

Christmas Home-Going: Gov Eno Reaffirms Commitment to Inclusive Governance

•Distributes bags of rice across villages of the State – Page 4

2025 Carols: Gov Eno Renews Call for Unity, Respect for Leaders

•Fulfils promise to Chris Vick – Page 6



ARISE

NEWS WEEKLY



December 18 - December 25, 2025 Vol. 1 No. 37 — A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

MERRY CHRISTMAS AKWA IBOM – Gov Eno



Gov Eno Reopens Ibom Plaza, Unveils Plan for Further Upgrade, Tighter Security

Governor Umo Eno, has announced plans to further beautify and expand facilities at the Ibom Plaza, in Uyo, as part of the tourism and urban renewal objectives of his ARISE Agenda.

Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has extended warm Christmas greetings to the people of the State at home and in the diaspora, urging them to embrace the season with gratitude, peace and love. He described Christmas as a time to reflect on the values of sacrifice, compassion and unity, which continue to guide his administration's people-centred approach to governance.

In a concise video message released on December 25, Governor Eno prayed for God's blessings upon the State and its people, encouraging a peaceful celebration filled with love, harmony and divine favour.

Speaking on Tuesday, December 23, during the re-opening of the remodeled plaza, Governor Eno praised the Chairman of the Uyo Capital City Development Authority (UCCDA), Rt. Hon. Anietie Eka, and his team for completing the project within the set timeline, assuring residents that more





development are underway.

The Governor said the plaza was deliberately reclaimed to serve as a modern city square where residents can gather for movies, football viewings and other forms of entertainment, adding that a master plan is being developed for the facility, including a proposed flyover and other befitting infrastructure.

Governor Eno also thanked the Commissioner of Police, CP Mohammed Azare, for approving a security outpost at the plaza to safeguard lives and property. He announced strict operating hours, stating that the plaza will open at 7.00 am and close at midnight, with arrests awaiting anyone found within the premises after closing time.

He stressed that the government will not tolerate criminal activities at the plaza, averring that the restoration aligns with the original vision of former Governor Obong Victor Attah, who conceptualised the plaza as a peaceful civic

centre.

The Governor further assured that facilities at the plaza, particularly the restrooms, will be professionally managed and properly maintained by the UCCDA, reaffirming his administration's commitment to tourism development and overall State growth.

In their separate remarks, the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dr. Anieti Udofia, and the Chairman of Uyo Local Government Council, Hon. Uwemedimo Udo, commended Governor Eno for restoring Ibom Plaza to its former glory, describing the project as a bold step in urban renewal and a boost to cultural and tourism development.

Providing an overview of the project, the UCCDA Chairman, Rt. Hon. Anietie Eka, recalled how the plaza had deteriorated into a haven for criminal activities before the intervention. He highlighted new features including art galleries, a security outpost with two Hilux patrol vehicles, LED screens for entertainment, and solar-powered lighting, thanking the Governor for the opportunity to implement his vision of repositioning Ibom Plaza as a major tourism hub.



GOV ENO RE-OPENS THE REHABILITATED IBOM PLAZA



Christmas Home-Going: Gov Eno Reaffirms Commitment to Inclusive Governance



As the Yuletide season unfolds, the State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has reaffirmed his commitment to people-centred, inclusive governance through the distribution of rice across the 31 LGAs.

Acting on the Governor's directive, members of the State Executive Council, local government chairmen and political aides on Saturday, December 20, embarked on a Christmas Home-Going celebration, with the aim of taking governance, compassion, and leadership directly to the grassroots.

The Home-going celebration which held simultaneously in all local government areas, featured the distribution of 40 bags of rice to each village across the State.

Speaking at the Oron Local Government Council Secretariat, the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, described the exercise as a deliberate and strategic effort by Governor Eno to ensure that Akwa Ibom people feel the tangible impact of government, particularly during the festive season.

She disclosed that the Governor specifically mandated her and other stakeholders to engage directly with the people, reassure them of their valued place within the ARISE Agenda, and foster a genuine sense of inclusion, love, and belonging during the Christmas season.

Senator Eyakenyi emphasised that the Christmas largesse was not a ceremonial gesture, but a practical demonstration of compassion, and responsive leadership. She charged village heads and community leaders to ensure equitable, transparent, and non-discriminatory distribution of the items to all segments of their communities.

The Deputy Governor further supported the Governor's initiative by donating an additional 100 bags of rice and cash gifts to her constituents.

Similarly, the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah convened the meeting for the people of Uyo Local Government Area at St. Patrick's Primary School, Abak Road, where himself and other stakeholders supported the exercise with N11 million and extra 900 bags of rice. Uwah assured the people of the Governor's commitment to their welfare, while urging them to support his re-election bid in 2027.



CHRISTMAS HOME GOING ACROSS THE 31 LGAS



2025 Carols: Gov Eno Renews Call for Unity, Respect for Leaders

•Fulfils promise to Chris Vick



Governor Umo Eno, has renewed call for unity, gratitude, and respect for leaders, stressing that honouring past and present leadership is key to unlocking the State's full development potential.

The Governor made the call during the 2025 Akwa Ibom Christmas Carols Festival, held at the Amphitheatre, Unity Park, Uyo, on Friday December 19.

Commending former leaders of the State for their enduring legacies, such as the Ibom International Airport and the annual Christmas Carol Festival as major milestones that have continued to drive tourism and economic growth, Governor Eno described the initiatives as inspiration to his administration, and pledged to sustain them for the collective good of the people.

He urged citizens to resist divisive narratives, noting that unity and appreciation of sacrifices made by past leaders would accelerate sustainable growth. The Governor reaffirmed his commitment to deepening their visions, emphasising that progress thrives where service is celebrated rather than dishonoured.

On national politics, the State Chief Executive pledged his administration's continued support for President Bola Tinubu and the Renewed Hope Agenda, describing it as vital to addressing Nigeria's economic, security, and governance challenges. He assured that Akwa

Ibom would stand firmly behind the President and work towards his re-election in 2027.

He also declared his support for the return of the Senate President, Senator Godswill Akpabio, in 2027, praising his leadership and contributions to the State and the nation. Governor Eno prayed for divine guidance as the country approaches another election cycle, urging leaders and citizens alike to choose truth, unity, and the path to victory.

Further praying for peace and oneness among Akwa Ibom people, the Governor called for the burial of long-standing animosities in favour of collective progress. He fulfilled his earlier promise to the visually impaired singer, Chris Vick, by presenting him with a landed property and Certificate of Occupancy, disclosing that construction of a four-bedroom flat was already underway.

In a sermon titled, "Divine Visitation," drawn from Luke 1:68, the General Secretary of the Assemblies of God, Rev. Godwin Amaowoh, charged Christians to trust God for impact and transformation, noting that the birth of Jesus signifies open doors to salvation and blessings.

The festival attracted dignitaries across party lines, including the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; Wife of the Senate President, Mrs. Ekaete-Unoma Akpabio; the Ooni of Ife, HRM Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi; top government officials, lawmakers, captains of industry, and worshippers from within and outside the State.



2025 AKWA IBOM CHRISTMAS CAROLS FESTIVAL



2025 AKWA IBOM CHRISTMAS CAROLS FESTIVAL



A'lbon Children Celebrate Christmas at Statewide Party Hosted by Lady Obareki



On Monday, December 22, children from across the State gathered at the Amphitheatre of the Christmas Village, Uyo, for a colourful and fun-filled Christmas Party, hosted by the Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obareki.

Speaking at the event which formed part of the State's Christmas activities, Lady Obareki said the 2025 Christmas Party was deliberately designed to be inclusive, bringing together children from all socio-economic backgrounds. She explained that beneficiaries included children from the 31 local government areas, children of security personnel, inmates of government homes across the three senatorial districts, as well as children from non-indigenous communities resident in the State.

The Coordinator expressed appreciation to the Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, for providing the funding that made it possible to accommodate and cater for all the children. She also thanked female Chairmen and wives of Chairmen for their consistent support and collaboration with the Office of the First Lady.

Lady Obareki further commended the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social

Welfare, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo, alongside staff of her office, for their dedication and tireless efforts, which according to her, ensured the success of the Christmas celebration.

In her welcome address, Hon. Etukudo lauded Governor Eno and Lady Obareki for prioritising the welfare and happiness of children, particularly during the Yuletide, describing the initiative as a true reflection of the spirit of Christmas.

Delivering the Christmas message, Evangelist Becky Udom reminded the children that the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ symbolises love, giving, compassion and peaceful co-existence. Goodwill messages were also delivered by Dr. Dorcas Esset, wife of the member representing Uyo Federal Constituency, and Mrs. Akaniyene Udo, wife of the Chairman of Uyo Local Government Council and President, WALGON, who praised Lady Obareki for creating a warm and joyful atmosphere for the children and pledged continued support for her initiatives.

The high point of the event was a photo session with the Coordinator, during which children from different clusters personally received Christmas gifts. The party, anchored by Uncle Chicco, featured cake-cutting, dance competitions, age-based games, bouncing castles and mascots, while the children were treated to food, drinks, popcorn, ice cream and assorted gifts, making the celebration both exciting and unforgettable.



Hon Idiong Disburses N250m Empowerment to 547 Oruk Anam Constituents



Not fewer than 547 constituents of Oruk Anam State Constituency benefitted from a ₦250 million empowerment programme organised by the lawmaker representing the area, Hon. Sampson Idiong, on Tuesday, December 16, at the Oruk Anam Local Government Council Secretariat, Ikot Ibritam.

The empowerment featured the distribution of three cars, four tricycles, eight female motorcycles, 37 male motorcycles, 39 sewing machines, 13 vulcanising machines, 39 generating sets, 40 haircut accessories, 26 standing hair dryers, 26 hair-washing basins, 33 knapsack sprayers and 13 grinding machines, alongside bursaries, business grants and cash support.

In the financial component, Hon. Idiong awarded ₦10 million bursaries to 200 students (second batch); business grants of ₦3 million and ₦2.5 million to two beneficiaries; five grants of ₦500,000; two supports of ₦300,000; one grant of ₦200,000; five cash supports of ₦250,000; one of ₦150,000; and 81 supports of ₦100,000 each. He also approved ₦10 million for select youths and another ₦10 million for stakeholders, bringing the total beneficiaries to 547.

Governor Umo Eno, represented by his Special Adviser on Legislative Affairs, Rt. Hon. Emmanuel Ekpeyong, described the programme as a clear dividend of democracy and a product of executive-legislative synergy. He appreciated Hon. Idiong and the Eighth Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly under the leadership of Rt. Hon. Udeme Otong, moved a vote of confidence on the lawmaker, and urged support for the ARISE Agenda and the APC ahead of 2027.

Speaker Otong commended the initiative, noting that the House of Assembly has no budgetary provision for constituency empowerment and that such interventions require personal sacrifice. He praised Governor Eno for improved road infrastructure in Oruk Anam, advised

beneficiaries to utilise the items judiciously, and encouraged constituents to support Hon. Idiong for a second term.

Earlier, the Oruk Anam Council Chairman, Rt. Hon. Sunday Akpan, described the event as historic, attributing the scale of the empowerment to effective representation. Chairman on the occasion, Chief Soni Udom, said the initiative was an indication that Idiong deserved continuity, noting that the reward for good work is more work.

In his address, Hon. Idiong said the empowerment was a fulfilment of a promise made after his election in June 2023, explaining that he chose to share his personal resources with constituents. He thanked Governor Eno, Speaker Otong and colleagues in the Eighth Assembly, reaffirming the legislature's roles of lawmaking, oversight and representation, and expressed gratitude for the goodwill messages from the youths, women, elders and the APC, all of whom endorsed his performance and second-term bid.



Pastor Eno Strengthens Traditional Institution with Coaster Bus Donation



Pastor Umo Eno, has fulfilled his promise to the State Supreme Council of Traditional Rulers with the presentation of a brand new coaster bus to facilitate the movement of royal fathers during official engagements.

The bus was formally presented on the Governor's behalf by the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Frank Archibong, during a brief ceremony held at the Traditional Rulers' Chambers in Uyo, on Thursday, December 18.

Speaking at the event, Governor Eno said the donation underscores his administration's unwavering commitment to the welfare of traditional rulers and his deliberate efforts to strengthen the traditional institution in the State. He noted that the gesture, among others, reflects the respect and recognition of the vital role of traditional rulers in governance and community development.

Receiving the keys to the vehicle on behalf of the Council, the President General of the Akwa Ibom State Supreme Council of Traditional Rulers,

His Eminence, Ntenyin Solomon Etuk, expressed gratitude to the Governor for keeping his promise. He described him as a sincere leader with purpose, who has consistently demonstrated genuine love and respect for the royal fathers.

Ntenyin Etuk further commended Governor Eno for his developmental strides across the State, adding that with the acquisition of the bus, the Council plans to embark on inspection tours to personally assess ongoing and completed projects across Akwa Ibom.

He prayed for God's continued blessings upon the Governor and for divine enablement to accomplish more for the good of Akwa Ibom people.

The presentation ceremony was witnessed by the Chairman of the Supreme Council of Traditional Rulers, Akuku Saviour Udofia; Paramount Rulers; the Secretary of the Council, Dr. Emmanuel Umontuen; as well as management and staff of the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs.



Senator Eyakenyi Commends Gov Eno at A'lbon Women's Christmas Party

• Honours ARISE Queen Winner



Akwa Ibom women, rounded off the year in grand style during their End-of-Year Christmas Party, held at the ongoing Christmas Unplugged 3.0, at the Unity Park, Uyo, with the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, acknowledging Governor Umo Eno's unwavering support for the event.

Speaking at the celebration on Wednesday, December 17, Senator Eyakenyi said the women's Christmas party was made possible by the Governor's compassionate leadership, describing him as a father, lover and consistent supporter of women in the State. She also commended Pastor Eno for ensuring inclusiveness by extending the festivities to men, youths, children and the elderly.

The Deputy Governor noted that the annual event has continued to grow over the years, adding that the 2025 edition was exceptional with the introduction of a State Government Pavilion that allowed Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to showcase their products and services.

She further applauded the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dr. Anieti Udofia, and his team for organising the Christmas Unplugged celebration with remarkable grandeur and coordination.

Congratulating the winner of the ARISE Queen beauty pageant, Mrs. Brenda Akpan from Nsit Ubium, Senator Eyakenyi described the contest as a reflection of Governor Eno's vision for Akwa Ibom women to "arise." She praised all contestants for their courage and participation, noting that the pageant represents a stepping stone to greater

opportunities.

Also speaking, the Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Lady Helen Obaraki, expressed joy that the vision of a dedicated women's celebration had been fully realised. She thanked women across the State for turning out in large numbers and actively participating in the various competitions that made the night memorable.

Lady Obaraki lauded the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the planning committee and Governor Eno for creating a lively and safe atmosphere for women to relax and celebrate. She wished all attendees a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in advance.

Earlier, the Commissioner for Women Affairs, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo, welcomed participants and explained that the gathering was designed to help women unwind from the stress of the year.

Highlights of the night included carol renditions by women from Eket, Ikot Ekpene and Uyo Senatorial Districts, dressed in gold, red and green outfits respectively, dance and quiz competitions, presentation of cash prizes of ₦1 million, ₦750,000 and ₦500,000 for the beauty pageant winner and runners-up, alongside gift presentations to women stakeholders. The event attracted female commissioners, wives of top government officials, senatorial women leaders and other stakeholders



AKWA IBOM 2025 WOMEN CHRISTMAS PARTY



Non-Indigenous Residents Celebrate Unity, Culture at A'Ibom Christmas Unplugged 3.0



Non-indigenous residents of Akwa Ibom State, on Thursday, December 18, marked a colourful and unifying celebration at the ongoing Christmas Unplugged 3.0, held at the Unity Park Arena, Uyo.

The event brought together members of the Igbo (Ndi Igbo), Yoruba and Arewa communities resident in the State, in a celebration of love, unity and cultural diversity, hosted by the Akwa Ibom State Government under the leadership of Governor Umo Eno.

Welcoming the participants, the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dr. Anieti Udofia, expressed delight at the strong turnout and the peaceful coexistence among residents of different ethnic backgrounds. He noted that language differences and political affiliations were no barriers to unity in Akwa Ibom, commending Governor Eno for ensuring inclusiveness in the State's Christmas celebrations.

The commissioner urged continued support for the administration and reaffirmed his commitment to advancing the mandate of the ministry while strengthening engagement with non-indigenous communities, including the Arewa group.

Speaking on behalf of non-indigenous residents, the Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Non-Indigenes' Affairs, Mr. Emmanuel Ogbole, thanked Governor Eno for providing a platform for diverse cultural expression. He emphasised that

Nigeria remains one indivisible nation, adding that Akwa Ibom has become a primary home for non-indigenes. He assured the government of their continued display of unity in diversity.

Representing the Yoruba community, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Effiong, an indigene of Ekiti State married to an Akwa Ibom man for 38 years, expressed gratitude to the Governor for creating an opportunity for indigenes and non-indigenes to jointly celebrate unity.

Also speaking, the Special Assistant to the Governor on Arewa Community Matters, Alhaji Ibrahim Iliya, described the event as a special moment for the Arewa community. He praised Akwa Ibom as one of the most peaceful States in Nigeria and appreciated Governor Eno for consistently identifying with non-indigenes.

Iliya specifically acknowledged Governor Eno's gesture of gifting cows and bags of rice to enable the Arewa community celebrate Christmas, as well as other forms of support, including financial assistance amounting to ₦800 million. He pledged the community's readiness to give massive support to Governor Eno in 2027.

The celebration featured vibrant cultural performances by the Mumuye, Fulani and Tiv cultural troupes, among others, adding colour and excitement to the evening.



Urue Offong/Oruko: Uno Reaffirms Commitment to Women, Devt

The Chairman of Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Area, Rt. Hon. Uno Etim Uno, has reaffirmed his commitment to women's empowerment and grassroots development, assuring that the local government will continue to serve as a benchmark for effective performance.

Receiving a delegation of the National Council of Women Societies (NCWS), Urue Offong/Oruko Chapter, at his Eyulor Oro residence on Tuesday, December 16, Rt. Hon. Uno described the visit as a rare and motivating gesture. He averred that his passion for service is driven by love for the community and inspired by the leadership example of Governor Umo Eno, adding that feedback from across the State already shows visible progress.



The Chairman, who highlighted the vital role of women in society and elections, encouraged them to pursue productive and dignified livelihoods and commended his wife for sustaining a monthly women's empowerment scheme that continues to support women across the area. He reaffirmed his resolve to do more for women and urged unity and tolerance among them.

Earlier, the NCWS delegation, led by Chapter President Princess Atah Uko, stated that the visit was to express appreciation for the Chairman's consistent support and positive impact on women. Speaking on behalf of the women, Dame Nkoyo Essang said the visit was purely to thank the Chairman and expressed confidence in his leadership and ongoing development efforts.



Nsit Atai: Nyong Strengthens Alliance with CAN to Boost Peace, Security

The Chairman of Nsit Atai Local Government Area, Hon. Anthony Nyong, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to strengthening collaboration with the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) to promote peace, unity, and security.



Hon. Nyong made the assertion while receiving CAN, Nsit Atai Chapter, during a courtesy visit at the Council Secretariat, Odot, where he urged the association to remain united and uphold moral values that encourage peaceful coexistence.

Describing the Church as a key partner in governance and appreciating CAN for its prayers and moral support, the Chairman

called for closer cooperation between CAN, government, and security agencies to tackle child trafficking and other crimes, and stressed the need for vigilance against individuals who use religion as a cover for criminal activities.

Prince Nyong assured the delegation that issues raised would receive due attention, reaffirming his resolve to sustain partnerships that guarantee peace and development in the area.



Earlier, the CAN Coordinator, Rev. Paul Udo, congratulated the Chairman on his one year in office, commending his people-oriented leadership, and offered prayers for continued wisdom and guidance.

Ikot Ekpene: Nkom Hosts Star Ministers at Spirit-Filled Christmas Praise Night

·Reaffirms commitment to cultural bonds

The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom hosted a memorable worship experience on Wednesday, December 17, at the Raffia City Christmas Arena, which featured renowned gospel ministers Buchi, Aity Dennis, Jaygospel, and others.

The event, themed, “An Evening of Praise,” drew a large crowd and created a deeply spiritual atmosphere of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. The returning home to minister to her people.



ministers delivered powerful, spirit-filled ministrations that left attendees inspired and blessed.

Appreciating the gospel ministers, especially Minister Buchi, for honouring Ikot Ekpene despite his busy schedule, the Chairman, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Affiong Nkom, celebrated the artiste's long-standing relationship with the local government and lauded Aity Dennis Inyang, a daughter of Ikot Ekpene, for

The council boss further expressed appreciation to home-based ministers and all residents who by participating, contributed to the success of the praise service.

The Vice Chairman, Hon. Abigail Akpan, delivered the vote of thanks at the event.

Other ministers who graced the occasion included Minister Bonkay, Pastor Amaka, E-Sax, Minister Richie, MC Calculus, and the Ikot Ekpene Women Choir.



Elder Ikoedem Commissions Landmark Community Projects in Mbo

• *Hails Moni-Pulo, Abani host communities as health centre, solar projects are unveiled*



The Commissioner for Labour and Manpower Planning, Elder Ikoedem Ekong, has commissioned a newly constructed health centre alongside solar-powered boreholes and other community projects across Mbo Local Government Area.

The commissioning ceremony was held on Friday, December 19, at Effiat Community School, Mbo where Elder Ekong commended Moni-Pulo Petroleum and the Abani Host Communities Development Trust for initiating and delivering the projects.

The Commissioner described the interventions as consistent with the ARISE Agenda of Governor Umo Eno, praising the organisations for fulfilling their Corporate Social Responsibilities and urging them to further empower indigenes through training in oil and gas-related skills to enhance employability when opportunities arise.

Elder Ekong also charged community members to take collective ownership of the facilities by securing them against vandalism, noting that proper maintenance would attract additional development projects to the area.

Speaking earlier, the Managing Director of Moni-Pulo Petroleum, Dr. Seinye Lulu,

represented by the company's Legal Adviser, Barr. Living Davies, explained that the projects were based on a needs assessment conducted within the host communities and not imposed.

He expressed appreciation to the Akwa Ibom State Government for creating an enabling environment for businesses to thrive, adding that the commissioned projects cut across all segments of the society regardless of social status.

Projects commissioned included, the renovation and equipping of the Ibaka Civic Centre; renovation and equipping of six classroom blocks with offices; supply and installation of 150 solar-powered streetlights across five villages in Effiat; construction of two blocks of public conveniences at Utan Brama; and the drilling of solar-powered boreholes with water treatment plants, with the event being attended by the Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Mrs. Rita Akpanessien, the Director of Labour and Industrial Relations, Mrs. Glory Essien, and other government dignitaries.



AKSG Disburses N250M to Military, Paramilitary Widows



The Akwa Ibom State Government, has disbursed a total of ₦250 million to widows of fallen military and paramilitary personnel, reaffirming its commitment to social protection, inclusive governance and support for vulnerable groups.

The empowerment programme, organised by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare, was held on Friday, December 19, at the Women Development Centre, IBB Way, Uyo, with verified beneficiaries receiving direct financial support.

The funds, approved and donated by Pastor Umo Eno, were channeled through the ministry for transparent and direct disbursement, underscoring the administration's commitment to accountability and compassionate governance.

Speaking at the event, the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Welfare, Hon. Inibehe Etukudo, described the initiative as a deliberate effort to honour the sacrifices of fallen officers and support their widows towards economic stability, self-reliance and improved livelihoods.

She noted that the intervention was not only a fulfilment of a promise but also a reassurance that the State government stands with the widows, values the sacrifices of their spouses and remains committed to their welfare, while commending President Bola Tinubu for sustaining the annual Remembrance Day and Governor Eno for prioritising women's empowerment under the ARISE Agenda.

The programme witnessed the disbursement of ₦150 million to military widows and ₦100 million to paramilitary widows across the State, with a major highlight being the symbolic presentation of cheques to the Military Widows Association and the Paramilitary Widows Association by the Commissioner.

In her remarks, the Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Mrs. Margaret Edem informed participants that beneficiaries were already receiving alerts during the programme, commending the Governor for his magnanimity and urging widows to utilise the funds judiciously, while goodwill messages, prayers for fallen heroes, and expressions of gratitude from



LGSC Concludes Occupational Health, Safety Workshop in Uyo

• Urges safer work environment in LG service



The Local Government Service Commission (LGSC), has concluded a one-day workshop on Occupational Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) in Uyo, with a call on Works and Environmental Health Officers in the Unified Local Government Service to prioritise safe and healthy work environment.

The workshop emphasised the need to either reduce or eliminate workplace accidents, prevent occupational illnesses, and minimise disruptions in service delivery across local government areas in the State.

Addressing participants at the event held on Thursday, December 18, at the Conference Hall of the Commission, the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Affiong Ebieme, spoke through the Director of Administration and Supplies, Mrs. Rosalyn Essien, charged officers to uphold best HSE practices in the discharge of their duties.

Mrs. Ebieme stressed that

health, safety and environment should not be viewed merely as a regulatory requirement, but as a culture that must be consciously embraced in offices, stores, workshops, construction sites and during field assignments.

She expressed appreciation to the Governor Umo Eno, for approving the workshop and for his unwavering commitment to the welfare of workers in the Unified Local Government Service.

The Permanent Secretary also commended the Deputy Director in charge of the Training Unit of the Commission, Comrade Imoh Inyang,

for her dedication, professionalism and tireless efforts in ensuring the successful organisation of the training.

The workshop was organised in partnership with NOFRA Energy Management System, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, as lead consultant, with Sir Francis Inyang, serving as a resource person and assisted by Mrs. Norah Inyang, while Directors and selected Unit Heads of the Commission were present to grace the event.



REHABILITATED AND REVITALIZED IBOM PLAZA



CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



NSIT IBOM LGA



NSIT ATAI LGA

CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



MKPAT ENIN LGA



UKANAFUN LGA

CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



OBOT AKARA LGA



ONNA LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



NSIT UBIUM LGA



UYO LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



Essien Udim LGA



ETIM EKPO LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



ETINAN LGA



NSIT IBOM LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



Ikot Ekpene LGA



Ibesikpo Asutan LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



NSIT ATAI LGA



ONNA LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



INI LGA



IKOT ABASI LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



IKA LGA



EKET LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



URUE OFFONG / ORUKO LGA



ESIT EKET LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



OBOT AKARA LGA



UKANAFUN LGA

GOV ENO'S CHRISTMAS HOMEGOING INITIATIVE



IKONO LGA



IBENO LGA

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

**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

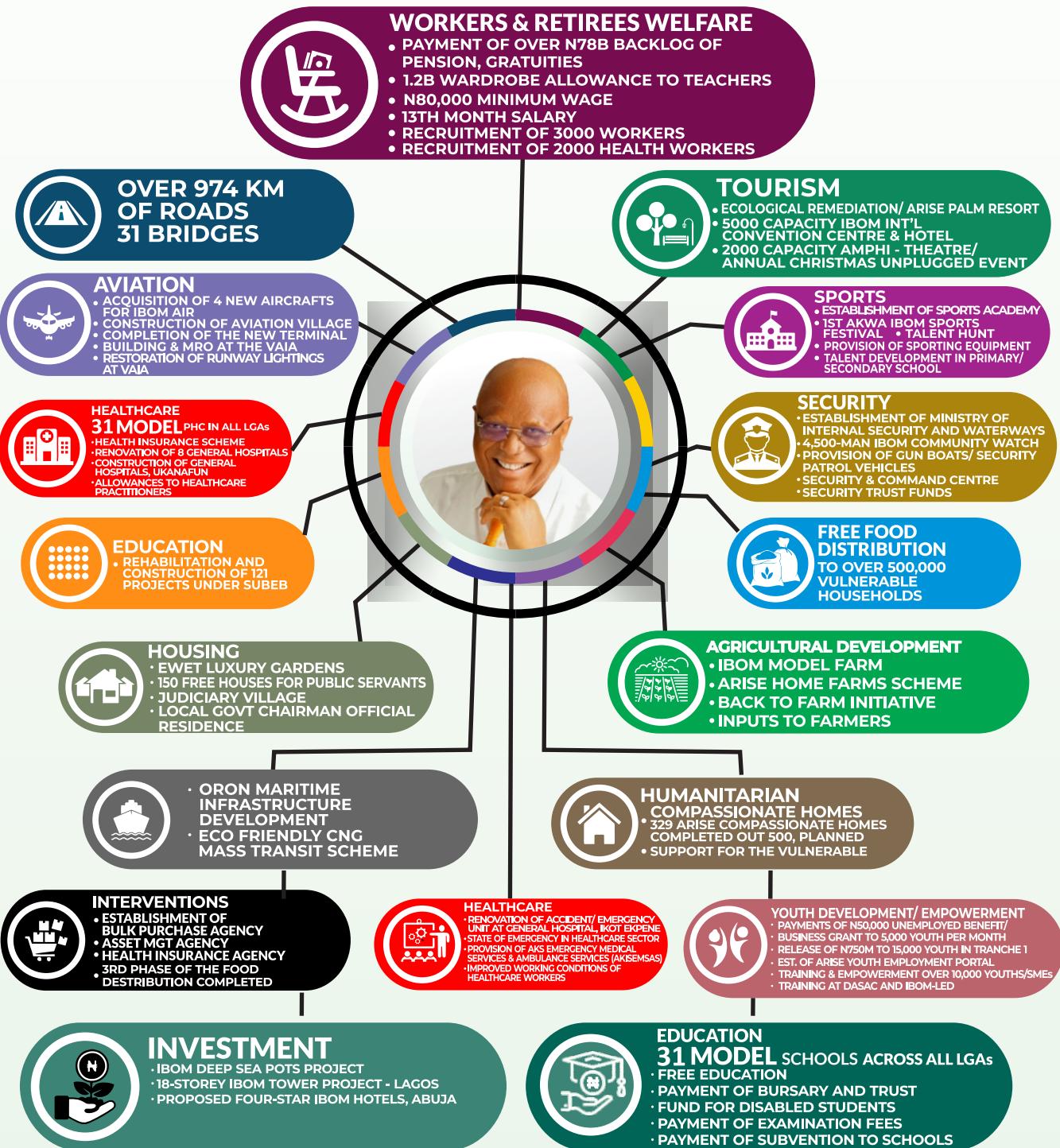
Graphics

Nsikan Ekwere
Edidiong George
Church Michael

Photography

Idara Adiakpan
Stanley Etim
Itoro Iwok

HIGHLIGHTS OF GOV. UMO ENO'S IMPACTFUL PERFORMANCE



60 NEW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Ministry of Information © 2025



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 0000 0001

