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ARISE

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Renewed Hope Estate Takes Off in A'ibom as Gov Eno Performs Groundbreaking

• Assures full collaboration with FG on Housing Devt



Gov Eno Tasks Oriental Energy on Local Content for Akwa Ibom People

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Governor Umo Eno, on Thursday, November 6, performed the groundbreaking ceremony of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) Renewed Hope Estate at Ekpene Ukim in Uruan Local Government Area, marking the official commencement of President Bola Tinubu's Housing Project in the State.

Governor Eno described the initiative as a clear demonstration of productive collaboration between the State and Federal governments, expressing



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19th Dec. 2025

appreciation to President Tinubu and the Federal Housing Authority for selecting Akwa Ibom as the flag-off point for the project.

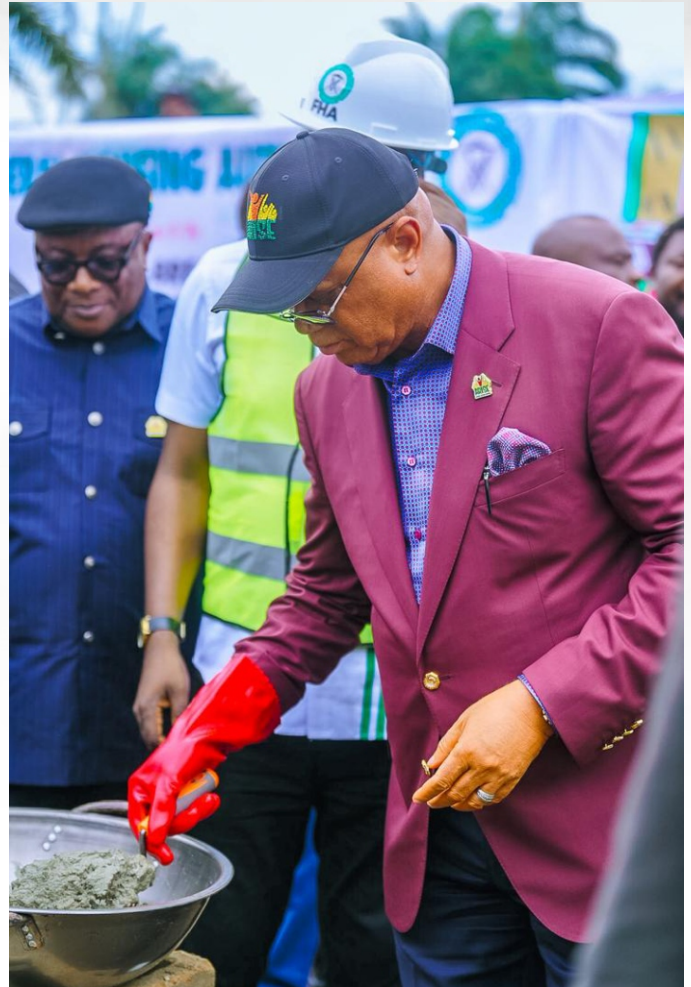
He emphasised that the project was in tandem with his administration's commitment to reducing housing deficit in the State and improving citizens' living standards, noting that it represents a model for future inter-governmental partnerships.

The Governor announced the allocation of an additional 50 hectares of land to the Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to support further expansion of the housing scheme. He also assured the project managers of government backing, including the provision of access roads, security, and other logistics to ensure smooth and timely completion.

"We thank the Federal Housing Authority for their collaboration and for making Akwa Ibom the first State where the Renewed Hope Estate is being launched. I am deeply grateful to President Bola Tinubu for approving this project across the country," Governor Eno stated.

Earlier, the Chairman of Uruan Local Government Council, Hon. Iniobong Ekpenyong, commended both President Tinubu and Governor Eno for bringing the Renewed Hope project to the area. He pledged the local government's full cooperation, particularly in ensuring the security and successful execution of the project.

Also speaking, the Chairman, Commissioning Committee and Estate Services, Arch. Ezekiel Nya-



Etok, hailed Governor Eno's uncommon commitment to collaboration and result-oriented governance, describing the project as another proof of his promise-keeping leadership.

The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Housing Authority, Hon. Oyetunde Ojo, expressed delight that Akwa Ibom was chosen to host the first Renewed Hope Estate, attributing the decision to the state's exceptional hospitality and development-friendly environment.



Goodwill messages were also delivered by the Board Chairman of Ibom Mortgage Bank and the Managing Director of FMHA Mortgage Bank Ltd, who both applauded the President and the Governor for jointly expanding access to affordable housing. They prayed for continued wisdom and success for both leaders as they work towards improving citizens' welfare through sustainable housing initiatives.

GOV ENO FLAGS OFF RENEWED HOPE HOUSING ESTATE AT EKPENE UKIM, URUAN LGA.



Gov Eno Fulfils Promise on AKBC Upgrade, Signs Pact for Integrated Broadcasting Project

In a major step towards overhauling the State's information and communication infrastructure, Governor Umo Eno, on Wednesday, November 5, entered into a partnership with MediaGuru Consultant, LLC, Dubai, for the transformation of the Akwa Ibom Broadcasting Corporation (AKBC), into a world-class integrated broadcast station.

The agreement, signed at Government House, Uyo, underscores the administration's commitment to modernising the State-owned media outfit and enhancing its capacity to deliver high-quality broadcasting services comparable to international standards.

Governor Eno, who was represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah, explained that the contract covers consultancy, design, procurement, and installation of cutting-edge broadcast equipment. He emphasised that the initiative aligns with his campaign pledge to reposition AKBC as a major communication hub in Nigeria.



"I want to welcome everyone to the signing ceremony of this agreement between the Akwa Ibom State Government and MediaGuru Consultant, LLC, for the provision of consultancy, design, procurement, and installation of broadcast equipment for AKBC," the Governor stated.

He expressed optimism that the project, upon completion, will not only strengthen the State's broadcast capacity but also project the image and achievements of Akwa Ibom people to the global audience through professional and competitive media services.

Speaking at the event, the Director General of AKBC, Mrs. Imaobong Udoh, lauded Governor Eno for demonstrating visionary leadership and fulfilling his promise to revolutionise the State's broadcast sector. She described the agreement as a historic milestone in the evolution of AKBC.

According to her, "The management and staff of the Corporation are excited to witness the commencement of a transformation that will position AKBC in its rightful place among top broadcast stations in Nigeria and beyond."

The signing ceremony was attended by the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, other government officials, and members of the AKBC management and staff, who commended the Governor for his forward-looking approach to media development in the State.



AKSG AND MEDIAGURU CONSULTANT, LLC DUBAI, SIGN AGREEMENT ON AKBC INTEGRATED PROJECT



AKSG Approves N1.39 Trillion Budget for 2026 Fiscal Year

• *Ratifies key infrastructure, healthcare, investment decisions at enlarged exco meeting*



The Akwa Ibom State Government, has approved a total budget size of ₦1.390 trillion for the 2026 fiscal year.

The budget proposal, was approved for onward transmission to the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, on Wednesday, November 5, during an enlarged State Exco meeting presided over by Governor Umo Eno at Government House, Uyo.

Welcoming members and other attendees, including Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Extra-Ministerial Departments, Governor Eno, noted that the budget, anchored on deepening the dividends of the ARISE Agenda, prioritises agricultural development, rural transformation, infrastructure expansion, education, tourism growth, healthcare advancement, economic diversification, and environmental sustainability.

The approved 2026 fiscal plan, emphasises the completion of ongoing flagship projects, job creation through Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) support and tourism promotion, improvement in transportation through the deployment of CNG buses and ferries, as well as the promotion of transparency, fiscal discipline, and human capital development, particularly for women, youths, and vulnerable groups.

Urging continued dedication and commitment to the effective implementation of the ARISE Agenda for sustainable growth and inclusive development across the State, the government also ratified the approval of the Finance and General Purpose Committee (FGPC) on various projects, including the upward review of the total project cost for the Aviation Village at the Victor Attah International Airport.

In another major decision, Council endorsed the FGPC's approval for the consultancy, design, procurement, and installation of broadcast equipment and system integration for AKBC Television and Radio, awarded to a MediaGuru LLC, Dubai. The move aims at enhancing broadcast quality and strengthening the corporation's

technical capacity.

Following a presentation by the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John on the ongoing State of Emergency in the Health Sector, the State government approved the immediate deployment of re-engaged retired health workers on contract to health facilities across the State. The Ministry of Health was also directed to commence work on eight General Hospitals, 29 Primary Healthcare Centres, and the Molecular Diagnostics/State Public Health Laboratory and Isolation Centre, while Tuesday, November 18, was approved as new date for the commissioning of the General Hospital, Ukanafun.

In a significant step to reclaim valuable State assets, approval was given for the release of ₦4.15 billion to Anchor Insurance Limited to recover prime properties earlier exchanged during the company's recapitalisation process. The Governor further directed the appointment of a reputable estate valuer to assess the Lagos-based properties and mandated APICO and AKICORP to work collaboratively in converting such assets into wealth-generating ventures for the State.

Additionally, reports were received from AKICORP on the financial health of State-owned financial institutions with directive that the management of each institution should appear before the Executive Council in subsequent meetings for detailed presentations.

The Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Uko Udom, SAN, also presented proposed Executive Bills, including the Domestication and Harmonization of Taxes and Levies Bill and the Akwa Ibom State Property Tax Law, in line with the newly enacted National Tax Act. Also approved, was the transmission of the bills to the State House of Assembly for legislative consideration and passage. A related briefing from AKIRS outlined the implications of the new tax regime for the State's fiscal framework.

Commending the outgoing Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien for his meritorious service to the State, Governor Eno and Council members wished him continued success in his future endeavours. The news of the demise of a respected senior cleric in the State, Rev. Emmanuel Ossom was received, and members directed to pay a condolence visit to the bereaved family while praying for the peaceful repose of his soul.



First Lady's Office Unveils Major Tech Training Drive for A'lbom Women

The Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, and Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Golden Initiative for All (GIFA), Lady Helen Obareki, has reiterated her dedication to advancing women's leadership in technology.

Lady Obareki made this known while announcing a major partnership, aimed at training 500 women in Akwa Ibom annually in essential digital and innovation skills.

Making the announcement during the GIFA Women in Tech Breakfast Roundtable with the theme, "Empowering Women in Tech: From Aspiring to Leadership," held on Wednesday, November 5, at Breakforth Hotel, Uyo, the Coordinator noted that the initiative serves as a strategic platform for female tech professionals, entrepreneurs, and innovators to engage on pathways to enhance women's participation in the technology ecosystem.

She disclosed that the collaboration between GIFA, Mosaic, and Afrilabs, the largest pan-African network of technology hubs and innovation centres, will provide training opportunities in critical areas such as software development, data analysis, and innovation management. According to her, the programme is designed to equip participants with market-relevant digital skills that will empower them to actively drive the State's digital economy.

"We are launching an intensive, year-round programme to train 500 Akwa Ibom women in technology-driven fields. Our vision is to create a pipeline of female developers, data analysts, and innovators who will not just participate in, but lead, the digital transformation of our State," Lady Obareki stated.

Emphasising the importance of women occupying leadership positions in technology, Lady Obareki noted that greater female representation in boardrooms and policymaking spaces enhances innovation outcomes. She further reaffirmed GIFA's resolve to break barriers limiting



women's participation in science and technology through mentorship, early access to resources, and structured skills development programmes.

Lady Obareki further described the roundtable as a significant contribution to Akwa Ibom's innovation and digital transformation agenda, commending the impressive turnout of female professionals. Their participation, according to her, was a demonstration of growing confidence in women's capacity to lead in the digital future of Akwa Ibom and Nigeria at large.

She called on women already excelling in technology to extend mentorship and create pathways for younger women, championing parity and advocacy for female advancement in the sector. Lady Obareki also reaffirmed her office's readiness to collaborate with local and international organisations to expand GIFA's literacy, learning, and empowerment initiatives across all Local Government Areas.



Earlier, the Chairman of the 2025 Akwa Ibom Tech Week Planning Committee, Mrs. Eno-Abasi Emah, explained that the GIFA Women in Tech Roundtable was convened to deliberate on challenges confronting women in the tech industry, share success stories, and design actionable solutions. The interactive session, she observed, also sought to strengthen collaboration among female leaders and stakeholders working to promote gender inclusion in the technology ecosystem.

GIFA – WOMEN IN TECH ROUNDTABLE



HoS Monitors Ongoing CBT Exam, Affirms Transparent Recruitment Process

The Head of Civil Service, Elder Effiong Essien, has assured candidates participating in the ongoing Akwa Ibom State Civil Service Recruitment Computer-Based Test (CBT), of a credible, foolproof, and merit-driven selection process.

Elder Essien gave the assurance on Tuesday, November 4, during a visit to the examination centre at the Civil Service Auditorium, Idongesit Nkanga Secretariat, Uyo.

Explaining that the CBT marks the beginning of the recruitment test for candidates in the teaching, mainstream, and health service cadres, the HoS emphasised that the computer-based method has enhanced orderliness, transparency, and fairness in the recruitment process.

He commended Governor Umo Eno for introducing innovative measures that have redefined recruitment process, noting that the inclusion of a Mock Test prior to the ARISE CBT Main Examination, allowed candidates to familiarise themselves with the process.

Elder Essien further disclosed that the examination is structured in daily batches to ensure smooth coordination and effective supervision. He expressed satisfaction with the conduct of the exercise and



lauded the cooperation of the candidates.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Science and Digital Economy, Dr. Frank Ekpenyong, expressed delight over the orderly conduct of candidates and the smooth operation of the CBT process. He explained that each candidate undergoes verification before being admitted into the examination hall, and upon completion, receives their test scores instantly, both on screen and via email.

Dr. Ekpenyong clarified that the recruitment exercise extends beyond the CBT, as data generated from the test will be forwarded to the Civil Service Commission to determine qualified applicants for subsequent interview stages. He assured all applicants that those who applied for the recruitment will be scheduled to take part in the CBT.



Some candidates who spoke to newsmen applauded the transparent and well-organised process. They lauded the State government for providing a conducive environment that guarantees equal opportunity for all applicants. The CBT, they noted, reflects the government's commitment to reforming the civil service recruitment process and ensuring a fair, technology-driven system.

THE HEAD OF CIVIL SERVICE, ELDER EFFIONG ESSIEN MONITORS THE CIVIL SERVICE RECRUITMENT – CBT EXAMINATION



A'lbom, Rotary Int'l Forge Strategic Alliance to Boost Healthcare Delivery



The State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has reiterated his administration's commitment to improving healthcare delivery through strategic collaboration with reputable international organisations, including Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation.

Governor Eno gave the assurance on Tuesday, November 4, while receiving members of the Rotary International, led by the Trustee Chairman of the Rotary Foundation, Mr. Holger Knaack, on a courtesy visit at Government House, Uyo.

The Governor, who is a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club, commended the Foundation for selecting Akwa Ibom as a pilot State for the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, describing the initiative as timely and fully aligned with his administration's ARISE Agenda.

He noted that the partnership complements the State's healthcare priorities, especially the ARISE Healthcare Initiative, which focuses on reducing maternal and child mortality, and pledged the government's readiness to collaborate with Rotary International to enhance the wellbeing of Akwa Ibom citizens.

Governor Eno highlighted that his administration has embarked on extensive rehabilitation and construction of primary healthcare centres across all 31 local government areas, to make quality healthcare services accessible to residents. He further revealed that the State recently awarded its largest-ever single healthcare contract for the

construction of an International Medical Centre, aimed at positioning Akwa Ibom as a leading hub for medical tourism in the region.

Earlier in his remarks, the Country Lead of the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, Mr. Dele Balogun, explained that the initiative seeks to support Akwa Ibom's healthcare programmes by tackling preventable childhood diseases such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, and malaria. He added that trained volunteers will conduct community sensitisation and provide free testing and treatment for common illnesses.

Mr. Balogun further disclosed that Akwa Ibom's selection for the project followed recommendations by the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency, with sponsorship from the Rotary Foundation and other international partners, while expressing appreciation for the government's proactive support.

In his remarks, the Trustee Chairman of the Rotary Foundation, Mr. Holger Knaack, reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to supporting Nigeria's healthcare goals and sustaining the global fight against polio. He later decorated Governor Eno with the prestigious Rotary pin in recognition of his leadership.

The Rotary delegation also toured the ARISE Palm Resort, where they commended the visionary strides of the Governor in tourism and sustainable development.



Gov Eno Tasks Oriental Energy on Local Content for Akwa Ibom People

• *Guarantees Safe Operating Environment*



Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eni, has charged Oriental Energy Resources to prioritize local content participation and ensure that Akwa Ibom people, particularly those from the host communities, benefit fully from the company's operations in the State.

Governor Eni made the call while delivering his remarks on Saturday, November 8, at the Sail Away Ceremony of the EMEM FPSO held in Dubai, describing the event as a landmark moment in Nigeria's oil and gas sector and a reaffirmation of Akwa Ibom's leading role as a key oil-producing state.

The Governor explained that the EMEM FPSO, owned by Oriental Energy, will be deployed to Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) 15, in Akwa Ibom State, where it will handle crude oil production, processing, and offloading operations from the Okwok Field in Mbo Local Government Area.

He noted that the name Emem, which means peace, beautifully reflects Akwa Ibom's development philosophy, rooted in peace, hospitality, and a firm commitment to creating an environment that attracts investors and fosters sustainable growth.

Governor Eni reaffirmed his administration's commitment to working closely with Oriental Energy but urged the company to deepen its partnership with the State by aligning its operations with the provisions of the Nigerian Content Act and other relevant regulations. He appealed to the company to establish a functional office in Uyo to coordinate operations from the State headquarters.

The Governor also encouraged Oriental Energy to engage

qualified Akwa Ibom professionals in its management and technical operations, highlighting the State's large pool of well-trained and experienced manpower in the oil and gas sector. He further emphasized that host communities, particularly Effiat and Mbo, must benefit from employment opportunities, contracts, and social projects arising from the company's activities.

Reflecting on the importance of his presence at the event, Governor Eni said:

"For me to fly the distance and be here in person underscores the importance we place as a government in encouraging investors to come and work in Akwa Ibom. But in doing this, the interests of our people must be placed in the upper echelon of things."

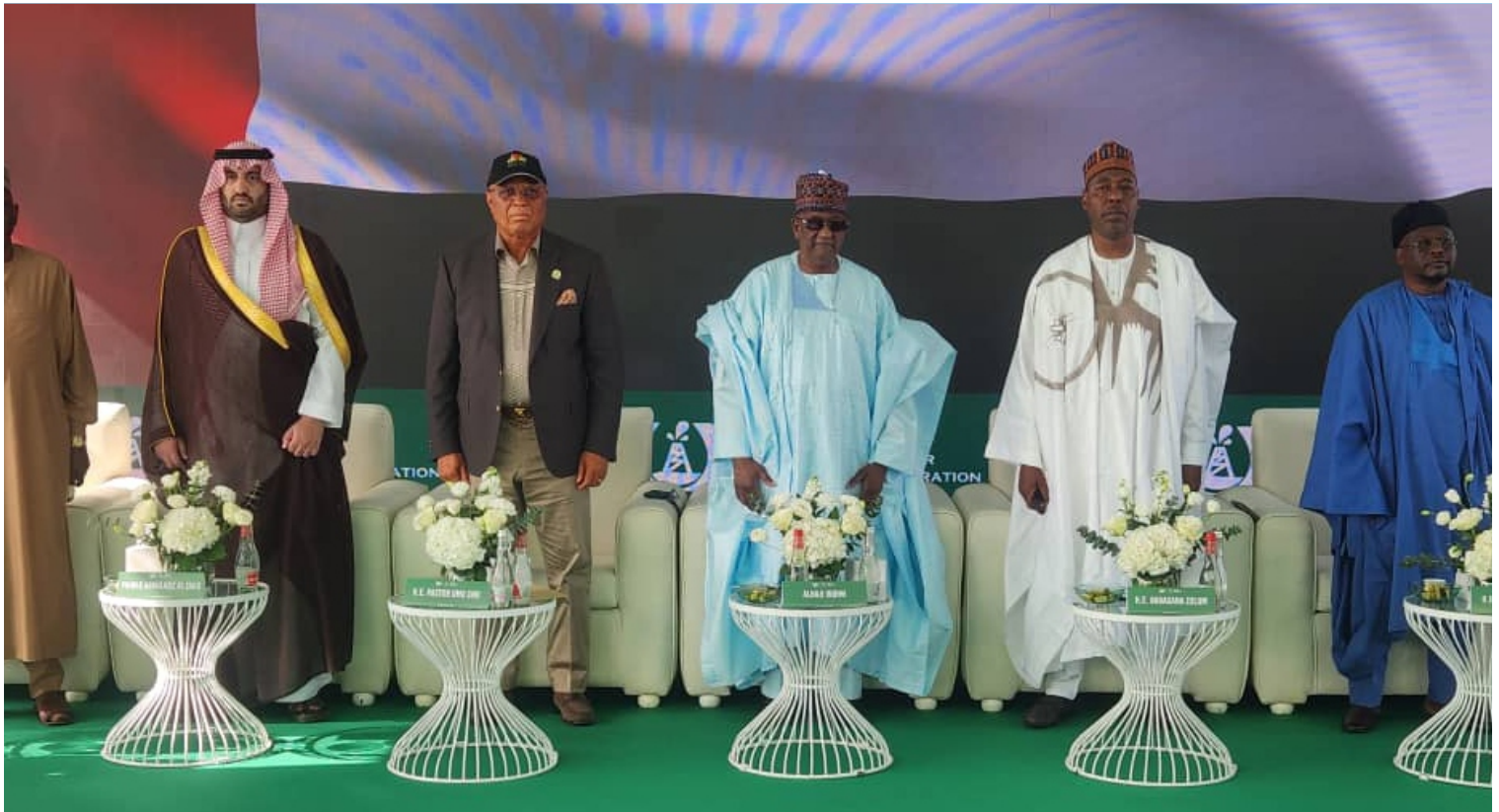
Governor Eni also reaffirmed his government's unwavering commitment to maintaining peace and security, which he described as the foundation of the State's economic transformation under the ARISE Agenda.

"As a government, we will continue to provide security and maintain a peaceful operating environment for your company's success. Akwa Ibom is open for business, and we stand ready to partner with serious investors to promote mutual growth and development," the Governor stated.

He commended Oriental Energy for its confidence in Akwa Ibom and assured that his administration will sustain policies that enhance the ease of doing business and attract more investors to the State.



GOV UMO ENO ATTENDS THE SAIL AWAY CEREMONY OF EMEM FPSO, OWNED BY ORIENTAL ENERGY RESOURCES, HELD IN DUBAI



SGF Office Pledges Partnership with Pastor Eno on Strategic Devt Initiatives



The Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF), has expressed readiness to partner with the Akwa Ibom State Government under Governor Umo Eno's leadership on key development initiatives, aimed at improving the welfare of citizens and advancing growth.

The assurance was given by the Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Affairs, OSGF, Dr. Emanso Umobong, on Monday, November 3, during a courtesy visit by the Special Assistants to the Governor on Mobilization, Abuja, at her office.

Expressing appreciation to the delegation for the visit, Dr. Umobong reaffirmed her commitment to supporting Governor Eno's development vision. She disclosed ongoing efforts made at attracting life-changing federal projects to Akwa Ibom, including the reconstruction of major roads currently being handled by the Federal Government.

The Permanent Secretary further assured that her office would work closely with the Governor's Special Assistants on Mobilization, Abuja, to bring more federal empowerment programmes and social investment schemes to the State. She also revealed plans to collaborate with relevant ministries to ensure greater inclusion of Akwa Ibom indigenes in federal development initiatives.

Dr. Umobong described the visit as strategic and timely, underscoring the importance of deepening collaboration between the Federal and State governments for improved access to information, partnerships, and

opportunities from the national level.

In his remarks, Comrade Iwok, who led the delegation, congratulated Dr. Umobong on her appointment and described her as one of Akwa Ibom's illustrious daughters making the State proud at the federal level. He explained that the purpose of the visit was to strengthen ties and explore areas of collaboration that would enhance mobilisation efforts in promoting both Governor Eno's ARISE Agenda and President Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda.

Comrade Iwok further identified three key areas of potential collaboration, including mobilising support for Federal Government programmes, building the capacity of State institutions and stakeholders, and facilitating policy exchange between the Federal and State governments.

Also speaking, Hon. Mmemabong Ekuinam, Special Assistant to the Governor on Mobilization, commended the synergy between the Presidency and State Governors in implementing the Renewed Hope Agenda at the grassroots level. She appealed for stronger collaboration and exchange of information on federal policies to enable Akwa Ibom citizens living in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) benefit from empowerment initiatives and social investment programmes.

In his vote of thanks, Mr. Eto-Abasi Okokon, Director of Public Affairs and Bilateral Relations in the OSGF, and patron of the Akwa Ibom Community, Abuja, lauded the delegation for fostering a constructive link between the State and the Federal government. He commended the Governor's aides for their initiative and encouraged sustained engagement for mutual development.

Attendance included, Mr. Emmanuel Agber, Special Assistant to the Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Affairs, officials from the Akwa Ibom State Liaison Office, Abuja, and other stakeholders.



Gov Eno Felicitates Reuben Abati at 60

• Commends his enduring contributions to journalism, governance



He commended Dr. Abati's distinguished career in journalism and public communication, particularly his service as Presidential Spokesman, where he played a pivotal role in shaping national narratives and policy discourse. According to the Governor, Dr. Abati's professionalism and insight have continued to elevate public understanding of governance and democracy.

The State Chief Executive, further acknowledged the celebrator's constructive engagement with the Akwa Ibom development agenda, noting that his objective commentaries and media advocacy have been instrumental in fostering positive national attention towards the State. "Let me thank you for the constructive engagement you have extended to us as we galvanise our people to arise and expand the frontiers of development," he stated.

Expressing optimism that the cordial relationship between Dr. Abati and the Akwa Ibom State Government would continue to flourish, Pastor Eno wished him good health, renewed strength, and many more years of impactful service to the nation.

The celebration drew an array of distinguished Nigerians, members of the diplomatic corps, and leading figures in the media industry. Notable attendees included, former Ogun State Governor, Aremo Osoba; Publisher of ThisDay Newspapers, Prince Nduka Obaigbena; the Alake of Egbaland, Oba Adedotun Gbadebo; former Minister of Health, Prince Julius Adelusi-Adeluyi; Publisher of The Guardian, Lady Maiden Alex-Ibru; Abia State Governor, Dr. Alex Otti; and the Group Chief Branding and Communications Officer of Dangote Industries Limited, Mr. Anthony Chiejina, who represented Alhaji Aliko Dangote, President of the Dangote Group.

The State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has extended warm felicitations to veteran journalist, author, and broadcaster, Dr. Reuben Abati, on the occasion of his 60th birthday and the public presentation of his latest books, "How Jonathan Became President" and "A Love Letter and Other Stories."

Governor Eno also described Dr. Abati as a "purpose-driven intellectual and patriot, whose distinguished career has continued to enrich national discourse and governance."

The celebration, which held on Friday, October 5, at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), Lagos, was a gathering of eminent personalities, chaired by former President Goodluck Jonathan, with former President Olusegun Obasanjo serving as Father of the Day and the Catholic Bishop of Sokoto Diocese, Matthew Kukah, as Guest Speaker.

Represented at the occasion by the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, who was accompanied by the Chief Press Secretary to the Governor, Mr. Ekerete Udoh, Governor Eno delivered a goodwill message on behalf of the Government and people of Akwa Ibom State, expressing deep admiration for Abati's multifaceted contributions to national development.

The Governor praised the sexagenarian for a life of consistent impact across academia, journalism, law, and public service, noting that his work has profoundly shaped Nigeria's intellectual and democratic landscape. "At 60, you have lived a purpose-driven life, first as an academic exuding deep intellectual flourishes, a policy expert simplifying complex ideas for effective governance, and as a lawyer safeguarding the ideals of justice," the Governor said.



Info Ministry Urges ANPA to Deepen Partnership in Promoting ARISE Agenda, Democratic Gains

• *Commends community newspapers as vital link to the grassroots*

The Amalgamated Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA), has been urged to sustain its collaboration with the State government in disseminating information and enlightening the public on the dividends of democracy through Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda.

The Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, gave the charge when he received members of the Central Planning Committee (CPC) of the 2025 ANPA Week on a courtesy visit to his office on Thursday, November 6.



Describing community newspapers as the heartbeat of journalism and the most effective medium for grassroots engagement, Rt. Hon. Umanah encouraged publishers to remain steadfast in their role of highlighting government programmes and promoting the ARISE vision for sustainable development.

He lauded Governor Eno's commitment to the media sector, citing the recent signing of the contract for the construction and system integration of the ultra-modern AKBC complex, an achievement he described as a landmark development for both the government and the media community.

Commending the leadership of ANPA for fostering professionalism, unity, and collaboration among local publishers, the Commissioner assured the association of the State government's continued partnership and support under the media-friendly leadership of the Governor. He further pledged the ministry's assistance in

ensuring the success of the forthcoming 2025 ANPA Week.

Earlier in his remarks, the Chairman of the ANPA CPC, Elder Patrick Albert, acknowledged the existing partnership with the government and the ministry, noting its impact during the inauguration of the Pastor Osuini-Abasi Alfred-led executive earlier in July.

He announced that the 2025 ANPA Week, scheduled for November 9–13, will feature the installation of Governor Umo Eno as ANPA Grand Patron and conferment of the Golden Award of Pillar of Unity in Akwa Ibom State on him. Rt. Hon. Umanah and former University of Uyo Vice Chancellor, Prof. Enefiok Essien, are expected to deliver the keynote address and sub-theme lecture respectively.

Elder Albert outlined key activities for the week, including a free medical outreach, visits to orphanages and government projects, and an interactive evening with newspaper distributors and vendors, among others. He emphasised that community newspapers remain vital for amplifying local voices, driving economic growth, and deepening democracy.



In a vote of thanks, the Permanent Secretary, Akparawa James Edet, lauded ANPA for complementing the information management efforts of the ministry, and reaffirmed continued collaboration. He cautioned media professionals to ensure that "breaking news should not break the society."

Nsit Ibom: Aaron Vows to Upgrade Ikot Obio Etan Facilities, Launches New Empowerment Initiatives

The Chairman of Nsit Ibom Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. Otobong Aaron, has reaffirmed her administration's commitment to grassroots development, pledging to upgrade key facilities and introduce new empowerment programmes in Ikot Obio Etan community.

Aaron made this known during the 2025 Ikot Obio Etan Day Celebration and Grand Reception, held in her honour on Wednesday, November 5, at the Adult School.



and support for their daughter. He urged them to continue cooperating with the Chairman to achieve more developmental goals.



Also speaking, Hon. Godwin Okponung, and the ALGON Chairman Hon. Uwemedimo Udo both applauded the honour conferred on Rt. Hon. Aaron for her people-oriented leadership and called for sustained support.

The highlight of the event was the conferment of the traditional title, "Eka Esit Mbom of Ikot Obio Etan" on Rt. Hon. Otobong Aaron by the Village Council, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to community development and service to humanity.

The Council Chairman, who announced plans to transform the Adult Education School into a full-fledged Skill Acquisition Centre and to construct a modern Civic Centre for the community, urged youths to embrace skill development, assuring that trained indigenes would benefit from empowerment grants and equipment.

The Chairman of the occasion and former Speaker of the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Anietie Etuk commended the people of Ikot Obio Etan for their unity



Nigerian Legion Akwa Ibom Gets New Chairman, Comrade Uwemedimo Bassey



The Nigerian Legion, Akwa Ibom State Command, has inaugurated a new leadership team, led by Comrade Uwemedimo Bassey, following a transparent and credible election held on Thursday, October 30, at the Women Development Centre, IBB Way, Uyo.

The exercise, which brought an end to the tenure of the previous executive, was witnessed by top government officials, veterans, and representatives from the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare.

In her goodwill message, the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Welfare, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo congratulated the newly elected officers for their emergence through a fair and inclusive process. She commended the Nigerian Legion for demonstrating unity and discipline, which according to her, are essential values of military service and leadership.

Describing the election as a milestone in the Legion's history, Hon. Etukudo maintained that the process reflected the organisation's commitment to democratic ideals and the pursuit of capable leadership. She lauded the Legion's continued service to the nation through the care and support it extends to veterans and their families.

Represented by the Director of Economic Services, Barr. Nkechi Udoh, the Commissioner further applauded the electoral officers from Abuja, Mrs. Loretta Amadi and Mrs. Comfort Asiya, for their professionalism and impartial conduct during the polls. She reaffirmed the ministry's readiness to strengthen collaboration with the Nigerian Legion to promote the welfare and economic empowerment of ex-servicemen,

widows, and dependents across Akwa Ibom.

Delivering his valedictory address, the outgoing State Chairman, Comrade Joseph Esu, expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare for its consistent support throughout his administration. He thanked members of the Legion for the privilege to serve, urging them to extend the same cooperation to the new leadership.

Comrade Uwemedimo Bassey emerged as the new State Chairman after polling 22 votes to defeat his opponent, Comrade Imo Akpabio, who garnered eight votes. Other elected officers included, Comrade Edumoh Ekeredu, Vice Chairman and Comrade Etim Okodi, Treasurer, both of whom were elected unopposed, while Comrade Ubong Aniana was appointed as the State Secretary.

In his acceptance speech, Comrade Bassey pledged to promote patriotism, unity, and civic responsibility among members of the Legion. He assured that his administration would prioritise the welfare of veterans, widows, and their dependents while fostering development initiatives that would uplift the organisation and its members.

The election, conducted in accordance with the Nigerian Legion Act No. 37 of 1988, concluded with the formal swearing-in of the new executive, the presentation of certificates of return, and a group photograph. The peaceful transition marked a renewed era of dedicated leadership focused on service, welfare, and national development within the Nigerian Legion, Akwa Ibom State Command.



Ikono: Essien Reaffirms Readiness to Collaborate On Cocoa Development Initiative



The Chairman of Ikono Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. Oto-obong Essien, has reaffirmed her administration's readiness to collaborate with relevant stakeholders to promote cocoa cultivation and enhance agricultural productivity in the area.

Rt. Hon. Essien made this known on Tuesday, November 4, while receiving the leadership of the Cocoa Association of Nigeria (CAN), Akwa Ibom State Chapter, led by its Chairman, Akparawa Etieno Offor, during a courtesy visit at the council secretariat, Ibiaku Ntok Okpo.

She commended the association for choosing Ikono as a partner in the proposed cocoa farm initiative, noting that the project aligns with her agenda to promote agricultural development and economic empowerment at the grassroots.

The Council Chairman assured the delegation of her administration's support and dedication to investing in and

promoting initiatives that improve livelihoods and strengthen the local economy. She encouraged the association to provide updates once a suitable location for the farm is identified, so that the council can offer necessary assistance.

Earlier, the CAN Chairman, Akparawa Etieno Offor, said the association identified Ikono as a potential cocoa-producing hub, citing the area's fertile land and the council's visible commitment to agriculture. He explained that the establishment of the cocoa farm would not only create jobs

but also contribute to food security and revenue generation.

The meeting was attended by key officials including the Vice Chairman, Hon. Ukai Bassey; Council Secretary, Hon. Bassey Umoh; Supervisor for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Hon. Patience Effiong; and Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Deacon Michael Akpan, among others.



Inter-Schools French Competition Celebrates Excellence in A'ibom



preparing students for global opportunities and collaboration.

The competition was coordinated under the leadership of Mrs. Lizzy Udoh, Director of the French Language Centre, and Mrs. Annie Bassey, Chairperson of the Nigeria Association of French Teachers (NAFT), Akwa Ibom State Chapter.

In their remarks, the organisers appreciated the Ministry of Education for its unwavering support and encouragement. They reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining the initiative, which aligns with the ARISE Agenda of Governor Eno, aimed at promoting educational excellence, youth empowerment, and cultural integration.

After a keenly contested competition, Methodist Secondary School, Ibiaku Ishiet, clinched the 1st position, followed by Radiant Hills Academy, Uyo, in 2nd place, and The Apostolic Church Model School, Uyo, which came 3rd.

The Nigeria Association of French Teachers (NAFT), in collaboration with the French Language Centre (FLC), Akwa Ibom State, successfully hosted the 2025 Inter-Schools French Competition on Thursday, October 30, at the Community Secondary School, Aka Offot, Uyo.

The event, which had the theme, "ARISE Agenda of Pastor Umo Bassey Eno (PhD)," brought together students from various schools to showcase their proficiency in the French language, cultural performances, and creative expressions.

The Commissioner for Education, Prof. Ubong Umoh, who commended the organisers for their dedication to advancing language education in the State, also emphasised that proficiency in international languages such as French plays a vital role in

Individual awards were also presented, with Emmanuella John of Classical Model Academy, Ikot Ekpene Udo, Nsit Ubium, emerging as the Best Performer, while Angela Victus of Brianna International School, Ifa Atai, Uyo, was named Best Dancer



Uyo Council Launches Drainage Intervention to Curb Flooding At Atiku Abubakar Flyover



the exercise reflects his administration's commitment to proactive service delivery and aligns with the ARISE Agenda of Governor Umo Eno, which prioritises cleaner, safer, and more resilient communities across the State.

Residents of the affected area have commended the Council for the swift response, describing it as a welcome relief to years of recurring flooding that often hindered movement and disrupted business activities.

The Uyo Local Government Council has launched a comprehensive drainage intervention to address the recurring flooding challenge in the Atiku Abubakar Flyover and its adjoining areas in Afaha Ube, Uyo.

Those present to supervise the operation included, the Council's Director of Works, Arc. Emmanuel Ekoh; Dean of Supervisors and Supervisor for Works, Obong Idara Akpan and other officials of the Council.

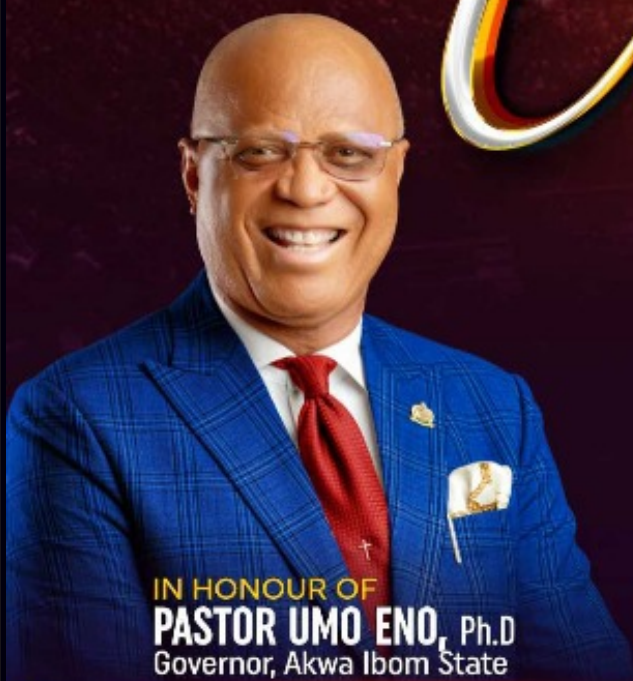
Following several reports and an on-the-spot assessment of the affected areas, the Chairman of Uyo Local Government Council, Hon. Uwemedimo Udo, on Wednesday, November 5, directed the Council's Department of Works to identify and tackle the root cause of water overflow that have been disrupting vehicular movement, weakening road surfaces, and affecting residents and businesses within the corridor.

According to Hon. Udo, the intervention involves clearing and desilting of blocked drainage channels and diverting floodwater to prevent future overflows, especially during heavy rainfall.

The Council Chairman emphasised that



Akwa Ibom UNITY Concert 2025



IN HONOUR OF
PASTOR UMO ENO, Ph.D
Governor, Akwa Ibom State



AITY DENNIS
Co-Convener



ARCHBISHOP
DR. EMMAH ISONG
Convener

THEME: IN HIM WE MOVE

PERFORMING:



Mercy
Chinwo



Moses
Bliss



Victor
Thompson



Progress
Effiong



John
Bassey



Queen
Favour



Reho
Sax



Bobby
Friga

ALSO PERFORMING:

► All Nations
Mass Choir

► Govt. House
Divine Voices

► De Awesome
Crew

► Young
Professionals

► IWC Choir

Date

6TH DECEMBER,
2025

INTERNATIONAL WORSHIP CENTRE
UYO, AKWA IBOM STATE

5PM
Prompt



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

Akwa Ibom
Christmas
Carols Festival

A graphic of musical notes and a treble clef in green and orange, positioned to the right of the title.

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

GOV ENO HOSTS THE TRUSTEE CHAIRMAN OF ROTARY FOUNDATION, HOLGER KNAACK.



THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION, RT. HON ANIEKAN UMANAH ON A WORKING VISIT TO AKWA IBOM BROADCASTING CORPORATION (AKBC), NTAK INYANG.



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.



For more info contact

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EXPERIENCE



Christmas

unplugged 3.0

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

Akwa Ibom
Christmas
Carols Festival
▲ 19th Dec. 2025

Amphitheatre
Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo- Akwa Ibom State

1st DEC. 2025
1st JAN. 2025

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DAYS OF
UNBUNDLED
FUN



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

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