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ARISE

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Gov Eno Sets Pace in Digital Recruitment

• Unveils CBT-driven civil service employment • Assures of e-governance and merit-based selection process



The State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has reaffirmed his administration's resolve to digitise the State's public service operations, as he unveiled a Computer-Based Test (CBT) system for the forthcoming civil service recruitment exercise, marking a major step towards achieving a transparent, merit-

LG Chairmen Mark One Year in Office, Laud Gov Eno's Leadership

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Gov Eno Signs N695B Supplementary Budget, Disburses N60B for Ongoing Projects

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Governor Eno for institutionalising e-governance in Akwa Ibom. He announced that prospective candidates would have the opportunity to undertake a trial session ahead of the main examination, scheduled to hold in ten days, to ensure a smooth and fair testing experience.

The Commissioner for Science and Digital Economy, Dr. Frank Ekpenyong, also lauded the Governor's foresight, noting that the CBT Centre is fully

driven, and technology-oriented employment process in Akwa Ibom.

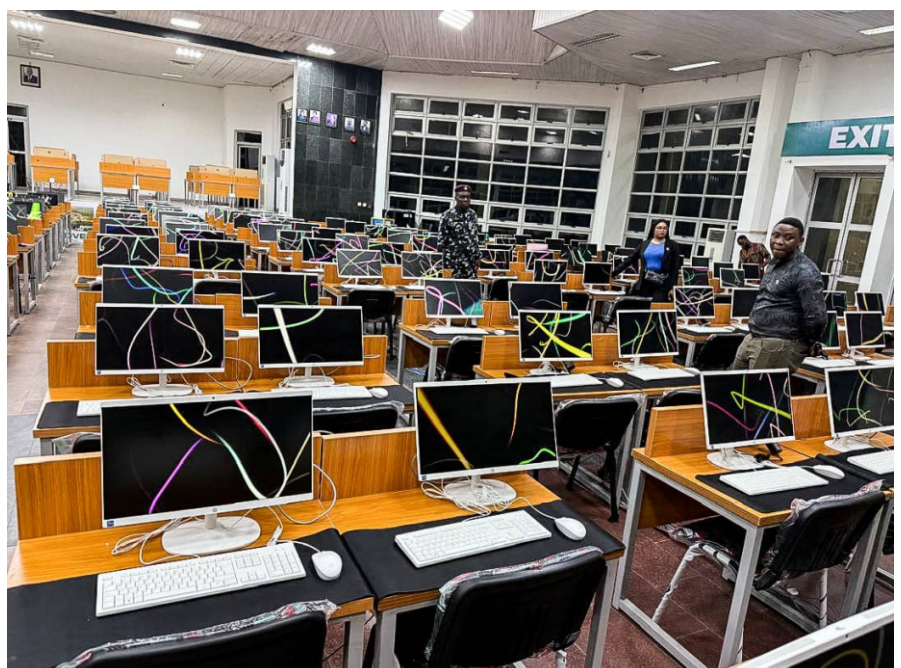
Speaking during an inspection of the CBT Centre at the Idongesit Nkanta Secretariat on Friday, October 10, Governor Eno expressed satisfaction with the facility's readiness for the exercise. He disclosed that the centre, which can accommodate up to 2,000 candidates daily, will serve as the hub for the digitised aptitude test designed to select qualified applicants into the state civil service.

Explaining that the adoption of CBT technology is in line with global best practices and the administration's vision to uphold merit and eliminate undue influence in recruitment, the Governor said, "The civil service is the engine room of governance. The quality of people we bring into the system matters. The world has moved to AI now, so we need individuals who can operate in a digital environment. This process will also eradicate godfatherism and ensure that only those who merit it gain employment."

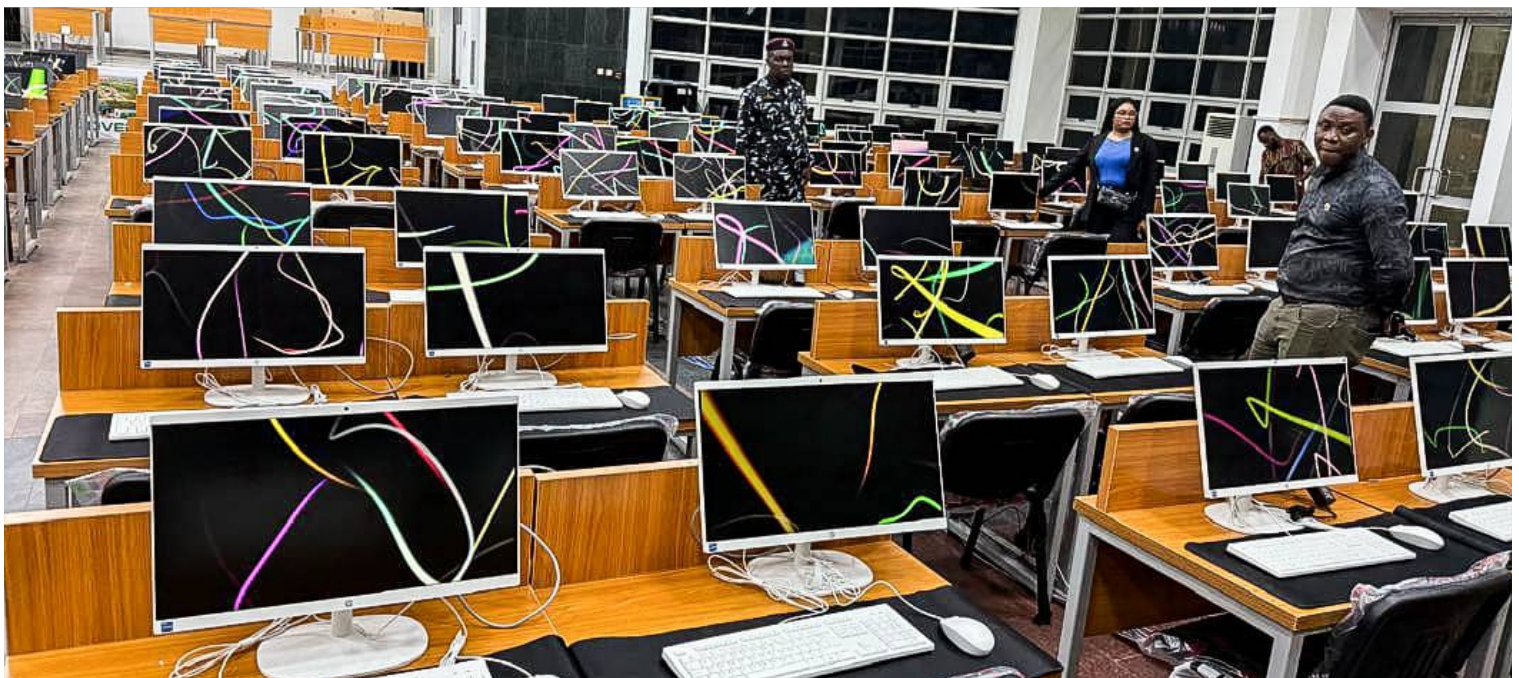
The Head of Service, Elder Effiong Essien, who was part of the inspection team, commended

equipped with state-of-the-art facilities capable of handling up to 2,000 tests daily. He emphasised that the deployment of digital technology in recruitment underscores the administration's commitment to efficiency, transparency, and inclusivity.

Pastor Eno's digital recruitment initiative represents another milestone in his administration's ongoing efforts to modernise public service operations through technology. The move aligns with the ARISE Agenda's focus on governance, innovation, and people-centered reforms, aimed at building a productive and future-ready workforce for the State.



GOV ENO INSPECTS CBT CENTRE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYMENT



Gov Eno Signs N695B Supplementary Budget, Disburses N60B for Ongoing Projects

• Tasks MDAs, Delivery Advisors on Timely Execution



Ibom Hotels and Golf Resort, Christmas Unplugged, Oron Maritime and Jetty Project, CNG City Bus Project, AKBC House, Ikot Ekpene International Market, renovation of the House of Assembly Complex and Speaker's Lodge, Court of Appeal Complex, 10-Airport Projects, Itam Industrial Park, Equipment Leasing Company, Ibom Model Farm, RAMP Project, Ibom International Hospital, General Hospitals in Ukanafun and Ibiono Ibom, Mother and Child Hospital, and the Aviation Village.

In his remarks, the Speaker of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Udemé Otong, lauded Pastor Eno for his inclusive leadership style and innovative approach to governance. He described the monthly Project Delivery Meeting as a unique mechanism that enhances legislative oversight and promotes accountability in government operations.

The Speaker also expressed appreciation to the Governor for the ongoing renovation of the Assembly Complex and pledged the legislature's continued collaboration with the Executive arm to ensure effective governance and service delivery.

Prominent stakeholders, including Senator Effiong Bob, commended the Governor for institutionalising the monthly delivery sessions, describing them as a hallmark of transparency and responsible governance. They praised his dedication to fiscal discipline, infrastructural development, and sustainable service delivery, reaffirming their support for his leadership as the unifying figure of "Team Akwa Ibom United."

The event was attended by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; Executive Assistant and Chief Delivery Advisor; the Head of Service; Chairmen of the APC and PDP; other members of the State Executive Council; Delivery Advisors; and other top government officials.

Governor Umo Eno, has signed ₦695 billion 2025 Supplementary Budget earlier passed by the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly into law.

The signing ceremony took place on Wednesday, October 8, during the October edition of the State's Project Delivery Meeting held at Government House, Uyo.

Speaking shortly after appending his signature to the budget, Governor Eno commended the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly for the swift consideration and passage of the Appropriation Bill. He reiterated his administration's commitment to transparency, accountability, and a people-centered approach to governance.

The Governor assured citizens that his government would continue to uphold probity and diligence in the discharge of duties for the collective good of all. "With the passage and signing of the supplementary budget today, we are further fired up to ensure the full implementation of government programmes and projects as contained in the budget," he stated.

In a move to fast-track the completion of ongoing projects, the State Chief Executive announced the release of ₦60 billion to contractors whose Interim Payment Certificates (IPCs) had been duly processed. He charged heads of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) and Delivery Advisors to ensure strict adherence to approved timelines and standards in project execution.

The October edition of the Project Delivery Meeting featured presentations on 12 key projects spanning various sectors. These included the Tree Crop Revolution, State Electricity Market, Tourism Destination Marketing, ARISE Senior Citizens Centre, ARISE Resort, Ibom Tourism Summit, renovation of



GOV ENO SIGNS SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET INTO LAW



Pastor Eno Urges Youths on Innovation, Consistency, Applauds Comedian “Okon Lagos”

Pastor Umo Eno, has encouraged youths across the State to distinguish themselves in their various fields of endeavours through hard work, innovation, consistency and resilience.

Speaking at the “Okon and Friends Live in Concert” organised recently by Akwa Ibom-born Nollywood actor and comedian, Ime Bishop Umoh, popularly known as “Okon Lagos”, at the FlairMore Event Centre, Uyo, Governor Eno emphasised that hard work and perseverance remain vital ingredients for success.

The Governor decried the tendency by some young people to abandon their chosen paths too quickly,



presented a posthumous award to the First Lady, Pastor Patience Eno, for her unwavering support and belief in his career.



Receiving the award on behalf of the family, Lady Helen Obareki, Coordinator of the Office of the First Lady, thanked Okon Lagos for his thoughtfulness and described him as a source of pride to Akwa Ibom State.

The concert featured electrifying performances by top comedians including MC Pashun, The Senator, Funny Bone, Koloman, Dan D’Humourous, I Go Save, and Mista Xto, and was attended by the Deputy Governor, Senator Dr. Akon Eyakenyi, Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah, and other members of the State Executive Council, as well as political leaders, and entertainment enthusiasts.

stressing that focus and tenacity were essential to achieving excellence, stating that Okon Lagos, has remained steady and focused for over 25 years, the reason he is making a remarkable impact in Nigeria and beyond.

Governor Eno therefore announced plans to establish a Creative Village in the State, a hub designed to harness the potential of young people and nurture emerging talents across various creative sectors. He reiterated his administration’s commitment to supporting innovation and creativity to empower the next generation of Akwa Ibom youths.

In appreciation, Okon Lagos expressed gratitude to the Governor for honouring his invitation, describing it as a rare show of humility and encouragement for the entertainment industry. The comedian also



GOV ENO ATTENDS "OKON AND FRIENDS LIVE IN CONCERT"



Ibom Int'l Hotel Project: Gov Eno Lauds Work Quality, Insists on Timely Delivery



effort is commendable. He must strive to stick to the delivery timeline for the project,” Governor Eno stated.

The contractor, Engr. Samer Samara of RATCON Construction Company Ltd, expressed gratitude to the State government for continued support, assuring that the project would be completed and ready for commissioning within the stipulated timeframe.

Governor Umo Eno, has expressed satisfaction with the quality and pace of work at the ongoing Ibom International Hotel project, describing it as a world-class facility poised to meet global hospitality standards.

Speaking with Government House Correspondents on Wednesday, September 8, shortly after inspecting the 14-floor structure, located along the State’s Shopping City corridor, Governor Eno commended the contractor for the progress recorded so far, and emphasised the need for strict adherence to the approved delivery schedule.

The Governor noted that reviving an abandoned project often poses greater challenges than initiating a new one, but lauded the contractor’s commitment and professionalism in restoring the project. He, however, urged them to maintain the current momentum to ensure timely completion.

“Sometimes fixing something that was abandoned is much more difficult than starting a new one. But from what we have seen here today, the contractor’s

Designed as a 200-room premium hospitality facility, the Ibom International Hotel is strategically positioned to complement the Ibom International Convention Centre and the State’s Shopping City, both envisioned to enhance Akwa Ibom’s tourism and investment appeal.

Governor Eno was accompanied on the inspection by members of the State Executive Council, the Project Delivery Advisory Team, captains of industry, and other political stakeholders.



GOV ENO INSPECTS IBOM INTERNATIONAL HOTEL PROJECT



Pastor Eno Approves N27,000 Increase for A'lbom Pensioners

Pastor Umo Eno, has approved an increment of ₦27,000 for all pensioners in the State Public Service, effective September 1, 2025.



The Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien, who announced the approval in a statement issued in Uyo recently, said the gesture followed the implementation of the new minimum wage of ₦80,000 and the successful conclusion of the verification exercise for pensioners in the State.

According to the statement, the latest approval underscores Governor Eno's continued commitment to the welfare of retirees and his administration's determination to ensure that senior citizens enjoy the benefits of their years of service.

Elder Essien recalled that earlier in April 2024, the Governor had approved a ₦15,000 flat-rate increase for pensioners who retired between 2007

and 2011, and ₦20,000 for those who retired before 2007, while also releasing funds monthly to defray the inherited gratuity backlog of over ₦90 billion.

He described the new pension increment as further evidence of Governor Eno's compassionate leadership and dedication to improving the living standards of pensioners in the State public service.

"These approvals by His Excellency demonstrate his administration's unwavering commitment to the welfare of pensioners and the overall well-being of the people of Akwa Ibom State," the Head of Civil Service affirmed.

House of Assembly Urges State Participation in 2025 NAFEST, INAC Festivals

The Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly has called on the State government to facilitate the participation of Akwa Ibom contingents in the 2025 editions of the National Festival of Arts and Culture (NAFEST) and the International Arts and Crafts (INAC) Expo, marking a renewed commitment after over a decade of non-participation in the national events.

The call was made through a motion sponsored by the Chief Whip and Member representing Mbo State Constituency, Rt. Hon. Effiong Johnson, during Tuesday, October 7, plenary at the Assembly Complex, Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo, highlighting the importance of reviving the State's involvement in cultural festivals that promote national unity and economic growth.

Rt. Hon. Johnson recalled that one of the cardinal pillars of the present administration under the ARISE Agenda is Arts, Culture, and Tourism, emphasising that the sector possesses immense potential for fostering unity, encouraging youth creativity, driving economic opportunities, and projecting the State's rich heritage.

He expressed concern that Akwa Ibom's absence from both NAFEST and INAC for over ten years has diminished its visibility and competitiveness in the



national arts and culture space. The Chief Whip noted that the State had previously won numerous laurels in these national events and lamented that continued non-participation could erode those achievements.

The lawmaker further pointed out that states such as Lagos, Cross River, Ekiti, Abia, and Rivers have continued to leverage these festivals for talent development and wealth creation. He therefore urged the State government, through its relevant agencies, to ensure Akwa Ibom's full participation in the 2025 NAFEST to be hosted in Enugu and INAC scheduled to hold in Abuja by the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC).

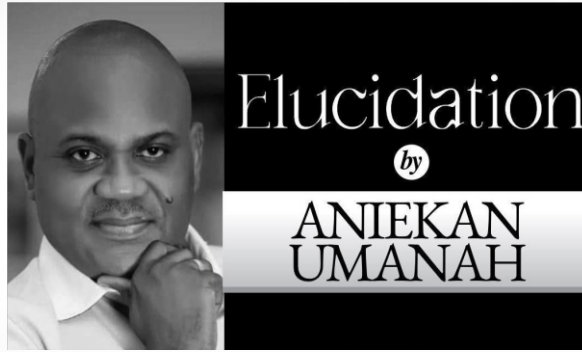
In their contributions, Members representing Uruan and Ibiono Ibom State Constituencies, Hon. Itorobong Etim and Hon. Moses Essien, alongside other legislators, supported the motion, stressing that participation in such cultural platforms would help nurture young talents and showcase Akwa Ibom's cultural excellence.

Presiding over the session, the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Udemé Otong, directed the Clerk, Mrs. Nsikak-Abasi Orok, to forward the resolution of the House to the Governor for necessary action.



The Digital Turn: How Gov. Eno Is Rewriting Civil Service Integrity

It was a drizzling evening of Friday, October 10, 2025. The skyline of Uyo was painted in silver mist. Yet, undeterred by the weather, Governor Umo Eno dared the rain. At about 7:30 p.m., his official Mercedes-Benz S580, flags up, glided into the State Secretariat, headlights slicing through the twilight drizzle like strokes of quiet determination.



now don digital robes, fully aligned with the Governor's vision of a modern, efficient bureaucracy.

The Governor's initiative does not merely modernize the recruitment process; it transforms it into a model of integrity. By infusing technology into civil service entry, Governor Eno is building a new culture of trust and accountability—a future where opportunities are earned, not given.

Fresh from the Council of State Meeting in Abuja, the Governor's arrival was neither ceremonial nor perfunctory, it was purposeful. Stepping out of the sleek and crested sedan, he was attired in a finely tailored light brown caftan, a picture of calm precision and quiet strength. His traditional cap, boldly inscribed ARISE and PBAT insignias, progressively framed the elegance he exuded.

It was an evening, when the rain fell and merit rose. Pastor Eno came not for a courtesy stop but to herald a new dawn of merit, technology, and transparency in Akwa Ibom's civil service. This was no ordinary visit; it was a defining statement of intent, an act of leadership that merged vision with courage.

Under the drizzle and soft glow of floodlights, he inspected the newly equipped Computer-Based Test (CBT) Centre, asking questions at every point and reaffirming his administration's unwavering commitment to digitizing public service operations and ensuring merit-based employment.

Governor Eno announced that the State would henceforth conduct all civil service recruitment through the CBT system, a move designed to promote transparency, efficiency, and fairness while ending the shadows of favoritism and godfatherism that once influenced selections.

"The Civil Service is the engine room of governance. The quality of people we bring into the service in this 21st century matters. The world has even moved to AI now, so we need people who at least understand basic computing to the extent that they can take an exam. This system will also eliminate godfatherism. People should have confidence that they got into the service by merit, by passing the required exams. We're in the 21st century, and that's the way it should be," The Governor told the press.

The CBT Centre, designed to accommodate 2,000 candidates per day, stands as a symbol of digital governance in action, a tangible expression of Aspiration 3 of the ARISE Agenda, which seeks "to promote and encourage increased investment in ICT infrastructure in order to develop a digital-based economy for Akwa Ibom State."

Indeed, the Civil Service, the backbone of governance, must

The Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien, who was on ground to receive the Governor, commended his foresight, describing the innovation as "a milestone in e-governance and administrative integrity." He noted that candidates would have opportunities to familiarize themselves with the CBT system ahead of the test, ensuring equal access and fairness.

Echoing this, the ICT whizkid and Commissioner for Science and Digital Economy, Dr. Frank Ekpenyong, affirmed that the facility is equipped with cutting-edge technologies, digitally networked computers, secure data infrastructure, and the capacity to conduct high-volume tests with accuracy and speed.

To both officials, this was more than a project, it was a paradigm shift, signaling that governance in Akwa Ibom now thrives on knowledge, not connection, and that excellence, not influence, is the new key to entry.

That rain-soaked evening, Governor Eno demonstrated more than leadership; he embodied vision. His quiet walk through the Civil Service Auditorium of the State Secretariat reflected his belief that technology is the bridge between aspiration and achievement, and that true reform begins with fair opportunity.

When he finally departed, the drizzle had softened to a mist. The lights from the Secretariat shimmered on the wet pavement, reflecting the silhouette of a leader who dares to dream and to digitize.

The legacy he left behind that evening was more than infrastructure, it was a declaration that Akwa Ibom's civil service has entered a new era: an era where merit meets technology and governance rises on the strength of innovation and integrity.

The inspection of the CBT Centre was not the end of the workday for Governor Eno. His convoy raced down the night to the Governor's Office, where a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (FGPC) took the chunk of the night, another testament to the Governor's work ethic and relentless commitment to duty.

LG Chairmen Mark One Year in Office, Laud Gov Eno's Leadership

Chairmen of local government areas, have celebrated their one year in office, with commendation on Governor Umo Eno's inclusive and visionary leadership, which they said has continued to drive grassroots development across the State.

Speaking with Government House Correspondents on Tuesday, October 7, shortly after the 31 Local Government Chairmen presented their one-year scorecards to the Governor at the Government House, Uyo, the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Frank Archibong, described the Governor's leadership as conscientious, pragmatic, and results-oriented, noting that his administrative style has inspired diligence and accountability among local government administrators.

Recalling that exactly one year ago, the Chairmen were sworn into office, and immediately embarked on projects and programmes that have significantly complemented the ARISE Agenda, and impacted communities across the State, the Commissioner commended the Governor for



ensuring timely release of funds made available by President Bola Tinubu, which according to him, has enabled the execution of key projects across local government areas.

In his remarks, the ALGON Chairman and Uyo Council boss, Hon. Uwemedimo Udo, congratulated his colleagues for completing one year in office, describing the period as one of "hard work, impact and visible progress." He thanked the Governor for his unwavering support and collaboration with the councils, which has facilitated the delivery of democratic dividends in critical sectors including agriculture, health, education, infrastructure, and security in line with the ARISE Agenda.

Hon. Udo also commended Governor Eno for addressing long-standing issues of gratuities and pensions, noting that the prompt settlement of such entitlements has brought stability and improved productivity within the local government system. He added that the synergy between the state and local governments has strengthened peace, unity, and socio-economic growth across Akwa Ibom.

He pledged the association's continued loyalty and support to the Governor in the 2027 elections, and affirmed the Chairman's commitment to a shared vision of sustainable development.



Environment Commissioner Advocates Tree Planting, Responsible Mining Practices

The Commissioner for Environment and Mineral Resources, Rt. Hon. Nsikak Ekong, has reiterated the State government's commitment to promoting environmental sustainability and enforcing responsible mining practices across the State.

Rt. Hon. Ekong stated this when he received a delegation from the Akwa Ibom State Infrastructure and Assets Management and Maintenance Agency (AKIAMMA), on a courtesy visit in his office on Monday, October 6.

The Commissioner highlighted the importance of tree planting as a proactive approach to controlling erosion, restoring ecological balance, and improving the State's environmental resilience. He further advocated the cultivation of economic trees to boost both environmental conservation and economic value.

He urged residents to regularly desilt their drains and avoid dumping refuse into drainage channels, warning that such unhealthy practices contribute significantly to flooding and environmental degradation. The Commissioner also stressed the urgent need for a comprehensive Drainage Master Plan to guide the design and construction of drains in road projects, while cautioning against illegal structures built along rights of way.



Addressing issues in the mining sector, Rt. Hon. Ekong warned that miners involved in dredging without proper registration would face arrest and prosecution. He added that individuals who excavate burrow pits without covering them afterward would also be sanctioned for endangering the environment.

Earlier, the Board Member in charge of Health, Safety, and Environment at AKIAMMA, Prof. Comfort Etok, expressed the agency's readiness to collaborate with the ministry in advancing environmental initiatives. Prof. Etok, who is the immediate past Chairman and current Vice President of the Nigerian Society of Environment, proposed a large-scale tree planting campaign aimed at planting one million trees across the 31 local government areas to mitigate the impact of climate change.

She also presented the Akwa Ibom State Dialogue on ARISE Agenda in the Environment Sector, to the Commissioner, pledging AKIAMMA's commitment to implementing the environmental blueprints in the document and supporting the growth of the mining sector through sustainable practices.

In his remarks, the Director of Flood Control, Mr. Ita Udoh, commended AKIAMMA for the visit and commitment to partnership, describing the collaboration as timely and strategic. He cautioned residents against indiscriminate refuse disposal, urging them to embrace regular desilting of drains, proper waste management, and environmental stewardship to achieve a cleaner, safer Akwa Ibom.



Gov Eno Visits Model Secondary School Site in Nsit Ubium, Sets 2026 as Resumption Date

• *Unveils plan for skill based curriculum*



On Monday, October 6, Governor Umo Eno, visited the site of the proposed Model Secondary School in Ikot Akpan Abia, Nsit Ubium Local Government Area, where he reaffirmed his administration's commitment to revolutionise the education sector through the ARISE Education Renewal Initiative.

Describing the project as a major milestone in his vision to redefine learning by combining academic excellence with technical and vocational training, Governor Eno announced plans to replicate similar schools across the three senatorial districts to ensure equitable access to modern, skill-oriented education.

The Governor disclosed that construction will commence immediately after the passage of the supplementary budget, adding that multiple contractors would be engaged to ensure timely delivery and broad community participation.

He further revealed that the Model Secondary School will feature skill acquisition centers in ICT, catering, metal works, and entrepreneurship,

enabling students to graduate with both academic knowledge and practical competence. He added that the initiative aims to make secondary schools more polytechnical, equipping students with employable skills before entering tertiary institutions.

To promote agricultural training and self-sustainability among students, the State Chief Executive announced the allocation of 10 hectares of land for the development of a school farm, assuring that the facility would be completed and ready for student intake by September 2026.

In his remarks, Senator Effiong Bob commended Governor Eno for locating the "magnificent project" in Nsit Ubium, describing it as a testament to visionary leadership and commitment to grassroots development. He urged youths and residents to cooperate with the contractors to ensure smooth execution and timely completion of the project.



Sports Commissioner Tasks Coaches on Talent Discovery, Devt at Grassroots

The Commissioner for Sports, Elder Paul Bassey, has reiterated the ministry's determination to discover young talents and upgrade sporting facilities across the state as part of efforts to build a solid foundation for national and international competitions.

Elder Bassey, made this known on Tuesday, October 7, during a strategic meeting with coaches and sports secretaries, at the ministry's conference hall, Uyo, convened to review progress made after the conclusion of the Akwa Ibom State Sports Festival 2025, and to outline new strategies for effective sports development at the grassroots.



The Commissioner disclosed that the State government is intensifying plans to procure modern equipment for various sporting disciplines, including those not captured in the last festival. He maintained that the initiative is aimed at improving training conditions, enhancing athletes' morale, and consolidating the State's leading position in the country's sports landscape.

According to him, the provision of modern facilities will inspire athletes to perform at their best, while continuous investment in infrastructure and talent discovery remains key to sustaining sports excellence. Elder Bassey, therefore, charged coaches and sports secretaries to focus on identifying and nurturing promising young athletes from local communities, particularly those who excelled during the sports festival.

The Sports helmsman maintained that grassroots development is the cornerstone of building a sustainable pool of world-class athletes. He also cautioned coaches and sports secretaries against embarking on trips outside the State for competitions without obtaining formal

clearance from the ministry, stressing the need for discipline, accountability, and proper administrative conduct.

Recalling Governor Umo Eno's directive on the ministry to collaborate with its Education counterpart during the closing ceremony of the festival, to revive inter-school sports competitions, the Commissioner averred that the partnership would promote healthy rivalry among students and create a structured pathway for discovering young talents in schools.

Commending Governor Eno's continuous support for sports development, Elder Bassey acknowledged the ongoing efforts to establish a Football Academy in the State and the Governor's gesture in rewarding medal-winning athletes at the Asaba 2025 Youth Games. He particularly lauded the weightlifters for their exceptional performance and assured that the ministry would continue to recognise and support outstanding athletes.

In her remarks, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Sports, Mrs. Rosemary Ubia, appreciated Pastor Eno for his consistent encouragement and praised Elder Bassey for his reform-driven leadership, describing him as a visionary administrator bringing renewed structure and innovation to the ministry.

Speaking on behalf of the coaches, Mrs. Catherine Ewa, Director of Coaches, expressed gratitude to the Governor and the Commissioner for their commitment and assured full cooperation in implementing the ministry's programmes. The meeting concluded with the official documentation of sports equipment procured during the 2025 Sports Festival.



AKSACA Launches HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign in Uyo



Declaring the agency's commitment to maternal and child health, Dr. Akpan noted that pregnant women living with HIV can access treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy and breastfeeding. As part of the campaign, free medical screenings were conducted for attendees, including oral HIV/AIDS tests, blood pressure checks, and tuberculosis screening.

In his sermon drawn from Psalm 113, the presiding pastor, Rev. Uwem EtukAkpan, stressed the need for unity and peace among brethren. He reminded the congregation that unity was vital for God's presence and service to humanity. Special prayers were offered for the AKSACA team as they commenced their

sensitisation campaign across all the 31 local government areas of the State.

The initiative was supported through AKSACA partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The collaboration enabled the provision of free medical services and educational materials on HIV prevention. The Director of Public Health Services, Ministry of Health, alongside other stakeholders, also lent their support to the outreach.

Dignitaries and stakeholders present at the event included, Dr. Etop Antia, Programme Officer, AKSACA; Dr. Edit Igbemi, AKSACA Management Staff; Bishop Prince Attai; Rev. Monday Akpan, NIF-COB AIDS Secretary; Mrs. Emem Xavier, PMTCT Focal Person; Dr. Etop Antai, Dr. Ime Usangha, SAPC; and directors from the State Ministry of Health.

The Akwa Ibom State Agency for the Control of AIDS (AKSACA), has intensified its drive towards curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS with the launch of a new awareness campaign at the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria, 73 Wellington Bassey Way, Uyo.

The event, held on Sunday, October 5, aimed at reawakening public consciousness on the importance of regular testing, preventive measures, and adherence to safe health practices.

Speaking at the event, the Project Manager of AKSACA, Dr. Enobong Akpan, underscored the significance of public enlightenment in the fight against HIV/AIDS. She urged citizens to embrace regular testing and adopt lifestyles that promote good health and prevention. Dr. Akpan further highlighted that awareness and early detection remain key to achieving the goal of zero HIV infections.

Facility Audit Begins at A'Ibom Water Company to Boost Potable Water Delivery



would form a strong foundation for future interventions and investment decisions.

Speaking on behalf of the Federal Ministry, Engr. Nafiu Kassim, who led the team from the Federal Project Implementation Unit (FPIU) under the African Development Bank (AfDB)-supported programme, explained that the consultants were commissioned to collect baseline data and prepare a Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Plan for six pilot States, including Akwa Ibom. He stated that the assignment would diagnose operational gaps, assess existing infrastructure, and propose investment priorities at no cost to participating States.

Engr. Kassim further revealed that the six-month consultancy would deliver actionable recommendations covering short, medium, and long-term interventions. Upon completion, each participating State would receive a briefing on the findings to ensure ownership and effective implementation of the proposed investment plan.

Leader of the GIBB Consortium, Mr. Wiero Vogelzang, disclosed that the project comprised three key components namely, Technical, Sanitation, and Financial/Institutional assessments, expected to produce an Inception Report, Financial Report, and Institutional Assessment Report. He assured that the consortium's work would help strengthen service delivery and guide future funding decisions.

In a vote of thanks, the Director of Water Resources, Mr. Gideon Akpan, appreciated Governor Eno for prioritising access to clean water and effective sanitation, and the visiting teams for their commitment to enhancing the State's water supply systems. He pledged the ministry's full cooperation to ensure the success of the assessment exercise.

The Akwa Ibom State Government, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation (FMWRS) and the GIBB Consortium, has commenced a comprehensive facility assessment of the Akwa Ibom Water Company Limited (AKWC), as part of efforts to improve access to potable water across the State.

The Commissioner for Water Resources and Sanitation, Hon. Ubuo Ubuo, expressed delight with the visit of the federal officials and consultant, describing the initiative as timely and strategic. He commended the Federal Government for selecting Akwa Ibom as one of the beneficiaries in the ongoing national assessment of State water agencies, stressing that the exercise aligns with Governor Umo Eno's renewed commitment to expanding and upgrading water supply infrastructure.

Dr. Ubuo highlighted the government's significant investments in water infrastructure, aimed at restoring, expanding, and sustaining water supply systems to serve citizens effectively. He, however, acknowledged that some challenges, including facility breakdowns and capacity gaps, still exist and need to be addressed through such collaborative interventions.

The Commissioner assured the delegation of the ministry's cooperation throughout the assessment process. He announced the appointment of a desk officer to act as a liaison between the ministry and the consortium. He further appealed for continued federal support and partnership in unlocking more intervention opportunities in the water and sanitation sector.

The Managing Director, Akwa Ibom Water Company Limited, Engr. Edo Etuk, noted that the engagement followed discussions at the last National Water Council meeting, which underscored the need to strengthen urban and semi-urban water supply systems nationwide. He expressed optimism that the assessment



Nsit Ubium: Charles Reiterates Commitment to Free Education Policy, Donates Learning Materials

The Chairman of Nsit Ubium Local Government Area, Hon. Alfred Charles, has reaffirmed his commitment to supporting the state government's policy on free, qualitative, and compulsory education at the primary and secondary levels.

As part of activities marking Nigeria's 65th Independence Anniversary, held at the council auditorium, Hon. Charles donated over 20,000 exercise books and other educational materials to 38 primary schools across the area.

The Chairman urged headmasters and teachers to ensure fair distribution of the



materials to all pupils. He encouraged the students to remain focused and diligent in their studies, stressing that "Education is not a scam," assuring them of his administration's dedication to securing their future through the New Dawn Nsit Ubium Education Trust Fund, designed to support students in higher institutions.

In his goodwill message, the Clan Head of Ubium, Etubom Ukpung Udoewah, expressed gratitude to Hon. Charles for the gesture and commended Governor Umo Eno for the ongoing transformation in the education sector.

The event was attended by dignitaries including Mrs. Imaobong Charles, Wife of the Chairman; Hon. Udemé Inwang, Vice Chairman; Hon. Alex Ekpo, Council Secretary; Hon. Samuel Sunday, Leader of Legislature; Prince Jimmy Jimmy, Supervisor for Education; Councilors, Supervisors, Mr. Andrew Umoren, Head of Service, Directors, DPO, security agency heads, traditional rulers, teachers, pupils, and other stakeholders.



Urue Offong/Oruko: Uno Pledges Economic Empowerment, Targets 100 Millionaires



Chairman said, “By the first anniversary of this administration, the 100 millionaires vision will become a reality. Our people must be supported to engage in business.”

In addition, Rt. Hon. Uno also distributed Federal Government disaster relief materials to affected persons across the area, while urging community leaders to mobilize residents to register and obtain their PVCs.

Preaching on the theme, “Building Today to Safeguard the Future”, Methodist Bishop of Oyubia Diocese, Rev. Marcus Enene, highlighted preparation as key to progress and eternal reward.

The event featured prayers for the ARISE Agenda and was attended by top political, religious, and community leaders, as well as councillors, supervisors, and other stakeholders.

The Chairman of Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. Uno Etim Uno has reaffirmed his commitment to empower at least 100 indigenes to become millionaires through targeted economic initiatives.

Rt. Hon. Uno stated this on Thursday, October 2, during the council’s monthly covenant service, which also commemorated Nigeria’s 65th Independence Anniversary. Uno, citing Mark 1:1-3, also urged residents to embrace attitudinal change, stressing that transformation begins with individuals, families, communities, and the Church.

Reiterating his promise, the



Eket: Chairman Applauds Chlorination Initiative for Public Water Facilities

The Chairman of Eket Local Government Area, Hon. Akaniyene Tommey, has commended the Rhema Care Integrated Development Centre (RIDECC) and the Akwa Ibom State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (AK-RUWATSAN) for their plan to install chlorinators in public water facilities across Eket communities.



He described the initiative as a critical step toward achieving the United Nations' goals on water and sanitation, essential for public health and economic development.

Hon. Tommey who was represented by the Vice Chairman, Hon. Inyang Akpawan, gave the commendation during a briefing by the RIDECC team at the Chairman's Lodge on the In-line Chlorination Project, which aims to improve access to safe and clean water for vulnerable populations.

On his part, the RIDECC Focal Person, Mr. Christopher Okon, explained that in-line chlorination involves integrating a chlorine-dosing device into water supply lines to automatically disinfect drinking water. This passive method ensures a continuous supply of safe water at community taps.

In addition, Mr. Ini Esak, Head of Water Resources at AK-RUWATSAN, added that the chlorination process is automatic and more reliable than manual methods. He highlighted its cost-effectiveness, reduced health risks, and wastewater treatment benefits, urging field workers to ensure proper maintenance during the eight-month pilot phase.

The pilot scheme will be implemented in five local government areas: Eket, Oron, Okobo, Ikot Ekpene, and Uyo, targeting public water facilities in markets, schools, and community centres.

The event featured an interactive session with stakeholders and officials from RIDECC and AK-RUWATSAN on implementation strategies.

In attendance were council officials, traditional rulers, former lawmakers, political leaders, and community stakeholders.

Okobo: Henshaw Deepens Empowerment Efforts with N4M Business Support for Women



The Chairman of Okobo Local Government Area, Hon. George Henshaw, has demonstrated commitment to women's empowerment by supporting 40 market women across the 11 political wards with business grants totaling ₦4million, to expand businesses and boost grassroots economic growth.

The initiative, coordinated by the Office of the First Lady of Okobo, Mrs. Nelly Henshaw, was non-partisan and targeted women who have shown dedication to their trade and community development.

Hon. Henshaw noted that the empowerment programme reflects his administration's resolve to support women as key drivers of the local economy. "When

you support a woman, you support an entire family and, by extension, the community," he stated, urging beneficiaries to use the grants judiciously to grow their enterprises.

On behalf of the beneficiaries, Mrs. Ekaette Udo, a fish seller from Okopedi Ward, expressed gratitude on behalf of the women, noting that the grant would enable her to increase her stock. In addition, Mrs. Imaobong Etim, a palm oil trader from Offi Ward, described the support as timely, saying it would help her diversify her trade and provide for her family.

The women collectively pledged their appreciation, prayers, and continued support for the administration.

Ikot Ekpene: Hon Nkom, NGO Partner to Campaign Against Drug Abuse



The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom, has expressed his administration's readiness to partner with Grow Africa Youth Initiatives (GAYI) to intensify sensitisation against drug abuse.

Hon. Nkom, who made the commitment on Tuesday, October 7, in his office while hosting a delegation from GAYI, described the campaign against illicit drug use as a critical step towards safeguarding communities and ensuring a safe environment for citizens and residents to

thrive.

Also honoured with the Kwame Nkrumah Grow Africa Prize for Excellence as an Icon of Public Service Renaissance for his contributions to public service and educational development, the Chairman appreciated the recognition and assured the delegation of his administration's full support.

Earlier, the President of GAYI, Comrade Ozim Temple, explained that the organisation is focused on positioning African youths toward achieving the 2063 Agenda, Africa's long-term blueprint for continental transformation. He said effective campaigns against drug abuse require collaboration with government, stakeholders, and communities for greater grassroots impact.



Gov Eno Positions Akwa Ibom for Global Spotlight Ahead of NBA–SPIDEL 2025



The State Governor, Pastor Umo Enioma, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to developing world-class tourism and conference infrastructure capable of hosting major national and international events, including future Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Annual Conferences in Uyo.

The Governor gave the assurance on Wednesday, October 8, during a breakfast meeting with the leadership of the NBA's Section on Public Interest and Development Law (SPIDEL), led by the Chairman, Prof. Paul Ananaba, SAN, at Government House, Uyo.

Governor Enioma disclosed that several landmark projects currently underway, such as the 5,000-capacity International Convention Centre, the ARISE Resort, and ongoing upgrades at the Ibom Hotels and Golf Resorts, are designed to reposition Akwa Ibom as a preferred destination for conferences, leisure, and investment opportunities.

He expressed appreciation to SPIDEL for selecting Uyo as the host city for the 2025 Conference,

assuring that the State Government will provide full support to ensure successful hosting. According to him, the decision aligns with his administration's ARISE Agenda, which seeks to promote tourism, investment, and intellectual collaboration.

"We are building facilities that meet global standards so that Akwa Ibom can continue to attract major events and visitors. We thank the NBA–SPIDEL for this choice, which perfectly aligns with our vision of making the State a leading hub for tourism and development," Governor Enioma stated.

Earlier, Prof. Paul Ananaba, SAN, lauded Governor Enioma for his visionary leadership and the impressive developmental strides achieved under his administration. He described Akwa Ibom as one of Nigeria's fastest-growing destinations and reaffirmed that the SPIDEL 2025 Conference will hold in Uyo from December 5-8, 2025.

Also speaking, Assam Assam, SAN, appreciated the Governor for hosting the SPIDEL leadership, and for his assurances of support. He noted that the upcoming conference is expected to attract over 2,000 delegates from across Nigeria and beyond, providing a major platform to showcase Akwa Ibom's progress, hospitality, and serene environment.

The SPIDEL delegation included members of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), while Governor Enioma was joined by top government officials, including the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; Executive Assistant/Chief Delivery Advisor, Aniefiok Johnson; Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Uko Udom, SAN; Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Rt. Hon. Frank Archibong; Commissioner for Works and Fire Service, Prof. Enioma Ibanga; Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah; and Managing Director/CEO of Hensek Integrated Services, Engr. Uwem Okoko.

Ikot Ekpene: Nkom Reaffirms Commitment to Education, Receives Commendation from NAPPS



The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom, has reiterated his administration's firm commitment to advancing the education sector, describing it as a top priority on his development agenda.

Speaking while receiving the Executive Members of the National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS), Ikot Ekpene Chapter, on Wednesday, October 8, in his office, Hon. Nkom highlighted ongoing programmes aimed at improving educational standard in the area.

He disclosed that his administration has enrolled indigenes in ICT and skills acquisition programmes to equip them for the evolving digital age, especially with the growing adoption of Computer-Based Tests (CBT) for senior secondary examinations. The chairman further revealed plans to introduce a spelling bee competition for secondary school students, building on the successful edition for primary pupils last year, to promote literacy, vocabulary development, spelling proficiency, English usage, and reading culture.

Hon. Nkom also appealed for collaborative strategies to strengthen teacher professionalism, capacity development, and welfare to sustain educational excellence. He reaffirmed his open-door policy and called for cooperation, prayers, and

innovative ideas from individuals and groups to support the sector's growth.

Earlier, the Chairman of NAPPS, Bishop Jireh Iquah, commended Hon. Nkom for the remarkable infrastructural and human capital development witnessed in the area since his assumption of office. He expressed the association's readiness to partner with the administration in advancing sustainable educational initiatives and called for enabling policies to foster collaboration between public and private schools, teacher empowerment, and improved infrastructure around learning environments.



Humanitarian Affairs Commissioner Hails VCDF, Red Cross on Women Empowerment

The Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs, Hon. Emem Ibanga, has applauded the VCare for Development Foundation, and the Nigerian Red Cross Society for their joint empowerment initiative for women, saying it complements the ARISE Agenda of Governor Umo Eno.

Speaking on Saturday, October 4, at the closing ceremony and market exhibition of the Vocational and Entrepreneurship Enhancement Programme (VEEP), held at the Dakkada Skills Acquisition Centre (DASAC), Ikot Ada Idem, in Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area, the Commissioner, represented by the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Eno Akpan, said the initiative was in tandem with the human capital development of the State government.

Hon. Ibanga noted that women and youth empowerment remains central to Akwa Ibom's development strategy, as it directly strengthens families and builds a secure future for the state. She highlighted that the success of the Dakkada Skills Acquisition Centre, which graduated 240 students earlier in the year, underscores government's investment in both infrastructure and people.

The Commissioner further commended VCDF and the Nigerian Red Cross Society for expanding the VEEP initiative, which empowered 100 women in Lagos in 2024, and now 200 women, including 100 from Akwa Ibom State.

Addressing the beneficiaries specifically, Hon. Ibanga urged them to embrace entrepreneurship with



determination and purpose, noting that the graduation marks the beginning of their journey to self-reliance, reaffirming that the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs will continue to support initiatives that promote women and youths inclusion and empowerment.

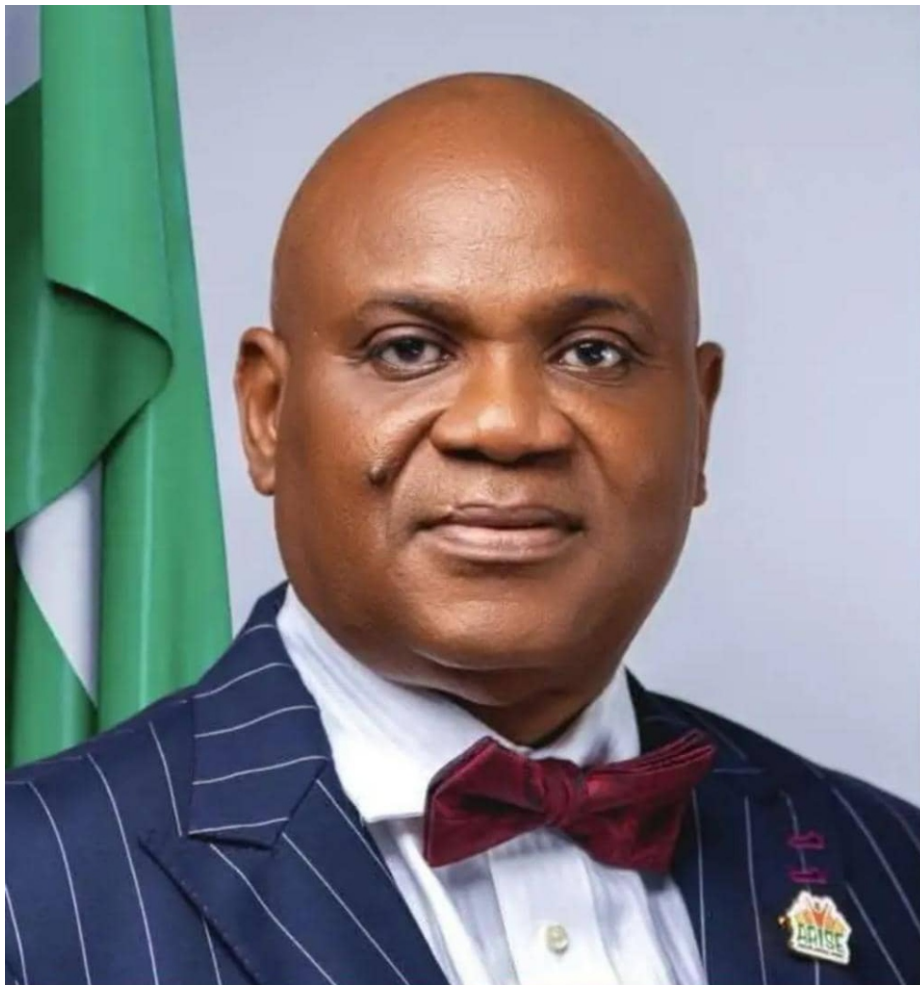
Earlier, the Chairman of the Nigerian Red Cross Society, Akwa Ibom State Branch, Rt. Hon. Sam Ikon, commended VCDF for its laudable interventions that have positively impacted lives across the State. He also highlighted numerous contributions of the Red Cross in Akwa Ibom, stressing that impartiality and neutrality remain the core values of the Society.

On her part, the Rector of the Dakkada Skills Acquisition Centre (DASAC), Prof. Enoidem Usoro, charged the beneficiaries to pursue excellence with commitment. She encouraged them not to relent in their efforts, but to treasure the skills acquired, seek guidance whenever necessary, and in turn, inspire others to learn. She appreciated VCDF and the Red Cross for their collaborative efforts in making the event a success, noting that the achievements of the trainees will stand as a testament that the vision of Governor Eno in establishing the Skills Acquisition Centre was not in vain.

Also speaking, Mr. Muiyiwa Bolarinwa, Partnership Manager of VCare for Development Foundation (VCDF), gave an overview of the organisation, disclosing that it is non-profit and dedicated to the building of an inclusive society and driving long-term socio-economic and environmental impact in communities through comprehensive education, integrated health, sustainable livelihoods, and social inclusion interventions.



AKSG Did Not Withdraw Security from Former Governor Udom - Info Comm



Commissioner of Police in each State, and not the duty of any Governor.

“ I can tell you on good authority that the Governor did not issue any directive to withdraw security operatives from the immediate past Governor. ,” the Commissioner clarified.

He further noted that all former Governors of Akwa Ibom State are entitled to, and continue to enjoy, their security details as approved by law.

“To the best of our knowledge, there has been no complaint or report from any former Governor or their

The Akwa Ibom State Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, has dismissed as false and misleading, reports alleging the withdrawal of security personnel attached to former Governor Udom Emmanuel or any other former Governor of the State.

Fielding correspondents over the weekend, Umanah described the allegation as false and baseless fabrication intended to mislead the public.

According to him, the deployment, reassignment, or withdrawal of police officers is the exclusive responsibility of the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) and the

media aides about the withdrawal of security personnel. The rumour exists only in the imagination of those peddling it,” Umanah added.

The Commissioner urged members of the public to disregard the baseless propaganda, reaffirming that the peace loving Governor of Akwa Ibom State remains focused on promoting peace, unity, and good governance across the State.

He emphasized that Governor Eno will continue to ensure that all citizens, regardless of political affiliation enjoy the full protection and benefits of the law.



PROJECTS TRACKING S E R I E S

...Delivering on the ARISE Agenda

ARISE INFRASTRUCTURE REVOLUTION

974 KM

of Road Projects
...Still Counting!

32 BRIDGES

Across Akwa Ibom LGAs
(Inherited & ARISE Projects)

₦60 Billion

Released to
Energize Contractors
on Due IPCs



- URBAN & RURAL FARM ROADS
- COMMUNITY LINK ROADS
- BRIDGES & DRAINAGE NETWORKS
- STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL

...Building Connectivity, Advancing Prosperity

#ARISEAgenda #GovUmoEnoCares #InfrastructureDevelopment

Ministry of Information © 2025



GOV ENO HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAIRMEN AS THEY MARK ONE YEAR IN OFFICE





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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to **call in for help** and **volunteer actionable information**
on black spots and criminal elements to enable ops response

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