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COUNCILS
IN THE CENTRAL
CROSS RIVER**

P R E S E N T S

A ONE-DAY

SENSITIZATION CONFERENCE

THEME:

TAX HARMONIZATION
BETWEEN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
CROSS RIVER CENTRAL EXPERIENCE
(FOCUS: MULTIPLE TAXATION)

OBJECTIVES



Promote understanding
of tax laws and policies
at the state and
local levels.



Address challenges
of multiple taxation
and its impact on
businesses.



Foster collaboration
between State and
Local Government
revenue authorities
and stakeholders.



Share the Cross River
Central experience
as a model for effective
tax harmonization.



DATE:
Wednesday, 9th September, 2026



TIME:
10:00 a.m.



VENUE:
ICC Hotel Hall, Four Corners,
Ikrom, Cross River State.

STAKEHOLDERS IN ATTENDANCE:

BUSINESSES | TAX EXPERTS
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES
AND MORE

TOGETHER FOR A FAIR, SIMPLE AND HARMONIZED TAX SYSTEM
THAT DRIVES GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

ENQUIRIES:



08037321961, 08167081631



ikomccima@gmail.com

Calabar To Reclaim Status As Nigeria's Cleanest City Soon - Mensah

By Sylvia Okoi



The Cross River State Commissioner for Environment, Barr. Bassey Offiong Mensah, has reaffirmed the State Government's commitment to restoring sanitary standards and

returning the state to the level of cleanliness for which it was once renowned. Mensah made the declaration on Saturday while addressing journalists at the end of the August edition of the

statewide environmental sanitation exercise. He emphasized the need for residents to take environmental hygiene more seriously, expressing concern that despite the



restriction of movement between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., some residents were still seen trading and playing football during sanitation hours. "The exercise will not achieve its intended purpose if residents continue to flout the stipulated time

frame. Government directives must be strictly obeyed," he warned. The Commissioner appealed to residents to cultivate the habit of cleaning their surroundings regularly, stressing that sanitation should be a daily responsibility and not only when enforcement is

imminent. "Cleanliness is next to godliness. Our people must become more environmentally conscious," he said. Mensah, however, commended residents and traders in some areas, particularly at 8 Miles and Marian Market, for their improved



compliance during the exercise. He cautioned traders against displaying goods on roadways, stressing that street trading would not be tolerated. He also raised concerns over traders operating beneath high-tension power lines, describing the practice as

“extremely dangerous” and urged them to relocate to safer locations. The Commissioner disclosed that the government plans to set up mobile courts around major markets to enforce environmental laws and sanction offenders. On waste evacuation, he said the Ministry is

collaborating with relevant waste management authorities to ensure that refuse collected during sanitation exercises is promptly evacuated. He added that the statewide sanitation exercise would be sustained with necessary



adjustments to improve effectiveness."The ultimate goal is to return Cross River State to what it used to be. Maintaining a clean and healthy environment requires the collective effort of both government and citizens," Mensah stated. He called for stronger

collaboration among environmental organizations and stakeholders, and commended the Ratel Movement for its continued commitment to environmental initiatives. Some residents who spoke to journalists applauded the Commissioner's efforts and expressed

confidence in his ability to deliver on the mandate. At the time of filing this report, defaulters were being prosecuted in line with the laws of the state.







Obanliku Is a Fertile Ground for APC — Prof Beshel

By Joseph Ashibekong



The Cross River State Commissioner for Science and Technology, Assoc. Prof Justin Beshel, has said that Obanliku Local Government Area remains a fertile ground for the All Progressives Congress (APC), expressing confidence that the party would sweep all electoral contests

in the forthcoming 2027 general election. He assured of maximum support from his people across the various wards in Obanliku, stating that this would ensure that President Bola Tinubu, Senator Bassey Otu, and other candidates of the party are massively voted into office in 2027. Prof Beshel, who spoke on

Sunday while receiving Governor Otu and his entourage at the Civic Centre, Sankwala, noted that Obanliku LGA holds a historic place in Cross River State owing to natural potentials that have promoted the State's profile globally over the years. He observed that the Governor is committed to



harnessing the
area's natural
resources to
boost the State's

economy for
sustainable
development,
adding that the

Governor's visit
was to share in
the season of
sweetness



marking the 2026 edition of the Obanliku New Yam Festival. Prof Beshel maintained that since assuming office, Governor Otu has made tremendous efforts towards the development of Obanliku, including the renovation of schools and health centres, the reopening and revitalisation of the Ranch Resort, the reopening of the Bebi Airstrip, and

demonstrated regard for traditional institutions, among other initiatives. Earlier, on Saturday, during activities marking the New Yam Festival, Prof Beshel said the future of Obanliku is key, noting that one way of achieving the future the people desire is to encourage learning, hard work and discipline. He supported the Education Trust

Fund with the sum of five million naira (₦5,000,000). He charged party members to continue extending maximum support to the Otu-led administration and to key into the numerous developmental programmes and activities designed to add value to their lives and keep hope alive.

Cross River Pension Board Trains New Staff for Better Service Delivery

By Daniel Bebia



Determined to ensure that pensioners receive more efficient, professional and responsive services, the Cross River State Local Government Pensions Board has trained its

newly recruited staff as part of efforts to strengthen capacity and improve pension administration.

The in-house training programme, held on Thursday, August 27, 2026, aligns

with the Cross River State Government's broader commitment to repositioning the Civil Service through continuous capacity building and improved standards of



service delivery.

Declaring the session open, the Executive Secretary of the Board, Mrs. MariaMenku Odu, charged the participants to maximise the opportunity by acquiring the knowledge, discipline and professional values required to deliver

effectively in their various responsibilities.

Odu emphasised that professionalism, integrity and dedication were critical to effective pension administration, urging the new officers to understand the sensitive nature of their responsibilities

and the impact of their conduct on pensioners who depend on the system for their entitlements.

She encouraged the participants to approach their duties with a strong sense of responsibility, noting that competent and disciplined personnel were



Association of Retired Permanent Secretaries, who took the participants through key principles guiding effective public service.

essential to building a pension administration system that is efficient, transparent and responsive to the needs of the

people.

The training was facilitated by Barr. Emmanuel Enamhe, a retired Permanent Secretary and Chairman of the

Enamhe addressed critical areas including the Public Service Rules, Code of Conduct, ethics and integrity,



punctuality, official dress code, workplace communication, customer service and the application of Information and Communication Technology in pension administration.

He stressed the importance of transparency in the management of pensioners'

records, noting that accurate records and accountable processes were fundamental to building public trust and ensuring efficient pension administration.

The facilitator also reaffirmed the Board's zero-tolerance position on corruption, charging the new staff to uphold

integrity and accountability in the discharge of their duties.

According to him, better service delivery requires more than technical competence, as public officers must also demonstrate discipline, courtesy, transparency and



commitment to the people they are employed to serve.

For the newly recruited officers, the training provided an opportunity to gain a clearer understanding of the rules, responsibilities and professional standards expected of them as they begin their careers in the public service.

In her vote of thanks, Miss Nkese Effiong, who spoke on behalf of the newly employed staff, expressed appreciation to the Board's management and the facilitator for investing in their professional development.

Effiong said the training would significantly enhance their productivity, competence and

professionalism, adding that the knowledge acquired would enable them to discharge their responsibilities more effectively and contribute to the actualisation of the Board's mandate and the growth of Cross River State.

UNICROSS Reunites Four Generations of Alumni at Historic Ekpo Abasi Gathering

By Kingsley Agim



DIRECTORATE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF CROSS RIVER STATE, CALABAR, NIGERIA

Presents

DIFFERENT INSTITUTION ERAS
MEET AND GREET

Connecting Generation, Building Legacies

DATE: Wednesday
2nd Sept. 2026.

TIME: 11am
Prompt

VENUE: New Mass Comm.
Room 3

WELCOME HOME @
UNIVERSITY OF CROSS RIVER STATE

OBIA ENIANG-ESIEN Ph.D
FASST, FIPPA, FETIBRO
DIRECTOR ALUMNI RELATIONS

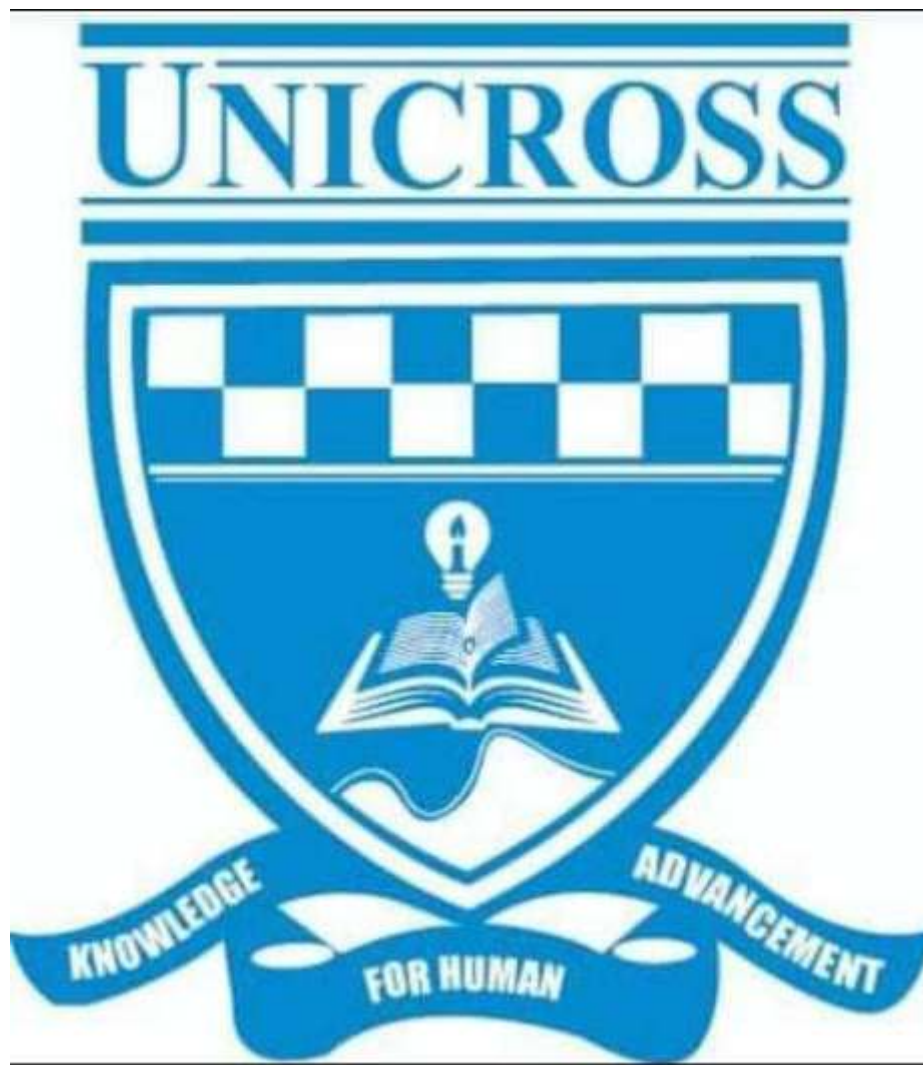
PROF. FRANCISCA BASSEY
FASST, FIPPA, FETIBRO, FICAN
VICE CHANCELLOR, UNICROSS

RSVP: 08033796739 Email: unicrossdalumni@unicross.edu.ng

The University of Cross River State (UNICROSS) is set to bring together four generations of graduates whose academic journeys are linked to its

Calabar Campus, Ekpo Abasi, in a historic reunion designed to reconnect alumni with their alma mater and celebrate the institution's remarkable evolution over the years.

Tagged "Different Institutions Eras Meet and Greet," the gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at the New Mass Communication Block of the



Calabar Campus. It will bring together alumni of the defunct College of Technology Calabar, The Polytechnic Calabar (POLYCAL), Cross River University of Technology (CRUTECH) and the present

University of Cross River State (UNICROSS).

The initiative is part of efforts of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Francisca Bassey, to strengthen the relationship between the university and its

alumni. In furtherance of this commitment, Professor Bassey established the Directorate of Alumni Relations in May 2025 and appointed Dr. (Mrs.) Obia Eniang-Esien as its pioneer Director.

The Directorate is mandated to bridge the gap between the university and its alumni through meaningful and sustained engagement with graduates of UNICROSS and its predecessor institutions. The initiative recognises alumni as important stakeholders whose continued connection with their alma mater can contribute significantly to its growth and development.

Speaking on the purpose of the gathering, the Director of Alumni Relations, Dr. (Mrs.) Obia Eniang-Esien, said the event was conceived to reconnect graduates of the different eras with

the institution they once called home. In her words, "We want to make them come back home."

She explained that the gathering would enable alumni to return to the institution where they received their training, relive cherished memories, renew old friendships and explore meaningful ways of giving back to their alma mater.

The first-of-its-kind event is expected to provide a unique platform for graduates from the different institutional eras to meet, interact and reflect on their shared heritage, while appreciating the transformation of the Ekpo Abasi Campus from the

College of Technology Calabar and POLYCAL, through CRUTECH, to the present-day UNICROSS.

The Directorate of Alumni Relations has therefore invited all graduates of the College of Technology Calabar, POLYCAL, CRUTECH and UNICROSS eras to return to Ekpo Abasi for the historic gathering, reconnect with one another and celebrate the enduring institutional legacy that binds the four generations together.

Cross River Deepens HIV Response, Brings Treatment, Prevention Services Closer to Communities

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Government has deepened its HIV response with the launch of a Pharmacy-Based HIV Service Delivery Initiative designed to bring treatment and prevention services closer to residents through accredited community pharmacies across the state. The initiative was

officially launched on Friday, August 28, 2026, at Franphinas Hotel, Calabar, by the Cross River State Ministry of Health in partnership with Maisha Meds, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF).

The programme represents a strategic shift

towards decentralised HIV service delivery by integrating private community pharmacies into the state's healthcare network and establishing stronger referral linkages between pharmacies and public primary healthcare facilities.

Representing the Commissioner for



Health at the launch, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Dr Bassey Jonah Offor, said the state

government remained committed to creating an enabling environment for innovative health interventions

capable of improving access to quality care. "As a ministry, as a state, our responsibility is to make sure that we



provide the needed enabling environment for people that are coming into the state to function and function well," he stated.

Offor, who formally launched the initiative on behalf of the Commissioner, described the integration of community

pharmacists into the state's HIV care network as an important milestone. "It is my singular honour, on behalf of the Commissioner for Health, to officially flag off and launch this community-based HIV care that has to do with ARV HIV refill projects and the PrEP process," he declared, charging

participating pharmacists to maintain proper documentation and uphold high standards of patient care. The Country Director of Maisha Meds in Nigeria, Dr Hafeez Oluwa, explained that the initiative comprises two complementary interventions: strengthening ARV



delivery through community pharmacies and expanding access to PrEP initiation. Oluwa noted that community pharmacies and patent medicine outlets often serve as the first point of contact for people

seeking healthcare, stressing the importance of formal referral linkages with primary healthcare centres to ensure patients receive appropriate and quality care.

The Senior

Programme Manager, Maisha Meds, Mr. Samuel Ombs, disclosed that Cross River was among four states selected to participate in the Maisha Meds expansion programme, supported by the



Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and EJAF.

Ombs said the two-year intervention would see the ARV refill component run until 2027 and the PrEP component until 2028, adding that the programme would complement existing state efforts to improve HIV treatment and prevention services.

Under the HIV ARV Refill Project, stable people living with HIV will be able to obtain their antiretroviral medicines from licensed community pharmacies linked to public health facilities, providing a more convenient option for routine medication refills.

The PrEP/PEP Initiation Project will provide oral pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis through

trained and accredited community pharmacies to individuals requiring HIV prevention services, including people in discordant relationships, sex workers, men who have sex with men, adolescents and adult women. Director-General of the Cross River State Agency for the Control of AIDS (SACA), Dr Charles Iwara,



emphasised the importance of sustained community sensitisation, grassroots mobilisation and inter-agency collaboration to ensure HIV prevention information and services reach vulnerable populations across all local government areas.

Representing the Cross River State Primary Health Care Development Agency, Dr Sunday

I. It stressed the importance of effective linkages between primary healthcare facilities and accredited community outlets, including clear referral pathways and continuous availability of healthcare commodities.

The State Director of ECEWS, Dr. Joe Umana, also highlighted the role of implementing partners in strengthening state systems, data management and

service continuity. Also speaking, Raymond Abugieye, who represented the Director-General of the Cross River State Health Insurance Agency, Chief Dr Godwin Iyala, advocated the integration of community-based HIV services into broader state health insurance frameworks to improve financial protection and reduce out-of-pocket expenditure for patients. Closing the event,



the Programme Manager for AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Program, Ministry of Health, Mrs Mary-Treasure Amah, appreciated the participating institutions and development partners for their commitment to expanding accessible community-based healthcare in Cross River State.

The launch attracted senior

officials and technical experts from the Ministry of Health, SACA, CRSPHDA and CRSHIA, alongside representatives of Maisha Meds, ECEWS, Pharmacists Council of Nigeria (PCN), CHAI, CCCRN, Heartland Alliance, NEPWHAN, ACPN, UCTH and participating community pharmacies. Stakeholders were also briefed on emerging

innovations, including artificial intelligence-driven testing kits and once-weekly oral tablet regimens currently undergoing final trial phases.



THE GOVERNMENT OF CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA

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Former Governor of Cross River State

Special Guest Of Honour

Alhaji Mohammed Idris Malagi, FNIPR
Honourable Minister of Information and
National Orientation

Date & Time

Thursday, 3rd September, 2026
10:00am Prompt

Event Venue

Cross River State Newspaper
Corporation Complex,
Barracks Road, Calabar.

State Chief of Protocol

Mr. Sylvester Abang

Dr. Erasmus Ekpang, MNIPR, FTIFUH
+234 803 724 1080



His Excellency,
PRINCE BASSEY EDET OTU, PNIPR
Governor, Cross River State

With Esteemed Regards From His Excellency, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, PNIPR

Cross River Screens 254 Candidates for Permanent Secretary Positions Through CBT

By Kera Okem



The Cross River State Government, through the Office of the Head of Service, has conducted a Computer-Based Test (CBT) for 254

duly cleared candidates shortlisted for the qualifying examination for consideration for appointment as Permanent Secretaries in the

State Civil Service.

The examination was held on Saturday, August 29, 2026, at the Information and Communication Technology (ICT)



Hub of the Calabar Campus of the University of Cross River State (UNICROSS).

The exercise forms a critical component of the selection process and is designed to assess the candidates' knowledge, competence, administrative

capacity and understanding of government operations, in line with the state government's commitment to strengthening professionalism, merit and excellence in the public service.

Addressing the candidates before the commencement

of the examination, the Head of Service, Cross River State, Mr Orok Bassey Okon, Esq., charged them to conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity and discipline throughout the exercise.

Okon specifically



warned the candidates against the use of mobile phones, electronic gadgets or any external devices during the examination, stressing that protecting the integrity of the process was a responsibility shared by all participants.

He urged the

candidates to rely solely on their knowledge and professional experience, noting that the examination represented an important stage in determining those qualified for consideration for appointment to the position of Permanent Secretary.

The examination was supervised by distinguished and respected citizens of Cross River State, whose presence further reinforced the credibility, transparency and integrity of the exercise.

Speaking after the examination, Mr Uket Bassey Uket, a Director in the



Cross River State Internal Revenue Service (CRIRS) and one of the candidates, described the test as challenging but intellectually engaging.

According to Uket, the questions were broad-based and covered various aspects of government, public administration and the operations of the civil service.

He noted that the examination tested not only the candidates' professional knowledge but also their understanding of government processes and administration, describing the experience as a worthwhile assessment.

The conduct of the CBT represents another step by the

Cross River State Government towards institutionalising a transparent, competitive and merit-driven process for selecting senior officers to occupy critical leadership positions within the State Civil Service.



Statewide Environmental Sanitation



Holds On Saturday, August 29, 2026

from 7:00am -10:00am



His Excellency,
Senator (Prince) Bassey Edet Otu
Governor, 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

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

Mineral Resources Ministry Deepens Staff Capacity on Ethics, Communication, Digital Innovation

By Amarachi Eneji



The Cross River State Ministry of Mineral Resources has strengthened the capacity of its workforce through an in-house training programme focused on ethics, professionalism, effective communication and digital

innovation to enhance productivity and improve public service delivery.

The training, which brought together staff from various departments of the Ministry, provided a platform for participants to deepen their understanding of

workplace ethics, organisational values, information management and the application of technology in the discharge of official responsibilities.

Addressing participants at the programme, the Commissioner for Mineral Resources,



Ntufam Hon. Effiom Ekaha-Otu, charged staff to embrace the knowledge gained and remain committed to the ideals of public service.

The Commissioner emphasised discipline, teamwork, integrity and dedication to duty, urging employees to always place the interests of the Ministry and the state above personal considerations. "Continuous capacity building is necessary to equip our staff with the

knowledge and skills required to meet the changing demands of the public service," he said.

Ekaha-Otu noted that a professionally competent and ethically grounded workforce was essential to the effective implementation of government policies and programmes, urging staff to translate the lessons from the training into improved performance and service delivery.

The Assistant Director of

Administration, Mrs Anthonia Etta-Egbe, who spoke on ethics and core values, stressed the importance of integrity, respect, accountability, teamwork and dedication in the workplace.

Etta-Egbe noted that strong organisational values were essential to creating a healthy work environment and building public confidence in government institutions. She encouraged staff to take the lessons from the training seriously, stressing



that “effective public service delivery depends largely on the attitude, integrity and dedication of individual officers.”

The Director of Accounts, Dr Emmanuel Ekanem, who addressed participants on work ethics, emphasised diligence,

accountability, punctuality, honesty and responsibility in the workplace.

He urged staff to approach their duties with commitment and ensure that government resources were handled prudently and transparently. According to him, adherence to proper work ethics would

improve individual performance, strengthen public confidence in the Ministry and enhance the efficiency of government operations. On punctuality, he stated: “Early is on time. On time is late. Late is unacceptable.”

The Deputy Director, Planning,

Research and Statistics, Mr Effiom Eyo Ita, spoke on the importance of information in government administration, explaining that accurate, timely and properly managed information was critical to effective communication, decision-making and public accountability.

He urged staff to understand their roles in the collection, processing and dissemination of official information, while stressing confidentiality and responsible handling of sensitive government information. Eyo Ita added that "every staff member has a role to play in

projecting the activities and achievements of the Ministry."

The Head of Department, Community Relations, Mr Ushie Oko, focused on digital innovation, highlighting the growing importance of technology in improving efficiency, information management, communication and service delivery.

Oko encouraged staff to develop their digital skills and remain open to emerging technologies and innovative approaches capable of enhancing productivity and effectiveness in the workplace.

The training provided an opportunity for the Ministry's workforce

to examine practical approaches to improving professional performance while reinforcing the importance of ethical conduct, effective communication and technological adaptability.

The programme concluded with a renewed call for staff to uphold the Ministry's core values, strengthen professional competence and deploy digital innovation towards more efficient and responsive public service delivery.

Cross River Talents Get Global Market Boost as CRSMEDA Partners NATEP

By Kingsley Agim



Cross River State's emerging creative and technology talents are set to gain greater access to international markets following a strategic partnership between the Cross River State

Microfinance and Enterprise Development Agency (CRSMEDA) and the National Talent Export Programme (NATEP).

The partnership emerged from a high-level strategic collaboration

meeting held at NATEP's headquarters in Abuja, where both organisations explored practical pathways for connecting Cross River's growing talent pool with global opportunities in the rapidly



expanding service export economy.

Speaking with newsmen after the engagement, the Director-General and Chief Executive Officer of CRSMEDA, Mr. Great Ogban, said the primary objective was to develop workable frameworks capable of positioning Cross River talents for international

markets while creating new avenues for employment, enterprise growth and wealth creation.

Ogban said discussions focused on aligning state-level policies with national service export strategies, unlocking funding opportunities and establishing direct institutional linkages through NATEP,

Nigeria's official gateway for service exports.

He explained that the initiative would enable skilled Cross Riverians in the creative and technology sectors to transcend the limitations of the local market and compete for opportunities in the global economy, where demand for specialised digital



and creative services continues to expand.

As an immediate outcome of the engagement, two flagship NATEP initiatives were identified for Cross River State's strategic participation: Creative Africa Nexus (CANEX), a premier platform celebrating film, food, fashion and the arts, scheduled

for November 2026, and the Hire from Nigeria Campaign, which connects Nigerian technology and creative talents with prospective international and domestic employers.

Through CANEX, Cross River's creative entrepreneurs and practitioners will have an opportunity to showcase their talents, products

and intellectual property to a wider international audience, potentially opening doors to partnerships, investment and new markets.

The Hire from Nigeria Campaign, on the other hand, is expected to create direct employment linkages for qualified Cross River talents by



connecting them with employers seeking skilled professionals in technology, creative and other service-based sectors.

Both organisations reaffirmed their commitment to leveraging the two platforms to showcase Cross River's talent pool,

expand access to markets and drive sustainable economic growth through the service export sector.





The collaboration aligns with CRSMEDA's broader mandate of strengthening Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), supporting emerging entrepreneurs and creating pathways for Cross River

businesses and talents to become more competitive beyond the domestic economy.

The meeting was attended by Ogban and his Technical Assistant, Mr. Ekuri Ekuri, while the NATEP delegation comprised the

Senior Special Assistant on Strategic Communications, Olajumoke Dan-Okayi; Special Assistant on Strategy, Nwando Ajene; and Programmes Lead, Usman Maaruf Yakubu.



Odey Inspects Obubra Technical College, Pledges Action on Infrastructure Needs

By Patricia Ogbeche



Cross River State Commissioner for Education, Senator Professor Stephen Odey, has paid an unscheduled fact-finding visit to the Government Technical College,

Obubra, to assess the institution's current condition and identify areas requiring government intervention.

Odey made the visit while travelling to Yala, following a

formal letter from the institution drawing his attention to its pressing needs and the challenges affecting its operations.

The Commissioner explained that the



visit was aimed at obtaining first-hand information to enable the Science and Technical Education Board conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of the college and ensure identified requirements are captured in the state's 2027 budget.

He said the assessment would provide the necessary basis for government to prioritise interventions and address the institution's needs in line with established procedures.

Odey further disclosed that he would personally

brief the Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, on the situation at the college, noting that the Governor had demonstrated strong commitment and passion for improving the education sector in the state.

He added that where there was



an opportunity for intervention before the 2027 budget, the Governor would be duly briefed for possible urgent consideration, depending on the availability of resources and applicable procedures.

The Commissioner stressed that all

government interventions must follow due process, including proper needs assessment, budgetary appropriation and approval before implementation, assuring the institution that its concerns would receive appropriate attention.

He commended the

management of the college for formally communicating its needs to the relevant authorities, describing the approach as appropriate and necessary for effective government response. He assured the school that the relevant



agencies would be engaged to take the necessary action.

Responding, the Executive Secretary of the Science and Technical Education Board, Mrs. Ikip Okora, thanked the Commissioner for taking time to visit the institution personally, describing the gesture as timely

and reassuring.

The Principal of the college, Chief Kirien Otio, also expressed appreciation to Senator Odey for the fact-finding visit, saying his decision to assess the situation firsthand demonstrated concern for the institution and its students.

Both officials assured the

Commissioner of the college's readiness to provide all necessary information and documentation that would assist the government in assessing its needs and planning appropriate interventions.



**NIGERIA
SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

August 26, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

NIGERIA POLICE ACADEMY 13th REGULAR COURSE SCREENING EXERCISE

All Cross River indigenes who applied for the Nigeria Police Academy 13th Regular Course are invited for screening.

Date for Cross River Candidates: Thursday, 10th September, 2026 - Batch 2

Venue: Nigeria Police Academy, Wudil, Kano

Candidates are to arrive a day before the screening exercise as accommodation will be provided.

Print Examination Slip: 25th August – 8th September, 2026 on POLAC Portal

Come With: Originals of Photocopies of WAEC/NECO, JAMB Slip, Birth Certificate, LGA Certificate of origin, NIN Slip, Medical Certificate, 4 Passports, Guarantor Form and Acknowledgement Slip

Dress Code: White T-shirt, White Shorts, White Socks, White Canvas

Please, note that no parent will be allowed inside the screening venue and beware of any false information from fake social media accounts.

Best wishes to all candidates.

Prof. A. Owan Enoh
Secretary to Government of the State



Cross River Govt Deepens Staff Wellness Drive with Monthly Aerobics, Medical Checks

By Kera Mgbang



The Cross River State Government has further demonstrated its commitment to the health, wellbeing and productivity of its workforce with the successful hosting of the

August edition of the Monthly Aerobics and Medical Checks Programme.

Organised by the Office of the Head of Service, the exercise brought together civil and public servants

from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) across the state at the U.J. Esuene Stadium, Calabar, for a morning of physical exercise, health screening and recreational activities.



The monthly initiative is designed to promote preventive healthcare and regular physical activity among workers, while providing an informal platform for civil servants from different MDAs to interact, build relationships

and strengthen teamwork.

Participants enthusiastically took part in a range of activities, including aerobics, track races, sack races and other team-based recreational competitions, creating an atmosphere that combined fitness,

camaraderie and relaxation.

Speaking during the programme, Francis Edet of the Ministry of Education commended the Office of the Head of Service for sustaining the initiative, stressing that a healthy workforce was fundamental



to efficiency, productivity and effective public service delivery.

Edet encouraged civil servants to make regular exercise and healthy living a personal responsibility, noting that preventive healthcare remained preferable to

waiting until health challenges became serious before seeking medical attention.

He added that beyond its physical benefits, the monthly exercise offered workers an opportunity to unwind, reduce workplace stress, interact with colleagues and develop stronger

bonds that could enhance collaboration in the workplace.

Also speaking, Michael Etim of the Office of the Head of Service described the programme as a commendable initiative that extends beyond physical fitness to encompass the overall wellbeing,



morale and productivity of civil servants.

Etim encouraged workers to take advantage of the medical checks provided during the programme and pay closer attention to their health, lifestyle and general wellbeing, describing the

combination of exercise, medical awareness and recreation as an important investment in the state's workforce.

The programme has continued to foster interaction among civil servants, promote awareness of healthy lifestyle practices and

provide a healthy outlet for workplace pressures, while strengthening the sense of community among public servants across the state.







OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF SERVICE
CROSS RIVER STATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

OFFICIAL ENQUIRY PHONE LINE
NOW AVAILABLE

The Office of the Head of Service is pleased to announce an **Official Enquiry Phone Line** to enhance communication with civil and public servants across Cross River State.



OFFICIAL PHONE NUMBER:

0814 121 0691



THIS LINE IS DEDICATED TO:



General enquiries



Personnel Audit Verification support



Requests for information on Office of the Head of Service programmes and services



Official feedback and complaints



SERVICE HOURS:



MONDAY TO SATURDAY



Members of the public and all civil and public servants are encouraged to use this line **responsibly**. Please note that the number is **strictly for official business**, and callers are expected to maintain courtesy during all interactions.



For more updates, follow the official communication channels of the Office of the Head of Service.



OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF SERVICE
CROSS RIVER STATE

Committed to Service Excellence.

DNA Linkages Hold Key to Resilient Society, UNICROSS Don Posits

By Kingsley Agim



What holds a society together when its institutions are tested, its values challenged and its people confronted by rapid change? For Professor of Genetics and Biotechnology at the University of

Cross River State (UNICROSS), Prof. Hannah Edim Etta, part of the answer lies in understanding the science of connection—beginning with the molecular architecture of Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA).

Prof. Etta advanced this compelling thesis while delivering the University's 12th Inaugural Lecture on Thursday, August 27, 2026, titled "Links, Linkages and the Missing Link: From DNA



Backbones to Social Cohesion.” The lecture provided an interdisciplinary exploration of how the principles governing biological systems could illuminate the relationships that sustain human societies.

Using the DNA backbone as her scientific point of departure, the don explained that biological life is

sustained by intricate linkages between constituent components. These connections provide the stability and continuity necessary for genetic information to be preserved and transmitted, a principle she argued has a striking parallel in the organisation of society.

According to her, just as the integrity of DNA depends on

the strength and interaction of its molecular components, the resilience of society rests on the quality of relationships among individuals, institutions, values and social structures. Weak links, she suggested, can compromise the functionality of an otherwise complex system.

Prof. Etta



becomes a framework for reflecting on human development.

Beyond the conceptual parallels, the inaugural lecturer examined biotechnology as a practical instrument for transforming society. She highlighted its enormous potential in agriculture, food security, healthcare and economic development, while advocating wider access to scientific knowledge and biotechnology.

She identified the bioeconomy as a particularly important frontier for sustainable development, urging society to

deepened the argument by examining fundamental genetic concepts such as heredity, mutation, adaptation and genetic diversity, demonstrating how they offer

useful conceptual lenses for understanding continuity, transformation and adaptation within society. In this sense, biology becomes more than a study of life at the molecular level; it

harness scientific discoveries and technological innovations in ways that expand opportunity, improve livelihoods and ensure that the benefits of knowledge are not confined to a privileged few.

At the heart of her lecture was the proposition that the strength of a system is inseparable from the integrity of the links that hold it together. Prof. Etta therefore called for stronger social relationships, functional institutions and shared values, arguing that these are not peripheral considerations but fundamental infrastructure for a cohesive and resilient society.

The lecture also

demonstrated the value of interdisciplinary scholarship, bringing together genetics, biotechnology, sociology and development discourse to show how knowledge generated in the laboratory can offer fresh perspectives on some of society's most enduring challenges.

In her remarks, the Vice-Chancellor of UNICROSS, Prof. Francisca Bassey, described Prof. Etta as one of her dedicated students who had distinguished herself through diligence, commitment and professional excellence. She welcomed members of the University Governing Council, academics, management, staff,

students and invited guests, and commended the inaugural lecturer for her scholarly contribution.

Presenting the citation, Prof. (Mrs.) Robito S. Ekanem of the Department of Guidance and Counselling, UNICROSS, chronicled Prof. Etta's distinguished academic and professional career, including her service as Director of Academic Planning of the University.

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



DEMOCRACY

C'River Transport Commissioner Reaffirms Otu Administration's Support for FRSC, Road Safety

By Irene Bassey



Cross River State Commissioner for Transportation, Hon. Kingsley Egumi, has reaffirmed the state government's commitment to road safety and a more efficient transportation system, assuring the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) of sustained

partnership in safeguarding lives and property on the state's highways.

Egumi gave the assurance on Thursday when he attended the decoration ceremony of newly promoted officers of the FRSC at the Sector Command headquarters in Calabar, where he congratulated the officers on their

elevation and urged them to embrace their new ranks with greater responsibility.

The ceremony, presided over by the FRSC Sector Commander, Corps Commander Innocent Tony Etuk, witnessed the formal decoration of several Corps Marshals who had distinguished



themselves through successful promotion examinations.

The Commissioner, who was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation, Pastor Mrs. Eme Affiah and other senior officials of the Ministry, described their promotions as recognition of

“professionalism, discipline and commitment to the safety of all road users.”

Addressing the officers, Egumi said: “Your elevation to these higher ranks is not merely a personal achievement; it is a call to greater responsibility and service to the people.” He charged them to sustain the excellence that

earned them their promotions and use their new positions to deepen their impact on road safety.

He urged the Marshals to enforce traffic regulations with fairness and professionalism while intensifying public education on safe driving practices. “I encourage you to



see your new ranks as an opportunity to do more, to deepen your impact, and to continue educating our motorists on safe driving practices," he said.

Egumi stressed that road safety was a collective responsibility, assuring that the Ministry of Transportation remained committed to strengthening its partnership with

the FRSC. "We will continue to work with the FRSC to create a safer and more efficient transport system for all Cross Riverians," he said.

The Commissioner also reaffirmed the state government's support for the FRSC and other security and safety agencies operating within the transportation sector, noting that the administration of Governor Senator Prince Bassey Edet

Otu was deeply invested in the safety and welfare of citizens.

He said: "This administration is committed to ensuring that our roads remain secure for the movement of people, goods and services. We will continue to provide the necessary support to agencies that are working to protect the lives and property of Cross Riverians."



The Permanent Secretary, Pastor Mrs. Eme Affiah also congratulated the newly decorated officers, expressing confidence that their new ranks would inspire them to discharge their duties with renewed vigour and dedication.

Responding, the FRSC Sector Commander, Corps

Commander Innocent Tony Etuk, expressed gratitude to the Commissioner and his delegation for honouring the invitation, describing their presence as a morale booster for the officers. He said the gesture demonstrated the "harmonious working relationship" between the Ministry of

Transportation and the FRSC.

Etuk reiterated the Corps' determination to maintain the highest standards of professionalism and intensify efforts to reduce road traffic crashes in the state, assuring that the newly promoted officers would remain committed to their responsibilities.



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.**



Cross River Student Leaders Honour UNICROSS VC for Visionary Leadership, Empowerment

By Kingsley Agim



Student leaders from universities and tertiary institutions across Cross River State have honoured the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cross River State (UNICROSS), Prof. Francisca

Bassey, with an award recognising her visionary leadership, selfless service, motherly care and sustained commitment to student welfare and empowerment.

The award was

presented to Prof. Bassey on Thursday, August 27, 2026, when a delegation of student leaders paid a courtesy visit to her office at the Calabar Campus of the University, in an engagement that highlighted the



growing relationship between the University Management and student leadership across the state.

Presenting the award on behalf of the delegation, Chairman of the National Association of Nigerian Students Joint Campus Committee (NANS JCC), Cross River State, Comrade

Victor Antigha Asuquo, described Prof. Bassey as both a leader and mother to students and Comrades across the state.

Asuquo stressed that the recognition was a sincere appreciation of the Vice-Chancellor's contributions to students and was neither motivated by sycophancy nor transient excitement.

"You are not just the Vice Chancellor of University of Cross River State. You occupy the shoes of mother and leader of students and Comrades. The award we are giving is not a sycophantic award or to carry any element of euphoria. We saw the light and we came to receive the light," he said.



He explained that the symbolism of light represented purity, transparency and progress, describing Prof. Bassey as “the light of Comrade community” and “the light of the student community.”

The student leader also commended the Vice-Chancellor’s non-

discriminatory and detribalised approach to leadership, noting that she had consistently prioritised the welfare and interests of students regardless of their tribal or religious backgrounds.

Asuquo disclosed that his appreciation of Prof. Bassey’s support for young people was also

based on personal experience, revealing that he had benefited from her benevolence several years before she became Vice-Chancellor. He added that students had recognised her contributions with awards for more than 15 years, long before she assumed the leadership of



UNICROSS.

Responding, Prof. Bassey expressed appreciation to the student leaders for the honour and reaffirmed her commitment to remaining accessible to students while encouraging regular engagement between student representatives

and the University Management.

"I am accessible through your leaders, through all of you. We should be engaging from time to time. It should not just be a one-time affair. Let's put our acts together. Let's always talk. I am here for you under God," she said.

The Vice-Chancellor further disclosed plans to recommend some student leaders and Comrades for opportunities to serve in positions that could provide greater visibility and exposure, including at the Federal level, underscoring her commitment to creating platforms for young people to develop



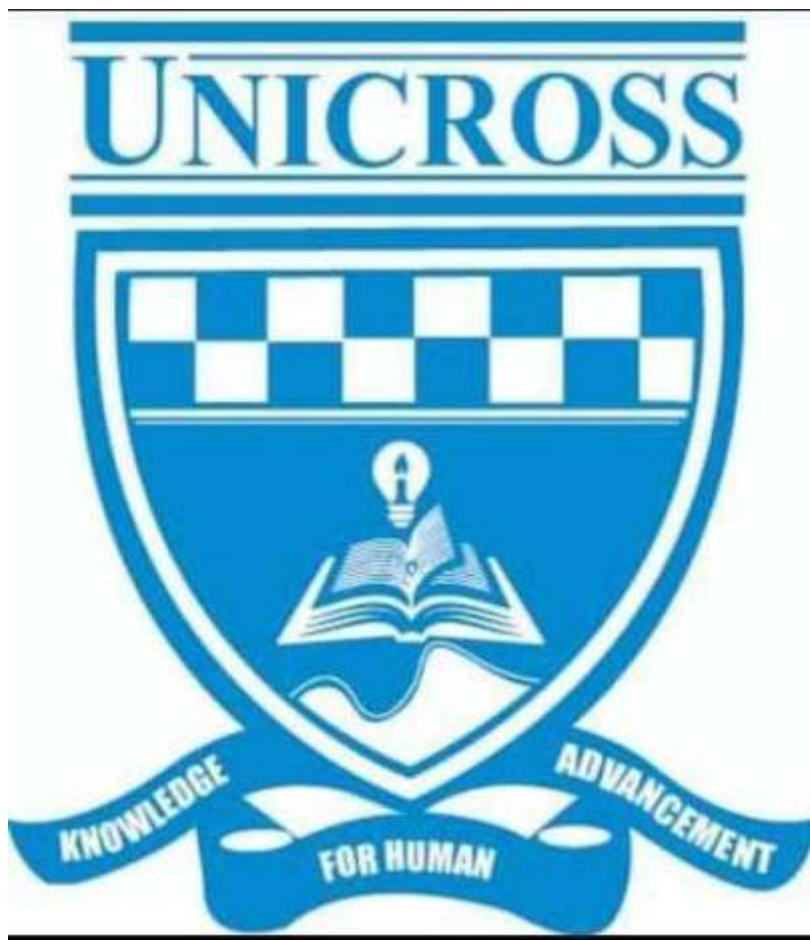
leadership experience.

She encouraged the students to see their leadership responsibilities as opportunities to build their capacity, contribute positively to society and prepare themselves for greater responsibilities beyond the

university environment.

The engagement also provided an avenue for strengthening collaboration between UNICROSS Management and student leaders from institutions across the state, with emphasis on sustained dialogue, responsible leadership and constructive

representation of students' interests. The delegation comprised Comrade Ogar Favour Johobe, SUG President, UNICROSS; Comrade Ebong Vordina, SUG President, University of Calabar; Comrade Emmanuel Ekpo Otu, Assistant Secretary-General, NANS Zone B (South-



South); Comrade Betebeke Joshua, NACRISS President, UNICROSS Chapter; Comrade Bassey Kininieval, SUG President, College of Health Sciences, Management and Technology, Calabar; Comrade Ushie Godwin,

SUG President, College of Nursing Sciences, Calabar; Comrade Richard Eghort, SUG President, College of Nursing Sciences, Ogoja; Comrade Fortune Asuquo Effiong, Vice President, National Association of Nigerian Student Nurses, Cross

River State; Comrade Godswill Ikpi, SUG Vice President, Collge of Nursing Sciences, Obudu; and Comrade John Ochui Abua, SUG Vice President, Federal College of Education, Obudu.

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By Amarachi Eneji



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Federal Ministry of
Health & Social Welfare
Federal Republic of Nigeria

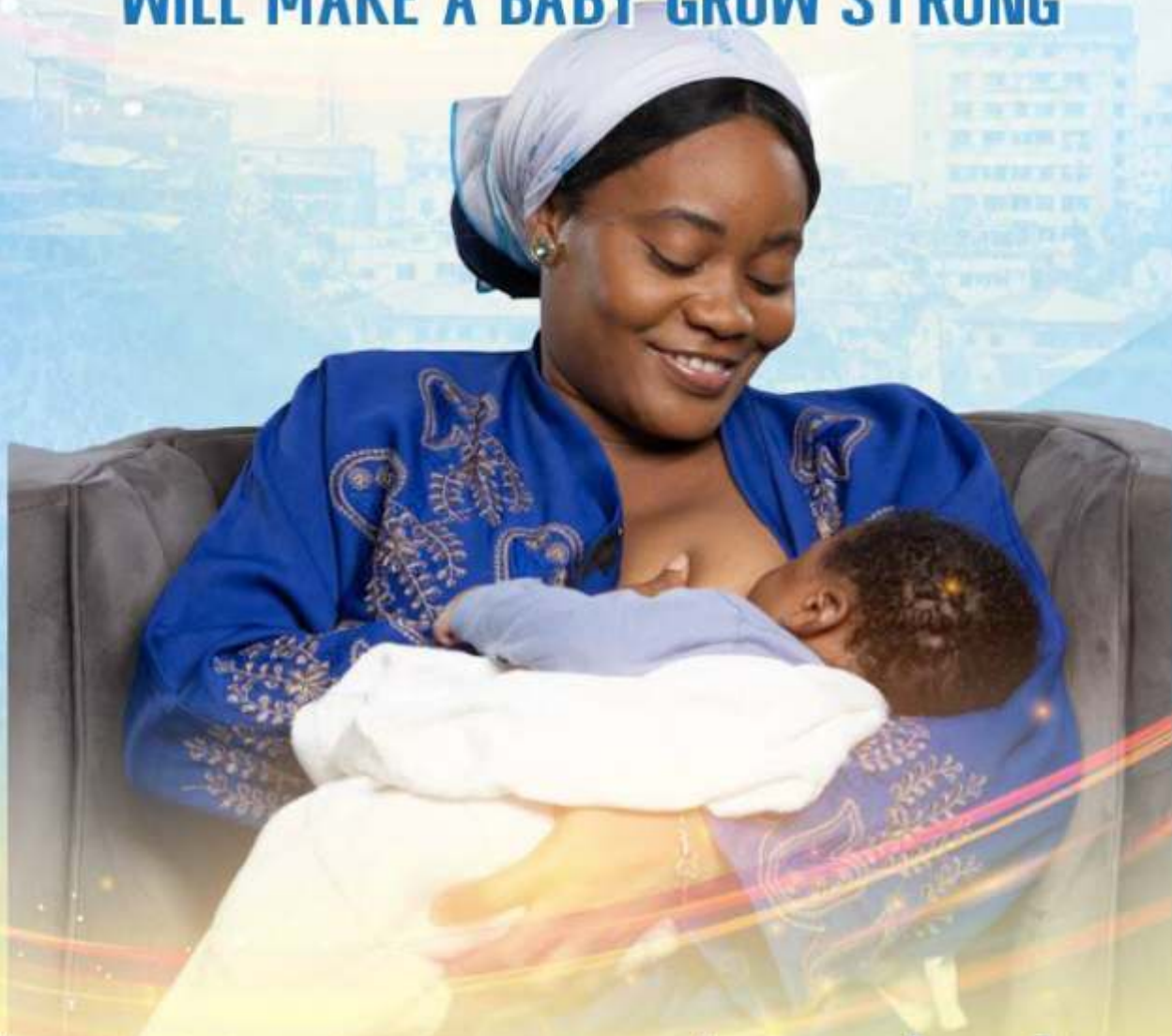


LET'S GROW STRONGER
TOGETHER

unicef
for every child

ONLY BREASTMILK FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

WILL MAKE A BABY GROW STRONG



This means no pap, no water, and no formula during the first six months of life. Breast milk contains everything a baby needs.

EVERY GREAT STORY NEEDS A STRONG BEGINNING



Federal Ministry of
Health & Social Welfare
Federal Republic of Nigeria



LET'S GROW STRONGER
TOGETHER

unicef
for every child

FIRST HOUR BREASTFEEDING IS A MUST!



**As soon as your baby is born, put them to the breast immediately.
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
Health & Social Welfare
Federal Republic of Nigeria



LET'S GROW STRONGER
TOGETHER

unicef
for every child

SIX MONTHS OF BREASTFEEDING IS POSSIBLE, Even With Work!



**It is possible for a child to take only
breastmilk for the first six months,
even if the mother is going to work.**

EVERY GREAT STORY NEEDS A STRONG BEGINNING

MAKE WE GROW STRONG TOGETHER

**E GO SOON REACH
YOUR SIDE**

**EVERY GREAT STORY
NEEDS A STRONG
BEGINNING**



THE CREATIVE DESIGNERS GUILD OF NIGERIA

IN COLLABORATION WITH
CALLYWOOD STUDIO

Host CDGN Annual Zonal Congress In Calabar



HIS EXCELLENCY
SEN. PRINCE BASSEY OTU
GOVERNOR, CROSS RIVER STATE

HON. ERIC ANDERSON
SPECIAL ADVISER TO
THE GOVERNOR ON CALLYWOOD

PST. MRS. AKINYEMI OSAWARU JOY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

EMMANUEL ASUQUO
CROSS RIVER STATE
CHAPTER CHAIRMAN

ANNUAL GENERAL CONGRESS **2026**

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF DESIGN



DATE:
23RD – 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2026



VENUE:
CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE



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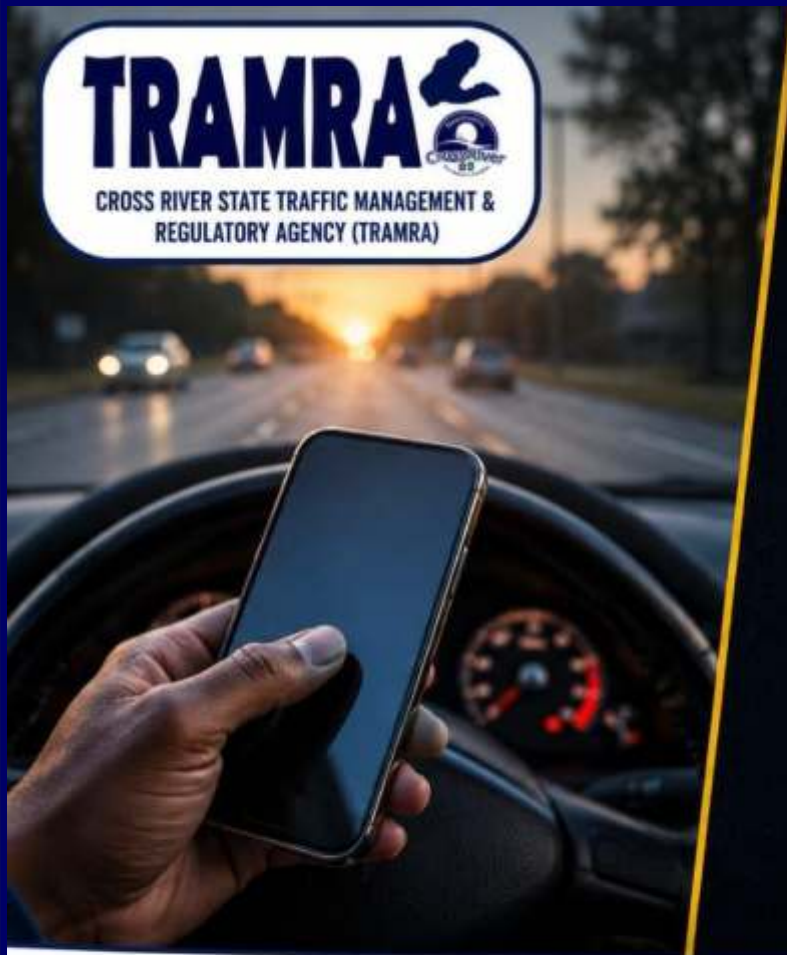


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**ONE CALL
OR TEXT
CAN COST A LIFE,
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DISTRACTIONS
ON THE ROAD.**



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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

*Federal Road Safety Corps...
Creating a safe motoring environment for all.*

**Slow Down
Stay Alert
Stay Alive**

CRGIA

Cross River Geographic
Information Agency



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Register your Land
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and protect yourself,
Your Children and
Generations from
Land Grabbers.



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CROSS RIVER GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AGENCY

ROADS ARE SHARED SPACES,

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**

MAY 31ST

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

AUG. 12TH

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

OCT. 10TH

**IGBO AMAKA
FESTIVAL**

NOV. 15TH

**JUNIOR
DRY RUN**

DEC. 13TH

**PARADE OF
THE BANDS**

DEC. 28TH

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

JUNE 27TH

**RELEASE OF ESSAY
COMPETITION
FORMS**

AUG. 18TH

**AWARDS OF
PRIZES (ESSAY
COMPETITION)**

OCT. 16TH

**2ND
DRY RUN**

NOV. 22ND

**CULTURAL
CARNIVAL**

DEC. 26TH

**BIKERS
CARNIVAL**

DEC. 29TH

**STAKEHOLDERS
CONFERENCE
ON E-VOTING**

JULY 2026

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

SEPT. 14TH

**FIRST
DRY RUN**

OCT. 18TH

**IKOM OGOJA
CARNIVAL**

NOVEMBER

**KNIGHT OF KINGS
AND QUEENS**

DEC. 26TH

**STREET PARTY/
COLOUR RUNS**

DEC. 30TH

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

JULY 18TH

**ESSAY
COMPETITION
EXAMS**

OCT. 2ND

**CARNIVAL
FITNESS
JAM**

NOV. 14TH

**FINAL
DRY RUN**

DEC. 6TH

**JUNIOR
CARNIVAL**

DEC. 27TH



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



PGF VALUE REORIENTATION CAMPAIGN

**Responsible
Citizens.
Responsive
Nation.**



For more information:

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E-mail: info@pgf.ng

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Ministry of Information
Cross River State

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(+234)9153823424
(+234)7047108136
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).

NATIONWIDE CONTINUOUS VOTER REGISTRATION (CVR)



Register to Vote

**ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION
STARTS ON 18TH AUGUST, 2025**
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**Avoid
Overspeeding:**

**Speed thrills
But Kills.**

**Always obey
speed limits**

— FRSC —

CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND