

Production Team

January was another eventful month in implementation of Governor Otti's bold and strategic initiatives in the rebuilding of the State from the ruins of the past caused by the malfeasances of previous Governments.

The Governor swore in Edo-born Mr. Benson Ojeikere as the new Head of Service (HOS) of the State, who took over from the immediate past HOS, Mrs. Queen Ngozi Obioma who retired from the Civil Service in December 2024.

Governor Otti flagged off the renovation and retrofitting of 200 Primary Health Centers across the 184 State Wards of the State. He equally flagged off the construction of sections 1 and 2 of the 13.9 kilometres Onuinyang - Okporoenyi - Oboro – Ikwuano Road traversing Bende and Ikwuano LGAs.

The Governor also approved the building of a bridge to serve as a connecting link between Tonimas to 7Up Bottling Company PLC in Aba.

The full implementation of the free education and Out-of-School Policy of Governor Otti's administration began with the inauguration of a taskforce to enforce compliance.

Boards of some State institutions and agencies of the Government were inaugurated. The employment of 2,500 teachers for both primary and secondary schools across the state is ongoing.

For the first time in the history of the Justice Sector in Abia State, the Ministry of Justice has published the Abia State Ministry of Justice Quarterly Law Report.

The details of these and many more you will see in this publication. Happy reading.

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Governor Otti swore in Edo-born Mr. Benson Ojeikere from the South-South Region of Nigeria as the **State's new Head of Service,** who took over from the former Head of Service, Mrs. Queen Ngozi Obioma, who retired from the Civil Service December 2024.





His Excellency Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, attended the interdenominational thanksgiving service as part of activities marking the commemoration of the fallen heroes and wreath laying by the Nigerian Armed Forces held at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Chapel, Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Umuahia. Speaking during the thanksgiving service, the Governor said that members of the Nigerian Legion and the entire Nigerian armed forces deserve to be celebrated for the day and night they spend on duty to ensure that we sleep with our two eyes closed. He directed his Special Adviser on Security to sit with the leadership of the Nigerian Legion to see how to make life better for them and their families.





His Excellency Dr. Alex Otti attended the grand finale and wreath laying ceremony of the **2025 Armed Forces Remembrance Day celebration** at Aguiyi-Ironsi, Ogurube layout, Umuahia. The Governor saluted the armed forces and reiterated the Government's commitment to their welfare. He also used the event to call for a new set of national values among Nigerians towards building a better Nigeria.







"To all of us, the more important takeaway of today's celebration is the need to evolve a new set of national values that promotes justice at the foundation of our national unity, reject corruption and all forms of abuse of public trust and ultimately enthrone meritocracy, fairness and an enduring sense of patriotism in the execution of our duties as stakeholders in

the national renaissance project.

"Every Nigerian, especially those who have answered the patriotic call of defending our land against all forms of threats should get what is due them when it is due, for that is the only way of strengthening the nation," Gov. Otti started.



Also within the week in review, Governor Otti received in audience a delegation of the **US Market Access Center (USMAC)** led by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Chris Burry, who came to partner with the State in entrepreneurship development and skill acquisition. Mr. Chris Burry said that Abia is the first State in Nigeria that his team is proposing to partner with because of the innovations the Governor is bringing to the State. The Governor welcomed their proposal saying that it is in line with the vision of his administration to harness the potentials and human energy existing in Aba, the commercial nerve centre of the State.





Governor Otti received in audience the newly elected President-General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Worldwide, Sen. John Azuta-Mbata and the Deputy President, Prince Okey Nwadinobi who came to express their gratitude to him for his support and that of other Governors which made their emergence in the recently conducted Ohanaeze Ndigbo election possible. He assured Sen. Mbata of his support and that of his brother Governors, saying that they are only interested in the development and unity of the people. He expressed confidence that Sen. Mbata will succeed in his new assignment having known him for decades and what he stands for.











Governor Otti received in audience the National leadership of the Police Officers Wives Association (POWA) led by their President Dr. Mrs. Elizabeth Egbetokun, wife of the Inspector General of Police (IG), Mr. Kayode Egbetoku who came on a working visit to the State. He commended the Inspector General of Police and his men for

their support working with other sister agencies which has led to relative peace and order in Abia State. The Governor acceded to their request to be given land to build a Skill Acquisition Center in the State for the empowerment of Police Officers, Wives, and their Children.

Governor Alex Otti OFR, received in audience, a delegation of the new State Commander, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Nnadi Wilfred, who paid him a working visit as he resumed duty as the commander of the Federal Agency in Abia State. The Governor called for a multifaceted approach with intelligence-driven strategies in combating the menace of drug abuse in Nigeria. He also assured the new commander of his continued support to the Agency to enable them discharge their functions effectively.



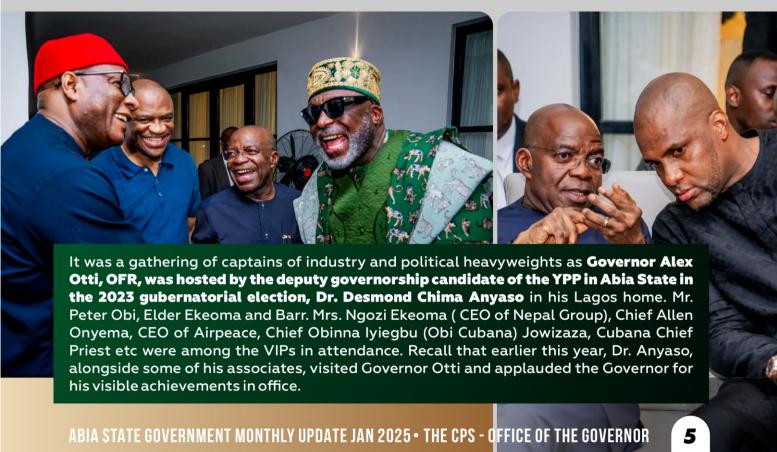








Governor Otti restated his determination and commitment to build and make Abia a model State that accommodates all. He stated this during the wedding ceremony of the son of STARLINE CEO Mazi Clement Owunna, Clement Owunna Jr., and his wife, Chinelo. "What we are building here is a model State. No matter what anyone says. we are focused and determined. If you come to Aba in the next one year, you would probably not recognize Aba. "Very close here, there was an abandoned project called Enyimba Hotel. You would probably see a Radisson Blu sitting on it. And then you see a conference center by the side and you see another leisure park opposite it. This is our place, we must fix it", the Governor declared.







The Governor handed over 5 newly refurbished and retrofitted Armored Personal Carriers (APCs) to the police to further boost and sustain the gains made by his administration in securing and keeping the State safe. Governor Otti stressed the need for all to cultivate the culture of maintaining public assets and assured that never again would public assets be allowed to deteriorate under his watch. He noted that fixing little faults will save huge resources that would be used to fix bigger faults when little faults are allowed to deteriorate. The Abia State Commissioner of

Police, CP Danladi Isa thanked the Governor for supporting them with the needed tools to do their work well.





The Governor received in audience a team from the office of the National Security Adviser (NSA) led by Barr. Abdullahi Bello who came to the State for an official assignment on "Victim Impact Assessment." Governor Otti used the opportunity to applaud the teamwork existing among security agencies in the State, which has led to peace and security in Abia. "For us, the most important part of governance is security. If security fails, every other thing fails, so we attach top priority to issues around security; that is why we're excited to have you here to give us all the support that you can, and you too can learn from us."Gov. Otti stated.

Governor Alex Otti, OFR, inaugurated the **State's Christian and the Muslim Pilgrim Welfare Boards,** with Apostle Emmanuel Agomuo as the Chairman of the Christian Pilgrim Welfare Board and Chief Imam Sheikh Ali Ukiwo as Chairman of Muslim Pilgrim Welfare Board. The Governor urged the members of the religious boards to prioritize service and performance in their new roles. "I am aware you know clearly what is expected of you. In the new Abia, when you get an appointment, yes, it is good to celebrate but it is all about work. Your appointment is all about performance, and we know that you are going to perform", Gov Otti stated.

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The Governor held his monthly media chat at Government House, Umuahia. Governor Otti uses the programmes to update Abians about the activities of the State Government as well as give account of his stewardship every month.



The State Government is set to rebase and update the 30year development plan of the state government to reflect the real position of the state's economy



OFFICE OF THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR



On January 1, 2025, Her Excellency, Mrs. Priscilla Chidinma Otti, visited the Aba South Primary Health Center and the Federal Medical Center (FMC), Umuahia, to celebrate the arrival of the state's first newborns of the year. At the Aba South Primary Health Center, she welcomed Chidozie Favour, the First Baby of the Year, delivered at 12:08 AM. Three additional births at the center underscored the improved healthcare services available to residents.





A similar visit to FMC Umuahia revealed the safe delivery of three newborns, bringing joy to their families. To mark the occasion, Her Excellency presented gifts, including foodstuffs, cash, and essential baby care items, to the families. She reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening healthcare systems, ensuring that maternal and child health remains a priority in the administration's developmental agenda.



OFFICE OF THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR





As part of the New Year festivities, Her Excellency visited Sussana Motherless Home in Ukwa West Local Government Area, where she spent time with the children, offering words of encouragement and reaffirming the government's commitment to their well-being. During the visit, she pledged support for the orphanage's school project, recognizing education as a vital tool for empowering the children. She also commended the caregivers for their dedication and hard work in providing a nurturing environment. Despite the home's remote location near the Rivers State border, Her Excellency assured the children of her continued visits and support.

Furthermore, within the month of January, her Excellency visited and extended her hands of compassion to Ahiaeke Motherless Babies Home; Agape Charity Home, Avodim, Ipupe-Amuba Ubakala; So-Said Charity Homes for Vulnerable Persons, Amibo Ubakala; St. Vincent De Paul Center for Mentally and Physically Challenged Persons, Umuafai Ndume Ibeku; Ngwa Road Motherless Babies Home; and SDA Motherless Babies Home. She supported them with food items, baby diapers, and cash donations.







In a bid to **promote inclusivity and support for persons living** with HIV, Her Excellency had an interactive engagement with affected individuals and key stakeholders. The meeting provided a platform for discussions on challenges faced by the HIV-positive community and ways to enhance their integration into society. She reaffirmed the government's zero-tolerance policy for discrimination against persons living with HIV, emphasizing their capacity to contribute meaningfully to societal development. Her Excellency also



OFFICE OF THE WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR



highlighted ongoing efforts by the administration to domesticate the anti-discrimination law for HIV-positive individuals in Abia State. According to data from the Abia State Agency for the Control of HIV/AIDS (ABSACA), 46,788 individuals

are currently receiving treatment in the state, placing Abia sixth in HIV prevalence nationwide. To further support the attendees, gift items, including cash, were distributed.



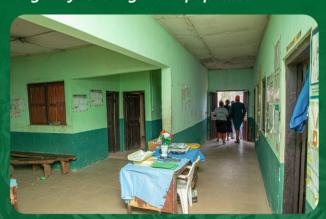


MINISTRY OF HEALTH



The Governor Flagged off the renovation and retrofitting of 200 Primary Health Centers (PHCs) across the 184 Wards of the State tagged "Project Ekwueme." This project is expected to be completed and delivered within 100 days. Speaking during the flag-off ceremony, the Governor said, "We have gathered this afternoon to flag off a project that will see the State Government renovate and provide operational infrastructure to 200 primary healthcare facilities across the 184 wards in the State over the next 100 days. This initiative is set up to improve access to quality healthcare, especially in the rural communities, reduce

exposure to quacks and fake drugs, and effectively improve good health and longevity for the general populace."





MINISTRY OF HEALTH



The State Government will soon flag off the construction of the Abia Medical City project, a signature project designed to make Abia State a destination for Medical Tourism in Nigeria

His Excellency Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, received in audience **Revive Medical Team from Belgium**, who came to the State for a medical mission on the Invitation of the State Government. He commended the team for the good work they did the last time they came and equally expressed his gratitude to them for acceding to his request to come back again. The Governor reiterated that healthcare remains a top agenda of his administration, noting that despite the

enormous work done by his administration in the health sector, which has improved the sector, there is still a lot of work to be done. The team was led by Dr. De Gazelle Herman and Dr Smart Oriaku.





MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

State Government has commenced the regulation of the right of way for laying of telecommunication cables around the state.



Abia State Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with WIOCC, an ICT/Technology Broadband Company, for the installation of fiber optic and internet connectivity across the State. Speaking during the signing of the MoU, Governor Otti said that the formal signing of the MoU marks a turning point in the socioeconomic development of the state as



MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



the company would commence the survey of the whole state immediately to implement the project in line with the MOU. He explained that the internet connectivity would affect the educational, health and other institutions of the State positively. He noted that the investment would equally impact network operators whose Services would now be felt in villages and communities with low connectivity spots

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



To enhance the administration of criminal justice in the State, the Abia State Government, through the Ministry of Justice, has fortified the State Police Command's investigative capabilities with state-of-the-art electronic recording devices and crucial legal resources. This initiative could not have come at a better time, as it aligns perfectly with the Supreme Court's recent jurisprudential pronouncement in FRN v. Akaeze [2024] 12

NWLR (Pt. 1951) 1, which mandates that law enforcement agencies must electronically record a suspect's confessional statement in an audio-visual format during criminal investigations.

The donation of the electronic recording devices and crucial legal resources was made during a high-level courtesy visit to the Commissioner of Police of Abia State, CP Danladi Isa Iya at the State Police Headquarters, where the Honorable Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Mr. Ikechukwu Uwanna, Esq., presented twenty-five high-specification mobile devices equipped with SIM cards. The Hon. Attorney General emphasized during the handover of the devices to the Commissioner of Police that "these investigative tools will facilitate the procurement of incontrovertible confessional statements from suspects in full compliance with Sections 15(4) and 17(1) & (2) of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) 2015.

The construction of the 17 Model Court Buildings are ongoing.

Digitalization and Digitization of the Justice Sector: the Ministry has commenced the first phase of the project with the back scanning of the documents, court processes and files at the Ministry of Justice.



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



For the first time in the history of the Justice Sector in Abia State, the Ministry of Justice has published the **Abia State Ministry of Justice Quarterly Law Report.** This report is a compendium of cases from the High Court of Abia State. This will help in the building of precedents in the Judiciary and stop the challenges of conflicting judgments.



MINISTRY OF BASIC & SECONDARY EDUCATION

To ensure full implementation of her **free education policy and enforce compliance to her Out-of-School Policy** it earlier announced last year, the State Government has set up a Special task force to ensure that every child of school age should not be found in the streets during school hours.

The State has commenced the **employment of 2,500 teachers** for both primary and secondary schools across the state to fill vacancies already existing in the school system.

The State government has equally **introduced mathematics clinics** for students in examination classes of JSS 3 and SS3, which will hold Tuesday and Thursday of every week between the hours of 7-7:45.00 AM to fully realize the STEM policy of the present administration.

MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION



Governor Otti inaugurated the Governing Council of Abia State University (ABSU) with Rt. Hon. Agwu U Agwu as Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council. He charged members of the Council to transform the university into one of the best universities in Nigeria. Rt. Hon, Agwu U. Agwu, thanked the Governor for the trust reposed on the Council members and pledged their dedication to the task ahead.



MINISTRY OF POWER & PUBLIC UTILITIES



ELECTRIFICATION:

Extension of 11 KV line + installation of 300KVA Transformer at Enyimba Garments - Aba.

Installation / Commissioning of 500Kva / 33KV transformer and point load substation including reticulation of Low Tension Power Lines at Federal Polytechnic Isuochi The State Government commenced the distribution of 53 Transformers procured

last December to various communities across the State to boost stable power supply in the State. Represented by the Commissioner for Power and Public Utilities, Engr. Ikechukwu Monday, Governor Otti said that distribution of the transformers is part of his social contract with the people of the state which is to promote and provide reliable electricity supply to the communities. The Governor disclosed that the beneficiaries were selected on a first-come, first-served arrangement.







Abia Integrated WASH Accelerated Program (AIWAP): Rehabilitation of Water Scheme at State Secretariat 99%;

Aro-Ajatakiri Community – Ikwuano Rehabilitation and conversion to Solar Powered Water facility including reticulation to 1.8km with fetching points 98%;

Aro-Achara – Isiala Ngwa North: Installation of Solar Powered water facility and Reticulation to some locations within the community 90%;

Umuetegha Nvosi – Isiala Ngwa South: Installation of Solar Powered Water Facility and reticulation to designated locations in the community 40%;

and Okwoyi Isieke Ibeku Umuahia North: Installation of Solar Powered Water Facility and reticulation to designated locations in the community 30%.





MINISTRY OF WORKS







Governor Otti flagged off the reconstruction of sections 1 and 2 of the 13.9 kilometres Onuinyang - Okporoenyi - Oboro - Ikwuano road with a promise to ensure it is completed on time. Speaking during the event, the Governor said that, his government sees roads as pathways to prosperity. "In the new Abia, we conceive roads as pathways to prosperity for present

and future generations.

"Our determination to build quality road networks to connect all parts of the State is founded on the conviction that there are abundant human and material resources to be harnessed by opening the roads that were hitherto abandoned through systemic neglect."











MINISTRY OF WORKS



Governor Otti has approved the **building of a bridge to serve as a connecting link between Tonimas to 7 Up in Aba.** The Director General of Greater Aba Development Authority (GADA) Architect Uche Ukeje made the disclosure during one of the General State's Executive Council briefing. In his words, "What that would do is that commuters driving through Ogbor Hill don't need to pass through Ikot -Ekpene road. Rather, they would pass through the bridge and arrive at either Brass Junction or Tonimas," Ukeje stated.

MINISTRY OF TRADE & COMMERCE



The Governor commissioned the newly built JOVIT MALL in Aba, the commercial nerve center of the state. Represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Prof. Kenneth Kalu, Governor Otti used the opportunity to reassure the business community that his administration is committed to creating an environment that will make it easy and conducive for their



businesses to thrive, stressing that the State is open for business. "This is the time for all to invest in Abia State. It is no longer a time when you will express doubt about a government in power. "So bring back those businesses from Abuja, from Lagos and from anywhere, Abia is open for business," Gov. Otti stated.



MINISTRY OF SPORTS



In an effort to establish the Abia Sports Special Economic (Zone), the Abia State government has signed a **Technical** and Advisory Agreement for the Special Purpose Vehicle with Sports Nigeria LTD/GTE. Conversations are ongoing between the Abia State government and Sports Nigeria LTD/GTE as Abia Team are preparing for Sports Africa Investment Submit (SAIS) scheduled for 17th, 18th and 19th February, 2024, as a primary participant.





The Abia State U-15 Table Tennis Stargirl, Chinenye Grace Okafor has won a gold medal in the 56th Molade Okoya Thomas **National Table Tennis Championship** held in Lagos over the weekend. Abia State Table Tennis athlete, Chinenye Grace Okafor defeated her Delta state counterpart miss Peace by 3 - 2 sets to win the gold medal.

In line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's administration and Presidential Initiative on Youth Enterprise Clusters (PIYEC), the Abia State Ministry of Sports and Youth Development partnered with the Federal Ministry of Youth Development to train 18 unemployed Abia youths selected across the 17 LGAs of the state on Product Sales and Marketing in Enugu Ngwo, Enugu Nigeria.

MINISTRY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION & SOCIAL PROTECTION

In a bid to inform and educate stakeholders on what Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP) is all about, and

bring divergent interests on the same page, the Ministry carried out a two-day stakeholder engagement on RAMP. The



MINISTRY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION & SOCIAL PROTECTION



overall objective of the Abia Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP) is to improve access to rural areas by rehabilitating and maintaining key rural transport infrastructure in order to support agricultural marketing and logistics interventions to reduce postharvest losses. Strengthening the financing and institutional base for the rural road network and generating employment for the youth. Reduce poverty and joblessness by enhancing productivity and production.



Social Protection Policy Framework: As part of the activities under the ongoing **European Union funded SUSI project (Sustainable & Innovative Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria)** implemented by UNICEF, the draft Social Protection Policy document for the State was reviewed in collaboration with several Social Protection implementing/relevant MDAs and actors. The vision of the Abia State Social Protection Policy is to develop an equitable and functional Social Protection system that ensures social inclusion and expands protection to the most vulnerable groups to reduce poverty, unemployment and tensions.



A two-day activity (supported by the European Union Rule of Law and Anti-corruption Programme II) was carried out by the Abia State Commission for the Welfare of Disabled Persons with theme "Amplifying the Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future". As part of activities marking the celebration, a walk was held across Aba and Umuahia to create awareness on the rights and contribution of persons with disabilities as well as an interactive session with line MDAs to appreciate



MINISTRY OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION & SOCIAL PROTECTION



successes and challenges and advocate for mainstreaming persons with disabilities welfare in government programs. The event was used to reaffirm Governor Otti's commitment to the welfare of PWDs in the state.



RAAMP Rural Road Contract Award

Six (6) lots (rural roads) were awarded for backlog maintenance in January 2025 and should be flagged off anytime soon. The rural roads include:

- (a) 10.80km Rural Feeder Roads at (1) Amiyi Obinohia – Umuerem Nunya in Isuikwuato LGA, (Lot1)
- (b) 11.50km Rural Feeder Roads at (1) Amiyi Nvosi- Ohuhu ekwuru (2) Umuokoro Umuapu Amaede Isingine Road in Isialangwa South LGA
- (c) 9.70km Rural Feeder Roads at (1) Amorji Junction- Abayi – Ahiaba Court - Umuchima in Isialangwa North LGA
- (d) 7.40km Rural Feeder Roads at (1) Osaka Nkalu Road (2) Mgbokonta-Ohuhuekwuru Road in Ikwuano and Isialangwa South LGA.
- (e) 8.90km Rural Feeder Roads at:(1) Abaliegwu – Amaokpu - Umuaja(2) Egbelu onwo – Egbede - Umuagbai in Obingwa LGA (f) 10.70km Rural Feeder Roads at(1) Ohanko

Mkt – Ukebe Road(2 Umuakoli Akanu – Umuosi Akanu Road in Ugwunagbo and Ukwa East LGAs.







MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT





The State Government has concluded plans to extend monitoring of the monthly sanitation exercise to all the 17 LGAs of the State to ensure proper management of waste in all the nooks and crannies of the State. According to the Commissioner for environment, Mr. Philemon Asonye Ogbonna, the Ministry will liaise with LG Mayors to make it happen.





MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

In a bid to enhance the state government's oil production capacity, the Government has established an SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) with 40 percent equity, and the Petroleum Technology Association of Nigeria (PETAN) would hold 25 percent while the balance of 35 percent would be taken up by private investors. This move would help the state government to activate its capped Wells, which is put at slightly above 100 capped wells.



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT



The State Government has **rejigged the enforcement of the existing traffic laws** in the state to ensure full compliance by the citizens.



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

In a bid to revitalize the Agricultural sector and improve food production, the Abia State Government through the Ministry of Agriculture has partnered with Kitovu **Technology Company** to introduce a ground breaking initiative aimed at empowering farmers and enhancing Agricultural productivity in the State. The initiative seeks to, among many benefits, identify genuine farmers, link communities to commodities, build a credible Agricultural database and develop an Agric map for Abia State. It will enable the government and other agricultural development agencies to provide targeted interventions and support to farmers towards improving Agricultural productivity and food sufficiency.





The Abia State Government through the Ministry of Agriculture has finally **executed the Memorandum of Understanding with Nimbel Shaw** for the \$120 Million Oil Palm Project in line with the Government strategic goal to enhance agricultural production through public private partnership.



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT & CHIEFTAINCY AFFAIRS



In addition to **250,000 monthly stipend**s approved last year for every traditional ruler in the State, members of the Council of the Traditional Rulers at the state level will get additional 100,000 as monthly seating allowance even as this would also be applied to the traditional rulers' leadership at the LGA level.

MINISTRY OF LAND & HOUSING

The State Government has concluded **Plans** for the commencement of Four Housing **Projects.** The Payment of Compensation for AIIP Land Acquisition is ongoing. In his

avowed commitment to advance ease of doing business in the State, the Governor, Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, signed many C's of O (Certificates of Occupancy) in January.

Renovation Works are ongoing at: (a) Head of Service, (b) former LGA Civil Service Commission, (c) Block B of the Secretariat, (d) NYSC Orientation Camp.

Perimeter Survey of Abia Airport completed and Claims Survey and Enumeration ongoing. Perimeter Survey of Enyimba Leisure Park completed - Enumeration ongoing. Perimeter Survey of Medical City Completed - claims survey and enumeration ongoing.

ABIA STATE SIGNAGE & STRUCTURES ADVERTISING AGENCY (ABSSAA)

The Agency has continued to clean up the menace of rickety and unused hoardings.

It also improved staff working conditions and remuneration.

The Agency has continued to enlighten the public on the negative effects of

indiscriminate use of banners, buntings, and unauthorized structures.

The MD/CEO of the Agency, Mrs Victoria Onwubuiko has restructured ABSSAA to maximize her internal efficiencies.



Ngozi Blessing Felix is a dedicated public servant and development expert with over 20 years of experience in governance, poverty alleviation, social protection, and human rights. She currently serves as the Honourable Commissioner for the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection under the Abia State Government, Nigeria.

In her role, she leads initiatives aimed at improving the welfare of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups by formulating policies and programs that drive socio-economic development. Her work focuses on poverty alleviation, unemployment reduction, and social inclusion. She also oversees the coordination and mapping of poor and vulnerable households in the social register, working towards a robust Social Protection system that ensures equitable support for the most disadvantaged populations.

Professional Experience

Before her current appointment, Ngozi served at the European Union Delegation to Nigeria and ECOWAS (2009-2023), where she worked across multiple sectors, including rural infrastructure, trade and economics, institutional reforms, peace, governance, and migration. She played a key role in micro-projects across the Niger Delta, driving rural development through initiatives in primary healthcare, water access, infrastructure, and economic empowerment. She also contributed to electoral support programs, human rights advocacy, gender equality initiatives, and youth advancement projects.

Prior to that, she worked at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany (2005–2009) as a Communications Officer, where her proficiency in German facilitated consular support and diplomatic communications.

Leveraging her strong network and experience in the international development sector, she has successfully attracted projects in energy, healthcare, justice, and social development to Abia State. Ngozi was instrumental in launching impactful initiatives such as the EU Nigeria Business Forum (now EuroCham), the Youth Vote Count campaign, and the Youth Sounding Board, strengthening governance, youth engagement, and business relations between the EU and Nigeria.

Expertise & Leadership

Ngozi is a results-driven leader with expertise in:

- Project Management
- Human Resource Administration
- Public Relations & Communication
- Good Governance & Rule of Law Advocacy
- Social Protection & Poverty Alleviation
- Gender Equality & Human Rights
- Conflict Resolution & Migration Policy

Her strong problem-solving abilities enable her to drive impactful policies that uplift marginalized communities and foster inclusive development.

Education & Personal Philosophy

Ngozi holds a Master's degree in Peace and Security Studies (Professional) and a Bachelor's degree in English and German Language from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

She believes that "no human being is useless – we can only get the best out of a person if we invest in them." This philosophy drives her commitment to social equity, empowerment, and sustainable development.