Daily InfoNews Bulletin

A Publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information & Orientation, Calabar

MONDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 2026



C'River Law Officers Receive Cutting-Edge Training in Legal Practice and Artificial Intelligence





Daily InfoNews...

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DailyNews Bulletin is a daily publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information and Orientation for the Entertainment and Education of 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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Daily InfoNews Bulletin

A Publication of the Cross River State Ministry of Information & Orientation, Calabar

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Gov. Otu Commissions Ikom Oxygen Plant, Lauds FG's Healthcare Development Efforts

By Kingsley Agim



Cross River State Governor, Senator Bassey Edet Otu, has commissioned a high-capacity medical oxygen plant at the Comprehensive Health Centre, Ikom, to strengthen emergency healthcare delivery and improve access to medical oxygen across the Central Senatorial District.

The 68-cylinder-per-24-hour Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) oxygen plant, equipped with a 125KVA backup generator and capable of producing oxygen at 94 per cent purity, is expected to improve the availability of essential medical oxygen for patients requiring critical care.

Representing the Governor at the commissioning ceremony on Thursday, November 5, 2026, the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Henry Egbe Ayuk, performed the ceremonial ribbon-cutting to officially open the facility.

Ayuk described the facility as an important addition to the state's healthcare infrastructure, noting that it would complement existing oxygen plants in Calabar and Ogoja and expand access to medical oxygen across the three senatorial districts.

"Today marks a vital milestone as the Governor commissions this facility to serve our people in the best way possible. With this addition joining our existing plants in Calabar and Ogoja, the Central Senatorial District is now fully covered, ensuring equitable access to oxygen and vital medical supplies for every community," he



said.

The Commissioner disclosed that the state had assumed full operational responsibility for the facility, with arrangements being made to ensure effective management, adequate staffing and uninterrupted service delivery.

“Cross River State Government is extremely pleased with this achievement. We have taken complete ownership and instituted a sustainable framework to guarantee that this plant operates seamlessly for years to come,” Ayuk stated.

He commended the Federal Government for its intervention in strengthening healthcare infrastructure in Cross River, emphasising the importance of sustained collaboration between the two tiers of government in improving access to essential medical services.

The commissioning followed the formal handover of the oxygen plant to the Cross River State Government by the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, after the successful completion of installation, technical assessments and operational training.

Earlier, the representative of the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare’s Oxygen Desk, Engr. Sofeme S. Halvo, confirmed that the plant had undergone successful technical post-installation checks and that local operators had received comprehensive training ahead of the formal handover.

Halvo said the facility had been fully tested and verified before being transferred to the State Ministry of Health, expressing confidence in the state’s capacity to sustain its operations.

“This high-capacity plant has been fully tested, verified and officially handed over to the State Ministry of Health to serve the healthcare needs of the people. Our primary objective is to see this facility function reliably far beyond its commissioning, and we are confident that





the robust operational structures assured by the Honourable Commissioner will maintain its sustainability," he said.

The federal representative highlighted the importance of sustained collaboration between the federal and state governments in expanding access to medical oxygen and strengthening healthcare infrastructure.

The installation and commissioning of the Ikom oxygen plant add to Cross River's medical oxygen infrastructure, with the potential to improve emergency response and the treatment of patients requiring oxygen therapy across the Central Senatorial District.

Present at the ceremony were the Chief Nursing Superintendent of the facility, Alice Simon Okputu; State Oxygen Focal Person, Joseph Abang; and PHC Director, Besong Mercy Okobok, among other healthcare personnel.









Our Ref: GO/HOS/4/VOL.III/366

November 6, 2026

The Hon. Speaker
The Hon. Chief Judge
All Commissioners/Special Advisers
The Secretary to the State Government
The Chief of Staff
All Chairmen of Commissions & Boards
All Chairmen of Local Government Councils
All Permanent Secretaries/Special Assistants
The Vice Chancellors (UNICROSS/UEE)
The Clerk of the House/Chief Registrars
The Accountant-General/Auditor-General (State/Local Govt)
The Head of Personal Staff to the Deputy Governor
All Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments/Parastatals

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE STATE-WIDE PERSONNEL AUDIT/VERIFICATION EXERCISE

I am directed to refer to Head of Service Circular No. 18/2026 (Ref. GO/HOS/4/VOL.III/364) of October 14, 2026, on the commencement of the Second Phase of the State-Wide Personnel Audit/Verification Exercise.

2. The Office of the Head of Service wishes to inform all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), State parastatals, Local Government Councils, Primary Health Care facilities, Local Government Education Authorities, and State and Local Government Pensioners that the exercise is **hereby suspended with immediate effect**.

3. The suspension is to enable the Consultant to resolve the technical issues affecting the smooth conduct of the exercise.

4. Accordingly, no personnel are required to report to any verification venue until further notice. The verification schedule published in Circular No. 18/2026 is suspended, and a revised schedule will be issued when the technical issues have been resolved and the exercise is ready to resume.

5. Permanent Secretaries, Heads of MDAs and Heads of Parastatals are to bring this circular to the attention of all personnel under their supervision.

6. The inconvenience this may cause is regretted.

Mrs. Lucy Bassey Enakirerhi Esq - Member
Permanent Secretary (Career Management Office)
For: Head of Service

C'River Justice Ministry Trains Law Officers on Modern Legal Practice, AI

By Mary Oben



The Cross River State Ministry of Justice has concluded its 2026 Annual Law Officers' Professional Development Training, with a renewed focus on strengthening professional competence, embracing technological innovations and improving the delivery of legal services across the state.

The four-day programme, held from November 2 to 5, 2026, at the Cross River State Library Complex, Calabar, was organised by the Ministry in collaboration with The Law Crest LLP and The Practical Training Academy Ltd/GTE.

Declaring the training open, the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Barr. Ededem Charles Ani, Esq., said the programme, now in its third consecutive year, reflected the Ministry's commitment to continuous professional development and the strengthening of institutional capacity.

He acknowledged the support of Governor Bassey Edet Otu, noting that the administration had continued to support efforts to improve the Ministry's operations and professional capacity.

Ani disclosed that the number of participating Zonal Officers had increased from about 10 in the previous year to 25, while recalling that 72 Law Officers were employed in the previous year to address manpower gaps and strengthen legal representation across the state.

He urged participants to take full advantage of the training, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate greater professionalism in handling their responsibilities.

"The legal profession is constantly evolving, and as Law Officers, we must



continuously update our knowledge and skills to remain effective in the discharge of our responsibilities. This training provides an opportunity to strengthen our professional capacity and improve the quality of legal services we render to government and the people of Cross River State," he said.

The Attorney General particularly highlighted the growing relevance of Artificial Intelligence in modern legal practice, cautioning that its application must be guided by professional judgment, independent verification and strict adherence to confidentiality.

"Artificial Intelligence is increasingly becoming relevant to legal practice, and we cannot afford to ignore its opportunities. However, we must understand that technology cannot replace the professional judgment of a lawyer. Whatever information or legal material we obtain through AI must be independently verified, while confidentiality and professional ethics must remain paramount," Ani stated.

The training featured practical sessions on various aspects of legal practice and public service administration, facilitated by experienced legal practitioners and professionals. Topics on the opening day included Introduction to Arbitration, facilitated by Dr. Chukwendu Madumere; Mediation; and Introduction to Artificial Intelligence.

On the second day, participants received training on Public Sector Lawyering and an Overview of the Structure and Work of the Ministry of Justice, facilitated by Mr. Arthur Warrey. Other sessions addressed Civil



Litigation, handled by Mr. Godwin Omokaro, SAN, and Public Sector Contracts, facilitated by Mr. Zayonu Usman, SAN.

The third day featured sessions on Criminal Litigation and Negotiations, facilitated by Mr. Victor Opara, SAN, and Mr. Uche Alion, respectively, while the final day focused on Arbitration, Employment Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution, including Property Law and Probate.

The facilitators drew from their professional experiences to expose participants to practical approaches to legal practice, providing opportunities for interaction, knowledge exchange and a deeper understanding of the legal and administrative demands of government service.

Ani stressed that the success of the training would not be determined by the number of certificates issued but by the extent to which participants translated the knowledge acquired into improved professional performance.

“The real measure of this exercise is not the certificates we award at the end of the programme, but the positive changes it brings to our work. I expect every participant to return to their respective duty posts with improved capacity, greater confidence and a stronger commitment to professional excellence,” he said.

He also charged experienced Law Officers to mentor younger colleagues, urging all participants to uphold diligence, accountability and teamwork in advancing the objectives of the Ministry.

The Ministry reaffirmed its commitment to sustaining professional development programmes that would enhance the capacity of its workforce, strengthen government legal services and improve access to effective legal representation in Cross River State.





CR-SEMA Extends SSDC Relief Support to Disaster Victims in Three C'River LGAs

By David Asu



The Cross River State Emergency Management Agency (CR-SEMA) has extended the distribution of humanitarian relief materials donated by the South-South Development Commission (SSDC) to disaster-affected residents in Ikom, Obubra and Etung Local Government Areas of the state.

The distribution exercise, which took place on Thursday, November 5, 2026, at the CR-SEMA Warehouse, was aimed at ensuring that the humanitarian intervention reached vulnerable households and communities affected by various disaster incidents across the state.

The Director General of CR-SEMA, Mr. Efa Nyong, who supervised the exercise, handed over the relief materials to the Vice Chairmen of the three local government areas, who also serve as Chairmen of their respective Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMCs), for onward distribution to identified beneficiaries.

The exercise followed the



recent presentation of a fire truck and humanitarian relief materials to the Cross River State Government by the SSDC, at a ceremony where the Deputy Governor, Rt. Hon. Dr. Peter Odey, received the items on behalf of Governor Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu.

Speaking during the distribution, Nyong stressed the importance of accountability and proper coordination in ensuring that the relief materials reached the intended beneficiaries, particularly households affected by fire outbreaks, flooding and other disaster incidents.

“Our priority is to ensure that these relief materials get to the people who genuinely need them, particularly households affected by fire outbreaks, flooding and other disaster incidents. We are working closely with the Local Emergency Management Committees because they understand the peculiar needs of their communities and are better positioned to identify affected persons,” he said.

The CR-SEMA boss expressed appreciation to the SSDC for the humanitarian intervention, describing it as a timely support for disaster-affected residents.

“We sincerely appreciate the South-South Development Commission for this intervention. The support will go a long way in cushioning the effects of disasters on affected residents. We remain committed to strengthening our response mechanisms



to ensure that no affected community is left behind," Nyong added.

Receiving the materials on behalf of their respective councils, the Vice Chairmen expressed appreciation to the SSDC, the Cross River State Government and CR-SEMA for extending the intervention to their local government areas.

The Vice Chairman of Obubra Local Government Area, Hon. Leonard Ogwa, particularly commended Governor Otu for his commitment to disaster management and the support provided to CR-SEMA to enable the Agency to effectively discharge its responsibilities.

"We appreciate Governor Bassey Otu for his commitment to disaster management and the consistent support he has provided to CR-SEMA to enable the Agency to respond effectively to emergencies. We also commend the South-South Development Commission for remembering disaster-affected residents in our communities through this intervention," Ogwa said.

Also present were the Vice Chairman of Etung Local Government Area, Hon. Innocent Assam Amba, and his Ikom counterpart, Hon. Maurice Ndoma, who received the relief materials on behalf of their respective councils and Local Emergency Management Committees.





2027: Renewed Hope Ambassadors Fire Up Grassroots Mobilisation, Express Confidence in APC Victory

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Chapter of Renewed Hope Ambassadors has stepped up preparations for the 2027 general elections, unveiling an extensive grassroots mobilisation drive to rally support for the re-election of President Bola Tinubu and Governor Bassey Otu.

The State Coordinator, Ambassador Soni Abang, who is also Executive Director, Finance, South-South Development Commission (SSDC), announced the mobilisation plans during a strategic meeting with local government coordinators and newly appointed women coordinators in Calabar, expressing confidence in the group's capacity to build a formidable support base for the All Progressives Congress (APC) across Cross River.



Abang described Renewed Hope Ambassadors as a political mobilisation platform established by President Tinubu to promote the policies and achievements of his administration and galvanise grassroots support for his re-election. He said the Cross River chapter was equally committed to securing a second term for Governor Otu through coordinated community engagement and voter mobilisation.

He explained that the group would establish an effective mobilisation network across the state's 18 local government areas, wards and polling units, with local government coordinators expected to work closely with council chairmen and APC chapter leaders to strengthen the party's grassroots structures.

"Our responsibility is to take the message of Renewed Hope to every community in Cross River. We must reach the people, engage them on the achievements of both administrations and mobilise their support for President Tinubu and Governor Otu ahead of 2027," Abang said.

The State Coordinator disclosed that close to 500 registered support groups had been identified across the state, describing the network as a valuable mobilisation base that would be integrated into a coordinated structure to advance the group's electoral objectives.

He charged the coordinators to bring the various groups together,



harmonise their activities and ensure that their collective strength translated into effective voter engagement across the state.

Abang also commended the impressive turnout at the recent APC rally in Calabar, noting that the commendation received from the national leadership of Renewed Hope Ambassadors reflected the group's mobilisation capacity. He urged members to sustain the momentum and reproduce the level of participation in other local government areas.

He warned against voter apathy, emphasising that successful political mobilisation required more than rallies, convoys and public gatherings. According to him, members must establish direct contact with residents, listen to their concerns and communicate the achievements and policy direction of both administrations.

"Rallies are important, but the real work is in the communities. We must go from door to door, engage our people, explain what the governments have achieved and make a compelling appeal for their support at the polls," he said.

Director-General of the Cross River APC Campaign Council, Senator (Prof.) Stephen Odey, urged the coordinators to take ownership of the mobilisation process in



their respective communities and reach out to residents who might feel disconnected from the political structure.

Odey emphasised the importance of inclusive engagement, grassroots participation and effective coordination, assuring the group of the campaign council's support in achieving its mobilisation objectives.

The Governor's Chief of Staff, Chief Emmanuel Ironbar, commended the increasing participation of women in the political structure and called for unity among APC support groups, urging them to put aside rivalry and work collectively towards the party's objectives in 2027.

Ironbar also highlighted the Otu administration's activities in health, education and infrastructure, charging the coordinators to take information about government projects and programmes to the people and use community engagement to strengthen public understanding of the administration's performance.

The APC State Chairman, Rt. Hon. Sunny Etta, described Renewed Hope Ambassadors as an important component of the party's mobilisation structure ahead of the presidential and governorship elections. He urged members to enlighten residents on the Federal Government's economic reforms and the development opportunities



emerging in Cross River.

Etta particularly highlighted the proposed headquarters of the Gulf of Guinea Commission in Calabar, the Bakassi Deep Seaport and the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway, alongside the state's oil and maritime resources, as strategic opportunities that should feature prominently in the group's engagements with residents.



The meeting reaffirmed the group's commitment to building a coordinated grassroots campaign network, and taking its mobilisation activities to communities and polling units across Cross River in pursuit of support for Tinubu's re-election and Otu's second-term ambition in 2027.

MEDA Seeks Global Investment, Partnerships for C'River Businesses at CANEX 2026

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Microfinance and Enterprise Development Agency (MEDA) has stepped up efforts to connect businesses in the state to international markets, investment opportunities and innovative financing options through its participation in the Creative Africa Nexus Weekend (CANEX WKND) 2026 in Lagos.

The agency is part of the official Cross River State delegation attending the four-day event, which began on November 5 and ends on November 8, 2026.

The engagement is focused on attracting strategic partnerships, exploring alternative funding opportunities and positioning the state's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and creative businesses to compete in the African and global markets.

MEDA is also using the Cross River State pavilion to showcase investment-ready projects and engage potential investors, financiers and international buyers interested in the state's economic opportunities.



The participation aligns with Cross River's priority economic sectors, particularly agribusiness and agro-processing, tourism, blue economy and solid minerals, which the state is promoting as key areas for investment and enterprise development.

CANEX WKND 2026 is serving as a precursor to the 2027 Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2027), providing an opportunity for participating businesses and governments to establish commercial relationships ahead of the continental trade event.

With the IATF ecosystem targeting approximately $50 billion in trade and investment deals, MEDA is seeking to position Cross River enterprises to benefit from emerging business opportunities and expanded access to continental markets.

Speaking on the engagement, the Director-General and Chief Executive Officer of MEDA, Great Ogban, said the agency was determined to move local businesses beyond basic market access to a stronger position in the continental economy.

"Our mission in Lagos is clear: we are moving Cross River businesses from mere market access to true market power," Ogban said.

He explained that MEDA was pursuing creative financing solutions and direct business-to-business linkages with global buyers



and financiers to unlock the potential of the state's creative and entrepreneurial sectors.

Ogban said establishing such relationships would provide local businesses with access to investment, funding and markets required to expand their operations and improve their competitiveness.

The engagement also provides an opportunity for Cross River to strengthen its visibility within the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework and prepare local enterprises to take advantage of the expanding intra-African trade opportunities.


CANEX WKND2026
African Union


CANEX
WKND
2026
CANEX WKND 2026

Gov. Otu Reaffirms Commitment to Security, Says Cross River Remains Safest State in Nigeria

By Daniel Bebia



Cross River State Governor, Senator Prince Bassey Edet Otu, has reaffirmed his administration's unwavering commitment to security, assuring residents, investors and visitors that Cross River remains safe and peaceful.

Governor Otu gave the assurance on Thursday during an inspection of the newly constructed Police Station on Bateba Street, Calabar, where he highlighted his administration's massive investments in security infrastructure, operational equipment and synergy with security agencies.

The Governor explained that his government has continued to upgrade security facilities and provide modern equipment to enhance the operational

capacity of security agencies in tackling crime and protecting lives and property.

"Security has been one of our very prime concerns in this state. And this state remains the safest state in this country," Governor Otu declared.

He warned that his administration will not tolerate lawlessness in any form, stressing that anyone who violates the law will face the full consequences.

Otu noted that securing Cross River requires huge investment, given its extensive land and maritime boundaries with neighbouring countries, some of which pose security challenges.

According to him, his administration has invested heavily in maritime security infrastructure, modern security gadgets and a robust land security architecture to strengthen surveillance and prevent criminal activities.

"The main activity of government is to protect life and property of the citizen. So we've invested a lot, both in terms of maritime infrastructure, security equipment that we need, and then we have also built all our land security architecture to make sure that everybody sleeps peacefully and wakes peacefully," he stated.

The Governor said the improved security situation has restored public confidence, noting that residents can now move freely, jog and engage in early morning activities without fear.

He recalled that during a recent 5 a.m. walk around Calabar, he was impressed by the large number of residents already on the streets going about their lawful activities a development he said was previously uncommon.

Otu maintained that the prevailing peace and security have also boosted Cross River's attractiveness as a preferred destination for investors and tourists.

He assured that his administration will sustain its collaboration with all security agencies and continue to prioritize the safety of lives and property across the State.

Earlier, Governor Otu undertook a facility tour of the Cross River Broadcasting Corporation (CRBC), where he pledged to upgrade the corporation's substations to expand its coverage across the State.


CARNIVAL CALABAR 2026
2ND
DRY
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THEME:
RETHINKING OUR COLLECTIVE DESTINY

SUG Elections: UNICROSS Dean Urges Elected Leaders to Respect Institutional Policies

By Kingsley Agim



The Dean of Student Affairs, University of Cross River State (UNICROSS), Dr. Victor Ndifon, has urged newly elected Students' Union Government (SUG) leaders to respect established university policies and procedures in the discharge of their duties.

Ndifon gave the charge following the release of the certified results of the 2026 SUG elections conducted across the university's Calabar, Ogoja and Okuku campuses.

The Dean, who also chaired the Electoral Commission for the elections, emphasised the importance of constructive engagement with university management, urging the student leaders to familiarise themselves with the hierarchy of institutional policies, particularly the provisions of the Students' Handbook.

He stressed the need for the elected representatives to respect established procedures and channels of communication, especially in matters relating to their constitution, to promote responsible leadership and maintain harmonious relations with the university management.

The elections produced a new crop of student representatives who will represent the interests of the university's student population across the three campuses.

At the Calabar Campus, Ernest Ernest Asuquo of the Department of Civil Engineering emerged as SUG President with 1,356 votes, while Ayuk Peace Kennedith of the Faculty of Physical Sciences was elected Vice President with 982 votes.

Other elected executives are Ayim Samuel Esse of the Faculty of Education, Secretary General, with 576 votes; Joy Patrick Omini of the Faculty of Computing, Director of Finance, with 656 votes; Charkpen Enaugha Egbe of the Faculty of Engineering, Treasurer, with 553 votes; Ezekiel Atabashi of the Faculty of Physical Sciences, Director of Socials, with 965 votes; and Ephraim Oyo Okon of the Faculty of Education, Director of Sports, with 516 votes.

Fourteen students were also elected into the Calabar Campus Students' Senate. They include Ochui John Akpashu and Uwak Okon Offiong of the Faculty of Physical Sciences; Daniel Etim Etim of the Faculty of Biological Sciences; Ernest Godswill Egwu and Watson Eyong Ukpor of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences; and Ikimishi Johnson A. of the Hostel Constituency.

Others are Ernerst Ezekiel Akpan and Ojua David Efenji of the Faculty of Education; Archibong Emmanuel and Daniel Abam of the Faculty of Computing; Ekanem Francis Odo and Augustine Ekan Maleme of the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies; Williams Anietie James of CES; and Walu Vandeyoon Isaac of the Faculty of Architecture.

At the Okuku Campus, Onyam Emmanuel of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences was elected Vice President with 133 votes, while Ekpezu Hope Ukpai, also of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, emerged as Assistant Secretary General with 78 votes.

Five students were elected into the Okuku Campus Students' Senate. They are Ogar Emmanuel Udenyi, Bassey Wisdom O. and Anabea Bright Emmanuel, all of the Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, as well as Joseph Benjamin and Ogar Sunday Coolest of the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry.

At the Ogoja Campus, Akpoga Francis U. of the Faculty of Management Sciences emerged as Vice President with 124 votes, while Aniah Jude A. and Francis Blessing A., both of the same faculty, secured seats in the Students' Senate.

The Student Affairs Division confirmed that all successful candidates satisfied the stipulated administrative, academic and medical eligibility requirements, including the prescribed Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), satisfactory examination records and negative National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) test results.

The certified results were signed and released by the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Victor Ndifon, and the Student Affairs Officer, Mr. Ofem E. Ofem.

Gov. Otu Begins N50,000 Cash Transfers to Vulnerable Residents Across C'River

By Kingsley Agim



The Cross River State Government has commenced the disbursement of N50,000 each to thousands of vulnerable residents across the state under Governor Bassey Otu's social investment programme.

The State Coordinator of the Social Investment Programme, Dr Edem Okokon Effiom, disclosed this on Saturday in Calabar, stating that the payment exercise began about five days earlier and was still ongoing.

Effiom said the programme was designed to reach 150 beneficiaries in each of the state's 196 wards, bringing the total number of prospective beneficiaries to approximately 29,400.

He explained that each ward's allocation comprised 100 beneficiaries under the Conditional Cash Transfer component and 50 skilled persons who require financial assistance to establish their businesses or trades.

According to him, the intervention is designed to provide financial relief to vulnerable households while empowering skilled individuals who have the capacity to earn a living but lack the start-up capital to put their skills to productive use.

"Why we called you here is



to let the whole world know that the long-awaited social investment impact of His Excellency, Senator Bassey Otu, has started taking effect," he said.

The coordinator disclosed that the beneficiary register had been compiled since June, with deliberate efforts to accommodate people from different social and economic backgrounds in line with the governor's directive to ensure inclusivity.

He said the selection process covered vulnerable members of religious and traditional institutions, women and youth groups, as well as other identifiable segments of society, noting that vulnerability cuts across all sections of the population.

"We segmented our beneficiaries into several segments. We talked about the church, the vulnerable members of our churches, and our traditional institutions, because vulnerability is not peculiar to any particular group; it is spread all over," Effiom stated.

He explained that the media briefing was organised partly to address confusion arising from a similar cash transfer programme circulating on Facebook, which had prompted some residents to question the authenticity of the N50,000 payments.

"For clarification, those who have received their N50,000, it is coming from the Cross River State Government, courtesy of the benevolence of our governor, His Excellency, Senator Bassey Otu," he clarified.

Effiom acknowledged that the beneficiary register was not yet exhaustive, explaining that the government had begun the process of developing a comprehensive database of vulnerable residents and others in genuine need of assistance.

He further disclosed that officials were working to resolve complaints from residents who were yet to receive their payments, with most of the challenges linked to discrepancies in bank account details and Bank Verification Numbers (BVN).

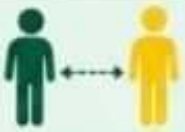
The coordinator assured affected beneficiaries that efforts were ongoing to address the issues and facilitate the payment of their entitlements. He added that the government remained committed to strengthening the programme and expanding its impact.

"Some may say it is small, but little by little, we are making progress. We are hoping that as the government proceeds, and as you all give us the necessary support, we will strengthen the social investment programme and definitely improve on it," he added.

IPC measures for Ebola and Marburg disease

Key recommendations

NCDC
NIGERIA CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

	Best practice
 **IPC ring approach**	Use the IPC ring approach in health-care facilities and communities when a case is identified.
 **Hand hygiene**	Use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) or soap and running water (if currently using chlorine, then implement a strategy to change to ABHR).
 **Screening**	Everyone should be screened using a no-touch technique at the first point of contact.
 **Patient placement**	Patients should be isolated in a single room and their well-being and visitors made a priority as safely as possible.
 **Personal protective equipment**	PPE should be selected based on risk of activity being performed.
 **Spraying health and care workers**	**Do not** spray health and care workers during PPE removal.
 **Health and care worker exposures**	Exposed health and care workers should be assessed and managed according to risk of exposure.
 **Waste management**	All waste generated should be treated as infectious waste, including heavily soiled linen.
 **Environmental cleaning and disinfection**	Clean and disinfect surfaces/environment by wiping in patient care areas.
 **Safe management of dead bodies**	**Do not** disinfect dead bodies.

Adapted from: World Health Organization. *IPC measures for Ebola and Marburg disease: past and present.*

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