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Daily InfoNews...

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

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Commissioner for Information

Pst. Ekpenyong Cobham **Publisher**

Permanent Secretary
Anthony Asuquo Okon

Rekpene Uket **Editor-in-Chief**
State Director of Information

Benedict Okache **Deputy Editor-in-Chief**

Nakanda Iyadim **Editor**

Kingsley Agim **Deputy Editor**

Esther Okoi **Production Editor**

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.

Tinubu Releases N515m for SPAR Fire Victims, Commissions South-South Foodbank Programme in Calabar

By Kingsley Agim



The Federal Government has released a total of ₦515 million as relief intervention for victims of the recent fire outbreak at the SPAR shopping mall in Calabar, Cross River State.

The First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, announced the intervention on Friday during her visit to the state, where she also commissioned the South-South phase of the National Community

Foodbank Programme.

Senator Tinubu disclosed that President Bola Tinubu had approved ₦25 million for each of the 18 business owners affected by the inferno,



amounting to ₦450 million.

According to her, an additional ₦50 million was presented to the wife of the Cross River State Governor, Bishop Eyoanwan Otu, to support women's groups, while ₦15 million was given to women who welcomed her to the state.

"Mr. President commiserates with the government and people of Cross River over this unfortunate incident that destroyed many businesses and livelihoods," the First Lady said.

"This intervention is to provide immediate support and help victims recover from their losses."

The intervention

followed the August 22 fire outbreak at the shopping mall, which affected several businesses and destroyed property worth billions of naira, leaving business owners with substantial losses.

Senator Tinubu said the Federal Government's intervention was aimed at providing



immediate support to affected entrepreneurs and helping them recover from the losses suffered in the incident.

Speaking on the National Community Foodbank Programme, the First Lady explained that the initiative was designed to improve food

security and tackle malnutrition among vulnerable households across the South-South region.

She said the programme would strengthen access to nutritious food for vulnerable families while complementing existing efforts to address food insecurity and improve the welfare of citizens.

Receiving the First Lady, Governor Bassey Edet Otu expressed appreciation to President Bola Tinubu and Senator Oluremi Tinubu for the intervention, describing it as a timely gesture that would bring succour to victims of the fire disaster.

Governor Otu said



the relief package would provide meaningful assistance to the affected business owners as they commence the process of rebuilding their businesses and livelihoods.

He also commended the Federal Government for supporting women and vulnerable

groups through the Foodbank Programme, noting that the initiative would strengthen social protection and contribute to improved welfare across the state.

The Governor expressed delight that Cross River was selected to host the South-South phase of the programme, describing the intervention as

another demonstration of the Federal Government's commitment to addressing food insecurity and supporting vulnerable Nigerians.







Gov Otu Revives The Chronicle, Govt. Press, Renames Complex Cross River Information Hub

By Nakanda Iyadim and Daniel Bebia



Cross River State Governor, Senator Bassey Edet Otu, has commissioned the remodelled complex of the Cross River State Newspaper Corporation, publishers of The Nigerian Chronicle, now transformed into the Cross River Information Hub, alongside a newly installed

Government Printing Press.

The facility had remained shut for nearly six years following the #EndSARS crisis.

It will be recalled that on October 23,

2020, hoodlums invaded the premises, set the entire Chronicle building ablaze, looted the State Emergency Management Agency, SEMA, warehouses, and vandalized equipment at the newly installed printing press.

Speaking at the ceremony in Calabar on



Thursday, Governor Otu said the project was part of his administration's commitment to rehabilitate public infrastructure and strengthen state-owned media institutions.

According to the

Governor, transmission equipment and office facilities at the state's radio and television stations have also been upgraded, expanding their coverage across the state.

He described The

Nigerian Chronicle, established in 1974, as a vital institution of government. He disclosed that 30 ad-hoc staff had been approved for the Government Printing Press, while 25 permanent staff would be recruited



by the Newspaper Corporation.

"The renovated complex will serve as an information and commercial hub, with a business centre, restaurant and event centre," Otu said, adding that several Ministries, Departments and Agencies had expressed interest in operating from the facility.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Alhaji

Mohammed Idris Malagi, commended Governor Otu for revitalizing the newspaper corporation and strengthening the state's information infrastructure.

Idris said the transformation went beyond renovating buildings, describing it as an effort to restore institutional memory, promote credible journalism and improve communication between government and citizens.

He urged the new Information Hub to drive digital innovation, professional development and public engagement, while encouraging journalists to embrace technology without compromising accuracy, fairness and ethical standards.

The Minister also stressed the importance of preserving official records through



the new printing press and called on the media and political actors to guard against misinformation, disinformation and hate speech ahead of the 2027 general elections.

In his goodwill message, former Editor of The Nigerian Chronicle, Mr. Clement Ebri, described the revitalization as a personal milestone.

He recalled joining the newspaper in 1978 and later serving as Acting Editor.

Ebri said the newspaper was once a leading



institution, with daily circulation reaching about 80,000 copies and, at times, 120,000 copies, supported by correspondents in major Nigerian cities.

He, however, lamented the decline in professional standards and the damage caused by the 2020 #EndSARS crisis,

which resulted in the loss of equipment, books, records and archives.

Ebri called for the restoration of the newspaper's library and archives, describing them as essential to preserving Cross River State's institutional memory.

The commissioning

marks a new chapter in the state's efforts to preserve The Chronicle's heritage while repositioning its information infrastructure for modern operations and sustainable growth.

In his welcome remarks, the immediate past Commissioner for Information and



Orientation, Dr. Erasmus Ekpang, said the project had created jobs for 30 ad-hoc staff at the Printing Press and 25 permanent staff at the Newspaper Corporation.

He revealed that the complex would also house a full-fledged event centre, expanding the Information Hub into a wider

communication and commerce ecosystem. He acknowledged contractors Davanla Nigeria Limited, Darienze Nigeria Limited and Mefiko Nigeria Limited for delivering the project.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Pastor Ekpenyong Ene Cobham, described

the commissioning as a historic milestone toward self-reliance.

Cobham noted that for years the state had depended on third-party vendors for printing at high cost and with security risks — a dependency the new facility is designed to eliminate.



He thanked Governor Otu for leadership that has "not only illuminated the economic hemisphere of our state but also enhanced the capacity for effective

information dissemination."

"By investing in this initiative, the Governor has strengthened the foundation for communication and public awareness, ensuring that the

people of Cross River can benefit from timely and reliable access to information," Cobham said.

NIPR President, Ray Ekpu Commend Gov Otu For Revitalizing Chronicle , State Printing Press

By Nakanda Iyadim



The President of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, NIPR, Dr. Ike Neliaku, has commended Cross River State Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, for revitalizing The Nigerian Chronicle newspaper and the State Government

Printing Press, now rebranded as the Cross River Information Hub.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony at the corporation's premises in Calabar on Thursday, the NIPR President described the initiative as a bold and timely

intervention aimed at strengthening government communication and preserving the state's media heritage.

Dr. Neliaku praised the Governor's leadership and resource management.

"Governor Bassey



Otu is indeed a good man. A man who is managing resources well. A man who relates very well with the people. A man who understands what it means to give people what is due to them.

He is very respectful and very reassuring. That is why, sometime in March, I moved for you to be inducted as a Patron of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations. And I observed

that when people address you, they often forget to add PNIPR. That honour was not dashed to you, it was earned on merit," he said.

The NIPR President disclosed that he made deliberate efforts to attend the commissioning despite prior engagements.

"I had to insist on being in Cross River today. The first date was not convenient. The second date

also clashed; I was out of the country. This third time, I was in Kenya when the Commissioner called, but I said to myself, I must come. So, sir, I congratulate you for this remarkable feat," Dr. Neliaku stated.

Also speaking, media icon and former Editor of The Nigerian Chronicle and Newswatch Magazine, Chief Ray Ekpu, described the



event as a homecoming.

"This is like coming back home for me. I worked in this building for six years. I rose from being a Features Writer to Editor. We fought many battles from here with our typewriters; we didn't have computers at that time.

Some of those

battles are documented in the book that has just been launched. I thank the Governor for bringing us back to where we stopped," Chief Ekpu said.

He stressed the continued relevance of print media despite technological advancement.

"Even with the advancement in

technology, the print media remains supreme. I am happy that the Governor has revived _The Nigerian Chronicle_ because there is still relevance for print media. There are still many battles to fight for Nigeria," he added.

Chief Ekpu expressed excitement over the Governor's



intervention.

"Today is for us to celebrate what Governor Otu has done. I feel like dancing. Not only will he bring people back to work, but he will also give them the tools to fight the battles ahead," he concluded.

The commissioning of The Nigerian Chronicle and the Information Hub

forms part of the Otu-led administration's commitment to revamping the information sector and ensuring effective dissemination of government policies.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Alhaji Mohammed Idris Malagi, joined Governor Bassey

Otu to inaugurate the newly remodelled edifice within the Ministry, now renamed the Information Hub.

The event also featured the presentation of certificates of appreciation to pioneer staff of The Nigerian Chronicle, including Chief Offiong Okon, and the launch of a book, "Cross



River State Newspaper Corporation: A Journey Through the Ages,”_ reviewed by Prof. Oka Obono with Engr. Ben Akak,

National Deputy Treasurer of the All Progressives Congress, APC, in attendance.

The ceremony was well attended by

prominent sons and daughters of the state, alongside former employees of the newspaper corporation.



















































Shettima @60: Gov Otu Salutes VP's Loyalty, Reliability, Service to Nigeria



continued to strengthen the Renewed Hope Administration.

Governor Otu, in a goodwill message conveyed by his Chief of Staff, Hon. Dr. Emmanuel Ironbar, congratulated the Vice President on his 60th birthday, commending his courage, competence and dedication to public service.

The Governor said the strong working relationship between President Tinubu and Vice President Shettima has remained critical

Cross River State Governor, Senator Bassey Edet Otu, has described Vice President Kashim Shettima, GCON,

as a loyal, dependable and reliable partner to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, whose experience and commitment have

to the administration's efforts to tackle the country's challenges, drive economic growth and improve the welfare of Nigerians.

He noted that Shettima's experience as a former Governor and Senator, coupled with his understanding of governance and national affairs, has positioned him as a valuable asset to the President and the country.

Governor Otu also acknowledged the support and goodwill of President Tinubu and his Vice President towards Cross River State, particularly their responsiveness to the state's development

aspirations and willingness to engage constructively on issues affecting its people.

He said the positive relationship between Cross River and the Presidency has continued to create opportunities for greater collaboration, adding that the state remains committed to the Renewed Hope vision of President Tinubu.

"On behalf of the government and people of Cross River State, I warmly congratulate Your Excellency, Senator Kashim Shettima, GCON, on your 60th birthday.

"Your years in

public service have demonstrated loyalty, courage, competence and an enduring commitment to Nigeria. As Vice President, you have remained a dependable partner to our Leader, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, and a strong contributor to the success of the Renewed Hope Administration.

"Cross River State appreciates your support, encouragement and goodwill. Your readiness to listen to our aspirations and engage with our development priorities is deeply valued.

"As you mark this important milestone, I pray



that Almighty Allah will grant you continued good health, wisdom and strength, and bless you with many more years of impactful service to our nation.

"May you continue to contribute to the

peace, unity, prosperity and development of Nigeria."

Governor Otu reaffirmed his administration's commitment to deepening its partnership with the Tinubu-Shettima administration and supporting

initiatives that advance the development of Cross River State and Nigeria.

He wished the Vice President many more years of good health, wisdom and distinguished service to the nation.

Cross River Secures Federal Backing for Uyo-Calabar Rail Link, Marine Transport Expansion

By Irene Bassey



Cross River State has secured a major boost to its transportation infrastructure ambitions, with the Federal Government endorsing two

strategic proposals seeking the development of an Uyo-Calabar railway corridor and the expansion of marine transportation in the state.

The twin resolutions

were reached at the 19th National Council on Transportation (NCT), held from August 31 to September 3, 2026, at the National Judicial Institute



Auditorium, Abuja, where states and key stakeholders in the nation's transportation sector deliberated on measures to strengthen road, rail, air and water transportation.

The four-day council, organised

by the Federal Ministry of Transportation, was held under the theme, "Developing Effective Transport System for Nigeria: The Role of Integrated Transportation," with Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria,

Senator Kashim Shettima, GCON, as Special Guest of Honour.

Leading the Cross River delegation was the Commissioner for Transportation, Hon. Kingsley Egumi, accompanied by



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TEAM WORK

the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Pastor Mrs. Eme Affiah, and the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics, Mrs. Charity Ayara.

A major highlight of the technical sessions was the presentation of two memoranda by Cross River State, both of which received the endorsement of the council, reinforcing the state's growing push for an integrated transportation network capable of supporting its emerging economic infrastructure.

The first memorandum sought Federal Government support for the construction of a railway line linking

Uyo in Akwa Ibom State to Calabar, with the line terminating at the Cross River State Deep Sea Port. The proposal was unanimously endorsed by the council.

In a further boost to the initiative, the Managing Director of the Nigeria Railway Corporation pledged that the corporation would develop a master plan and technical drawings for the proposed rail corridor, providing an important technical foundation for the project's actualisation.

The proposed railway is expected to provide seamless movement of passengers and cargo between Uyo and Calabar while creating a direct rail connection to the

Deep Sea Port. Beyond improving mobility, the project is expected to strengthen regional trade, reduce logistics costs and position Cross River as a strategic gateway for commerce in the South-South.

The second memorandum sought Federal backing for the expansion of Cross River's marine transport scheme as an alternative and complementary mode of transportation. The council approved the request and resolved to forward it to the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy for collaboration with the Cross River State Ministry of Transportation.

The proposed expansion is expected to improve access to safer, more efficient and affordable water transportation while providing an alternative to road travel and helping to ease pressure on the state's road network.

Speaking after the technical session, Commissioner Egumi expressed appreciation to the Governor of Cross River State for the opportunity to represent the state at the national forum, describing the resolutions as significant milestones in the administration's determination to build a multimodal transportation system that can support the movement of people and goods,

particularly in connection with the Deep Sea Port.

According to him, the successful consideration of the state's memoranda demonstrates that Cross River's transportation priorities are increasingly aligning with the Federal Government's broader vision of integrated transportation development.

"The outcomes of the 19th NCT have reinforced the state government's resolve to pursue policies and projects that will transform the transportation sector and position Cross River as a leader in integrated transport development.

"With the successful endorsement of Cross River's

memoranda, the state has taken a significant step forward in its quest to become a transportation hub in the South-South region. The railway line from Uyo to Calabar and the expansion of the marine transport scheme are expected to unlock new economic opportunities, facilitate trade, and improve access to the state's Deep Sea Port, which is poised to become a major gateway for goods and services in the Gulf of Guinea."

Egumi assured that the Ministry would sustain engagement with the relevant Federal Government agencies to ensure that the resolutions are



followed through and translated into concrete projects.

He also commended the Permanent Secretary and Director of Planning, Research and Statistics for their contributions to the preparation and successful presentation of the memoranda, noting that their expertise and commitment were instrumental to the

state's strong showing at the council.

The 19th NCT also provided an opportunity for stakeholders to consider the newly unveiled National Land Transport Policy, which is designed to provide a comprehensive framework for the development and management of land transportation infrastructure across Nigeria.

The policy is expected to strengthen intermodal connectivity, improve transportation efficiency and safety, and provide a coordinated framework for addressing longstanding challenges across the nation's transport sector.

Commendations Pour In for Gilbert Agbor's Grassroots Connection, Impactful Leadership



Commendations have continued to pour in for the Special Adviser to the Cross River State Governor on Asset Management and Recovery, Barr. Gilbert Agbor, with community and political leaders praising his strong grassroots

connection, selfless service and impactful leadership.

Agbor's country home in Etomi, Etung Local Government Area, has been a beehive of celebratory activities since his arrival in the community, with

various groups, including women, youths, religious leaders and other community stakeholders, visiting to celebrate with him and pledge their support for the administration of Governor Bassey Edet Otu ahead of the 2027 general



elections.

The commendations were made on Friday during a reception held at Agbor's country home in Etomi to celebrate the Etung New Yam Festival, an annual cultural celebration observed every September 4.

Speaking at the reception, the Chairman of Akpabuyo Local Government Area, Hon. Effiong Edim Effiong, who joined the Etomi community to celebrate the festival, said Agbor had distinguished himself by recognising that leadership was not an individual

endeavour, but a responsibility made possible by the support and sacrifices of the people at the grassroots.

Effiong noted that, unlike many political appointees who become disconnected from their communities after attaining positions of



authority, Agbor had remained accessible and committed to his people. "When you see somebody who recognises that he alone cannot get it right, and that he cannot, from his comfort zone, take himself to the top, he appreciates the push and support of the people back home and returns to them," he said.

The Akpabuyo chairman said Agbor had also distinguished himself by translating the opportunities afforded him in government into tangible benefits for his people, stressing that his contributions to the community went beyond his official remuneration.

According to him, Agbor's commitment to his people was driven by genuine passion and love rather than the privileges associated with public office. He said the Special Adviser had remained closely connected to the grassroots, listening to the concerns of the



people and supporting initiatives that promoted their wellbeing.

Effiong also commended Governor Bassey Edet Otu for creating opportunities for young people to serve in his administration, urging political appointees to

reciprocate such opportunities by returning to their communities and using their positions to bring hope and development to the people.

He said grassroots communities were not necessarily seeking political appointments, but leaders who would remain close to them, listen to their

concerns and support their livelihoods. "You can only see this in the house of somebody who truly loves his people," he said, urging the people to continue supporting and praying for Agbor.

Also speaking, elder statesman and political leader of Etomi, Ntufam



Gabriel Odu Oji, described Agbor as a loyal and service-driven leader who had remained humble despite the authority entrusted to him. He said Agbor was different from leaders who become disconnected or carried away after attaining positions of power.

"Gilbert is not that kind of person. He is a man who wants to work. He is a man with power; he is not a man who is carried away by power. For him, power is service," Odu Oji said, expressing confidence in Agbor's character and commitment to public service.

In a separate remark, former Vice Chairman of Etung Local Government Area, Hon. Obi Obi, thanked Agbor for his leadership and contributions to Etomi, Etung and the wider political community. He also commended the Akpabuyo chairman for demonstrating friendship and



good neighbourliness by attending the celebration.

Obi said Effiong's presence at the reception was a meaningful demonstration of solidarity and friendship, adding that it had further enriched the celebration.

He expressed appreciation for the support given to the community and called for continued collaboration among leaders and stakeholders towards the development and wellbeing of the people.

In his response, Barr. Gilbert Agbor attributed his

modest contributions to his community to the leadership and opportunities provided by Governor Bassey Edet Otu, thanking the Governor for giving him the opportunity to serve in his administration and contribute his quota to the development of



society. He said, as an appointee of government, he was duty-bound to bring the presence and impact of government closer to the people, particularly because the Governor could not be everywhere at the same time.

Agbor assured residents of Etomi and the larger

Etung community that the Otu administration remained committed to delivering infrastructure and other development projects in the area in due course. He therefore solicited their continued support for the administration and the All Progressives Congress (APC)

ahead of the 2027 general elections, stressing the importance of sustained collaboration between the government and the grassroots in consolidating the gains of the administration.

Cross River Links Civil Servants' Promotion, Loans to Health Insurance Enrollment

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Government has tied civil servants' access to promotion implementation and credit facilities to enrollment in the State Health Insurance Scheme, as it relaunches the formal sector component of the programme with

compulsory participation for all public and civil servants.

The Head of Service, Barr. Orok Bassey Okon, announced the new policy in Calabar at the relaunch of the formal sector enrollment programme, tagged "Raising the Bar:

Continuous Formal Sector Enrolment, Operation Enrol All Civil Servants," saying the initiative demonstrated government's commitment to the welfare and wellbeing of its workforce.

Okon said proof of health insurance

enrolment would henceforth be required for key official transactions, including promotion interviews and access to loan facilities. "Going forward, if you come to Civil Service Commission for Promotion Interview, you have to show your health insurance enrollment card. If you come to Head of Service to stamp loan form, you have to show your health insurance enrollment card," he said.

He added: "You cannot access facility in the bank if you are not enrolled. If you don't have your enrollment card, don't go to

look for promotion implementation," stressing that the policy would ensure that civil servants were adequately protected through health insurance coverage.

Under the relaunched programme, ₦1,000 will be deducted monthly from workers' salaries as their health insurance contribution.

The Director-General of the Cross River State Health Insurance Agency, Chief Godwin Iyala, however, clarified that salary deduction alone does not make a worker active on the scheme.

Iyala said the scheme was designed to make

healthcare accessible, affordable and qualitative for workers and their families, while commending the Head of Service for his commitment to expanding coverage among public servants. "We at the Cross River State Health Insurance Agency are poised and ready to offer services beyond what you used to know. This scheme is designed to put money back into your pocket. It is designed to bring healthcare accessible to you, affordable and qualitative," he said.

He explained that workers must complete registration, undergo biometric

capture and be empanelled with a health facility before they can access healthcare services with their insurance cards. "Empanelment simply means allocating you to a health facility where you will be receiving care with your card," Iyala stated.

The Director-General disclosed that only about 17,000 civil servants were currently enrolled, despite the number of workers in the state public service being more than twice that figure. He urged those yet to register to take advantage of the renewed enrolment drive and enrol at any of the designated points.

Iyala said additional enrolment points had been established at the Head of Service's office, the Ministry of Health at the Old Secretariat and the agency's office along the Marian axis in Calabar. He added that spouses and children below 18 years were also covered under the scheme.

He also commended Governor Bassey Edet Otu and his wife, Dr. Eyoanwan Otu, for enrolling 600 aged persons for two years, as well as Deputy Governor Rt. Hon. Peter Odey for enrolling 1,000 vulnerable persons in Ogoja Local Government Area.

The Senior Special Adviser to the Governor on Universal Health Coverage, Dr. David Oshie, said the scheme was already delivering tangible benefits, recounting the case of a state civil service director who received treatment at General Hospital, Calabar, without paying additional charges after the agency intervened. He also disclosed that Cross River was recognised by the Federal Ministry of Health in 2025 as the first state with a functional Universal Health Coverage Coordination Centre.

The State Coordinator of the National



Health Insurance Authority, Stanley Effa, said the initiative would ensure that civil and public servants had access to affordable, quality and timely healthcare while reducing the

financial burden associated with medical treatment and unexpected healthcare expenses.

The Medical Superintendent of General Hospital, Calabar, Dr. Kenneth Takim,

said beneficiaries had accessed surgeries, drugs and other medical services without paying out-of-pocket, urging all civil servants yet to enrol to take advantage of the scheme.

N2N Takes Otu Re-election Campaign to South, Targets One Million Votes

By Kingsley Agim



The re-election campaign for Cross River State Governor, Sen. Bassey Edet Otu, is gathering momentum across the state, as the Neighbour 2 Neighbour (N2N) Network has taken its grassroots mobilisation drive to the Southern Senatorial District, declaring its ambition to deliver more than one

million votes for the All Progressives Congress (APC) in the 2027 general elections.

N2N, a grassroots movement established to take the achievements and policies of the Otu administration to communities across Cross River, inaugurated 40 ward and polling unit coordinators in separate activities held in Bakassi,

Akpabuyo, Calabar South and Calabar Municipality.

Speaking during the inaugurations, the Director General of N2N, Dr. Bobby Ekpenyong, said the organisation was building an extensive grassroots structure designed to reach voters in every community and mobilise them for greater



participation in the 2027 elections.

Ekpenyong explained that the structure operates through ward, local government and neighbourhood

cells, with each neighbourhood cell comprising 10 coordinators, while each coordinator is expected to mobilise 10 persons under what the organisation calls "Operation Get 10

Persons."

"We have a very strong advocacy structure. The main aim is to galvanise everybody and speak to them about the Sweet



Prince. We are taking the message and the achievements of the administration to the people at the grassroots," he said.

The university don said the 2027 election would be different from previous electoral contests, stressing that N2N would collaborate with the Governor Otu-

led administration, APC leadership and other support groups to achieve its one-million-vote target.

"The 2027 election is not a year of sitting on the fence; it is not an election of voter apathy. It is a call to action by all persons of voting age. It is an era of massive voter turnout to improve upon our voting

strength, and that is what N2N is committed to achieving," Ekpenyong said.

He recalled that Cross River recorded a comparatively low presidential vote in the 2023 general election, arguing that the state must reverse the trend if it was to strengthen its bargaining position



at the federal level.

"We cannot allow what happened in the 2023 general election to repeat itself. In that election, Cross River recorded less than 200,000 votes for the President. In 2027, we must hit over one million votes so that our Governor can have something to bargain with and make a case for Cross Riverians," he said.

Ekpenyong said N2N had been traversing the 196 wards of the state

to mobilise eligible voters, insisting that Cross Riverians must demonstrate greater political participation and turnout at the polls.

"We must break that old jinx that our people are not politically inclined and are disenchanted during elections. This is the auspicious time to show that we are ready to play national APC politics by delivering massively for Tinubu and Otu. No sitting on the fence; all hands must be on deck," he stated.

Also speaking at the various fora, N2N Director of Women Mobilisation, Dr. Silo Ekpenyong, called on women to take an active role in the mobilisation effort, urging them to engage their neighbours, children, church members and colleagues on the importance of participating in the elections.

She said, "Women must wake up from slumber and come out en masse to cast their votes. We must talk to our



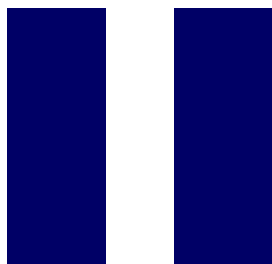
neighbours, our children, our church members and our colleagues and convince them on the need to return Tinubu and Otu massively."

Silo cited what she described as empowerment initiatives of the

Otu administration targeting women in agriculture, trading and politics, urging women to consider such interventions when making their electoral choices.

At Calabar Municipality, the APC House of Representatives

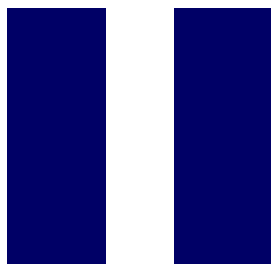
candidate for Calabar Municipality/Odukpani Federal Constituency, Dr. Efeffiom Nta Eke, commended N2N for taking the mobilisation campaign to the grassroots, saying the infrastructure investments of the



Tinubu and Otu administrations deserved the attention of voters.

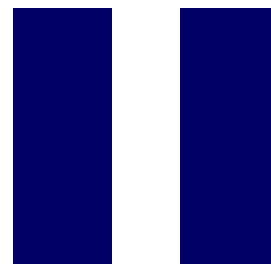
According to Eke, "Never in the history of the country and the state has an administration invested so heavily in infrastructure to boost economic growth and business across the geopolitical zones."

The former local government chairman said the 2027 election would witness a new pattern of voter participation and pledged to work with N2N and other stakeholders



to mobilise support for APC candidates.

The events were attended by members of the N2N Board of Trustees and coordinators from the participating local government areas, including Hon. Nkom John; Hon. Mrs. Etta Okon, Women Leader, Calabar Municipality; Mr. Offiong Asuquo, Odukpani Coordinator; Mr. Offiong Eyo; Pastor Okon Ekpo, Bakassi Coordinator; Chief Emmanuel Asuquo, Calabar South Coordinator; N2N Director of Finance, Dr. Effiom Ekpo; and Hon. Bassey



Etim Okon, Akpabuyo Coordinator.

Others included Calabar Municipal Council Chapter Coordinator, Chief Effiong Etim Archibong; Chapter Secretary, Mr. Dominic Edem; Women Mobiliser, Mrs. Eta Larry; Youth Mobiliser, Effiong Etim Bassey; Special Adviser to the Governor on Tolls, Mr. Bassey Ita (Baddest); and former member of the Cross River State House of Assembly, Mr. Efa Esua.



IKOMCCIMA

IKOM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
INDUSTRY, MINES & AGRICULTURE

in collaboration with



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

Group Backs Gov Otu for Second Term, Honours Agbor

By Kingsley Agim



The Kalakuta Republic, a socio-political group led by Comrade Stephen Oru Egbe in Etomi, Etung Local Government Area of Cross River State, has declared its support for Governor Bassey

Edet Otu's bid for a second term, pledging sustained grassroots mobilisation for the All Progressives Congress (APC).

The group made its position known during a political gathering in Etomi,

where it unveiled a billboard in support of Governor Otu, describing the initiative as a public expression of confidence in his leadership and a desire for continuity of his administration's



programmes and vision.

Speaking during the event, the group, under the leadership of Comrade Stephen Oru Egbe, said political support must go beyond words and be demonstrated through organisation, peaceful mobilisation and responsible participation in the

democratic process.

It urged its members and supporters to remain united, peaceful and disciplined, while reaffirming its commitment to Governor Otu and the APC ahead of the 2027 elections.

The group also used the occasion to recognise the Special Adviser to the Governor on

Asset Management and Recovery, Barr. Gilbert Agbor, decorating him as its Grand Patron in recognition of his leadership, commitment to the people and support for the organisation.

The group presented Agbor with a portrait as a symbol of appreciation, loyalty and solidarity,



expressing confidence in his ability to provide direction and inspiration to its members in his new capacity.

Receiving the honour, Agbor expressed profound gratitude to the leadership and members of Kalakuta Republic, describing the recognition as both an honour and a responsibility.

He said the honour had heightened expectations of greater service,

assuring the group that, as Grand Patron, he would provide the necessary direction and support to strengthen the organisation.

Agbor commended the group for its grassroots mobilisation efforts and attributed recent political developments in the area, including the defection of opposition members to the APC, partly to the commitment of its members.

As a demonstration of his support, Agbor announced an immediate financial contribution of N500,000 to Kalakuta Republic, assuring members that their activities and efforts would receive his continued support.

He urged the group to sustain its political engagement and mobilisation, stressing the importance of conducting politics without bitterness



and promoting unity among members and supporters.

Also speaking, the Ward Chairman, Roderick Itafu Abang, commended the young people behind the initiative, describing their decision to honour Agbor and demonstrate

solidarity with Governor Otu and the APC as a positive contribution to grassroots political participation.

Abang encouraged the group to remain committed to its political activities and continue to support the Governor, expressing optimism that the

efforts of members would yield positive results.

The event ended with renewed pledges of solidarity for Governor Otu, the APC and the political mobilisation efforts of Kalakuta Republic across Etomi and Etung Local Government Area.

Cross River Advances Sustainable HIV Response, Health System Financing

By Kingsley Agim



Cross River State has taken another step towards strengthening sustainable health sector governance, financing and logistics management as the Federal Ministry of Health, through the National AIDS and

STIs Control Programme (NASCP) and the National Sustainability and HIV Impact Project (N-SHIP), held a strategic stakeholders' engagement meeting in Calabar.

The meeting, held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026,

at the Cross River State Ministry of Health, brought together key stakeholders in the health sector, including the Senior Special Adviser to the Governor on Nursing, Dr. Coco Bassey, directors and heads of departments in the Ministry, as well as



representatives of relevant health programmes and partners.

The engagement focused on strengthening state ownership of HIV interventions, improving health financing, integrating services and reforming the supply chain to ensure that health

commodities and essential services reach communities efficiently and sustainably.

Addressing participants, the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Henry Egbe Ayuk, stressed that sustained partnerships and strategic resource mobilisation remained critical to

achieving lasting improvements in health outcomes across the state.

Ayuk explained that sustainability should not be interpreted as the withdrawal of partnerships, but rather as the ability of government to effectively harness international, national and local

resources to strengthen health interventions and build resilient systems.

“Partnership is a gift and a necessity, not just locally, but globally,” the Commissioner said, noting that successful health interventions require collaboration among government, development partners and communities. He called for stronger integration of HIV services with existing health platforms, citing the state’s high immunisation coverage as a model that could support broader disease-control efforts.

The Commissioner also emphasised

the importance of community participation in the fight against HIV, particularly as the state and its partners work towards disease elimination targets by 2030. He urged stakeholders to take prevention efforts closer to communities and ensure that interventions are designed around the needs of the people.

Speaking on the transition towards greater state ownership of health programmes, the N-SHIP Project Director, Dr. Okundili Chukwudima, identified integrated services, sustainable financing and improved supply-chain management as critical pillars for a resilient health

system.

“When you integrate services, you will be able to manage every person completely and holistically,” Chukwudima said, stressing that people living with HIV should be enrolled in health insurance schemes as part of efforts to guarantee long-term financial sustainability and reduce dependence on externally funded interventions.

He explained that a five-year framework agreement between Nigeria and the United States Government, running from October 2026 to 2030, provides for a gradual transition of financial



responsibility, with Nigeria expected to increase its contribution significantly by the fifth year. According to him, the transition provides an opportunity to strengthen domestic ownership and redirect public health investments towards local healthcare infrastructure and patient care.

Chukwudima also highlighted the need to eliminate longstanding

bottlenecks in the distribution of medicines and health commodities through digital solutions, including electronic reporting and inventory-tracking systems. He said such innovations would enhance visibility across the supply chain and improve the distribution of essential commodities to zonal and primary healthcare facilities.

He called for stronger coordination among ministries,

programme managers and development partners, noting that effective collaboration, expanded health insurance coverage and streamlined commodity logistics would be essential to sustaining health interventions across all 18 local government areas of Cross River State.

Gov. Otu's Employment Drive: Lands Ministry Trains New Staff for Efficient Service Delivery

By Afiong Ndem



The Cross River State Ministry of Lands has commenced a comprehensive training programme for its newly employed personnel, in furtherance of Governor Bassey Edet Otu's

employment drive and his administration's commitment to building a more efficient and professional public service.

The training brought together newly recruited staff across various

departments of the Ministry and was designed to equip them with the knowledge, discipline, professional ethics and administrative skills required for effective service delivery, particularly in the critical area of land



State.

The Commissioner described the Ministry of Lands as one of the largest and potentially most productive Ministries in government, stressing that its effectiveness has significant implications for citizens, investment and the revenue generation of the State. He urged the new employees not to take their appointments for granted, but to see them as an opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the development of Cross River.

He charged the trainees to embrace discipline, punctuality, commitment,

administration.

Addressing the trainees, the Commissioner for Lands welcomed them to the Ministry and congratulated them on their appointment into the State Public Service. He

acknowledged the efforts of Governor Otu in creating employment opportunities for thousands of Cross Riverians, noting that the employment drive had brought renewed hope and smiles to many families across the



respect for constituted authority and a strong sense of responsibility, stressing that every assignment must be taken seriously irrespective of the employee's cadre or position. "Never underrate your work and take every work seriously," he admonished.

The Commissioner further urged them

to understand the structure of the Civil Service, respect senior officers and operate within established channels of authority. He encouraged the new employees to maintain cordial relationships with their colleagues, shun unhealthy rivalry and willingly share knowledge, describing the workplace as a family where staff should support and

assist one another.

He said the training was particularly important because it would enable the new employees to understand their respective roles within the Ministry, what was expected of them and how their responsibilities contribute to the overall effectiveness of the institution. He also directed them



to remain focused on their assigned departments and avoid unnecessary interference in areas outside their mandates.

The Commissioner acknowledged existing challenges in some aspects of the Ministry's operations, particularly land administration and

registration, but assured the trainees that efforts were being made to address the abnormalities and restore greater efficiency and order to the system. He therefore tasked them to contribute positively to the ongoing repositioning of the Ministry through diligence,

professionalism and continuous learning.

He also assured the trainees that his office remained accessible to staff with genuine concerns or who required guidance, while reminding them to respect appropriate administrative channels. He

encouraged them to work closely with directors and heads of departments to improve their competence and knowledge, with the ultimate goal of building a busy, active, efficient and highly respected Ministry of Lands.

Earlier, facilitators took the participants through critical aspects of public service administration, including confidentiality of government information and the Oath of Secrecy in Service, filing methods as an administrative tool for effective service delivery, and the application of technology to improve productivity. The sessions also

exposed the trainees to the operations of the Ministry and the importance of proper land administration, registration and documentation.

Rounding off the programme, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, ESV. Gold Ita, who facilitated a session on "Discipline and Decorum: Hallmark of Civil/Public Servants in Service Delivery," urged the trainees to put the knowledge acquired into practice and uphold integrity, discipline, teamwork, professionalism and dedication in the discharge of their official duties.

The Ministry expressed optimism that the training would significantly

strengthen the capacity of its newly recruited workforce and support the State Government's vision of efficient land administration and improved public service delivery. The initiative, coming on the heels of Governor Otu's employment drive, represents an investment not only in jobs but also in developing a competent workforce capable of translating the administration's vision into effective service for the people.



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Inter Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mining and Agriculture



IKOMCCIMMA In collaboration with:
CROSS RIVER INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (CRIRS) and
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS IN THE CENTRAL CROSS RIVER

Presents

A ONE-DAY SENSITIZATION CONFERENCE

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



MRS. FLORA TAKIM-NDIFON
President/Chairman of Council,
IKOMCCIMMA

HOST



PRINCE EDWIN OKON PH.D
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN,
Cross River Internal Revenue Service

SPECIAL GUEST



HON. YIBALA INYANG INCIRI
Executive Chairman, Yakurr Council and
Chairman of All Chairmen, Cross River Central

CO-HOST



DR. AKORNAYE U. ADIE
Managing Partner, Akornaye Adie
& Co. Chartered Accountant
and Tax Practitioner

GUEST SPEAKER

**WED 9TH
SEPT 2026 | 10:00 AM
PROMPT**

**ICC Hotel Hall,
Four Corners, Ikom,
Cross River State**

ENQUIRIES: 08037321961, 08167081631 || Email: ikomccimma@gmail.com



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.

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



INEC ANNOUNCES 2027 CAMPAIGN TIMETABLE

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

KEY CAMPAIGN DATES



PRESIDENTIAL & NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



Campaign opens
19 August 2026



Campaign closes
15 January 2027



Election day
16 January 2027



GOVERNORSHIP & STATE ASSEMBLY



Campaign opens
9 September 2026



Campaign closes
5 February 2027



Election day
6 February 2027



WHAT THE ELECTORAL ACT REQUIRES

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



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





Federal Ministry of
Health & Social Welfare
Federal Republic of Nigeria

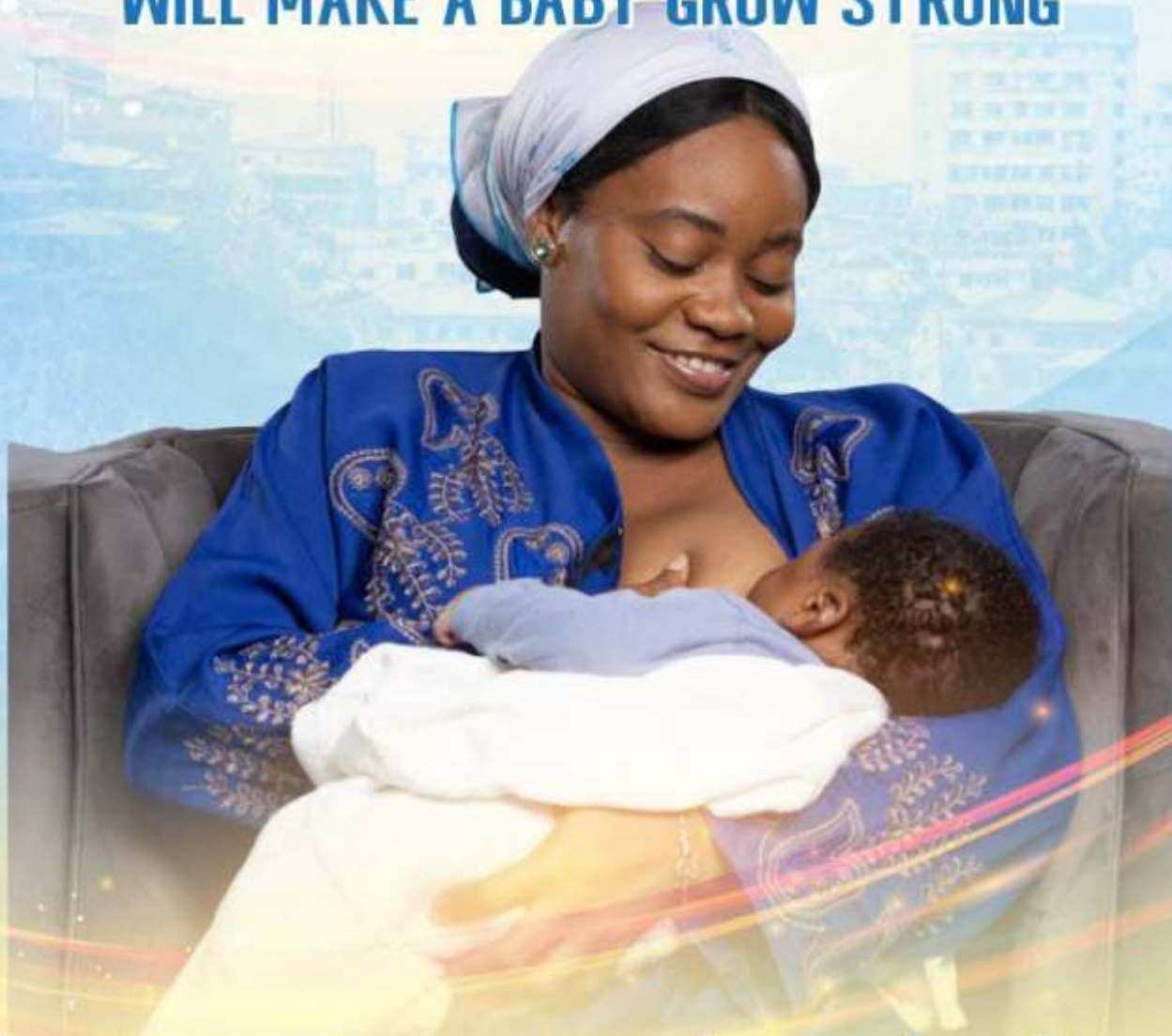


LET'S GROW STRONGER
TOGETHER

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

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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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to shape the future of our industry.**

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THROUGH EXPERT
SESSIONS**

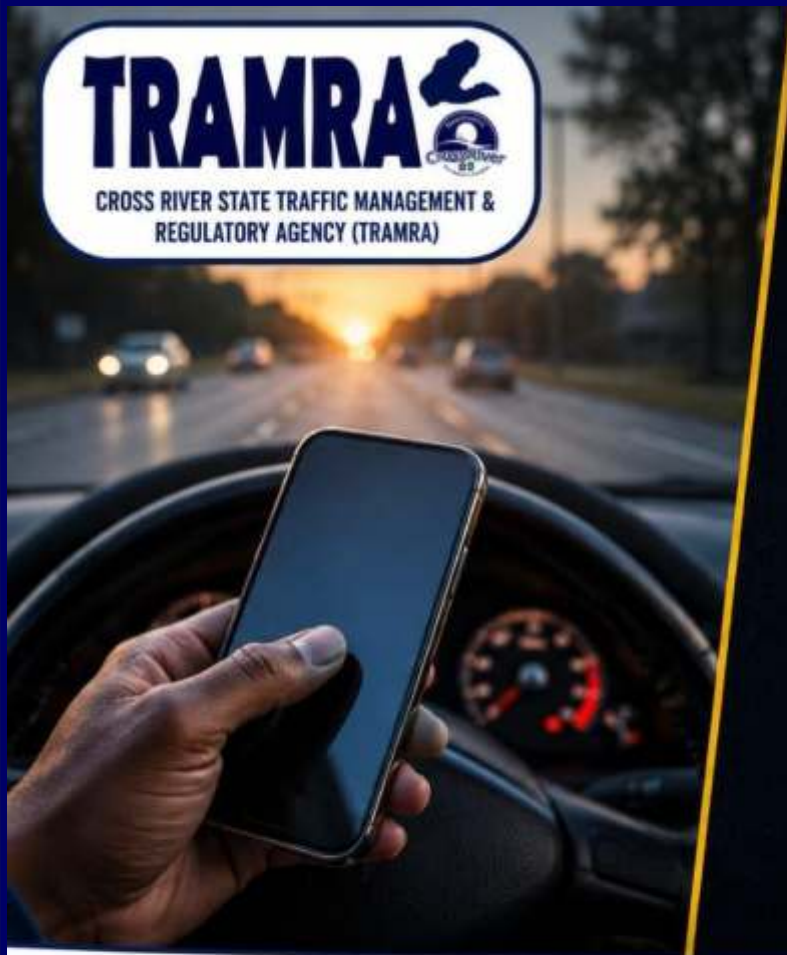


**COLLABORATE
AND BUILD
PARTNERSHIPS**



**INNOVATE
FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

CREATIVITY • UNITY • EXCELLENCE • IMPACT



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CROSS RIVER STATE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT &
REGULATORY AGENCY (TRAMRA)

**ONE CALL
OR TEXT
CAN COST A LIFE,
AVOID
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



REGISTER YOUR LAND TODAY!

Register your Land
Today with
**Cross River
Geographic
Information Agency**
and protect yourself,
Your Children and
Generations from
Land Grabbers.



Opposite Metropolitan Hotel,
Murtala Mohammed Highway, Calabar.

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



THEME
Rethinking
OUR COLLECTIVE
Destiny

Kingsley Agim, anipr

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

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

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

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

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



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

INFORMATION SECTOR

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



Kingsley Agim, anipr

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

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



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

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

State's visibility on the national and international stage.

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

Governor Otu's administration responded with deliberate investments





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

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

These reforms improved operational efficiency while

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

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

Under Governor Otu, the Commissioner for



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

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

significant improvements in government media presence in recent years.

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

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

The restoration of the website was



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

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

Government estimates indicate that the

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

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

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



restoration of official government documentation.

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

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

These publications have strengthened

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

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

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



initiatives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

investor confidence in the state's development agenda.

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

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

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

reached communities that traditionally had limited access to digital media.

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

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

CRBC's Digital Revolution

If the Ministry of Information experienced institutional renewal, the





Cross River Broadcasting Corporation underwent a complete technological transformation.

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

The Corporation introduced a fully paperless digital newsroom, enabling

real-time news production and significantly improving operational efficiency.

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



outages.

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

These improvements have substantially enhanced staff productivity and broadcast quality.

Perhaps the most transformative

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

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

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

Today, CRBC reaches audiences across more



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

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

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

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

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

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

promoting Cross River's rich heritage to wider audiences.

Strengthening Institutional Capacity

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







SECTORIAL STRIDES









THIS IS CROSS RIVER STATE

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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

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT**





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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



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STEPS TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN CROSS RIVER STATE

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

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CROSS RIVER STATE SECTOR COMMAND