## Tinubu, Akpabio, Eno Honour Legacy of Late Madam Udoakpan - Page 4



Gov Eno Deepens Inter-Ethnic Harmony, Unveils N800M Empowerment for Non-Indigenes

Named Grand Patron of Ohaneze Ndi Igbo



AR





November 13 - November 19, 2025 Vol. 1 No. 32 — A WEEKLY PUBLICATION

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

# Gov Eno Assures Lasting Solution to Flooding at Aka Itiam Street

· Confirms Ikot Amama Road Project on Course







overnor Umo Eno, has reiterated his administration's determination to deliver lasting infrastructural solutions, assuring residents of Itiam Street in Uyo and Use Ikot Amama in Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area that their concerns remain top priority.

Speaking on Saturday, November 15, during the Monthly Government House Prayer Service at The Latter Rain Chapel, Governor Eno described the persistent flooding on Itiam Street and adjoining areas as a major engineering challenge requiring a





Christmas in Akwa Ibom







affected construction work, but work will continue as soon as conditions allow."

The Governor disclosed that although the potholes on the affected road have already been completely scooped out, final repairs will resume as soon as the rains subside to ensure durable and long-lasting results.

He reaffirmed that no road project approved by his administration has been abandoned, including the Ikot Amama road, stressing that every project under the ARISE Agenda is being executed with a clear focus on quality, sustainability, and long-term community impact.

comprehensive and well-designed drainage system. He emphasised that mere asphalt Governor Eno assured that his government

overlay would not withstand the volume of rainwater experienced in the area.

Speaking further, Governor Eno said, "We have heard your pleas. Be rest assured that a comprehensive drainage project is on its way to solving the problem. For Use Ikot Amama people, I want to assure you that the contractors have not abandoned the project. We are faced with heavy rainfall even up to 7 November, and this has adversely



remains committed to by providing safer, healthier, and more livable communities through the delivery of enduring infrastructure across the State.

In her exhortation, Rev. Enobong Ibok urged all attendees to uphold loyalty and support for the Governor and the administration, stressing the importance of sustained prayers for the success of the government's projects and programmes.



### GOV ENO ATTENDS GOVERNMENT HOUSE NOVEMBER PRAYER SERVICE



















### Tinubu, Akpabio, Eno Honour Legacy of Late Madam Udoakpan

### · Console Ekperikpe Ekpo

resident Bola Tinubu, Senate President Godswill Akpabio, and Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, have paid glowing tribute to the late Madam Magdalene Udoakpan, honouring her as a woman of rare character, kindness, and warmth whose benevolence touched many lives.

The leaders conveyed their condolences to her son-in-law, the Minister of State Petroleum (Gas), Obongemem Ekperikpe Ekpo, and the bereaved family on Friday, November 14, in Ika Local Government Area, during the funeral service.

Represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Yusuf Tuggar, President Tinubu described the passing of Madam Udoakpan as a profound and grievous loss. He extended the sympathy of the Federal Government, acknowledging her role as a steady source of strength and affection within the family and praying for God's comfort, strength, and peace for the entire household.

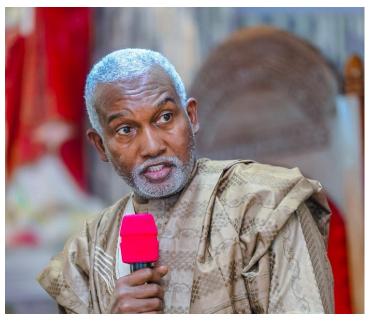
In his condolence message, Senate President Akpabio, represented by Rt. Hon. Unyime Idem, described the late Madam Udoakpan as a distinguished industrialist and respected women leader whose life positively impacted many. He urged the family to take comfort in her remarkable legacy of service to God and humanity.

Governor Umo Eno, in his tribute, noted that although the family's loss was painful, they should find consolation in the fact that the late octogenarian lived a fulfilled and impactful life driven by deep faith, compassion, and unwavering dedication to her family and the community. He emphasised that her virtues and values will continue to shape the generations she nurtured.



The Governor further described Madam Udoakpan's quiet strength, industry, and exemplary Christian character as attributes that made her a beacon of hope, morality, and service. He added that her transition was not only a loss to her immediate family but also to all who were blessed to have known her.

Encouraging the family to take solace in the belief that the deceased had gone to rest in the bosom of the Lord whom she faithfully served, Governor Eno prayed for the peaceful repose of her soul and prayed God to comfort those mourning her departure, particularly Minister Ekperikpe Ekpo and his wife.



He also commended the Minister for his exemplary disposition as an epitome of peace, noting that his unifying influence has helped guide the State towards beneficial alignment with the centre. The Governor further expressed appreciation to President Tinubu for consistently identifying with Akwa Ibom State even in moments of grief, pledging the State's full solidarity with the President and Senate President Akpabio.

The condolence event was attended by top government functionaries and dignitaries, including the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; Coordinator of the Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obareki; Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Udeme Otong; Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; members of the State Executive Council; political leaders from across the country; captains of industry; clergy; and Christian faithful from within and outside the State.



## GOV ENO ATTENDS FUNERAL CEREMONY OF LATE MAGDALENE UBOM, MOTHER-IN-LAW TO RT HON EKPERIKPE EKPO













# Gov Eno Deepens Inter-Ethnic Harmony, Unveils N800M Empowerment for Non-Indigenes

·Named Grand Patron of Ohaneze Ndi Igbo

overnor Umo Eno, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to fostering unity, inclusivity, and peaceful coexistence among all residents, irrespective of ethnic or cultural background.

He restated this resolve during the Igbo Unity Day Celebration, organised by the Ohaneze Ndi Igbo Worldwide, Akwa Ibom State Chapter, held on Saturday, November 15, at the Ibom Hall Grounds, Uyo.

Addressing members of the socio-cultural body, the Governor emphasised that many non-indigenes, particularly Ndi Igbo, have lived, worked, and established businesses in the State for decades and should therefore be regarded as integral parts of the Akwa Ibom community. He commended the Igbo community for promoting unity and for aligning with his administration's ethos of peace and cohesion.

Governor Eno also applauded the entrepreneurial spirit of the Igbo people, describing it as remarkable and exemplary. He noted that their commitment to enterprise, brotherhood, and democratic values has significantly contributed to the social and economic development of the State.

According to the Governor, Akwa Ibom has increasingly become a melting pot where diverse cultures coexist harmoniously because of the government's deliberate investment in peace, security, and hospitality. He stressed that Akwa Ibom's current reputation as a peaceful and welcoming destination is a product of consistent and intentional governance.

Governor Eno announced that his administration has allocated N800 million for the empowerment of non-indigenous communities residing in the State, including Ndi Igbo, Arewa, Yoruba, and Niger Delta groups. He explained



that the initiative is part of ongoing efforts to ensure that all residents have equitable opportunities to thrive.

The Governor expressed appreciation to Ohaneze Ndi Igbo for naming him Grand Patron and for openly declaring their support for his 2027 re-election bid, as well as their backing of President Bola Tinubu and Senator Godswill Akpabio. He assured the group of continued partnership, while urging all non-indigenous communities to sustain peaceful conduct and obey the laws of the State.

Earlier in his remarks, the President of Ohaneze Ndi Igbo, Akwa Ibom State Chapter, Hon. Kayceey Chidiadi, praised Governor Eno for his visionary leadership and for fostering unity within the Igbo community, noting that internal cohesion had long eluded them before the current administration. He further lauded the Governor for appointing members of the Igbo community into government

positions, an inclusion he described as unprecedented since the creation of the State.

The event reached its highlight with the formal conferment of the Grand Patron title on Governor Eno in recognition of his inclusive leadership and goodwill towards non-indigenous residents. The Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Udeme Otong; Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; members of the State Executive Council, and other dignitaries were in attendance.



# GOV ENO ATTENDS IGBO UNITY DAY 2025 CELEBRATION AT IBOM HALL GROUNDS















### **Gov Eno Commends Chief Afangideh's Dedication and Humility at 106**

he State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has commended the unwavering dedication and lifelong service of Elder Statesman, Chief Michael Afangideh, describing him as a symbol of humility, loyalty and commitment to humanity.

Governor Eno, gave the commendation during a special event marking the 106th birthday celebration of the centenarian, themed, "The Golden Boy Celebrates the Iroko," held on November 15, at Chief Afangideh's country home in Ikot Idem, Essien Udim Local Government Area.

In his goodwill message, the Governor offered heartfelt prayers, acknowledging Chief Afangideh's loyalty and steadfast support over the years. Recalling his long-standing relationship with the celebrant, Governor Eno stated that during his governorship campaign, he consulted Chief Afangideh and received not only blessings but also his physical presence and support throughout the statewide campaign tour, describing the statesman's involvement as a testament to his genuine love, rare strength and exceptional dedication.

Pastor Eno expressed profound gratitude to God for granting Chief Afangideh the gift of longevity, noting that such a milestone deserves celebration. He maintained that his visit was to honour a man whom God has blessed with long life and relevance, and to strengthen him with prayers for continued good health.



The Speaker of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Udeme Otong, praised the Governor's visionary leadership, particularly in choosing to celebrate Chief Afangideh while he is alive. He described the celebrator as a man of peace and truth, whose long-standing principles and values justified the recognition accorded to him.

On his part, the member representing Essien Udim State Constituency, Hon. Ukpong Akpabio, lauded the Governor for honouring a revered community leader. He said Essien Udim people remain grateful for the Governor's developmental interventions and pledged, on behalf of stakeholders, their unwavering support and commitment to ensuring Governor Eno's return to the Hilltop Mansion in 2027.

The Chairman of the Supreme Council of Traditional Rulers, Akuku Saviour S. Udofia, also highlighted the noble character of Chief Afangideh. He expressed appreciation to the Governor for marking the centenarian's 106th birthday in grand style, affirming that the honour was well-deserved for a man of such integrity.

Governor Eno was accompanied to the celebration by top government officials, including the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; Executive Assistant/Chief Delivery Advisor, Mr. Aniefiok Johnson; Dean, College of Commissioners, Hon. Frank Archibong; as well as members of the State Executive Council and other dignitaries.



### GOV ENO CELEBRATES OBONG MICHAEL AFANGIDEH, OON @ 106















### **Gov Eno Rallies Support for President Tinubu's Reform Efforts**

· Says he is working tirelessly to address nation's challenges

he State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has urged Nigerians to rally behind President Bola Tinubu, as he intensifies efforts to tackle the nation's challenges.

Governor Eno, made the call recently, when he received officials of the Savannah Centre for Diplomacy, Democracy and Development (SCDDD), led by its

founder, Prof. Ibrahim Gambari, former UN Under-Secretary-General and immediate past Chief of Staff to former President Muhammadu Buhari.

The Governor said despite the difficulties the country has faced, President Tinubu's bold reforms are beginning to show signs of progress. He appreciated Prof. Gambari's interest in the ARISE Agenda, and highlighted ongoing strides in peacebuilding, security, and tourism development, including the ARISE Palm Resort and the Smart Airport.





He stressed the need for stronger human capital development and directed the Secretary to the State Government and the Chief Delivery Advisor to work with the Centre on possible areas of collaboration.

In his remarks, Prof. Gambari commended the Governor for the warm reception, noting the impressive progress achieved by the administration in just over two years. He said his visit was to introduce the Savannah Centre, which focuses on conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and

capacity-building for senior government officials.

He was accompanied by the Centre's Executive Director, Sani Saulawa Bala, and Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed. Senior government officials, including the SSG, Prince Enobong Uwah, were present during the visit.



## GOV ENO HOSTS OFFICIALS OF SAVANNAH CENTRE FOR DIPLOMACY, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT LED BY PROF. IBRAHIM GAMBARI.













## **Pastor Eno Declares War on Criminal Hideouts**

· Appoints Rev Enobong Ibok Leader, Govt House Prayer team

astor Umo Eno, has issued a stern warning against rising criminal activities in the coastal areas of the State, declaring that any property used to shield criminals will be demolished.

Governor Eno delivered the warning during the Monthly Government House Prayer Service, held at The Latter House Chapel on Saturday, November 15, on the theme, "Jehovah El-Roi."

While issuing the warning, the Governor, however appealed for continued prayers for lasting peace in the State and cautioned residents, particularly in coastal communities, against harbouring criminals, stressing that any property used for such purposes will face demolition.

At the service, Governor Eno announced the appointment of Rev. Enobong Ibok as the Leader of the Government House Prayer Team, praising her spiritual maturity, depth, and long-standing dedication to God's work.

Governor Eno also reaffirmed his full alignment with the All Progressives Congress (APC), restating his support for President Bola Tinubu, Senate President Godswill Akpabio, and himself ahead of the 2027 elections. He emphasised that close cooperation with the national leadership is vital for maintaining and advancing developmental gains recorded in the State.

Addressing government appointees, Pastor Eno reminded them that loyalty, discipline, and commitment remain non-negotiable expectations of his administration. He announced a strategic meeting with all appointees scheduled for November 19, aimed at strengthening coordination and ensuring alignment with the government's priorities.



The Governor further outlined a series of upcoming political activities, including the Home-Coming weekend for political appointees from November 21-23 and the General Meeting of all political parties on Saturday, November 22 at LGA Headquarters. He called for massive mobilisation for the ongoing INEC voter registration exercise, describing it as essential for enhancing political representation and strengthening democratic participation.

Looking ahead to the festive period, Governor Eno announced the Unity Concert scheduled for December 6 at the International Worship Centre and the State Christmas Carols on December 19. He commended the dedication of the International Worship Centre Choir and approved financial support for new choir robes alongside additional appreciation packages.

On the broader governance landscape, the Governor reiterated that the provision of infrastructure and a fair operating environment reflects the government's commitment to collective welfare. He applauded the transparency of the recent Computer-Based Test recruitment exercise and encouraged both successful and unsuccessful applicants to remain confident in the system.



### Gov Eno Applauds President Tinubu's Fiscal Reforms, Showcases A'Ibom's Model for Subnational Wealth Creation

kwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has commended President Bola Tinubu for his courageous fiscal and financial reforms, describing them as the foundation for a new era of national prosperity.

Speaking at the Moneyline Investment Forum, held at the Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja, on Wednesday, November 12, Governor Eno stressed that Nigeria is at a defining moment, urging subnational governments to seize the opportunities presented by ongoing reforms to drive productivity, innovation, and inclusive growth within their States.

Represented by a delegation led by the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, and the Managing Director of the Akwa Ibom Investment Corporation (AKICORP), Pastor Imoh-Abasi Jacob, the Governor, in a keynote address on the theme, "Nigeria's New Financial Landscape: Reforms, Risks, and the Road to Wealth Creation," lauded the Federal Government for initiating farreaching policies, including the Investment and Securities Act 2025, the Insurance Industry Reform Act 2025, new tax laws, and the deregulation of the electricity market. He emphasised that while these policies mark a decisive turning point in Nigeria's economic trajectory, the true task lies in converting reforms into measurable results and policies into widespread prosperity.

Averring that the State is translating these national policy directions into practical instruments of local wealth creation and sustainable development, Governor Eno highlighted Akwa Ibom's strategic approach, the ARISE Agenda, a five-pillar development framework built on Agricultural Revolution, Rural Development, Infrastructure Expansion, Security Management, and Educational Advancement. He explained that the Agenda is tailored to build an inclusive economy where enterprise thrives, governance is transparent, and growth is shared equitably among citizens.

Among the initiatives featured were, the Ibom Air, the expansion of intercity road networks, the introduction of CNG-powered city buses, and planned development of a light rail system. Maritime and industrial projects such as the



Ibom Deep Seaport, the Ibom Industrial City, and six designated Economic Zones, including the Liberty Oil and Gas Free Trade Zone, cited as key drivers of investment, the blue economy, and local enterprise expansion.

The Governor also identified tourism and agriculture as major pillars of Akwa Ibom's growth agenda. He outlined the development of landmark projects such as the ARISE Palm Resort, the 5,000-capacity International Convention Centre, Ibom International Hotel, ARISE Shopping City, Ibom Hotel and Golf Resort, and Four Points by Sheraton. On the agricultural front, initiatives like the Ibom Model Farms, Dakkada Global Oil Palm, Coconut Plantations, and Garri Processing Projects have continued to expand rural income streams, generate employment, and promote food security.

In the area of human capital development, Pastor Eno highlighted the impact of the Ibom Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Agency's (Ibom-LED), which has trained and empowered over 10,000 youths and women through grants, capacity-building programmes, and mentorship initiatives aimed at fostering small and medium-scale enterprises.



Reaffirming that subnational governments play a pivotal role in complementing federal economic reforms to achieve sustainable and inclusive national growth, the Governor said, "Akwa Ibom is a model of how vision, discipline, and governance can translate reforms into prosperity," inviting investors to "COME, LIVE, INVEST in Akwa Ibom State," stressing the State's readiness to host and support both domestic and international investments.



# GOV ENO APPLAUDS PRESIDENT TINUBU'S FISCAL REFORMS, SHOWCASES A'IBOM'S MODEL FOR SUBNATIONAL WEALTH CREATION













# Gov Eno Honours HoS, Celebrates his Legacy of Service, Humility

overnor Umo Eno, has paid glowing tribute to the Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien, describing his sterling career and exemplary character as a model worthy of emulation.

The Governor gave the commendation during the public presentation of "The Humble Boss," an official biography chronicling the life and service of Elder Essien.

Noting his unwavering loyalty, passion, and commitment to the values of probity, innovation, integrity, and love for the State, Governor Eno described the Head of Service as an embodiment of what the public service should represent, noting that their over two years of working together revealed his humility, emotional intelligence, and deep sense of responsibility.

The Governor commended Elder Essien's leadership in the State civil service, highlighting his ability to offer thoughtful counsel and manage sensitive issues with tact. He stated that his discretion and professional discipline have contributed significantly to the administration's effective service delivery, and ongoing reforms aimed at modernising the service and strengthening its digital capacity.

Pastor Eno appreciated Elder Essien's prudence and professionalism, which he said has helped build a more vibrant and efficient service, assuring that the administration would continue to rely on his wisdom and counsel, stressing that he remains an invaluable asset to the State even though he may be retiring.





The Governor also urged young people to study and emulate Elder Essien's humility and dedication, stating that his life offers practical lessons for building a productive and fulfilled future.

In his remarks, the Chairman of the occasion, Assam Assam, SAN, observed that Elder Essien's career stands as a benchmark of discipline, competence, integrity, and loyalty in the State public service. He stressed that the event was not only about launching a book but about unveiling a lasting legacy.

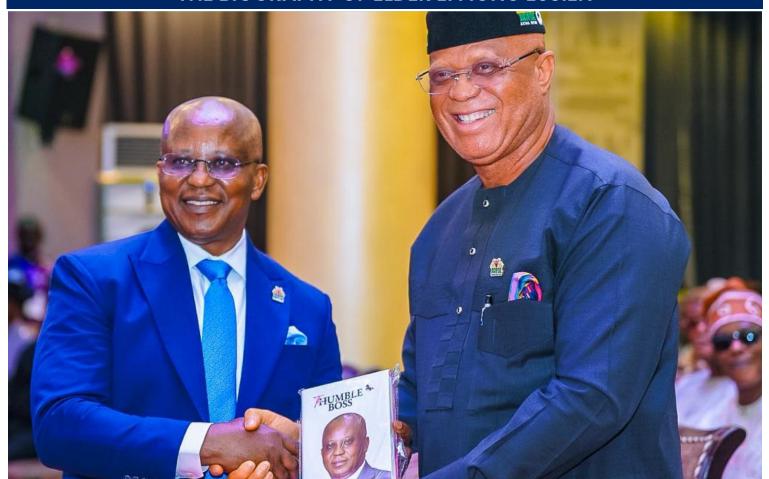
Reviewing the book, Prof. Effiong Johnson disclosed that more than 30 individuals quoted in the publication attest to Elder Essien's humility. He recommended the book for widespread circulation, especially among students, to inspire positive values.

On his part, the lead author of the Book and Chairman of the Planning Committee, Akparawa James Edet, said he was inspired by the humility and leadership of Elder Essien. He expressed appreciation to the Governor for gracing the occasion.

Responding, Elder Essien expressed gratitude to the Governor, the State government, and the civil service community for the trust reposed in him throughout his career, pledging to continue contributing to the development of the State.



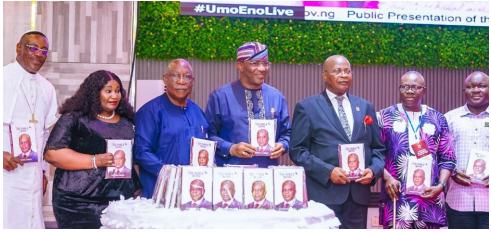
# GOV ENO ATTENDS THE OFFICIAL PRESENTATION OF THE HUMBLE BOSS, THE BIOGRAPHY OF ELDER EFFIONG ESSIEN















## GOV ENO ATTENDS THE OFFICIAL PRESENTATION OF THE HUMBLE BOSS, THE BIOGRAPHY OF ELDER EFFIONG ESSIEN





















## A'Ibom Tightens Land Policy, Orders Investors to Comply with Payment, Due Process



he Akwa Ibom State Government, has declared that land will no longer be used as equity in investment transactions, as all investors must now make full payment for land and duly compensate host communities before commencing any development project.

This position was made known recently, by the Commissioner for Lands and Town Planning, Dr. Ubong Inyang, during a meeting with the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Akwa Ibom Investment Corporation (AKICORP), Pastor Imoh-Abasi Jacob, who led a delegation to the ministry's conference room.

The new directive, according to Dr. Inyang, aims to promote transparency, accountability, and fair value in land-related dealings. He noted that the era of granting land to investors on equity basis had encouraged irregularities and deprived host communities of rightful compensation.

The Commissioner cautioned that henceforth, investors must not only pay for their allocated land but also settle all compensations to affected communities before being cleared to begin construction or other development activities.

He further revealed that some investors had exceeded their approved land boundaries by

illegally acquiring adjoining plots. He said the ministry would conduct a critical review of all existing agreements and allocations to ascertain compliance with government regulations and ensure that lands are developed within approved timelines.

The Lands helmsman therefore directed AKICORP to refer all prospective investors to the ministry for proper verification of land allocations, to confirm their conformity with government interest and the State's development master plan. He

reaffirmed the ministry's readiness to support genuine investors.

In his remarks, Pastor Jacob explained that AKICORP's role is to facilitate linkages between investors and relevant government agencies, and not to sell land. He noted that the visit was to congratulate the Commissioner on his redeployment and to strengthen collaboration between AKICORP and the ministry in advancing investment opportunities in the State.

Setting the tone earlier, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Lands and Town Planning, Barr. Emma Udonsek, described the meeting as timely and strategic, urging continuous engagement to enhance synergy and efficiency in investment facilitation.





# GIFA Delivers 14,000-Litre Solar-Powered Water-of-Life Project to Nsekhe Community, Ukanafun



n Thursday, November 13, a major development unfolded in Nsekhe, Ukanafun Local Government Area, when the Coordinator of the Office of the First Lady and Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Golden Initiative For All (GIFA), Lady Helen Eno Obareki, commissioned and handed over a 14,000-litre solar-powered Water-of-Life Project to the community.

Addressing residents of the area, Lady Obareki said the project reflects the humanitarian vision of her mother, Pastor Patience Eno, who established GIFA to improve the quality of life for families by providing clean and safe drinking water, especially in underserved rural communities. She added that the initiative directly aligns with efforts to meet the essential needs of households across the State.

Represented by the member for Uruan State Constituency, Hon. Itoro Etim, Lady Obareki explained that the Water-of-Life initiative supports Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, particularly on rural development, infrastructural advancement, and environmental health improvement.

She noted that the solar-powered water facility is costeffective, environmentally friendly, and capable of offering uninterrupted water supply, thereby ending years of long-distance trekking for water, an ordeal often borne by women and children. She urged community members to take ownership of the project and safeguard it against vandalism to ensure its continuous use for generations.

Also speaking, the Special Assistant to the Governor on General Duties and Team Lead of GIFA, Pastor Anne Abraham, explained that the project is part of GIFA's Environmental Health thematic focus, which aims to deliver clean and safe water across all 31 local government areas in Akwa Ibom State.

In his remarks, the Chairman of Ukanafun Local Government Council, Hon. Uyo Ukpanah, represented by the Vice Chairman, Hon. Aniekan Owen, expressed gratitude to GIFA for the intervention, describing the water project as a significant blessing to Nsekhe and the surrounding communities. He thanked Governor Eno for his sustained support and assured that Ukanafun people remain committed to backing the Governor beyond 2027.

The wife of the Ukanafun Council Chairman, Mrs. Mokut Ukpanah, also conveyed heartfelt appreciation on behalf of the community. She said the Water-of-Life Project would improve public health, reduce waterborne diseases, and promote better hygiene practices, while pledging continued collaboration with GIFA on future community development initiatives.

Goodwill messages were delivered by a former Ukanafun State Constituency representative, Hon. Charity Ido; the Village Head of Nsekhe, Eteidung Michael Ukpanah; and Mrs. Hannah Ukpanah, mother of the Council Chairman. They commended Lady Obareki for addressing the long-standing water needs of the community and pledged continued support for the Umo Eno administration.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, political leaders, women leaders, and community stakeholders





## **AKSG, NIS Unite to Combat Illegal Migration**

Reaffirm commitment to strengthened security collaboration in A'Ibom



he Akwa Ibom State Government, has joined the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) in cautioning citizens against the smuggling of migrants and all forms of illegal migration.

The message, was the core of a Nationwide Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Sensitization Campaign, held on Friday, November 7, in Uyo, the State capital.

Speaking at the event, the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, reaffirmed the government's commitment to sustained collaboration with the Nigeria Immigration Service and other security agencies. He noted that the Ministry of Information remains open to partnerships through its various communication platforms to enhance public enlightenment on migration-related issues.

Represented by the Director of New Media and Strategy, Mr. Edem Okon, the Commissioner commended the NIS for the initiative, describing it as timely and impactful. He emphasised that both the ministry and security agencies

share a collective mandate to safeguard the interests of Akwa Ibom people and Nigerians at large, adding that the sensitisation campaign would further guide citizens on proper and lawful procedures for migration, thereby reducing vulnerabilities associated with irregular routes.

In her remarks, the Comptroller of Immigration Service, Akwa Ibom State Command, Agatha Odika, defined illegal immigration as the movement of individuals into a country in violation of

established immigration laws. She urged residents to desist from migrant smuggling and irregular migration, warning that such actions expose victims to severe risks. Odika, who was represented by the Deputy Comptroller, DCI Helen Bassey, Head of Human Resources Management, stressed the need for orderly, safe, and regular migration that upholds human dignity.

Also speaking, CSI Theresa Ekeoma of the NIS Migration Directorate, Abuja, averred that smuggling of migrants was a national menace requiring collaboration beyond the Immigration Service. She appealed for stronger partnerships with sister security agencies, the

media, and the public to effectively curb the trend. Ekeoma reiterated the resolve of the Comptroller-General of Immigration, Kemi Nandap, to reduce illegal migration to the barest minimum and ensure that perpetrators face the law.

The sensitisation exercise, featured a road walk from the NIS Command Headquarters at Atan Offot through Abak Road to Plaza, Wellington Bassey Way, Udo Umana Street, Ndiya Street, Aka Road, Obong Sampson Udo Idiong Avenue, and back to the Command. Participants distributed fliers and delivered awareness messages at strategic locations including Ibom Plaza, the Globe at Barracks Road, and Akpan Andem Market.

The campaign drew attendance from officers and men of the NIS, alongside representatives of the Nigeria Police Force, Nigerian Army, DSS, NDLEA, NAPTIP, Nigeria Customs Service, FRSC, and NSCDC, demonstrating a united front in the fight against migrant smuggling and illegal migration.



- Page 20



### **Info Commissioner Advocates Stronger Safety, Security Measures**

· Applauds FRSC, special marshals' support for ARISE Agenda



he Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, has emphasised the critical role of Special Marshals in strengthening road-user compliance with safety regulations, describing their operations as a vital complement to Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda.

Noting that the volunteer unit remains a key partner in promoting a culture of safety across the State, Rt. Hon. Umanah, who was represented by the Director of Advertising and Public Relations in the ministry, Mr. Nsikan Essien, at the 2025 Special Marshals Workshop, held on Saturday, November 8 at the NUJ Press Centre, Uyo, charged the volunteers to deploy strategic approaches in their enforcement duties while prioritising their personal safety and security.

He commended the choice of the workshop theme, "Enhancing Security and Safety Strategies for Special Marshals Operations," maintaining that it aligns with the safety consciousness of the administration. Umanah reiterated the State government's continued support to institutions that advance public safety, expressing confidence that the training would equip participants with enhanced skills for effective safety enforcement.

The Information boss further highlighted the administration's ongoing Command and Control Centre project, noting that upon completion, it will significantly enhance the response capacity and coordination of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in the State. He, however, stressed the need for improved security awareness and strengthened operational protocols among Special Marshals.

Delivering the keynote address, the Zonal Commanding Officer of the FRSC, ACM Henry Benamaisia, represented

by DCC Joseph Abuo, praised the cordial collaboration between the Akwa Ibom FRSC Command, Special Marshals, the State Government, security agencies, and the media. He observed that the synergy as exemplary and key to achieving optimal service delivery.

On his part, the FRSC Sector Commander in Akwa Ibom, Corps Commander Francis Ajatta, stated that the theme of the workshop was a reflection of the Corps' commitment to enhancing knowledge, competence, and operational efficiency. He emphasised that proactive strategies and collective action were essential for curbing road crashes, tackling insecurity, and mitigating threats to road safety.

Earlier in his welcome remarks, the State Coordinator of Special Marshals commended the volunteers for their dedication and underscored the importance of the workshop in addressing emerging safety and security challenges. He highlighted the need for innovation in traffic control, rescue operations, public enlightenment, research, and other critical areas of road safety management.

In a goodwill message, the Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Akwa Ibom State Council, Comrade Nsibiet John, represented by the Chairman of the State Information Chapel, Comrade Edifon Abasi-Obot, reaffirmed the media's commitment to supporting safety initiatives.

The workshop later ended with a communiqué in which Special Marshals pledged sustained commitment to safety, enhanced collaboration, and increased investment in training and equipment, while urging stakeholders to prioritise teamwork for safer road environments.





# AK-CARES Showcases Success Stories as NG-CARES TV Documentary Team Visits A'Ibom



he Akwa Ibom Community Action for Resilience and Economic Stimulus (AK-CARES) Programme, has highlighted its notable achievements as the Nigeria CARES (NG-CARES) TV Documentary Team visited the State as part of its nationwide documentation exercise, featuring field tours to select project sites to capture the programme's impact.

Receiving the delegation at the ministry's conference room, the Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning and Chairman of the State CARES Steering Committee (SCSC), Dr. Nsikan Nkan, applauded the national assignment, and conveyed the goodwill of Governor Umo Eno, while commending the Federal CARES Support Unit (FCSU) in ensuring effective implementation of the initiative across the country.

Dr. Nkan noted that the State embraced the NG-CARES

Programme because its objectives align with the State's developmental priorities under the ARISE Agenda. He emphasised that the programme's direct impact on households and communities underscores the State government's commitment to inclusive growth and resilience building.

He further acknowledged the support of the Federal Government, the World Bank, and the Heads of the Delivery Platforms (Dps), which collaboration, he said, has been instrumental to the successful rollout of AK-CARES interventions.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for

Agriculture, Dr. Offiong Offor praised the gains recorded in the agricultural component of AK-CARES. She stated that the support in inputs and productive assets has significantly boosted farmers' productivity and enhanced livelihoods across the State. Office also lauded the partnership between the Ministry of Agriculture and FADAMA under NG-CARES for revitalising agricultural activities.

The South-South Team Lead and National Coordinator of FADAMA, Dr. AbdulRahman Balarabe, expressed satisfaction with the State's implementation level. He noted that after three to four years of programme

rollout, it was important to assess its impact on the poor and vulnerable, adding that the documentary would highlight testimonies and measurable results from across Nigeria.

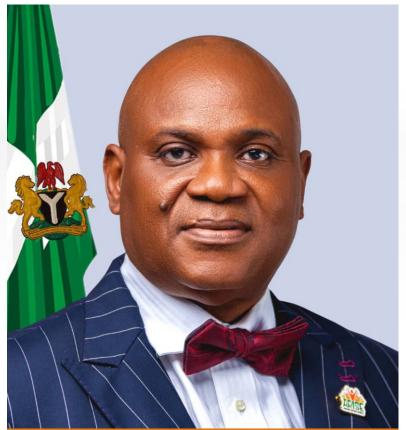
During the visit, the documentary crew held interviews with key stakeholders, including Dr. Nkan, Dr. Offor, and Hon. Emem Udom, Member representing Ukanafun State Constituency, who spoke on the programme's benefits to local communities. The team also interacted with beneficiaries and inspected project sites to capture real-time evidence of success stories.

The visit formed part of preparations for a national television documentary being produced by the Federal CARES Support Unit (FCSU) as the NG-CARES 1.0 Programme winds down, and planning for NG-CARES 2.0 begins.





## Rt Hon Umanah Seeks Deeper Media-Govt Collaboration to Advance ARISE Agenda



he Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, has reiterated the vital role of newspaper publishers in promoting development and advancing Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda through accurate information dissemination, civic engagement, and accountability.

Speaking in Uyo on Thursday, November 13, during the Amalgamated Newspaper Publishers of Akwa Ibom (ANPA) Week, themed, "The Relevance of Newspaper Publishers in State Development: The Case of Akwa Ibom State Under the ARISE Agenda," Umanah, represented by his Special Assistant, Mr. Udeme Inyang, described publishers as essential partners in shaping public perception and strengthening communication between government and citizens.

The Commissioner noted that the print media has continued to hold a unique influence in the society, stating that no other media platform

leaves a more lasting impression on the public than newspapers.

He emphasised that newspapers serve critical functions, including citizens' education on government policies, promotion of transparency, and preservation of government actions and historical records.

The Information Commissioner explained that the ARISE Agenda, focused on Agricultural Revolution, Rural Development, Infrastructure Maintenance and Advancement, Security Management, Education and Health Sector Advancement relies heavily on media collaboration to amplify its goals and achievements.

According to him, newspaper publishers can further support the implementation of the Agenda by reporting progress, enabling public feedback, and deepening accountability through investigative journalism.

He encouraged the press to highlight humaninterest stories that reflect the real-life impact of government initiatives such as the Free Food Distribution Scheme and the ARISE Compassionate Homes, noting that such reportage enhances public engagement and strengthens trust in the government.

Commending ANPA for hosting the event, the Commissioner stated that the annual observance provides an important platform for reinforcing cooperation between the government and the media.

Earlier, ANPA Chairman, Pastor Osuini-Abasi Alfred, expressed gratitude to the State government for its continuous support and for recognising the contributions of newspaper publishers to the State's development.



### **A'Ibom Strengthens Capacity for Evidence-Based Planning**

### ·Advances Integration of Demographic Dividend in Devt Processes

he Akwa Ibom State Government, has reaffirmed its commitment to evidence-based planning by intensifying efforts to integrate demographic realities into its development and budgeting frameworks, aimed at achieving inclusive and sustainable growth.

The commitment was emphasised on Monday, November 10, when the Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Dr. Nsikan Nkan, declared open a five-day residential workshop on the integration of demographic dividend into the State Development Plan and budgeting process, held at Edinan Hotels and Suites, Uyo.

Represented by the State Director of Economic Planning, Mr. Ottobong Sambo, Dr. Nkan described the workshop, which brought together Directors and Heads of Planning, Research and Statistics Departments (PRS) from Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), as a strategic effort aimed at strengthening the technical capacity of planning officers to apply demographic data in formulating policies and resource allocation decisions.

He explained that the demographic dividend represents a surge in economic productivity driven by a growing working-age population relative to dependents, often accompanied by declining fertility rates. According to him, effectively integrating such demographic insights into planning and budgeting is critical for promoting economic growth, social equity, and long-term sustainability.

Dr. Nkan recalled that in 2024 the State, in collaboration with the Health Policy Training and Research Programme (HPTRP) at the University of Ibadan and with financial support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), developed and launched the Akwa Ibom State



Demographic Dividend Roadmap. He noted that the workshop signals the commencement of the second phase of implementing that roadmap.

Averring that aligning the State Development Plan and budget with demographic dynamics will ensure that government policies and expenditures adequately address the needs of youths, women, and vulnerable groups, thereby advancing the State's agenda of leaving no one behind, the Commissioner also expressed appreciation to UNFPA and HPTRP for their sustained partnership and technical support.

In a virtual remark, Dr. Andrew Karima, Coordinator and Head of the UNFPA Cross River Sub-Office, lauded the State for its commitment to human capital development, while UNFPA's State Focal Person, Dr. Aliyu Yakubu, reaffirmed the agency's continued support.

Resource persons at the workshop included, Prof. Rasaki Dauda, who delivered a paper on the concept and overview of the demographic dividend, and Dr. Noah Olasehinde, who led presentations on demographic programming in Nigeria, population dynamics of Akwa Ibom State, and national and subnational roadmaps for

harnessing the demographic dividend.



The training, coordinated by the Director of International Cooperation and State UNFPA Programme Manager, Dr. Uduak Ekong, whose leadership has played a pivotal role in driving demographic-related initiatives in Akwa Ibom, is expected to equip participants with practical skills to integrate demographic data into planning and budgeting, thereby advancing Governor Umo Eno's long-term vision for inclusive and sustainable development under the ARISE Agenda.



# ARISE Agenda Strengthens Marine, Blue Economy as Maritime Academy Graduates 221 Cadets

Maritime Academy to excel, particularly in line with the ARISE Agenda's emphasis on educational advancement.



Stakeholders in the Marine and Blue Economy sector, on Thursday, November 13, converged at the Maritime Academy of Nigeria, Oron, for the 2025 Cadets Graduation Ceremony, which produced a total of 221 graduates from the institution's seven academic schools.

Commending the Academy's management, led by the Acting Rector, Dr. Kevin Okonna, for delivering a well-organised and impactful ceremony, Governor Umo Eno, represented by the Commissioner for Education, Prof. Ubong Umoh, highlighted the strategic importance of the maritime sector, noting that the seaway has historically served as a gateway to global interaction and economic exchange.

Governor Eno reaffirmed his administration's commitment to strengthening the Blue Economy under the ARISE Agenda, stressing that the State's development priorities align with President Bola Tinubu's 'Renewed Hope' initiative, particularly in advancing opportunities for cadets, maritime professionals, and the broader marine workforce nationwide.

To enhance marine safety and security across Akwa Ibom's waterways, the Governor disclosed that the State government has procured 14 gunboats to combat insecurity. He added that two new ferries, one with a 75-passenger capacity and space for eight vehicles, and another with a 72-passenger capacity are being introduced as part of ongoing interventions to boost maritime transportation.

Describing Akwa Ibom as a "haven of safety," the Governor noted that the administration's proactive security measures have created an enabling environment for institutions such as the In his welcome remarks, Dr. Okonna thanked the Governor and dignitaries for honoring the institution's invitation and reiterated the Academy's commitment to delivering top-tier maritime education. He announced that the Academy had successfully completed Stage One of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) quality audit and is preparing for Stage Two, with the aim of securing ISO 9001:2015 certification for its Quality Management System. He added that the institution is also pursuing ISO 21001:2018 certification for its Educational Organizational Management System.

Dr. Okonna further disclosed that the Academy recently hosted the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Independent Evaluators for the mandatory Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) assessment. He described the positive outcomes of the evaluation as evidence of the Academy's competence, credibility, and alignment with global maritime training standards.

The Chairman of the Governing Council, Engr. Kehinde Akinola, commended the management, staff, and cadets for their dedication and academic excellence. Encouraging the graduating cadets to uphold resilience, discipline, and hard work in their future endeavors, he reminded them that "you never fail until you stop trying."

The ceremony featured the presentation of academic certificates including, OND and HND awards, along with prizes for outstanding cadets, some of whom received cash rewards and employment offers from reputable maritime organisations. The event also attracted senior government officials, industry leaders, royal fathers, military and paramilitary officers, and representatives from the Marine and Blue Economy sector.





# AKHA Mandates Strict Enforcement Against Covered Number Plates, Unregistered Vehicles

he Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, has passed a resolution mandating the Commissioner of Police, Akwa Ibom State Command, CP Baba Azare, to fully enforce the Governor's directive prohibiting the covering of vehicle number plates.

The resolution, adopted during Tuesday, November 11 plenary, followed a motion sponsored by the member representing Mkpat Enin State Constituency, Hon. Uwem Imoh-Ita, who raised concerns over the alarming rise in unregistered and unidentified vehicles, especially those owned by construction firms operating within Akwa Ibom.

Relying on Order III, Rules 1 and 2 of the House Standing Orders (7th Edition), Hon. Imoh-Ita noted that many vehicles, particularly heavy-duty trucks, regularly ply State roads without registration details or number plates. He cautioned that such vehicles pose grave risks to public safety, often being responsible for accidents,





property damage, and fatalities, yet remain untraceable due to lack of proper identification.

In its resolution, the House urged the Commissioner for Works and Fire Service, Prof. Eno Ibanga, to compel all construction companies operating in the State to ensure that every vehicle in their fleet, including trucks and heavy-duty equipment, is properly registered and fitted with valid number plates.

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), was also tasked with intensifying surveillance and enforcement activities to guarantee full compliance with vehicle registration and identification laws.

Presiding over the plenary, the Speaker of the House, Rt. Hon. Udeme Otong, directed the Clerk of the Assembly, Mrs. Nsikakabasi Orok, to convey the resolution to the relevant authorities for immediate implementation.



# Urue Offong/Oruko: Uno Prioritises Education, Assures Sustained Support For Students



he Chairman of Urue Offong Oruko Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. Uno Etim Uno, has reaffirmed his administration's strong commitment to strengthening educational development in the area.

He made this known during the swearing-in ceremony of the National Association of Urue Offong/Oruko Students (NAUOS) Worldwide, held recently at the council's conference room.

Highlighting recent achievements, the Chairman noted that the council had purchased 200 free JAMB forms for indigent candidates and organised free tutorials, leading to an unprecedented number of new undergraduates from the area. He also reiterated his pledge to award scholarships to at least 30 of these students, as well as bursaries for all eligible indigenes in tertiary institutions across the country.

Rt. Hon. Uno congratulated the newly inaugurated NAUOS executive and commended the electoral committee for a smooth election process. He urged the students to uphold discipline, avoid antisocial behavior, and remain focused on academic

excellence while projecting a positive image of the community.

He further described the inauguration of the student body as symbolic of his administration's enduring partnership with the youth and commitment to their academic and moral empowerment.

Speaking separately, Bishop Asuquo Antai (Rtd), Mr. Omen Bassey, Senator Anthony Eyoh, and Mr. Emmanuel Antai, commended the Chairman's sustained investment in education, applauded the new NAUOS leadership, and encouraged them to embrace unity, discipline, and academic focus.

The newly inaugurated officers include: Comr. Daniel Abia (President); Glory Bassey (Vice President); Kingsley Akaiso (Secretary); Gospel Ekpenyong (Treasurer); Deborah Daniel (Assistant Secretary); Ruth Esu (Financial Secretary); Blessing Etim (Welfare Officer); Janet Effiong (Women Leader); Aduak Onwienkinoyo (Auditor General); Kporo Bassey (PRO); Alex Ukpong (Director of Sports); Israel Okon (Director of Socials); Raphael Abraham (Ex-Officio I) and Inyang Ebek (Ex-Officio II).

The ceremony also featured a formal handover by the outgoing President, Comr. Gideon Eyo, and the presentation of awards to distinguished stakeholders.





## Aaron Pledges Transparent, People-Centred Governance in 2026

he Chairman of Nsit I b o m L o c a I Government Area, Rt. Hon. Otobong Aaron, has reaffirmed heradministration's commitment to transparency, accountability, and inclusive governance in the 2026 budget process.

Represented by the Vice Chairman Hon. Udeme Philip at the event held at the Council's multipurpose hall recently, the Chairman assured stakeholders that the

consultation forum would allow citizens to actively shape the budget. She noted that projects executed in 2025 were guided by similar participatory engagements, emphasising the administration's people-centred approach.

On his part, Mr. Patrick Ikotidem, Head of PRS, Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy



Affairs, said the forum aligns with the state's drive for transparent budgeting across all 31 local government areas.

Barr. Nsikak Ekong, representing the Akwa Ibom Fiscal Responsibility Board, praised the Chairman for the progress including the renovation and rebranding of the Council Secretariat, and highlighted community

involvement as key to accountability and responsive development.



Additionally, the Director of Budget, Mr. Bassey Inyang, reviewed the 2025 projects, their progress, and proposed programs for 2026. The forum featured an interactive s e s s i o n w h e r e stakeholders were invited to contribute to the new budget.



## **SA, Mobilisation Empowers 31 Widows in Abuja**

· Reaffirms Gov Eno's Commitment to Inclusive Governance



he Special Assistant to the Governor on Mobilisation (Abuja), Hon. Mmemaobong Ekukinam, has empowered 31 widows, reaffirming Governor Umo Eno's commitment to people-centred governance through the ARISE Agenda.

Hon. Ekukinam made this known during her maiden empowerment programme for widows, drawn from the 31 local government areas of the State residing in Abuja, held at the Akwa Ibom State Liaison Office, Abuja.

Describing Governor Eno as a supportive, accessible, and visionary leader who remains dedicated to policies that uplift lives, the SA noted that the empowerment exercise reflects the ARISE Agenda's resolve to ensure that no segment of the population is left behind, regardless of social or economic status. According to her, the initiative demonstrates the administration's inclusive and merit-driven approach to governance.

She emphasised that when leadership is grounded in fairness, justice, and compassion, it inspires citizens to unite in sustaining progress. Ekukinam therefore encouraged the beneficiaries to remain supportive of the administration's development strides and to continue fostering the values that promote collective growth within the Akwa Ibom community in the FCT.

The Permanent Secretary, Akwa Ibom State Liaison Office, TPL Aniekan Akpan, lauded the programme as a "gathering of compassion," acknowledging the Governor's attentiveness to the needs of Akwa Ibom people everywhere. He commended Hon. Ekukinam for championing the initiative and thanked Comrade Kingsley Iwok for his collaboration and support.

Delivering a keynote address, Akparawa Tommy Okon, a trustee of the Akwa Ibom community in Abuja, commended Hon. Ekukinam for her outreach and urged the widows to appreciate the Governor's continued commitment to improving the wellbeing of the less privileged. He described the initiative as a reflection of purposeful leadership being

felt across the State and diaspora communities.

Ekukinam's counterpart, Comrade Kingsley Iwok, described the empowerment exercise as symbolic and unprecedented, noting that the Governor's aides are replicating the administration's people-oriented programmes among Akwa Ibom residents in Abuja. He highlighted ongoing State projects, including the construction of over 400 compassionate homes for widows, women-focused business grants, and a health insurance scheme.

Representatives of AKCOM Abuja, including Akparawa Solomon Umanah and Mrs. Maria Orok, commended the organisers and pledged continued support for community development initiatives. The President of Mboho Iban Akwa Ibom Abuja, Mrs. Aniefiok Francis, encouraged the widows to remain resilient, keep their dreams alive, and continue nurturing their families.

Many of the widows gave emotional testimonies, expressing profound gratitude to the Governor for extending his welfare initiatives to Akwa Ibom indigenes outside the State. They said the intervention restored their hope and provided much-needed relief, noting that some of them had struggled to secure daily meals. They described the gesture as unprecedented and a confirmation that the ARISE Agenda is positively impacting citizens both within and beyond Akwa Ibom.

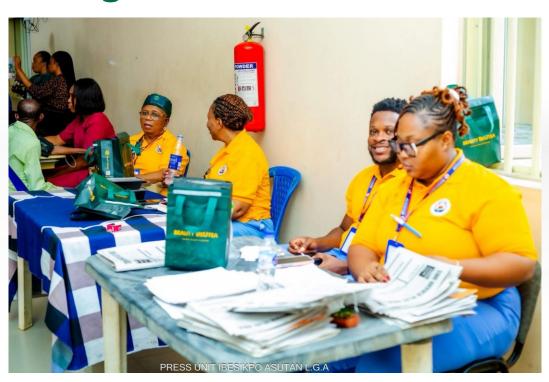
The event was attended by the First Lady of the Akwa Ibom community in Abuja, Dr. Bassey Unaowo; Barr. Edidiong Ubeh; directors in the Liaison Office.





# **Ibesikpo Asutan: Inyang Hails Imabridge For Life-Saving Free Medical Mission**

h e Chairman of Ibesikpo
Asutan Local
Government
Area, Rt. Hon.
Edidiong Inyang has commended
I mabridge
Medical Centre for providing free and subsidised health services to the less privileged in Akwa Ibom.



On Monday, November 10, Rt. Hon. Inyang represented by the Vice Chairman, lauded the Free Medical and Surgical Mission 2025, sponsored by the World Surgical Foundation in partnership with the Ibesikpo Asutan Organisation, California Chapter, and

held at Imabridge Medical Centre in Owut Uta.

In a goodwil message, Hon. Goodness Obot praised Imabridge for "Standing in the gap to save lives and give hope to the hopeless." Additionally, the Secretary of Council, Dr. Edidiong Essien, described the initiative as "A God-pleasing gesture

benefiting humanity."

PRESSUNIT IBESIRFO ASUTAN L.G.A

The event was attended by a former National Assembly Member, Hon. Emmanuel Obot, CEO/MD UBOTEX NIG. LTD Elder Ubong Obot, Health Director for Ibesikpo Asutan, Councillor for Ibesikpo 6, Hon. Donald Inyang, and Supervisor Mrs. Patricia Umondia.



# **25th National Council on Women Affairs: A'Ibom Applauds Commitment to Women, Children's Welfare**

he commitment to the welfare of women and children, has been applauded by the Akwa Ibom State Government at the 25th National Council on Women Affairs and Child Development (NCWACD), held at the Festival Hall, Government House, in Benin City, Edo State.

Delivering a goodwill message at the event the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Welfare, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo, who

led the State's dedication, conveyed warm greetings from the State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno to the Minister for Women Affairs, Imaan Sulaiman-Ibrahim, commending her dedication to improving the welfare of women and children nationwide.

"Akwa Ibom is an ARISE State, and we stand with the Renewed Hope initiative. We appreciate your efforts in carrying women along and look forward to welcoming you to Akwa Ibom soon," she stated.

The Commissioner also lauded the Edo State Commissioner for Women Affairs, Mrs. Eugenia Abdullah, for hosting a well-coordinated and impactful



council meeting.

Themed, "Strengthening Systems and Deepening Social Impact: Advancing the Renewed Hope Agenda for Women, Children, Families and Other Vulnerable Groups," the council remains Nigeria's foremost policy forum for advancing gender equality, child protection, and social inclusion.

The annual event attracted Commissioners, Directors, Development Partners, and key stakeholders from across the country to deliberate on strengthening social welfare systems and implementing policies that promote inclusive development in alignment with the Federal Government's Renewed Hope Agenda.



Key features of the gathering included, technical sessions, policy reviews, exhibitions, and interactive engagements designed enhance collaboration among government agencies and development partners toward advancing the welfare of women, children, and other vulnerable groups across Nigeria.



# **Urue Offong/Oruko: Uno Commissions 300KVA Transformer in Eyufuo Community**

he Chairman of Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Council, Rt. Hon. Uno Etim Uno, has commissioned a 300KVA transformer in the Eyufuo community, demonstrating his commitment to enhancing electrification at the grassroots in alignment with Governor Umo Eno's Rural Development agenda.

During the commissioning ceremony held on Tuesday, November 11, the Chairman emphasised his dedication to ensuring that no community is overlooked. He expressed

gratitude to Dr. Robinson Edumoh for his

contributions that led to the replacement of the



vandalised transformer. "Providing electricity to one community represents a beacon of transformation for the entire local government area and for humanity," he remarked. The council boss encouraged residents to support the re-election of Governor Eno and President Bola Tinubu, in the upcoming 2027 elections.

Community leaders, including the Youth President Comrade Isaac James; Woman Leader, Mrs. Eno Eyoh; Village Head, Chief Adatang Attih; Ward 7 Councillor, Hon. Edet Okpo; APC Assistant State Youth Leader, Mr. Etim Esin; and Chief Edet Ambang of Akwa Ibom Community, Lagos, delivered goodwill messages commending the Council Chairman for restoring power to Eyufuo and recognising his visionary and transformative leadership. They expressed their commitment to supporting him in the 2027 general elections.

The event was attended by the Vice Chairman, Hon. Arit Ambit; Leader of Legislative, Council Hon. Sunday Eyo; Council Secretary, Mr. Amana Henshaw; former PDP Chapter Chairman, Hon. Okpo Edeke, and the 2023 APC State House of Assembly candidate, Barr. Effiong Oboho, along with councillors and supervisors.



# Oron: Enweme Inspects Projects, Demands Swift Completion



he Chairman of Oron Local Government area, Hon. Okon Enweme, has urged contractors handling ongoing projects to expedite work and ensure timely delivery.

The Chairman gave the instruction on Monday, November 10, while on a tour of project site across the area.

Hon. Enweme first visited the ARISE-Youth Friendly Centre, a flagship project under Pastor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, where he lauded the Governor's visionary leadership in infrastructure, empowerment, and human capacity development.

At the Administrative Block in the council, the Chairman said, "I am impressed with the progress so far, but I charge you to redouble your efforts and ensure completion before the end of January. We are building a world-class municipal complex for the people."

On their part, the contractors assured Hon. Enweme of their commitment to quality and timely delivery, pledging to meet the Council and community expectations.

Local Government Service; Engr. Asuquo Asuquo, Council Secretary; Chief Ulap Victor Joe, Chief of Staff; the Director of Finance; and other Special Assistants.



He was accompanied by, Mrs. Grace Ekpo, Head of



# Nsit Atai: Nyong Reaffirms Commitment to ARISE Agenda, Calls for Grassroots Unity

Chairman of Nsit Atai Local Government Area, Hon. Anthony Nyong, has reaffirmed his commitment to Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, with focus on agriculture, а r development, healthcare, and grassroots governance.



Hon. Nyong made the pledge when he received a delegation of Ward Personal Assistants (PAs) to the Governor during a courtesy visit to his office in Odot, Nsit Atai. He thanked God for the privilege to serve and commended the PAs for their loyalty, solidarity, and support.

He further urged the PAs to maintain diligence, humility, and dedication, emphasising that collaboration among stakeholders is essential for achieving a united and progressive Nsit Atai.

The Dean of Ward PAs, Hon. Reuben Ibia, said the visit aimed to identify with the Chairman and appreciate his developmental efforts, while pledging

continued support for Governor Eno's administration and the 2027 re-election bid.

The visit concluded with the presentation of a souvenir to Hon. Nyong in recognition of his visionary leadership and commitment to grassroots development.





# Esit Eket Chairman Commits to People-Centered Governance at 2026 Budget Consult



he Chairman of Esit Eket Local Government Area, Hon. Uduak Ikot, has reiterated her administration's commitment to effective and inclusive governance.

Hon. Ikot made the commitment recently during the 2026 budget stakeholders' consultation, held at Udo Edukere Hall, Esit Eket Council Secretariat, Uquo.

Represented by Vice Chairman, Rt. Hon. Eddy Etangkanga, the Chairman

commended stakeholders for actively shaping development priorities in their communities. She assured that her administration will sustain the cordial relationship and continue delivering peace and development, in line with Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda.

In her goodwill message, Mrs. Ime Akpan, representing the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, praised the Chairman for her judicious implementation of the 2025 budget and timely

2026 consultation, describing her as a compassionate leader committed to grassroots progress.

The session featured a presentation on the legal framework for stakeholder engagement by Mr. Victor Edet, Director General of the Akwa Ibom State Fiscal Responsibility Board, a review of 2025 budget implementation, and a breakout session to capture community needs and project proposals at the ward level.





## COME, LET US ADORE HIM TOGETHER IN SONGS OF CHRISTMAS!



### Theme:

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people." (Luke 1:68)

▲ 19th Dec. 2025 \ 7pm

## **Amphitheater**

Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo- Akwa Ibom State



### **TOP 10 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE STATE**



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





- Proposed Oil and Gas Free Trade Zone
- 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 lbom Hotels and Golf Resort etc





#### LARGE GAS RESERVES

- Abundance of natural gasInvestment 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.



### For more info contact

Office of the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Trade & Investment, Idongesit Nkanga Secretariat Complex, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State

### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

#### **Publisher**

Ministry of Information Akwa Ibom State

### **Editor-In-Chief**

Hon. Aniekan Umanah

### **Editorial Adviser**

Akparawa James Edet

### **Editor**

Aniekan Ukpong

#### **Associate Editors**

Inibeghe Etuk Udeme Inyang

### Writers

Imaobong Ekarika Edifon Abasiobot Mfonobong Ukpong

### Graphics

Nsikan Ekwere Edidiong George Church Michael

### **Photography**

Idara Adiakpan Stanley Etim Itoro Iwok



# EXPERIENCE



PERFORMANCES BY OVER 70 ARTISTS

> OVER 2 MILLION TOURIST FOOTPRINT

> > **OVER 1,000 JOBS**

Music | drama | cultural display comedy | games | talent shows outdoor catering | lounging

1st DEC. 2025 1st JAN. 2025

DAYS OF UNBUNDLED FUN

Akwa Ibom

Carols Festival

19th Dec. 2025

**Amphitheatre** 

Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo- Akwa Ibom State



It is for the benefit of the general public to **call in for help** and **volunteer actionable information** on black spots and criminal elements to enable ops response

## CALL OUR

# INFO HOTLINE 070 000 1

