

AKSG Moves to Upgrade College of Education, Afaha Nsit, to Akwa Ibom State University of Education

• Approves key sector interventions

- Page 4

Lady Obareki Inaugurates Patience Umo Eno Health Centre

• Extols performance of Ibeneo Chairman

- Page 8



ARISE

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Tree Crop Revolution Set for November Launch as Gov Eno Visits AKADEP

• Directs agency to operate under SSG's office



transformation agenda, is aimed at boosting palm oil production, creating rural wealth, and restoring Akwa Ibom's position as a leading palm oil-producing State in Nigeria.

During an inspection to AKADEP on Tuesday, October 14, Governor Eno directed that the agency, formerly under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture, should now operate as a stand-alone institution under the Office of the Secretary to

Governor Umo Eno, has announced that the much-anticipated Tree Crop Revolution, will be officially launched in November 2025, following his visit to the Akwa Ibom State Agricultural Development Programme (AKADEP) premises in Uyo.

The initiative, a key component of his administration's agricultural



A'Ibom Poised to Become Nigeria's Medical Hub - Gov Eno

- Page 12

Info. Commissioner, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umana Bags Ph.D

- Page 17



1st Dec. 2025 - 1st Jan. 2026



19th Dec. 2025

the State Government (SSG).

He also ordered an immediate overhaul and remodeling of the existing infrastructure within the facility to ensure it meets the operational needs of the forthcoming agricultural initiative.

The Tree Crop Revolution, earlier announced by the Governor, will be managed by the Akwa Ibom State Agriculture and Food Security Committee, chaired by Prof. Okon Ansa, a former Commissioner for Agriculture in the State, with Prof. Trenchard Ibia, a former Agriculture Commissioner as member, among other experts.

According to Governor Eno, the programme seeks to expand palm oil cultivation using high-yield varieties, create generational wealth for rural farmers, and stimulate economic growth across the ten federal constituencies of the State.

The Governor, disclosed that the Committee will operate from the remodeled AKADEP premises, working closely with the Office of the SSG to ensure a seamless rollout of the initiative. The facility will also host a nursery for improved palm seedlings, which will be distributed to farmers across the constituencies.



Furthermore, AKADEP is mandated to deploy at least two extension workers to each of the designated farms across the ten federal constituencies, while the Agriculture and Food Security Committee will oversee the off-take of produce during harvest periods, reaffirming the administration's commitment to leveraging agriculture as a strategic driver for food security, rural development, and sustainable wealth creation in line with the ARISE Agenda.

Meanwhile, the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah, has assumed an oversight of AKADEP, pledging the full cooperation of his office to ensure the revitalisation of the agency, and fast-track Governor Eno's tree crop revolution.



In his remarks during an inaugural strategy meeting he convened with the Akwa Ibom Agricultural Development Programme (AKADEP) and the State Committee on Agriculture and Food Security at Government House, Uyo, on Thursday, October 16, the SSG said, "His Excellency has given a clear directive on the Tree Crop Revolution and expects visible results within a defined timeline. We are fully committed to that goal. With AKADEP now directly under the Office of the Secretary to the State Government, we are positioned to ensure faster coordination and timely result."

GOV ENO ON AN INSPECTION VISIT TO AKWA IBOM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (AKADEP) PREMISES



AKSG Moves to Upgrade College of Education, Afaha Nsit, to Akwa Ibom State University of Education

• Approves key sector interventions

Corporation (AKICORP) as members, has a six-week mandate to submit its report.

Governor Eno charged EXCO members to remain steadfast in service delivery and collaboration to ensure the full realisation of the ARISE Agenda for the overall development of the State.

In the health sector, the Council reviewed the report of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the Implementation of the State of Emergency in the Health Sector and approved several interventions. These include, the recruitment of doctors and medical professionals, increment of special and peculiar allowances for health workers, implementation of the skipping policy in the health sector, and the rehabilitation of selected hospitals and primary healthcare facilities across the State.



The Akwa Ibom State Government, has taken a major step towards strengthening teacher education and human capital development, as it approved the upgrading of the College of Education, Afaha Nsit, to the Akwa Ibom State University of Education.

Governor Umo Eno, announced the approval on Monday, October 13, during the State Executive Council (EXCO) meeting, held at Government House, Uyo. He said the decision aligns with the Human Capital Development component of the ARISE Agenda, aimed at improving the quality of education and enhancing professional standards among teachers.

As part of the resolutions reached, the Governor approved the constitution of a Special Implementation Committee to realign and update ministerial responsibilities. The committee, chaired by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG), with the Head of Civil Service, Executive Assistant to the Governor, Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Solicitor-General, and the Managing Director of Akwa Ibom State Investment



The Council also approved the commissioning of the General Hospital, Ukanafun, scheduled for November 10, as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen healthcare delivery, among others.

Additionally, the council considered and approved a memo for the Establishment of the Office of the Public Defender under the Ministry of Justice to provide free legal representation to indigent residents and ensure they receive fair treatment under the law, as well as ratified FGPC memos on various ongoing projects in the State.



AKWA IBOM STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING



Gov Eno Revokes Illegal Land Entitlementment at Tropicana Layout

Governor Umo Eno, has ordered the revocation of all illegal land allocations at the Tropicana Layout in Uyo, as part of efforts to restore order and align development in the area with the State's original master plan.

Speaking with Government House Correspondents after inspecting the designated site for the proposed ARISE Shopping City, on Tuesday, October 14, Governor Eno cautioned individuals and groups against encroaching on government lands, stressing that such actions undermine the State's long-term development goals.

"Even though the land has remained unused for years, there has been excessive encroachment. That is why I have come here to revoke every title and activity inconsistent with the original master plan," the Governor declared.

He explained that the initiative to build the ARISE Shopping City stems from his administration's commitment to expanding the State's tourism ecosystem, alongside the ongoing completion of the 5,000-seat Ibom International Convention Centre and the 200-room Ibom International Hotel.

Governor Eno reaffirmed his vision to transform



Akwa Ibom into a world-class tourism hub by harnessing and integrating diverse assets across sectors such as culture, agriculture, aviation, and hospitality into a comprehensive tourism master plan.

According to him, the ARISE Shopping City will serve as a modern commercial and leisure destination, where tourists can conveniently access accommodation, event venues, shopping outlets, and recreational facilities in one integrated location.

"We want a shopping city that hosts international brands, a place where tourists can relax, shop, and enjoy leisure without the need to travel abroad. The ARISE Shopping City will provide that same quality and experience right here in Akwa Ibom," he said.



The Governor Eno disclosed that the ARISE Shopping City project has a completion target of 12 months, noting that with the State's robust infrastructure and prevailing peace, Akwa Ibom is poised for a major boost in tourism investment and visitor inflow upon completion of its hospitality and recreational development.

Pastor Eno Condoles Family of Late Rev Uma Ukpai



Philomena Uma Ukpai, Governor Eno prayed for divine comfort and strength for her, the children, and all spiritual sons and daughters of the deceased. He encouraged her to carry on the late evangelist's vision and uphold his enduring legacy of evangelism and service to humanity.

Pastor Umo Eno, on Monday, October 13, led members of the State Executive Council on a condolence visit to the family of the renowned evangelist and founder of the Uma Ukpai Evangelistic Association, Rev. Dr. Uma Ukpai, describing his passing as a monumental loss to Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, and the global Christian community.

Speaking during the visit at the Ukpai family residence in Uyo, Governor Eno paid glowing tributes to the late preacher, maintaining that he was an icon and a rare gem, whose life of faith, humility, and service touched countless lives across the world.

The Governor said the visit was to personally convey the condolences of the government and people of the State, and to assure the bereaved family of support in ensuring a befitting rite of passage for the departed man of God.

Addressing the widow, Pastor

In her response, the deceased wife expressed gratitude to the Governor and members of the State Executive Council for the visit, describing it as a great source of encouragement to the family. She said the family accepts her husband's passing as the will of God, noting that "only what God allows can happen."

While reflecting on their 48 years of marriage, Pastor Ukpai appreciated the prayers and support of great ministers such as Bishop David Oyedepo and Pastor E.A. Adeboye during her husband's illness.



Lady Obareki Inaugurates Patience Umo Eno Health Centre

• Extols performance of Ibeno Chairman



boosting productivity, and empowering residents to achieve self-reliance and economic stability. Additionally, Effiong explained that the newly commissioned Patience Umo Eno Health Centre embodies the values of compassion and care for which the first lady was renowned for.

Earlier, the Head of Ibeno Local Government Service, Mr. Ndaeyo Inuaeyen, commended Mrs. Effiong's leadership, describing her as a dedicated and transparent administrator, who has successfully advanced good governance, unity, and service delivery in the area. He hailed her for integrating sound economic strategies that strengthen institutional efficiency and accountability.

The Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obareki, has inaugurated the Patience Umo Eno Health Centre at Iwuokpom, Ibeno Local Government Area, extolling the performance of the Chairman, Hon. Glory Effiong, which she said reflects the ideals of Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda.

Speaking on Tuesday, October 14, during the first anniversary celebration of the Council Chairman, held at Ulok Ulok Hall, Upenekang, Lady Obareki expressed deep appreciation to the people of Ibeno for honouring the memory of her late mother, Pastor Patience Eno, through the establishment of the health centre, which she prayed would remain a symbol of healing, compassion and hope as long as the doors remain open.

"On behalf of my family, and indeed the Governor, I wish to express heartfelt gratitude for naming this facility after my mother. It is a gesture that is very dear to our hearts," she stated, describing the honour as a touching testament to the First Lady's compassion and service to humanity.

Lady Obareki praised Hon. Effiong for her visionary leadership and outstanding performance within her first year in office, stating that her commitment to inclusive governance and grassroots development has made Ibeno a model of progress. "Your achievements in such a short time truly reflect the ARISE Agenda of His Excellency, Pastor Umo Eno. You have demonstrated that purposeful leadership and community development are achievable," she said.

In her address, Hon. Glory Effiong attributed her administration's success to the guidance and inspiration drawn from Governor Eno and Lady Obareki, whose people-centred approach to governance has influenced her leadership style. She highlighted the Ibeno Mega Project Initiative as a key legacy programme aimed at improving infrastructure,

Goodwill messages were delivered by the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Frank Archibong; the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Welfare, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo; and Chief Okon Udofia, representing the Paramount Ruler of Ibeno. They applauded the Chairman for the quality of projects executed within a short period of time, lauding Governor Eno for promoting women's inclusivity in governance, saying that the confidence reposed in Hon. Effiong has been justified.

Highlights of the event was the presentation of empowerment items to select beneficiaries, and the news of the first baby delivered at the facility at about 3:30 a.m., in which the Coordinator presented the mother with baby care packs and cash gifts, thanking God for a safe delivery. Accompanying Lady Obareki on the visit were, the wife of the Secretary to the State Government, Dr. Inemesit Uwah; Mrs. Funmi Nkanga, wife of the former Military Governor; and the Special Adviser, Bureau of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Hon. Alice Ekpenyong.



Pastor Eno, Ors Hail Dakuku Peterside's New Books at Abuja Presentation

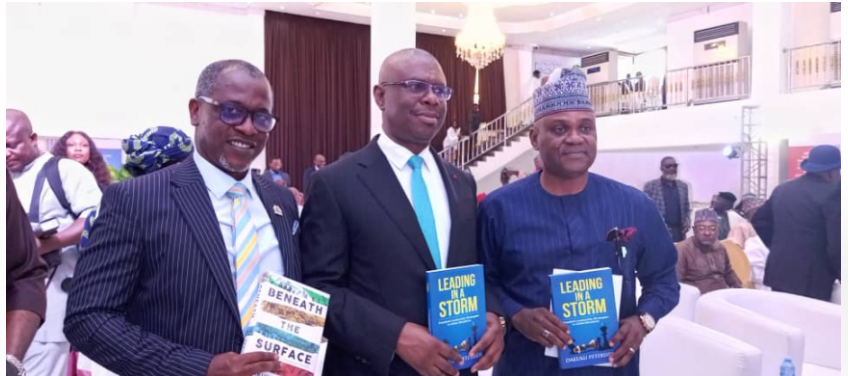
The State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, was among several dignitaries who graced the public presentation of two new books authored by Dr. Dakuku Peterside, titled "Leading in a Storm" and "Beneath the Surface," held on Tuesday, October 14, at the Los Angeles Event Center, Abuja.

At the event, which drew commendations from national leaders and intellectuals who praised the insightful perspectives and potential global relevance of the books, Governor Eno observed that true development begins with leadership that listens, serves, inspires hope, and genuinely cares for the people.

Represented by the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, who was accompanied by the Permanent Secretary, Akwa Ibom State Liaison Office, Abuja, TPL Aniekan Akpan, the Governor noted that the ideas articulated in Dr. Peterside's works align with the principles of his administration's ARISE Agenda, which places the welfare of citizens at the core of governance and focuses on key sectors including Agriculture, Rural Development, Infrastructure, Security, and Education. He emphasised that such people-centered leadership remains the cornerstone of Akwa Ibom's growth and stability.

He further reiterated his administration's commitment to social development programmes such as free and compulsory education for children, free health insurance for the elderly, pregnant women, and children, as well as continuous investment in rural infrastructure. The Governor added that Akwa Ibom's status as one of Nigeria's most peaceful States is a direct reflection of his administration's proactive approach to leadership and security management.

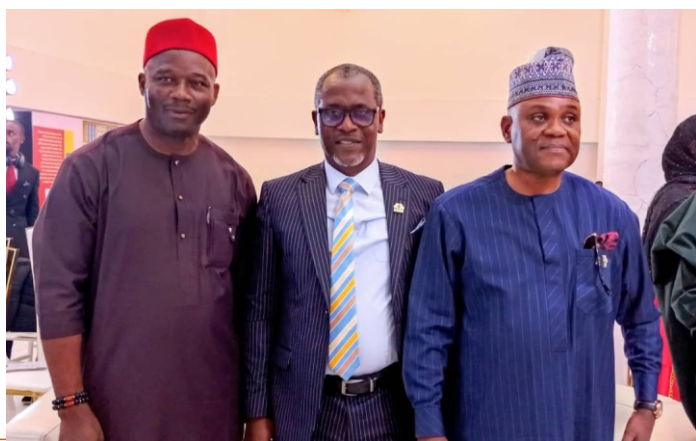
The State Chief Executive said the books were timely



reflections on the challenges and responsibilities of leadership in an evolving world, urging leaders at all levels to embrace humility, knowledge, and service as essential virtues for national transformation. He lauded Dr. Peterside for offering a fresh and practical perspective on the skills required for effective leadership in turbulent times.

The Chairman of the event, and Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Alpine Investment Ltd, Mohammed Hayatudeen, described the books as "A mirror that reflects realities with honesty, and a compass that points towards renewal and hope." He applauded "Beneath the Surface" for its bold examination of Nigeria's contradictions and "Leading in a Storm" for its pragmatic approach to leadership amid crises, urging political and institutional leaders to strengthen governance and uphold democratic values as the 2027 elections approach.

Governors of Kano, Katsina, Taraba, and Ebonyi States, in their separate goodwill messages, corroborated Peterside's vision of building a fair, just, and prosperous society, noting that the books provide valuable insights for both current and emerging leaders. On his part, the Kenyan-born academic and social entrepreneur, Prof. Olubaji Otuabaji, presented a keynote address, while Segun Adeniyi, Chairman, ThisDay Editorial Board, and Dr. Linus Okorie, President, GOTNI Leadership Centre, handled the review.



According to Adeniyi, "Beneath the Surface" offers a compelling exploration of Nigeria's complex socio-political realities, while Dr. Okorie described "Leading in a Storm" as a rare blend of empirical depth and practical wisdom, rooted in African experiences yet globally relevant. The ceremony attracted eminent Nigerians, including former governors, ministers, policymakers, members of the National Assembly, diplomats, and captains of industry, as well as Management staff of the Akwa Ibom State Liaison Office, Abuja.

AKSG Restates Commitment to Sustainable Energy, Improved Healthcare

• *Flags off Nigeria Solar for Health project*

The Akwa Ibom State Government, has reaffirmed its commitment to advancing sustainable energy and strengthening healthcare delivery with the official launch of the Nigeria Solar for Health Project.

The event, held on Friday, September 10, at the Ibom E-Library, Uyo, underscores the State's determination to integrate clean energy solutions into critical sectors for improved service delivery.

Speaking at the ceremony, Governor Umo Eno, represented by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, emphasised that the initiative aligns with his administration's vision of achieving universal, reliable, and sustainable energy access across all communities. He highlighted that the project, executed in collaboration with the European Union (EU), the Federal Ministry of Power, the Federal Ministry of Health, and the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), will strengthen healthcare infrastructure through renewable energy deployment.

Governor Eno commended the European Union for its sustained partnership and support in Nigeria's renewable energy transition. He noted that the State Government has already taken proactive steps to domesticate the Electricity Act 2023 through the enactment of the Akwa Ibom State Electricity Policy 2024 and the Electricity Law 2024. These frameworks, he said, are designed to promote innovation and investment in the local energy sector.

According to the Governor, the newly established



regulatory instruments will facilitate the creation of the Akwa Ibom State Electricity Market (AKSEM), aimed at building a balanced energy ecosystem that integrates both on-grid and off-grid power solutions. He maintained that electricity remains a critical driver of development, serving as the foundation for effective healthcare, education, security, and economic prosperity.

In his remarks, the Commissioner for Power, Hon. Iniobong Robson, expressed appreciation to Governor Eno for his leadership and interest in the growth of the power and health sectors. He assured that his ministry would work closely with relevant partners to ensure the successful implementation of the Nigeria Solar for Health Project for the benefit of Akwa Ibom people.

Also speaking, the Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the project, Mr. Tiyan Ogiehor, explained that the initiative is an EU-funded programme implemented by NTU International in selected states including Akwa Ibom, Abia, Enugu, Plateau, and Ogun. He said the project seeks to harness renewable energy to enhance healthcare service delivery and promote sustainable socio-economic development by providing uninterrupted electricity to designated health facilities.

The event climaxed with the inauguration of the Nigeria Solar for Health Project (NISHP) State Steering Committee, chaired by Hon. Iniobong Robson, Commissioner for Power, with the Commissioner for Health serving as Co-Chairman.



Lady Obareki Reiterates Commitment to Girl-Child Empowerment

• *Donates educational tablets, gift packs to 500 female students, pupils*



Development Commission (NDDC), for providing U-Lesson educational tablets to enhance digital learning among students.

Calling for stronger partnerships among government agencies, parents, educators, and community leaders to dismantle barriers that restrict girls' access to education and equal opportunities, Lady Obareki particularly urged parents to prioritise the education and welfare of their daughters, describing the family as the first line of defence against abuse and discrimination, while also encouraging the girl-child to embrace learning, self-belief, and leadership with confidence.

The Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obareki, has restated her unwavering commitment to promoting the rights, education, and empowerment of the girl child, describing her as a resilient agent of change whose creativity and leadership can shape a better future for the society.

Lady Obareki, made the remarks while addressing 500 pupils and students drawn from public primary and secondary schools across the State during the celebration of the 2025 International Day of the Girl Child, held at the Banquet Hall of Government House, Uyo.

Speaking on this year's theme, "The Girl I Am, The Change I Lead: Girls on the Frontlines of Crisis," Lady Obareki underscored the need to recognise and support the strength, leadership, and capacity of young girls, particularly in the face of social, economic, and environmental challenges. She applauded the diligence and achievements of Akwa Ibom girls in academics, entrepreneurship, and community development, assuring that the Governor Umo Eno-led administration, through the ARISE Agenda, remains resolute in providing a supportive environment for their growth and success.

The Coordinator disclosed that through the Girls In Focus Agenda (GIFA), her office is investing in mentorship, education, and leadership development programmes designed to equip girls with both knowledge and character for future leadership roles. She also commended the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), in collaboration with the Niger Delta

In her goodwill message, the Deputy Governor Senator Akon Eyakenyi commended Lady Obareki for her passion towards the girl-child development, stressing that women have the capacity to lead in diverse professional fields beyond their traditional domestic roles. She advised the girls to take their studies seriously and take advantage of opportunities made available through the Child Rights Law and the inclusive governance approach of Governor Eno, which she noted has enhanced women's representation in all sectors of the State.

The event, organised by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare, featured a mentoring session led by Mrs. Ifiokobong Akan, Creative Director of House of Borah, who charged the girls to blend purpose with creativity and stay focused on education as a pathway to equal opportunities. It also featured distribution of U-Lesson RHI/NDDC tablets and personal care packs to all participants, and the cutting of anniversary cake by Lady Obareki, supported by the Deputy Governor and other dignitaries.



A'lbom Poised to Become Nigeria's Medical Hub - Gov Eno

•As he declares open 65th NSP Scientific Conference, 66th AGM

Governor Umo Eno, has reaffirmed his administration's determination to transform Akwa Ibom into Nigeria's premier medical hub.

The Governor, made this known on Wednesday, October 15, in his goodwill message at the 65th Annual Scientific Conference and 66th Annual General Meeting of the Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy (NSP), held at Ibom Hall, Uyo.

Represented by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, Governor Eno stated that his government remains fully committed to repositioning the health sector through the provision of world-class medical infrastructure and improved welfare packages for healthcare professionals across the State.

He emphasised that the administration's strategic investments in health facilities such as the Ibom Specialist Hospital and the proposed Ibom International Hospital form part of a deliberate plan to create a vibrant medical corridor capable of reducing outbound medical tourism and attracting patients from within and outside the country.

According to the Governor, a state of emergency has been declared in the health sector to fast-track comprehensive reforms and improve the working environment for health personnel. He assured that targeted measures are being implemented to enhance the welfare, motivation, and retention of medical staff serving in State-owned healthcare institutions.

Governor Eno commended physiotherapists for their invaluable role in healthcare delivery, especially in patient



rehabilitation, mobility enhancement, and pain management. He acknowledged that the profession remains crucial to restoring functionality and quality of life for accident victims, stroke patients, and the elderly.

While calling for increased public awareness for the physiotherapy profession, the Governor encouraged young people to explore career opportunities in the field, noting that physiotherapists play an indispensable role in modern healthcare systems.

The State Chief Executive, also advised medical practitioners in public service who engage in private practice to maintain a healthy balance between both responsibilities. He cautioned that neglecting patients in public facilities violates the trust reposed in them and undermines the ethics of the medical profession.

In his remarks, the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John, highlighted Governor Eno's approval of enhanced welfare packages for health workers under the Consolidated Medical Salary Structure (CONMESS) and the Consolidated Health Salary Structure (CONHESS). He further disclosed the ongoing renovation of eight General Hospitals across the State and the recruitment of additional medical personnel to strengthen healthcare delivery.

The event featured the presentation of awards to the Governor, Deputy Governor, and the Commissioner for Health, as well as remarks from the National President of NSP, Dr. Oyinlola Odusanya, and the State Chairman, Dr. Anyanwu Cleophas. It also featured a keynote address by Ayodeji Famujide on the theme, "Strengthening Nigeria's Physiotherapy Value Chain through Entrepreneurship."



Pastor Eno Earns AIG Auwal's Applause on Security, Peace, Police Support

• *Reiterates commitment to safety, welfare of citizens*

Pastor Umo Eno, has earned the applause of the Assistant Inspector General of Police, Zone 6, AIG Mohammed Auwal, for consistently supporting the Nigerian Police and for maintaining peace, security, and law enforcement across the State.

Speaking during the AIG's visit to him on Monday, October 13, at the Executive Council Chambers, Government House, Uyo, Governor Eno stressed that the security and welfare of Akwa Ibom people remain paramount in his administration's agenda. He commended the Nigerian Police and other security agencies for their tireless efforts in sustaining the peace and safety the State has enjoyed under his leadership.

The Governor averred that no meaningful development can thrive without peace and stability, hence the government's continued investment in security institutions. He praised the Commissioner of Police, Baba Azare, for fostering unity and collaboration among security agencies operating in the State.

Attributing the prevailing peace and safety in Akwa Ibom to the synergy between the State government and security agencies, particularly the Nigerian Police, Governor Eno assured continued partnership with AIG Auwal and other security stakeholders to ensure a safe State.



Governor Eno further revealed that the Command and Control Centre would soon be commissioned by the Inspector General of Police, adding that the Counter-Terrorism Unit and Barracks project in Nsit Ubium Local Government Area would also be inaugurated soon. He also announced ongoing plans to install solar-powered lighting systems in all Police Stations across the State to enhance their operational efficiency.

While appreciating the Inspector General of Police, Kayode Egbetokun, and AIG Auwal for their commitment, the Governor noted that the peaceful atmosphere in Akwa Ibom is a deliberate result of strategic collaboration and prudent resource management by the State Police Command. He reiterated his administration's resolve to sustain the existing peace for the collective welfare and progress of the people.



In his remarks, AIG Auwal maintained that Governor Eno's proactive approach to security serves as a model that should be emulated by other Governors across the federation. He acknowledged that such commitment has greatly enhanced the efficiency and morale of security operatives in Akwa Ibom.

The AIG expressed gratitude to the Governor for upgrading facilities at the State Police Headquarters, Ikot Akpan Abia, and other police formations in the State. He urged other States to adopt Governor Eno's security development template to strengthen law enforcement nationwide.

NUJ: HoS Commends State Information Chapel for Professionalism, Promotion of ARISE Agenda

The Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien, has commended members of the State Information Chapel of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), for professionalism and consistent promotion of Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda.

Elder Essien gave the commendation on Tuesday, October 14, when the leadership of the Chapel, led by the Chairman, Comrade Edifon Abasi-Obot, paid a courtesy call on him at the Government House, Uyo.

Describing the Chapel as a model of responsible journalism, he praised its members for decorum, consistency, and quality reportage, which he said have played a vital role in policy interpretation and projection of positive image of the State.

The Head of Service pledged continued government partnership with the Chapel to advance shared objectives in governance and public service delivery. He also encouraged members to maintain high



professional standards and strengthen collaboration with the wider NUJ structure.

On his part, Comrade Edifon Abasi-Obot thanked the Head of Service for his exemplary leadership and support for the civil service. He appealed for sustained government assistance, particularly in training, capacity development and career growth for members.

Abasi-Obot highlighted the Chapel's priorities, including reviving and rebranding its periodic publication, the Surveillance Newspaper; launching a functional website to boost digital presence; introducing motivational incentives for members; and intensifying advocacy for professional development, as well as improved welfare.

He affirmed the Chapel's commitment to effectively publicise the achievements of government and promote the values of the ARISE Agenda.

The high point of the visit was the presentation of the Chapel's forthcoming Press Week activities, which include engagement programmes and capacity-building sessions for members



Security Remains Top Priority Under Gov Eno's Administration, Says Info Commissioner

The Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah has stressed that peace and security remain a priority of Governor Umo Eno's administration.

Rt. Hon. Umanah gave the reassurance during a Peer Learning National Workshop on “Building Trust and Advancing Police Reforms” organised by the International Alert Nigeria and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), held at Rocharles Hotels and Suites, Uyo, on Tuesday, October 14.

Represented by the Permanent Secretary in his ministry, Akparawa James Edet, the Commissioner, maintained that public safety requires collective responsibility, as security cannot be left solely in the hands of the police. “Within the security ecosystem, every one of us is a stakeholder because the police cannot do it alone,” he stated, commending the organisers for choosing Akwa Ibom for the workshop at a time when the State is intensifying efforts to consolidate peace and stability.

Umanah noted that Akwa Ibom has continued to rank high among the most peaceful States in Nigeria due to the joint commitment of government and the citizens. He further lauded President Bola Tinubu’s ongoing initiatives to tackle insecurity across the nation, despite challenges, and urged Nigerians at home and in the diaspora to support the Federal Government and the Inspector General of Police in securing the country’s borders and communities.

Highlighting the strides of the administration, the Information Commissioner explained that Governor Eno has institutionalised several security mechanisms, including the establishment of the Ministry of Internal Security and Waterways, which collaborates closely with other security agencies. He emphasised that security is a central pillar of the



Governor’s ARISE Agenda, symbolised by the “S” for Security, which reflects the government’s deep commitment to the protection of lives and property.

He also acknowledged the collaborative efforts of the State Security Council, chaired by Pastor Eno, which meets regularly to review emerging threats and coordinate strategic responses. According to him, the government continues to invest in modern security infrastructure, technology, and logistics, resulting in significant improvements in crime prevention and peacebuilding across the State. The Commissioner commended the State Commissioner of Police and heads of other security agencies for partnering the State government in the maintenance of peace. He also underscored the importance of community policing, describing it as a vital approach that involves village heads, traditional rulers, and community-based organisations in safeguarding local communities.

Umanah hinted that the Ministry of Information contributes to security drive through radio programmes, public enlightenment campaigns, and hotlines that enable citizens to share intelligence and report incidents promptly. He added that youth engagement remains a key aspect of the government’s peace strategy, as Governor Eno continues to promote empowerment initiatives aimed at reducing unemployment and curbing crime among young people.

While appreciating the organisers of the workshop and participants for their visit, Umanah assured them of the safety and hospitality that Akwa Ibom is known for. He highlighted the State’s record of leadership continuity since the return of democracy and its commendable record of completing projects. The event also featured goodwill messages from Rt. Hon. Rikki Nwajiofor, Speaker of the Igbo Youth Parliament; His Royal Majesty, Edidem III Clement Ekpenyong, Paramount Ruler of Ibesikpo Asutan; and CSP Benjamin Hundeyin, Force Public Relations Officer of the Nigeria Police Force, represented by DSP Isuku Victor, all of whom called for sustained police reforms, youth inclusion, and stronger community partnerships to enhance national security.



Speaker Strengthens Ties with NANS to Boost Academic Excellence

The Speaker of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Udemé Otong, has strengthened ties with the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) to promote academic excellence, and the overall development of students in the State.

Rt. Hon. Otong made this known at the Assembly Complex, Uyo, on Tuesday, October 14, when he received the leadership and members of NANS, comprising student representatives from various tertiary institutions in the State on a courtesy call.

Welcoming the delegation, the Speaker commended their dedication to learning and passion for academic advancement. He lauded Governor Umo Eno's investment in education and the welfare of students, noting that every student-focused bill, passed by the House of Assembly had received the Governor's prompt assent.

He assured the students of the legislature's continuous support, stressing that the Assembly remains committed to enacting policies that enhance education, discipline, and youth development.

Also speaking, the Deputy Leader of the House,



Hon. Nsidiibe Akata, highlighted the proactive role of the Assembly in promoting education, citing the recent passage of the bill upgrading the Akwa Ibom State College of Education, Afaha Nsit, to the Akwa Ibom State University of Education, as a testament to the legislature's commitment to academic growth.

In her remarks, the member representing Uruan State Constituency, Hon. Itorobong Etim, applauded NANS for recognising the importance of women in leadership, describing it as a reflection of inclusivity and progressive values within the students movement.

Earlier, the NANS delegation, led by Comrade Patience Nyeneime, expressed gratitude to the Speaker for his consistent support for the student community. She sought collaboration with the Assembly in organising a Legislative Mentorship Summit, aimed at exposing students to the workings of the legislature and the policy-making process.



The highlight of the visit was the presentation of a commendation award to Rt. Hon. Otong in recognition of his contributions to education-friendly legislation and exemplary leadership to young people.

A'lbom Info Commissioner Bags Ph.D in Leadership

It was a celebration of gratitude as the Akwa Ibom State Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, was today conferred with the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Leadership and Strategic Studies from the Federal University, Lokoja.

The degree was bestowed at the 9th Convocation Ceremony of the institution, held in Lokoja on Saturday, October 2025.

Dr. Umanah described the milestone as “a testament to God’s faithfulness and the unwavering support of many wonderful people in my life.”

In a heartfelt message, he expressed profound appreciation to His Excellency, Pastor Umo Eno, Ph. D , Governor of Akwa Ibom State, for his



encouragement and support.

He also thanked his family, colleagues, friends, and associates for their prayers, patience, and motivation, noting that:

“This achievement is not mine alone; it’s ours. Together, we keep striving for excellence and purposeful leadership.”

A journalist and media professional, Dr. Umanah who holds first and second degrees in Communication Arts from the University of Uyo and is also an alumnus of Cambridge University George Business School.

He is also an immediate past Member of the House of Representatives, where he distinguished himself as a legislator with a passion for development communication and good governance.

With this highest academic laurel, Dr. Umanah continues to exemplify the ideals of lifelong learning, excellence, and service, values he consistently promotes in public life and leadership.



Ikot Ekpene: Nkom Champions Education as Path to Career Excellence

• *As first lady empowers 200 pupils with school materials*

The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom, has emphasised education as a crucial tool for achieving career success, urging pupils to take their studies seriously.

He made this statement on Friday, October 10, during the 2025 Back-to-School Programme, held at the Council's Marriage Registry Hall. At the event, his wife, Mrs Affiong Nkom, donated educational materials to 200 pupils in primary and secondary schools across the 12 wards.

Hon. Nkom explained that the Back-to-School Programme is an initiative of the Office of the First Lady of Ikot Ekpene, aimed at promoting



access to education, reducing financial burdens, and supporting academic advancement.

He reaffirmed his administration's commitment to quality education, announcing plans to partner with private schools to train and retrain teachers. He also advised parents to consistently enrol their children and urged pupils to maintain good hygiene.

The beneficiaries received school bags,



mathematical sets, exercise books, writing materials, and cash support for secondary school students.

Mrs. Nkom stated that the gesture aligns with Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, which prioritises education, and encourages pupils to be diligent in their studies.

Miss Salome Edet, speaking on behalf of the beneficiaries, expressed gratitude to the council Chairman and his wife for their support for vulnerable.



Eket: Legislative Leader Boosts Education with Donation to Pupils



Hon. Ekanem who said the gesture was inspired by her personal experiences and commitment to supporting education, also donated cash gifts and two grass-cutting machines to the school, commending teachers and management for their dedication to nurturing young minds.

“This is a special day, not just for the pupils but also for me. I’ve always observed this school and I’m glad I could make a difference,” she stated.

The Head Teacher, Deaconess Esther Udoette, described the support as unprecedented and a true act of love and humanity. She urged others to emulate Hon. Ekanem’s example by investing in education.

The event was attended by relevant stakeholders and a cross-section of the people of the area.

The Leader of the Eket Legislative Council, Hon. Joy Ekanem, on Friday, October 10, donated educational materials to pupils of Government Main School, Eket, in support of Governor Umo Eno’s ARISE Agenda and the State’s free and compulsory education policy.

The donation comprised 1,000 customised exercise books, 200 school bags, 300 pairs of shoes, and 200 uniforms, sparking excitement and gratitude among the pupils.



ARISE Agenda Delivering Tangible Benefits to A'lbom People - Info Boss

•Hails Gov Eno's human development drive at Borno PGF strategy meeting



The Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, has commended Governor Umo Eno's administration for setting new benchmarks in human development and social transformation through the effective implementation of the ARISE Agenda, which has continued to impact lives and communities across the State.

Speaking at the Progressive Governors' Forum (PGF) Quarterly Strategy Meeting of Commissioners for Information from APC-governed States, held from October 15–16, at the Borno State Government House, Maiduguri, Umanah described the Governor's people-oriented programmes as "unpacking the good" for Akwa Ibom people across all sectors of the economy.

He highlighted Governor Eno's deliberate focus on human capacity development, enterprise growth, and social inclusion, which he noted has significantly boosted Akwa Ibom's Human Capital Development Index. Thousands of citizens, he said, have benefited from empowerment programmes, enterprise acceleration initiatives, and equipment support, while hundreds of persons with disabilities have received assistance through the State's Disability and Special Assistance Commission.

The Information Commissioner further noted that these empowerment schemes are reinforced by the government's compassionate social welfare programmes, including the ARISE Compassionate Homes, which provide modern, fully furnished houses for indigent families across all 31 local government areas, and the Free Food Distribution Programme under the Bulk Purchase Agency. He also mentioned the Elderly Support Scheme, which ensures regular stipends for senior citizens, and the State's Health Insurance Scheme, which guarantees affordable healthcare coverage for thousands of residents.

According to Umanah, the Bursary Scheme for Students has also provided vital financial relief for undergraduates, further demonstrating the administration's commitment to inclusive development. "These programmes are changing lives, building futures, and restoring hope," he said. "Governor Umo Eno's leadership is anchored on compassion, empowerment, and shared prosperity. The ARISE Agenda is not just policy, it is a living framework for social renewal and economic transformation."

He explained that the State's social development efforts are being implemented alongside massive infrastructural expansion.

The administration, he revealed, has completed and commenced work on over 964 km of roads, as well as model schools, modern health centres, and other projects designed to strengthen the socio-economic foundations of Akwa Ibom communities.

Umanah commended the Progressive Governors Forum for fostering peer learning and enhancing communication synergy among Information Commissioners, describing the platform as "a vital bridge between policy communication and governance delivery."

The two-day strategy meeting, themed, "FGN–PGF Synergy 2025: One Message, One Future," focused on aligning communication strategies between the Federal Government and APC-governed States.

At the end of the session, participants reaffirmed their commitment to people-centred governance, endorsed the National Value Reorientation Campaign, and adopted a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to promote evidence-based communication. They also expressed appreciation to Governor Babagana Zulum for hosting the meeting and to the Minister of Information and National Orientation, Alhaji Mohammed Malagi, for his insightful contributions.



Ikot Ekpene: Nkom Reiterates Commitment to Expanding Access To Clean Water, Infrastructure

• *Commissions three solar-powered boreholes, lays foundations for shopping complex*

The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to expanding access to clean water and improving infrastructure in the region.

Hon. Nkom, who made this known on Monday, October 13, while commissioning three solar-powered boreholes in Abiakpo Ikot Udo Oboro (Ward 12), Ikot Uso Udo Mbiaso (Ward 11), and Ikot Offiong (Ward 10), averred that the projects aim to tackle water scarcity and promote sustainable development at the grassroots.

Marking his one year in office with the commissioning, the Chairman said the initiative demonstrates his resolve to ensure that the impact of government is felt in every community. He described water as "an important natural resource that builds life," and urged residents to take ownership of the facilities and maintain proper hygiene.

Additionally, Hon. Nkom laid the foundation for



the Ikot Ekpene Shopping Complex and highlighted its strategic location, which positions it as a potential commercial hub that could boost local economic activities.

The council boss also announced plans to install transformers to restore electricity in communities in need, and to extend solar-powered boreholes to other wards.

Providing an overview of the projects, the Director of Works, Arch. Nkereuwem Nya, explained that the solar-powered borehole pumps convert solar energy into electricity for water supply. He added that the shopping complex will sit on a 3,100 sqm plot and feature ample parking, 16 shops measuring 14x20 ft and 4 shops of 14x30 ft on the ground floor, as well as 18 shops of 14x23 ft and 5 shops of 14x33 ft on the first floor, with access from Umuahia Road.

Village heads, councillors, supervisors, and ward political leaders delivered goodwill messages, commending the council Chairman for his developmental strides.



Okobo: Henshaw Approves Monthly Allowance for 66 Village Youth Presidents

The Chairman of Okobo Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. George Henshaw, has approved the payment of monthly allowances to all 66 gazetted village youth presidents across the local government area.



Announcing the approval recently, during a joint meeting with community development leaders and youth presidents at the Council Auditorium, Okopedi, Rt. Hon. Henshaw described the initiative as a deliberate effort to profile, certify, and formally recognise youth leaders, while integrating them into the governance process.

According to the Chairman, the move will strengthen grassroots structures, eliminate impersonation, and ensure that only duly attested leaders endorsed by village heads benefit from the scheme.

“Village youth presidents are the closest leaders to our people. They must serve as peace ambassadors, enforce sanitation compliance, safeguard public facilities, and

mobilise youths for development. My administration will stand by them and provide the resources they need to serve effectively,” he stated.

The council boss urged the youth leaders to avoid cultism and drug abuse, reminding them of their responsibility as role models to younger generations.

In their separate remarks, the President General of the Okobo Development Union (ODU), Prince Walter, and his Atak Oro counterpart, Chief Effiong Asanwana, commended the Chairman’s foresight, describing him as a visionary leader. They noted that it was the first time in the area’s history that youth presidents were being placed on a formal monthly allowance by the council.

Effiong Emphasises People-Oriented Governance, Unveils Developmental Strides in Ibeno

• Marks One Year in Office with Mega Empowerment, Projects Commissioning



The Chairman of Ibeno Local Government Area, Hon. Glory Effiong, has reaffirmed her dedication to people-oriented and inclusive governance.

She made this known on Tuesday, October 14, at Ukpenekang, during the commissioning of key projects and flag-off of the Ibeno Mega Empowerment Initiative, to mark her one year in office.

Highlighting her administration's achievements, Hon. Effiong listed completed and ongoing projects including the construction of a Community Health Centre at Iwuokpom, installation of solar streetlights, renovation of council quarters and motor park, provision of water and toilet facilities for market women, establishment of the ARISE Farm,



rehabilitation of roads, welfare support for widows and orphans, and the construction of a Compassionate Home at Okorutip.

She noted that ongoing projects, such as the ultra-modern Secretariat Complex, the ICT and JAMB Centre, and drainage works, reflect her resolve to make governance more responsive at the grassroots.

The First Lady Designate, Lady Helen Obareki, commended Hon. Effiong for effectively interpreting Governor Umo Eno's vision and commissioned the Iwuokpom Primary Health Centre, named after Pastor Patience Umo Eno.

The Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Frank Archibong, praised the Chairman's outstanding performance, while the Head of Local Government Service, Prince Ndaeyo Inuaeyen, described her as a visionary leader promoting transparency and effective service delivery. Other speakers, including the Commissioner for Women Affairs, Hon. Inibehe Silas, and Chief Okon Udofia representing the Paramount Ruler, applauded her leadership and Governor Eno's confidence in a woman's capacity to lead.

The event climaxed with the commissioning of the Compassionate Home at Okorutip and was attended by Commissioners, traditional rulers, political leaders, and members of the public.

Ibendo: Effiong Reaffirms Commitment to Improving Community Health, Social Welfare

As over 400 residents benefit from free eye care outreach

The Chairman of Ibendo Local Government Area, Hon. Glory Effiong, has reaffirmed her commitment to enhancing community health and social welfare as she celebrated her first anniversary in office with a free eye care outreach that benefited more than 400 residents.

Hon. Effiong gave the commitment during the eye care outreach held on Thursday, October 9, at Secondary Grammar School and Ulok Ulok Hall in Upenekang. The event was organized by the council in collaboration with the Nigerian Optometric Association (NOA), Akwa Ibom State Chapter, to mark the 2025 World Sight Day.

The Chairman emphasised that clear vision is essential for education, productivity, and personal safety. She stated that this initiative is just one of several programmes planned to celebrate her first year in office.

“When a child can see clearly, learning becomes easier. When a trader or fisherman can see well,



their work becomes safer,” she affirmed.

Hon. Effiong who also participated in the eye screening exercise, expressed her gratitude to the medical team for their dedication to the people of Ibendo.

Dr. Ithiel Essien, the State Chairman of NOA, who led a team of 40 optometrists, praised the Chairman for her foresight and people-centered leadership, describing the initiative as “a model for effective grassroots governance.” He encouraged residents to prioritise regular eye checks in their healthcare routines.

In his goodwill message, Pastor Tom Afia, Principal of Secondary Grammar School, commended the outreach as, “a rare and impactful gesture.” Beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to the council and the association for providing relief to families unable to afford basic eye care.

During the outreach, residents including students, traders, fishermen, and the elderly received free eye examinations, medications, and corrective glasses.



GOV ENO INSPECTS SITE FOR THE ARISE SHOPPING CITY



GOV ENO HOSTS ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, ZONE 6, AIG MOHAMMED AUWAL



GOVERNMENT HOUSE PRAYER MEETING – OCTOBER, 2025



AKWA IBOM STATE CELEBRATES 2025 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD



AKWA IBOM HOSTS THE 65TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE AND 66TH AGM OF THE NIGERIA SOCIETY OF PHYSIOTHERAPY (NSP)



TOP 10 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE STATE



IBOM INDUSTRIAL CITY

- National and regional industrial and economic hub
- Occupies **14,517 hectares** of land
- IIC will create jobs and limitless investment opportunities



LIBERTY FREE TRADE ZONE

- Proposed Oil and Gas Free Trade Zone
- Occupies **50,000 hectares** of land across 6 LGAs
- Will consist of Modern International Jetty, a dry bulk quay to house agricultural products.



AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENTS

- Largest producer of palm oil in the country
- Cocoa plantation
- Blessed with arable land, fertile soil, favourable all-round climate, marine resources such as large scale fishing



TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

- Untapped potentials such as development of resorts and hospitality services.
- Availability of 21 storey smart building, Four Points by Sheraton hotel, Ibom Hotels and Golf Resort etc



LARGE GAS RESERVES

- Abundance of natural gas
- Investment potentials in Gas to Liquid project, Gas gathering (dry) and distribution, renewable energy, low emission fuels, etc



POWER SECTOR

- Investment opportunities available in this sector
- Upgrade of Ibom Independent Power Plant with an initial capacity of 191MW to 500MW.



CRUDE OIL

- Largest oil producing and revenue contributing state to Nigeria's economy
- Investment opportunities in the development of upstream and downstream sector, refinery projects, oil & gas services, etc



MARINE TRANSPORT

- Located in Nigeria's South-South region, predominantly coastal area offers opportunities for marine transportation.
- About 13.4% of 960km of Nigeria's Atlantic Ocean coastline sits in the state



AVIATION SECTOR

- Opportunities for air cargo, freights & other courier businesses in the aviation sector



IBOM DEEP SEAPORT

- Occupies **2,565 hectares** of land
- \$4.2bn IDSP to provide vital port capacity for the country, trans-shipment facility for West and Central African region.
- Good access to coastal railway line, Victor Attah International Airport & extensive road network.
- Beneficial to nearby industries involved in agriculture, petrochemical, marine, auto assembly, power plants.



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