

AKSG Reaffirms Commitment to Youth Empowerment

• Deploys fresh DASAC graduates to Ibom-LED for advanced training - Page 17

Gov Eno Unveils First-Ever State Govt Pavilion at Christmas Unplugged 3.0

• Directs redeployment of doctors to health sector • Approves civil service for Abigail Okan, an orphan graduate - Page 12



ARISE

NEWS WEEKLY



December 11 - December 17, 2025 Vol. 1 No. 36 — A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

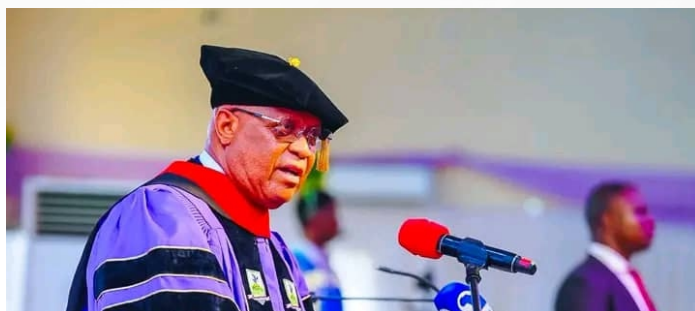
VAIA Set for Global Flight With April 2026 Take-off Schedule

• As Aviation minister commends facilities, leadership continuity



The Minister of Aviation and Aerospace Development, Festus Keyamo, SAN, has commended the Akwa Ibom State Government for its high level of preparedness ahead of the commencement of international flight operations at the Victor Attah International Airport (VAIA), describing the State as “ahead of schedule” for the planned April 2026 take-off.

Keyamo gave the commendation on Tuesday, December 16, after a closed-door meeting with members of the international airport ecosystem at VAIA, held alongside Governor Umo Eno. Agencies present included Customs, Immigration, NDLEA, Police, DSS, NEMA and other aviation stakeholders.



Gov Eno Urges Nigerian Youths to Dream Big

• Admonishes Graduands of Mountain Top University to be Shining examples - Page 6



Gov Eno Attributes State's Peace to God, Security Agencies

• Commissions 1.4km Roads at Police Headquarters - Page 6



AKSG Pledges Stronger Support for Women Devt at 1929 War Commemoration

- Page 8



1st Dec. 2025 - 1st Jan. 2026



19th Dec. 2025



According to the Minister, feedback from all agencies confirmed that Akwa Ibom has surpassed expectations, with only minimal gaps left to close. He noted that contrary to initial assumptions, the State has already progressed towards operating as a full-fledged international airport.

Keyamo expressed satisfaction with the facilities inspected, including the newly completed and well-equipped international terminal and the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility. He described the MRO as a critical requirement that enables international airlines to conduct routine aircraft checks before departure.

The Minister praised Akwa Ibom State for its tradition of visionary leadership, noting that successive administrations have consistently built on solid foundations laid by their predecessors. He specifically commended Governor Eno for sustaining and completing the State's aviation master plan.

He said the realisation of plans initiated over 25 years ago reflects effective leadership, adding that Akwa Ibom has been fortunate with leaders who have driven continuity and

sustainable development.

The Governor, in his remarks, corroborated the Minister's stance, acknowledging the contributions of past leaders while thanking President Bola Tinubu for approving the airport's international status and releasing statutory funds for development. He emphasised that the project was executed with State funds, noting that Akwa Ibom currently owes no bank on the project, and reaffirmed commitment to leveraging the airport for economic growth.

Meanwhile, the Minister has described the ongoing ARISE Palm Resort in the State as a 'mind-blowing'

tourism asset that will significantly boost operations at the airport, after inspecting the facility at Dominic Utuk Avenue, as part of efforts to ensure that critical infrastructure was in place to support the airport's recent elevation to international status.



AVIATION MINISTER, FESTUS KEYAMO, SAN IN COMPANY OF GOV UMO ENO INSPECT FACILITIES AT VAIA



AVIATION MINISTER, FESTUS KEYAMO, SAN IN COMPANY OF GOV UMO ENO INSPECT FACILITIES AT ARISE PALM RESORT.



AVIATION MINISTER, FESTUS KEYAMO, SAN IN COMPANY OF GOV UMO ENO INSPECT FACILITIES AT ARISE PALM RESORT.



Gov Eno Urges Nigerian Youths to Dream Big

•Admonishes Graduands of Mountain Top University to be Shining examples



The State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno, has challenged Nigerian youths to pursue bold dreams while grounding their paths to success in humility, hard work, strong character and unwavering faith in God.

Governor Eno gave the charge while delivering the Convocation Lecture at the 7th Convocation Ceremony of Mountain Top University on Thursday, December 18, at the institution's campus along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Prayer City.

Speaking on the theme, "Dream Big, Start Small," the Governor urged the graduating Class of 2025 to shun shortcuts, entitlement mentality and moral compromise, but instead, embrace discipline, service, resilience and integrity as they transition into life beyond the university.

He noted that rapid technological changes and shifting societal values demand that young people think creatively, act courageously and pursue excellence with character. "Dream big, start small, be passionate, work twice as hard, and watch the Invisible Hands of God lift you to heights you never

imagined possible," the Governor charged.

Governor Eno warned against the lure of instant gratification without effort, describing it as a pathway to frustration and moral decline. He expressed confidence, however, that the moral and intellectual foundation provided by Mountain Top University would distinguish its graduates as future leaders, innovators and change-makers.

Drawing from biblical and contemporary examples, he explained that dreaming big provides vision, while starting small builds capacity and

resilience. He cited the story of Joseph in the Bible and the rise of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, reminding the graduates that greatness often begins quietly with available resources. "You don't need to be great to start, but you need to start to be great," he said.

In a personal reflection, Governor Eno shared his life journey, from growing up as the son of a police officer who died in active service, hawking soft drinks on the streets of Lagos, to starting the Royalty Hotel in Eket with just five rooms in 1997, which later grew into a major hospitality brand employing thousands. He stressed that faith in God, honesty and hard work attract destiny helpers.

The Governor concluded by urging the graduands to look beyond conventional employment, explore entrepreneurship, innovation and service, and uphold ethical conduct, humility and compassion. Congratulating the Class of 2025, he encouraged them to "dream big, start small, and just start," assuring them that God would lift them to the mountain top of their aspirations.

GOV ENO DELIVERS CONVOCATION LECTURE AT THE 7TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF MOUNTAIN TOP UNIVERSITY



Gov Eno Attributes State's Peace to God, Security Agencies

• Commissions 1.4km Roads at Police Headquarters

Governor Umo Eno, has attributed the prevailing peace, safety and stability in the State to divine grace and the unwavering commitment of security agencies, commending them for their sacrifices in maintaining law and order.

The Governor spoke during the commissioning of 1.4km of newly constructed internal roads at the State Headquarters of the Nigerian Police Force in Ikot Akpan Abia, and the 2025 Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at the Department of State Services (DSS) in Uyo.

Praising security operatives for working collaboratively, often at great personal risk, to ensure a conducive environment for development. Governor Eno assured them of the State government's appreciation and continued support, noting that without their efforts, the current atmosphere of peace would not be possible. He also announced the approval of contracts for the lighting of police stations across the State to further enhance security operations.

The Governor commended the Commissioner of Police, CP Baba Azare, for effective leadership and prudent deployment of patrol vehicles donated by the State government. He further disclosed plans to strengthen security presence through the construction of a Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU), thanking the Inspector General of Police, IGP Kayode Egbetokun, for approving the siting of the facility in Nsit Ubium Local Government Area.

Reaffirming his administration's commitment to security, Governor Eno pledged sustained support to the Police Command, encouraged an officer whose residence was recently destroyed by fire, and congratulated the Officer-in-Charge of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Unit, CSP



Kokoette Ebong, who emerged as Crime Buster of the Year at the 2024 Nigeria Police Force Awards in Abuja. He also disclosed plans to relocate the State Fire Service to the Occupational Safety Department to improve efficiency.

At the DSS headquarters, the Governor further approved the procurement of two new Toyota Hilux vehicles to boost the operational capacity of the agency. He emphasised that strengthening security institutions remains a priority of his administration, as peace and good governance are critical drivers of sustainable development.

Earlier, CP Azare commended Governor Eno for prioritising security, peace and unity, describing the Governor's support to the Police Command as consistent and impactful. He noted that the newly commissioned internal roads are strategic assets that will significantly improve mobility, response time and operational efficiency, assuring continued collaboration with the State Government to sustain peace and safety.



Providing an overview of the project, the Commissioner for Works and Fire Service, Prof. Eno Ibanga, explained that the road construction was prompted by the Governor's visit to the area in 2024, when he observed its deplorable condition. He assured that the roads were constructed to high quality standards and are expected to last at least 20 years.

The two events were attended by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi; the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah; senior government officials, political leaders, captains of industry and members of the public.

GOV ENO COMMISSIONS 1.4KM ROADS AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, IKOT AKPAN ABIA



AKSG Pledges Stronger Support for Women Devt at 1929 War Commemoration

The Akwa Ibom State Government, has reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to women's development in line with the ARISE Agenda, in commemoration of the 1929 historic Women's War in Ikot Abasi Local Government Area.

Speaking at the event on Tuesday, December 16, at the council headquarters, the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi described the 1929 Women's War as a defining moment of courage and resistance against colonial oppression, stressing the need for accurate documentation of history. She noted that the struggle is often wrongly linked solely to Aba, while key narratives from Akwa Ibom and the contributions of figures like Mary Slessor remain underreported.

Addressing the theme, "Unity for Excellence," the Deputy Governor highlighted the pivotal role of women in family stability, governance, and economic development. She assured that the State government would continue to empower women through economic inclusion, skills acquisition, advocacy, and expanded leadership opportunities.

The Coordinator, Office of the First Lady and Special Guest of Honour, Lady Helen Obareki, praised the bravery of the women of 1929, urging today's women to emulate their courage, unity, and commitment to community development.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Women Affairs, Hon.



Inibehe Etukudo, reaffirmed the government's resolve to promote gender equality and create inclusive opportunities for women, while the Chairman on the occasion, Mrs. Nyakno Okoko, emphasised the importance of equal empowerment and called on women to use the commemoration to rekindle renewed hope and purpose.

Welcoming the guests, the Chairman of Ikot Abasi Local Government Area, Hon. Ime Essien, represented by his Vice, Hon. Idongesit Ekarika, said the theme was a reflection of women's resilience and the power of teamwork in overcoming challenges.

Goodwill messages were delivered by Hon. Owoidoho Ekpoatai; Mrs. Comfort Bob; Mrs. Margaret Edem, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Women Affairs and Etteidung Aniema Eshiet, representing the Paramount Ruler of Ikot Abasi, all urging women to remain courageous, God-fearing, and committed to leadership and development.

Other dignitaries at the event included the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dr. Anieti Udofia, and Engr. Uwem Okoko, MD of Hensek Integrated Services. The ceremony climaxed with a wreath-laying in honour of the fallen heroines, reinforcing their enduring legacy of resilience, unity, and leadership for future generations.



DEPUTY GOVERNOR, SENATOR AKON EYAKENYI, LADY HELEN OBAREKI, HON INIBEHE ETUKUDO AND OTHERS COMMEMORATE THE 1929 WOMEN WAR



Gov Eno Unveils First-Ever State Govt Pavilion at Christmas Unplugged 3.0

- *Directs redeployment of doctors to health sector*
- *Approves civil service for Abigail Okon, an orphan graduate*



On Saturday, December 13, Governor Umo Eno unveiled the first-ever State Government Pavilion at the ongoing Christmas Unplugged 3.0, marking a significant step towards deepening citizens engagement and showcasing the practical impact of the ARISE Agenda.

The pavilion, located within the Christmas Village at Unity Park, Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo, was introduced on the Governor's directive to bring governance closer to the people. It brings together Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in a single interactive space where residents and visitors can access information on government programmes, innovations, service delivery initiatives, and investment opportunities aligned with the State's development blueprint.

During a tour and inspection of the pavilion, Governor Eno issued a decisive directive aimed at strengthening healthcare delivery across the State. He instructed the Head of the Civil Service and the Commissioner for Health to redeploy all medical doctors currently serving as Permanent Secretaries in unrelated MDAs back to the health sector to serve as heads of government-owned general hospitals, while retaining their administrative responsibilities.

The Governor stressed that medical expertise must not be underutilised, especially at a time when the State is intensifying efforts to strengthen healthcare services and improve emergency response across public health institutions.

Governor Eno expressed satisfaction with the creativity, coordination, and clarity of vision demonstrated by the MDAs at the pavilion, noting that their presentations clearly reflected the people-centred focus and policy direction of his administration. He commended the alignment of programmes and initiatives with the ARISE Agenda.

"I have gone round to see what the Ministries, Departments and Agencies are doing, and I am pleased that they are promoting the ARISE Agenda. This is the first time we are introducing a State Government Pavilion at the Christmas Village, and what I have seen so far is very encouraging," the Governor stated.

Reaffirming his administration's commitment to effective governance, Governor Eno emphasised that all MDAs must continually align their operations and service delivery frameworks with the State's development vision. He added that the State Government Pavilion remains a major highlight of Christmas Unplugged 3.0, reinforcing his resolve to make governance visible, accessible, people-focused, and results-driven.

Additionally, the State Chief Executive approved the employment of an orphan graduate, Miss Abigail Okon, after she was presented to him by the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare. He directed the Head of Service, to offer her an appointment in the State civil service, maintaining that one's background or circumstances of birth should not determine destiny.



GOV ENO UNVEILS STATE GOVERNMENT PAVILION AT CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



Pastor Eno Commends Eket Rotary Club, Receives Enterprise-Friendly Governor Award



Eket Rotary Club, has been commended for its commitment to initiatives that align with Pastor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, and for being a valuable partner in community development and social progress.

Pastor Eno gave the commendation during the installation ceremony of Dr. Eka Mapples as the 42nd President of the Eket Rotary Club, held on Saturday, December 13, at Royalty Hotel, Eket, where he also acknowledged the Club's consistent focus on impactful and people-centred projects.

Specifically praising the Club's emphasis on human capacity development, the Governor noted that its programmes aimed at youth training and women empowerment, directly support the objectives of the ARISE Agenda and deserve government encouragement.

Governor Eno, a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International, highlighted Rotary's long-standing reputation for service to humanity and charged newly

inducted members to use their leadership positions to render sacrificial and selfless service to the society.

He congratulated Dr. Mapples on her installation, describing her as motherly, humble, transparent and dependable, qualities he said earned her the confidence of the Club and the responsibility of leadership.

The Governor also reflected on his long-standing relationship with the Mapples family in Eket, acknowledging their support over the years, and expressed gratitude for the recognition accorded him and his late wife, noting that her legacy continues through the lives she touched.

Earlier, Dr. Mapples thanked Pastor Eno and other dignitaries for attending the ceremony, and pledged to use her tenure to extend help to the needy, reaffirming the Club's commitment to service, as highlights of the event included the presentation of the Enterprise-Friendly Governor Award to Governor Eno and a posthumous award to the First Lady, Pastor Patience Eno, for her devoted service to humanity.



A'lbom Workers Receive 13th-Month Salary as Pastor Eno Delivers on Promise



commenced on Tuesday, December 16.

The payment fulfills a promise made by Governor Umo Eno on Sunday, November 30, that workers would receive their 13th-month salary on or before December 20.

Since assuming office in 2023, the Umo Eno-led administration has consistently paid the 13th-month salary

Akwa Ibom State workers, have begun receiving their 13th-month salary ahead of the Christmas celebrations, providing timely financial relief to enable them prepare for the festive season.

otherwise known as "Eno-mber" to workers, alongside other bonuses and welfare packages. This sustained commitment to workers' welfare has earned the Governor widespread recognition as a worker-friendly leader in the State.

A report from the Office of the Accountant General confirms that payment of the bonus

Gov Eno Receives NASAJ Award, Inducted as Patron of Judiciary Games

Governor Umo Eno, has been conferred with an award of recognition by the National Sports Association for Judiciary (NASAJ), and inducted as a Patron of the body, in acknowledgement of his exemplary leadership, progressive development initiatives, and strategic investment in sports infrastructure across the State.



The honour was presented by the National President of NASAJ, Mr. Sunday Noah, during the closing ceremony of the 2025 Chief Justice of Nigeria Games, held at the Uyo Township Stadium on Saturday, December 6.

Praising Governor Eno for expanding and maintaining world-class sporting facilities that made the hosting successful, Mr. Noah described Akwa Ibom as a State with visionary leadership that has continued to set benchmarks in sports development.

He noted that NASAJ was particularly impressed by the standard and upkeep of all inspected facilities, adding that the association unanimously resolved to honour the Governor for his unwavering support for athletes and judicial sports activities.

Responding, Governor Eno, represented by the Commissioner for Sports, Elder Paul Bassey,

who also received the award on his behalf, expressed gratitude to NASAJ for the recognition and reaffirmed his administration's commitment to people-focused initiatives under the ARISE Agenda. He reaffirmed his dedication to deploying the State resources to empower citizens and drive infrastructural transformation.

The event also featured the final football encounter in which the Federal High Court team defeated the Court of Appeal by a lone goal to clinch the tournament's trophy.

The ceremony, which formally concluded a week-long national sporting festival for judicial workers, was attended by the Chief Judge of Akwa Ibom State, Honourable Justice Ekaete Obot, represented by Honourable Justice Edem Akpan, as well as senior judiciary officials, directors from the Ministry of Sports, and other stakeholders.

Christmas Unplugged 3.0: Gov Eno Joins Ikot Abasi Day Celebration

•Reaffirms commitment to cultural bonds



Integrated Services.

Governor Eno described Engr. Okoko as a dependable friend, whose support and commitment, according to him, has been tested over time, adding that his attendance at the celebration was a fulfilment of a promise made earlier in the day.

Governor Umo Eno, has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to preserving the age-long customs and traditions of the people as a foundation for unity and promotion of tourism in the State.

The Governor stated this on Saturday, December 13, while participating in the Ikot Abasi Day celebration at the ongoing Christmas Unplugged 3.0 festival, held at the Unity Park, Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo.

He explained that his presence at the event was driven by his resolve to honour cultural bonds and long-standing relationships with the Ikot Abasi people, noting his personal ties to the area as an in-law and close associate of Engr. Uwem Okoko, Managing Director of Hensek



communities.

He thanked the Ikot Abasi people for the warm reception accorded him, and applauded them for showcasing their rich cultural heritage, which he described as a major boost to his administration's ARISE Agenda on culture and tourism development.

Earlier, Engr. Okoko praised Governor Eno for his vision-driven leadership and passion for tourism. He observed that the Governor's commitment to cultural promotion has created economic opportunities, strengthened unity across the State, and demonstrated his integrity in keeping to his words.

Pastor Eno Extols Commissioner for LG and Chieftaincy Affairs at Child Dedication

• *Describes political unity as reflection of true A'lbom spirit*



the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, averring that his dedication to traditional institutions has earned him the confidence and affection of Paramount Rulers across the State. He called for sustained support for government programmes, and applauded politicians from different political parties who attended the ceremony, describing their unity as a reflection of the true Akwa Ibom spirit needed to drive growth and the ARISE Agenda.

In their remarks, Hon. Archibong and wife, Dr. Bright Archibong, expressed gratitude to God for blessing his family, and Governor Eno for his support.

Pastor Umo Eno, has described the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon. Frank Archibong, as a man of proven strength of character and unwavering reliability.

The Governor spoke on Sunday, December 14, during the child dedication service of Master Emmanuel Frank Archibong at Insight Bible Church, Nsikak Eduok Avenue, Uyo, where he commended the Commissioner's consistency and immense contribution to the success of his administration.

Governor Eno noted that the calibre and diversity of dignitaries present at the event reflected Archibong's strong character and wide acceptance across the State, describing him as a dependable pillar of support who has consistently advanced the administration's mandate.

He thanked God for blessing the Archibong's family with a male child, describing the occasion as a moment of joy and gratitude, worthy of celebration to the glory of God.

The Governor also praised the commissioner's effective leadership at

In a sermon titled, "The Great Light: What We Gain Because Jesus Came" drawn from Isaiah 9:2, the Senior Pastor of Insight Bible Church, Dr. Sylvanus Ukafia noted that the coming of Jesus as the Light, permanently transforms every believer. He also listed the gains of Jesus coming, including identify, alignment, and authority, among others.

The service was attended by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, the Secretary to the State Government, Prince Enobong Uwah, other members of the State Executive Council, clergy, political leaders and other dignitaries.



AKSG Reaffirms Commitment to Youth Empowerment

• *Deploys fresh DASAC graduates to Ibom-LED for advanced training*

The Akwa Ibom State Government has reiterated unwavering commitment to youth empowerment and skills development, affirming that no investment is too significant when it concerns securing the future of young people.

Governor Umo Eno, represented by the Deputy Governor, Senator Akon Eyakenyi, stated this on Thursday, December 11, at the 2nd Graduation Ceremony of the Dakkada Skills Acquisition Centre (DASAC) in Ikot Ada Idem, Ibiono Ibom Local Government Area.

Addressing the 428 new cohort of graduates, Governor Eno congratulated them on the successful completion of their training and encouraged them to apply their acquired skills productively. He commended the Rector and management of DASAC for their dedication to translating the State's vision for human capital development into impactful, life-transforming results. According to him, the centre's programmes remain highly relevant and competitive in today's labour market, positioning the graduates for meaningful economic and personal advancement.

Reaffirming the government's commitment under the ARISE Agenda, Governor Eno highlighted that the Ibom Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Centre (Ibom-LED), has already trained over 2,000 youths and supported them with start-up capital upon completion. He announced that all graduates from the current cohort will proceed to Ibom-LED for advanced training to further enhance their competencies and readiness for emerging opportunities.

Delivering a goodwill message, the representative of the University of Lagos, Prof. Sunday Adebisi, described DASAC as "the best thing that has happened to our nation," and lauded Governor Eno for establishing what he termed the best skill acquisition centre in Nigeria. He highlighted DASAC's significant contributions to practical training across welding, ICT, fashion design, construction and other trades, efforts he said are reducing youth idleness and fostering a more peaceful society.

Prof. Adebisi also commended the Governor's compassion and humane leadership, citing his recent empowerment of a visually impaired artiste during the Ibom Unity Concert as a notable example.

In her remarks, the Rector of DASAC, Prof. Enoidem Usoro, expressed deep appreciation to Governor Eno for his vision and steadfast support. She noted that the centre's growing success and expanding capacity reflect the administration's sincere commitment to equipping Akwa Ibom youths with sustainable, market-ready skills.



A'ibom Strengthens Cholera Preparedness, Flags Off Training for 350 Workers

The Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John, has declared open the Cholera Sample Management and Rapid Diagnostic Testing (RDT) Training for 350 health workers, reinforcing preparedness and response capacity against cholera outbreaks.

The 10-day training, scheduled from 9-18 December, took place at the NLC Conference Hall, Atan Offot, Uyo, and brought together participants from the three senatorial districts of the State, to strengthen skills in cholera detection, sample handling, surveillance, and case management.

Addressing the participants, the Commissioner for Health, commended the World Health Organization (WHO), Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), National Facilitators, and the State Epidemiology Unit of the Directorate of Public Health Services for their sustained support for public health. He noted that recent cholera outbreaks in Akwa Ibom were successfully contained without fatalities, attributing the achievement to the vigilance, competence, and professionalism of health workers.

The Commissioner urged the trainees to take full advantage of the exercise in order to serve as ambassadors of best practices in disease surveillance, early reporting, and effective case management across their respective duty posts, stressing that the medical profession demands integrity, empathy, and ethical responsibility.

Dr. John expressed appreciation to the Governor for his transformative leadership and the declaration of a State of Emergency in Healthcare, noting visible improvement in infrastructure, service delivery, and health outcomes. He also paid tribute to the State Epidemiologist, Dr. Nchiek Eneh,



describing her as a dedicated and committed example of public service.

Welcoming participants, the Director of Public Health Services, Dr. Etap Antia, described the training as timely and critical to strengthening epidemic preparedness in the State. He attributed Akwa Ibom's recent success in managing cholera outbreaks without casualties to improved surveillance systems and the dedication of frontline health workers, while thanking the Commissioner for his consistent support.

In their goodwill messages, the WHO State Coordinator, Dr. Alawole OluwaBukola, and the NCDC representative, Mr. Jubril Kareem, lauded the State strong leadership in public health emergency management and reaffirmed continued support in surveillance, laboratory networking, data analysis, and rapid response.

The training, running concurrently across the three senatorial districts, is expected to significantly enhance capacity for early detection, rapid response, and prevention of future cholera outbreaks.



Oku Ibom Calls for Unity, Backs Tinubu's Reforms and Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda at Mboho Assembly



The Oku Ibom Ibibio, His Eminence, Ntenyin Solomon Etuk, has called on members of Mboho Mkpawara Ibibio and Akwa Ibom indigenes to embrace unity and give sustained support to the ongoing economic and institutional reforms of President Bola Tinubu, as well as the ARISE Agenda of Governor Umo Eno, describing both initiatives as vital pathways to strategic transformation, peace and shared prosperity.

The monarch, who is also the President-General of the Akwa Ibom State Supreme Council of Traditional Rulers and Grand Patron of Mboho Mkpawara Ibibio, made the call at the 58th General Assembly of the organisation held at its International Secretariat in Uyo, where he commended President Tinubu for the courage and resolve demonstrated in pursuing reforms aimed at repositioning Nigeria's economy and strengthening national institutions. He lauded Governor Eno for the clarity, inclusiveness and developmental impact of the ARISE Agenda, urging citizens to rise above partisan and sectional considerations.

The Oku Ibom also commended the International President of Mboho Mkpawara Ibibio, Akparawa James Edet, for his exceptional, purposeful and unifying leadership, noting that the organisation has recorded renewed strength, cohesion and enhanced global visibility under his stewardship. He cautioned against disunity and internal sabotage and encouraged Ibibio sons and daughters to support one another for collective advancement, acknowledging the historic role of Mboho Mkpawara Ibibio in the unity and development of Akwa Ibom State, and bestowed royal blessings on members.

In his welcome address, Akparawa Edet, paid tribute to the foresight and sacrifices of the organisation's founding fathers and outlined key milestones recorded under his administration. These include the upgrade of facilities at the Mboho Unity Schools, notable improvement at the International Secretariat, and the strengthening of welfare and administrative systems across the organisation. He highlighted intervention projects executed at the Mboho Unity Schools in partnership with various chapters, notably Houston, New York, Dallas, London and Connecticut, describing the initiatives as strong expressions of unity, shared responsibility and commitment to educational development.

The International President further detailed achievements in global expansion and diaspora integration, announcing the establishment of new chapters in Phoenix, New Jersey, Ireland,

Ikorodu, Uyo Metropolitan, Toronto, Calgary and Connecticut. He described the expansion as a formidable pillar of unity, growth and international visibility for the organisation.

Addressing challenges confronting the organisation, Akparawa Edet expressed concern over the destruction of Mboho's legacy property in Lagos, but urged members to remain calm and law-abiding, assuring them that the matter is being addressed through appropriate channels at the highest levels.

On national issues, he raised concerns over banditry, insurgency, kidnapping and other violent crimes threatening national stability and economic growth, and called for collective vigilance, renewed patriotism and full cooperation with security agencies. He commended President Tinubu for appointing General Christopher Musa (Rtd.) as Minister of Defence, describing the decision as a round peg in a round hole, and urged Nigerians to support efforts aimed at restoring security nationwide.

Akparawa Edet praised Governor Pastor Eno for the upgrade of the Victor Attah International Airport to full international status, noting its far-reaching benefits for aviation, tourism, trade and global connectivity. He also acknowledged the Governor's achievements under the ARISE Agenda across infrastructure, agriculture, education, social welfare and rural development.

He further commended the cordial working relationship between President Bola Tinubu, Governor Eno and the President of the Senate, Godswill Akpabio, describing the synergy as a stabilising force that enhances political stability and development prospects for both the State and the nation. He applauded the appointment of Senator Ita Enang as Ambassador-designate and appealed for greater inclusion of qualified Ibibio sons and daughters in federal appointments.

The International President appealed to political leaders across party and ethnic divides to exercise restraint in words and conduct, rise above bitterness, and place the collective wellbeing of Nigerians above all other considerations, emphasising that the true strength of the nation lies in unity of purpose and sincerity of service.

The General Assembly featured the Presidential Night of Distinction and End-of-Year Gala, during which past leaders were honoured for their enduring contributions and legacy, while chapters and distinguished members received recognition for outstanding service and commitment.



A'ibom Targets Malaria Reduction as Health Ministry Inaugurates ITN Campaign Committee



The Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John, has inaugurated the Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITNs) Campaign Coordinating Committee (ICCC) as part of renewed efforts to reduce malaria prevalence across the State.

Inaugurating the Committee on Wednesday, December 10, at the Ministry of Health Conference Room in Uyo, the Commissioner, who spoke through the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Patrick Essiet, noted that malaria remains a major public health challenge with severe consequences on children, pregnant women, household productivity, and socio-economic development.

Dr. John emphasised that malaria is preventable, stressing that consistent use of insecticide-treated nets significantly reduces infection rates and malaria-related deaths. The Commissioner also announced that the State, in collaboration with national and international partners, will soon begin a large-scale mass distribution of ITNs to ensure every household has access to the intervention.

He outlined the committee's responsibilities to include resource mobilisation, coordination of implementing partners, security of personnel and commodities across the 31 local government areas, monitoring household mobilisation, and ensuring effective last-mile delivery of nets to communities statewide.

The Commissioner commended development partners, particularly the Against Malaria Foundation for donating over 3.9 million ITNs, as well as the United States Government and

the Global Health Supply Chain programme for operational support. He also acknowledged civil society groups, traditional institutions, the media, frontline health workers, and Ibom Air for supporting the State Malaria Elimination Programme, including the donation of 50,000 doses of sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine.

Earlier, the Director of Public Health Services reaffirmed the ministry's readiness to ensure a successful campaign, while the State Malaria Elimination Programme Manager outlined the campaign strategy, logistics, ICT deployment, and community mobilisation plans.

Members of the Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITNs) Campaign Coordinating Committee (ICCC) includes, the Commissioner for Health as Chairman; the State Commissioner of Police; Chairman House Committee on Health; Commissioner, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), Akwa Ibom State; Permanent Secretary, State Ministry of Health; Permanent Secretary, Hospitals Management Board; the Executive Secretary, Akwa Ibom State Primary Health Care Development Agency; Permanent Secretary, Local Govt & Chieftaincy Affairs; Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment; MD/CEO, Ibom Air; Chairman ALGON; Director, State Security Service (SSS), Akwa Ibom State; Nigeria Civil Defence Corps; Director of Women Affairs, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare; Director, Public Health Services, SMOH, and the Director of Health, Local Government Service Commission.

Others are, the Director of Information, Ministry of Information; Director Health Planning Research and Statistics, SMOH; Director Pharmaceutical Services, SMOH; State Malaria Elimination Programme Manager; Secretary, World Health Organization (WHO); Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers; Logistics Management Coordination Unit (LMCU); Coordinator, Civil Society on Malaria Immunization and Nutrition (ACOMIN); Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Focal Person; Nigerian Television Authority (NTA); Akwa Ibom State Broadcasting Corporation (AKBC); Inspiration FM; Business Day Newspaper; Pioneer Newspaper, State Co-ordinator, PATH, RHCC; Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN); State Health Promotion Officer; State Malaria Logistics Officer; Chairman, Forum of PHC Directors; Chairman, LGA Malaria Focal Persons; Information Officer, SMOH; Chairman, Akwa Ibom Council for Islamic Affairs, Uyo and GHSC-PSM

Speaking on behalf of the committee, Mr. Ifioke Effiong extended appreciation to the Commissioner for Health for the confidence reposed in them, pledged smooth and effective implementation and assured the Ministry and partners that the committee would work tirelessly to meet all targets and deliver a hitch-free ITN distribution campaign.

Christmas Unplugged 3.0: Cooperative Market Highlights A'ibom's Indigenous Products

The Bureau of Cooperatives and Rural Development, has introduced the Akwa Ibom Cooperative Market as part of activities marking this year's Christmas Carnival celebrations in the State.

The market, located at the Unity Park, Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo, is showcasing a wide range of locally made products, crafts and food items drawn from the three senatorial districts, highlighting the richness of Akwa Ibom's cultural and economic heritage.

At the Ikot Ekpene Senatorial District stand, visitors are treated to an array of raffia-based crafts including bags, men's shoes, mats, caps, hand fans and sandals. The district is also featuring unique local delicacies, notably porridge maize.

The Uyo Senatorial District is presenting several value-added agricultural products



processed into flour, such as cocoyam, yam, beans, plantain and coconut flour, alongside cold-pressed coconut oil. Other high-quality products on display include palm kernel oil, shea butter, date powder, and dehydrated bitter leaf, scent leaf and water leaf.



From the Eket Senatorial District, a variety of food products are available, including dry fish, crayfish, cassava flakes mix, fufu powder, cassava flour and cassava balm. The district is also showcasing one of its signature local delicacies, Ekpang Iwa.

UBEC, SUBEB Host 2025 Green School Exhibition

•As Etuk raises alarm over encroachment on school lands



invest in agriculture. If you want to be an employer of labour, invest in agriculture,” he stated.

However, the SUBEB boss expressed concern over the persistent encroachment on school lands by some traditional rulers and community members, warning that such actions undermine school farming initiatives and threaten the sustainability of the Green School programme.

The Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), in collaboration with the Akwa Ibom State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), on Wednesday, December 10, held the 2025 Green School Exhibition and Award Ceremony at Saint Patrick’s Primary School, Iboko Offot, Uyo, to promote food sufficiency and agricultural education among primary school pupils.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Chairman of SUBEB, Rt. Hon. Anietie Etuk, commended Governor Umo Eno for his sustained investment in basic education, particularly the timely release of counterpart funding which, he said, made the successful hosting of the exhibition possible.

Represented by the Permanent Secretary, SUBEB, Dr. Roseline Mfon, the SUBEB chairman averred that agriculture remains a proven driver of economic growth globally and should be fully embraced by Akwa Ibom State. He noted that the Green School Exhibition aligns with the ARISE Agenda of the present administration, stressing that agriculture and education are critical pillars embedded in the government’s development blueprint.

According to Etuk, Governor Eno has consistently encouraged agricultural development not only within schools but also at community and State levels, describing investment in agriculture as a pathway to economic growth and job creation. “If you want to grow the economy of the State,

In her goodwill message, Dr. Roseline Mfon appreciated the Governor for providing a conducive learning environment, supporting extra-curricular activities, and ensuring prompt release of counterpart funds. She commended teachers for mentoring pupils in basic farming skills, describing agriculture as both self-sustaining and income-generating.

Earlier, the AK-SUBEB Green School Desk Officer, Mrs. Ubong David, explained that the exhibition showcased farm produce from schools across the 31 local government areas. She disclosed that UBEC has renamed the programme from the Agricultural Education Training Programme (AETP) to the Green School and Climate Change Educational Initiative.

The event featured an inspection of farm produce, awards to outstanding schools, cultural performances, folk songs, and drama presentations.



Ikot Ekpene Chairman, AkwaPoly Forge Partnership on Youth Skills Development



The Chairman of Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area, Hon. Aniefiok Nkom, has pledged collaboration with the management of Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic, Ikot Osurua, to promote peace, community cooperation, and youth skills acquisition across the area.

Hon. Nkom who made the pledge on Tuesday, December 9, during a familiarisation visit by the Acting Rector, Dr. Akanimo Jonah, and his management team to the council secretariat, advised the Polytechnic team to build bridges and develop strategies that would enhance cooperation and maintain order and serenity while engaging youths.

Expressing appreciation for their recognition of the council, the Chairman assured that his administration would support initiatives

designed to equip youths with practical skills, stressing the importance of youth empowerment for community development.

Earlier, the Acting Rector, Dr. Akanimo Jonah, explained that the visit aimed at acquainting the council with the Polytechnic's Centre for Development of Crafts. He added that the institution has received approval for 13 craft-related training programmes through TETFUND and sought a partnership with the local government to implement them effectively.

The Polytechnic management expressed gratitude for the warm reception and reiterated their commitment to collaborate with Ikot Ekpene Local Government Council in equipping youths with skills and creating opportunities for personal and community growth.

A'ibom Reviews UNFPA/Norway Projects, Reaffirms Commitment to ARISE Agenda

Key government officials, development partners and implementing agencies, have converged at the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning Conference Room, Uyo, for the 2025 Fourth Quarter UNFPA/Norway Supported Programme Coordination Meeting, to review implementation progress, validate data and strengthen sustainability of interventions in Akwa Ibom State.

Declaring the meeting open, on Monday, December 15, the Commissioner for Budget and Economic Planning, Dr. Nsikan Nkan, said the session focused on assessing fourth-quarter UNFPA-supported activities and Norway-funded projects concluding in December 2025. He emphasised the importance of accurate, timely and validated data for planning, accountability and performance monitoring, urging implementing partners to promptly submit reports and retirement documents. Dr. Nkan thanked UNFPA and Norway for their continued support, noting alignment with Governor Umo Eno's ARISE Agenda, particularly in the health sector.

Earlier, the Director of Economic Planning, Mr. Ottobong Sambo, representing the Permanent Secretary, welcomed participants and reaffirmed the ministry's coordinating role in ensuring State ownership, effective supervision and sustainability of donor-funded programmes.

The Commissioner for Education, Prof. Ubong Umoh, expressed appreciation to UNFPA and Norway for their positive impact on the education sector, highlighting the synergy between President Bola Tinubu's Renewed Hope



Initiative and Governor Eno's ARISE Agenda, especially on inclusivity. He pledged the Ministry's continued collaboration with partners.

Also speaking, the Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem John, commended development partners and implementing MDAs for their commitment, assuring that the Umo Eno administration remains focused on strengthening health facilities to deliver quality and accessible services across the State.

Representing UNFPA, the Coordinator and Head of Office, Cross River Sub-Office, Dr. Andrew Karima, lauded the strong partnership with the Akwa Ibom State Government, describing it as critical to achieving improved reproductive health and population outcomes. An overview of the UNFPA and Norway projects was presented by the State UNFPA Focal Person, Dr. Aliyu Yakubu, who acknowledged government support and progress in the health sector.

The Director of International Cooperation and State UNFPA Programme Director, Dr. Uduak Ekong, outlined the objectives of the engagement, including reviewing implementation progress, addressing challenges, sharing best practices and scaling up high-impact interventions.

The meeting featured partner presentations on implementation reports and proposed 2026 activities, with goodwill messages from key MDAs, Permanent Secretaries, senior officials and partners at the meeting reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining UNFPA and Norway-supported interventions in the State.



Urue Offong/Oruko: Uno Pledges Support to QIU for Safer Communities

The Chairman of Urue Offong/Oruko Local Government Council, Rt. Hon. Uno Etim Uno, has assured the Quick Intervention Unit (QIU), Eket Annex, of the council's ongoing support in promoting peace, security, and community cooperation.

Rt. Hon. Uno made the pledge on Tuesday, December 9, when the Unit Commander, CSP Iluobe Patrick, led his team on a familiarisation visit to the council secretariat.

Welcoming the QIU team, the Chairman appreciated their proactive approach and stressed the importance of sustained collaboration between the police, local government, and community stakeholders to ensure a safe and stable environment.

On his part, CSP Patrick highlighted strategies



aimed at strengthening security and responding promptly to emerging challenges within Urue Offong/Oruko and neighbouring communities. He noted that the QIU's operational jurisdiction covers the entire Oro Nation and Eket, making cooperation with local authorities essential for effective coverage.

The visit underscores ongoing efforts to enhance security infrastructure and foster closer working relationships between law enforcement and the local government, reinforcing the commitment of both parties to maintaining peace and stability across the area.



MOI Defends 2026 Budget Estimate

• *Seeks increased overhead allocation for effective media operations*

In view of the rising costs associated with media operations, including advert placements, live broadcasts, and publicity, the Ministry of Information has sought an increase in its overhead allocation for the 2026 fiscal year.

Making the request during a budget defence session held on Thursday, December 11, at the Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly temporary chambers in Luton Park, Uyo, the Commissioner, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, said increment in the overhead cost will aid effective media operations.

Umanah, who presented the budget before the House Committee on Appropriation and Finance, chaired by Hon. Itoro Etim, the Member representing Uruan State Constituency, disclosed a proposed budget estimate of N15,383,616,190.00 for the 2026 fiscal year.

The proposal according to him includes, revenue cost, personnel cost, overhead cost, and capital expenditure, stressing that the significant portion of the budget was allocated to overhead costs, which are essential for the ministry's core operations.

During the session, the Commissioner explained that the ministry had received N4,388,763,137.15 in 2025 budget



releases, with additional capital releases still pending. He acknowledged the committee's support and emphasised the importance of addressing the growing costs in media operations to ensure that the ministry's functions, such as public engagement, advertising, and media outreach, remain effective and up-to-date.

He further stated that the increase in the overhead allocation was necessary to meet media publicity programmes, which are vital to the state's information dissemination efforts.

Umanah expressed appreciation to the committee for the opportunity to present the ministry's position and pledged continuous collaboration to ensure a seamless budget process for the 2026 fiscal year.

Hon. Itoro Etim, in her response, commended the ministry for its clear presentation and requested further clarification on the ministry's revenue generation strategies. She advised the ministry to formally submit its request for the proposed overhead increase in writing to the committee for further review.

Also in attendance were the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Akparawa James Edet, Mr. Aniekan Ukpong, Director of Information and Public Communications; Mrs. Inyang Mfon, Director of Accounts; Mr. Uwem Ben, Director of ICT and Technical Services; Mr. Nsikan Essien, Director of Advertising and Public Relations, Mr. Edem Okon, Director of Strategy and New Media; Mr. Peter Antai, Director of PRS, as well as other staff members from the Accounts Directorate.



Christmas Unplugged 3.0: HoS Commits to ARISE Agenda at Civil Service Night

• Celebrates Governor's support for public servants



concluded by praying for continued blessings for all.

Rt. Hon. Umanah also praised the Governor for fostering a fun, worker-friendly atmosphere, noting the improvement of the Christmas Unplugged celebration, especially with the new Pavilion for MDAs.

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Information, Akparawa James Edet, lauded Governor Eno's commitment to public service, citing the Governor's worker-focused initiatives such as housing for civil servants, vehicles for permanent secretaries, a N80,000 minimum wage, and a range of other incentives. He further praised the Governor's decision to appoint Mrs. Udofia, which he said would continue to improve the civil service in the State.

On Thursday, December 11, the Christmas Unplugged 3.0 grounds came alive with vibrant festivities as civil servants from various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) gathered at the Unity Park arena for the Civil Service Night.

The evening was marked by entertainment, unity, and a deep sense of appreciation for the support provided by Governor Umo Eno to public servants in the State.

In her address, the Head of Civil Service, Mrs. Elsie Peters, commended Governor Eno for approving the night of celebration and supporting initiatives that enhance the working environment for civil servants. She also highlighted the recent approval of the 13th-month salary, a move that has bolstered morale among public servants.

Mrs. Peters reiterated the ongoing commitment to the ARISE Agenda and thanked the Governor for the resources and peaceful atmosphere he has cultivated to ensure optimal service delivery. She also expressed her gratitude to key figures including the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Dr. Anieti Udofia for organising the event, and the Commissioner for Information, Rt. Hon. Aniekan Umanah, for supporting the winners of the various displays.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in advance, Mrs. Peters

The evening's festivities included a choral performance by the Civil Service Mass Choir, cultural dances, and an exciting dance competition, where winners were awarded cash prizes. Adding to the festive atmosphere, the Head of Service led the permanent secretaries in a dance session.

The event was attended by key dignitaries, including permanent secretaries, directors, and civil servants from various MDAs, all contributing to the success of the memorable celebration.



Uyo: Chairman Brings Light After Six Years of Darkness



would boost small businesses and livelihoods.

On his part, the Member representing Uyo State Constituency, Hon. Uwemedimo Asuquo, described the project as timely and transformative, while the Councillor for Ikono 1 Ward 10, Hon. Idiongo Mbosowo, thanked the Chairman and pledged continued community support.

The Chairman of Uyo Local Government Area, Hon. Uwemedimo Udo, has ended six years of blackout in Ikot Obio Mkpong, Ikono Uyo, with the delivery of a 500kVA electricity substation.

Speaking at the handover on Friday, December 12, Hon. Udo said the project under, 'Project Light Up Uyo,' reflects his administration's commitment to addressing critical infrastructure needs and ensuring that no community is left behind. He emphasised that stable electricity is essential for economic growth, security and improved quality of life.

The Council Chairman noted that the intervention responds to the community's long-standing power challenges and expressed confidence that restored electricity

Goodwill messages were delivered by community leaders, youths, and women groups, with the Village and Clan Head, Etebom Ikpe Okon, giving the vote of thanks.

The event was attended by the Vice Chairman, Hon. Christiana Essien; councillors led by Hon. Ekemini Bassey; Council Secretary, Mr. Ubong Udofia; Supervisors, Special Advisers and other stakeholders.



Essien Udim: Usoro Promotes Inclusive 2026 Budget Process



The Chairman of Essien Udim Local Government Area, Hon. Ntiedo Usoro, has reiterated his administration's commitment to transparency and citizen participation as the council commenced consultations for its 2026 budget.

Speaking at the 2026 Budget Stakeholders Consultation/Citizens' Engagement held on Friday, December 12, at the Council Secretariat, Afaha Ikot Ebak, the Chairman stated that the proposed budget, titled "Budget of Unity and Transformation," would prioritise human capital development and address the needs of communities across the area. He urged stakeholders to actively participate, emphasising that their input was essential to meeting constitutional and democratic requirements.

Earlier, the Head of Planning, Research and Statistics, Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Mr. Patrick Ikotidem, commended the council for following due process in budget preparation and reminded

participants that project execution depends on available funds.

Additionally, the Director-General, Akwa Ibom State Fiscal Responsibility Board, Mr. Victor Edet, in a presentation titled, 'Public participation in budgeting,' outlined the legal framework, benefits and procedures for citizen involvement, praising the strong stakeholder turnout in Essien Udim.

Meanwhile, the Director of Budget, Planning, Research and Statistics, Essien Udim, Mr. Edet Amamkpa, reviewed the 2025 budget, highlighting ward-by-ward projects, implementation progress and proposals for rollover into 2026.

The engagement featured interactive sessions, project validation and nomination by ward stakeholders, with attendance by council officials, traditional rulers, security chiefs, political leaders and community representatives.

GOVERNOR UMO ENO, PHD, WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AT THE PROGRESSIVE GOVERNORS' FORUM MEETING, HELD ON WED, 17 DECEMBER 2025.



GOV ENO FLAGS OFF A 2-DAY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR HONOURABLE COUNCILLORS AT IBOM-LED



GOV ENO PRESENTS CASH PRIZES TO ATHLETES WHO EXCELLED AT THE 2025 AKS SPORTS FESTIVAL AND THE NATIONAL YOUTH GAMES IN ASABA



AKWA IBOM UNITY CONCERT



CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



IKOT ABASI LGA



IKONO LGA

CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



IKA LGA



CIVIL SERVICE DAY

CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



IKOT EKPENE LGA



ITU LGA

CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED 3.0



INI LGA



MBO LGA



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

JOIN US AT THE

Akwa Ibom Christmas Carols Festival

Theme
Divine Visitation
(LUKE 1:68)

Date

FRIDAY, 19TH
DECEMBER
2025

Venue

AMPHITHEATRE UDO UDOMA AVENUE
UYO - AKWA IBOM STATE

Time 7:00PM

BROADCASTING LIVE ON



• Comfort FM • Passion FM • Tangsio FM • XL FM • Premium FM
• Atlantic FM • Inspiration FM • Memories FM • Redemption FM
• Mixx FM • AKBC Radio • Planet FM • Heritage FM



www.facebook.com/aksgovt
www.facebook.com/aksmoist

www.akwaibomstate.gov.ng



His Excellency
Pastor Umo Eno, Ph.D
Governor, Akwa Ibom State

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 Iwoko



HIGHLIGHTS OF GOV. UMO ENO'S IMPACTFUL PERFORMANCE



WORKERS & RETIREES WELFARE

- PAYMENT OF OVER N78B BACKLOG OF PENSION, GRATUITIES
- 1.2B WARDROBE ALLOWANCE TO TEACHERS
- N80,000 MINIMUM WAGE
- 13TH MONTH SALARY
- RECRUITMENT OF 3000 WORKERS
- RECRUITMENT OF 2000 HEALTH WORKERS



OVER 974 KM OF ROADS 31 BRIDGES



AVIATION

- ACQUISITION OF 4 NEW AIRCRAFTS FOR IBOM AIR
- CONSTRUCTION OF AVIATION VILLAGE
- COMPLETION OF THE NEW TERMINAL
- BUILDING & MRO AT THE VAIA
- RESTORATION OF RUNWAY LIGHTINGS AT VAIA



HEALTHCARE

- 31 MODEL PHC IN ALL LGAs
- HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME
- RENOVATION OF 8 GENERAL HOSPITALS
- CONSTRUCTION OF GENERAL HOSPITALS, UKANAFUN
- ALLOWANCES TO HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS



EDUCATION

- REHABILITATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF 121 PROJECTS UNDER SUBEB



HOUSING

- EWET LUXURY GARDENS
- 150 FREE HOUSES FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS
- JUDICIARY VILLAGE
- LOCAL GOVT CHAIRMAN OFFICIAL RESIDENCE



- ORON MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
- ECO FRIENDLY CNG MASS TRANSIT SCHEME



INTERVENTIONS

- ESTABLISHMENT OF BULK PURCHASE AGENCY
- ASSET MGT AGENCY
- HEALTH INSURANCE AGENCY
- 3RD PHASE OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION COMPLETED



HEALTHCARE

- RENOVATION OF ACCIDENT/ EMERGENCY UNIT AT GENERAL HOSPITAL, IKOT EKPENE
- STATE OF EMERGENCY IN HEALTHCARE SECTOR
- PROVISION OF AKS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & AMBULANCE SERVICES (AKSEMSAS)
- IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT/ EMPOWERMENT

- PAYMENTS OF N50,000 UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT/ BUSINESS GRANT TO 5,000 YOUTH PER MONTH
- RELEASE OF N750M TO 15,000 YOUTH IN TRANCHE 1
- EST. OF ARISE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PORTAL
- TRAINING & EMPOWERMENT OVER 10,000 YOUTHS/SMES
- TRAINING AT DASAC AND IBOM-LED



INVESTMENT

- IBOM DEEP SEA POTS PROJECT
- 18-STOREY IBOM TOWER PROJECT - LAGOS
- PROPOSED FOUR-STAR IBOM HOTELS, ABUJA



EDUCATION

- 31 MODEL SCHOOLS ACROSS ALL LGAs
- FREE EDUCATION
- PAYMENT OF BURSARY AND TRUST
- FUND FOR DISABLED STUDENTS
- PAYMENT OF EXAMINATION FEES
- PAYMENT OF SUBVENTION TO SCHOOLS



TOURISM

- ECOLOGICAL REMEDIATION/ ARISE PALM RESORT
- 5000 CAPACITY IBOM INT'L CONVENTION CENTRE & HOTEL
- 2000 CAPACITY AMPHI - THEATRE/ ANNUAL CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED EVENT



SPORTS

- ESTABLISHMENT OF SPORTS ACADEMY
- 1ST AKWA IBOM SPORTS FESTIVAL
- TALENT HUNT
- PROVISION OF SPORTING EQUIPMENT
- TALENT DEVELOPMENT IN PRIMARY/ SECONDARY SCHOOL



SECURITY

- ESTABLISHMENT OF MINISTRY OF INTERNAL SECURITY AND WATERWAYS
- 4,500-MAN IBOM COMMUNITY WATCH
- PROVISION OF GUN BOATS/ SECURITY PATROL VEHICLES
- SECURITY & COMMAND CENTRE
- SECURITY TRUST FUNDS



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO OVER 500,000 VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS



AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

- IBOM MODEL FARM
- ARISE HOME FARMS SCHEME
- BACK TO FARM INITIATIVE
- INPUTS TO FARMERS



HUMANITARIAN COMPASSIONATE HOMES

- 329 ARISE COMPASSIONATE HOMES COMPLETED OUT 500, PLANNED
- SUPPORT FOR THE VULNERABLE

60 NEW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Ministry of Information © 2025



www.akwaibomstate.gov.ng

ARISE AGENDA: UNITED FOR PROGRESS





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

