

ABIA STATE Long Term Development Plan

2020 - 2050

Enyimba Economic City
Development Company Limited





ABIA STATE
Long Term
Development
Plan
2020 - 2050

ABSLTDP

First published, 2020

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Foreword



God's Own State

GOVERNOR
ABIA STATE, NIGERIA.
Government House, Umuahia, Abia State.

FOREWORD

The Abia State Long Term Development Plan is a 30-year perspective plan with a five-yearly plan and review element. It is a social contract capturing the shared vision and collective aspiration of Abians to become a fast-growing, fully developed State thus continuously uplifting the lives of Nde Abia with well specified strategies. It outlines our understanding of the strategic direction we should take to realize our vision to make Abia State the premier destination in Nigeria, West and Central Africa for investors, shoppers, workers and tourists while ultimately improving the quality of life of its citizens.

The Plan has core values to drive our State to another level of development and this is captured in the mnemonic: SARRORIC (Security, Accountability, Responsibility, Resourcefulness, Optimization, Resilience, Integrity and Competence). With this Plan, our administration's mission to put the state on a higher pedestal of development remains on course, leveraging the many competencies of our most cherished resource – our people.

Abia State Long Term Development Plan has a well-structured Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism and this will very well measure and monitor the progress of the Plan.

We appreciate the tireless effort of the Partnership for Initiative in the Niger Delta (PIND) - our Technical advisers from the beginning of this plan to the end. We also thank our Development Partners for their support in moving the State forward and for their trust in the governance vision of Abia State. We also appreciate all Abia Stakeholders and all Abians who have in so many ways contributed to the success of this Plan.

We believe that this Plan will be a good guide to subsequent administrations, towards the growth and development of our dearly beloved State.

Abia will be great.
Abia ga- adi ukwu

Okezie Victor Ikpeazu, Ph.D, FNES
Governor, Abia State

Acknowledgements

Since its creation in 1991, Abia State has adopted various planning frameworks starting with the National Rolling Plan that was a medium-term plan (1990-1998) including the State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDS). At the inception of Dr Okezie Ikpeazu Administration, the State adopted the Abia State Economic Blueprint, focused on achieving even economic growth and development in the State. To ensure an inclusive successor Plan to the Economic Blueprint, it became imperative for the Plan process to follow a consultative and participatory approach, with key stakeholders actively involved.

Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) provided the opportunity for the State to realise this objective. In their effort to drive sustainable development in the Niger Delta Region, PIND organised Pitch Competition in December 2018. Abia State won in the Niger Delta East competition comprising Rivers, Abia, Imo and Akwa Ibom states, and PIND offered TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to the State to develop a Long-Term Development Plan, through the provision of a Consultant (Project Manager) to lead the process.

With the approval of the Governor, Dr Okezie Victor Ikpeazu, and directive to the State Planning Commission to produce a Long-Term Development Plan, the process started on Wednesday, September 4, 2019. It involved elaborate study, wide consultative meetings and engagements with all key stakeholders, evidence generation, analysis, design and validation of draft plan. The outcome is this inclusive and sustainable Abia State Long-Term Development Plan (ABSLTDP), 2020-2050.

Abia State is indebted to PIND for its support in producing the ABSLTDP, particularly, PIND Advocacy Manager, Chuks Ofulue, and the Lead Consultant and Project Manager, Dr Ebebe Ukpog, for driving and technically assisting the State from day one to the delivery of the project. We are grateful to the Independent Assessors, Professor J.C. Anyanwu and Professor A.H. Ekpo. We also appreciate Mr. Chime Asonye for his contributions at the beginning of the process. To all our Development Partners, especially, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), we are grateful for your support.

We must not fail to thank the Governor, Okezie Victor Ikpeazu, Ph.D., for approving and supporting the project. We are grateful to the Deputy Governor, Rt. Hon. Sir Ude Oko Chukwu. Our gratitude also goes to the Speaker, Abia State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Engr. Chinedum Orji, and the Honourable members of the Abia State House of Assembly; the Chief Judge of the State, Hon. Justice Kalu A. Ogwe; Honourable Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Barrister Uche Ihediwe; the Secretary to the State Government, Barrister Chris Ezem; the State Executive Council members; the Abia State Head of Service, Sir Onyi Wamah; Chief of Staff to the Governor, Dr. A.C.B. Agbazuere, and Visioning Committee members, especially the Permanent Secretaries who chaired the committees; the team that won the Pitch Competition, led by Sam Hart, Esq; members of the Technical Working Group (TWG) and everyone at home and in the Diaspora who contributed in no small measure to the success story of Abia State Long Term Development Plan (ABSLTDP).

Dr. Nnenna Eberechi Chikezie

*Permanent Secretary/Executive Secretary
Abia State Planning Commission*

Note of Endorsement



Dr. Mrs. Nnenna Chikezie,
Executive Secretary,
Abia State Planning Commission,
Umuahia, Abia State.

January 20, 2021

Dear Nnenna,

Endorsement of the Abia State Long-Term Development Plan (2020-2050)

The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) endorse the 30-year Abia State Long-Term Development Plan as a credible working document which will help to promote sustainable development and generate economic opportunities, growth and development for the people of Abia State.

PIND would like to commend the efforts of all the members of the Visioning Committee and the Technical Working Group, for their commitment in articulating and undertaking to develop such a comprehensive document with the overarching objective of promoting growth and tacking poverty in the State. This, we believe, will ensure sustained equitable growth and development of the State and bring about improvements in the well-being of its people. PIND is proud to have been part of this momentous project.

The Abia State Plan is an integrated development document which adopts a bottom-up approach. It provides a way for the inclusive development and entrenchment of food governance which should be emulated by Niger Delta States and other States across the country in general. It incorporates a socio-economic framework that helps to lay a solid foundation for sustainable poverty reduction through inclusive growth and wealth creation.

As one of the key partners in the production of this plan, it is PIND's hope that the State Government will adopt this document as its 'holy grail' for development in Abia State in the years to come. Congratulations to all Abians for this great achievement.

Yours Sincerely,

Dara Akala
Executive Director

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@PINDfoundation	Facebook: www.facebook.com/PINDFoundation/ Twitter: @PINDfoundation	LinkedIn: @PINDfoundation Instagram:

Note of Endorsment

We have known for decades that people who participate in decision-making that affects their work feel a higher degree of ownership and commitment to that work. We also know that where more people are involved in a joint process of common interest, the quality of the output is higher. The same is true of development planning. High involvement in the process by a variety of stakeholders tends to generate better outcomes and a greater sense of ownership.

Indeed, participatory planning requires the involvement of concerned stakeholders. This includes identifying public concerns and values and developing a broad consensus on planned initiatives. It is also about utilising the vast amount of information and knowledge that stakeholders hold to find workable, efficient and sustainable solutions to the development challenges facing the government or organisation. Thus, in line with best practices approach and strategies to developing plans, multiple stakeholders, internal and external, to the level of government, were involved.

I can affirm that the Abia State Long-Term Development Plan, 2020-2050, benefited from significant contributions from stakeholders through various consultative processes (preparatory, data gathering, consultative, advocacy, capacity development, etc), at the state and local levels. This was done to build consensus and ownership. The enthusiasm, dedication and unity of purpose demonstrated during the formulation of this Plan, gives comfort that, together, the State can achieve what is envisioned in the Plan. In this regard, special thanks go to the various stakeholders that contributed to the contents of the Plan and to all Abians, development partners and friends from all walks of life, who participated in the development of the Plan. I also attest to my involvement in the process, including as a principal reviewer. In this regard, I totally endorse not only the stakeholder consultation and involvement process, but also the outcome document, the Abia State Long-Term Development Plan, 2020-2050.

I would like to convey my deepest appreciation to Dr. Ebebe Ukpong, Dr. Nnenna Chikezie and Mr. Imo Uche, among others, for their leadership and coordinating roles as well as their hard work in providing technical and logistical support during the process of the preparation of the Plan.



Professor John C. Anyanwu

*Former Lead Research Economist & Consultant
African Development Bank, Abidjan*

Note of Endorsement



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February 4, 2021

ENDORSEMENT OF THE ABIA STATE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN (ABSLTDP)

The Government of Abia State has taken a bold step in shaping the future of its citizens by conceptualising and formulating a 30-year perspective plan. There is no doubt that the plan would be implemented with provisions for review every five years. The ABSLTDP is well articulated and meets global best practices. The vision, mission, goals, and core values of the plan are well stated. The plan covers all aspects of the socio-economic activities in Abia State. It discusses the challenges of the State and proffers solutions. More importantly, the plan considers the dynamic nature of domestic and global trends.

The implementation of the plan would secure and guarantee a better life for the present and future generations of Abians. Furthermore, the plan ensures that Abia State is ready to attract foreign direct investment as reflected in the proposed soft and hard infrastructural initiatives in the plan.

It is my desire that all stakeholders and those interested in the development of the State would collaborate with the government to ensure the full realisation of the objectives of the plan.

I have been involved in Nigeria's public policy space for over three decades. It is not uncommon to see the determination of a sub-national government to build a knowledge-based and technologically-driven economy. I congratulate the government and people of the state. I fully endorse the plan.

Professor Akpan H. Ekpo

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Statement of Affairs

The task of envisioning how to halt poverty and ensure that there will not be even more suffering ahead is a difficult one, especially in an environment that is not honestly committed to planning. In Nigeria, there is a thick air of exasperation within the development practitioners' community about the contradictions in the number of development plans (and frameworks) and the progress in the well-being of the citizens. For example, the higher the total sum of annual budget, "derived" from the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, the more likely will the poverty index point southward. The challenge is to contain the genie through robust planning based on anticipatory framework. Abia State Long-Term Development Plan (ABSLTDP), 2020-2050, was specifically commissioned to address this deficit and provide "comprehensive plan" to a future of progress and prosperity. At about the point of concluding the study underpinning ABSLTDP, there was the global outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. This further exposed the inadequacies of our development framework and the imperative of dealing with uncertainties through planning.

On what basis can we say that this ABSLTDP offers this assurance? It is a perspective plan, with long-time span and geo-political dimensions. Given this, key success factors must be embedded in the document at the conceptual, design and implementation stages, namely,

- Adequate time given for the production of a document that will endure the spatio-temporal dimensions.
- Giving cohesion to the thoughts and aspirations in the document, pulling together cross-cutting issues, specifying expected outcomes and how to measure progress.
- Instantiating transformative policies, programmes and strategies that provide cross-support in the key sectors of development and governance, particularly "inclusion" programmes as springboard out of extreme poverty.
- Paying attention to relevant global best practices, benchmarks and success stories.
- Correct application of relevant concepts and tools.
- Application of the state-of-the-art formulation to avoid failures often associated with the use of status quo approaches.

We testify to the fact that within the limits of available resources and constraint of time, the above pillars are integrated into this plan document, making the expected outcomes realisable.

We wish to thank the people and Government of Abia State, PIND and the stakeholders we interacted with for the opportunity to facilitate the production of ABSLTDP. We are grateful to our friends and associates, including Dr. Sunday K. Alonge and Dr. Iniobong O. Awak, and the numerous reviewers and assessors whose contributions strengthened the quality of this document. The central message is that we need a plan to achieve our well-being, progress and prosperity. This is the imperative of our time.


Ebebe A. Ukpong, Ph.D.
Project Manager (Consultant)

At the Presentation of the draft of the ABSLTDP to the Abia State Governor, OKEZIE VICTOR IKPEAZU, Ph.D.



Executive Summary

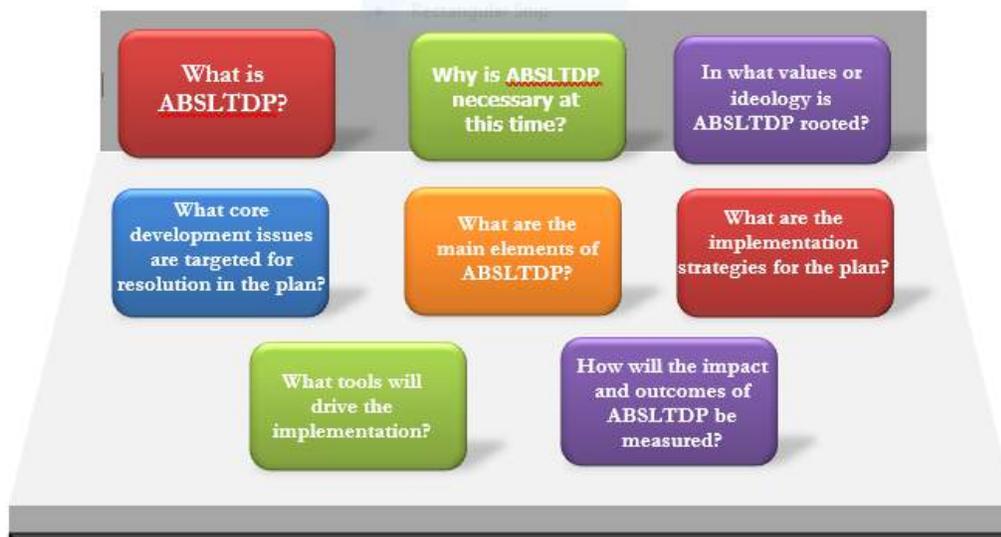
BACKGROUND ISSUES

The Abia State Long-Term Development Plan (ABSLTDP) 2020-2050, was developed following carefully laid out principles and scientific methodology. However, not all the processes are explicitly reported, but are treated as background issues. It is insightful to highlight the key issues in their contexts while also summarising the main programmes that have been articulated in this Plan. This Executive Summary is not a substitute to the rest of the contents of ABSLTDP.

The Essence of ABSLTDP

- ABSLTDP is a 30-year perspective Plan, with five yearly plan and review elements
- It is a social compact capturing the shared vision and collective aspiration to become a fast paced growing and developed state, continuously uplifting the lives of the *Ndi Abia*.

The definitive essence of ABSLTDP is stated in the following eight questions:



How ABSLTDP was Developed

- ABSLTDP was developed following agreed framework, methodology and work plan that were reviewed regularly and shared with stakeholders at training and consultative meetings (diagnostics, visioning, town halls, etc.)
- The approach is bottom-up, participatory and evidence-based. It was approached as a study with the implications for data collection, and design formulation based on outcome of analysis. A total of 160 meetings and engagements involving 2,980 participants were held for this purpose. (See Appendix 1 for List of Stakeholders/Participants consulted in the Process of Developing the ABSLTDP.)

- The Visioning Committee, supported by the Technical Working Group, produced the sectoral/thematic reports that were integrated through various process of reviews into the draft ABSLTDP. Both groups were specifically trained for this task. Reviews incorporated COVID-19 implications that were not there at the commencement of the project, for instance.

The Principles of ABSLTDP

- ABSLTDP is informed by the general system change theory and is evidence based
- It is premised on three principles:
 - Focusing and planning for Abia State as a “country” within a country (autonomous economic enclave)
 - Removing impediments to socio-economic growth and development
 - Communicating clearly the new paradigm of development to all the stakeholders for broad inclusion, active participation and equitable sharing outcomes
- ABSLTDP is novel in its shift from “project mentality” to large-scale sustainable system change
- ABSLTDP is an inclusive and sustainable long-term strategic plan for Abia State

ABSLTDP Sustainable Strategies

The strategic measure embedded in ABSLTDP to attain sustainability include:

- Ownership and participation
- Irreversibility of adopted programmes – even in the face of regime change and resource fluctuations/shocks
- Communication and security
- Smart Initiatives
- Shock responsiveness – as informed by social protection/COVID-19 lessons
- Legal protection
- Partnerships.

The seven sustainable strategies are spawned across the contents of ABSLTDP.

HIGHLIGHT OF PROGRAMME BY THE THEMATIC SECTIONS/PILLARS

Key elements of ABSLTDP are outlined as policies, programmes and projects. They are organised under seven thematic sections, viz: Context of the Plan, Framework of the Growth and Stability, Building Competitive and Sustainable Economy, Investing in People and Inclusive Society, Governance and Reforms, Guaranteeing Performances and Linkages, and Delivering the Plan. In addition, there is a sub-section on Cross-Cutting Sub-Themes, covering two chapters (14 and 15) as shown in the table below:

S/N	Thematic Sections	Pillars (Sectors)	Chapters
1.	Context of the Plan: Background Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • The People and Resources 	1 and 2
2.	Framework for Growth and Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and Revenue (1) 	3
3.	Building Competitive and sustainable Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture (2) • Industry (3) • Trade and Investment (4) • Oil and Gas (5) 	4 5 6 7
4.	Investing in People and Inclusive Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health (6) • Education (7) • Social Protection (8) 	8 9 10
5.	Governance and Reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and Public Service Reforms (9) 	11
6.	Guaranteeing Performances and Linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure (10) • Environment and Regional Planning (11) 	12 13
7.	Delivering the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and Evaluation (12) 	16
	Cross-Cutting Sub-Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human development purely reduction, job creation • Implementation and Coordination Strategies 	14 15

Sources: Most recent Labour Force Statistics, Q3 2018 (NBS, 2018); Poverty and Inequality in Nigeria.

CONTEXT OF THE PLAN

- ABSLTDP is a perspective plan to be institutionalised and sustained beyond administrations and shocks
- It addresses the situation and presents the future scenarios to be achieved, through set vision, mission, core values and the approach
- The drivers of the Plan are clearly identified to include global trends, national macroeconomic framework and situation or the context of the State development.

Summary of SWOT Analysis for Abia State

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Indigenous Technology	Weak infrastructure base	Access to regional market (SE & 55)	Ecological hazards such as flood and erosion
Fast growing MSMEs sector which drives industrialisation	Lack	Accessibility to development partners support	Economic shocks from volatile commodity prices
One of the target commercial hubs in West African			

Vision, Mission and Core Values of ABSLTDP

Vision

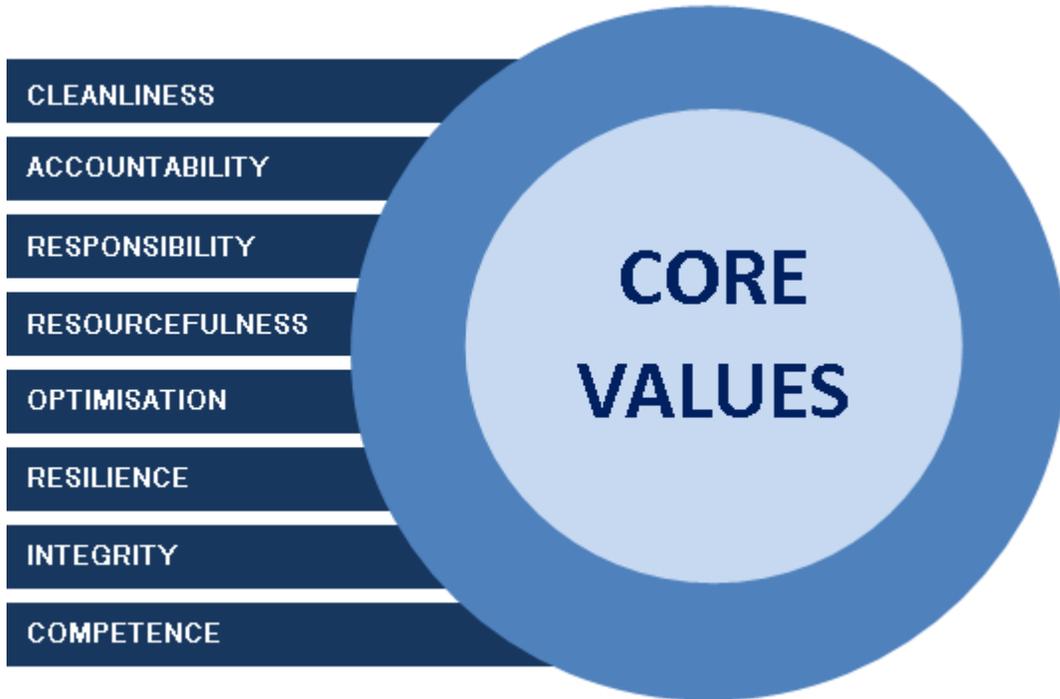
The vision of ABSLTDP is to make Abia State the premier destination in Nigeria, West and Central Africa, for investors, shoppers, works and tourists, while ultimately improving the quality of life and well-being of its citizens as a caring and industrious State.

Mission

The overarching mission is to continuously uplift the lives of all citizens of Abia State, *Ndi Abia*.

Core Values

The fundamental positive core values on which the ABSLTDP is leveraged are captured in the mnemonic, CARRORIC, namely,



Approach

To attain the vision, the Plan advances with the approach that emphasizes on:

- Sustained economic empowerment of the people through innovation and application of cutting-edge technologies to create employment and reduce poverty
- Aggressive infrastructural development
- Create enabling environment for the growth of small and medium enterprises and ease of doing business
- Sustain a well-trained and healthy citizenry through investment in qualitative education and healthcare at all levels and social protection
- Reform the public sector to promote efficiency, transparency, accountability and good governance
- Use public-private partnership approach for a sustainable development.

The Resources

Abia State is potentially endowed with human and natural resources. It is the small and medium enterprise (SME) hub of Nigeria, with good industrialisation prospects.

The population of the State in 2006 was 2,845,380 and has been projected to increase to 4,183,359 in 2020.

The solid mineral resource of the State is prospective as show below:

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Solid minerals</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Use</i>
1.	Tar sands/oil shales	Ugwueme-Lokpanta, Umuanneochi LGA	Used for production of asphalt, tar and refined products
2.	Lead, zinc copper	Lokpa-Ukwu in Umunneochi LGA	Used to obtain refined products of lead, zinc and copper
3.	Phosphate (Traces)	Amaeke in Umuahia, Ewe in Arochukwu	Used for production of fertilizer and detergent and other chemical industries
4.	Gypsum	Lokpa-Ukwu in Umunneochi, Ewe Arochukwu	Used in production of pharmaceuticals, chalk, plaster.
5.	Limestone	Isuikwuato	Used for cement, glass, water treatment and sugar refining. Iron and steel construction, agriculture fertilizer, etc.
6.	Iron Ore	Isuikwuato	Used for Iron and Steel
7.	Kaolin	Ikwuano and North Western Isuikwuato	Used for paints, detergent, steel, ceramics, etc.
8.	Industrial sands	Azumiri, Umuahia	Used for glass, foundry, ceramics, abrasive
9.	Igneous Rock	Uturu, Lokpanta, Lekwesi in Isuikwuato	Used in road and building construction
10.	Lateritic	All the LGAs	Used in building and construction industry.

FRAMEWORK FOR GROWTH AND STABILITY

Microeconomic Framework

- Broadly, a framework is a tool for rational thinking and for a clear analysis of the consistency of policy or plan targets
- A macroeconomic framework is predicted on a macroeconometric model complemented with an input-output table. However, for a long-term economic development plan, a more robust model is often utilised such as a dynamic computable general equilibrium
- The paucity of data in Abia State makes the utilisation of macroeconomic or dynamic computable general equilibrium models rather difficult. Hence, stylised facts, theory and knowledge of the economy would guide the macroeconomic framework for the State. Stylised facts would establish for both short-term and long-run development plans for the State.

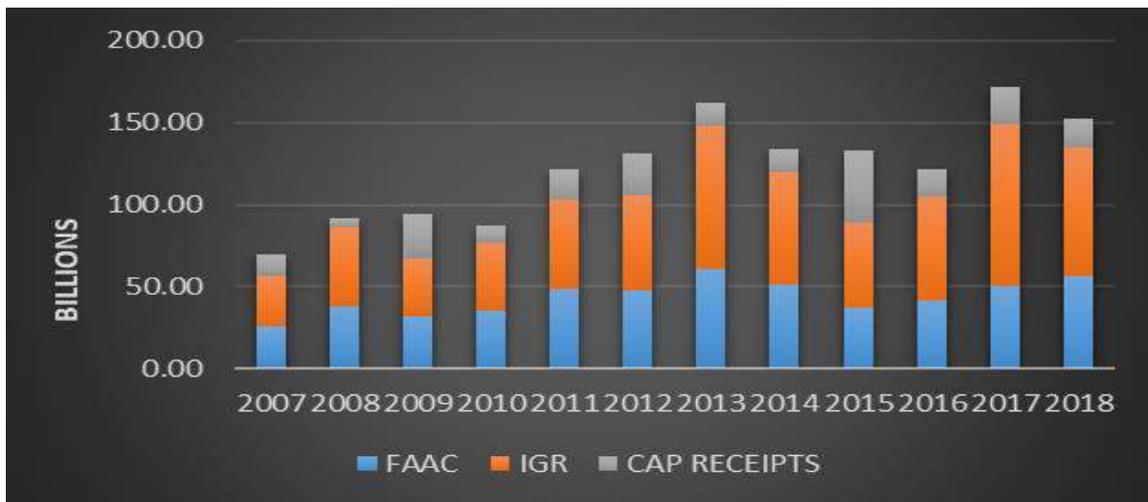
Objectives of ABSLTDP

The vision is to reposition the economic base of Abia State through objectives, namely,

- Diversification of State revenue sources
- Widening the State tax base

- Adoption of effective revenue collection mechanism
- Reduction of wastes through transparency in procurement and due process
- Development of data bases.

Situation Analysis



Combined course of revenue, 2007-2018.

Matrix of Proposed Strategic Revenue Policies and Programmes

Pillar	Objective	Target	Programme initiative	Plan category	Implementation strategies	Time line	Impact	Responsible MDAs	Verifiable indicators
FINANCE AND REVENUE	To increase revenue generation	Increase IGR by 50% by 2030	Diversify IGR sources	MEDIUM AND LONG TERM PLANS	Implement the provisions of the fiscal responsibility law of 2012	FROM 2020 TO 2050	More capital projects funded and realised	B.I.R, ALL REVENUE GENERATING MDAs AND OTHER REVENUE STAKEHOLDERS	Abia State Revenue profile improved
		Increase IGR by 50% by 2040	Increase IGR consciously and steadily		Reduce debt burden by adopting agreed strategies		Improved living conditions of Abians witnessed		Improve budget implementation and performance by 75%
		Increase IGR by 50% by 2050	Plug all revenue leakages		Implement full automation of all revenue collections		Improved developments in all sectors of the economy realised		
			Partner with organised private sectors sustain regular adequate Govert payment of counter-part cash contributions		Continue the implementation of TSA mechanisms intensify enforcement in revenue collection processes. Enact specific legislations on revenue aspect of long-term plans		Decline in deficit financing operational		

Actionable Policies

- Sustain the automation of tax payments in Abia State
- Maintain the policy that all revenues must be paid into government IGR accounts
- Sustain the implementation of international public sector accounting standards (IPSAS)
- Sustain the implementation of e-payments for all government transactions
- Plug sources of revenue leakages

BUILDING COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Agriculture

- Agriculture drives growth and development in Nigeria/Abia State. It provides food, fibre and employment

- There is so much in tapped agricultural power potential that needs to be unleashed through planning via ABSLTDP.

Vision

To guide the production of a sustainable technologically-driven agricultural sector that meets the socio-economic aspirations of Abians by encouraging enterprises that are profitable, engendering inclusive growth.

Mission

To unlock all potentials in a technologically-driven agriculture, generate attractive income through profitable livelihood and inclusive growth.

Objectives

- To provide a legally supported tool that will guide increasing production, productivity and qualities of good crops, cash crops and livestock/animals protein sources using modern technologies that attract young farmers as entrepreneurs or group farmers
- Increase and manage available cultivable land through guided land preparation (not to adversely disturb the top soils) in the three agricultural zones of the State
- Increase the production and productivity of food crops (cassava, rice, yam, cocoyam, plantain, maize, cowpea, and banana) by farmers in Abia State within the plan period
- Increase the production and productivity of cash/export crops (oil palm, cocoa, cashew, rubber, ginger, turmeric, garden egg, and cucumber) by the farmers in Abia State within the plan period
- Increase the production and productivity of livestock (poultry, pigs, goats, sheep, and rabbits) and animal protein sources (fishes, snails, grass cutters and honey bees) in Abia State within the plan period
- Create attractive employment opportunities for citizens of the State, especially the youths within the plan period
- Attract, train and provide starter packs within the Plan period to young farmers as entrepreneurs into various choice enterprise for self-reliance within the plan period.

Model/Framework

The adopted conceptual framework that guides the sector plan sees sustainable flow of capital investment into agriculture to generate surplus outputs through entrepreneurs (especially young people) that are recycled into agriculture and other sectors, thus engendering development generally.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Traditional occupation of Abians	Small-scale farming	Production of crops with great potentials	Change and weather variation
Availability of fertile farmlands and research institutes	Poor mechanisation of farm operations	Existence of agricultural research institutes	Flooding, erosion and landslides

Core Programmes and Strategies

The pillars carefully articulate the present/baseline situation (production capacity), constraints, projections, budget estimates, policy objectives, strategies, targets and timelines for each of the following subsector:

- Cash crops (cassava, rice, yam, etc) miaze, melon, etc.
- Cash crops (oil plm, cocoa, rubber and cashew)
- Livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry)
- Fisheries and aquaculture
- Agriculture value chain (integrated in chapter 14)

There are identified within the three agricultural zones of the State, namely, Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia.

Conclusion

Abia State is shown with endowed potential and resources for sustainable agriculture which can provide employment, income and contribute to the State GDP and food security.

Industry

Objectives of Industrial Development

- Improve business environment
- Develop economic foundation that encourages private sector participation in the growth of Abia economy
- Transform Abia State into a self-sustaining industrialised economy
- Encourage private sector collaboration in infrastructure development

SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Stable market, Stable polity	Bureaucratic bottlenecks	Economic diversification	Corruption & insecurity
Emerging SMEs growth	Poor infrastructural development	New international trade rules	Low patronage of locally made products

Actionable Policies/Programmes

Core Programmes/Policies	Implementation Strategies
Creation of Comprehensive State Policy on Industrialisation	Policy that provides guidelines and frameworks for investments in infrastructure, association of MSMEs and access to finance, quality standards should be enacted
Agri-Business and Agro-Allied Resources	Maximise the benefits from the country's agricultural resources by building an end-to-end integrated agriculture value chain
Solid Minerals and Metals	Create an enabling environment targeting large-scale investors to institutionalize world-class production standards in the State's solid minerals sector
Oil and Gas-Related Industries	Provide the foundation for Abia State to build competitive oil-and gas-driven industries, encourage high value-adding downstream investments

Core Programmes/Policies	Implementation Strategies
Creation of Forward and Backward Linkages between Industry and Research and Innovation	Conscious efforts to link innovation and research with industry demands
Development of a State of the Art One-Stop Shop/ICT Hub	Creation of a technology/ICT hub where technologies and new inventions can be showcased, and the skills required to utilise those technologies can be transferred
Construction, Light Manufacturing and Services	Leverage the significant opportunities in local markets for construction (i.e., housing), light manufacturing and services offered by Abia State's large consumer population

Conclusion

Industrialisation is widely believed to be a catalyst for rapid growth and development of any economy. It is prime to be the most veritable path to sustainable growth and development of the State.

Trade and Investment

The economy of Abia State is premised to support trade and investment being the hub of MSMEs in Nigeria and called “Japan” of Africa. The dream of transforming the State into a strong hub of MSMEs and industrialisation is encapsulated in the vision, mission and objectives of this pillar.

Situation Analysis

- Lack of credit facilities to the business communities, especially micro, small and medium enterprises and groups
- Lack of industrial and housing accommodation for people of Abia State. There are limited housing estates, recreation centres and industrial zones in the State
- Inadequate power (electricity) to drive the economy of Abia State as majority of people use generating sets
- Double taxation and illegal collections that do not get to the government purse
- Weak government involvement in trade and investment, and inability to implement policies as stated
- Poor data base for the business practitioners and investors
- Lack of recognition of the organised private sector in the business of governance in Abia State. The real practitioners need to be sieved from the political ones.

Rationale for Trade and Investment in Abia State

- There is availability of mineral resources such as kaolin, gypsum, lead, limestone/ granite
- There is availability of professionally-organised business bodies to guide and direct investors effectively
- Abia State has the largest producers of footwear products in the sub-Sahara Africa with over 800,000 operators in need of machines, a great attraction for investors
- Abia State has access to all the six geo-political zones and commercial nerve centres of the country
- Abia State textile, leather, garment development services are in bilateral trade partnerships with major nations that have good business relationship with Nigeria, e.g., China, Korea, America, UK, France, etc.

- The pathway lenses framework is utilised to guide action, offering two development paths
- Using the natural endowments to form “clusters” or “provincial specialization” for trade, investment and industrialization programmes
- Developing MSMEs and informal economy with the underpinning logic of strength captured in the plan.



Conclusion

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) are known as critical drivers of growth and development. In the developing countries, they are seen as the transformational agent of the informal economy.

Oil and Gas

Vision

To become the leading regional centre contributing 40 percent of the national target of generating 30 percent electricity from the clear, stable renewables by 2035. The newables are the fastest giving segment of energy today.

Strategy

- Strategise energy transition plan in line with the globally-enclosed climate change agenda (pairs agreement in climate change)
- Connect more communities to off-grid power and reliable energy source to boost and sustain the State’s industrialisation programmes.

The Core Programmes and Implementation Strategies

S/N	Policy Initiative -Projects/ Programmes	Localgovernment areas where located	Responsible implementing MDA	Verifiable Indicators for M & E	
				Expected outcome	Expected impacts
1.	Development of oil wells	Ukwa West, Ukwa East, Ugwunagbo, etc	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey others	Reactivation of capped wells. Improved oil and gas production	Increased derivation revenue. Growth in GDP

2	Establishment of a modular refinery	Ukwa West	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey, Others	Increased availability of petroleum products across the State	Wealth creation/employment generation. Increased economic activity/IGR to government
3	Reorganise the oil and gas sector in cooperation with federal agents and partnership with international oil companies		Ministries of Petroleum Abia State Planning Commission	Engagement marginal oil fields and exploitation of new fields	
4.	Natural gas to power projects compressed natural gas facilities (CNG)	Ukwa West, Osioma	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey Others	Reduced gas flaring and production of electricity	Sustainable environment. Increased economic activity across the State/IGR to Govt
5.	Economic empowerment programmes/ grants to cooperative societies for establishment of SMEs	Across the State	ASOPADEC, CSDP, CSR of appropriate companies others	Employment generation	Wealth creation
6.	Policy review on ASOPADEC for increased funding to the commission up to 40% of the 13% derivation revenue. Appropriate logistics support to Ministry of Petroleum	Across the State	ABSG	Increased service delivery	Close of infrastructure and human capacity gaps in the affected communities
7.	Provision of basic services and sustainable infrastructure Standard roads Electricity, water, town halls, schools, etc	Oil producing communities	ABSG ASOPADEC CSDP Others	Restoration of sustainable peace in the oil producing communities-improved community relations	Enabling environment for increased oil production
8.	Human capital development Scholarships Bursary Skill acquisition	Oil producing communities	ABSG ASOPADEC CSDP	Improved local technical manpower	Improved human capacity. Improved employability of indigenes by IOC

9.	Sensitisation programmes	Across the State	Security agencies, Ministry of Petroleum	Reduction in crude oil theft and pipeline vandalism	Increased revenue availability of products at Aba depot. Reduced attacks on filling stations
10.	Solid minerals development: Geological survey/analyses Exploitation of Mineral deposits particularly limestone, Kaolin, Phosphate and value addition- Establishment of Cement and Fertilizer Industries	Umuahia South, Arochukwu, Ohafia and Bende LGAs, etc	Ministry of petroleum and Solid Minerals, Lands and Survey, Ministry of Justice	Data generation. Investments decisions/ promotion of cement and fertilizer production	Employment generation, wealth creation, enhanced economic development of the State Food security

INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Health

Vision

To be a frontline State in the realisation of affordable, accessible and good quality healthcare service and delivery for all its citizens.

The pillar is driven by the framework that provide a sustainable and qualitative healthcare delivery with emergency response mechanism.

The Core Programmes and Implementation Strategies

<i>Core Programmes/ Projects/Policies</i>	<i>Suggested Location</i>	<i>Implementation Strategies</i>	<i>Timeline Short, Medium Long Term</i>
Renovation and equipping one general hospital	Each senatorial zone	Timely release of budgeted fund Use of contractors	Medium: From 2021. One every year
Free maternal, child and neo-natal health services	Secondary and tertiary health facilities	Effective implementation of BHCPF	Short term: Yearly from 2021
Youth Friendly Services Centres	All LGAs	Effective management of existing youth friendly centers and gradual expansion to LGAs	Medium/Long term: From 2022, 1 biannually
Geriatric care/old peoples home services	Zonal headquarters	Mapping of identified location, capturing it in budget and timely release of budgeted fund	Long term: From 2025. one every 10 years
Training and Retraining Of Health Care Workers	LGAs and State levels	Frequent training and retraining of health workers as at when due	Short term: Yearly from 2021
Emergency health services/logistics	All the LGAs	Provision of emergency ambulances at ward health facilities	Short term: 2021
State Health Insurance Scheme	State/LGA Levels	Timely release of fund to the Health Insurance by contributing partners	Short term: 2021

The Core Strategies and Implantations Strategies

<i>Core Programmes/ Projects/Policies</i>	<i>Suggested Location</i>	<i>Implementation Strategies</i>	<i>Timeline: Short, Medium Long Term</i>
Cancer care Centre	Umuahia/Aba/Ohafia	Building of a world standard Cancer treatment centre	Long: From 2021. One every 10 years.
Neurological/Spinal Centre	Aba	Building of a world standard Neurological/Spinal Centre	Medium: From 2025
Virology Laboratory	Umuahia	Building and equipping of Virology Laboratory centre	Medium: From 2023
Severe Acute Malnourishment Care Centre	3 Senatorial Zones	Building of a world standard severe Acute Malnourished Care Centre in the 3 Senatorial Zones	Long term: From 2022. One every 15 years
Dental Care Centres	All the 17 LGAs in the State	Building and equipping Dental Centres	Long term: From 2022. One every 2 years
Trauma Centre	Aba and Umuahia/Ohafia	Building and equipping a befitting Trauma Centre at Aba and Umuahia	Long term: one every 10 years from 2022
Creation of office of medical officer of Health	17 LGAS	Creating an office from the existing Health Facilities for the medical officer	Short term: 2021

Creation of well-equipped State Center for Disease Control (SCDC)	Umuahia	Building and equipping a befitting centre for Disease Control	Medium: 2025- 2035
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The Core Programmes and Implantation Strategies

Core Programmes/ Projects/Policies	Suggested Location	Implementation Strategies	Timeline Short:, Medium Long Term
Put in place incentives that encourage Health personnel to work in rural Health Facilities	SMoH and PHCDA	Implementation of existing policies, prompt payment of salaries and allowances	Short term. From 2021
Establishment of data bank and data bases	SMoH and its Agencies and Institutions	Equipment of data bank and data bases. Collection and management of data. Provision of data production and dissemination policy.	Short term from 2021
Free Antenatal and postnatal Care programmes	All Health Facilities (Primary, Secondary and tertiary)	Budgetary provision and partnership with Donor Agencies	Short term from 2022
Maintenance and Replacement Policies	SMoH	Enactment of enabling laws from Abia State House of Assembly	Short/medium term from 2022
Immunisation/ vaccination policy	SMoH	Enactment of enabling laws from Abia State House of Assembly	Short term from 2021
Containment of COVID 19 and subsequent emergency response to disease outbreak	All Health Facilities (Primary, Secondary and Tertiary)	Proactive Training of medical personnel and regular health research	Medium term from 2021
Provision of Medium Term Sectorial Strategy (MTSS) and Annual Operational Plan (AOP)	SMOH	Production and distribution of the planned document to all health Departments and Agencies and Institutions.	Short/medium term from 2021
Review Plan	SMOH	Reviewed every five years	Medium term from 2025

Conclusion

A commitment to translate these programmes, projects and policies to actions, there will be a paradigm shift in the health sector from where we are to achieve our dream of having:

- An improved health system in the State
- Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6 and 8
- A healthy population that will contribute to the increased productivity and economic growth of the State.

Education

Introduction

ABSLTDP is expected to make education more functional, more qualitative, and sustainable in the State. It is expected to:

- Provide students the opportunity for education at a high level, irrespective of sex, social status, religious or ethnic background
- Inspire students with a desire for self-improvement and achievement of excellence to foster national unity with an emphasis on the communities that unite us in our diversity.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Renewed interest by government to develop the sector	Poor funding and delayed payment of teachers	Prospects of the Diaspora, and private sector participation	Poor funding to the sector
Availability of human resources which could be harnessed	Lack of infrastructure: buildings/structures, instructional materials, laboratories, libraries, etc.	Inadequate capacity to implement the curricula	Lack of reliable data for planning, monitoring and evaluation
		Availability of the Universal Basic Education Commission intervention funds	Alarming male drop-out from schools

Core Programmes/Policies and Implementation

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Programme/activity area</i>	<i>Strategies</i>	<i>Expected outcomes</i>	<i>Implementing Agency</i>	<i>Timwe line</i>
1	Allocation of 26% of annual state budget to education; Attraction of the private sector, Diaspora, and other partners to fund education; Access UBEC Funds, other Partner funds; Sustained free and compulsory Basic and Senior Secondary Education.	State government allocates and releases more funds to education; Attraction of private sector, Diaspora and other partners to fund education.	Education is better funded; More accedssible basic and senior secondary education; Teachers salaries are paid; Infrastructure rehabilitated; More functional education provided in schools.	State govt, ASPC, SMOEduc. House of Assembly Private sector, Diaspora, other partners	Medium Term
2	Training & re-training of teachers on current trends in delivery methods Strengthen quality assurance.	Conduct of regular refresher courses, seminars workshops Monitoring and Evaluation.	Teachers' skills are upgraded on current trends in teaching/ learning methodology; Better delivery and classroom management by teachers.	Colleges of Education; Depts of Education of Tertiary Institutions	Short Term

3	Recruitment of qualified teachers and other staff Recognition/Awards for outstanding performance	Transparency in employment to ensure that the best are recruited Payment of entitlements, Reward to Best Teachers, soft loans	Qualified teachers and other staff provide optimal services Teachers and other staff are motivated Teachers do not bully students	State govt, SMO Education, SEMB, ASUBEB	Medium
4	Renovation of classroom blocks; Construction of new classroom blocks; Provision of functional laboratories; Provision of functional e-libraries; Provision of functional vocational training facilities.	Rehabilitation of school infrastructure	Schools are secure and conducive for learning	State Govt, SMO Education, SMO Housing, Private Sector Partners, Diaspora	Medium
5	Installation of electricity/power supply facilities, supplemented with renewable energy sources, esp., solar energy in schools; Procurement and distribution of computers and ICT equipment to schools; Teachers acquire skills to teach ICT and media	Instructional materials and ICT are used in teaching Computers and other ICT needs are provided to schools	Teaching and learning become easier and well understood	State Govt SMO Educ. Partners, Diaspora Private Sector	Short
6	Establishment of functional entrepreneurship/skills acquisition centres for senior secondary schools in the 17 LGA; Recruitment and posting of resource persons/artisans to the centres; Procurement and installation of requisite equipment and materials; Provide students with guidance and counselling Connect students to entrepreneurs for attachment/apprenticeship during holidays	Established centres have the 33 trade subjects; Resource persons/Artisans provide services; Ensure that centres are functional and provide practical skills to students.	Students learn the trade subjects, are more creative and gainfully employed; Reduction in unemployment, Youth restiveness and crimes in the society	State Govt, Co-education SEMB ASUBEB Private Sector Other Partners	Medium
7	Construction of toilets in schools: 10 facilities in each school;	Building of standard toilets;	Girls friendly and conducive learning environment	State Govt, SMO Education Ministries of Public Utilities	Short

	Construction of boreholes with overhead tanks in school.	Provision of boreholes with overhead tanks in schools	enhance learning teaching	Partners, Diaspora Private sector	
8	Schools have adequate security	Construction of Schools' perimeter fencing Trained security personnel are recruited and posted to schools	Schools perimeter fencing provided Synergy between SMO Education, Homeland Security, Police; Schools are secure Bullying, cultism, examination malpractices reduced in schools	State Govt., SMO Edu Homeland Security Police	Medium
9	Model schools are available and operational in the 17 LGAs	Establishment of model schools in 17 LGAs for Basic Education and Senior Secondary Education	Establishment of model schools in 17 LGAs The schools showcase best practices for others in learning, conduct and character.	State Govt., SMO Education SEMB ASUBEB Private Sector, Other partners	Medium
10	Inclusiveness of other stakeholders in education	Conduct of Quarterly stakeholders' Meetings in the education zones: SEMB, ASUBEB, NUT, NAPPS, ANCOPPS,	Promotion of better collaboration of major stakeholders Ease in Data collection Better implementation of policies and plans Synergy between the stakeholders Improved learning outcomes Better implementation of plan and policies Government gain trust, support and cooperation of the stakeholders	SMO Education, SEMB, ASUBEB ANCOPPS, NAPPS NUT, others	Medium
11	Sustainability and continuity of the Education plan and policies	Conduct regular advocacy and sensitisation on implementation of the Curricula, plan and policies	Provision of legal backup for the plan Monitoring and Evaluation of plan implementation The plan and policies are sustainably implemented	ASPC, House of Assembly, SMO Education, SEMB ASUBEB	Medium
12	Reliable Data is available and used for Planning	Building of capacity of Staff for Data collection and Management Procurement of computers and other ICT equipment for	Staff are trained on data collection and management Data collection/ management is funded	SMO Education ASPC Private Sector, other Partners	Short

		data collection and management Procurement of vehicle for data collection and coordination Deployment of technology in Monitoring & Evaluation Employment/ deployment of relevant staff	Computers/ other ICT equipment are provided Planning is based on reliable data		
13	Extra-Curricular activities contribute to students' well-being	Organise extra-curricular activities like debating, schools quiz, sports, clubs, cultural activities	Conduct Schools competitions with prizes given: by LGEAs, Zones, etc Extra- curricular activities contribute to students' well-being and discipline	SMO Education SEMB, ASUBEB Private Sector, other Partners	Medium
14	Scholarship Awards produce qualified Teachers readily available to teach trade and technical subjects	Award of scholarships to pupils/students to study vocational, technical, business & science education. Award of scholarships to students for tertiary education on areas of need. Award of scholarship to 100 students in each LGA per annum	Selection through Transparent placement tests, examinations, Interviews Education manpower need of the state are met	State Ministry of Education Partners, Agencies Private Sector Diaspora	Medium

S/N	Goal	Programme/ Activity Areas	Strategies	Implementing Agency	Expected Outcomes	Timeframe
1.	Adequate Human Resources produced for TVET in Abia State	Pre-employment training, in-house training and annual supervision	Assessment of current human resource needs (quality and quantity) Development of suitable curriculum for various sector skills areas Delivery of identified training programmes (mentoring) Monitoring	E4E	Each TVET institution to be adequately staffed in accordance with NBTE requirements	Medium
2.	Adequate equipment provided to deliver the courses in the TVET institutions	Upgrade of existing equipment (if any) Purchase of equipt to meet identified gaps		E4E	Provision of modern and adequate equipment for the TVET institutions	Medium

3.	Construction To ensure adequate learning environment in all TVET institutions in the State	Construction of needed infrastructure	Assess infrastructure, map with the requirement of NBTE Monitor implementation to ensure compliance	E4E	Adequate infrastructure to meet NBTE requirements	Medium
4.	Partnership with private sector; To ensure effective partnership with private sector	Quarterly stakeholder meetings with stakeholders in each of the identified sector skills areas	Compile data of organised private sector (OPS) and match them with respective depts in the various TVET institutions in the State	E4E	Linkages between TVET institutions and Industries in the State	Medium
5	Accreditation of all technical colleges by NBTE Ensure that all TVET institutions are accredited by NBTE	NBTE) accreditation processes in each of the TVET institutions	Liaise with NBTE for initial assessment of the TVET institutions Implementation of the identified gaps in the NBTE assessment Invitation of NBTE for accreditation process Management of the accreditation report	NBTE	All TVET institutions are accredited by NBTE	Medium
6	Monitoring and Evaluation	Conduct 3-year interval M&E	Update of teachers, technical instructors and student enrolment up to final year	Ministry of Education	Consistent increase in interest and number of enrolments	Medium

Accountable policy	Programme/ Projects	Locations	Responsible agencies for implementation	Strategies	Expected outcome
Compulsory and free special education up to secondary level	Special schools to be upgraded and inclusive schools set up starting with a few schools in each of the three educational zones	Umuahia Aba Ohafia	Government, MOE, SEMB, ASUBEB, Special Trust Fund	Modern facilities and equipment to be made available to the special schools. Establish three inclusive school in each of the three educational zones of Abia State.	More children with special needs will be in school
Public awareness/ sensitisation on people with special needs	More awareness programmes on the need for people with special needs to go to school	State Educational zones, LGAs, Communities	Government, Media houses, Stakeholders	Community leaders Village heads Radio and TV Newspapers Public lectures Churches, etc.	Negative attitude of the general public on the children with special needs to

					be reduced
Training/retraining of Special education teachers/care givers	350 persons should be trained special education. Refreshers courses should be given to the few ones employed	States institutions of higher learning	Universities, COE, Government	Award scholarships for the study of special education to 20 persons per LGA Give grants and other incentives to those already studying special education	More qualified special education teachers will be produced.
Establishment of secondary school for the deaf in Abia State	Establish one secondary school for the deaf in each educational zone	Umuahia, Aba Ohafia	State Government, MOE, SEMB, Private Sector	Upgrade existing schools not in full use	More special needs pupils will further their educations
Adjustments to the physical infrastructure in the special schools	Physical infrastructure in the special schools according to the needs of the students	Special schools, inclusive schools, institutions for higher learning	Federal government, State government, NGOs, Individuals, education/special trust fund.	Building of ramps for wheel chairs, widening doors, adopting toilets etc.	The environment will become friendly

Conclusion

The success of the Plan hinges largely on strong commitment on the part of the State government in driving the implementation. The need for more collaboration with critical stakeholders in education is the key to achieve the set goals of the Plan.

Social Protection

The Situation

- Existing social protection programmes in Abia State are narrow in scope
- Limited in the number of beneficiaries
- Abia State has poverty headcount of 30.7 percent (NBS, 2020).

Objectives of Social Protection

Economic growth

- Improvement in the well-being of the majority of the citizens
- Reduction of poverty
- Protection of vulnerable groups from shocks
- A life of dignity.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Access to healthcare	Limited number of beneficiaries	Agriculture, Industry	Unpredictability in funding & transfer
Preventing poverty & unemployment	Inability to reach the poor as beneficiaries	Oil & gas, Education, Commerce	Poor Coordination

Core Programmes/Policies and Implementation

<i>Core programmes/ Projects/Policies</i>	<i>Suggested Location</i>	<i>Implementation Strategies</i>	<i>Timelines (Short, Medium & Long Term)</i>
The need for strengthening the failing health system	State Government	Restructuring of the state's health care system. Increased funding of the Health sector.	Short-Term
Protecting the poorest and vulnerable, and job creation	State Government	Cash transfers to the poor and vulnerable households. Cash for work (public workfare) for unemployed youths	Short-Term
Provision of bail-out funds to restart MSMEs devastated by COVID-19 pandemic.	State Government	Carry out a mapping exercise of MSMEs affected by COVID-19 pandemic. .Ascertain the capital invested into the business before COVID-19 pandemic	Short-Term
Plan based on United Nations Social Protection Floor (UN-SPF)	Government	Access to education and essential health services. Income security in old age (non-contributory pension)	Long term
Expand free and compulsory UBE to ensure that education is totally free for all by 2030	Government	Provision of conditional cash transfers to poor households Provision of school materials	Long term

Conclusion

Existing social programmes are grossly inadequate to cater for the poor and vulnerable ones in the State. New programmes should be introduced and existing ones scaled up to widen the scope and reach more beneficiaries.

GOVERNANCE AND REFORMS

Development challenges have provided the impetus for good governance and reforms.

Mega Forces as Drivers of Good Governance and Reforms

<i>Change factor</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Growing role of knowledge	Possibility of leapfrogging in selected areas of economic growth Resolution of social problems (food security, health, water supply energy, environment)	Increasing knowledge gap among nations Redundancy for learning laggards
ICT Revolution	Easier access to knowledge information and technology. Innovation Proliferation of new skills	Growing digital divide among and within nations, MDAs and individuals
Global Labour Market	Easier access to expertise skills and knowledge embedded and professionals	Growing brain drain and loss of advanced human capital. Growing higher cost for experts
Open Government	Positive environment for reform Demands for new policies and programmes Participation of plural stakeholders Inclusion Accountability	New resources required to meet growing expectations Political instability Windows for oppression/suppression.
New Development Frameworks (SDGs, ERGP, TPs)	Partnership New resources Planning and anticipation	Neglect for local actions Loss of autonomy.

Governance Challenges in Abia State and Response

The approach adopted here is to highlight the challenges or issues that require reform interventions and indicate the recommended intervention measures and strategies. Some of the actionable policies include:

<i>Core Programme/ Projects/ Policies</i>	<i>Suggested Location</i>	<i>Implementation Strategies</i>	<i>Timelines Short, Medium Long term</i>
Congestion of Financial Activities in the Office of the Accountant-General:	State-wide	Adherence to the provisions of the following public service documents are required	Short Term
Political Interference in Recruitment and Promotions:	State-wide	Set up staff needs assessment, verification and rationalisation to determine actual staff needs of each MDA	Long Term
Appointment to Offices of Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Service of Local Government:	State-wide	To t from irregular appointments in the Directorate Cadres of the Public Service as it is contrary to the provisions of the scheme of service	Short Term
Multiplicity of Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs)	State-wide	Review of assignment of responsibilities to the MDAs, as approved by the State Executive Council in 2008, to reflect the current realities, becomes an early action for implementation in the Plan.	Medium Term

	<i>State-wide</i>		<i>Short Term</i>
Reports of Previous Commission/Committee	State-Wide	Identification of those reports and issuance of White Papers (policy directives) for implementation, where needed. This will boost public confidence in public institutions. Putting in place institutional/systemic arrangements guaranteeing that all major committee reports are duly considered and implemented to ensure that time and resources committed in such assignments are not wasted and those indicted are not shielded.	Short Term
Flawed Budgetary Process	State-wide	Consequent upon the above, the following programmes are identified for implementation in the short term in the Plan: The State Planning Commission is to be strengthened to lead in the management of the development process envisioned in ABSLTDP. The immediate actions include the need to:	Short Term

<i>Supervisory Roles of Parent Ministries over Parastatals /Agencies:</i>	<i>State-wide</i>		<i>Short Term</i>
Lack of Training and Retraining Officers:	State-wide	There should be periodic training and retraining of all cadre of public and civil servants to get them properly equipped with requisite skills, rules and ethics of service as well as update the role expected of them	Short Term
Implementation of Abia Charter of Equity:	State-wide	The Abia State House of Assembly should enact a law to make the Abia Charter of Equity justiciable	Medium Term
Non-Payment of Pensions and Gratuity: and engage in fraud to save for the rainy day because payment of pensions and gratuities is not assured.	State-wide	Progressive measures for prompt payment of pensions and gratuity are required. In addition, pensions are to be reviewed every five years in accordance with the relevant pension laws. Payment of pensions should be made a first line charge alongside with salaries.	Medium Term

Enforcement of Rules and Regulations by Management of Establishments: this.	State-wide	There should be training and re-training of officers. This takes many forms, including inhouse and external training programmes planned for workers. Induction and orientation courses should be organized for relevant categories of public servants to familiarize such officers with the new environment of the Public Service. New regimes of training, focusing on innovations introduced by ABSLTDP, are to be given to all Public Service officials. Mentoring and executive capacity recharges are to be added to the re-established.	Long Term
Promotion of Values and Ethics in the Service	State-wide	A specific and new agency will have to be created and given the mandate for this important task.	Long Term

Summary Outline of Strategic Measures for Implementation

- Create new agencies and design innovative processes to drive the reform measures identified in ABSTLDP
- Mainstream elements of good governance outline in the Plan into the government (administration) with mechanisms for upholding transparency, accountability and sustainability put in place.
- Reform regulatory institutions to remove outdated law, processes and replace them with development-friendly ones.
- Raise a culture of hardwork, core values of integrity, honesty and public trust and instilling same into the citizens through advocacy and exemplary leadership
- Create new framework for leadership recruitment and mentorship
- Introduce an executive bill on the application of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework into law to ensure that all projects and polices are completed and their impacts on the people professionally evaluated
- Promote partnership and cooperation with development partners to help drive critical issues of governance, sustainable development and institutional reforms
- Revitalise the public service with inbuilt capacity for efficient service delivery
- Introduce policy measures promoting zero tolerance for corruption and dysfunctional behavioural patterns
- Set up new machinery for communication and security.

GUARANTEEING PERFORMANCE AND LINKAGES

Infrastructure

Introduction

Infrastructure, as the fundamental facilities for industrialisation and economic development, consist of two parts: physical and social infrastructure.

Infrastructure Components

The components include as shown in the table below:

<i>Infrastructure</i>	<i>Examples</i>
Transport	Roads, rail, seaports and airports
Energy	Generation, transmission and distribution installations. Refineries, oil and gas pipelines
ICT	Telecom lines and transmission towers
Social infrastructure	Public utility buildings (schools and hospitals)
Housing and regional development	Low-income (social) housing
Security and vital registration	Public utility buildings (police offices, barracks and fire stations)
Agriculture, Water and Mining	Water treatment plants, sanitation plants, irrigation systems.

Objectives

In Abia State specifically, the objectives of infrastructure development are to:

- ensure the provision of basic amenities for human development and improved standard of living
- improve the socio- economic well-being and quality of life for residents of Abia State
- provide a conducive and enabling environment for all classes and categories of businesses.
- improve productive capacity in all sectors of the economy- agriculture, manufacturing and services and so increase the state’s competitiveness

Vision

“To make Abia State stand out in the comity of states in terms of good road network, potable water and electricity supplies, adequate and affordable housing as well as efficient transport system which will attract local and foreign investors”.

SWOT Analysis

The SWOT analysis shows positives and more negative. Sector performance analysis shows same trend

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Measure</i>	<i>Abia State</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Source</i>
Transport					
Road network density	Km per 100 sq km			21	Calculated, based on NBS 2017
Paved roads	% of road network	63	Calculated, based on NBS 2017	30	Daramola 2019.
Rail network density	Km per 100 sq km	3.2	Calculated based on NBS, 2017b	0.4	Calculated, based on NRC,2018
Rail passenger/ cargo throughput	% of national rail traffic	10 (pax)	Calculated based on NBS 2017b & NRC 2018	100	NRC, 2018

	Annual % increase in passenger and cargo throughput	42.3 (pax Q2 2016-Q2 2017)	NBS 2017	3.2 (pax 2017-2018); 132 (fre 2017-2018)	NBS 2019
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Port cargo throughput	% of national cargo throughput	0	NPA, 2017	100	NPA, 2017
	Annual % increase in port cargo throughput	0		1.6	NPA, 2017
Electricity					
Household access to public grid	% of households			61	NPoPC, 2014
Firm access to public grid	% of firms/business units				
Metered connections	% of population				
Access to public electricity supply	Average daily hours	7			
Renewable energy stock	Renewable energy % of total energy resources			9.7	NBS, 2017
Household access to renewable energy	% utilising renewable energy sources				
Firm/business units access to renewable energy	% utilizing renewable energy sources				
Water					

Access to improved water sources	% of households with access	56	NPoPC, 2014
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Level of investments in new technologies (plumbing materials & treatment processes)	% of state capital expenditure				
Housing					

Low income housing development	% of total housing stock				
Access to low income housing	% in middle/low income groups with access				
Fire fighting					
Availability of fire fighting equipment	Number (functional) per LGA				
Availability of fire fighting equipment	Number (functional) per LGA				

Key Strategies for Attaining the Vision

- Prioritise infrastructure projects on objective criteria (develop prioritisation matrices)
- Adopt the principles of shared risks
- Design infrastructure projects for productive employment and innovation
- Invest in ICT to improve efficiency of Abia’s commercial hubs
- Establish result framework to measure achievement

Core Programmes and Implementation Strategies

These are set out in the Plan under the following categories:

- Roads
- Electricity
- Rural electrification
- Water
- Housing
- Fire Service
- Transport.

Conclusion

It is time to commit to increasing infrastructural investments by strengthening legal framework to ease private sector participation as well as increasing public spending.

Environmental and Regional Planning

Vision

Ensuring the overall well-being and security of the Abians through an integrated, multi-sectoral grassroots development approach.

Objectives

- Maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems
- Ensuring the sustainable utilisation of species and ecosystem and reservation of genetic diversity

- Establish effective erosion and flood control measures, forestry and conservation, afforestation and reforestation in the State using current approaches.
- Adopt integrated waste management approaches, institutional and occupational hygienic practices
- Propose climate change policy and action plan development document
- Align spatial location with developmental activities comparatively
- Development of growth pole areas in the State.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Advantageous geographic location	Inadequate data for physical planning for the design and implementation of the Plan		Ecological problems of erosion and flooding, land degradation and pollution
Advantageous geographic location	Lack of regional plan that would have articulated potential regional resources and its development		Large strip of land in the three senatorial districts are threatened by gully erosions and floods
Abundant natural resource: solid & liquid minerals			Water and air in large parts of the State are polluted by effluents from diverse productive sector of the State
			High level deforestation with minimal afforestation and reforestation

The Core Programme and Implementation Strategies

Key environmental programmes, targets and terms:

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Reclaim and rehabilitate of major gully erosion sites	80%	2021-2050
Development of an integrated waste management system		2025
Production of thematic maps of erosion sites in the state.		2021-2024
Strengthen the synergy between Abia State and the NEWMAP on erosion management and among inter-ministerial synergy		
Enforcement of physical planning and development control measures on land uses		2021-2050 (continuum)
Reforestation, afforestation, tree planting and greening		2023-2035
Productions of action plan on climate change via inter- ministerial committee.		(20205)
Environmental education on causes, danger, preventing and control of environmental hazards, efficient waste disposal, tree planting and discouraging careless felling of trees		2021-2024
Adopt better farming practice; discourage development in hazardous areas and environmental impact assessment before embarking on developments.		2022-2030
Elimination of waste dumping on major urban streets and at unauthorized locations		2021-2030
Government's collaboration with donor agencies/non-governmental agencies in the delivery of portable water/good drinking water		2021-2026

Review of water policy to make Water Board, Ministry of Public Utilities and Water Resources more effective and efficient on provision of water to Abians		2025-2027
Evolve community driven demand approach to rural water supply		2030
Capacity building for sustainable water supply to urban and rural settlements		2024-2026
State and Local Government water governance structure to be uplifted through capacity building of water management		
Provision of portable water for Abians via rehabilitation of regional water schemes in the State.	70%	2040-2050

Proposed Solid Waste Management Strategic Action Plan

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Short-Term (0-5 years) 2021-2025</i>	<i>Medium-Term (6-14 years) 2025-2034</i>	<i>Long-Term (15-30 years) 2030- 2050</i>
Monthly Environmental Clean Up	Review the operations of the exercise. Initiate institutional and occupational hygiene	Appropriately involve the public and evolve the occupational health and institutional hygiene practices. Provide equipment for assistances to occupational health/institutions Agencies for hygiene	Continue the monthly environmental cleanup exercise Continue the provision of equipment and assistances to occupational health/institutions.
Street Sweeping	Review the operations in Aba and Umuahia for better Performance. Recruit more Street Sweepers via PSP programme. Update the Policy or involve LGAs in Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia to engage 100 street sweepers procure.	Increase Street Sweepers in Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia by 100 Nos via PSP. Initiate Night sweeping Programme for the major Urban Centers in the State via LGAs.	Sustain the exercise increase the sweepers as need arises and cover the highways.
Refuse Storage	Provide 900 Dumpsters Bins/Refuse containers at 200 meters apart on the major arterials. Introduction of 200 Nos mammoth-Dumpster Bins at 2000 meters on the arterials/highways.	Provide 100 Nos dumpsters for the major Regional Markets in the State Commence procurement of 30 Nos refuse static compactors for the three major cities Introduce public partnering in refuse management.	Extend the procurement of refuse static compactors to the growth points sustain the policy. Evaluate the Programme
Refuse Collection	Procurement of 20 Nos new Refuse Trucks for waste collection. Creation of enabling environment for Registration numbers PSP competent operators.	Procurement of additional 10 numbers new Refuse Trucks for collection. Transfer of ownership management of trucks to PSP operators on concession arrangement and investment recovery. Provide bank guarantee for potential investors in the sector.	Operationalise full ownership of municipal solid waste by the PSP for all categories of collection viz: street waste, household, industrial and hazardous. Provide bank guarantee for potential investors/operators.

Refuse Disposal	Procure pollution prevention equipment for the 4 Nos dumpsites in Aba and Umuahia continue maintenance/rehabilitation of the dumpsites. Commence construction of integrated solid waste facility at Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia.	Complete construction of integrated solid waste facility. Construction of new landfill sites in the 3 major cities. Complete procurement of Refuse Compactors Procurement of 4 numbers new D/8 Compactor Bulldozers for dumpsites.	Operationalise the new Landfill Sites. Initiate fresh dumpsite upgrading. Increase pollution prevention equipment for all dumpsites construction of landfill sites at the growth point centres. Procure new Landfill compactors for dumpsites at the Growth Point Centers.
Refuse Transfer Loading Station (TLS)	Introduction of Refuse Transfer Loading Station in Aba/Umuahia and Ohafia	Complete Refuse Transfer Landing Station in the major Urban centres	Full operation of Refuse Transfer Loading Station in the Urban Centres
Resource Recovery (Waste Recycling)	Initiate earth care project on compost production and Alternative Source of energy. Negotiate on construction of new landfill site. Commence Project on waste Conversion-briquette (saw-dust) pellets (plastics)	Complete Earth care Project on compost Production and alternative source of energy. Construction of new landfill sites Commission Project on waste briquette (saw dust)	Evaluate the Projects
Awareness Campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign

Structure/Master Physical Development Plans

S/N	Local Government	Growth Point Location Centre	Estimated cost (₦)	Development Period	Remarks
1	Aba Umuahia Ohafia	Structure Plan	650 million	2021-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
			18 million	2025-2030	Growth Centres
			18 million		
2	Aba North	Covered by Aba Structure Plan	See Aba structure plan	2020-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
3	Aba South	Covered by Aba Structure Plan	See Aba structure plan	2020-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
4	Arochukwu	Arochukwu	18 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Ututu	18 million		Growth centre
5	Bende	Bende Physical Development Plan	prepared	2019-2020	prepared by Federal Government via FMWH LGA headquarters
		Uzoakoli			Growth centre
		Umunator			Growth centre

6	Ikwuano	Isiala Oboro	18 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Umudike	20 million		Growth centre
7	Isiala Ngwa North	Okpuala Ngwa	25 million	2025-2030	Review the old plans and prepare the new one.
		Nbawsi	20 million		
		Ntigha	18 million		
8	Isiala Ngwa South	Omoba	20 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Owerrinta	30 million		To be developed as industrial city
9	Umuahia North	Covered by Umuahia Structure Plan		2020-2030	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
10	Umuahia South	Covered by Umuahia Structure Plan		2020-2030	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
11	Umunneochi	Isuochi	20 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Lokpanta	18 million		Growth centre

The Accelerator Programmes

S/N	Local Government	Growth Point Location Centre	Estimated cost (₦)	Development Period	Remarks
1	Ukwa West Ukwa East Ugwunagbo	Enyimba economic city		2021-2041	To be developed as economic trade-free zone
2	Umuahia South Ikwuano Isiala Ngwa North	Abia International Airport			To be developed as international airport

Conclusion

Sustainable environment, economic and regional equalities are attainable through effective and efficient preparation and implementation of physical development plans by the state

DELIVERING THE PLAN

Monitoring and Evaluation

Objectives

- Ensure implementation of the Plan remains on course
- Evaluate performance and factors which contribute to its service delivery outcomes
- Provide an evidence based for public resource allocation decisions
- Get feedback on the appropriateness and effectiveness of the programme
- Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of achieving the goals of ABSLTDP.

The Driving Model or Framework

A fact-based assessment of States' performance.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Skilled & enterprising manpower	Fractured political space	Community development passion of the people	Debt burden
Participation	Weak IGR Base to fund M&E	Accessibility high level man power	Personalisation of governance

Monitoring and Evaluation Roles and Responsibilities

<i>Institutions(Who Will Do)</i>	<i>Responsibilities (What To Do)</i>
Legislators	Exercise consistent and informed oversight on the bodies accountable to them, using insight gained from M&E systems.
Executive authorities	Use M&E findings in the political oversight of institutional performance to ensure that desired outcomes are achieved
Accounting officers & Accounting Authorities	Ensure that prompt managerial action is taken in relation to M&E findings
Programme managers, other line managers and officials	Establishing and maintaining M&E systems, such as collecting, capturing, verifying and using data and information
Designated M&E units	Ensuring the implementation of M&E strategies by providing expertise and supports as well acting as a service hub for related initiatives

Requirements for Monitoring and Evaluation Implementing Agencies

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementation Consideration</i>
State Planning Commission (SPC)	Skilled personnel in various subject matters to enable proper M&E across MDAs Ability to perform necessary M&E analysis and prepare the required reports Suitable technology and other tools as well as efficient processes to handle potentially high volumes of operations
State Bureau of Statistics	Human capital (skilled manpower) Enhanced Information Technology platform
Department of Planning, Research & Statistics (DPRS) in MDAs	Coordination of M&E activities of operational departments is also important Budgetary provision must be made for M&E activities in all MDAs

Conclusion

Monitoring and evaluation enables orderly and effective collection, analysis and use of information. It ensures that implementation difficulties are identified and promptly rectified. Hence, priority should be given to M&E in order to ensure that ABSLTDP goals are not compromised.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- Objectives of human development: poverty reduction, job creation & peace building achieving economic growth
- Reducing poverty and unemployment
- Job creation
- Ensuring good working conditions for employed citizens.

SWOT Analysis

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Weaknesses</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Low conflict incidents	Inadequate funding, Poor infrastructure	Reposition of agriculture	An increase in reported incidents of conflict risk & violence
Effective governance	Bureaucratic bottlenecks	Quality training for employability	Partiality

Core Programmes and Implementation Strategies

<i>Core programmes/Projects/Policies</i>	<i>Suggested Location</i>	<i>Implementation Strategies</i>	<i>Timelines (Short, Medium & Long Term)</i>
Mainstream and leverage on the potential of the University of Agriculture and other agricultural research institutes located in Abia State.	Statewide	Creating an input industry for improved seeds. Seedlings and breeds of livestock based on the work of these research institutes.	Short-Term
Refocus poverty reduction programmes from focusing solely on rural areas	Statewide	Reduce the trend of rural-urban migration.	Short-Term
Programmes to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship amongst young people	Statewide	Investments in infrastructure Access to finance, Quality standards	Long-Term
Create additional and good quality employment opportunities for new labour market entrants-young people.	Private-Government nexus	Provision of overheads required to do business such as electricity and water. Encourage foreign and local investment	Long-Term

Transform pilot projects into plan programmes	State-wide	Covert successful projects like agriculture value chin, peace building, access to land, SME innovations, entrepreneurship, ICT, etc into medium and long term programmes through partnership investment and diversifications	<i>Medium to Long Term</i>
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Conclusion

The vision of the ABSLTDP is to create gainful and tangible employment for the citizenry by adopting:

- A demand-led approach to solving the problems of youth unemployment.
- Ensuring that employment generation programmes are responding well to the evolving dynamics of the State's Labour market

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AASME	African Association of Small and Medium Enterprises
Abia-ADP	Abia State Agricultural Development Programme
ABSLTDP	Abia State Long-Term Development Plan
ABSEEDS	Abia State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
ABSHIA	Abia State Health Insurance Agency
ABSUTH	Abia State University Teaching Hospital Ab
ACMD	African Cassava Mosaic Disease
AfCFTA	African Continental Development Trade Agreement
ASUU	Academic Staff Union of Universities
ATA	Agricultural Transformation Agenda
BOA	Bank of Agriculture
BOI	Bank of Industry
CAD	Cassava Anthracnose Disease
CBB	Cassava Bacteria Blight
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CMP	Cassava Multiplication Programme
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease-19
COBGAN	Coalition of Business Groups and Association of Nigeria
CPG	Condensed Petroleum Gas
CRIN	Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
DBN	Development Bank of Nigeria
DOCDay Old Chicks	
DPR	Department of Petroleum Resources
DPRS	Departments of Planning, Research and Statistics
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EMDCs	Emerging markets and developing countries
ERGP	Economic Recovery Growth and Development Plan
E4E	Education for Employment
FAAC	Federation Accounts Allocation
FEAP	Family Economic Advancement Programme
FFB	Fresh Fruit Bunches
F&GPC	Financial and General Purpose Committee
FOS	Federal Office of Statistics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HIMS	Health Information Management System
HIS	Health Insurance Scheme
HSS	Healthcare Strengthening Systems
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGR	Internally-Generated Revenue
IMF	International Monetary Fund

IPMAN	Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
ITCZ	Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone
ITNs	Insecticide Treated Nets
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LEEDs	Local Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
LGAs	Local Government Areas
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
MAN	Manufacturers Association of Nigeria
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
ME	Micro-Enterprise
MNCHW	Maternal and New Born Child Health Week
MPI	Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTSS	Medium-Term Sectoral Strategy
NACB	Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank
NACRDB	Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative and Rural Development Bank
NAERLS	National Agricultural Extension Research Liaison Services
NAPPS	National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools
NASME	National Association of Small & Medium Enterprises
NASSI	National Association of Small-Scale Industrialists
NASU	Non-Academic Staff of Universities
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NBTE	National Board for Technical Education
NCRI	National Cereals Research Institute
NDDC	Niger Delta Development Commission
NEEDS	National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
NIID	National Integrated Industrial Development
NIPC	Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission
NIRSAL	Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing for Agricultural Lending
NRCRI	National Root Crops Research Institute
NSPFS	National Special Programme on Food Security
NSPP	National Social Protection Policy
NUT	Nigeria Union of Teachers
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OFN	Operation Feed the Nation
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPS	Organised Private Sector
ORS	Oral Rehydration Solution
PEFA	Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability
PHC	Primary Healthcare Centre
PHCDA	Primary Health Care Development Agency
PHCUOR	Primary Healthcare Delivery Under One Roof
PIND	Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta

PKC	Palm Kernel Cake
PKO	Palm Kernel Oil
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PVHH	Poor and Vulnerable Households
RA	Revenue Administration
RTEP	Root and Tuber Expansion Programme
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEEDs	State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
SEZs	Special Economic Zones
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SON	Standard Organisation of Nigeria
SPDC	Shell Petroleum Development Corporation
SPO	Special Palm Oil
SPV	Special Project Vehicle
SSANU	Senior Staff Association of Nigeria Universities
SSE	Small-Scale Enterprise
SWOT	Strengths, Weakness Opportunities and Threats
TIB	Temporary Immersion Bioreactor
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UBE	Universal Basic Education
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

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SECTION ONE

THE CONTEXT OF THE PLAN: BACKGROUND ISSUES



Chapter 1

Introduction

BACKGROUND

The Abia State Long-Term Development Plan 2020-2050 (ABSLTDP) is a 30-year perspective Plan, with provisions for review every five years. It is produced as a social compact with the citizens of the State, following international best practices. ABSLTDP looks ahead with great optimism, anticipating greater opportunities for wealth creation, quality of life, infrastructural regeneration and responsive governance to uplift the lives of Abia State indigenes, *Ndi Abia*. This is in keeping with the emerging global trend of planning in long terms and documenting same for the sake of institutionalisation and sustainability beyond administrations and shocks.

It is insightful to state here, up-front, the essence of the ABSLTDP which is defined by key questions:

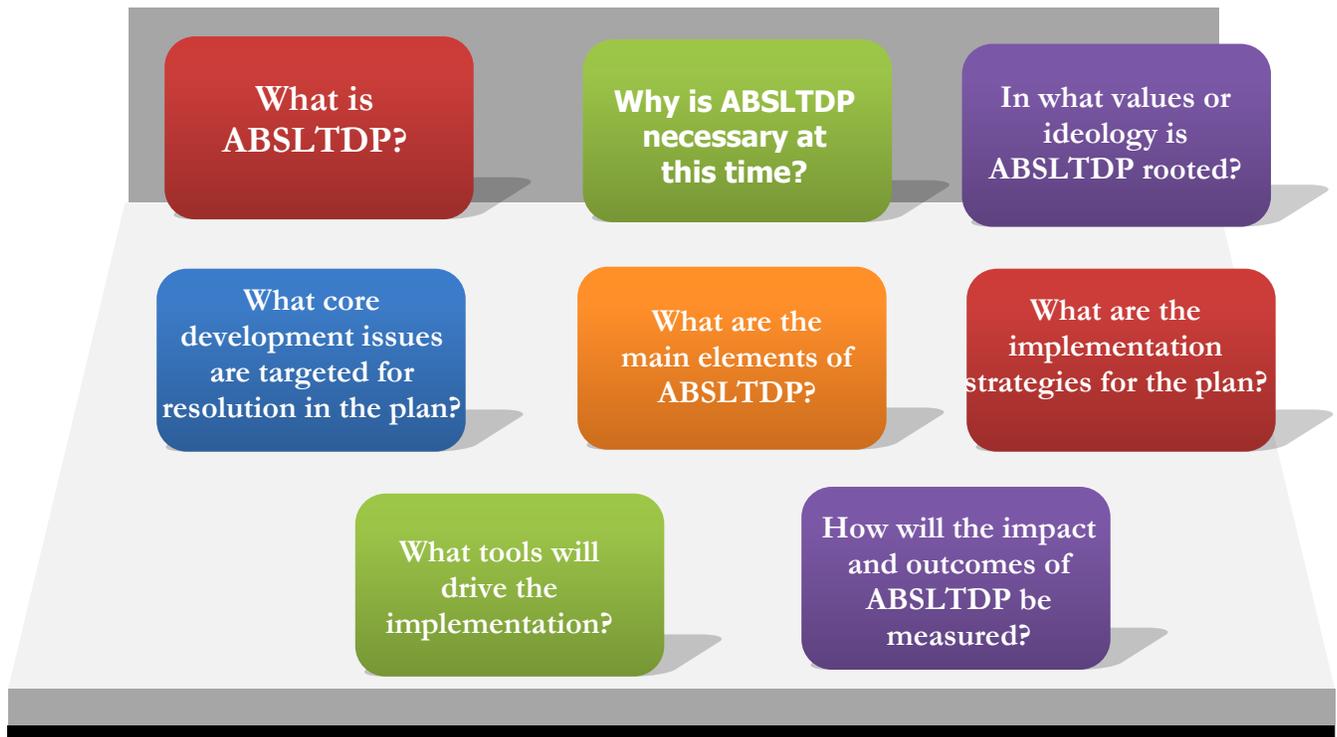


Fig. 1.1: The definitive essence of ABSLTDP

The rest of this Plan document explores these and related definitive questions. The emergent answers point to the idea that ABSLTDP is novel in the very fact that it moves beyond a “project mentality” – incrementally growing on the number of programmes – to achieving, instead, large-scale, sustainable system change.

THE CONTEXT AND DRIVERS OF THE PLAN

Global and Macroeconomic Environment

The monumental challenge of sustainable development has been made more complicated by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic which has further exposed the inadequacies in development efforts, especially structural and institutional weaknesses, which were highlighted by earlier development planning frameworks. Indeed, the sustainable development goals (SDGs), as a blueprint, points to ways to improve global livelihoods by the year 2030. The African Union Agenda 2063 represents a framework for shared energy and excitement. The African Continental Free Trade, with its framework for improved business environment and regional (and sub-national), offers enthusiasm for entity desirous for growth and development. The positive consensus reached by all these frameworks is that African nations, including national and sub-national entities within it, are expected to have economic growth in the short to medium term, that will out-perform other regions of the world. With the promises and prospects in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and its transformational technologies, and the cooperation of international development partners, development is expected to witness unprecedented leaps.

The lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic now heighten the imperative for long-term planning. There is the need to anticipate and plan accordingly. The COVID-19 pandemic is one of those rare Black Swan events that occur once in a century. But no one anticipated that COVID-19 pandemic would impact the world’s economic and social order on a global scale, with devastating fall outs. The World Bank Global Economic Prospect, published in June 2020, predicts a 5.2 percent contraction in global GDP in 2020, implying severe disruptions to global manufacturing and service industry trends with the potential to plunge the global economy into a recession. Already, the pandemic has wiped off more than US\$3.4 trillion from the global economy.

Advanced economies are worst hit, having experienced drastic declines in economic activity and tremendous losses in manpower, giving the high mortality rates from the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, advanced economies were growing at an average of 1.6 percent of GDP per annum but now have to cope with an average of 7 percent contraction in GDP, according to the World Bank 2020. Understandably, consumption and investment have declined. Restrictions and lockdowns have also severely limited production leading to unemployment and severe disruptions to the complex and numerous supply chains that provide goods, services and employment.

For emerging markets and developing countries (EMDCs), such as Nigeria, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in advanced economies of the world, have translated to declines in demand for primary products (minerals, ores, crude oil, agricultural products) which are the mainstay of their economies and are mostly consumed by advanced economies. Worst hit are the crude oil (Brent)-exporting nations. At the dawn of 2020, West Texas

Intermediate (WTI) and Brent Crude oil prices were at US\$61.33 and US\$66.25, respectively. But by 30 April of the same year, both had plummeted to US\$18.84 and US\$25.27. Nigeria's Bonny Light usually mirrors Brent Crude prices. This price fall was triggered by weakening oil demand in China and other major economies and was worsened by the inability of the Organisation of Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC) to enforce production quotas and proxy price wars between Saudi Arabia and Russia. The price of Brent crude fell by almost 70 percent between late January and mid-April, 2020, and has begun recovering, now around US\$40/barrel. Newer restrictions in many parts of Europe and other parts of the world continue to peg down travel and transport, which account for about two-thirds of oil consumption. This trend is likely to reduce oil demand by 8.6 percent through 2020 (World Bank, 2020). Global oil production is also starting to fall, although at a slower pace than demand.

Global demand for metals is also declining. Price forecasts point to a 16 percent decline in 2020 before showing a modest increase in 2021 (World Bank, 2020). The resurgence of Chinese demand, which accounts for around 50 percent of the consumption of base metals, is largely expected to drive this growth. The supply of agricultural commodities has remained largely stable over the years as a result of high outputs and stable but weak prices (FAO, 2020). Food prices declined marginally at the height of the pandemic in advanced countries and are expected to stay so. However, in EMDCs, such as Nigeria, there have been reports of rising food prices (NBS, 2020). Weak supply chains are being impacted on by shortages in inputs as a result of border shutdowns at the height of the pandemic, translating into higher prices. In EMDCs, income losses from disruptions in economic activity could increase food insecurity. Aggregate EMDC activity is expected to contract by 2.5 percent in 2020. Growth in EMDCs is projected to rebound in 2021, to 4.6 percent, supported by the expected pickup in China and a recovery of trade flows and investment.

Weak local manufacturing capacity and over reliance on on-call supply chains, across all industries, have resulted in shortages of medical and hospital supplies, chemicals for small industries, feed for livestock, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs, etc. Steady and directed action will be required to restore the global economy to pre-pandemic levels. Thus far, a number of EMDCs have introduced fiscal measures to expand social protection to the core poor and vulnerable through stimulus funding for MSMEs, conditional cash transfers, unemployment benefits, and household feeding programmes for at-home school children.

These declines in revenues for EMDCs reveal weakness in the ability to take care of the challenges that arise from the pandemic, namely, cushioning the poorest of the poor from further poverty, providing basic healthcare and backstopping their fragile economies. Considering the great impact on health, manufacturing, education, cost of governance, revenue generation, trade and investment, small and medium scale enterprises, the environment and life in general, governments are compelled to adopt short-term post-COVID-19 pandemic socio-economic management blueprints.

Global Industry Trends: Top gainers vs Top losers

This section presents the trends and figures for the top gainers and top losers in the global industry for the year 2020.

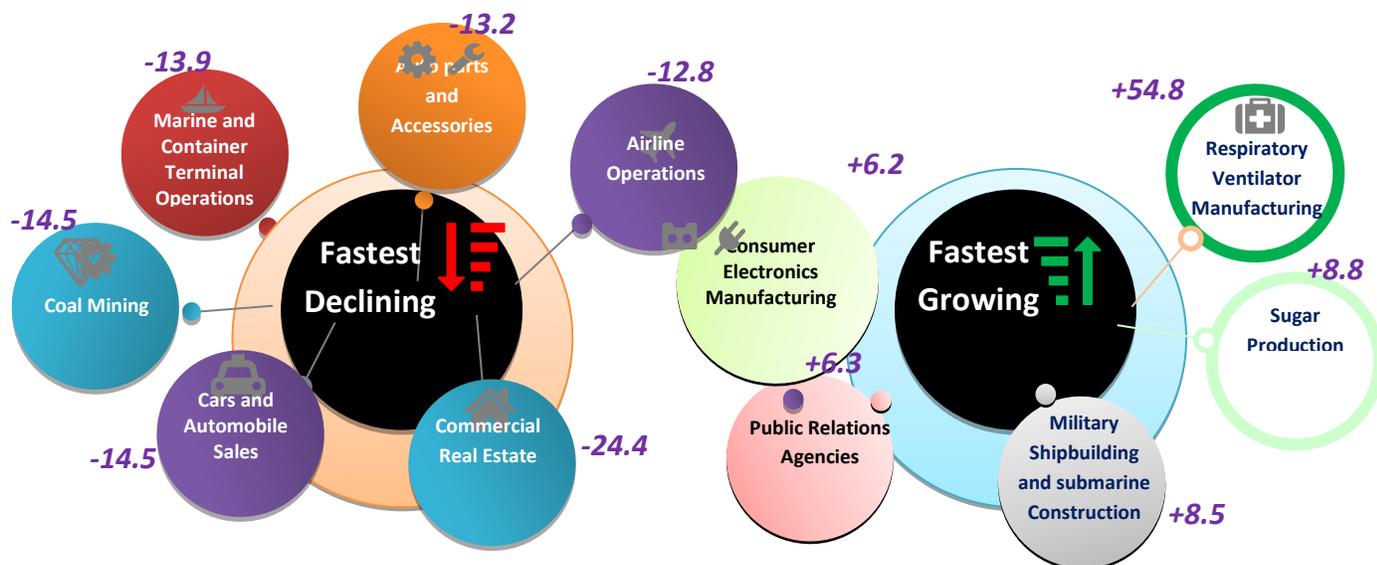


Fig. 1.2: Global industry trends: Top gainers vs Top losers

Source: IBISWorld Global Industry Reports (2020)

Note: Figures in purple are the Revenue Growth/Decline in percentages

Despite the shocks imposed by COVID-19 pandemic, a number of industries are witnessing positive growth. The most impressive growth is occurring in respirator ventilator manufacture, sugar production and consumer electronics. Conversely, other industries are experiencing devastating downturns, such as airline operations, commercial real estate and automobile sales.

Global Trade

Given the fact that trade is more volatile than output, there has been a sharp decline in global trade over the period of the crisis (World Bank, 2020). This decline is closely linked with declines in investment and credit as a result of increased cautiousness on the part of investors and creditors. Travel restrictions and concerns about COVID-19 have led to a marked decline in tourism—a sector which accounts for about 6.5 percent of global exports of goods and services—with sharp declines in economies with the most severe outbreaks. Key indicators of global trade, such as container shipping, new export orders, trade growth, global manufacturing and services, have all experienced declines (World Bank, 2020).

Global Commodity Markets

Generally, commodity prices declined in the first half of the year because of the sharp fall in global demand and may take some time to rebound. The price of Brent crude fell by almost 70 percent between late January and mid-April, and has begun recovering, now

around US\$40/barrel. Newer restrictions in many parts of Europe and other parts of the world continue to peg down travel and transport, which accounts for about two-thirds of oil consumption. This trend is likely to reduce oil demand by 8.6 percent through 2020 (World Bank, 2020). Global oil production is also starting to fall, although at a slower pace than demand.

Global Banking and Credit

Credit has declined largely due to capital flight from EMDCs to China and Europe. Even in advanced economies, there is the risk of a number of industry leaders falling into bankruptcy. S&P 500 analysts posit that Cineworld, AMC movies, etc., require additional liquidity to survive their latest round of closures and avoid bankruptcy. The Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment Update (BICRA), September 2020, indicates that a number of banks in the world are either almost in distress or are already distressed. The most critically affected banks are in Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Ukraine and Belarus (S&P Global, 2020).

Global Job Creation

Over 470 million people worldwide are affected by unemployment the world over and unemployment is projected to increase by around 2.5 million in 2020 (World Employment and Social Outlook, 2020). Some 120 million have either given up actively searching for work or lack access to the labour market. Also, about 500 million people worldwide are working fewer paid hours than they would like or lack adequate access to paid work. Working poverty (defined as earning less than US\$3.20 per day in purchasing power parity terms) affects more than 630 million workers, or one in five of the global working population (World Employment and Social Outlook, 2020).

The COVID-19 pandemic is adding more strain on job creation with unemployment projected to reach nearly 10 percent in OECD countries by the end of 2020, up from 5.3 percent at year-end 2019, and to go as high as 12 percent should a second pandemic wave hit with bleak implications for job recovery into and beyond 2021 (OECD, 2020).

Global Oil and Energy

World oil demand is estimated to decline by 9.5 mb/d year-on-year, reaching a level of 90.3 mb/d in 2020 (OPEC, 2020). The United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) Short-term Outlook Report released on October 6, 2020, indicates that Brent crude oil spot prices averaged US\$41 per barrel in September 2020, a marked increase from the US\$4/barrel average in August. Month-over-month consumption rose by 1.0 million b/d on average during August and September, compared with an increase of 4.1 million b/d from May through July. EIA estimates that global oil markets have shifted from global liquid fuels inventories building at a rate of 7.3 million barrels per day (b/d) in the second quarter of 2020, to drawing at a rate of 3.1 million b/d in the third quarter. Despite expected inventory draws in the coming months, EIA expects high inventory levels and surplus crude oil production capacity will limit upward pressure on oil prices. EIA presents the following trends for major energy items (EIA, 2020):



Fig.1.3: Five-year global oil and energy price trends

Source: EIA (2020)

Global Sector and Economic Growth Contributions

Global growth is projected to be -4.4 percent in 2020 and expected to hit 5.2 percent in 2021 (IMF, 2020). Heightened trade tensions between the United States, China and other countries and regions, combine with policy uncertainty and the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic to create a weak global growth outlook with dimming implications on the prospects of eradicating poverty, raising living standards, and creating a sufficient number of decent jobs. The year 2019 ended with the world economic expansion at its slowest pace since the global financial crisis (UN, 2020). Annual growth decelerated in all geographic regions except Africa. While trade negotiations are ongoing, a high degree of uncertainty remains, contributing to a global economic environment that is likely to remain challenging over the outlook period 2020. Sectoral growth analysis is yet unavailable, but growth is expected to be varied across regions and economies.

EMERGING MARKETS

China is the single country with the largest post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery in emerging markets having quickly contained the spread of the virus. But generally, all emerging markets have posted some amount of recovery. In China, industrial production and manufacturing have experienced sustained growth. The outlook for the export demand depends on recovery in other parts of the world. GDP growth is expected to stay stable around 2.5 percent for 2020 and is expected to reach 8.1 percent in 2021 (BNP Paribas, 2020).

For Brazil, Mexico and India, recovery is slow and fragile as infections rise. For EMDCs in sub-Saharan Africa, growth projections are not empirically substantiated because of data challenges.

GLOBAL POVERTY TRENDS

In 107 developing countries of the world, 1.3 billion people, about 22 percent, of the world's population, live in multi-dimensional poverty (OPHDI/UN, 2020). The Multi-Dimensional Poverty 2020 Report states that 84.3 percent of the multi-dimensionally poor live in sub-Saharan Africa and south-east Asia with 558 million and 530 million multi-dimensionally poor people, respectively. Children are most affected by multi-dimensional poverty, accounting for half of the world's population of multi-dimensionally poor (644 million). About 67 percent of the multi-dimensionally poor live in middle-income countries. Across the globe, 65 countries have reduced their global Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) significantly in absolute terms. In 14 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the number of multi-dimensionally poor increased through population growth even though their MPI value decreased.

Interestingly, multi-dimensional poverty trends are incongruous with monetary poverty trends, implying that both have different drivers. Some 47 countries were making good progress towards halving poverty between 2015 and 2030, but the COVID-19 pandemic could reverse major gains. The pandemic and its associated economic crises are already the most powerful drivers of the reversal in global poverty. Projections, by a recent report by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), suggest that between 88 and 115 million people could fall back into extreme poverty as a result of the pandemic, returning global poverty rates to the 2017 levels, with larger numbers expected in 2021 (OCHA, 2020). Armed conflicts and aggressive climate change also portend grave dangers and could contribute to reversals into poverty for millions worldwide.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Government of Nigeria was implementing its Economic Recovery Growth and Development Plan (ERGP) while finalising plans for a new long-term development plan as the successor to the ERGP. Sub-national governments, particularly state governments, are expected to domesticate and develop state plans in line with the national plan. In keeping with this, Abia State was implementing a medium-term development plan, called Abia Economic Development Blueprint 2015-2025. The blueprint directs its focus on specific sectors through which growth and development would be attained riding on the comparative advantages of the State. However, two factors necessitate a review of the blueprint and the preparation of a long-term development plan. First is the array of challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic which have highlighted the need for not just economic development, but all-round development especially in the social sectors. Second is the opportunity to leverage on local and international partners to collaborate in developing and implementing new solutions and reducing dependence on oil in the region. The latter consideration informs the partnership between Abia State and the Foundation for Partnerships in Development (PIND). Through this partnership, Abia State is developing and implementing its long-term plan to deal with the unique circumstances and endowments of the State.

NIGERIA: ECONOMIC CONTEXT

In 2019, real sector GDP growth was 2.3 percent, slightly higher than its 1.9 percent value in 2018. This growth manifested mainly in transport, oil and information and communications technology sectors. Also, significant contributions to growth came from household consumption, which consolidated on its 1.1 percent contribution to real GDP growth in 2018. On the back of these trends, the African Development Bank, in its 2020 Nigeria Economic Outlook, predicted real GDP growth to reach 2.9 percent in 2020 and 3.3 percent in 2021 (AfDB, 2019). The planned increase in value-added tax from 5 percent to 7.5 percent was also designed to increase non-oil revenues.

But recent estimates from the National Bureaus of Statistics reveal different trends from 2019 projections. Nigeria's gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by -6.10 percent (year-on-year) in real terms in the second quarter of 2020, ending the three-year trend of low but positive real growth rates recorded since the 2016/2017 recession largely due to the effects of containment measures for the COVID-19 pandemic (NBS, 2020).

Aggregate GDP for Q2 2020 is ₦34,023,197.60 million in nominal terms, or -2.8 percent lower than Q2 2019 which recorded an aggregate of ₦35,001,877.95 million. Overall, the nominal growth rate was -16.81 percent points lower than recorded in the Q2 2019, and -14.81 percent points lower than recorded in Q1 2020 (NBS, 2020).

The Oil Sector

Average daily oil production for Q2 2020 was 1.81 million barrels per day (mbpd). This represents a 0.21mbpd reduction in the daily average production of 2.02mbpd recorded in the same quarter of 2019, and 0.26mbpd lower than Q1 2020 production volume of 2.07mbpd. Real growth of the oil sector was -6.63 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020 indicating a decrease of -13.80 percent points relative to the rate recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2019. Growth decreased by -11.69 percent points when compared to Q1 2020 which recorded 5.06 percent. Quarter-on-quarter, the oil sector recorded a growth rate of -10.82 percent in Q2 2020, contributed 8.93 percent to total real GDP in Q2 2020, down from figures recorded in the corresponding period of 2019 and the preceding quarter, where it contributed 8.98 percent and 9.50 percent, respectively.

The Non-Oil Sector

The non-oil sector declined by -6.05 percent in real terms during the reference quarter (Q2 2020). Non-oil sector output was driven by financial and insurance (financial institutions), information and communication (telecommunications), agriculture (crop production), and public administration.

The following sectors experienced the highest negative growth: transport and storage, accommodation and food services, construction, education, real estate and trade. In real terms, the non-oil sector accounted for 91.07 percent of aggregate GDP in Q2 2020, slightly higher than the share recorded in Q2 2019 (91.02 percent) as well as Q1 2020 (90.50 percent).

Mining

The sector declined nominally by –16.02 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020. Quarrying and other minerals exhibited the highest growth rate of all the sub-activities at 44.02 percent, followed by coal mining activity at 18.75 percent. However, crude petroleum and natural gas were the main contributors to the sector with a weight of 97.53 percent in Q2 2020.

Agriculture

The sector grew by 19.90 percent year-on-year in nominal terms in Q2 2020, showing an increase of 2.14 percent points from the same quarter of 2019. Agriculture contributed 23.92 percent to nominal GDP, higher than the rates recorded for Q2 2019 and Q1 2020, which recorded 19.39 percent and 20.88 percent, respectively.

Manufacturing

This sector comprises 13 sectors oil refining, namely, cement; food, beverages and tobacco; textile, apparel, and footwear; wood and wood products; pulp paper and paper products; chemical and pharmaceutical products; non-metallic products, plastic and rubber products; electrical and electronic, basic metal and iron and steel; motor vehicles and assembly, and other manufacturing. The contribution of manufacturing to nominal GDP in Q2 2020 was 11.79 percent, which was higher than the 11.47 percent recorded in the corresponding period of 2019 but lower than the 12.98 percent recorded in Q1 2020.

Real GDP growth in the manufacturing sector was –8.78 percent (year-on-year), lower than the same quarter of 2019 and the preceding quarter by –8.64 percent and –9.21 percent points, respectively. Growth rate of the sector on a quarter-on-quarter basis stood at –13.17 percent, lower than the quarter-on-quarter growth rate recorded in the preceding quarter of 2020. Real contribution to GDP in Q2 2020 was 8.82 percent, lower than the 9.08 percent recorded in Q2 2019 and the 9.65 percent recorded in Q1 2020.

Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply

The sector recorded a year-on-year growth of 8.64 percent in Q2 2020. The contribution of electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply to nominal GDP in Q2 2020 was 0.92 percent, higher than the contribution made in the corresponding quarter of 2019 at 0.82 percent and higher with its contribution of 0.38 percent in the quarter before.

Construction

Sectoral output decreased by –3.20 percent in nominal terms (year-on-year) in Q2 2020, a drop of –46.01 percent points compared to the rate of 42.80 percent recorded in the same quarter of 2019. Its contribution to total real GDP was 3.23 percent in Q2 2020, lower than its contribution of 4.45 percent in the same quarter of the preceding year, and lower than in the immediate past quarter where it contributed 4.08 percent.

Trade

For Q2 2020, the nominal year-on-year growth for trade stood at –14.95 percent. The quarter-on-quarter growth rate was –15.14 percent. Trade's contribution to nominal GDP

in Q2 2020 was 13.41 percent, lower than the contribution in the same quarter of the previous year of 15.33 percent, and the preceding quarter recorded at 15.09 percent.

Accommodation and Food Services

Accommodation and food services fell by -30.16 percent year-on-year in Q2 2020, representing 50.34 percent relative to Q2 2019. They also contributed 0.48 percent to nominal GDP. The real year-on-year growth rate for this sector in Q2 2020 stood at -40.19 percent, lower by -43.11 percent points from the 2.92 percent recorded a year earlier. In Q2 2020, this sector represented 0.41 percent of real GDP, lower than the contribution of 0.64 percent recorded in Q2 2019 and Q1 2020 contribution of 1.07 percent.

Information and Communication

Q2 of 2020 was marked by a -1.15 percent (year-on-year) decline from the 40.54 percent recorded in the same quarter of 2019. The quarter-on-quarter growth rate recorded in Q2 2020 was 30.12 percent. In Q2 2020, the sector recorded a growth rate of 15.09 percent in real terms, year-on-year. Real GDP sector contribution of information and communication was 17.83 percent in Q2 2020.

Transportation and Storage

The sector includes road transport, rail transport, pipelines, water transport, air transport, transport services and post, and courier services which grew by -41.63 percent in nominal terms in Q2 2020 (year-on-year). All six activities under transport and storage industry recorded negative growth rates in Q2 2020, reflecting the significant impact of restricted movement as a result of COVID-19 pandemic during the quarter. In real terms, the transportation and storage sector contracted by -49.23 percent in Q2 2020. The contribution of the sector to real GDP in Q2 2020 totalled 0.75 percent, a fall from 1.38 percent recorded a year earlier and the 1.77 percent recorded in Q1 2020.

Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

In nominal terms, the growth of arts, entertainment and recreation sector was -19.10 percent in Q2 2020 (year-on-year). In real terms, the activity decreased by -8.93 percent year-on-year which was less than the rate recorded in Q2 2019 by -9.74% points, and less by -10.46% points when compared with that of the preceding quarter. Art, entertainment and recreation contributed 0.22 percent to real GDP in Q2 2020.

Real Estate Services

In nominal terms, real estate services in Q2 2020 declined by -17.18 percent, or -19.27 percent. Quarter-on-quarter, the sector growth rate was -1.24 percent. The contribution to nominal GDP in Q2 2020 stood at 5.23 percent. Real GDP growth recorded in the sector in Q2 2020 stood at -21.99 percent. Quarter-on quarter, the real estate services sector declined by -2.71 percent in Q2 2020, contributing 5.30 percent to real GDP in Q2 2020.

Finance and Insurance

Financial institutions and insurance accounted for 89.82 percent and 10.18 percent of the sector, respectively, in real terms in Q2 2020, with growth in the sector totalling 18.49 percent. The contribution of this sector to real GDP totalled 4.00 percent.

Administrative and Support Services

Nominally, administrative and support services sector declined by -0.47 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020. The contribution of the sector to nominal GDP in Q2 2020 was 0.02 percent, same as recorded in Q2 2019 and in the preceding quarter. In real terms, the sector recorded a growth rate of -2.39 percent. It also contributed 0.02 percent to real GDP second quarter 2020.

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

Professional, scientific and technical services sector recorded a nominal growth of -13.75% (year-on-year). The contribution of the sector to nominal GDP was 3.01 percent in Q2 2020 down from the 3.39 percent contribution in Q2 2019. Real growth in the sector was recorded at -15.41 percent in Q2 2020, a contribution of 3.20 percent to aggregate GDP in Q2 2020, lower than the 3.56 percent it contributed in Q2 2019 and lower than 3.42 percent in Q1 2020.

Education

Nominal growth in the education sector in Q2 2020 was -22.09 percent. Real growth in the sector in Q2 2020 year-on-year stood at -24.12 percent. The sector also contributed 1.43 percent to total real GDP in Q2 2020 which was lower than 1.77 percent reported for the corresponding quarter in 2019.

Public Administration

The public administration sector grew by 4.02 percent in Q2 2020, higher by 4.24 percent points from the corresponding quarter of 2019, contributing 2.21 percent to nominal GDP in Q2 2020. In real terms, the sector recorded a growth rate of 2.02 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020. Its contribution to real GDP was 2.36 percent for Q2 2020.

Human Health and Social Services

Nominal growth for this sector was -0.07 percent contributing 0.70 percent to nominal GDP in Q2 2020. Real growth in the sector was 1.89 percent and its contribution to real GDP was 0.77 percent in Q2 2020.

Industries

Industries sector contracted by -12.05 percent in Q2 2020 from 2.26 percent in Q1 2020 and 2.84 percent in Q2 2019.

Other Services

Other services declined by nominally by -13.40 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020. Real GDP also fell by -15.07 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020. The sector contributed 2.87

percent to real GDP in Q2 2020 as against the 3.18 percent reported for the corresponding quarter of 2019 and the 4.19 percent recorded in Q1 2020.

ABIA STATE: ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Evidence indicates that South-East Nigeria holds the key to Nigeria's industrialisation. Abia State is pivotal to South-East's capacity to fulfil this expectation. Indeed, among Nigerian states, Abia has one of the highest potentials for independent, private sector-led economic performance. Given its human, physical and industrial resource endowments, Abia State remains critical to Nigeria's overall industrialisation prospects. Besides oil, confirmed industrial mineral deposits in the State range from silica and black marble to limestone, among several others. Over 20 major cash and food crops are also found in the State. But its greatest assets lie more with its people: innovative, persevering and highly industrious. With an economically vibrant and innovative citizenry, self-help and community service are engrained as part of the psyche of the people, making the rate of private and community-led provision of infrastructure higher than anywhere else in the country.

However, 28 years after its creation, the State lags behind in a number of economic performance indices. Indeed, the initial head start that Abia, which its industries and trade activities had over other states in the federation, has been lost over time. It also lost its position as premier destination for production and trade due to infrastructural and environmental decay. Table 1 presents a comparison of major economic indices.

Table 1: Comparing Abia State with states across geopolitical zones of Nigeria on major economic indices

Zones/ states	Poverty rate (%)	Core Poverty (%)	Unemploy- ment (%)	Ease of doing business (distance from frontier score)	State GDP, Nominal (₦-b)	FDI (\$ m)	IGR (₦-b)	Debt profile (₦-b)
<i>North West</i>								
Kano	55.1		31.3	63.01	2.974	0.16	7.849	116.999
Katsina	56.4		14.3	62.68	n/a		2.100	44.416
<i>North East</i>								
Borno	n/a		31.4	60.55			3.588	90.369
Taraba	87.2		19.0	57.70			2.349	29.230
<i>North Central</i>								
Plateau	55.1		29.8	55.77	1.817		7.203	127.012
Kogi	28.5		19.7	57.72			5.422	73.314
<i>South West</i>								
Ekiti	28.0		20.2	56.8	1.390	4970	1.653	77.072
Lagos	4.5		14.6	54.9			114	493.318
<i>South East</i>								
Abia	30.7		31.6	53.90	n/a	Nil	4.265	92.8

Anambra	14.8		7.5	53.50	3.079	Nil	4.533	59.013
South South								
Akwa Ibom	26.8		37.7	55.66	5.141	0.83	11.954	239.209
Edo	12.0		25.1	55.19	2.342		9.511	82.916

* Sources: Most recent Labour Force Statistics, Q3 2018 (NBS, 2018); Poverty and Inequality in Nigeria, Executive Summary (NBS, 2020); IGR at State Levels, H1 2020 (NBS, 2020); Nominal GDP, Phase 3 May 2020 (NBS, 2020); FDI by states, Q3 2019 (NBS, 2019); Domestic Debt Data, Debt Management Office, June 30, 2020 (DMO, 2020); Doing Business in Nigeria Report, World Bank Group (2019).

Abia State has a high unemployment rate of 31.6 percent, a high poverty rate of 30.7 percent, one of the lowest internally-generated revenue (IGR) profiles amongst oil producing states (₦4.26 billion) and nil foreign direct investment (FDI). Ease of doing business is unfavourable with a mean score of 53.90 from the frontier and a heavy debt profile estimated at ₦92.8 billion. These indices have far reaching effects on the capabilities of Abia State to meet its current challenges and plan towards meeting future challenges. Multiple state enterprises have been grounded for varying reasons. Inability to provide leadership in planning and implementation, which government traditionally provides to the private sector, has meant that the latter have had to battle bitter odds in the bid to remain competitive. A comparison with its close neighbour, Anambra State, reveals the need for concerted efforts towards development. In all the major indices captured in the comparison, Anambra State performs better than Abia even though both states share many characteristics in common.

But the distinct drive of the people remains intact, and presently, there is an immediate window of opportunity that the State must take advantage of. Nigeria's economic and political fortunes continue to hang on a notoriously precarious and politically contentious fiscal federalist system, where oil production and prices are central. Unfortunately, besides the challenge to reduce its dependency on oil and increase productivity in the real sector, times are changing, and dwindling oil revenues are proving incapable of providing the funding required for the monumental task of development in Nigeria. Also, advancing climate change and responses to adapt and mitigate its effects, as well as technological innovation, continue to exert pressure to divest from oil, essentially meaning that in the near future, oil will become an obsolete resource. Between 2008 and 2019, oil price has shed more than 50 percent of its value and Nigeria's foreign reserves, formerly on a comfortable US\$67 billion in 2008, now stands at around US\$38 billion. The capacity of the currency to remain stable will continue to be put to test in the coming months following the erosion of reserves, implying that imported, as well as production constraint-induced inflation, would likely affect fixed incomes in the days ahead. With dwindling public finance to support the macroeconomy, the country is most likely to face financial and real sector production difficulties. All these have increased the pressure to innovate on survival by entities in Nigeria. Such innovation will have to be driven from within. For all tiers of government in the country, there seems to be little option to increasing resource mobilisation and utilisation as well as fiscal prudence in the bid to

grow. Interestingly, nowhere else in Nigeria is the potential to replace foreign products with domestic capacity higher than in Abia State.

But to be able to take advantage of this, the government must be at the forefront of providing an enabling environment within which economic and social development can take place. The first step in that direction is the development of a plan, a production plan that contains within it the acknowledgement of resource constraints, but equally innovative ideas for optimal allocation of such resources. While it must be agreed that both the physical and governance environment in Abia State have significantly degenerated over the years, the potentials for development exist and are huge. Residents of Abia remain distinctly mobile and economically self-driven and can be turned into active partners of the government's ideals. Besides, a large part of industrial facilities that made the State the production and trading hub of Nigeria in the past, remain intact. There are equally huge natural endowments across all geographical areas of the State as well as opportunities for synergy with neighbouring states to tap into and utilise those not found within the State in commercial quantities. As part of its facilitation responsibility, government will also have to transform into a proactive, agile and effective machinery, so as to keep such resources as are absolutely necessary for self-maintenance, and release the rest for the provision of production support amenities.

THE PLAN OUTLOOK

This ABSLTDP incorporates a social compact between government and the people. The State has a relatively high demographic burden, with the 0-14 age range alone accounting for 36.8 percent of the population, accounting in part for the 66.5 percent dependency ratio. Although the State has a fairly high literacy rate (75.2 percent for male and 73 percent for female), the contributions by this group is largely incapacitated by high rates of unemployment (31.6 person) and limited production complementarities from capital (zero FDI). As in many states of the country, social security is very weak, largely relying on informal, and poorly distributed, extended family support system that is fast being weakened by urbanisation as well as changing value system and norms.

More importantly, there is need for synergy: resource allocation synergy, geographical synergy, and sectoral synergy. Complementarities need to be created to ensure that by-products of one sector serve as inputs of other sectors, where applicable, and that labour, commodity, and capital markets, are properly connected. Value chains need to be created among the different sectors as well as products, based on products and sectors which the State can establish comparative advantage. In terms of resources, there is need to reduce waste through facility sharing, setting up firms that rely on by-products of others, while reducing over- or under-allocation to any sector. Sectoral linkages are needed for optimal results. Geographically, Abia shares boundary with all states in the South-East and more than half of the states in the South-South. Such rare natural positioning advantage needs to be optimised for sourcing raw materials and as markets for final products. Clearly, the private sector may not have full information to be able to optimally harness these without the State government's guide and support. Equally important is incentivising private agents through the facilitation of complementarities from government in order to avoid the challenge of missing markets and information asymmetry. This would not necessarily

imply government being an investor, but it demands government's articulated direction of a vision that the private sector can collaborate with and be guided by. ABSLTDP will have to incorporate a baseline analysis that shows what the government inherited and be a basis for self-assessment in service delivery. While it serves as a guide for resource allocation within the period of the incumbent government, it is designed to give direction to the Abia dream of the future. The goal is to create an Abia with a 21st-century and compliant business environment acknowledging integrated and high global competition and innovation that create access to new global markets. The Abia economy has the capacity to be, thus positioned and be made more resilient to build on its strengths as a major hub for industry and commerce.

In addition to a plan that shows the options for moving the real sector forward, a number of reforms are needed to raise the State's internally-generated revenue, manage its debts and optimise public finances in a manner that ensures maximum value for money in State operations. Currently, structures for debt acquisition and servicing do not seem to meet global sustainability standards and this places a drain on the State's finances. Likewise, modalities for generating and remitting internally-generated revenue leave significant loopholes that also challenge the State's financial capabilities despite abundant resources. Also, the State needs to improve its service delivery programme to increase the synergy between the public and private sectors. To this end, it has become imperative that a number of institutional adjustments be made to ensure more inclusive governance and increase the input of the private sector into the governance process. This will increase options for improving the efficiency of the public sector, while ensuring that private initiatives are also structured in a manner that amplifies the efforts of government in capacity utilisation. Likewise, the State needs to increase its regional synergy as well as support improved exploitation and utilisation of support facilities provided by the federal government and development partners. A number of challenges, including economic, environmental, security and infrastructure, facing the State, can only be effectively handled through regional cooperation and better access to support from the federal government and development partners. A number of initiatives available to support private sector development by the federal government and development partners are currently not fully exploited by firms and individuals in Abia. These and other reasons point to the need to deliberately plan for the years to come in Abia. The overall goal of the ABSLTDP is to position Abia State to be able to grow more and develop its different geographical areas while functionally exploiting the resources available to (in and outside) the State for improved growth.

VISION, MISSION, GOALS, AND CORE VALUES

Vision

The vision of ABSLTDP is to make Abia State the premier destination for investors, shoppers, workers and tourists, in Nigeria, West and Central Africa, while ultimately improving the quality of life and well-being of its citizens as a caring and industrious State.

Approach

This vision will be achieved through:

- sustained economic empowerment of the people through innovation and application of cutting edge technologies to create employment and reduce poverty
- aggressive infrastructural development
- creating enabling environment for the growth of small and medium enterprises and ease of doing business
- sustaining a well-trained and healthy citizenry through investment in qualitative education and healthcare at all levels and social protection
- public sector reforms to promote efficiency, transparency, accountability and good governance
- using public-private partnership approach for a sustainable development.

Mission

The overarching mission is to continuously uplift the lives of all citizens of Abia State (*Ndi Abia*). To achieve this, Abia State sets out to accomplish the following:

- Set clear statement of development goals, defining outputs, employment and investment targets and policy direction
- Specify sectoral priority strategies and actions for ministries, departments and agencies
- Specify implementation and monitoring and reporting strategies or framework
- Premise ABSLTDP on the triple principles of focusing and planning for Abia State as a “country” within a country (autonomous economic enclave), removing impediments to socio-economic growth and development, and communicating clearly the new paradigm of development to all the stakeholders for broad inclusion, active participation and equitable sharing
- Transform the State into a high performing economy by 2030 and beyond, and place the State among the five top five industrial hubs of Africa and Middle East and re-establishing its earlier status as “Japan of Africa”.

Core Values

The fundamental positive core values on which the ABSLTDP is leveraged are captured in the mnemonic, CARRORIC:



POLICY FRAMEWORK

Abia State's broad vision for development means to invest extensively in a number of foundational sectors including agriculture, industry, commerce, oil and gas, security, infrastructure, and also healthcare, housing, education, social protection, training and skills development. Investments in these foundational economic blocks will lead to acceleration of private-sector participation in the development and growth of the major sectors of the State's economy, namely, agriculture, health, industry, commerce, oil and gas and education targeted at Abia State becoming Nigeria's largest economy by GDP.

SWOT (STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES & THREATS) ANALYSIS

The broad perspective of ABSLTDP is deepened through the SWOT analysis.

Strengths

The political, economic and social strengths of Abia State include the following:

Stable Polity

Abia State has relative peace, stability and security of lives and property, which provide the enabling environment for foreign investments and assistance.

Homogeneity

Abia is populated mostly by people of common language and culture.

Abundant Natural Resources

As noted earlier, Abia has significant natural resource endowment.

Skilled, Resourceful and Enterprising Manpower

Abia has a highly educated workforce. But beyond education, most Abians, including those that are not educated, are very highly enterprising and resourceful.

Tourism and Hospitality Potentials

Abia State possesses a large array of tourism potentials, quite a number of which have huge economic values, but are yet to be fully exploited.

Large Market

The State has a large population of about 4.5 million (2019). This is a huge potential market by all standard.

Strategic Geographical Location

Abia directly shares boundary with all the states of the South-East, namely, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo, as well as with three state in South-South zone, namely, Cross River, Akwa Ibom and Rivers. In a way then, Abia is a major gateway, and connecting point, to several locations in the country. Abia's exploits, as an industrial base, is in part predicated on this advantage.

Large Arable Farmland

A large part of the State is arable and good for agricultural use.

High Level Indigenous Technology

One of the most important advantages which the State has enjoyed over the years is its high level of indigenous technology. Most of the small and medium enterprises in the State flourish mainly on account of innovations emanating from this indigenous technology.

Weaknesses

Fiscal Indiscipline

Government business has been conducted in the past with significant indiscipline. Respect for public resources has been weak. Expenditure patterns and income accounting have not shown much prioritisation of needs nor sacredness of the public purse.

Non-Inclusive Governance and Fractured Political Space

The average Abian is often unable to see themselves as part of government or to see government as being there for them. Abia's political space has been quite fractured on account of politicking.

Weak Infrastructural Base

There is glaring weak infrastructural base in the State compared to a number of neighbouring states. The road networks in Abia State (both rural and urban) are some of the worst in Nigeria. Public water infrastructure is almost non-existent in many parts of the State and energy is epileptic across board. Infrastructural deficiencies equally include lack of storage facilities and value-chain addition for agricultural products and other purposes that hinder smooth production.

Weak Internally-Generated Revenue (IGR) Base

Like other states in Nigeria, the dwindling oil revenue places a lot of demand on the State to raise IGR. The IGR base of the State has remained weak, with little institutional and structural capacities to raise resources. Meanwhile, the resource requirement for the implementation of the Plan is enormous.

Underdeveloped Information and Communication Technology System

The appreciation and use of information and communication technology are very weak in the State, particularly within the public service. This hinders output and productivity across board. But this is not limited to the public service as most of the informal operatives in the private sector are equally not schooled in information technology and modern facilities that facilitate productivity.

Inadequate Financing Facilities for Economic Activities

The private sector faces the challenge of financing, much the same way as government does. This includes limited access to the capital market. Being informal, most businesses in the State rely on own financing. At most, some approach banks for short-term loans. Most are completely unaware of long-term capital opportunities available through the capital market. Those that are, do not have the facilities to access them and so hardly do.

Grossly Inadequate Data for Planning

For the design and implementation of the ABSLTDP, data presents a major challenge. A number of indices of growth and development are not monitored in the State. Data generation, management, retrieval and usage are all very weak. Most government plans and decisions are made with little or no reference to data. And understandably, funding for data generation and management is equally small, where available at all.

Land locked Geographical Location of the State

Abia State does not have access to the sea. As such, for all businesses with the rest of the world, the State will have to rely on neighbouring states to bring in and take out wares.

Inadequate Network of Industries

Presently, the State does not have much network of industries. First, there are very few industries. Second, backward linkages in production have not been established over time and most firms that exist in the State operate in silos.

Opportunities

There are a number of opportunities the State can explore. These include:

Good Governance

Currently, the State has a chief executive determined to make a difference in terms of good governance. The present governor of the State is not only desirous but determined to create a prosperous Abia State. This is a great opportunity that this Plan intends to maximise.

Current Policies of the Federal Government

The federal government is equally desirous of increasing domestic production. Currently, fiscal and trade policies of government give priorities for domestic production and employment. Given the existing infrastructure and tendencies of the people of Abia, this is a great opportunity.

Large Market for Industrial and Other Outputs

The markets in and around Abia provide strength and opportunity. As outlined earlier, it is a strength, which if it is not utilised, may be lost. Consequently, this Plan will treat this more as an opportunity than a strength.

Opportunities to Harness Tourism Potentials of the State

For many years, Abia State's tourism industry has been presented as no more than just potentials. But they represent no more than opportunities that need to be maximised, which the ABSLTDP intends to do.

Goodwill from Both Within and Outside Abia State

Presently, the democratic experiment in Nigeria enjoys great goodwill. Even though the failure of the past has been glaring, people are willing to give opportunity to new

governments to prove themselves. This Plan is part of the means of ensuring that this opportunity is utilised.

Community Development Spirit of the People

Like other parts of the South-East, Abia State indigenes have always relied on the spirit of self-development. Many communities in the State have relied on community development to provide much of needed infrastructure. This is an opportunity that the government will explore greatly.

Public-Private Partnership and Growing Number of CSOs, CBOs and NGOs

In the past, a large number of public infrastructure was considered the exclusive responsibility of government to provide. This is no longer so, as the awareness is quite widespread and it is accepted that the private sector also has a responsibility to provide and maintain some public infrastructure. This means that the government can expect significant complementation from private resources (funding and expertise) in the provision of needed development facilities.

Availability of High Level Manpower

Policy making in Abia State cannot overlook the high level manpower available to it. A large pool of skilled Abians is currently available for the government to draw from in its bid to generate needed ideas and resources to develop the State.

Threats

While there are sufficient advantages and opportunities, as earlier stated, there are numerous threats facing development in Abia State, such as:

Ecological Threats, including Erosion and Environmental Pollution

Abia State is one of the states bedevilled by ecological threats, particularly those associated with erosion, flood and pollution. Large strips of land in Abia North, Central and South, are threatened by gully erosions and floods while water and air in large parts of the State are polluted by effluents from diverse productive work.

Personalisation of Governance

Across Nigeria, and indeed in many developing countries, governance is largely personalised. This means that institutions that should underpin governance are mostly underdeveloped, allowing decisions to depend on the capacity of the individuals and not on processes and structures. The result has been that states stand or fall on the strength and drive of individuals.

Over-sized Apparatus of Government

By many indices (including share of budget spent on government payroll), government employment is bloated. Worse, the quality of output from the public employment is questionable. While, again, this is not unique to Abia, it affects output as well as resources available for the development of the real sector and so must be addressed for effective growth and development.

Threats of Crime from Unemployed Youths

Abia State has had quite a fair share of violent crimes, such as armed robbery and kidnapping, as a result of high rate of unemployment. While the worst days seem to be over and relative peace has re-emerged in the State, the risks continue to be high on account of unemployment. Without addressing the latter, hopes of completely dealing with the former may not be very realistic; and this affects economic output.

High Cost of doing Business (Cost of Energy, Poor Infrastructure, etc.)

Like many other states in the region, the cost of doing business in the State is quite high. From the cost of registering properties to multiple taxation, businesses in Abia face dire challenges in keeping up with cost.

External and Internal Debt Burden

While the State benefitted from the debt relief of 2005, it has managed to incur substantial debt (particularly internally and with commercial banks) afterwards. These debts hinder the State's capacity to provide the needed infrastructure for growth and development.

Proliferation of Autonomous Communities

A historical development in the State that set government the task of increasing autonomous communities significantly affected communal ties and relationship. The State is now littered with autonomous communities, many of which are not capable of mobilising sufficient resources to support government's efforts in providing infrastructure as has historically been the case.

Threat of Tropical and Water-Borne Diseases

The threat of ailment from regular tropical diseases on economic productivity remains valid across all parts and populations of the State.

Increasing Male Dropout from Schools

Many states in the South-East are experiencing increasing rate of male dropout from schools, and Abia is not exempt.

Poorly-Trained Teachers at all Levels of Education

The education sector has a number of other challenges, not the least being the quality of teachers across all levels. This is an obstacle to the quality of product from the system which ultimately feeds into the quality of input and into the production process.

High Level of Unemployment

Abia State shares in Nigeria's high unemployment rate, both human and resources. This unemployment of resources is linked to low productivity in virtually all sectors, and is not unconnected to the other challenges including, as earlier noted, the risk of increase in crime.

Rural-Urban Migration

Abia is getting increasingly urbanised but the rate has not stemmed the challenge of rural-urban migration either.

High Proportion of Professionals working Outside the State

Most Abia professionals are resident outside the State. Although there is no definite census of their population, estimates range from 40 percent to 70 percent. These migrations are due to insecurity as well as decreases in employment opportunities as the productive base shrinks, leaving the State with only a small proportion of its active professionals available to draw from for its development programmes.

SCENARIO BUILDING APPROACH AND FORECASTING TECHNIQUE OF THE PLAN

The next 30 years and with five-yearly intervals, development planning in Abia State will be based on a cogent methodology that will balance economic, social and organisational dimensions while adapting to the conditions of each sector plan as developed by the visioning committee with the guidance of subject-matter experts in each sector. This methodology will deal efficiently and flexibly with local government variables and state- and country-wide developments because of the necessity for alignment of plans in all stages of government as is required to elicit funding support. This will enhance the role of the private sector through indicative planning, by integrating its initiatives within those of the government sector that are based on directive planning and forms comprehensive long-term visions for economic and social development through strategic planning.

Abia State has adopted a comprehensive approach to planning which covers strategic and medium-term planning with both directive and indicative components as well as state-level planning. At the strategic level, the concern is with formulating a long-term development perspective that determines development priorities, potentials challenges, and possible future growth paths in light of expected and unexpected developments in the internal and external environments such as the dynamics that the COVID-19 pandemic now throws up.

Development plans usually contain high level programmes, policies and strategies. These are contained in ABSLTDP. However, detailed sector/pillar strategies, which feature more granular issues, are also provided. The sector strategies are disaggregated into short and medium-term plans of five years each, to cover the 30 years Plan period.

This has been articulated following the best practices and principles: the fundamental one being that good plan and strategy document lean more on data as they help to define where one is and where one is heading. There is scarcity of data for Abia State. However, the opportunity that articulating a plan offers is forcing the stakeholders to look for data and refreshing the efforts on continuous basis. The expectation is that ABSLTDP will open the vistas of data generation as a major programme of the Plan.

The ABSLTDP, therefore, emphasises state-wide development and seeks greater harmonisation between the sectoral and geographic dimensions of projects that are

already included in the operational plans of government agencies. Preparation of the Plan included evaluating the methodology to be followed, and conducting studies to support the Plan. Such studies of core issues play important role in order to:

- enrich the plans and develop their components
- provide the required statistical databases and information to monitor analysis at the macro-sectoral levels
- prepare manuals to assist ministries and government agencies to prepare operational plans
- conduct field visits to various local governments
- provide economic models which are necessary planning tools
- intensify consultation and coordination with ministries, government agencies and the private sectors throughout the entire Plan preparation period.

Regardless of the richness of available baseline studies, and primary data, economic models are necessary for the preparation of development plans as well as in forecasting and developing alternative economic scenarios for each sector plan and formulating economic policies and evaluating their effectiveness. These economic models will be continuously updated and upgraded. The current realities imposed by the dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic makes this even more pertinent.

The proposed economic models are three: the sector model, the implementation model, and the State's model. These will be used to determine the projected trajectory of growth during the life of the ABSLTDP, at the macro and sectoral levels, ensuing from the current condition of the State's economy. Projected economic and social developments during the Plan period are estimated, in light of its overall objectives and the best alternatives available for optimising the exploitation of economic resources. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is expected to provide up-to-date essential key data information for macro and sectoral economic analyses such as demographic statistics, economic indicators and national/states accounts in addition to data for economic models used for forecasting and developing alternative economic scenarios.

Macroeconomic model building, estimation, simulation and forecasting in Nigeria has a long history including the macroeconometrics models of Ojo (1972), UNCTAD (1973), World Bank (1974), Ekpo, *et al* (2004), Federal Ministry of Finance (2014) and Central Bank of Nigeria (2016). However, these models can neither be wholly applied nor utilised in building a planning model for the economy of Abia State due to paucity of data and the different realities of certain aspects of the Abian economy. Therefore, the model adopted here is a macroeconomic framework based on stylised facts, theory and knowledge of the economy of the State and is presented in Chapter 3 of the Plan.

CHAPTER 2

The People and Resources

INTRODUCTION

Abia State, one of the 36 of Nigeria, was created on August 27, 1991, out of the old Imo State. Umuahia is the capital while Aba is the major commercial city of the State. “Abia” is an acronym from the four major areas of Aba, Bende, Isiukwuato and Afikpo. These constitute the major components in the State at its creation. In 1996, Afikpo was carved out of the State to be part of a new State called Ebonyi. Abia State’s administrative system consists of the State government and the 17 local government areas, namely, Aba North, Aba South, Arochuku, Bende, Ikwuano, Isiala Ngwa North, Isiala Ngwa South, Isiukwuato, Obi Ngwa, Ohafia, Ugwunagbo, Ukwa East, Ukwa West, Umuahia North, Umuahia, South and Umunneochi.

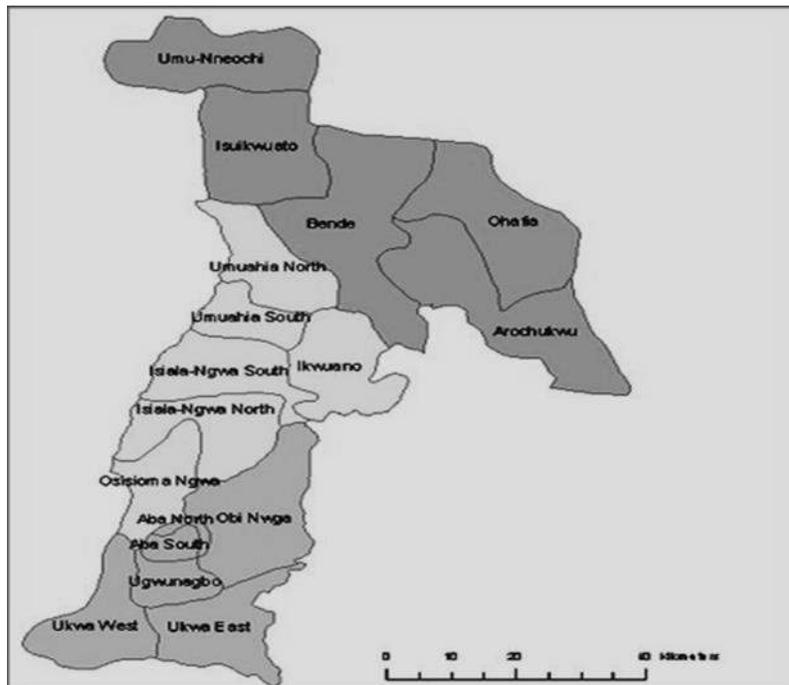


Fig. 2.1: Map of Abia State showing the 17 local governments areas

LOCATION

Abia State is located within longitudes $07^{\circ} 45'$ and $08^{\circ} 10'$ East of the Greenwich Meridian and latitudes $04^{\circ} 45'$ and $06^{\circ} 07'$ North of the Equator. It occupies an area of $5,833.7 \text{ km}^2$ and is located 596 km away from Lagos (commercial capital of Nigeria) and

498 km away from Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory (ABSEEDS, 2004). The State, with its administrative headquarters at Umuahia, had in the 1991 census, a population of 2,833,999 consisting of 1,434,193 males and 1,399,806 females (FRN, 2007). There are 17 local government areas (LGAs) within three agricultural zones. The agricultural zones are Aba, Umuahia, and Ohafia that are inhabited by about 315,910 farm households (ADP, 1995).

THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The physical environment of Abia is being subjected to increased population, urbanisation, sub-urban growth, industrialisation and commerce. The dynamic lifestyles and consumption patterns of Abia populace is also increasing pressure on the physical environment. These aid in pollution and land degradation and create the need to strengthen developmental and management interventions, as to create a balance between the development and the carrying capacity of the natural environment. The knowledge of the physical environment of Abia State, the challenges they pose in the face of the current developmental activities and sustainability, call for attention. The physical environment covers the climate, relief, drainage, geology, soil, hydrology, vegetation, ecology, and natural resources.

Climatic Elements

Abia State has both wet and dry climates, being in the tropical equatorial rainforest of South-East Nigeria. The climate of Abia State and, indeed that of the entire Niger-Delta region of Nigeria, is influenced largely by Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) weather patterns (also known as the inter-tropical discontinuity or inter-tropical front). The system is a bimodal system with double maxima rainfall, alternating between rainy and dry seasons. The two seasons are controlled by the two trade winds, namely, the South-West Trade Wind (Westerlies) and the Tropical Continental Air Mass. The maritime tropical air masses are characterised by hot, dry north-easterly winds. These two air masses converge in the ITCZ.

The north-south oscillation of air masses in the ITCZ determines rainfall characteristics including its variability, spatial and temporal distribution, length of sunshine hours, temperature and evaporation regimes and intercity. Abia State has four seasonal patterns, namely, the long wet season (mid-March-July), the short dry season (ending July-August), the short wet season (September-October) and the long dry season or harmattan season (November to mid-March (Ileoje, 2001). The rainfall starts from mid-March to October with a break in August, known as "August Break". The rainfall is usually heavy and leads to flooding and subsidence, which are aggravated by poor surface drainage to the low-lying south and false-bedded rocks in the central and more especially in the northern part of the State.

The annual rainfall is between 1900mm to 2400mm with about 120 rainy days per year. The rainfall is characterised with thunderstorms from the on-set. The dry season lasts for about four months, beginning from November to March. The dry season is accompanied by harmattan winds from the Sahara Desert, which is normally strong between December and early February. The two major air-masses influence the relative humidity of Abia

State. The Tropical Continental Air Mass has a very low relative humidity and the tropical maritime air mass, has a very high relative humidity, and is the major source of rainfall. Humidity is quite high, being generally lowest in the dry season and highest in May as the rainy season begins. The relative humidity is highest at 09.00hours (local time) and usually between 80-95 percent. The relative humidity decreases to 40-60 percent by 16.00hours after which it begins to rise again. The average precipitation is 2,193mm (86.3inches). The south-west winds prevail during the wet months and the north-east winds prevail in dry season. The relative humidity is higher in the wet season than in the dry season. In areas of low relative humidity, rates of evaporation are higher, allowing water to escape back to the atmosphere much faster. There is the need to take inventory of these winds so as to harness them as potential energy source for the State.

Due to its geographical location, Abia State has constant high temperature, abundant and constant insolation (sunshine). The hours of daylight are long and almost constant. The State experiences highest temperature around January to March, while the lowest temperature occurs around June and July. The mean annual temperature is about 27°C. It is usually cold in the mornings, especially during the harmattan months of December to January, hottest in the early afternoon, warm in the late afternoon and cold again at night. Recent climate change as a result of urbanisation and industrialisation, and non-sustainable development, are connected with the increase in temperature being experienced.

RELIEF AND DRAINAGE

Abia State has a variety of land forms. It is dominated by flat and low-lying land, generally less than 120m above sea level. The low-lying plain is the inland extension of the coastal plain from the Bight of Benin. The central part of the State is characterised by the undulating land with many hills. The highland areas are part of the Enugu-Nsukka-Okigwe cuesta, which has average height of between 120m and 180m above sea-level. From Okigwe in Imo State, this escarpment extends in a west-east direction and on getting to Afikpo (Ebonyi State), veers south-east wards to Arochukwu where it terminates.

Abia State is in the Cross River and Imo River basins with fertile soils. The drainage map of Abia State reveals the principal rivers are the Aba River, Ikwu River in Ibeku and Ohuhu, Akwete River in Ukwa. Imo and Aba rivers flow into the Atlantic Ocean through the Niger Delta (see Fig. 2.1). Imo River, which acts as boundary at some points between Abia and Imo states, originates from the north-western part of the State and flows 93km from the eastern-north to the eastern-south territories, emptying into the Atlantic Ocean through the southern part of Ukwa West and Ukwa East LGAs.

The Imo River cuts through Abia, Imo and Rivers states. The estuary is about 40km wide, with an annual discharge of 4km³ with 2.6x10⁷ m² of wetland. Other tributary rivers to Imo River are Aba River, Igwu River, Azumini Blue River and Kwa Ibo River. Aba-Azumini Blue River has an inland lake that is undeveloped, and if developed, will enhance the recreational and tourism potentials of the State. The rivers serve as drainage basin, recreational activities and agricultural effluent discharges, and dumping site for domestic

wastes including industrial solid waste (Ihejirika, *et. al*, 2011). Other anthropogenic disturbances along the river bank include illegal oil refining and bunkering, leaving some amount of oil spills on the waters. Noticeable effects of the soil spills on vegetation surrounding the surface water could be found along Akwete, Ozawa, Owerrinta and Obigbo/Oyigbo.

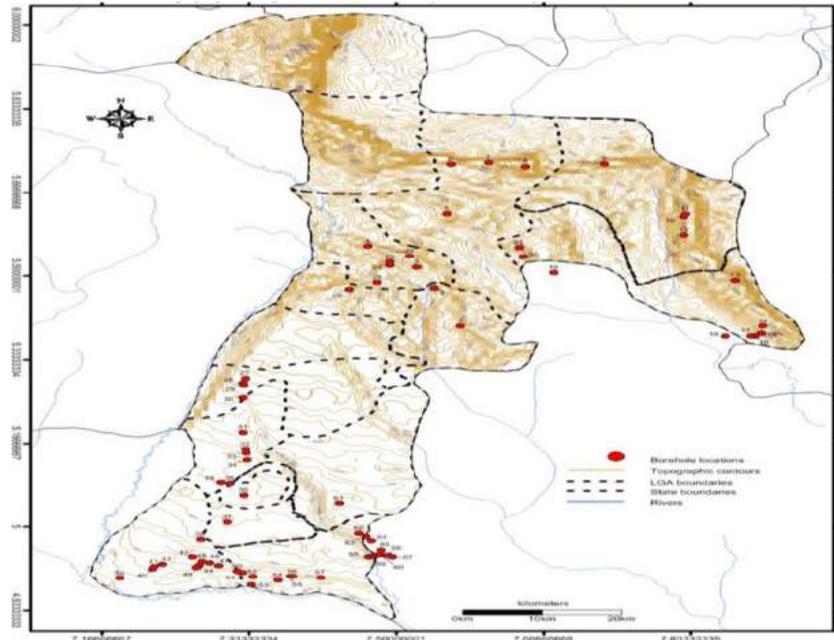


Fig. 2.2: Drainage map of Abia State

GEOLOGY AND SOIL

Geology

Abia State has two principal geological formations, namely, Bende-Ameki and the coastal plain sands, also known as Benin Formation. The Bende-Ameki formation of Epicene to Oligocene age consists of medium-course-grained white sand stones. The late Tertiary-Early Quaternary dominate and completely overlies the Bende-Ameki Formation with a south-westward dip. The formation is about 200m thick (Abia NEWMAP, 2017).

The rock system and geology history of Abia State are due to the events that took place between Mesozoic and Cenozoic periods, respectively. The structure is divided into three, mainly, sub-division: upper coal measure, false-bedded sand stones and lower coal measure. The upper coal measure formation is the largest geological formation in this region. It comprises mainly of coarse grains, alternating sediments of grey sands, darks shale which contains sediments of grey sands, dark shale which contains sands of impure coal in places of vertical horizon.

Abia State is in the Cross River and Imo River casing with rich fertile soils that could be developed and irrigated for food crop production. Its plateau zone extends into the Udi escarpment and cuts across Abiriba into Arochukwu while declining in elevation. There

are undulating lowlands in the interior which offer beautiful scenery as one travels through Abiriba, Afikpo and Ohazara area.

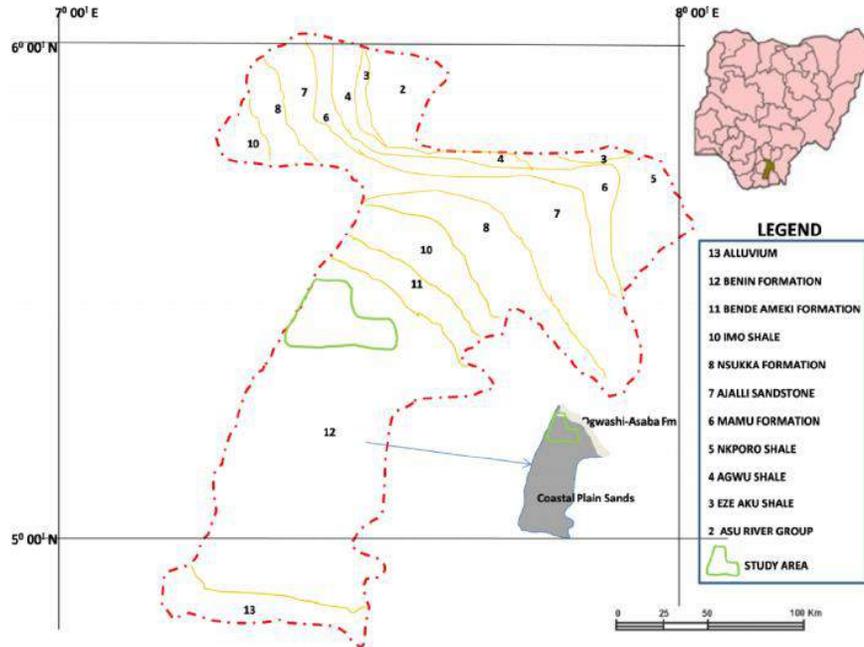


Fig. 2.3: The geological map of Abia State

The histology is unconsolidated fine-medium-coarse-grained cross-bedded sands, occasionally pebbly with localised clay and shale. In general, the geological formations from north to south of Abia State include:

- The Benin Formation (or Coastal Plain Sand)
- The Bende-Ameki Group
- The Nkporo Shale Group
- The Nsukka Formation (Upper Coal Measure)
- The Igali Sandstone (False-Bedded Sandstone)
- The Eze-Azu Shale Group
- The Asu River Group

Soil

Soil types in Nigeria are influenced by and follow very broadly, the climatic and vegetational zones of the country. The degree of available moisture in the soil is an important factor is soil reactions, fertility and productivity. Nigerian soils are classified into groups made up of four (climatic) zones that are soil associations. The groups are: northern zone of sandy soils interior zone of laterite soils; southern belt of forest soils and the zone of alluvial soils (Oyenuga, 1967; Iloje, 2001).

The soils in the State fall within the broad group of *ferrallitic* soils of the coastal plain sand and escarpment. Other soil types include the alluvial soils found along the low terrace of the Cross River and other rivers. The alluvial soils are poorly drained and

subject to inundation during rainy season. The soils are not particularly fertile and are prone to much leaching due to heavy rainfall. Nevertheless, the soil condition in most parts of the State is stable and can support heavy construction. The main ecological problem in the State are sheet and gully erosions.

Hydrology

The two principal geological formations in the State, namely, Bende-Ameki and the coastal plain sands (known as Benin Formation), have a comparative reliable ground water regime that can sustain regional borehole production. The Bende-Amee Formation of the Eocene to Oligocene age consists of medium-coarse-grained white sand stones. The late Tertiary-Early Quaternary Benin-Ameki Formation, with a south westward dip formation, is about 200m thick. The lithology is unconsolidated fine-medium-coarse-grained cross-bedded sands occasionally pebbly with localised clay and shale. The Bende-Ameeke Formation has less ground water when compared to the Benin Formation. The numerous reticular sand bodies within the Bende-Ameki. formations are not extensive and constitute minor aquifer with narrow zones of sub-artesian condition. Specific capacities range between 3-6m³ per meter hour. On the other hand, the high permeability of Benin Formation, the overlying lateritic earth and the weathered top of this Formation as well as the underlying day shale member of Bende-Ameki series, provide the hydro-geological condition that favours the aquifer formation in the area.

Vegetation

The vegetation of Abia State is part of the tropical rainforest belt, which is the dominant natural vegetation in most parts of the southern Nigeria. The natural vegetation has been disturbed and almost dominated by human interference; hence, the present vegetation cover is largely a reflection of the pattern of agricultural cultivation. Therefore, vegetation is primarily the secondary forest, the savannah mosaic forest, with patches of virgin forest (“*ike ohia* or *ofia*”). The southern rain forms the climax vegetation, characterised by a rich vegetative growth comprising varied plant association and several species.

There are three main strata, namely, the upper stratum of emergent, with valuable trees over 40 metres high such as mahogany, Obeche, Iroko, Uhie, Akpu, Achi, Ukwa, Ububa, etc.; the intermediate stratum of trees which range between 20-30 metres high, like rubber, oil palm, etc., and the lower stratum or under-storey of trees, up to 15 metres high with spreading crowns, often bound together by woody climbers and grasses - (shrubs) such as elephant grasses, bahama.

Most of the trees are economic trees used in the construction industry and also cash crops like rubber, oil palm, tide, cashew, etc. Riparian vegetation is found within the river banks and ravines. The riparian forest is characterised by plants that have morphological and physiological adaptations to water-logging. Notable vegetation constituting the riparian forest include *raplia hookeri*, *Terminalia Superba*, *Diosphyroting mespiliformis*, *Nauclea diderricha*, *Baillonala toxisperma*. Bush fallow are characterised by light loving, fast growing species such as *Chromonea odorata*, *albizia zygia*, and *Spondias mombia*. The plant communities are mainly of the secondary forest due to developmental activities.

Main crops grown in Abia State are cassava, cocoyam, yam, corn, rice, melon cashew palm oil, oil bean, rubber cocoa, kola nuts, *inter alia*.

Wetlands and Coastlands

Abia State wetlands and coastlands are part, or extensions of, the Niger-Delta wetland coastlands. It is rich in biodiversity, oil and gas resources. They play critical role in supporting the livelihoods of multitude of Abians. The vegetation is primarily riparian forest characterised by plants having morphological and physiological adaptations to water-logging, swamps and marches. Wet and coastlands in Abia State are mostly found within the watershed, hydrological areas and the drainage basins in the low-lying lands coastal areas of the State, mostly within the Imo River and Aba-Azumini Blue River areas and the plains in Bende area used majorly for rice farming. The wet and coast lands have relatively flat rolling gradient with a slope percentage range of 1 percent to 5 percent.

The wet and coast lands of Abia State provide habitat and food for diverse range of species, aid in groundwater recharge and water retention, provide erosion and sedimentation controls between adjacent ecosystems, improve water quality through filtering sediment and metals from ground water and cycle nutrients to terrestrial and aqueous environments within wetlands and between ecosystems. They will serve also as important global sources, sinks and biogeochemical cycles.

THE PEOPLE AND CULTURE

Abia State is one of the Igbo-speaking states of the South-East zone of Nigeria. English is also widely spoken as the official language for governance and business. The State is richly endowed in culture, which is seen in the people's mode of dressing, dancing, arts and craft as well as festivals and the widely known Igbo traditional hospitality.

The traditional attire for men in the State is the jumper or long-sleeved shirt worn over a "joni" wrapper tied around the waist and flowing down to the ankles, and complemented with a cap and a walking stick for support and defence. The traditional attire for the women is a blouse over a piece of "abaca" or George cloth (pronounced "joji") wrapped around the waist, with a head gear, earrings and necklace. The people of Abia State are predominantly Christians of different denominations with some traditional worshippers. The various religious groups live together peacefully. Abians are known and reputed to be industrious, highly commerce-oriented, very hospitable and accommodating, possibly due to their migratory nature.

THE ECONOMY

Nigeria generally practises a mixed economic system. However, recent developments, which were introduced by various administrations at the national level, including the structural adjustment programme, debt cancellation, transformation agenda and change with next level, have attracted a market-driven and liberal economy with private investors piloting trade and investment, industrial and other commercial activities. The basic government business is to regulate and provide legal and institutional infrastructural framework for prospective investors. Abia State government has embarked on

privatisation and commercialisation in its bid to revamp a conducive business environment for private sector investment and development.

The State provides physical and fiscal incentives in the areas of tax relief, tariff and export incentives. The State is involved in providing soft loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and has established a micro-finance bank for easy access to funding and poverty alleviation activities. The government of Abia State also provides industrial estates and clusters to investors as well as statutory right of occupancy for the industrial property acquired outside the estate/layout. The State is developing one of the best economic cities in sub-Sahara Africa called the Enyimba Economic City.

The basic economic activities in Abia State are agriculture, manufacturing, trade and commerce. There is a vibrant and bustling small and medium enterprise (SME) development activities in and within Aba, one of the foremost commercial cities in Africa, that has led to its being called the “Japan of Africa”. Technological development opportunities abound in the hinterlands for agro-raw materials processing into secondary and final consumer goods.

Abia State is the small and medium enterprise (SME) hub of Nigeria with the highest potential for independent, private sector-led economic performance. Given its human, natural and industrial resource endowments, Abia State remains critical to Nigeria’s overall industrialisation prospects. The industrial centre of Aba hosts many manufacturing industries which produce pharmaceuticals, soap and detergents, plastics, footwear, garments, and cosmetics, among several others. Agriculture, which employs 70 percent of Abia State’s workforce, represents the highest employer of labour in the State. With its adequate seasonal rainfall, Abia State produces yam, cassava, maize, potato, plantain, cocoa, rice and cashew. Oil palm is the major cash crop in the State.

Abia State hosts nine tertiary institutions which include Michael Okpara (Federal) University of Agriculture at Umudike, and the state-owned Abia State University in Uturu. Additionally, there are the National Roots and Crops Research Institute at Umudike, Forestry Research Institute at Ahiaeke, National Cereal Research Institute Amakama, and National Cocoa Research Institute also at Umuahia. There are also two tertiary hospitals, the Federal Medical Centre in Umuahia and the Abia State University Teaching Hospital in Aba, which serve as referral hospitals in the State.

The State hosts one of the leading commercial cities in Africa, Aba. This city is known nationwide as the commercial hub of the South-East of Nigeria with strong manufacturing, distribution, retail and small medium enterprise businesses. The indigenous entrepreneurial capacity, abundant skills and semi-skilled manpower, are unequalled in West Africa. There are growing export businesses of “Made-in-Aba” consumer goods, especially to the ECOWAS sub-region. There is enormous investment opportunity and a well-educated and productive workforce ready to be tapped into.

The sources of employment in the State are farming, fishing, forestry (70 percent); mining, manufacturing, energy production and construction (10 percent), and services-

government activities, communications, transportation, finance, and other economic activities that do not produce materials goods (20 percent).

EDUCATION

Abia State government is highly committed to educational development of the State, and has one of the highest literacy rates in the country. In addition to the two government-owned universities mentioned above, there are the Abia State Polytechnic, Aba; College of Education (Technical), Arochukwu, and School of Health Technology, Aba, in addition to other technical colleges and research institutions. There are also privately-owned universities, namely, Gregory University, Uturu; Clifford University and Rhema University, Aba. The State plans more investments in education to improve skills and intellectual ability.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Abia State is linked through the federal expressways and railways to other states in Nigeria. There are internal networks of roads which are motorable most of the year. The government has increased tempo of road construction and rehabilitation. The State is close to major international airports in Port Harcourt and Enugu, seaports in Port-Harcourt and Calabar. Owerri airport, in neighbouring Imo State, is less than 60km away from Abia State.

Electricity is available from the national grid. In addition, a private firm, Geometric, has also joined to improve the electric power situation because of the economic importance of the State. More investors in this sector are still required.

Road construction and rehabilitation are pursued with vigour by the current administration. This includes urban and rural roads which have been under a state of decay and disrepair since the end of the civil war. The net effect has translated to improving trade and commerce and the attraction of serious investors to the State.

LANDMASS

Abia State has a landmass of 5,834 square kilometres, about four times the size of London. The State is bordered towards the south by alluvial coastal plains, characterised by rain forest vegetation, abundance of solid mineral and petroleum resources as well as large belts of wild plantations and arable land.

Table 2.1: Land distribution by local government areas in Abia State

S/N	LGA	Area of land (sq km)	Percentage (%)
1.	Aba North	14.464	0.25
2.	Aba South	39.496	0.67
3.	Arochukwu	726.519	12.35
4.	Bende	707.6	12.03
5.	Ikwuano	268.71	4.57
6.	Isiala Ngwa South	369.614	6.28
7.	Isiala Ngwa North	305.667	5.20
8.	Isuikwuato	360.29	6.12

9.	Obi Ngwa	358.191	6.09
10.	Ohafia	561.015	9.54
11.	Osioma Ngwa	126.625	2.15
12.	Ugwunagbo	244.384	4.15
13.	Ukwa East	379.973	6.46
14.	Ukwa West	542.127	9.22
15.	Umuahia North	250.377	4.27
16.	Umuahia South	172.913	2.94
17.	Umunneochi	466.411	7.93
	Abia State	5834.376	100

Source: NEWMAP Final Report, 2017

DEMOGRAPHY

The population of Abia is projected from the 2006 population census figures, which stood at 2,845,380. The State, as at 2020, has a projected population of about 4,188,359 with a growth rate of 3.6 percent. The projected population is shown in Table 2.2 with further details presented in Appendix 2.

Table 2.2: Abia State population projection by LGA, year and sex, 2020-2050

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, YEAR AND SEX 2020 - 2050																
Year	2006		2020		2025		2030		2035		2040		2045		2050	
LGA	Male	Female														
Aba North	53016	53828	78,039	79,234	89,593	90,966	102,859	104,434	118,088	119,897	135,573	137,649	155,646	158,030	178,692	181,428
Aba South	220,541	206,880	324,633	304,524	372,699	349,613	427,882	401,378	491,235	460,807	563,969	529,035	647,472	607,365	743,338	697,293
Arochuku	85,695	83,644	126,142	123,123	144,819	141,353	166,261	162,282	190,878	186,310	219,140	213,895	251,586	245,565	288,837	281,924
Bende	95,675	96,946	140,832	142,703	161,684	163,832	185,624	188,090	213,108	215,939	244,661	247,911	280,886	284,617	322,475	326,759
Ikwuano	70,509	67,388	103,788	99,194	119,155	113,881	136,798	130,743	157,053	150,101	180,306	172,325	207,003	197,840	237,652	227,133
IsialaNgwa North	76,261	77,822	112,255	114,553	128,876	131,514	147,958	150,986	169,865	173,342	195,015	199,007	223,890	228,472	257,039	262,301
IsialaNgwa South	67,205	69,445	98,925	102,222	113,572	117,357	130,388	134,734	149,693	154,683	171,857	177,585	197,303	203,879	226,516	234,066
Isiukuwato	56,660	59,134	83,403	87,044	95,752	99,932	109,929	114,729	126,205	131,716	144,891	151,218	166,344	173,608	190,974	199,312
ObiNgwa	89,593	92,301	131,880	135,866	151,406	155,982	173,824	179,078	199,560	205,592	229,108	236,033	263,030	270,980	301,975	311,102
Ohafia	124,416	121,571	183,139	178,951	210,255	205,447	241,385	235,866	277,126	270,789	318,157	310,882	365,265	356,912	419,347	409,758
Osioma Ngwa	110,790	109,872	163,081	161,730	187,228	185,676	214,949	213,168	246,775	244,730	283,313	280,965	325,261	322,566	373,420	370,326
Ugwunagbo	42,801	42,570	63,002	62,662	72,331	71,940	83,040	82,592	95,335	94,821	109,451	108,860	125,657	124,978	144,262	143,483
Ukwa East	29,410	28,729	43,291	42,289	49,701	48,550	57,060	55,738	65,508	63,991	75,207	73,466	86,343	84,344	99,127	96,832
Ukwa West	44,149	43,218	64,987	63,616	74,609	73,035	85,656	83,849	98,338	96,264	112,898	110,517	129,614	126,881	148,805	145,667
Umuahia North	112,595	110,539	165,738	162,712	190,278	186,803	218,451	214,462	250,795	246,216	287,929	282,671	330,560	324,524	379,504	372,574
Umuahia South	68,950	70,108	101,493	103,198	116,521	118,478	133,773	136,020	153,580	156,159	176,319	179,281	202,426	205,825	232,397	236,300
Umunneochi	82,032	81,087	120,750	119,359	138,628	137,031	159,154	157,321	182,719	180,614	209,773	207,356	240,832	238,058	276,491	273,305
	1,430,298	1,415,082	2,105,378	2,082,981	2,417,106	2,391,392	2,774,989	2,745,468	3,185,861	3,151,969	3,657,568	3,618,658	4,199,117	4,154,446	4,820,850	4,769,564
TOTAL	2,845,380	2,830,164	4,188,359	4,161,962	4,808,498	4,782,784	5,520,457	5,490,936	6,337,830	6,303,938	7,276,226	7,237,514	8,353,563	8,309,891	9,590,413	9,541,128

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

NATURAL RESOURCES

Abia State is endowed with varied natural resources which include mineral resources, forest resources, agricultural resources, water resources and wildlife (bio-diversity).

Mineral Resources

There are deposits of liquid and solid (metallic and non-metallic) mineral resources available in commercial quantity in the State.

Liquid Mineral Resources

The liquid mineral resources of Abia State are crude oil at Owaza, Imo River, Obuzor, Ngboko, Nkali, Odagwa, Obeakpu and Isimiri in Ukwa West and Ugwunagbo LGAs, and natural gas at Ohuru in Ukwa East LGA.

Solid Mineral Resources

Solid resources in Abia State are scattered within the 17 local government areas and they include silica sand, laterite, gravel, tar sands/oil shale, black marble, phosphate, salt, lignite/coal, clay among others. Their locations and uses are shown in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3: Solid minerals, location and uses in Abia State

S/N	Solid minerals	Location	Use
1.	Tar sands/oil shales	Ugwueme-Lokpanta, Umuanneochi LGA	Used for production of asphalt, tar and refined products
2.	Lead, zinc copper	Lokpa-Ukwu in Umunneochi LGA	Used to obtain refined products of lead, zinc and copper.
3.	Phosphate (Traces)	Amaeke in Umuahia, Ewe in Arochukwu	Used for production of fertilizer and detergent and other chemical industries
4.	Gypsum	Lokpa-Ukwu in Umunneochi, Ewe Arochukwu	Used in production of pharmaceuticals, chalk, plaster.
5.	Limestone	Isuikwuato	Used for cement, glass, water treatment and sugar refining. Iron and steel construction, agriculture fertilizer, etc.
6.	Iron Ore	Isuikwuato	Used for Iron and Steel.
7.	Kaolin	Ikwuano and North Western Isuikwuato	Used for paints, detergent, steel, ceramics etc.
8.	Industrial sands	Azumiri, Umuahia	Used for glass, foundry, ceramics, abrasive.
9.	Igneous Rock	Uturu, Lokpanta, Lekwesi in Isuikwuato	Used in road and building construction.
10.	Lateritic	All the LGAs	Used in building and construction industry.

FOREST RESOURCES

The forest is characterised by a rich vegetation growth comprising varied plants of several species. Tree species include the oil palm (*elaeia guinasis*) mixed with are *chlorophora exclesa*, *brachystegia eurycoma* and *pyncanthus edulis*, *treculia Africana* and *irvingia*

gabonensis. Other forest resources are clean water and air, timber for wood products (from some of the trees mentioned above), wildlife habitats, stable soil, recreational opportunities and beautification of the environment.

The State has about 8,244.24 hectares of forest reserves. About 2,056.06 (25 percent) hectares of the total area are developed while 6,168.18 hectares (75 percent) are yet to be either planted up or rehabilitated. The 19 forest reserves are located as shown in Table 2.4.

Table 2.4: Forest reserves in Abia State

S/N	Local Area	Govt.	Name of Forest Reserve	Area	Species Planted	Unplanted	Remarks
1.	Arochukwu		1. Achara Ihie F/R	990.3 ha	Gmelina arborea	668.0 ha	In dispute with Cross River State
			2. Oruo Okpo F/R	18.3 ha	Nauclea Treculia	11.40 ha	
			3. Ndi Okpo F/R	520.00 ha	Gmelina	324.0 ha	
			4. Ngele F/R	186.14 ha	Nil	186.4 ha	
			5. Uburu Ihie F/R	10.5 ha	Gmelina Nauclea Terminalia	6.00 ha	
2.	Bende		1. Eme River F/R	212.5 ha	Gmelina	140 ha	
			2. Ubibia F/R	755 ha	Terminalia	450 ha	
			3. Ukpom Bende F/R	1475 ha	Gmelina	900 ha	
			4. Anyaogu Ezenta F/R	1754 ha	Terminalia Teak Nauce Gmelina	79.7 ha	
3.	Isuikwuato		Amabata Ovim F/R	126 ha	Gmelina Terminalia	100 ha	
4.	Ikwuano		Nkalunta F/R	364 ha	Gmelina Terminalia	230 ha	
5.	Ohafia		1. Agukwu Amaekpu F/R	286 ha	Gmelina	256 ha	
			2. Ndiorieke F/R	27.4 ha	Terminalia Gmelina Terminalia	20.4 ha	
6.	Ukwa East		1. Obeaku F/R	2270 ha	Gmelina	2000 ha	More of swamp
			2. Ohambele F/R	600 ha	Terminalia & Trigyna Nil	600 ha	
7.	Umunneochi		1. Umulem Isuochi F/R	11.7 ha	Nil	11.7 ha	
			2. Umulem Isuochi F/R	108.7 ha	Gmelina	90 ha	
			Ext. 1&2	43 ha	Eucalyptus Gmelina Eucalyptus	35 ha	
8.	Umuahia North		Umuahia Ibeku	120 ha	Gmelina Eucalyptus & Pinus		Protection forestry
				8244.2 ha		6168.18 ha	

Source: Forestry Department, Abia State Ministry of Environment, 2020.

SECTION TWO

THE FRAMEWORK FOR GROWTH AND STABILITY



Chapter 3

Macroeconomic Framework, Finance and Revenue

BACKGROUND

The need for the long-term plan for Abia State cannot be overemphasised. This is primarily because its economic growth pattern and development must be guided to obtain the desired development through robust planning. The macroeconomic framework provides the guide on how to go about the planning process of achieving the set goal.

MACROECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

Any development plan must have a macroeconomic framework. Broadly, a framework is a tool for rational thinking and for a clear analysis of the consistency of policy or plan targets. Because a framework depends on an understanding of the economy, it is possible for more than one framework to be available. Any chosen framework must be justified. For example, at the federal government level, the consistency framework was chosen as the macroeconomic framework for its plans.

A macroeconomic framework is predicted on a macroeconometric model complemented with an input-output table. However, for a long-term economic development plan, a more robust model is often utilised, such as a dynamic computable general equilibrium. A macroeconometric model is often preferred for a 3-5-year plan with limited years of forecast. With a dynamic computable general equilibrium model, long-term forecasting and simulations can be undertaken. Notwithstanding the model, adequate and consistent data are required. Such data set can be annual, quarterly and monthly.

The paucity of data in Abia State makes the utilisation of any of the above models rather difficult. Hence, stylised facts, theory and knowledge of the economy would guide the macroeconomic framework for the State. Stylised facts would establish for both short-term and long-run development plans for the State.

Table 3.1 summarises the macroeconomic performance of the State for the period, 2013-2019. The rate of inflation, except for 2014, indicated double-digit for the period while the rate of unemployment was very high. The rate of unemployment, which stood at 24.2 percent in 2013, rose steadily and, by 2019, it was 32.5 percent. The acceptable rate of unemployment at full-employment should be between 4 and 5 percent. The high rate of unemployment shows the large output loss in the economy. If the rate is not reduced through strategic policies and programmes, it would result in high social vices with adverse implications for the economy.

Table 3.1: Abia State macroeconomic performance, 2013-2019 (%)

Year	Inflation Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)	Lending Rate (%)	Discomfort Index	Misery Index
2013	17.85	24.2	24.69	42.05	66.74
2014	2.21	24.5	25.74	26.71	52.45
2015	9.84	25.1	26.71	34.94	61.65
2016	16.35	30.7	27.29	47.05	74.34
2017	15.17	31.1	30.68	46.27	76.95
2018	11.88	31.6	31	43.48	74.48
2019	10.92	32.5	31.01	43.42	74.43

Sources: CBN, Abuja and NBS, Abuja

The high misery index, from 66.7 percent in 2013, to 74.4 percent in 2019, justifies the need to plan the economy so as to reduce the number of people living in misery in the State.

Table 3.2: Abia State unemployment rate, 1999-2019 (%)

Year	Unemployment Rate
1999	9.2
2000	4.2
2001	16
2002	14.8
2003	11.4
2004	9.7
2005	7.9
2006	13.5
2007	25.1
2008	11.9
2009	14.5
2010	22.8
2011	22.9
2012	23.3
2013	24.2
2014	24.5
2015	25.1
2016	30.7
2017	31.1
2018	31.6
2019	32.5

Source: National Bureau of Statistics, Abuja.

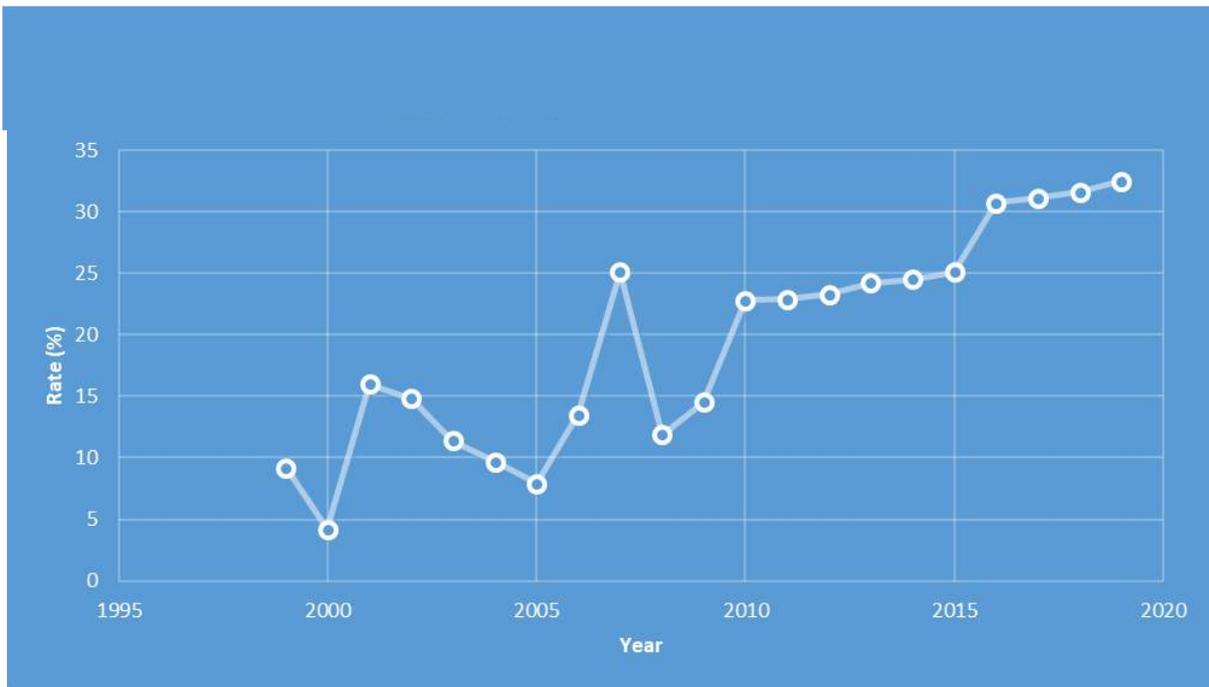


Fig. 3.1: Abia State unemployment rate, 1999-2019

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Tables 3.3 and 3.4 highlight the expenditures and revenue profile of Abia State for the period, 2014-2019. The total expenditure rose from ₦80.31 billion, in 2014, to ₦117.97 billion in 2019. For the period, the share of recurrent expenditure to total expenditure averaged about 76.4 percent. The implication of this scenario is that only 23.6 percent is utilised for capital expenditures. It is the capital component of expenditure that stimulates growth. The State must increase its capital expenditure which must be geared towards job-generating projects in order to stimulate growth and reduce the unemployment rate.

Table 3.3: Abia State expenditure profile, 2014-2019

Year	Total Expenditure (₦ Billion)	Capital Expenditure (₦ Billion)	Recurrent Expenditure (₦ Billion)	CEXP/TEXP	REXP/TEXP
2014	80.31	13.55	66.76	16.87	83.13
2015	94.46	21.29	73.17	22.54	77.46
2016	75.87	12.08	63.79	15.92	84.08
2017	99	21.73	77.27	21.95	78.05
2018	102.35	25.15	77.2	24.57	75.43
2019	117.97	46.6	71.37	39.50	60.50

Source: Abia State Auditor-General Office

Keys: CEXP = capital expenditure; REXP = recurrent expenditure; TEXP = total expenditure.

Table 3.4: Abia State revenue and expenditure (₦ B), 2014-2019

Item	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Revenue						
Statutory Allocation	56.13	40.85	49.6	61.49	63.6	59.34
Independent Revenue	12.37	11.84	12.54	15.46	15.83	15.5
BTL Receipts	1.6	0.87	1.76	1.88	4.56	3.53
Capital Receipts	8.4	43.8	16.76	20.26	13.24	37.8
Total Revenue	78.61	97.36	80.66	99.1	97.23	116.18
Expenditure						
Personnel Cost	20.98	22.69	20.65	30.71	31.98	27.85
Overhead Cost	23.64	25.58	20.89	22.34	20.94	19.72
Public Debt Charges	11.95	11.03	12.75	9.27	12.94	14.03
Consolidated Revenue Fund Charges	8.56	13	7.74	12.92	9.28	5.57
BTL Payments	1.6	0.87	1.76	2.03	2.05	4.2
Capital Expenditure	13.55	21.29	12.08	21.73	25.15	46.6
Total Expenditure	80.31	94.46	75.87	99	102.35	117.97
Net Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	-1.7	2.9	4.79	0.1	-5.12	-1.79

While total revenue increased from ₦78.61 billion in 2014 to ₦116.18 in 2019, the bulk of the revenue rests on statutory allocation from the centre based on the revenue-sharing formula. The statutory allocation fluctuates and depends on oil revenues allocation from the centre. Oil revenue is not only volatile and uncertain since it depends on the vagaries of global oil movements, but it is also exogenous to the State. It is unhealthy to plan an economy based on an exogenous source of revenue like oil which in itself is a wasting asset.

Consequently, policies and strategies must be put in place to exponentially increase internally-generated revenue (IGR). From 2014 to 2019, IGR in the State could not cover recurrent expenditures which is dominated by personnel costs. Therefore, if allocation had not come from the centre, Abia State would not have been able to pay salaries which further stresses the importance of both short-term and long-term planning. The dependency rate on federal allocation is about 70 percent.

It is, therefore, not surprising that Abia State had to borrow to meet the deficits during the period under review. Both the domestic and external debt showed remarkable increases for the period, 2011-2019 (see Table 3.6). It is expected that the increased debt is meant to finance capital projects with reasonable payback period. In addition, borrowing to finance capital project, especially hard and soft infrastructure, have long-term positive multiplier effect.

Table 3.5: Abia State internally-generated revenue, 2008-2019

<i>Year</i>	<i>Internally-Generate Revenue (IGR) ₦ Billion</i>
2008	4.34
2009	5.95
2010	11.12
2011	11.76
2012	16.75
2013	12.51
2014	12.37
2015	13.35
2016	12.69
2017	14.92
2018	14.83
2019	14.77

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Table 3.6: Abia State debt structure, 2006-2019

<i>Year</i>	<i>Domestic Debt (₦ billion)</i>	<i>External Debt (\$' million)</i>
2006	-	19.6
2007	-	20.37
2008	-	25.89
2009	-	27.87
2010	-	29.12
2011	24.2	33.26
2012	8.66	35.91
2013	31.73	34.18
2014	25.12	33.79
2015	33.52	41.5
2016	53.53	41.29
2017	60.64	101.49
2018	67.02	98.58
2019	68.76	96.59

Source: CBN, Abuja and DMO, Abuja

Table 3.7: Abia State local governments' total outstanding debts, 2007-2017

Year	Amount (₦' Million)
2007	152.13
2008	55.76
2009	2,718.43
2010	223.77
2011	524.98
2012	146.71
2013	-
2014	-
2015	-
2016	-
2017	480.92

Source: CBN, Abuja.

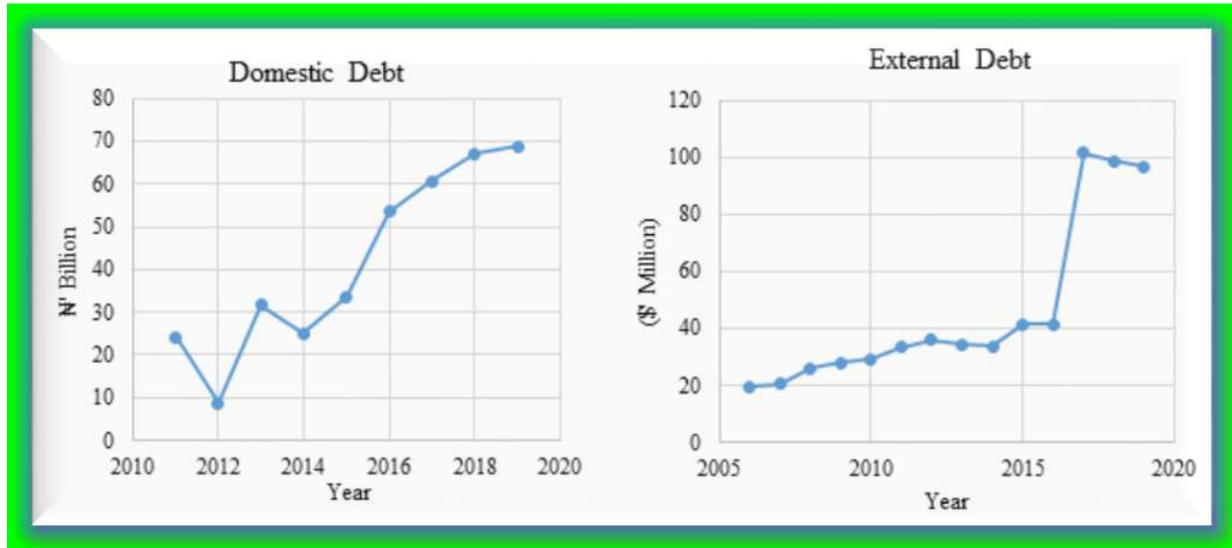


Fig. 3.2: Abia State debt profile, 2011-2019

Sources: CBN, Abuja and DMO, Abuja

The eclectic macroeconomic dynamics suggest that the State must grow beyond double-digit rate sustained for a period of 15 years to begin to reduce poverty. However, the years could be shortened by aggressive qualitative government intervention as an enabler. The bottlenecks to growth, such as lack of infrastructure like power, roads, education and health, among others, would fast-track growth and development. Because growth is not development, the latter requires government intervention; hence, the importance of both short-term and long-term planning. The ABSLTDP would require series of short-term plans (2021-2025, etc.) to execute the long-term plan. This is crucial because it would allow for budget-plan link enabling the capital component of the budget to be rolled over.

Finance and Revenue

The revenue and finance pillar in the overall development progress of the State is critical to this long-term plan. Abia State and its people are synonymous with creativeness, industry and achievement. However, the revenue/fund generation has been a critical issue impacting negatively on its developmental efforts. It is against this background that revenue generation and avoidance/misuse of public funds or proper public financial management, has become imperative.

In the overall long-term plan for Abia State, taking cognisance of the present ABSLTDP, the issue of how and where to get money, and how to meaningfully apply it, needs to follow a state-wide plan. This is what the visioning committee has been empowered to do.

The State is blessed with both human and material resources that require proper management to translate into a booming economy. Investment opportunities abound in various sectors but we can leverage on the evolving micro, small and medium enterprises as a platform to transform Abia State economy using Aba (popularly known as Enyimba City) as the hub.

VISION

In light of the foregoing, the vision to reposition the economic base of Abia State for better, can only be done with the availability of finance and its proper management. The Vision is a revenue enhancement method which aims to transform the State's economy through consistent development plans based on the following avenues:

- Diversification of State revenue sources
- Widening the State tax base
- Effective revenue collection mechanism
- Reduction of wastes through transparency in procurement and due process
- Development of data bases.

METHODOLOGY

Data for this section were obtained from the sources highlighted below:

- Published Abia State audited financial statements, 2007-2018
- Abia State ABSEEDS document
- Approved revenue windows and sources operational in Abia State
- Cross River State Growth and Development Strategy (2018-2048)
- Abia State Medium-Term Development Plan (2016-2019)
- Abia State Report of Vision 20:2020 (2009-2020).

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Abia State, like the other states in Nigeria, depends heavily on the Federation Account as a major source of finance for development activities. The financial resources currently available to the State include the Federation Accounts Allocation (FAAC), internally-generated revenue (IGR), borrowings and grants/aids

Federation Accounts Allocation (FAAC)

The funds that accrue to the State from this statutory allocation over the past 12 years, 2007-2018, on the average, is ₦43.78 billion.

Table 3.8: FAAC revenue, 2007-2018

Year	Amount N	Annual average
2007	25,636,637,207.70	
2008	38,307,431,277.80	
2009	31,905,912,049.70	
2010	35,052,297,567.10	
2011	48,298,252,151.80	
2012	47,668,686,019.60	
2013	61,057,878,934.30	
2014	51,644,059,904.90	
2015	37,444,283,860.30	
2016	41,141,012,423.10	
2017	50,495,540,448.50	
2018	56,702,973,972.80	
Total	525,354,665,813.00	

Source: Published Abia State Financial Statements, 2007-2018

Internally-Generated Revenue (IGR)

The State's internally-generated revenue has witnessed some vagaries over the past 12 years, 2007-2018. But on the average, it is ₦59.7 billion annually, including revenues from parastatals and other related agencies.

Table 3.9: Internally-generated revenue (IGR), 2007-2018

Year	Amount ₦	Annual Average
2007	30,615,080,655.60	
2008	48,434,034,321.50	
2009	35,277,957,331.80	
2010	42,112,531,139.50	
2011	54,874,681,144.10	
2012	58,553,834,423.40	
2013	86,803,163,217.20	
2014	68,535,150,901.00	
2015	51,670,326,588.49	
2016	64,111,924,999.10	
2017	98,096,783,147.90	
2018	78,110,553,336.30	

Source: Published Abia State financial statements, 2007-2018

Table 3.10: Capital receipts (external funding)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount ₦</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
2007	13,571,819,524.50	Annual Average
2008	4,989,846,315.80	
2009	27,547,481,293.40	
2010	10,103,206,696.20	
2011	18,276,790,948.30	
2012	24,875,215,386.40	
2013	14,252,383,412.00	
2014	13,672,844,532.20	
2015	43,742,585,080.81	
2016	16,448,651,601.86	
2017	23,109,263,203.69	
2018	17,286,934,995.18	
Total	228,150,022,987.00	19,000,000,000.00

Source: Published Abia State Finance Statements, 2007-2018

Table 3.11: Summary of revenues for Abia State, 2007-2018

<i>Year</i>	<i>FAAC</i>	<i>IGR</i>	<i>Capital Receipts</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
2007	25,636,637,207.70	30,615,080,655.60	13,571,819,524.50	
2008	38,307,431,277.80	48,434,034,321.50	4,989,846,315.80	
2009	31,905,912,049.70	35,277,957,331.80	27,547,481,293.40	
2010	35,052,297,567.10	42,112,531,139.50	10,103,206,696.20	
2011	48,298,252,151.80	54,874,681,144.10	18,276,790,948.30	
2012	47,668,686,019.60	58,553,834,423.40	24,875,215,386.40	
2013	61,057,878,934.30	86,803,163,217.20	14,252,383,412.00	
2014	51,644,059,904.90	68,535,150,901.00	13,672,844,532.20	
2015	37,444,283,860.30	51,670,326,588.49	43,742,585,080.81	
2016	41,141,012,423.10	64,111,924,999.10	16,448,651,601.86	
2017	50,495,540,448.50	98,096,783,147.90	23,109,263,203.69	
2018	56,702,973,972.80	78,110,553,336.30	17,286,934,995.18	
Total	525,354,665,813.00	717,196,020,902.00	228,150,022,987.00	

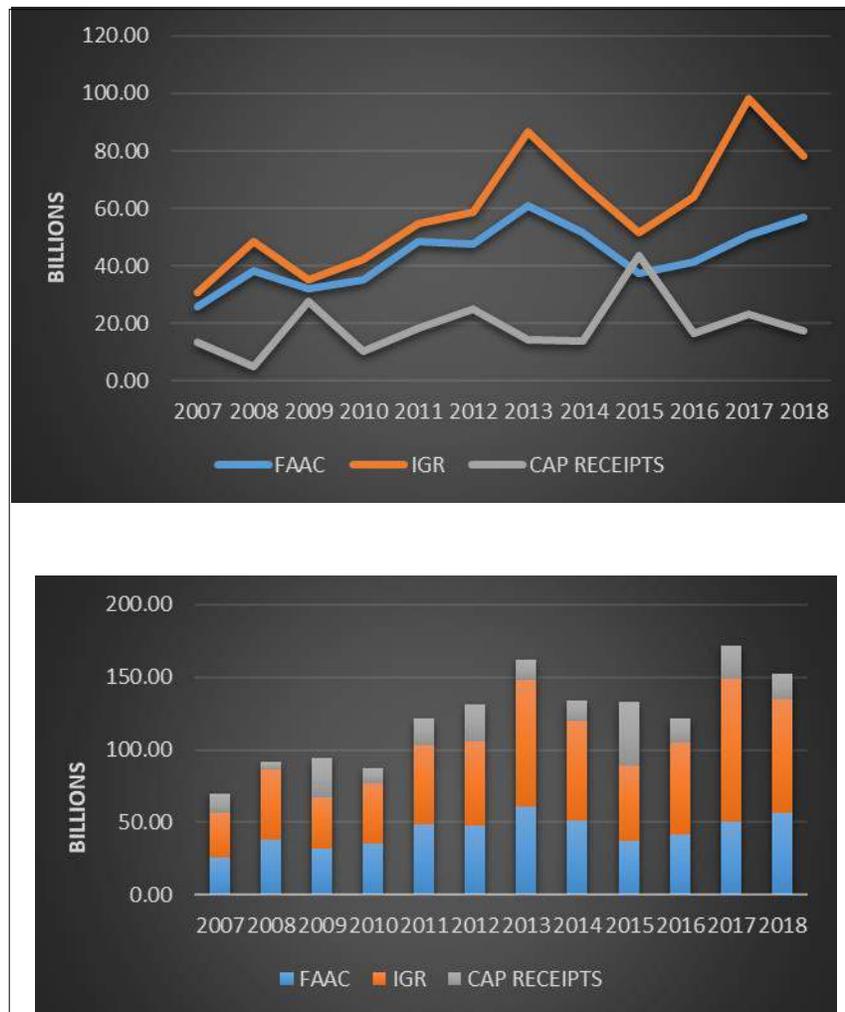


Fig. 3.3: Combined sources of revenue, 2007-2018

SECTORAL ANALYSIS OF IGR FROM REVENUE GENERATING MDAS

Sectional analysis provides insight into revenue performances by the different MDAs. This primarily provides guides on expectations and future policy actions for improvement.

Table 3.12: Administrative sector IGR (2007-2018)

Year	Amount ₦	Annual Average
2007	26,547,854,107.68	
2008	34,844,405,711.00	
2009	28,447,075,065.80	
2010	35,232,529,394.40	
2011	43,955,668,836.40	
2012	47,797,333,482.60	
2013	69,994,115,393.00	
2014	58,002,948,819.10	
2015	41,767,854,710.10	

2016	49,846,290,017.10	
2017	62,284,849,462.40	
2018	63,739,520,182.50	
Total	562,460,445,179.00	46,900,000,000.00

Source: Published Abia State financial statements, 2007-2018

Table 3.13: Law and justice IGR, 2007-2018

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount N</i>	<i>Annual average</i>
2007	31,526,788.61	
2008	94,443,771.92	
2009	41,304,479.01	
2010	51,409,798.25	
2011	48,654,344.72	
2012	96,145,266.39	
2013	184,839,986.66	
2014	79,214,345.53	
2015	97,304,771.82	
2016	73,037,496.75	
2017	133,451,325.71	
2018	93,477,908.21	
Total	1,024, 810, 283.58	

Source: Published Abia State financial statements, 2007-2018

Table 3.14: Social sector IGR, 2007-2018

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount ₦</i>	<i>Annual Average</i>
2007	39,615,220.00	
2008	52,818,350.00	
2009	34,111,400.00	
2010	33,671,150.00	
2011	120,888,867.57	
2012	76,604,168.31	
2013	4,434,206,118.31	
2014	2,935,226,153.32	
2015	3,691,227,240.33	
2016	4,260,411,680.70	
2017	15,260,383,209.50	
2018	6,171,894,077.31	
TOTAL	37,111,057,635.60	3,100,000,000.00

Source: Published Abia State financial statements, 2007-2018

Table 3.15: Economic sector, 2007-2018

Year	Amount ₦	Annual Average
2007	2,586,426,793.16	
2008	45,754,608,299.00	
2009	34,053,239,798.00	
2010	39,361,973,430.30	
2011	49,859,224,328.10	
2012	53,401,783,846.10	
2013	81,381,113,032.90	
2014	65,262,680,552.70	
2015	47,666,622,599.10	
2016	57,883,084,196.80	
2017	72,157,812,615.30	
2018	71,727,033,182.00	
Total	621,095,602,670.00	51,800,000,000.00

Source: Published Abia State Finance Statements, 2007-2018

FORECASTING OF REVENUES FOR THE NEXT 30 YEARS, 2020-2050

A single line forecasting technique of using 10 percent growth rate of the annual average of actual revenue that accrued to Abia State for the period, 2017-2018, is employed as the basis for the 30 years' projection. The details of the forecasting are shown in Appendix 3. The summary of the projected revenues is presented in Table 3.16.

Table 3.16: Summary or projected revenues, 2020-2050

S/N	Sources of Revenue	Annual Average (₦)	Projected Total at 2050 (₦)
1.	FAAC	43,779,555,480.40	131,338,666,453.00
2.	IGR	59,766,355,075.10	179,299,005,225.00
3.	Capital Receipts	19,012,501,915.50	1,901,250,191.55
	Sectoral Contributions to IGR		
	• Administrative Sector	46,871,703,764.90	140,615,111,294.00
	• Law and Justice	85,400,856.97	256,202,570.91
	• Social Sector	3,092,588,136.30	9,277,764,408.90
	• Economic Sector	51,757,966,889.10	155,273,900,667.00

PROPOSED STRATEGIC POLICY DIRECTION FOR IMPROVED REVENUE GENERATION FOR THE NEXT 30 YEARS IN ABIA STATE

Table 3.17: Matrix of proposed strategic revenue policies and programmes

Pillar	Objective	Target	Programme initiative	Plan category	Implementation strategies	Time line	Impact	Responsible MDAs	Verifiable indicators
FINANCE AND REVENUE	To increase revenue generation	Increase IGR by 50% by 2030	Diversify IGR sources	MEDIUM AND LONG TERM PLANS	Implement the provisions of the fiscal responsibility law of 2012.	FROM 2020 TO 2050	More capital projects funded and realised.	B.I.R, ALL REVENUE GENERATING MDAs AND OTHER REVENUE STAKEHOLDERS	Abia State Revenue profile improved
		Increase IGR by 50% by 2040	Increase IGR Consciously and steadily		Reduce debt burden by Adopting agreed strategies.		Improved living conditions of Abians witnessed.		Improve budget implementation and performance by 75%
		Increase IGR by 50% by 2050	Plug all Revenue leakages		Implement full automation of all revenue collections.		Improved developments in all sectors of the economy realised.		
			Partner with organised private sectors		Continue the implementation of TSA mechanisms		Decline in deficit financing operational		
FINANCE AND REVENUE			Sustain regular adequate govt paymt of counterpart cash contributions	MEDIUM AND LONG TERM PLANS	Intensify enforcement in revenue collection processes.	FROM 2020 TO 2050		B.I.R, ALL REVENUE GENERATING MDAs AND OTHER REVENUE STAKEHOLDERS	
			Increase FDI initiatives		Enact specific legislations on revenue as part of long-term plans.				
			Initiate incentives for revenue generating MDAs						

ACTIONABLE POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ABIA STATE

Abia State government has pursued, with vigour, the revenue challenges as they are seen as pivotal to the economic development and well-being of Abians. The following are some of these actionable policies:

- Sustain the automation of tax payments in Abia State

- Sustain the enforcement and prosecution policies on tax defaulters in Abia State
- Maintain the policy that all revenues must be paid into government IGR accounts
- Pursue due process in the procurements handled by the Financial and General Purpose Committee (F&GPC)
- Sustain the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)
- Sustain the collaboration with MDAs and the private sectors to enhance IGR
- Sustain the provision of enabling platforms and good governance reforms for economic development
- Sustain the implementation of e-payments for all government transactions
- Maintain plans to continuously update the databases of tax payers in the state
- Sustain the policy of bringing more people into Abia State tax net through advocacy and collaborations with other relevant agencies
- Sustain the policy and implementation of centralised payroll system.

PROPOSED STRATEGIES FOR PLUGGING REVENUE LOOPHOLES IN ABIA STATE

The following are strategies for plugging revenue loopholes in the State:

- Continuous use of automated methods of revenue collection through consolidated demand notices
- Continuous use of automated receipts via banks, using revenue generating MDAs for operations
- Enforcement and prosecution of revenue defaulters
- Continuous awareness creation and advocacy through radio jingles and other public enlightenment avenues
- Enhancing revenue/business environments through the provision of needed critical infrastructure
- Continuous enumeration/censuses of all markets, commercial buildings and motor parks in Abia State.

FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR ABSLTDP Programme Implementation Strategy

The annual budget is the key instrument for pursuing the goals/targets of the ABSLTDP. Policies and programmes will be executed by MDAs using contract method or through direct labour. Moreover, greater emphasis will be given to labour-intensive approaches in implementing construction and maintenance projects in order to create mass employment. A cluster approach will also be employed to promote local economy and products, especially where a zone possesses comparative advantage. In this case, the private sector will be encouraged to go into clusters where common services will be provided. These clusters will mainly be targeted at the small and medium enterprises.

Implementation Imperatives

Key to the successful implementation of the ABSLTDP is the need to ensure that the scarce resources of the government are shrewdly managed. In order to guarantee that this is attained, the following strategic measures must be relentlessly pursued:

- Imbibe planning discipline
- Transform the budgetary process and limiting the growth of recurrent expenditures
- Change the implementation strategy especially with regard to financing options
- Effective project costing and close monitoring to enhance value for money, and
- Enforce stiff penalty for misappropriation and implementation failures, and rewarding success/exemplary behaviours.

Plan Discipline

This requires that all stakeholders and successive governments should work within the Plan. Projects that are admitted into the programme must be those to be implemented within the limits of available resources as no project shall be abandoned without the approval of the appropriate authorities. Leadership commitment, consistency policies and programmes are key requirements.

Financing Options

Globally, there are about four major options open to any government for financing projects, namely, statutory allocation, public debt, public-private partnership (PPPs), and other public sources (e.g., the sovereign wealth fund, public pension funds). Over the years, the budget approach has been largely used in Abia State for the development of infrastructure and funding of other developmental projects and programmes. However, under the present dispensation, the State is determined to explore all other financing options to enhance the implementation of the ABSLTDP in view of the state of decay in infrastructure, the large size of the unemployed and the ever-increasing rate of population growth of the State.

Statutory Allocation

In recent time, we have witnessed the consistent decline in federally-collected revenue occasioned by the dwindling price of crude oil in the international market and its implication for allocation to states. This option has been the traditional method of funding capital projects in Nigeria, though with limited efficiency. Funding capital projects through regular budgetary allocation has been volatile and rarely meets crucial project expenditure requirements in a timely and adequate manner. Abia State will intensify efforts to increase its internally-generated revenue to support the effective implementation of the Plan.

Public Debts

Public debt is usually available to augment the capital spent on the annual budgets because government is generally considered a risk-free borrower. This will be a good source of funding the ABSLTDP.

However, domestic and external loans will be kept minimal of the aggregate capital expenditure envelope in the medium term. Government will always be mindful of the need to borrow reasonably and within the debt carrying capacity of the State so that internationally-acceptable debt sustainability benchmarks are maintained. A framework will be established to ensure that necessary mechanisms are put in place for proper utilisation of the borrowed funds.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)

Partnerships between the public sector and private companies for financing, designing, building and maintaining capital projects and delivering associated services, have been used in different countries of the world. The private sector, both locally and internationally, has a large pool of resources from which governments can fund projects which they may not have access to, or have the capacity to access. For this reason, there has been a marked increase, in recent times, in the cooperation between the public and the private sectors in the development and operation of projects covering a wide range of economic activities. Besides bridging the resource gap in project delivery and operation, governments all over the world have come to recognise that the collaboration between the public and private sectors is crucial in securing dependable and sustainable funding for capital projects and reducing the pressure on fiscal budgets. Public-private partnership arrangement has engendered acceleration of capital project provision, faster implementation of projects, and reduced the cost of project. Besides, it offers better risk allocation between public and private sectors, better and sustainable incentive to perform, and engender accountability in fund utilisation, and improve the overall quality of service

Private Sector Resources

Pension Fund

Long-term financing is attractive to pension funds due to its long maturity, stable earnings and diversification. At present, investment can only be in structured and regulated instruments that are rated and possibly listed in a recognised exchange to mitigate risks. In addition, the securities should have clear maturity dates and periodic/terminal pay-outs.

The national pension commission is currently reviewing its regulations with a view to making capital projects in the area of infrastructure development a separate asset class with specific asset allocation. However, the instrument should be hedged against inflation where the tenors exceed seven years in order to make them attractive, in view of the inflationary trend in Nigeria. This is a viable source of project funding.

The other private sector resources that could be leveraged are:

- export credit finance
- private equity and infrastructural funds
- long-term corporate/commercial bonds.

MACROECONOMIC IMPERATIVES OF COVID-19

Although the number of COVID-19 cases and fatalities might still appear comparatively low in Africa than in other world regions, the looming health shock of the pandemic could have disastrous impacts on the continent's already strained health systems, and could quickly turn into a social and economic emergency. Beyond health risks, the COVID-19 shock to African economies is coming in three waves:

- lower trade and investment from China in the immediate term
- a demand slump associated with the lockdowns in the European Union and OECD countries, and
- a continental supply shock affecting domestic and intra-African trade which is shaking commodity-driven growth models that had largely failed to create more and better jobs or improve citizens' wellbeing.

At the health front, greater capacities to test, protect, treat and cure are essential. On the socio-economic front, policy measures should cushion income and jobs losses, while tackling the specific challenges of high informality. Beyond the immediate response, recovery strategies should include a strong structural component to reduce dependence on external financial flows and global markets, and develop more value-adding, knowledge-intensive and industrialised economies, underpinned by a more competitive and efficient services sector. Effective implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the African Union's productive transformation agenda, can strengthen regional value chains, reduce vulnerability to external shocks, advance the digital transition, and build economic resilience against future crises.

POLICY OPTIONS TO FACE THE COVID-19 IN ABIA STATE

- In the *immediate term*, with the support of the international community, Abia State government should concentrate efforts on preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the State, invest in preparedness and early-detection mechanisms, and deploy emergency relief measures, notably in highly informal sectors
- In the *short term*, Abia State government should put in place accelerated strategies to increase the current low internally-generated revenue (IGR) of annual average of ₦59.7 billion to a respectable level of ₦80 billion
- In the *short-term*, government's fiscal and monetary measures should channel liquidity to SMEs, households and informal workers, especially in the most vulnerable economies, within a co-ordinated global response to the crisis
- In the *medium-to-long term*, in partnership with the international community, the government should continue to strengthen health systems and extend health and social protection coverage.

These measures will be key to reducing vulnerability to external shocks in trade and commodity prices, advancing the productive transformation of the State and building human, societal and economic resilience for future global crises.

SWOT ANALYSIS OF ABIA STATE FINANCE AND REVENUE

The crux of the matter in development is the issue of finance and revenue generation. Finance and revenue generation prospect can be considered in light of SWOT analysis as follows:

Strengths of Abia State Finance and Revenue

The following methods can be used by government to increase and strengthen finance and revenue generation in the State, namely,

- reduce poverty in all its forms
- enhance economic empowerment of Abians
- reduce illiteracy levels and improve learning
- improve the provision of healthcare facilities
- improve food productivity and agricultural inputs
- enhance trade, commerce and investment
- encourage the development of micro, small and medium enterprises
- increase the construction and rehabilitation of roads, etc.

Weaknesses of Abia State Finance and Revenue

Lack of finance/revenue has the following negative impacts as weaknesses:

- Infrastructural decay devoid of maintenance
- Inadequate funding of projects across MDAs
- Lack of basic agricultural inputs for agricultural development
- Lack of educational materials and poor maintenance of schools, etc.

Threats to Abia State Finance and Revenue

The pillar of finance and revenue in the State can suffer from the following threats:

- insecurity
- lack of political will
- ecological problems, etc.

SECTION THREE

**BUILDING COMPETITIVE AND
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY**



Chapter 4

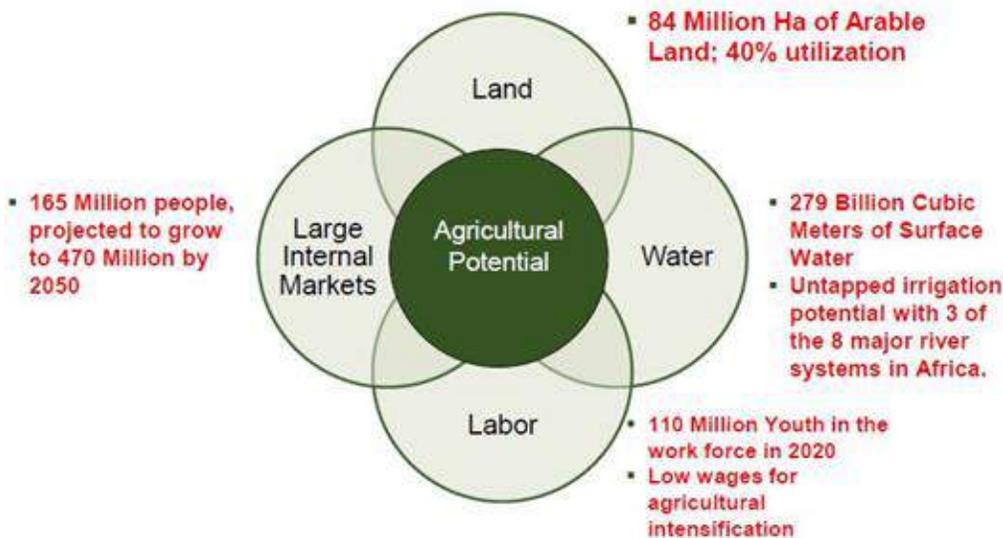
Agriculture

BACKGROUND

A development plan is a formalised legally supported guide for action that helps in providing clearly defined strategies within systematised projections for achieving overall goal following focused efficient and effective strategic project choices within a chosen period. The ABSLTDP is one such plan required to chart a trajectory for policies, programmes, strategies and projects in an economy to help achieve desired outcomes.

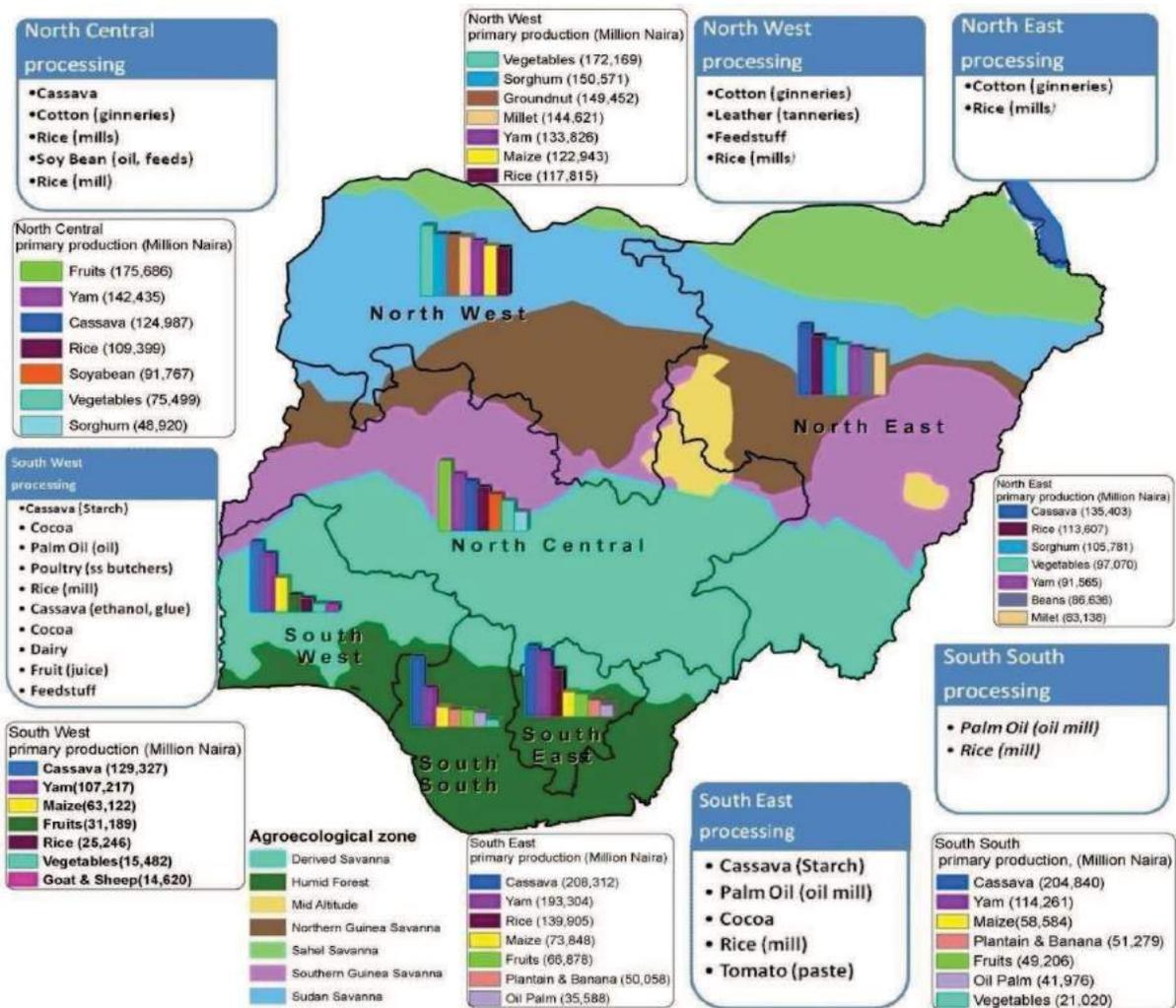
Every responsible government draws periodical comprehensive development plans through which the welfare of its citizens can be economically, socially and psychopolitically improved upon. The primary goal of economic planning in Nigeria is the achievement of rapid increase in the nation's productive capacity with a view to improving the standard of living of the people. Thus, development plans help developed economies to achieve sustainable growth development plans while in developing economies, they help to achieve development through resource allocations. Production resources are scarce relative to the demands for them. Development planning helps to prioritise and mobilise productive resources to achieve the desired ends that lead to increases in income, savings and investment levels.

Nigeria is an untapped potential agricultural power house



Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Agriculture remains a major economic sub-sector that drives growth and development in Nigeria as a means of providing both food and fibre for the economy. Food is necessary for physical upkeep and wellbeing of citizens and livestock. The fibre from agriculture represents the raw materials used in the manufacturing of other wares (clothing, buildings, fabric, paper and toiletries) useful to man, his livestock, and infrastructure development and upkeep. Export of food and fibre assists a nation to generate and earn income and foreign exchange. All the value chains in agricultural production, processing and product marketing activities provide employment and social values to individuals, groups and households.



Agriculture remains the dominant sector in the rural areas of Nigeria, providing employment for about 60 percent of the workforce. The diversity of climatic conditions, richness of soil types and water sources, and the high population density, provide great potential for crop, animal, fish and tree production.

Locational diversity of states in different ecological zones of Nigeria demands that each state works to grow and develop within a perspective plan. Stakeholders in Abia State agricultural sub-sector include, among others, farmers, farm input traders, transporters, farm product processors, farm product traders, researchers, and farm extension personnel. Agriculture that is truly sustainable in a long term as proposed in this Plan is one that is sustainable, commercial and market driven. It is agriculture that provides economic, social and environmental opportunities for the benefit of both present and future generations, while maintaining and enhancing quality of the resources that support agricultural production. The emphasis is to optimise productivity and conserve natural resource base. These involve trade-offs that will be defined and managed voluntarily by farmers and the stakeholders or supported by policies and legislation. A framework of sustainable development for the agricultural sub-sector should consider relevant pillars such as productivity, risk management and security, resource conservation and protection, financial and economic viability, and technological acceptability.

VISION OF ADSLTDP ON AGRICULTURE

The Plan shall guide the production of a sustainable technologically-driven agricultural sector that meets the socio-economic aspirations of Abians by encouraging enterprises that are profitable and engendering inclusive growth through investment especially in farmers young in age and/or experience.

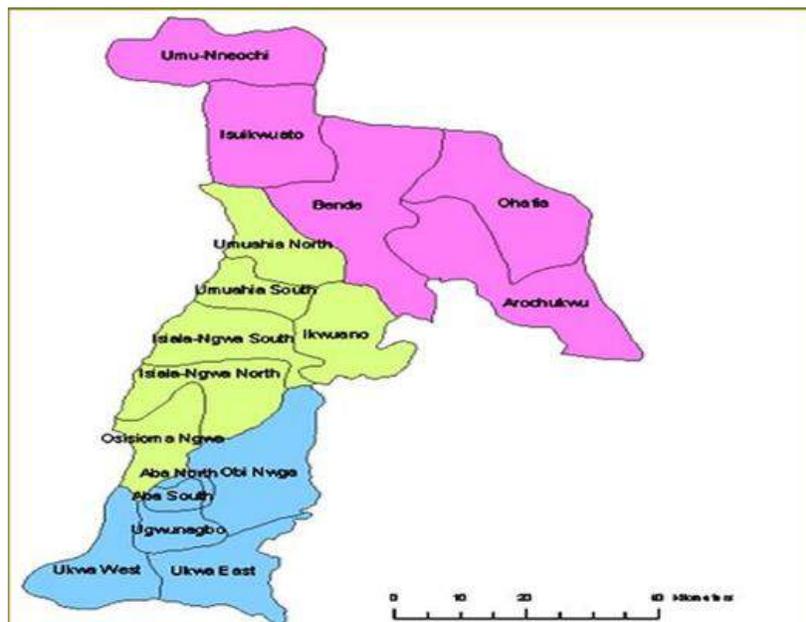


Fig. 4.2: Map of Abia State showing the three agricultural zones
 Blue=Aba Agric. Zone; Yellow= Umuhia Agric. Zone; Pink= Ohafia Agric. Zone

MISSION OF ABSLTDP ON AGRICULTURE

The Plan shall help to unlock all potentials in a technologically-driven agriculture, generate attractive income through profitable enterprises that guarantee sustainable livelihood and inclusive growth with vibrant young farmers.

OBJECTIVES OF ABSLTDP ON AGRICULTURE

The broad objective of this Plan is to provide a legally-supported tool that will guide increasing food production, productivity and quality of food crops, cash crops and livestock/ animal protein sources using modern technologies that attract young farmers as entrepreneurs or group farmers. The specific objectives of the Plan within the Plan period, 2020-2050, are:

- Increase and manage available cultivable land through guided land preparation (not to adversely disturb the top soils) in the three agricultural zones of the State
- Increase the production and productivity of food crops (cassava, rice, yam, cocoyam, plantain, maize, cowpea, and banana) by farmers in Abia State within the Plan period
- Increase the production and productivity of cash/export crops (oil palm, cocoa, cashew, rubber, ginger, turmeric, garden egg, and cucumber) by farmers in Abia State within the Plan period
- Increase the production and productivity of livestock (poultry, pigs, goats, sheep, and rabbits) and animal protein sources (fishes, snails, grass cutters and honey bees) in Abia State within the Plan period
- Create attractive employment opportunities for citizens of the State, especially the youths within the Plan period
- Attract, train and provide starter packs to young farmers as entrepreneurs into various choice enterprises for self-reliance within the Plan period
- Encourage irrigation to ensure year-round production of crops and export commodities from the farms in Abia State within the Plan period
- Ensure increased availability of locally produced raw materials for agro-based industries, and increased contribution of agro-based MSMEs to the State's GDP
- Encourage processing, distribution and packaging of agricultural produce to reduce losses, increase shelf life of products and significantly boost incomes and improved rural livelihoods within the Plan period
- Evolve policies on production, infrastructure, skills development, importation, manpower, and population planning to ameliorate impacts of pandemics during and beyond the Plan period.

RATIONALE FOR ABSLTDP ON AGRICULTURE

The Plan ensures that selected attributes of growth are maintained over the period for obvious reasons. One major attribute of development is the increase in yield per unit of resource used in production (productivity). Growth in agricultural productivity is fundamental to the wellbeing of performance of the sector as it assures that the sector meets the demand for food by the ever increasing population, and supply of raw materials to the industries. In addition, consistent increase in productivity, over time, connotes increase in technical efficiency and vice versa.

Measurement of agricultural productivity helps greatly to understand agricultural growth and ways of determining competitiveness of the sector and its contribution to economic sustainability. A good development plan, if properly implemented, will help future policy

formulation to compare enterprise productivities across agricultural zones, regions, and the nation as a whole, to understand zonal, state, or regional competitiveness and productivity gaps therein. Increase in agricultural productivity helps planners to lower food production costs and free resources for use in other sectors of the economy. The Plan will help target investments into profitable enterprises and avoid waste of production and marketing resources. It will also target manpower development.

AGRICULTURE IN DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF NIGERIA

Pre-Nigeria Independence Development Plans

The history of Nigerian national development plan dates back to 1946 with a ten-year plan of development and welfare. This plan, which was expected to run till 1956, came to an abrupt end in 1951 due to constitutional changes that followed the introduced federalism which forced the plan to run concomitantly with other plans in the four regions of the federation, namely, Western Region, Eastern Region, Northern Region and Southern Cameroons (Okoli, 2004). This plan did not go further for reasons which included inadequate finance, serious weaknesses in public policy making process and non-consultation with Nigerians who were the plan beneficiaries. Then came the 1951-1956 development plan that was truncated by the 1954 Lyttleton Constitution that made Nigeria “a real Federal system” and the bitter nationalist struggle among leaders resulting in the Kano riot and scrapping of the plan. In analysing these plans, Obikezie and Obi (2004) report that the 1951-1956 plan was not different from the 1946-1956 plan. In view of the above developments came the 1956-1962 plan masked by serious cries for self-government which, however, came earlier as Nigeria’s independence in 1960.

Nigeria’s Independence to Post-Independence Plans

The arrival of independence in 1960 made the 1956-1962 plan anachronistic, demanding development plans that would reflect the new status of an independent nation, hence the following:

First National Development Plan (1962-1968)

This plan aimed at establishing cooperation between private and public sectors and between regional governments and the federal government of Nigeria. The regional governments pursued development on regional basis. With regard to agriculture, each region placed emphasis on developing their traditional cash crops, namely, groundnuts and cotton in the Northern Region; cocoa and rubber in the Western Region, and palm produce (palm oil and palm kernel) in the Eastern Region. These crops were exported overseas under the management of the marketing boards. The proceeds from these sales contributed to the development of the regions. In the Western Region, the proceeds helped in building the Cocoa House in Ibadan and the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), Ile-Ife. In the Eastern Region, it was the building of the farm settlements, establishment of rubber and oil palm plantations, construction of pioneer oil mills, the Eastern railway tracks, and the building of University of Nigeria, Nsukka. In the Northern Region, there are memories of the groundnut pyramids, the building of textile mill at Kaduna, and establishment of Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria.

Second National Development Plan (1970-1974)

This plan came at the end of a devastating civil war and is regarded as “Oil Boom Development Plan”, having been drawn at a time when Nigeria made high income from the sale of crude oil and allied products. This plan neglected agriculture in its objectives and could be described as the genesis of the downfall of agriculture in an agrarian economy like Nigeria. Nigeria, at this time, imported virtually every agricultural produce hitherto produced locally, ranging from food crops to industrial fibres. The plan neglected agriculture and had some lofty heights to attain, including building a united, strong and self-reliant nation; a great and dynamic economy; a just and egalitarian society; a land of bright and full opportunities for all citizens, and a free and democratic society.

Third National Development Plan (1975-1980)

This plan continued and enlarged the scope of the second national development plan. However, this plan embraced, as part of its objectives, issues of development in agriculture comparable to other sectors were poorly allocated for. These included research in agriculture in both food and cash crops for domestic feeding and export, and raw materials for local industries; research and development on livestock and veterinary; special agricultural development schemes, and review of the credit requirements of the Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank (NACB). In review of the Third National Development Plan, Onah (2006) submits that “agriculture and social development schemes (health, education, housing, welfare) that have bearing on the living conditions of the rural population received only 5.0% and 11.5% respectively of the financial allocations contained in the plan”. Expectedly, the agricultural sector recorded a negative annual growth of 2.10 percent (Egonmwan and Ibodje, 2001).

Fourth National Development Plan (1981-1985)

This plan was designed to consolidate the achievements of the preceding third plan. In the agricultural sector, this plan was meant to achieve the objectives of increasing food production and raw materials to meet the needs of the growing population; increasing the production of livestock and fish to meet domestic needs and make surplus for export, and developing technology for greater self-reliance.

Agricultural Improvement Policies within Development Plans

Past federal administrations in the country initiated policies and programmes at various times aimed at channelling funds towards increasing agricultural production and enhancing rural livelihoods. Some of these programmes include:

- Better Life Programme in 1987
- Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank (NACB) in 1990
- Family Support Programme/Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP) in 1994
- National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) in 1990
- National Special Programme on Food Security (NSPFS) in 2002
- Root and Tuber Expansion Programme (RTEP) in 2003
- Agricultural Transformation Agenda (ATA), 2011-2015

- Establishment of financial institutions, namely, Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative and Rural Development Bank (NACRDB), Development Bank of Nigeria (DBN), Bank of Industry (BOI), Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL).

Structural Adjustment Programme in Nigeria, 1986-1989

The structural adjustment programme (SAP) was a programme of the World Bank and the Bretton Woods Institutions to sub-Saharan African countries meant to stimulate their productive base and export trade. SAP was launched in Nigeria on September 26, 1986, with the objectives of restructuring and diversifying the productive base of the economy to reduce dependence on the oil sector and on imports, and to reduce dominance of investment in non-productive public sector by improving public sector efficiency and enhancing growth of the private sector. SAP rested on a number of pillars including deregulation of the naira, viewed then as over-valued; deregulation of the interest rate which at the inception of SAP was below 10.0 percent, and removal of subsidies on government-provided goods and services. A review of SAP performance shows that, initially, SAP appeared to realise its objectives as it helped to remove corrupt import licences which crippled the manufacturing sector and led to minimal starts in the exportation of agricultural produce.

The Rolling Plans (1990-1999) and Vision 2010

At the end of SAP in 1989, Nigeria resorted to the use of rolling plans between 1990 and 1999, with nothing to show for it in the development of agriculture. Nigeria, however, developed a bold vision in 1996 tagged Vision 2010. The aim was to transform Nigeria, by 2010, into a united industrious, caring and God-fearing democratic society committed to making basic needs of life affordable to everyone, and creating Africa's leading economy (Ugwu, 2009).

National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) (2004-2007)

The National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) offered Nigeria an opportunity to practice medium-term development plan. NEEDS focused on wealth creation, employment generation, poverty reduction and re-orientation of values. The federal government requested the states and local governments to domesticate NEEDS to encourage growth of the private sector hence, SEEDS and LEEDS.

Vision 2020 as Development Planning Initiative

Vision 2020 was instituted to grow Nigeria's economy from its global 41st position to being among the first 20 economies in the world by 2020, and by so doing, be the African financial centre of choice by the same period (Ugwu, 2009). This vision planned for Nigeria to have a technologically-enabled agricultural sector achievable with the collaboration of all stakeholders.

SWOT ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURE IN ABIA STATE

Strengths

These are conditions and structures presently in existence in the State that will facilitate the realisation of the objectives of this perspective Plan. These issues of strength include:

Traditional Occupation of Abians

Majority households in Abia State embrace farming as a traditional occupation and divide farm activities amongst members of the household and hire or exchange labour when they consider it necessary. This compels the household labour to be available for farm works.

Local Availability of Farm Input Supplies

Production inputs (land, labour, capital, seeds, fingerlings, day-old chicks, fertilizers, and management advice) can be cheaply sourced from within the country without involving the rigours of foreign trade.

Sure Avenue for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation

Local production of foods and fibre helps to guarantee food security and alleviate poverty in households that embrace agriculture in the State.

Availability of Research Institutes

Abia State hosts the National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI) in Umudike which was set up to develop better roots and tuber crop varieties. It also hosts the out-station units of other research institutes like the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) at Okweyi Ibeku, National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI) at Amakama Olokoro, Forestry Research Institute at Azueke Ndume, Veterinary Research station at Umudike, National Soil Resource Centre at Azueke Ndume, South-East headquarters of the National Agricultural Extension Research Liaison Services (NAERLS) of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, at Umudike, and Rubber Research Institute at Akwete.

Availability of Manpower Developing Institutions

Within Abia State are tertiary and research institutions that train and produce manpower for use in the subsector. The institutions include Abia State University, Uturu; Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, and Abia State Agricultural Development Programme (Abia ADP). These institutions train needed manpower and facilitate the dissemination of agricultural technologies to farmers through their extension outfits.

Availability of Ready Markets

By the 1991 census, Abia State had a population of over three million inhabitants, many of who reside in the urban cities of Aba and Umuahia, and buy their daily food and fibre needs from rural markets in the State. The wider market extends to the neighbouring states hosting many non-agrarian homes who rely on foods produced or processed in farms in Abia State. Market transactions in the State are facilitated by a network of rural roads which link up with the urban markets.

Availability of Fertile Farmlands

Arable lands within Abia State support the farming of a variety of crops (food and cash crops). In some communities of Ukwa West, Bende and Ikwuano local government areas, for example, artificial fertilizers are rarely used with yield and productivity still above State average.

Security

Abia State is one of the safest states in Nigeria. The social cohesion and peace amongst inhabitants of the State assure of wholesome security to lives, property and businesses.

Weaknesses

These are conditions and structures in existence in the State that will delay or subvert the realisation of the objectives of ABSLTDP. These have been elaborately discussed in literature by Emerole, *et al.*, 2006; Emerole, *et. al.*, 2008; Osondu, *et al.*, 2013, among others, to include:

Small-Scale Farming

Farming is largely carried out on small plots in small scale on parcelled lands guaranteed by communal land tenure system. There is hardly stretches of contiguous land owned by a single farmer without breach of ownership rights. More so, these small farmers are scattered with no forms of operational organisation, making it difficult to effectively disseminate current technologies to them.

Inadequate Land Holding Structure

Access to sizeable land by prospective modern and educated medium or large commercial farmers pose a great challenge.

Rural to Urban Migration of Farm Labour

Evidenced out-migration of able-bodied youths from rural Abia State communities to urban cities such that there is dearth of farm labour, and a high wage on available ones during critical farming periods of land preparation, weed control and harvests.

Poor Mechanisation of Farm Operations

Farm activities are still being carried out with crude farming implements such as hoes, machetes/cutlasses, and spades, characterised with drudgery, making farming unattractive to youths. Farm operations need to be mechanised not only to increase scale of production but to also guarantee hygiene in production.

High Food Deficit and Dependence on Imported Foods

The nexus of high population dynamics and low farm input/outputs mix, have manifested in gaps in food and fibre supplies. This gap is currently bridged by interstate trade and imports.

Absence of Irrigation Structures

Farming in Abia State is currently seasonal depending solely on the benevolence of weather elements (sunshine and rainfall). The absence of irrigation facilities in spite of available irrigable lands prevents all year round production.

Poor Condition of Rural Roads

It is greatly difficult to access rural communities, farms and rural markets during the rainy seasons as most rural roads are waterlogged and rendered impassable.

Opportunities

Opportunities are issues or circumstances that are considered on their merit to hold qualities that could help this perspective Plan improve agriculture in Abia State within the Plan period, 2020-2050. The prevailing opportunities include:

Agricultural Research Institutes

Located in Umudike, Abia State, is the National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI) set up to develop better root and tuber crops varieties including cassava, yam, cocoyam, ginger, and turmeric. These crops are critical foods and spices commanding high nutritional and commercial values. Enhancing their yield and productivity holds great potential to increasing income of farmers within foreseeable future.

The State also hosts research out-stations and is a good research domain for other national research institutes, namely, the National Cereals Research Institute (NCRI) at Amakama Olokoro set up to develop cereals including rice and maize; the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) with location at Okweyi Ibeku set up to develop cocoa and cola; National Veterinary Centre at Umudike, and the National Soil Resource Centre at Azueke Ndume.

Tertiary Institutions Producing Agriculture Graduates

The State hosts institutions that produce agriculture graduates in different disciplines. These are: Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike; Abia State University, Uturu, with its Faculty of Agriculture at Umuahia, and Gregory University, a private university located at Uturu that runs a thriving Faculty of Agriculture. These institutions are reliable producers of the high level manpower needed to implement requisite technologies that characterise components of the programmes of the Plan.

Functional Government Agricultural Ministry, Department and Parastatals

Abia State Ministry of Agriculture at Umuahia serves the State with the support of the following government agricultural units at the zones and local government areas:

- Agricultural Development Programme (ADP)
- ADP Zonal offices at Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia
- Agricultural departments at the 17 local government areas (LGAs) in the State.

Existence of Formal Financial Institutions

Financial and lending institutions, such as the Central Bank of Nigeria, Bank of Agriculture, commercial banks, with their branches and units located within Abia State, provide a good outreach to the farmers and help cater for their financial needs and support programmes that will assist to realise the objectives of this perspective Plan. The Nigeria Incentive-based Risk Sharing for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL) is also a funding scheme initiated by the federal government to meet the credit needs of farmers in Nigeria.

Existence of Good Natural Water Bodies

There are good natural water bodies like Imo, Igwu, Aba and Azumini rivers. The banks of these rivers are cultivated during the dry season with such vegetables as okra (*Abelmoscheus spp*), fluted pumpkin (*telferia spp.*,) and cucumber.

Inter-Community Rural Link Roads

There is a reliable network of inter-community roads. Though these roads may not be in good form, especially during the rains, they provide access and link for rural communication and transportation of farmers, farm inputs and produce.

Production of Crops with Great Potentials

In Nigeria, cassava production has been recognised as an enterprise crop that holds great potential for the provision of food, cash and industrial raw materials. The global cassava development strategy report, “A Cassava Industrial Revolution in Nigeria”, mapped Abia State as an area with high production potential for cassava (Philips, *et al.*, 2004). The State is also in the oil palm ecological belt. It produces cocoa and cashew at commercial level, and is currently producing and packaging significant quantity of rice in its “*Osikapa Abia*” project.

Threats

Pests and Diseases

Incidences of pests and diseases have threatened good harvests from food and cash crops in the State. Where crop varieties that are not resistant to pests and diseases are grown, production of such crops declines (Ojiako, *et al.*, 2007), and where nothing is done to take care of such declines, this can hinder achievement of the perspective Plan.

Change and Weather Variation

Copious rainfall, as experienced in the south-eastern states of Nigeria in the recent past years, can trigger off incidences of flood and erosion to hinder achievement of the ABSLTDP.

Herdsmen-Farmer Clashes

The unrestricted invasion of herdsmen into arable farmlands in the State can result in the destruction of crops, and may trigger-off violent clashes that may result in loss of lives and property. This also can result in the displacement of farming population and abandonment of farming as a means of livelihood by the people.

Clashes between Border Communities

Clashes over ownership of farmlands between communities bordering other states and within the State, can equally come up and may result in loss of lives and property. The occurrence of this is a threat to the peaceful co-existence and engagement to meaningful farming to realise goals of the development Plan in agriculture.

Kidnapping and Abduction of Human Beings

Incidences of farmers and members of their households being abducted for reasons of collecting ransom is a threat to total commitment of members of farm households to the business of farming. The preponderance of cases of kidnapping in Nigeria is forcing farmers and members of their households to shift their primary occupation to some plural engagements like trading and crafts to generate non-farm income for their sustenance. This occupational shift can hamper realisation of the Plan objectives.

Bush Burning

People unknown to the farm owners had been in the annual habit of setting fire to bushes during the dry season such that bushes and farms burn with the crops in them. Where farm plots are located close to residential buildings or public offices, the experience is that such bush fires could easily jump into buildings causing not only damage to the buildings but loss of property and, in some cases, loss of lives. Bush fire is one big threat to total commitment and realisation of the objectives of the Plan.

Flooding, Erosion, and Landslides

These are environmental phenomena that are associated with copious tropical rains experienced in the State. All three events damage farmlands, crops and livestock and pose threat to the laudable objectives of ABSLTDP. Flood and erosion control measures must be taken seriously if the Plan must be implemented seamlessly.

Epileptic Power Supplies

Electricity helps not only for household use, but also in storage and processing of farm produce. The State experiences erratic power supply from the national grid. The unreliable supply of electricity is a threat to seamless realisation of the perspective Plan.

Poor Funding of Projects

Agricultural projects have been poorly funded over the years. This has been a major threat to proper implementation of proposed projects and their sustenance. When agricultural projects are poorly funded, they perform sub-optimally and yield below expected results.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND METHODOLOGY**Conceptual Framework**

The challenge confronting Abia State is to develop its agriculture to attain food security using modern technologies, reduce hunger, and generate youth employment and profitable earnings to young agro-entrepreneurs. A conceptual framework provides a guide for the organisation of ideas and issues in a study.

At the centre of agricultural development in Abia State is agricultural growth. This Plan considers agricultural growth and development in a very broad term of increase in available capital and the quality that fashions and shapes future income from the sector in the State. The capital here refers to both physical and social dimensions of instruments of creation of individual and societal wealth in the sector. The tangible physical capital includes agricultural inputs such as farm credit, farm power/mechanisations, storage and processing facilities, improved stock and seeds, irrigation, livestock pens, feed, and output, yield, productivity, packaged farm produce, and income. The social capitals are non-tangible and include human capital development through formal and non-formal training in schools and agricultural extension methods to necessitate trans-generational transfer of good technologies and innovativeness.

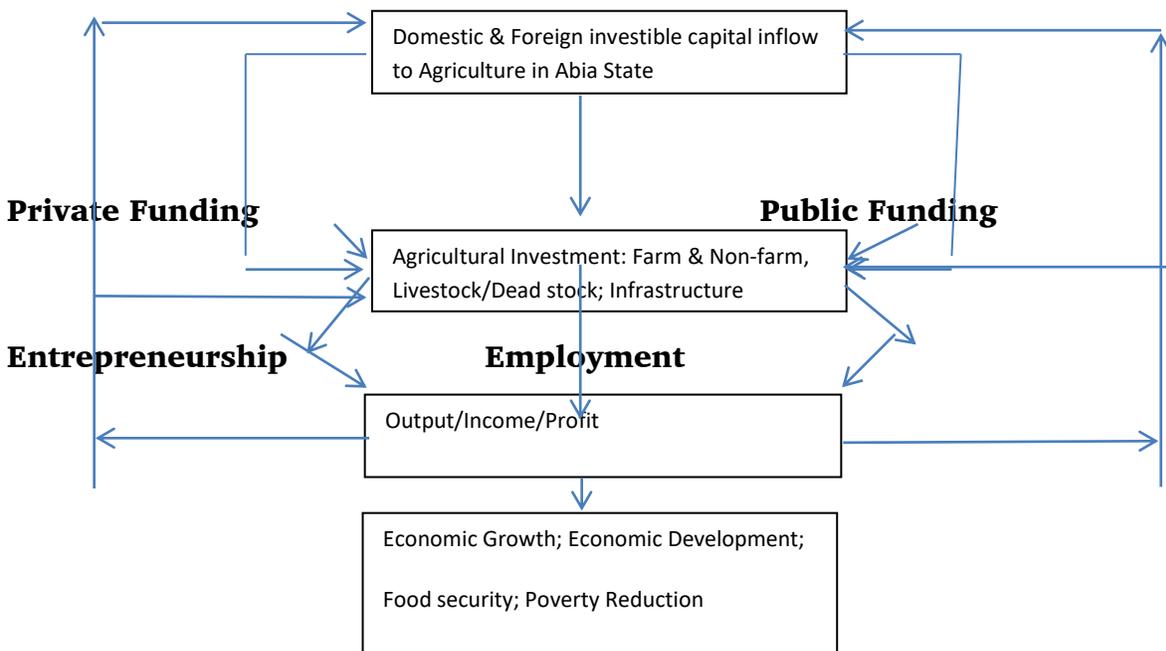


Fig. 4.1: Capital flow and investment in agriculture for economic growth and development

The Plan envisages a growth mind-set in stakeholders of agriculture such that the enterprising and talented farmers, especially the young in age and experience, will have systematised desire for acquisition of good skills, and devote their efforts in massive production, processing and marketing of quality foods and fibre. It also involves choosing approach(es) to organising young farmers/stakeholders into production clusters or marketing groups and letting them allocate resources effectively to achieve optimum profits while reducing hunger, poverty and achieving nutritional and food security needs of urban and rural households and the State.

A sustainable flow of capital into agriculture and how it contributes to economic growth and development, is schematically shown in Fig. 4.1, which illustrates the following:

- The capital inflows into agriculture are expected to come from local private and public sources, and from foreign private and public sources
- These capitals will be invested in farm and non-farm agricultural enterprises to generate outputs via activities of entrepreneurs and employees of the sector
- Some of the outputs will be consumed by households, local industries, government and corporate organisations
- The surpluses will be sold in national markets or exported for foreign income. The households earn income from their own production, wages earned by members of the households, their shares of corporate earnings, and from net income transfers of their members within Nigeria and outside
- The incomes generated will be recycled into agriculture or invested in education of children of the stakeholders or the health of members of their households, or used in constructing residential or public buildings or traded into other areas of the economy.

This is a nexus of interrelatedness that will help generate a sustainable livelihood and guarantee growth and development not only of the agricultural sector but also that of Abia State and the Nigerian economy in achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

METHODOLOGY

Sources of Data

The data for this perspective Plan is sourced from both primary and secondary sources. Data needed for this Plan were defined by the sector objectives as stated. These were collected from various sources which included stakeholder participants, farmers, Abia State Ministry of Agriculture, Abia State Agricultural Development Programme, Abia State Fadama office, and Abia State Planning Commission. The other sources of secondary data used include the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Federal Office of Statistics (FOS), National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the World Bank, and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Methods of Data Collection

The primary data were gathered during stakeholder sensitisation/engagement, consultations, and two questionnaires administered on farmers and commodity trade associations, respectively, in the three agricultural zones through the ADP Block Extension Supervisors (BES) and focus group discussions. The stakeholder sensitisation involved education and enlightenment of the identified stakeholders (farmers, traditional rulers, leaders of farmers groups and farmers' cooperative societies, academia and agricultural training institutions, and youths) on the need for them to be involved in drafting of this Plan and assisting the visioning committee in articulating concerns of the farmers, transporters, traders, and agencies in marketing of agricultural produce to realise the objectives of the Plan. With their participatory involvement, it is believed that this Plan has their confidence and capacity built up through participation in the programmes and projects to evolve from the Plan.

Methods of Data Analysis

The data collected for this study were analysed using a combination of descriptive statistics of frequency distribution, mean estimation, deviations from means, and variances. The projection of estimates was done using the linear growth projection model. This model is specified as:

$$P_n = P_o + rn \dots (1)$$

Where:

P_n = Projected year value of key performance indicator

P^o = Base year (2020) value of mean key performance indicator

r = Observed annual growth rate (or Value) of indicator variable

n = Elapsed time in years from base year value.

The profitable agricultural produce in the State was identified and broadly divided into food crops, cash crops, and livestock. The crops and livestock have been analysed in their stand-alone identity based on their ecological adaptability and performance in the State so far. To each produce, specific objectives, constraints, strategies, targets and budgets, were evolved from performance records, brainstorming, and farmers' survey answers. The targets were based on feasible linear projections from current year yield or mean annual yield values. The budgets were based on current production prices and costs and split into short term, medium term and long term dynamic basis.

PERFORMANCES OF CROPS AND PLAN PROJECTIONS: FOOD CROPS

The food crops grown in Abia State include cassava, rice, yam, plantain, banana, maize, melon, beans, and vegetables and fruit trees.

Cassava (*Manihot esculenta*)

Cassava has an exceptional ability to adapt to adverse changes in climatic elements, grows well in marginal soils and resists drought and tolerates pests and diseases. It is widely grown and consumed as *gari*, *fufu*, and tapioca in Abia State and across Nigeria. The tuber can be processed into flour and substituted to varying inclusion levels for wheat flour in bread, and with maize in livestock feeds. Presently, a 10.0 percent inclusion of cassava flour into wheat flour in the bakery industry is mandatory in Nigeria. Industrially, cassava is a basic raw material in the production of starch used domestically and internationally in textile and pharmaceutical industries, glues, paper board and alcohol distillation. Cassava can as well be processed into dried chips and pellets used in feed production.

Abia State contributes 6.8 percent of the annual 38.179 million tonnes of Nigeria's national cassava production and exports. The State and the federal government had participated in interventions aimed at increasing the production, processing and marketing of cassava in the past. There had been such programmes as the National Accelerated Food Production Programme (NAFPP), Operation Feed the Nation (OFN) and Agricultural Development Programme (ADPs). The development of national agricultural research systems and the close collaboration with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), facilitated the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

in Cassava Multiplication Programme (CMP). There was also the Presidential Cassava Initiative of the Olusegun Obasanjo administration. Presently, the Central Bank of Nigeria is funding the Anchor Borrowers programme to facilitate marketing cassava products using off-takers.

Present Cassava Production Capacity

Abia State produces 2.6 million tonnes of cassava on 250,000 hectares of land. This constitutes about 6.8 percent of total cassava production in Nigeria. Cassava yield is about 10.4 T/ha in the State, grown in mixed cropping with maize, vegetables, yam and melon (*egusi*).

Cassava Production Constraints

Cassava production in Abia State is plagued with the following problems:

Weeds: Two notable weeds are obnoxious: the spear grass (*imperata cylindrical*) and the giant sensitive grass (*mimosa asparata: Uke*). Where these weeds are left uncontrolled, they can cause as high as 90.0 percent loss of yield.

Pests and diseases: The common insect pests are variegated grasshopper, cassava mealy bug and green spider mite. The major diseases are cassava bacteria blight (CBB), African cassava mosaic disease (ACMD), cassava anthracnose disease (CAD) and the root rot disease that facilitates rapid post-harvest deterioration which reduces the industrial and marketing potentials of the tubers.

Herdsmen attacks: The invasion of the herdsmen and the likely clashes that result from cattle grazing on cassava plants is a strong threat to meaningful cassava production in the State.

Low yielding variety: The use of low-yielding and pests and disease susceptible cassava cultivars remains a challenge to meeting improved yield expectation in cassava farming.

Use of low-efficiency manual labour: The use of low-efficiency manual planting, weeding, harvesting and processing methods in the production and processing of cassava is labour intensive and does not guarantee good quality products.

Cassava Enterprise Policy Objectives

The general objective is to grow Abia State economy through cassava production, processing and marketing. The specific objectives include the following:

- Increase cassava yield and make Abia State self-sufficient in cassava and its products, and ensure adequate year-round supply to meet the food, feed and industrial needs
- Provide enabling environment for large-scale cassava production and encourage entrepreneurial investors

- Encourage the use of environmentally friendly farm machinery and processing techniques
- Create employment opportunities for young farmers in cassava value chain activities in the State
- Increased Abia State's share contribution to national cassava production from the present annual 6.8 percent to at least 15.0 percent within the period of the perspective Plan.

Strategies

- Revitalise and revamp the following existing institutions/units and programmes presently involved in cassava production at various degrees of effectiveness: Abia ADP extension system, cassava growers' association, and credit and loans institutions
- Promote agricultural mechanisation (tractorisation and use of light machines in planting, weeding and spraying)
- Ensure adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidised prices and at convenient locations to farmers
- Improve high yielding and disease resistant/pest tolerant varieties of released cassava from NRCRI, Umudike and IITA, Ibadan
- Establish community-level cassava collection centres for surplus products in all the local governments of Abia State
- Encourage the establishment of cassava primary processing facilities at the community level
- Encourage large-scale cassava production and processing into products like *gari*, flour, starch, pellets, ethanol, and sundry by-products
- Improve physical infrastructure (roads, electricity, education, and health facilities) to enhance rural development
- Reintroduce State commodity marketing boards to take care of the export components of the State agricultural programme
- Form cassava production and processing clusters, farmers' groups and cooperative societies, engaging mainly young farmers
- Inaugurate a policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation committee on cassava production in each of the 17 LGAs to guarantee faithful implementation of the Plan.

Target

It is the target of ABSLTDP to triple, in the first ten years, cassava production from the present annual yield of 10.4 tonnes per hectare. This expected 0.3 million or 300,000 tonnes per annum increase will be achieved through the use of new high-yielding and disease/pest-tolerant cassava varieties from NRCRI, Umudike, and/or IITA, Ibadan, and use of improved planting methods. Moderate increase is expected to rise from expansion of land area presently under cultivation. Thus, by 2030, cassava production in the State shall have increase to 5.60 million tonnes and sustainably to 11.6 million tonnes by 2050.

Table 4.1: Budget estimates for 1,000 ha of cassava/maize/yam/melon mixed cropping land in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Land Area	Amount ₦
1.	Land lease	1,000 Ha	150,000,000.00
2.	Land preparation	1,000 Ha	100,000,000.00
3.	Certified cassava (50,000 bundles)/seed yams (900T)/maize seeds (1.0T)/melon seed (1.0T)	1,000 Ha	100,000,000.00
4.	Herbicides	1,000 Ha	100,000,000.00
5.	Fertilizers	1,000 Ha	250,000,000.00
6.	Application herbicides + fertilizers	1,000 Ha	200,000,000.00
7.	Weeding/rouging	1,000 Ha	150,000,000.00
8.	Harvesting	1,000 Ha	250,000,000.00
9.	Supervision	1,000 Ha	100,000,000.00
10.	Transportation	1,000 Ha	100,000,000.00
	Total		1,500,000,000.00

Short-Run Period Budget

It is proposed that in the first three years of implementation of this Plan, each of the 15 rural-based local governments producing cassava in Abia State, namely, Arochukwu, Bende, Ikwuano, Isiala Ngwa North, Isiala Ngwa South, Isuikwuato, Obi Ngwa, Ohafia, Osioma, Ugwunagbo, Ukwa East, Ukwa West, Umuahia South, Umuahia North and Umunneochi LGAs, shall have increased its cultivated area of land by 2,000 hectares with cassava inter-cropped mixtures. This will have a budget expressed on baseline date (2020) figures as shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: Budget estimates for 30,000 hectares of cassava land in Abia State

S/N	Cassava Producing LGA	Increase in Cassava Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Arochukwu	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
2.	Bende	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
3.	Ikwuano	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
4.	Isiala Ngwa North	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
5.	Isiala Ngwa South	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
6.	Isuikwuato	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
7.	Obingwa	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
8.	Ohafia	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
9.	Osioma	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
10.	Ugwunagbo	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
11.	Ukwa East	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
12.	Ukwa West	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
13.	Umuahia North	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
14.	Umuahia South	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
15.	Umunneochi	2.0 Ha	3,000,000,000.00
	Total	30.0 Ha	45,000,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage = (2,600,000 + 30,000) ha = 2,630,000 ha

- Estimated yield of cassava harvest = 10.4 T/ha x 2,630,000 = 27,352,000 tonnes

- Estimate yield of yam harvest = 9.4 T/ha x 2,630,000 = 24,722,000 tonnes
- Estimated yield of maize harvest = 1.077 T/ha x 2,630,000 = 2,832,510 tonnes
- Estimated yield of melon harvest = 0.62T/ha x 2,630,000 = 1,630,600 tonnes.

Medium-Term Period Budget

It is proposed that in the first three years of implementation of this Plan, each of the said 15 rural-based local governments producing cassava in Abia State shall have increased its area of land each by 4,000 hectares with cassava inter-cropped mixtures. This will have a budget expressed on baseline date (2020) figures as shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Budget estimates for 60,000 hectares of cassava/yam/maize/melon intercropped land in Abia State

S/N	Cassava Producing LGA	Increase in Cassava Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Arochukwu	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
2.	Bende	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
3.	Ikwuano	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
4.	Isiala Ngwa North	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
5.	Isiala Ngwa South	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
6.	Isuikwuato	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
7.	Obingwa	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
8.	Ohafia	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
9.	Osisioima	4..0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
10.	Ugwunagbo	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
11.	Ukwa East	4..0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
12.	Ukwa West	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
13.	Umuahia North	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
14.	Umuahia South	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
15.	Umunneochi	4.0 Ha	6,000,000,000.00
	Total	60.0 Ha	90,000,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage= (2,600,000 + 60,000) ha=2,660,000 ha.

- Estimate yield of cassava harvest = 10.4 T/ha x 2,660,000= 27,664,000 tonnes
- Estimate yield of yam harvest = 9.4 T/ha x 2,660,000 = 25,004,000 tonnes
- Estimated yield of maize harvest = 1.077 T/ha x 2,660,000 = 2,864,820 tonnes
- Estimated yield of melon harvest = 0.62T/ha x 2,660,000 = 1,649,200 tonnes.

Long-Term Period budget

It is proposed that in the first three years of implementation of this Plan, each of the 15 rural-based local governments producing cassava in Abia State shall increase its cultivated area of land by 7,000 ha with cassava intercropped mixtures. This will have a budget expressed on baseline date (2020) figures as shown in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4: Budget estimates for 105,000 hectares of cassava/yam/maize/melon inter-cropped land in Abia State

S/N	Cassava Producing LGA	Increase in Cassava Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Arochukwu	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
2.	Bende	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
3.	Ikwuano	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
4.	Isiala Ngwa North	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
5.	Isiala Ngwa South	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
6.	Isuikwuato	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
7.	Obingwa	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
8..	Ohafia	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
9.	Osioma	7..0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
10.	Ugwunagbo	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
11.	Ukwa East	7..0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
12.	Ukwa West	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
13	Umuahia North	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
14.	Umuahia South	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
15	Umunneochi	7.0 ha	6,000,000,000.00
	Total	105.0 ha	90,000,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage = (2,600,000 + 105,000) ha = 2,705,000 ha.

- Estimate yield of cassava harvest = 10.4 T/ha x 2,705,000 = 28,132,000 tonnes
- Estimate yield of yam harvest = 9.4 T/ha x 2,705,000 = 25,427,000 tonnes
- Estimated yield of maize harvest = 1.077 T/ha x 2,705,000 = 2,913,285 tonnes
- Estimated yield of melon = 0.62T/ha x 2,705,000 = 1,677,100 tonnes.

Rice (*Oryza sativa L*)

Rice continues to be one of the most consumed staple foods in Abia State and in Nigeria. The estimated per capita consumption of rice is 32kg per person per year. Nigeria's annual demand for rice is over 5.0 million tonnes with an annual production of 3.373 million tonnes, leaving a deficit of about 1.47 million tonnes of rice. This deficit was met by imports until the recent ban on importation of rice by the federal government. In 2003, for instance, rice importation was to the tune of US\$810 million, a big drain to the foreign exchange reserve.

Rice is grown both in swamps and on rain-fed upland farms. It can be grown with irrigation on inland valleys. The swamp rice production, though considerably more tedious, gives higher yield but matures late (120-150 days) than the upland varieties (115-120 days).

Present Rice Production Capacity

In Abia State, per hectare yield of rice is 1.84 tonnes and is almost double the national yield average of 0.96 tonne/ha. Rice is cultivated in swamps in Bende, Ikwuano, Umuahia North, Isuikwuato, and Arochukwu LGAs, in an area of 8,000 ha. Irrigation facilities were installed

by the Abia State government at Bende and Igbere along Igwu River basin. But the facility at Bende is currently undergoing rehabilitation to cover 12 hectares of rice farms.

Abia State government has put in place measures to shore up rice production in the core producing LGAs to become competitive with major rice producing states like Niger, Kebbi, Kano, Taraba, Ebonyi, and Cross River.

Many improved varieties of rice are available for planting but for high yields and disease tolerant, high-quality recommended low land varieties are available from the National Seed Service centres and sub-station of NCRI at Amakama, Umuahia. Special attention is now on NERICA, the hybrid paddy developed at WARDA and the new rice paddy from Cross River State government. The Abia State *Osikapa* rice project has involved construction of rice mills both at Bende and Acha in Isuikwuato LGAs. This project repaired the irrigation facility along the Igwu River and pushed branded Abia State produced rice into the Nigerian market in 2019.

Rice does not have derived demand for industrial uses like cassava and some cash crops, except its by-products (e.g., broken, bran and husk) from sophisticated production lines. During the Plan period, resources would be channelled to establish and/or refurbish these mills, ensure justifiable paddy output/procurement to sustain processing and avoid downtime at the mills.

Rice Production Constraints

Rice production in Abia State is plagued with the following problems:

- *Weed*: Notable weed is the obnoxious spear grass (*Imperata cylindrical*)
- *Pests and diseases*: The common pests and diseases are rice gallmidge, stemborer, rodents, weaver birds, and rice blast. Rice produced in inland valley bottom lands suffer iron toxicity
- *Fulani herdsmen invasion*: The invasion of the herdsmen and the likely clashes that may result from cattle grazing on rice farms is a strong threat to meaningful rice production in the State
- *Use of low-efficiency manual planting, weeding, harvesting and processing methods*: The production and processing of rice using manual traditional method is labour intensive and does not guarantee good quality products
- Use of low-yielding and pests and disease susceptible rice varieties remains a challenge to meeting improved yield expectation in rice farming
- Inadequate infrastructural development such as irrigation facilities, access roads to rice producing communities, including poor storage and processing facilities, and poor marketing infrastructure
- Drudgery associated with rice production especially puddling and transplanting in swamps
- High cost of initial land preparation (clearing and stumping)
- Inadequate and inappropriate rice paddy processing equipment for threshing, winnowing, parboiling and de-stoning

- Poor organisation of rice farmers into groups, associations and cooperatives
- Stiff competition with imported Asian-produced rice and rice smuggled through border communities.

Rice Enterprise Policy Objectives

The general objective is to grow Abia State economy through rice production, processing and marketing. This will be achieved through the following specific activities:

- Increase rice yield and make Abia State self-sufficient in rice
- Ensure adequate year-round supply to meet the food needs, and discourage rice imports
- Streamline the structure and organisation of rice production and encourage entrepreneurial investment
- Encourage the use of environmentally friendly farm machinery and rice processing techniques
- Create employment opportunities for young farmers in rice value chain activities in the State
- Improve the technical and economic efficiency in rice production
- Explore the efficient utilisation of all potential rice producing lands in the State
- Provide raw material for rice based agro-industries in the State.

Strategies

- Rehabilitate abandoned rice production schemes and increase investment in irrigation infrastructure
- Ensure adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidised prices and at convenient locations to farmers
- Provide improved high yielding and disease resistant/pest tolerant varieties of released rice varieties
- Increase areas under rice cultivation by using all potential rice lands in the State
- Increase output per unit area through introduction and adoption of improved technologies and efficient use of farm resources
- Improve physical infrastructure (roads, electricity, education, and health facilities) to enhance rural development
- Establish rice production and processing clusters, empowering farmers' groups and cooperative societies engaging mainly the young farmers
- Increase paddy rice production through the use of improved varieties from good planting materials
- Improve on the effectiveness of agricultural extension system
- Undertake enlightenment campaigns on the benefits of consuming locally produced and processed rice
- Encourage local fabrication of rice processing machines
- Form State and local government technical and implementation committees to help source and distribute inputs to empower rice farmers and processors
- Register and document farmers participating in the rice value chain

- Monitor and supervise the registration and authentication of input supply companies and distributors.

Expected Output

- Emergence of sustainable off-takers for paddy and milled rice
- Production of a competitively parboiled and milled rice grains
- A viable rice value chain capable of meeting Abia State inhabitants’ rice demand with surpluses sold to other states or even exported
- Attractive jobs created for the young farmers in the State under the emerging rice value chain.

Targets

It is the target of this perspective Plan to increase, in the first ten years, rice production from the present 14,000 tonnes, through increased yield per hectare and bring into cultivation potential rice plots. This Plan expects an annual increase of 4,200 tonnes to be achieved through the use of new high-yielding and disease/pest-tolerant rice varieties from NCRI at Amakama or Badegi or from Cross River State and use of improved planting methods. Thus, by 2030, the rice production in the State shall have increased to 33,130 tonnes and sustainably increase to 51,520 tonnes in 2040 and 79,120 tonnes by 2050.

Budget for Rice Development

The development of 1,000 ha of rice farm will involve the use of ₦240,000,000 distributed as shown in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5: Budget estimates for 1,000 ha of rice land in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Quantity	Amount ₦
1.	Land lease	1,000 ha	10,000,000.00
2.	Land preparation	1,000 ha	30,000,000.00
3.	Certified rice seed/50kg paddy	1,000 ha	20,000,000.00
4.	Herbicides	1,000 ha	10,000,000.00
5.	Fertilizers	1,000 ha	25,000,000.00
6.	Application herbicides + fertilizers	1,000 ha	20,000,000.00
7.	Weeding	1,000 ha	15,000,000.00
8.	Bird scaring	1,000 ha	30,000,000.00
9.	Harvesting	1,000 ha	25,000,000.00
10.	Threshing	1,000 ha	20,000,000.00
11.	Milling	1,000 ha	15,000,000.00
12.	Supervision	1,000 ha	10,000,000.00
13.	Transportation	1,000 ha	10,000,000.00
	Total		240,000,000.00

Short-Term Period budget

It is proposed that, in the first three years of implementation of this Plan, each of the five local governments producing rice in Abia State (namely, Bende, Ikwuano, Umuahia North, Isuikwuato, and Arochukwu LGAs), shall have increased its rice cultivated areas by 2,000 hectares. This will have a budget baseline date (2020) figures as in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6: Budget estimates for 10,000 hectares of rice land in Abia State

S/N	Rice Producing LGA	Increase in Rice Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Bende	2.0 ha	480,000,000.00
2.	Ikwuano	2.0 ha	480,000,000.00
3.	Umuahia North	2.0 ha	480,000,000.00
4.	Isuikwuato	2.0 ha	480,000,000.00
5.	Arochukwu	2.0 ha	480,000,000.00
	Total	10.0 ha	2,400,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage = (8,000 + 10,000) ha = 18,000 ha.

The yield estimate of paddy rice harvest = 1.84 T/ha x 18,000 = 33,120 tonnes of paddy rice.

Medium-Term Period Budget

It is proposed that in the first five years of implementation of this Plan, each of the said five local governments producing rice in Abia State, shall increase its area of land in which rice is produced by 4,000 hectares. This will have a budget expressed on baseline date (2020) figures as shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7: Budget estimates for 20,000 ha of rice land in Abia State

S/N	Rice Producing LGA	Increase in Rice Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Bende	4.0 ha	960,000,000.00
2.	Ikwuano	4.0 ha	960,000,000.00
3.	Umuahia North	4.0 ha	960,000,000.00
4.	Isuikwuato	4.0 ha	960,000,000.00
5.	Arochukwu	4.0 ha	960,000,000.00
	Total	20.0 ha	4,800,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage = (8,000 + 20,000) ha = 28,000 ha.

The yield estimate of paddy rice harvest = 1.84 T/ha x 28,000 = 51,520 tonnes of paddy rice.

Long-Term Period Budget

It is proposed that in the first seven years and above of implementation of this Plan, each of the five local governments producing rice in Abia State, shall increase its area of land in which rice is produced by 7,000 hectares. This will have a budget expressed on baseline date (2020) figures as shown in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8: Budget estimates for 35,000 hectares of rice land in Abia State

S/N	Rice Producing LGA	Increase in Rice Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Bende	7.0 Ha	1,680,000,000.00
2.	Ikwuano	7.0 Ha	1,680,000,000.00
3.	Umuahia North	7.0 Ha	1,680,000,000.00

4.	Isuikwuato	7.0 Ha	1,680,000,000.00
5.	Arochukwu	7.0 Ha	1,680,000,000.00
	Total	35.0 Ha	8,400,000,000.00

The estimate of total land area at this stage = (8,000 + 35,000) ha = 43,000 ha.

The yield estimate of paddy rice harvest = 1.84 T/ha x 43,000 = 79,120 tonnes of paddy rice.

Yam (*Dioscorea* species)

Yam is considered a major food crop in Nigeria and in the entire West Africa. Nigeria is the largest world producer of yam, producing more than 45.004 million metric tonnes annually. Yam is produced in every nook and cranny of Abia State and is a crop most celebrated by the Igbo people as “king” of crops. Yam could be roasted, barbecued, fried in oil, grilled, boiled, baked, pounded into paste or grated for food, and eaten with a variety of sauces, stew, and raw palm oil.

Different species of yam are grown in Abia State. These are unimproved landraces of yam and include white yam (*ji ocha*, *obia oturugo*, *nwa agba*, *ji-ibibi*, *ji-aga*, *ji-igwe* and *ji-akuru* (*Dioscorea rotundata*); yellow yam (*D. cayanencis*); water yam: *ji-mbala*, *mbala-eluanym* (*D. alata*), and trifoliate yam: *ona*, *ona-ocha*, *ona-gburugburu*, *ona-isiuhie*, *ona-edede* (*D. dumemtorum*). These yam landraces are difficult to crossbreed because of their shy-flowering nature. However, the NRCRI, Umudike, is breaking through with their recent development of high-yielding and disease resistant hybrids of yams.

Present Yam Production Capacity

Abia State presently produces 498,000 tonnes or 4.9 percent of the 27 million tonnes of yam produced in Nigeria annually. The estimated mean yield of 9.4t/ha in Abia State is slightly higher than the national average yield of 8.63t/ha. Yam is intercropped with cassava, maize, melon and vegetables.

Yam Production Constraints

- Scarcity and high cost of “clean” seed yams
- Declining yield due to declining soil fertility consequent on reduced fallow
- Prevalent use of unimproved and low yielding landraces (setts)
- Weeds which can cause up to 73 percent loss in yields, insect pests (crickets and beetles), root-knot, crack and rot nematodes
- High post-storage losses due to storage pests and diseases
- High input requirements (seeds, staking materials, and labour) leading to high production cost and apparent reduction in marginal rate of return.

Yam Enterprise Policy Objectives

The general objective is to grow Abia economy through yam production, processing and marketing. This will be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- Increase yam yield and make Abia State self-sufficient in yam and ensure adequate year-round supply to meet the food needs and food security
- Encourage production of seed yam through “Minisett” technique so as to reserve all harvested ware yams for consumption, instead of the present practice of diverting some for seed yams
- Encourage investments in post-harvest loss prevention methods.

Strategies

- Strengthen the agricultural extension system
- Subsidise seed yams and yam agro-inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides) to reduce yam production costs)
- Use improved production technologies, e.g., aeroponics and temporary immersion bioreactor (TIB)
- Use organised off-takers to ensure good and prompt returns to farmers
- Process output into alternative intermediate food products.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved fertility of the land
- Ease and affordability of the inputs
- Increased yield of yams
- Reduction in post-harvest losses
- Increase in number of yam farmers.

Targets

It is the target of this perspective Plan to increase, in the first ten years, yam production from the present 498,000 tonnes through increased yield per hectare. This Plan expects an annual increase of 3,400 tonnes to be achieved through planting of new high-yielding and disease/pest-tolerant yam varieties from NRCRI, Umudike, and use of improved planting methods. Thus, by 2030, the yam production in the State shall increase to 532,000 tonnes and sustainably increase to 600,000 tonnes by 2050.

Maize (*Zea mais*)

Introduction

Maize is a cereal crop widely grown in Nigeria. It ranks next to rice and wheat as food grain. Maize can be grown sole or as an inter-crop with cassava, melon and yam. Maize responds to artificial fertilizer use and completes its growth cycle under 100 days. Mature maize can be harvested and eaten green or harvested and dehusked dry. Dry maize grains can be ground into flour and incorporated as animal feed, especially poultry. Maize flour is also used as raw material in pharmaceuticals, confectioneries, or distilleries or locally in preparation of foods such as *akamu* and *agidi*.

Present Maize Production Capacity

Maize grows and yields in many parts of Abia State except on heavy or acidic soils or soils low in organic matter and nitrogen. The present maize annual production in Abia State in mixed cropping is 210.1 tonnes grown in 70,320 hectares of arable land. There are many

varieties of maize grown in Abia State with Abia farmers preferring to grow Bende white with soft mesocarp. The yellow maize variety is less preferred by farmers because it has fibrous, hard to grind mesocarp. This variety of maize is, however, preferred to white maize by feed millers.

Maize Production Constraints

- Scarcity and high cost of “clean” maize seeds and prevalence of poorly preserved and unviable seeds
- Declining yield due to declining soil fertility
- Prevalent use of unimproved and low yielding local varieties
- Huge losses through weeds especially parasitic *Striga hermonthica* which can cause up to 40 percent loss in yields, insect pests (stem borers, army worm), rodents and weaver birds
- High post-storage losses due to storage pests, especially weevils and rodents.

Maize Enterprise Policy Objectives

The Plan expects an increase in production of maize through increasing both the yield per hectare and the area of land under maize cultivation. This will be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- Increase maize yield and make Abia State self-sufficient in maize for food and industries
- Increase farm household earnings through sale of maize
- Make maize farming attractive to young farmers in Abia State.

Strategies

- Ensure adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs for maize production (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidised prices and at convenient locations to farmers
- Provide improved high yielding and disease resistant/pest tolerant varieties of released maize varieties
- Increase the area under maize cultivation by using all potential maize lands in the state
- Increase the output per unit area through introduction and adoption of improved technologies and efficient use of farm resources
- Improve physical infrastructure such as roads, electricity, education, and health facilities to enhance rural development
- Form maize production and processing clusters, empower farmers’ groups and cooperative societies engaging mainly the young farmers
- Encourage value addition through processing into derivative products
- Improve on the effectiveness of agricultural extension system.

Targets

It is the target of this perspective Plan to increase, in the first ten years, maize production from the present 210.1 tonnes, through increased yield per hectare and increase area of

land under various inter-cropping systems with maize. This Plan expects an annual increase of 30 tonnes to be achieved through the use of new high-yielding and disease/pest-tolerant maize varieties from NCRI, Amakama, and Badegi. Thus, by 2030, the maize production in the State shall have increased to 510.9 tonnes and sustainably increase to 570.7 tonnes by 2050. There shall also be linkages to off-takers and processors for enhanced income to the producers.

Melon (*Egusi*), Leafy and Fruit Vegetables

Melon (*Cocumeropsis manni*) is a legume grown in inter-crop combination with two or three other crops. For instance, melon can be inter-cropped with cassava, maize, and yam. Under this condition, a harvest of 0.62t/ha has been recorded in Abia State. One common leafy vegetable grown in the State is the fluted pumpkin (*ugu*) (*Telferia*). Others are fruit vegetables such as okra (*Abelmoscheus spp.*), garden egg (*Solanum spp.*), cucumber, and water melon (*Citrullus lanatus*), all grown for the cash they fetch for the farm households, especially in Umuahia and Aba agricultural zones.

Leafy and Fruit Vegetable Present Production Capacity

Melon, fluted pumpkin, okra and cucumber are grown in all agricultural zones of Abia State and their production constitute about 6.64 percent of all arable crops produced in the State. Market gardens serving the urban centres of Aba and Umuahia have recorded huge successes in outputs of these crops to the extent that they satisfy household needs. African garden egg is consumed raw as snack, and recommended to patients with bad eyesight, high blood pressure, stomach disorders, and over-weight problems (FAO, 1999). It is also used as “kola” to welcome visitors in Igboland. This is widely grown in Osisioma, Isiala Ngwa North, and Isiala Ngwa South LGAs (Onunka, *et. al*, 2016).

Constraints to Leafy and Fruit Vegetable Production

- Scarcity and high cost of “clean” seeds for vegetable propagation
- Declining yield due to declining soil fertility consequent on reduced fallow
- Losses through weeds which can cause up to 73 percent loss in yields, insect pests (grasshoppers), and nematodes
- High post-harvest losses due to absence of storage technique manifested in high decay and rots
- High input requirements (seeds, and labour) leading to high production cost and apparent reduction in scarcity and high cost of “clean” seed
- Non-availability of farm inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides at the appropriate time
- Land tenure system that prevents women from owning land and, therefore, limits their participation to vegetable production
- Drudgery associated with vegetable production that makes it unattractive to younger farmers
- Poor condition of rural roads that make evacuation of vegetables a difficult task and force farmers to sell their harvests at give-away farm gate prices
- High cost of farm labour, especially at the peak of weed infestation and harvest period.

Leafy and Fruit Vegetable Production Policy Objectives

- Increase Abia State vegetable and food supplies to achieve self-sufficiency and accommodate surpluses in basic foods as allowed by environmental factors
- Ensure all year round availability of vegetables and indigenous foods at affordable prices
- Diversify food sources to satisfy the minimum nutritional requirements of the citizenry
- Enhance the technical and economic efficiency of production of vegetables and other foods through use of modern farming techniques
- Encourage investment in post-harvest storage of vegetables and food crops.

Strategies

- Encourage dry season vegetable production and peri-urban agriculture
- Encourage the use of appropriate levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers and agro-chemicals
- Acquire certified improved crop varieties from research centres and national seed service and promote multiplication and distribution of same in partnership with out-growers and contact farmers
- Promote massive production of food crops and vegetables to meet the daily needs of citizens of Abia State
- Ensure accessibility and timely availability of basic farm inputs such as fertilizers, agrochemicals, improved seeds and planting materials
- Encourage young farmers' involvement in large-scale agriculture
- Use environmentally friendly tractorisation and mechanisation of cropping operations
- Encourage foreign and domestic investment in large-scale food crop and vegetable production and processing
- Encourage all year round availability of vegetables through installation of new irrigation facilities at Ubani Ibeku, Uzuakoli, Ozuitem, Abam and Arochukwu
- Establish greenhouses in proximate urban locations.

Targets

- Increase in production of all leafy and fruit vegetables and food crops in the State
- Establish greenhouses in locations near major urban centres like Aba and Umuahia for all year round cultivation of tomato and other vegetables
- Enhance farm household income and living standard
- Attain self-sufficiency in fruit vegetables and food crops in the State.

Further Actions

- Adopt greenhouse technology for leafy and fruit vegetables
- Use ColdHub solar-powered cold storage innovation for preservation and shelf life elongation
- Adopt estimating cost for processing facilities
- Initiate land reforms to facilitate easy access to land by youths and prospective large-scale agripreneurs.

PERFORMANCES OF CROPS AND PLAN PROJECTIONS: CASH CROPS

Cash crops that are widely grown in Abia State are oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis* Jacq), cocoa (*Theobroma cacao* L.), rubber (*Heavea brasiliensis* Willd ex.A.Juss), and cashew (*Anacardium occidentale* L). Over the years, these crops have provided a bulk (over 50.0 percent) of the foreign exchange earnings of Abia State in particular and contributed much to Nigeria's gross domestic product (GDP).



Courtesy: Government House Umuahia

Oil Palm (*Elaeis guineensis* Jacq)

Abia State has the natural ecology for the cultivation of oil palm. Its production dates back to the pre-colonial era and was a booming business before the advent of crude oil production in the early 1970s in Nigeria. Palm oil and palm kernel are the major products and, recently, biodiesel, all of which have large world demand. Palm oil and palm kernel oil are good vegetable oils used in the production of biofuel that even has greater prospect for foreign exchange earnings. Aba and Umuahia in Abia State host the largest volume of trade in palm produce in the eastern palm belt of Nigeria. The big time users of palm produce, such as Lever Brothers Nigeria Plc, International Equitable Company and Pater Zochanis (PZ) industries, have their factories located in Aba, Abia State.

Present Production Capacity

There are many government-owned oil palm estates and privately-owned smallholder palm plantations scattered all over Abia State. These include Abia State palm estates at Ohambele (5,591 ha), Ulonna North farm settlement (1,808 ha), Ulonna South farm settlement (315 ha), oil palm estate at Isu Arochukwu (402 ha), oil palm estate at Ozuitem (1,214 ha), oil palm estate at Nkporo (2,659 ha), and other smallholder plantations (10,000 ha).

Oil Palm Production Constraints

- Insufficient heavy duty equipment for clearing of primary vegetation
- Inadequate palm fruit processing equipment and modern palm fruit processing mills in the State
- Insufficient and high cost of plantation maintenance labour
- Insufficient all-season motorable and feeder roads in plantation areas in the State.

Oil Palm Enterprise Policy Objective

The general objective is to grow Abia economy through oil palm production, processing and marketing. The specific objectives are as follows:

- Increase in farm income of households producing, processing or marketing palm produce in the State to help alleviate rural poverty
- Increase in foreign exchange earnings of Abia State and Nigeria through palm produce exports
- Provide employment and entrepreneurship to unemployed youths through oil palm value-chain activities
- Provide supplies to domestic agro-allied industries using palm produce as raw materials in their manufacture.

Strategies

- Revive the oil palm farm settlement schemes in the State in line with the original concept emphasising on the provision of such infrastructure as electricity, pipe-borne water, healthcare centres, schools and other amenities
- Adopt community-based cluster oil palm production approach to drive the oil palm revolution in the State
- Increase in nurseries of high yielding varieties (*Supergene tenera*) with shorter, easy-to-reach trees of 25 years' lifespan capable of fruiting less than two years with up to 15 FFB per fruiting. This will help replace the local low yielding wild groves. In addition, a central seedlings nursery would be set up to supply this improved variety to farming clusters of *tenera* species covering 50,000 ha lands in various communities in the first ten years of this Plan and distributing to farmers on demand
- Deploy agricultural extension workers to educate farmers on modern field management of the oil palms
- Raise palm fruit processing units with the assistance of private investors under public-private partnership (PPP) agreement for processing fresh fruit bunches (FFB) at some designated centres in the State
- Make investment credit available to farmers through the soft loan windows of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and development finance institutions including Bank of Agriculture (BOA) and Bank of Industries (BOI). Particularly, producers would be primed and guided to access CBN "Real Sector Support Facility" which is an integral part of FGN/CBN Nigerian Oil Palm Industry Development Initiative aimed at promoting the oil palm value chain. A fund of ₦55 billion was earmarked for this programme in 2019.

Current Yield and Target

Yield of palm produce is influenced by ecology, age of the palms, and the field management practices adopted.

FFB yield = 7.5-25 MT/ha/annum giving annual state yield of 1,138,000 tonnes

Palm oil extraction = 15.0%-22.0%, giving a mean yield of not less than 5.0MT/ha/annum

Palm wine yield= 4,000 litres/ha/annum, and palm kernel extraction rate of 5-6 percent.

Current land area cultivated with oil palm is 21,989 ha. In the first ten years of this Plan (2030), it targets to double the area under oil palm cultivation to 28,458 ha. The old groves will be steadily uprooted and replaced with young *tenera* species to occupy 14,232 ha in the next ten years (2030). By the end of the Plan period (2050), the *tenera* species should have been planted to occupy 35,573 ha.

Short-Run and Medium-Term Budget Periods

The budget to establish 1,000 ha of oil palm plantation in Abia State is shown in Table 4.9. Within the first three years of commencing implementation of this Plan, it is expected that 1,000 hectares of oil palm will be planted in each of the 15 LGAs of Abia State:

- The estimated cost of establishing 1,000 ha in each of the 15 LGAs = 15 x ₦206,125,000 = ₦3,091,875,000
- Within this period, the total area of land planted, with the oil palm, will be (14,229 + 15,000) ha = 29,229 ha
- Existing stock will yield within the first three years = 5.0 x 14,229 x 3 MT = 213,435 MT of palm oil
- In the medium-term period (5-7) years, the yield will be (14,229 + 15,000) x 3 x 5 = 29,229 x 15 = 438,435 MT of palm oil.

Table 4.9: Budget estimates for 1,000 hectares of oil palm plantation land in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Quantity	Unit Price ₦	Amount ₦
1.	Land lease	1,000 Ha	100,000	100,000,000.00
2.	Land preparation	1,000 Ha	20,000	20,000,000.00
3.	Certified <i>Tenera Spp.</i> seedling	150,000	500	750,000.00
4.	Transportation of seedling		100	15,000,000.00
5.	Loading & off-loading		50	75,000.00
6.	Field establishment	1,000 Ha		47,000,000.00
7.	Fertilizers 150 bags x 3 yrs	1,000 Ha		1,000,000.00
8.	Application Herbicides + fertilizers x 3 yrs	1,000 Ha		300,000.00
9.	Weeding for 4 yrs	1,000 Ha		5,000,000.00
10.	Other management practices	1,000 Ha		10,000,000.00
11.	Harvesting	1,000 Ha		7,000,000.00
	Total			206,125,000.00

Long-Term Oil Palm Establishment Budget

In the long term of beyond 7 years of implementation of this Plan, it is proposed that oil palm plantations will be established in the 15 local government areas of the State. The budget of establishing 10 hectares of oil palm plantation in each of these 15 LGAs is shown in Table 4.10 which shows that it will take the sum of ₦30.9 billion to realise this project. The two urban-based LGAs left out of this project are Aba North and Aba South which, due to urbanisation, much of the land is converted to one form of human settlement or the other.

Table 4.10: Budget estimates for 150,000 hectares of oil palm land in Abia State

S/N	Oil Palm Producing LGA	Increase in Oil Palm Land Area ('000)	Amount ₦
1.	Arochukwu	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
2.	Bende	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
3.	Ikwuano	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
4.	Isiala Ngwa North	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
5.	Isiala Ngwa South	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
6.	Isuikwuato	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
7.	Obingwa	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
8.	Ohafia	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
9.	Osioma	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
10.	Ugwunagbo	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
11.	Ukwa East	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
12.	Ukwa West	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
13.	Umuahia North	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
14.	Umuahia South	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
15.	Umunneochi	10.0 Ha	2,061,250,000.00
	Total	150.0 Ha	30,918,750,000.00

Establishment of Oil Palm Mills

During the perspective Plan period, it proposes to establish three modern integrated and extendable automated 10-tonne/day oil palm mills, one in each of the major producing belts of the State. The mills will incorporate palm oil extraction, kernel separation and cracking, and refining units. They are to mill fresh fruit bunches (FFBs) into special palm oil (SPO), separate/crack palm kernel into nuts, and finally, palm kernel oil (PKO) and palm kernel cake (PKC), with plans for periodic upgrade in line with technological changes. They will ensure typical zero waste operation. Thus, besides SPO and PKO, the fibres, kernel shells, and refining sludge will contribute to generate income.

Installation of the modern integrated automated milling plants will encourage young and able-bodied persons to become attracted to the oil palm business because filth and drudgery are drastically eliminated.

Cocoa (*Theobroma cacao L.*)

Abia State has favourable ecology for the cultivation and production of cocoa. Presently, cocoa is grown in large quantities in four of the 17 local government areas of Abia State,

namely, Arochukwu, Bende, Ikwuano, and Umuahia North. Cocoa is marginally grown in another seven LGAs of the State, namely, Ohafia, Isuikwuato, Isiala Ngwa North, Isiala Ngwa South, Obingwa, Ukwu East, and Umunneochi. It is estimated that over 100,000 Abians depend on cocoa for their livelihood as they cultivate, trade and transport cocoa in the State.

Present Production Capacity

It is estimated that cocoa is cultivated in a total land area of 5,650 ha in Abia State. This land area consists of cocoa belonging to smallholder farmers (5,085 ha) and State-owned plantations (597 ha). Amongst the 14 cocoa producing states in Nigeria, Abia State is ranked as the eighth largest producer of cocoa. To further develop this crop, the State government has established the Abia State Cocoa Development Committee, the Abia State cocoa monitoring team, and cocoa farmers' field schools to strengthen its placement in the cocoa map of Nigeria.

Constraints

- High cost of land clearing for expansion of farm holdings by farmers
- High cost of labour in plantation maintenance
- Inadequate credit facilities to cocoa farmers in the State
- Lack of systematic development of cocoa estates over the years
- Deplorable state of farm roads to cocoa producing locations.

Cocoa Enterprise Policy Objective

The general objective is to grow Abia State economy through strategic production, processing and marketing of cocoa. The specific objectives are to:

- generate employment through cocoa production and alleviate poverty using the earned income
- improve local earnings and foreign exchange earnings from cocoa sales
- contribute to meeting the increasing world demand for cocoa
- engage in integrated processing of cocoa into cocoa powder, cocoa butter, chocolate, wine/liquor
- place Abia State on top the list of cocoa producing states in the country.

Strategies

- Revive government-owned cocoa plantations
- Raise and distribute one million improved F3 Amazon cocoa seedlings annually to cocoa farmers in the State to expand their holdings and gradually replace low yielding cultivars
- Distribute cocoa farm inputs to farmers at affordable prices
- Embrace private-public partnerships (PPP) by government with individuals and firms committed to commercial production, processing and exporting of cocoa
- Deploy agricultural extension workers to educate cocoa farmers on the correct ways to apply pesticides to reduce contaminations and other hazards
- Create all-season roads leading into cocoa producing locations

- Ensure proper grading of cocoa beans to encourage standardised high quality produce.

Current Yield and Targets

Cocoa yield varies depending on local environmental conditions, age of trees, pests and diseases, and the cultivars used. With good management, yield of up to 3,300 kg/ha is achievable. However, current yield has varied between 750 and 1,250 kg/ha. It is the target of this Plan to increase the current annual production of 4,000 MT to 20,000 MT in the first ten years of this Plan (2030) through massive planting of improved cocoa cultivars. The target is to further increase total land area from the present 5,680 ha to 30,000 ha within the first ten years of the Plan, replacing the old low yielding cultivars with the improved ones, targeting 30,000 MT by 2050. It is proposed that, within the period of this Plan, young entrepreneurs will take advantage of local production of cocoa to invest under the public-private partnership in the value-added products developed by CRIN at Idi-Ayunre, Ibadan, to produce, among others, cocoa butter, cocoa powder, cocoa custard, cocoa gari, and cocoa wine.

Short-Run Period Budget for Cocoa

The budget to establish 1,000 ha of cocoa plantations in Abia State is shown in Table 4.11. Within the first three years of commencing implementation of this Plan, it is proposed that 1,000 hectares of cocoa will be planted in each of the 15 rural-based LGAs of Abia State.

Table 4.11: Budget estimates for 1,000 ha of cocoa plantation land in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Land Area	Unit Price ₦	Amount ₦
1.	Land lease	1,000 Ha	100,000	100,000,000
2.	Site preparation	1,000 Ha		875,000
3.	Certified improved cocoa seedling (50,000)	1,000 Ha	150	7,500,000
4.	Transportation of seedling	1,000 Ha	LS	15,000,000
5.	Loading & off-loading	1,000 Ha	50	75,000
6.	Field establishment	1,000 Ha		2,050,000
7.	Fertilizers purchases	1,000 Ha		360,000
8.	Application herbicides + Fertilizers x 3 yrs	1,000 Ha		3,395,000
9.	Weeding for 4 yrs	1,000 Ha		700,000
10.	Other management practices	1,000 Ha		700,000
11.	Harvesting	1,000 Ha		700,000
	Total			133,855,000

The total cost of establishing 1,000 ha of cocoa plantation = ₦133,855,000.

Medium Term and Long Periods Budget for Cocoa

This Plan proposes that, from the third to the sixth year of its implementation, 1,000 more of the high quality cocoa seeds will be planted in each of the 11 cocoa growing areas in the State and an extra 2,000 grown in four major cocoa areas as shown in Table 4.12.

This amounts to expansion of cocoa plantation in the State with 19,000 ha during the Plan period within its medium and long-term periods.

Table 4.12: Budget estimates for 19,000 ha of cocoa growing area in Abia State

S/N	Major Cocoa Growing LGA	Increase in Area of Cocoa Trees	Amount Required ₦
1.	Ikwuano	3,000 ha	401,565,000
2.	Bende	3,000 ha	401,565,000
3.	Umuahia North	3,000 ha	401,565,000
4.	Arochukwu	3,000 ha	401,565,000
5.	Ohafia	1,000 ha	133,855,000
6.	Isiukwuato	1,000 ha	133,855,000
7.	Umunneochi	1,000 ha	133,855,000
8.	Isiala Ngwa North	1,000 ha	133,855,000
9.	Isiala Ngwa South	1,000 ha	133,855,000
10.	Obi Ngwa	1,000 ha	133,855,000
11.	Ukwa East	1,000 ha	133,855,000
	Total	19,000 ha	2,543,245,000.00

- The estimated cost of establishing 19,000 ha of cocoa in the 11 cocoa producing LGAs = ₦2,543,245,000
- Within the long-term period, the total area of land planted with cocoa, will be 5,650 + 19,000 ha = 24,650 ha.

Rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*)

Abia State has favourable ecology for the development and production of rubber in the 17 LGAs. Unfortunately, rubber, like oil palm, suffered neglect following the crude oil boom era soon after the civil war in Nigeria. The existing rubber plantations were abandoned and some were turned to other purposes.

Present Production Capacity

There are many government-owned rubber estates as well as privately-owned smallholder rubber plantations scattered all over Abia State. These include Ndioji Abam (802 ha), Amaeke Abam (1,985.2 ha) and smallholder plantations (5,000 ha) in the State.

Constraints

- Non-replacement of old and low-yielding clones
- Inadequate credit facilities to rubber farmers in the State
- High cost of labour in plantation management
- Lack of rubber processing equipment.

Rubber Enterprise Policy Objective

The general objective is to grow Abia State economy through the production, processing and marketing of rubber and its products. The specific objectives are:

- Increase in hectareage of rubber plantations in Abia State

- Generate employment opportunities for Abians through rubber production to engage the teeming youths and unemployed graduates
- Improve local earnings and foreign exchange earnings from rubber sales
- Place Abia State top in the list of rubber producing States in Nigeria.

Strategies

- Revive government-owned rubber plantations using global best practices
- Raise and distribute one million improved clones of rubber seedlings annually to rubber farmers in the State for expansion of their holdings and gradual replacement of low yielding clones
- Distribute cocoa farm inputs to farmers at affordable prices
- Embrace private-public partnerships (PPP) by government with individuals and firms committed to the commercial production, processing and exporting of rubber
- Assist rubber farmers with accessible credit to enable them increase their holdings
- Create enabling environment to attract youths into rubber cultivation in the State
- Create all-season roads leading into rubber producing locations
- Mount an integrated rubber processing machine in the State.

Current Yield and Targets

The yield of rubber is influenced by the cultivar planted, age of rubber trees, agro-ecology and management practices. Current dry rubber yield is 0.4-1.5 MT/ha. High yield clones can give 2.0-4.0 MT annual yield of dry rubber. This Plan targets to plant 200 ha of rubber annually in all the LGAs. Within the first ten years of this Plan, it is envisioned to plant 2,000 ha of rubber and increase it to 3,000 ha by 2050.

Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale L*)

The cashew nut is a vital product from the cashew tree that is a great earner of foreign exchange. Other important products from the cashew tree are cashew apple and cashew-nut-shell-liquid. The cashew tree plays vital ecological role of reducing soil erosion and serves as a windbreak and shade.

Abia State is a major producer of cashew nuts in Nigeria. The cashew belt spans through Isuochi, Nneato, Umunneochi, Isukwuato and Alayi communities in the State.

Present Production Capacity

The total area of land in Abia State planted with cashew is 2,000 ha cultivated in government-owned cashew estate at Mbala Isuochi = 188.40 ha and smallholder cashew plantations (scattered) = 1811.60 ha.

Constraints

- Non-replacement of old and low-yielding cashew trees
- Government neglect of cashew estate since after the Nigerian civil war
- Absence of cashew processing plant in the State
- Low private sector participation in cashew development in the State.

Cashew Enterprise Policy Objective

The general objective is to grow Abia State economy through strategic and systematic production, processing and marketing of cashew products in Abia State. The specific objectives are:

- Generate employment through cashew production and alleviate poverty using the earned income
- Improve local earnings and foreign exchange earnings from cashew marketing and export
- Attract both local and foreign investment in the State through cashew.

Strategies

- Rehabilitate and expand State-owned cashew estate at Mbala Isuochi
- Raise and distribute one million improved seedlings of cashew annually to cashew farmers in the State for expansion of their holdings
- Distribute cashew farm inputs (pesticides) to farmers at affordable prices
- Assist cashew farmers with accessible credit to enable them increase their holdings
- Create enabling environment to attract youths into cashew value chain business in the State
- Provide cashew processing facilities at least one in each of the five major cashew producing communities in the State.

Target

This Plan targets to increase the hectares of land under cashew cultivation from the present 2,000 ha (with annual yield of 45,000 MT) to 8,000 ha (with projected annual yield of 60,000 MT) by the year, 2030, and to 20,000 ha (with annual yield of 85,000 MT) by 2050. It is proposed that within the period of this Plan, young entrepreneurs will take advantage of local production of cashew to invest under public-private partnership in the value-added products developed by CRIN, Ibadan, to produce, among others, edible cashew nuts, cashew juice, and cashew wine.

Short-Run Period Budget for Cashew

The budget to establish 1,000 ha of cashew plantation in Abia State is shown in Table 4.13. Within the first three years of commencing implementation of this Plan, it is proposed that 1,000 hectares of cashew (W-240 Variety) will be cultivated in each of the three cashew-growing LGAs of Abia State.

Table 4.13: Budget estimates for 1,000 hectares of cashew plantation land in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Land Area	Unit Price ₦	Amount ₦
1.	Land lease	1,000 ha	100,000	100,000,000.00
2.	Site preparation	1,000 ha		875,000.00
3.	Certified improved cashew (W-240 spp). seedling (150,000)	1,000 Ha	500	10,000,000.00
4.	Transportation of seedling	1,000 ha	100	15,000,000.00
5.	Loading & off-loading	1,000 ha	50	75,000.00
6.	Field establishment	1,000 ha		2,050,000.00

7.	Fertilizers purchases	1,000 ha	360,000.00
8.	Application herbicides + fertilizers x 3 yrs	1,000 ha	3,395,000.00
9.	Weeding for 4 yrs	1,000 ha	700,000.00
10.	Other management practices	1,000 ha	700,000.00
11.	Harvesting	1,000 ha	700,000.00
	Total		133,855,000.00

The total cost of establishing 1,000 ha of cashew plantation= ₦133,855,000.00.

Medium-Term and Long Term Budget for Cashew

This Plan proposes that, from the third to the sixth year of its implementation, 1,000 more high quality cashew seeds (W-240) will be planted in each of the three cashew growing areas of Umunneochi, Isuikwuato and Bende in the State, as shown in Table 4.14. This amounts to expansion of cashew plantation in the State with 6,000 hectares during the Plan period within its medium and long-term periods.

Table 4.14: Budget estimates for 6,000 hectares of cashew in Abia State

S/N	Cashew growing LGA	Increase in area of Cashew trees	Amount ₦
1.	Umunneochi	2,000 ha	267,710,000
2.	Isuikwuato	2,000 ha	267,710,000
3.	Bende	2,000 ha	267,710,000
	Total	6,000 ha	803,130,000

PERFORMANCES OF LIVESTOCK AND PLAN PROJECTIONS

Background

The agricultural zones of Aba, Umuahia, and Ohafia, in Abia State, are inhabited by about 315,910 farm households. These households and separately established livestock farms keep different breeds of farm animals, namely, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry. Much of these breeds (70.0 percent) are unimproved and maintained under traditional, low input free range system, where the animals fend for themselves with little or no supplementation. Abia State government has no feed mills, and livestock farmers in the State largely depend on commercially-milled feeds. Despite the high prices of these feeds, most of them are unbalanced and deficient in essential feed ingredients including amino acids.

To help farmers in Abia State raise livestock to provide enough protein in the meals of its over three million inhabitants, and for other farm animals within the next 30 years, emphasis will be placed on the production of sufficient improved foundation stock and day-old chicks (DOC), installation of efficient feed mills to produce balanced livestock feeds, and development of good pastures. This will help raise the level of domestic production of cattle, sheep, goats, poultry and pigs.

Abia State Livestock Policy Objectives

It is the general policy objectives of Abia State livestock subsector to achieve self-sufficiency in meat (protein) production, provide employment, attain food security and

provide surpluses for local industries and for exports within the next 10 to 30 years. The livestock specific objectives and strategies are to:

- Lay solid foundation for the rapid growth and development of the livestock sub-sector in the State
- Encourage production of enough annual day-old chicks to be sold to the farmers at prices affordable to them
- Set up breed multiplication farms to produce improved seed stock of cattle, sheep, goats, rabbits and cane rats for the use of farmers
- Develop or promote pastures and encourage growth of fodder from Fadama areas and raise straw and stover during dry seasons
- Encourage provision of efficient feed mills to produce balanced livestock feeds at affordable prices to farmers
- Encourage establishment of livestock feed quality control laboratory in the State
- Set up model livestock farms for short-term education and enlightenment of farmers on poultry, pigs, sheep, goats, cane rats (grass cutter) and rabbits production
- Offer employment to more livestock development officers, animal scientists, livestock and animal husbandry technologists, livestock attendants to support extension to farmers at the local government levels
- Equip veterinary services with routine drugs, prophylactics, and biologics to enable handling cases of animal diseases
- Encourage private sector participation in establishing abattoirs, processing factories and cold rooms for surplus meats
- Encourage establishment of micro-livestock farms, including bee-keeping, snailry, cane rats and fisheries, to provide employments to young farmers and women.

Present Livestock Situation

Table 4.15 shows present Abia State livestock population compared with Nigeria's present livestock figures. The Table shows that Abia State livestock population is inequitably low. Apart from chickens, Abia State produces less than 1.0 percent of each of goats, sheep, cattle, pigs and rabbits in Nigeria. This translates to a yawning protein availability and intake gaps in the State and suggests why Abia State is a southern terminal market for livestock from states in the northern part of Nigeria.

Table 4.15: Abia State livestock population compared with Nigeria's present livestock figures

S/N	Livestock	Nigeria	Abia State	Per Cent of Nigeria
1.	Chicken	180,000,000	8,815,375	11.027
2.	Goats	72,800,000	357,257	0.005
3.	Sheep	41,300,000	1,000,264	0.02
4.	Cattle	19,500,000	225,440	0.01
5.	Pigs	3,100,000	1,115,365	0.27
6.	Rabbits	1,700,000	291,943	0.02

Source: Abia State Planning Commission 2020

Livestock Production Constraints

Constraints to production of livestock depend on the livestock considered as follows:

Chickens

- Non-availability of proven day-old-chicks (DOC)
- High cost of feeds due to absence of commercial feed mills in the State
- Inadequate availability of veterinary personnel and veterinary drugs
- Prevalence of poultry diseases, especially, the Newcastle disease on traditional poultry population
- Scare Avian flu on birds in intensive production system.

Sheep and Goats

The production of small ruminant livestock in Abia State is challenged by:

- Non-availability of improved, high performing sheep and goat breeds
- Predominance of traditional system of sheep and goat rearing and management
- Absence of rich pasture and grazing reserves.

Pigs

- Absence of commercially produced pig feeds
- Scarcity of brewers' grains and PKC used in focal formulation of pig feeds
- High cost establishing pig pens.

Intervention Strategies

The following strategies are proposed as part of this perspective Plan for the livestock in Abia State:

Poultry

- Establish a 150,000 DOC capacity incubator to produce about 1.13 million improved DOC annually. In the first ten years, this will amount to producing 11.25 million DOCs, proposed to be sold at concessionary prices to farmers
- Establish a parent stock farm of 10,000-12,000 proven parent stock to produce 1.02-1.20 million fertile eggs to feed the incubator annually or 10.20 million to 12.24 million fertile eggs in ten years
- Install a ten-ton/hr feed mill working 8 hrs/day at 250 days/year to produce 10,000 tonnes or 400,000 25kg bags of balanced poultry feed annually or 100,000 tonnes or 4,000 25kg bags of balanced livestock feed, in the first ten years to be sold to farmers at moderate prices
- Contract feed milling to Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, and outsourcing of input/service needs would be explored
- Empower the private sector to install a jute packing bag manufacturing factory to produce feed bags
- Establish a livestock feed quality control laboratory with modern facilities for feed analysis, quality control and grading

- Establish/encourage private investors to install standard processing plants and cold rooms to process and handle farmers' excess animal products
- Rehabilitate all zonal and local government livestock offices to enable extension workers extend technologies and scientific messages to farmers all year round
- Establish poultry clusters in all the 17 LGAs of the State.

Cattle, Sheep, and Goats

- Encourage research institutions to participate in the establishment of breeding/multiplication farms for cattle and small ruminants. The focus should be on stock selection for body size and twinning ability, cross-breeding and upgrading to enhance prolificacy of the foundation stock
- Empower ten out-growers per local government area (at 50 does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 8,500 improved goat seed stock and 25,500 sheep seed stock annually (i.e., 42,500 improved goat seed stock and 127,500 sheep seed stock of sheep in ten years) to be sold to farmers at affordable prices as incentive
- Encourage farmers to establish backyard fodder banks and gardens
- Encourage farmers through extension staff to use Fadama land facilities for the production of forages during the dry season
- Encourage the use of agricultural by-products to enhance the feeding of goats and sheep, especially during the dry season
- Encourage the development of ranches, particularly for cattle in the State, or establish smallholder feeding (fattening) lots for cattle
- Establish cattle, sheep, and goats model farms in the State to provide education and enlightenment to the farmers (for both extensive and intensive systems)
- Provide the veterinary services departments with the necessary drugs and vaccines and equip them to effectively handle the animal health programmes in the State
- Establish public-private sector participation in the provision of modern abattoirs, processing facilities and cold rooms to handle the slaughtering, processing and preservation of animal products.

Pigs

- Encourage research institutes to participate in the establishment of multiplication farms for pigs, with focus on stock selection, cross-breeding and upgrading to enhance fecundity and prolificacy of the foundation stock
- Empower ten out-growers in each of the 17 LGAs of the State to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 41,600 improved foundation seed stock annually with 416,000 improved foundation stock in the first ten years
- Encourage farmers to embark on pig fattening programmes for slaughter
- Encourage the processing of blood and bones into meals for feed production
- Scale up levels of grain and tuber production for the production of concentrates and animal feeds at affordable prices to the farmers
- Establish a model but affordable pig house built with local materials for the farmers to copy for both extensive and intensive systems of management
- Assist farmers through subsidies and micro-credit

- Promote routine animal health care management.

Grass-Cutters

- Lay a solid foundation for rapid domestication and production of cane rats (*Tryonomy* spp.) in the State
- Encourage private sector participation (research institutions) in cane rat breeding, domestication, selection, cross-breeding and multiplication to produce good seed stock
- Empower ten out-growers per LGA (ten does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 6,800 domesticated cane rats annually and 34,000 improved seed stock in ten years to be sold to the famers at modest price as incentive
- Sensitise farmers on the viability of homestead cane rat farming
- Rear cane rats for table consumption
- Demonstrate model and affordable grass-cutter pens for farmers to copy
- Encourage capacity building through training, workshops, seminars, and conferences
- Establish grass-cutter fodder bank at the backyards.

Rabbits

- Encourage and create awareness on rabbit rearing and the high quality rabbit meat through workshops, seminars, field days and establishment of pilot farms
- Embark on stock selection, cross-breeding and upgrading, to enhance prolificacy and body size through research institute/government partnership
- Empower ten out-growers per local government area (ten does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 510,000 improved rabbit seed stock annually (i.e., 5,100,000), improved seed stock in ten years to be sold to the famers at modest price as incentive
- Provide technical know-how to encourage appropriate management and assistance to farmers to identify marketing outlets
- Encourage rearing of rabbits for table consumption as specialised rabbits farming operation
- Encourage farmers to establish fodder banks at their backyards
- Encourage processing of rabbit skin and furs for clothing and foot wears.

Targets on Livestock Production

The targets of this perspective Plan on livestock population produced in Abia State are as shown in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16: Abia livestock and production population targets

S/N	Livestock	Present stock population	Projected stock population	
			2030	2050
1.	Chickens	8,815,375	10,578,450.0	13,223,062.5
2.	Goats	357,257	428,708.4	535,885.5
3.	Sheep	1,000,264	1,200,316.8	1,500,396.0
4.	Cattle	225,440	270,528.0	563,600.0

5.	Pigs	1,115,365	1,338,438.0	1,673,047.5
6.	Rabbits	291,943	350,331.6	729,857.5

Livestock Budget

The Plan proposes that poultry and other livestock projects will be expanded to generate more protein to help meet the food security needs of the State. In funding these projects, the following stakeholders shall be involved: Abia State government through the Ministry of Agriculture, local government councils, private partners, CBN loans and foreign development partners (grants). The proposed budget for specific livestock are as follows:

Poultry

Table 4.17: Budget for expansion of poultry production at different locations in Abia State

S/N	Project Location	Budgeted Amount ₦	Short Term Period ₦	Medium Term Period ₦	Long Term Period ₦
1.	17 LGAs & 3 agric zones 301,000 birds each	1,317,500,000	878,334,000	330,000,000	109,166,000
2.	Zonal clusters 400,000 birds	1,000,000,000	488,636,400	320,000,000	191,363,600
	Nsulu zonal processing plant	20,000,000	20,000,000		
	Okoko Item Ohafia zonal cluster	1,000,000	488,334,000	320,000,000	191,363,600
	Okoko Item Ohafia zonal processing plant	20,000,000	20,000,000		
	Ovom Aba zonal cluster	1,000,000	488,334,000	320,000,000	191,363,600
	Ovom Aba zonal processing plant	20,000,000	20,000,000		
3.	MOA broilers 400,000 birds every 8 weeks	440,000,000	240,000,000	150,000,000	50,000,000

Goats

Goat expansion programme should run as follows:

- Empower ten goat farmers selected from each of the 17 LGAs with 50 proven does. The proven does should be crossbred: half West African Dwarf breed and half Boer breed
- Help each of the 170 selected farmers to establish a backyard fodder farm and garden
- Engage private off-takers and processors to buy off and process the matured goats from the farmers.

The cost implications are as shown in Table 4.18.

Table 4.18: Budget for expansion of goat production using 170 pilot farmers in Abia State

S/N	Item of Cost	Unit price ₦	Amount ₦	Short-run period output (goats)	Medium-term output (goats)	Long-term output (goats)
1.	Purchase of seed stock goats 8,500 for ten farmers x 17 LGAs	18,000	2,601,000	17,000	112,000	866,000
2.	Establishment of Fodder farm for ten farmers	50,000	8,500,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
3.	Extension and monitoring	10,000,000	170,000,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Total		181,101,000			

Pigs

Pigs should be increased through breed selection, multiplication and distribution to farmers. This project should run as follows:

- Select and multiply pork breeds of proven quality including Duroc, Landrace, and Large White at chosen multiplication centres
- Distribute pure breeds to farmers at affordable prices for fattening and further breeding
- Develop and produce standard, balanced pig feeds for sale to farmers
- Build abattoirs for slaughter and processing of porkers for meat production
- Provide storage facilities for pork.

The cost implications of these are shown in Table 4.19.

Table 4.19: Budget for multiplication of pigs, feeding and processing at Okoko Item, Ovom and Ubakala in Abia State

S/N	Item of cost	Unit price ₦	Amount ₦	Short-run period output (pigs)	Medium-term output (pigs)	Long-term output (pigs)
1.	Purchase of 255 breeding stock of pigs (213 Sows and 42 boars)	5,000	1,276,000	13,600	247,840	996,000
2.	Establishment of five, 250 stock capacity pig pens	5,000,000	25,000,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
3.	Construction of 5 ton/hr feed mill at Ovom		13,000,000			
4.	Construction of abattoir and processing plant at		50,000,000			

	Ubakala					
5.	Extension and monitoring	10,000,000	170,000,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
	Total		259,276,000			

FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Background

Abia State is a land and inland water State with two major rivers (Imo and Cross River) flowing through it. It is in these two rivers that artisanal fisheries are carried out. In 2015, it was estimated that 350.5 tonnes of fish were produced from capture fisheries in Abia State. Apart from the aforementioned rivers, the State is blessed with large expanse of land suitable for sustainable aquaculture development. Aquaculture (fish farming) is the easiest and fastest method of increasing fish production by a sizable proportion of the Abia population. Aquaculture is truly a panacea for resolving the issue of shortage of fish protein requirement in the State.

In 2015, Abia State cultivated about 250 ha of fish ponds and produced 1,522.75 tonnes of fish as against the estimated national output of 2.5 million tonnes. The multiplier effects of sustainable aquaculture in boosting other livestock production industries, increasing job opportunities, reversal of rural-urban drift and adequacy of fish protein supply in various homes, are major reasons for good fisheries policy or programme in the State.

Present Table Fish Production Status

The present table fish produced in Abia State is estimated at 112,100 tonnes made up of 73,000 tonnes from capture fish and 39,100 tonnes of fish from aquaculture in Abia State.

Fisheries Production Constraints

- High cost of fisheries input/equipment, e.g., boats, fishing gears (nets, hooks, spears, etc.)
- Scarcity of proven fish fingerlings due to absence of fish hatcheries in the State
- Short supplies of balanced fish feeds due to absence of feed mills
- Paucity of trained fisheries experts to bring fisheries technology and scientific messages to farmers.

Fish Policy Objectives

The fish policy objectives are as follows:

- Increase fish production through capture and culture fisheries
- Strengthen the development of fishery infrastructure
- Encourage the production of fingerlings and development of brood stock
- Encourage manpower development and application of improved technology and management practices in fish production, processing and marketing
- Encourage farmers to be self-sufficient in fish production and thereby improve their living standards

- Source for, and encourage the use of, suitable agro-industries by-products for capture and culture fisheries
- Empower the youths and women to embrace fish farming (aquaculture) business ventures for self-sustenance and profit making
- Enhance fisheries surveillance of the State water bodies for improved productivity.

Fisheries Intervention Strategies

- Establish modern fish hatchery of 5.0 million fingerling capacity to make available fingerlings to be sold to the farmers at affordable prices. In 30 years (2050), it is expected that 150 million fish fingerlings would have been produced and purchased by the farmers in the State
- Year round raising of good and proven brood stock for fish eggs and semen production for hatchery operations and sales to farmers at affordable prices
- Install simple hammer mill and pelleting machines to produce fish feeds in the State all year round
- Provide fishing inputs such as nets, hooks, boats, water pumps, and twines at affordable prices
- Provide subsidies to empower local private sector participation in fingerling and brood stock production and distribution
- Empower the private sector to install cold storage rooms and other facilities for processing, preservation and storage
- Organise training workshops and seminars on the production of fish fingerlings, brood stock and fish preservation
- Collaborate with Niger-Delta Development Commission (NDDC), an agency of the federal government, to train Abia State youths at the Aquaculture Training Centre, Okeikpe, Ukwu West
- Conduct fisheries diagnostic survey, collection, collation, and analysis of bio-statistical data on fish production
- Provide soft loans to rural fish farmers at easily affordable interest rate and conditions
- Establish the requisite machinery for the implementation of state fisheries policy.

Fisheries and Aquaculture Targets

The expectations from proper implementation of fisheries plans are as follows:

- Increase in number of artisanal fishermen and their production levels
- Increase in number of fish farm hectares by aquaculture entrepreneurs
- Popularise canvas technology in catfish production to attract the young into aquaculture
- Significant increase in fish production with estimated capture fisheries increase in the first ten years of Plan implementation, from the present 73,000 tonnes to 75,300 tonnes, and increase fish production from the present 39,100 tonnes to 41,300 tonnes of fish. Projecting this to the year 2050, capture fisheries should produce 79,973 tonnes of fish and aquaculture produce 51,490 tonnes of fish.

The cost implications of these are shown in Table 4.20.

Table 4.20: Budget for expansion of fish production using 5 million fingerling hatchery and feed mill to provide for 50 pilot farmers in Abia State

S/N	Item of cost	Unit price ₦	Amount ₦	Short run period output	Medium- term output	Long-term output
1.	Construct fish hatchery unit and sale fingerlings at affordable prices		1,200,000	5,000,000 fingerlings	7,000,000 fingerlings	10,000,000 fingerlings
2.	Construct 3,000 canvas ponds to distribute 3 each in phases to 50 young aquaculture farmers in 17 LGAs	52,000	156,000,000	1,000 canvases	1,000 canvases	1,000 canvases
3.	Establish mill for pelleted fish feed		3,500,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
4	Extension and monitoring	10,000,000	170,000,000	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing

POST COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

The current COVID-19 pandemic ravaging the world, with particular reference to Nigeria, presents varied experiences for different economic sectors including agriculture. It is obvious that there is a looming food security crisis. Food production is likely to decline both locally and internationally because of so many factors affecting the agriculture sector. If not checked, this will result in a catastrophe. Some of the problems include:

Wastage

The wastage rate for harvested products increased significantly because of inability to gain access to markets because of restriction of movement thus shrinking buyer population. Farmers estimate that they have lost up to 70 percent of their harvest. Some farmers sell at giveaway prices to cut their losses.

Demotivated Farmers

As a result of losses suffered by the farmers, they are reluctant to cultivate, and also complain of lack of additional resources to plant new crops because of low patronage.

Migratory Labourers

This pandemic, coming at the onset of the planting season, has impacted farmers who depend on the services of migratory farm labour from other parts of the State and beyond. As a result of the lockdown, the implications are obvious.

Financial Problems/Demand

The pandemic has impacted many businesses resulting in job losses for many Nigerians. Even those that still have jobs have adjusted their budgets hence, a significant drop in demand.

Logistics

The cost of transporting the produce from one location to the other has gone up significantly. Additionally, the security personnel on the roads, who extort money from the transporters, add to the costs and delays in transporting produce.

Inputs

Most farmers in the interior are unable to access needed inputs as a consequence of the lockdown because the government did not include input suppliers in the list of essential services.

Consumption Pattern

There is change in consumption and taste patterns of people (producers and consumers) due to general scarcity of goods, services and essential supplies.

Marketing Challenges

There is alteration of marketing and logistics approach to distribution and disruption of the supply chain disruptions. There is a shift to e-commerce for supply and procurement of goods and services.

Cashflow Squeeze

Producing and merchandising entities are now experiencing serious cash squeeze.

Unrest and Insecurity

There is a prevailing state of unrest and insecurity in the country resulting from attacks by hoodlums and bandits which have introduced some degree of uncertainty.

Government Intervention

The Abia State government is forced to propound different scenarios, review and reassess policies and strategies with regard to production, provision of infrastructure and amenities, imports, skills sets, labour and population planning.

Job Insecurity

There have been general jobs losses, downsizing by employers, novel working patterns, and increased application of technology in the work environment.

TARGETED ACTIONS**Financial palliatives**

The stimulus package provided by government is a progressive step that would ensure that the people that need it the most, have access to it. The package would be made to get to the farmers promptly.

Provision of Inputs to Core Farming Communities

Funds contributed by various organisations and individuals, as well as the stimulus package, would reach core farming communities of the State who would be provided with subsidised or free inputs to enable them take advantage of the planting season. The

government would contract input suppliers and develop a system that will be thorough and effective.

Essential Services

The list of essential services would be expanded to include the input companies and any other groups to ensure smooth and seamless activities within the agriculture value chain.

Food Banks

Abia State will set up food storage silos/food banks and mop up food from farming communities to store for future/emergency use. The State would, however, concentrate on crops that have comparative advantage.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

Personnel Quality

The achievement and sustenance of the strategies and targets of enterprises covered in this perspective Plan of agriculture with communities in Abia State is based on the articulation of strong infrastructure which includes supportive leadership and human, financial and technological resources. The human component should possess professional expertise and competence in building functional programmes and projects that are to be monitored and evaluated by persons possessing skills and the ability to:

- work on selected good indicators as part of a system of indicators which reflect sustainable outcomes of the Plan
- exhibit proven ability in measuring project inputs, output, and impact indicators being monitored and evaluated
- evaluate changing state of selected variables to find out if the initiative is meeting its goal, and where not, provide prompt intervention to correct any anomaly (management by objective)
- aggregate indicators and indexes at community and local government levels
- weave cyclical processes in the Plan execution and action
- judiciously allocate funds to competing enterprises and sub-sectors in the Plan and follow up such
- magnanimously involve independent specialised monitoring bodies to showcase transparency and close watch
- evolve a work plan to track strategic and tactical decisions and outcomes
- anticipate, manage, and mediate in disputes and conflicts in a win-lose scenario without fear or favour
- employ creative and innovative approaches to break across boundaries, borders, and barriers through team work
- identify appropriate alliances and partnerships in setting priorities and sourcing additional funds
- think globally to know how best to act locally as well as think locally in order to know how best to interact globally.

Performance Indicators to Monitor for Developing Sustainable Agriculture

To track adherence to accountability requirements of this perspective Plan in the agricultural sector, some quantitative measures of key performance indicators are to be assessed. The relevant pillars of measure are: agricultural productivity, risk management and security, resource conservation and protection, financial and economic viability, and technological acceptability. At the level at which the proposed Plan is to operate, the performance indicators of agriculture in Abia State have been selected to measure a moderate input farming system. We are visioning such key indicators to be as stated under the monitoring pillars in Table 4.21.

Table 4.21: Monitoring pillars and their agriculture key performance indicators (KPIs)

S/N	Monitoring Pillar	Moderate Input Agriculture Indicators
1.	Productivity	Yield trends, adoption of new technologies and techniques, commodity variability, availability and performance
2.	Security	Time required in mastering new techniques, catastrophic weather/weather trends (occurrence of storm, heat stress, drought); herdsmen invasion, poaching/livestock rustling trends, communal clashes.
3.	Protection	Land degradation trends, length of fallow, length of crop rotation, livestock stocking density, outbreak of pests and diseases
4.	Financial and economic viability	Cash flows/revenues, government programmes, management by objectives (fresh eggs, animals with tender and lean meat),
5.	Technological Acceptability	Availability of services by agricultural extension agents, off-farm impacts (able to pay farmers off-farm bills, e.g., children school fees, rents, medical bills, village levies)

Parameter(s) for Evaluation in Developing Sustainable Agriculture

A key development parameter measure in agriculture is productivity, commonly defined as the ratio of a volume measure of output to a volume measure of input used in agricultural production. In measuring productivity, there is neither a unique purpose for it nor a single measure of productivity. However, in agriculture, productivity can be used to measure:

- technological changes (embodied and disembodied technological change)
- efficiencies (technical and allocative or profit maximisation)
- real cost savings in production
- benchmarking production, and
- living standards (e.g., income per capita).

REVIEW PROCESS AND CONCLUSION

Review Activities

The ABSLTDP on agriculture should be reviewed during the mid-term period of its implementation by 2035. It is expected that the monitoring and evaluation unit of the Abia State Ministry of Agriculture and Abia State Agricultural Development Programme (Abia ADP) would anchor this assignment. They can co-opt experts in agricultural project assessment in reviewing what will be ongoing against the Plan.

The essence of this review process in the Plan is to ascertain how far ongoing projects synchronise, or are at variance, with the perspective Plan and make recommendations on what best should be done to make sure that the Plan implementers do not deviate from the Plan. The review process will be both diagnostic and evaluative throughout the life of the projects. The review should ensure that the strategies are rigidly followed in terms of resource use, sequence of use, and outcome realisations. The review should consider the milestones realised and provide information on efficiencies of resources used by providing unmistakable technical production and economic efficiencies information. The review will explain how far the implementer(s) comply with the stated technologies, how stakeholders and farmers accept and adopt production recommendations, and how far the projects improve the living standards of farm households.

The outcome of the review process would show detectable faults that hamper the effective realisation of the Plan in growing Abia State economy and achieving desirable qualities in living standard of Abians. Information provided from the review process should be able to direct the Plan development consultants (PIND) and the State Planning Commission, to make amends, where necessary, by prompting the appropriate agencies to do the needful at the medium and last phases of the Plan. Any adjustment considered worthwhile should be recommended by the Plan review team to put the Plan in the right perspective.

CONCLUSION

- This perspective Plan concludes that Abia State is truly endowed with resources for a sustainable agricultural production, processing and marketing
- Agricultural activities are such that they will provide employment opportunities, provide income, and contribute to the GDP, not only to the State but also to the nation
- Agriculture in Abia State will support the micro-, small-, medium- and large-scale industries and provide for self-sufficiency in food and raw materials when properly harnessed
- The proper harnessing of the agriculture sub-sector in Abia State will demand strict adherence to the projects identified by this Plan in the first instance, and their implementation following the recommended strategies at short-run and long-run stages
- The surpluses of food and fibre produced in the State can be exported in semi-processed and fully processed forms to earn highly cherished foreign exchange
- Government strives to remove bottlenecks to improve business efficiency
- Foreign and domestic investors are rightly guided by this Plan and are assured of recouping their investments with profitable margins
- Young entrepreneurs venturing into agriculture are assured of receiving price protection and assured steady and reliable income by off-takers of their products
- Access to land should be guaranteed to attract and encourage the young and prospective farmers by fiscal actions that eliminate this bottleneck
- Enlarged production of quality foods that will follow full implementation of this Plan will improve the livelihood in terms of food security and economic wellbeing of urban and rural households in the State.

Table 4.22: Commodity yield computation guide (2050)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Rate/Unit</i>	<i>Cassava</i>	<i>Rice</i>	<i>Oil palm</i>
Planting target	Ha	2,705,000	43,000	35,573
Output raw product	Form	Tubers	Paddy	FFB
Output raw product	Metric Tonne	28,132,000	79,120	266,797
Milled output	%	22	80	23
By-product	%	5	15	7
Waste	%	73	5	70
Current mkt price	N'm			
Expected income	N'm			

Note: Oil palm FFB is computed using hectare x average yield rate of 7.5 tonnes/ha.

Chapter 5

Industrial Development

BACKGROUND

Industrialisation is the process of building up a nation's capacity to convert raw materials and other inputs to finished goods for other production or for final consumption (Anyanwu, *et al.* 1997). The complexity of the challenge of development in the twenty-first century necessitates industrialisation as the main tool to overcome the vast gap that differentiates a developed economy from a developing economy.

It is usually argued that industrialisation is capable of increasing the pace of economic growth and ensuring swift structural transformation of the economy. Paradoxically, Abia State has failed to achieve industrial development despite its industrial policies (such as ABSEEDS) and reforms. In Abia State, the drive to transform its economy from a non-industrialised State to an industrialised one has been the pre-occupation of successive administrations that have piloted the affairs of the State since the return of democratic rule in 1999. Unfortunately, despite the abundant natural endowment (both human and material) of the State (ABSEEDS, 2005), efforts at creating a vibrant and sustainable real sector growth and development have proved abortive. Worst of all, over the years, there has been a steady decline in the sectoral contribution of the industrial sector to state productivity. Hence, economic development has been disappointingly low while poverty level has increased tremendously, as sited by Anyanwu, *et al* (1997).

The main reasons for relying on industrialisation for development are as follows:

- Manpower productivity in the industrial sector is markedly more than in the agricultural sector, implying that production surplus gained in the industrial sector is much more than that achieved in the agricultural sector. This leads to the fact that income/capita in developed regions is higher than regions depending solely on agriculture
- Industrial technology, which could be easily digested, is intensively advanced compared to the agriculture technology. This technology is available and can be replicated or transferred implying that the gains from technical and scientific development enjoyed in developed economies can also be enjoyed by developing economies
- Progress in industrialisation implies deepening and expanding education, developing industrial and administrative manpower/skills and building an infrastructure system which will positively influence the South-East zone

- An inverse relationship between population growth and the stock of natural resources implies that regions should diversify their industrialisation base to absorb the disguised unemployment from agriculture.

To achieve the aims of industrialisation, it must be driven by a long-term plan of development based on reliable data on the existing economic, agriculture, industrial, and infrastructural platforms. This analysis should cover the availability of resources (minerals, manpower, energy) while the targets of development should be distributed to the different sectors (i.e., industry, agriculture, tourism, etc.).

The most efficient industrial development plans make it possible to attain high and rapid rates of economic growth through sustained increase in the production of high value products, leading to increase in income, savings, reinvestment, and employment.

Over the years, the Abia State government has had industrialisation as one of its core objectives and has adapted policies to achieve this aim. However, the State has failed to achieve industrial development despite its industrial policies (such as ABSEEDS) and reforms. Despite the abundant natural endowments (human and non-human) of the State, efforts at creating a vibrant and sustainable real sector growth and development have not yielded satisfactory results with the observed trend being a steady decline in the sectoral contribution of the industrial sector to State productivity. Hence, economic development has been disappointingly low while poverty level has increased tremendously (ABSEEDS, 2005).

The vision of the ABSLTDP, therefore, is to implement an integrated multi-sectoral grassroots development approach to economic empowerment of Abia State and its people through industrialisation over the next 30 years and transform Abia State to the industrial hub of the South-East zone and Nigeria at large.

SECTORAL CHALLENGES

Since the end of Nigeria's civil war in 1970, the South-East region of Nigeria, especially Abia State, has been grappling with efforts to industrialise. This stems from the depleted infrastructure and manpower resulting from the civil war. It became a tall order for successive governments to achieve all-round industrialisation while making efforts to reintegrate its population in the national economy.

Till date, policy efforts of successive administrations in Abia State have rather yielded little fruits leaving Abia State largely under-industrialised despite its huge potentials. The following sectoral problems are identified as the most critical:

- Inadequate credit and finance
- Inadequate local technological capacity/dependence on foreign machines
- Substandard goods and products
- Inadequate skilled manpower
- Inadequate raw materials

- Poor infrastructure
- Political insincerity and militancy
- Corruption
- Federal government negligence.

These factors or sectoral challenges/problems impede the industrialisation effort of Abia State.

VISION OF THE PLAN

The ABSLTDP has a vision to create an integrated multi-sectoral grassroots development approach to economic empowerment of Abia State and its people through industrialisation over a period of 30 years towards making Abia State the foremost industrial hub in Nigeria and beyond.

POLICY THRUSTS AND TARGETS

The ABSLTDP seeks to accelerate the pace of industrialisation through supporting, growing and leveraging agro-processing for wealth and job creation in the State. The targets include:

- Grow agro-processing by 10 percent in the short term, 30 percent in the medium term, and 50 percent in the long term
- Reduce the cost of doing business by 2 percent annually in the short term, 3 percent in the medium term, and 5 percent in the long term
- Enhance access to credit for youth entrepreneurs to establish or expand existing industries
- Create at least 1,000 new jobs annually from the industrial parks established
- Develop incubation centres for agro-businesses
- Create an enabling environment and grow MSMEs by 10 percent in the short term, 20 percent in the medium term, and 30 percent in the long term
- Increase contribution of the manufacturing sector to the GDP to about 40 percent
- Increase expenditure on research and development in industry by 10 percent annually
- Create 40 new specialist industrial parks
- Reduce by half the number of days required to start up a new manufacturing business
- Improve and streamline access to finance by the manufacturing sector
- Increase the capacity of existing industrial estates to 70 percent.

OBJECTIVES

- Ensure improved business environment
- Entrench an economic foundation that encourages private sector participation in growth of Abia economy
- Transform Abia State into a self-sustaining industrialised economy
- Encourage private sector collaboration in infrastructure development.

OVERVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR OF ABIA STATE

Several reputable institutions have classified industry using the parameters, such as total assets, annual turnover, and number of employees. Table 5 presents this classification.

Classification of Industries

Industries are generally classified into light, medium and heavy Industries.

Table 5: Classification of industries by Nigerian institutions

Parameters	Total Assets (₦'m)				Annual Turnover (₦'m)				No. of Employees			
	LSE	MSE	SSE	ME	LSE	MSE	SSE	ME	LSE	MSE	SSE	ME
Federal Ministry of Industry	>200	<200	<50	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	>30	<30	<10	<10
Central Bank	>150	<150	<1	N/a	<150	<150	<1	N/a	>10	<10	<50	N/a
NERFUND	>10	N/a	<10	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	Na	Na	Na	N/a
NASSI	>40	N/a	<40	<1	<40	N/a	<40	N/a	>100	<100	<50	<10
NASME	>150	<150	<50	<1	<500	<500	<100	<10	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a
National Bureau of Statistics	>500	<500	<50	<10	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	>199	<200	<50	<10

Source: World Bank, SME Country Mapping (2001) National Council of Industry, NBS.

Keys: LSE: Large-Scale Enterprise; MSE: Medium-Scale Enterprise; SSE: Small-Scale Enterprise; ME: Micro-Enterprise; NERFUND: National Economic Reconstruction Fund; NASSI: National Association of Small-Scale Industrialist; NASME: National Association of Small & Medium Enterprises.

Light Industries

These include industries producing consumption goods such as spinning, weaving, shoemaking, food industries such as sugar, oil, soap, production food canning.

Medium Industries

These generally include light engineering industries such as household items and appliances, radio-television sets, watches, jewellery, etc.

Heavy Industries

Heavy industries include mining industries, firms involved in the production and processing of metals (production of iron, processing of steel, rolling of steel to sheets), petroleum industries (exploration, refining, petrochemicals), power generation, heavy engineering industries such as locomotive, automotive, turbine, tractor and construction machines.

At present, industry classification for Abia State, based on these parameters, is unavailable.

State of the Industrial Sector in Abia State

A detailed study of the industrial sector by Onuoha (2013) presents the clearest and most recent picture of the state of the industry sector in Abia State. Of the firms registered with the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) in Abia State, 49 percent (16) of the

firms were established between 1981 and 1990; 33 percent (11) were established before 1990, and 18 percent (6) were established between 1991 and 2000. None was established after year 2000. This shows that new industries have not been added to the industry sector after year 2000 due to the harsh economic environment occasioned largely by the worsening condition of the infrastructure and the competition from importation of cheaper products from Asia, particularly India, China, and the UAE.

Of the firms sampled, majority—73 percent (24)—produce light and consumer goods. About 15 percent of the firms' products are partly industrial and partly consumer goods, while 12 percent (4) of the firms produce heavy and non-consumer-oriented goods (Onuoha, 2013). Still, 12 percent (4) are mainly manual operations; 15 percent (5) are mainly machine operated; 6 percent (2) are completely automated, while 67 percent of the firms (22) operate both manual and machine-operated techniques. On the procurement of machines, 82 percent (27) of the firms imported their machines, while 18 percent (6) of the firms use machines procured partly locally and partly imported.

No firm surveyed has used any research findings from any of the research institutes in Nigeria. Some of the reasons given for this unhealthy attitude include:

- There is no relationship between the research findings and their operations
- There are policy gaps between these institutions and government on one hand, and between government and the intended beneficiaries on the other
- The institutes do not usually get inputs, especially the industrial needs, from the manufacturing firms, and
- Some of the intended beneficiaries claim to be unaware of the research institutes and their findings.

On capacity utilisation, three of the firms utilise 10-20 percent of the installed capacity of their machines; 11 firms utilise 21-30 percent; 17 firms utilise 31-40 percent; two firms 41-50 percent while no firm operates above 50 percent installed capacity of their machines. The implication is that virtually all the manufacturing entities are operating below 50 percent installed capacity. The factors responsible for capacity underutilisation are challenges of raw materials, poor purchasing power of buyers and, challenges of spare parts. None of the firms surveyed has any research and development relationship with any multinational corporation in this country. This means that the so-called claim of transfer of technology by multinational corporations to indigenous firms cannot be ascertained. In fact, they see the operations of these multinationals and government policy gaps and summersault, as their major challenges.

About 85 percent (28) of the firms are aware of government policies on business in the country, while 9 percent (3) are not aware. Another 9 percent of the firms (3) admit that government policies have positively affected their businesses, while 76 percent (25) report negative impact of these policies on their operations, while 15.5 percent (5) have no responses to the questions.

Only 21 percent (7) of the firms export their products through accredited agents/distributors to some West African countries such as Ghana, Togo, Cameroon, Gambia, Liberia, Sierra Leone. About 79 percent (26) of the firms do not export their products.

Major Industrial Policies in Abia State

State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (ABSEEDS, 2005)

The Abia State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (ABSEEDS) is an offshoot of the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) which identified the private sector as the engine of growth. The private sector is the executor, investor, and manager of businesses, while the government is the facilitator and regulator, providing and ensuring a favourable business and policy climate

The overriding objectives of ABSEEDS were to:

- accelerate the pace of industrial development by increasing value added at every stage of the value chain
- provide enabling environment for private sector leadership
- promote the establishment of efficient small and medium size enterprise (SME) sector to enhance sustainable economic development
- facilitate the development of an industrial sector that is internationally competitive.

ABSEEDS was anchored on poverty reduction, employment generation, wealth creation and value re-orientation. Despite the novel and applauded aims and intents of the ABSEEDS policy, its achievement remains questionable and short of expectation. The failure of ABSEEDS points to a distorted planning regime and implies either bad policy design or poor implementation (Ikeanyibe, 2006). Judging subjectively by the professed objective of ABSEEDS, it is fair to state that the policy did not achieve its mandate in any significant measure as the impact was not evident on the general wellbeing of Abians.

The expiration of ABSEEDS policy plan left most Abians in poverty rather than out of it. The special programmes and infrastructure through which the government hoped to empower the citizens, called the Abia State Community Base Poverty Reduction Programme (ABCPRP), performed sub-optimally.

The state of infrastructure for economic development in the State is below the minimum expectations of the average investor in the State economy. This inhibited investment and increased the cost of doing business in Abia State. The manufacturing sector (including micro, small and medium enterprises) is stagnant and remains relatively small in terms of its contribution to the State GDP and employment due to the following constraints:

- Lack of patronage of SME's products and services and effective linkages between industry and the research institutions/universities
- Lack of political will to implement local content and technical know-how policies

- Lack of capacity to translate scientific research result into finished goods, non-existent institutional mentoring and technological support and paucity of trained artisanal skills.

National Integrated Industrial Development (NIID, 2007)

The National Integrated Industrial Development (NIID) blueprint is a service framework developed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in collaboration with the federal and state Ministries of Industry, comprising four integrated programmes, namely:

- industrial governance and public-private sector partnership
- strengthening industry's institutional support base, a cluster development initiative to grow the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) using common facilities
- addressing the challenges of low power generation and utilisation through rural renewable energy, and
- rural private sector agro-industrial development.

Under this new initiative, the Lagos, Kano, Aba and Port-Harcourt (LOKAP) industrial action plan was developed to address the problem of infrastructural decay and to focus efforts in addressing the needs of these four industrial cities. The framework also made provision for the construction of one industrial park in each of the six geo-political zones of the country to boost the development of SMES.

An assessment of this policy has shown that it has not achieved much success. One of such failures is bureaucratic bottleneck in terms of policy implementation. For instance, the slow pace of work at various national integrated power project sites is a testimony to the policy failure. Also, some proposed sites have become fallowed, making them vulnerable to encroachment and vandalism. Another problem is the slow pace of disbursement of loans meant for SMEs by banks.

The designated industrial parks lack operational facilities such as adequate power supply, good transport network, adequate water supply, good sewage system, etc.

National Science and Technology and Innovation Policy

The National Science and Technology Innovation (S&TI) policy was established in 1986 with the objectives to

- increase public awareness in science and technology and its vital role in national development and wellbeing
- direct science and technology efforts along identified national goals
- promote the translation of science and technology results into actual goods and services, and
- increase and motivate output in the science and technology community (Bamiro, 1994).

Abia State is yet to key in appropriately into the national science and technology policy.

No conscious policy was established by the State to galvanise science and technology efforts in a coherent manner to promote a self-sustaining economy. Also, existing entrepreneurs in Abia State were risk averse and were not willing to share their technologies and viable research findings for fear of competition. The policy also lacked effective implementation mechanism as well as evaluation and monitoring strategies. The 1986 policy was subsequently reviewed in 2003.

Science and Technology (S&T) Policy (2003)

The new policy expanded the frontiers of S&T as contained in the 1986 policy document by identifying three core areas where national capabilities should be built, namely, information and communication technology (ICT), biotechnology, and space technology.

One of the highlights of the new policy is empowering the SMEs through appropriate technologies. The designed strategies, unfortunately, did not give emphasis to the issues of industrial technology extension which is very critical to the growth and development of virile SME sector (Ajoku, 2004).

At present, Abia State has not adapted these policies to encourage growth and development of the industrial sector of the State.

National Policy on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) (2007)

According to SMEDAN Policy (2007), the first ever National Policy on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) was developed in 2007 with technical and financial support from African Institute of Applied Economics and the UNDP, in collaboration with the State through the establishment and activities of State's Consultative Committee (SCCs). The objective of the policy is to facilitate and sustain a vibrant MSME sub-sector that will be a major driver of national growth and employment. This will be accomplished by:

- accelerating the profitable expansion of existing MSME, along the value chain, ensuring that transition from micro-to-small enterprises, small-to-medium enterprises, and medium-to-large enterprises, thereby enabling them to increase their contributions to GDP and employment generation
- fostering the emergence of new MSMEs in Nigeria, especially among women and the youths.

To fast-track the achievement of the goals of this policy, the Abia State government created the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises Development in 2017. The Ministry has the mission to implement and adapt the Action Plan in Abia State to achieve the laudable goals of the State government in the MSME sector.

Even with these policies and frameworks, the task of industrialisation remains a complex undertaking, hence, the need for an integrated 30-year industrial development plan.

SWOT ANALYSES OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN ABIA STATE

A SWOT analysis evaluates the internal strengths and weaknesses, and the external opportunities and threats in the State's working environment. The internal analysis identifies resources, capabilities, core competences, and competitive advantages, using a functional approach to review finance, management infrastructure, procurement, production, distribution, marketing, reputational factors, and innovations. The internal analysis is critical in identifying the source of competitive advantage and pinpoints the resources that need to be developed to remain competitive. The external analysis identifies market opportunities and threats by looking at the general environment.

The competitor's environment is an analysis of the resources and functions of each rival state. The industry environment is reviewed through the five forces framework of competitive rivalry, new entrants, suppliers, buyers and product substitution. The external environment is analysed in terms of political, economic, socio-cultural, technological, ecological, demographical, ethical, and regulatory implications. The objective of a SWOT analysis is to use the knowledge of the State and its environment to formulate its strategy going forward (Tanya Sammut-Bonnici, *et al.*, 2007).

Strengths

- Relatively stable market
- Opportunities in emerging markets
- Abundant human and natural resources
- Ingenious entrepreneurial spirit of Abians
- Stable polity
- Consistent SMEs growth.

Weakness

- Bureaucratic bottlenecks in terms of policy implementation
- Poor infrastructural development
- Lack of technical manpower
- Capacity under-utilisation
- Low standard of education
- Lack of research
- Low level of ICT usage and penetration
- Weak public service institution
- Weak public-private partnership
- Weak institutional signatories
- Inadequate funding.

Opportunities

- Economic diversification away from oil
- Availability of land for industrial clusters, enterprise zones and incubators
- Export incentives such as negotiable duty credit certificates, manufacture-in-bond scheme, export development fund scheme, trade liberalisation scheme, etc.

- Globalisation, technological change and new international trade rules.

Threats

- High real lending interest rate
- Corruption and insecurity
- Insufficient long-term perspective
- Lack of political will for industrial transformation in the State
- Preference of politicians instead of technocrats
- Emergent competition with industries in neighbouring states or countries
- Substandard products
- High cost of raw materials
- High cost of labour
- Low patronage of locally made products (made in Abia goods).

THE INTEGRATED PROVINCIAL MODEL

It is anticipatory, integrative and creative to model the industrial development scene of Abia State following the framework called the provincial specialisation model/framework. The framework is premised on the following key principles:

- Provinces can specialise in strategic emerging industries (SEI)
- Some provinces can promote SEI if they lack technological capabilities
- Economic decentralisation may lead to ineffective SEI strategising.

The model ensures the following:

- Industrial specialisation
- Strategic emerging industries
- Provincial catch-up strategies
- Economic decentralisation
- Technological capabilities
- Revealed technological advantages.



Fig. 5: Suggested provincial specialisation model for effective development of Abia State

ACTIONABLE POLICY/PROGRAMME

The following actionable policies have been deduced from our research and survey of several participants in the industry sector.

Creation of Comprehensive State Policy on Industrialisation

This policy is a domestication of the ERGP's Nigerian Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP), called the Abia State Industrial Revolution Plan (ABIRP). It is based on a critical analysis of the raw material stock available in Abia State, its comparative advantage, and the current level of technology. The policy provides guidelines and frameworks for investments in infrastructure, association of MSMEs and access to finance, quality standards, etc. It aims to achieve this objective by developing four industry groups where Abia State already possesses a clear comparative advantage:

Agri-Business and Agro-Allied Resources

Maximise the benefits from the country's agricultural resources by building an end-to-end integrated agriculture value chain, boosting local production to meet local demand, and reducing reliance on imports of processed food products.

Solid Minerals and Metals

Create an enabling environment targeting large-scale investors to institutionalise world-class production standards in the State's solid minerals sector.

Oil and Gas-Related Industries

Provide the foundation for Abia State to build competitive oil- and gas-driven industries, encourage high value-adding downstream investments, and build institutional industrial strength within the country.

Construction, Light Manufacturing and Services

Leverage the significant opportunities in local markets for construction (i.e., housing), light manufacturing, and services offered by Abia State's large consumer population, business demands, and infrastructure needs.

Creation of Forward and Backward Linkages between Industry and Research and Innovation

This involves conscious efforts to link innovation and research with industry demands. Abia State has many research institutes as well as research centres domiciled in the various institutions of higher learning. These research centres will be linked with industries in such a way that they can develop innovations in response to changes in industry demands. The research centres can also suggest newer and cheaper innovations to industry as they arise.

Increase Investment in Infrastructure Development and Encourage Private Sector Participation in Infrastructure Development

The gains of industrialisation will only be realisable if the available infrastructure can provide sufficient overheads to drive industry. The State government, therefore, must increase its investment in infrastructure, especially around the industrial parks and hubs. Planned and directed investment and concessions for large industries that invest in infrastructure will create a suitable environment for private sector investment in infrastructure with total overall gains for Abia State.

Development of Industrial Parks in the Four Locations of the State

These industrial parks are designed to create a hub for small and medium enterprises in pre-determined vocations. These vocations are grouped into clusters and each of these industrial parks is expected to have the following clusters in their premises:

- Manufacturing clusters
- Textile/fashion clusters
- Export processing zones
- ICT hub
- Metallurgical complex
- Petrochemical industries
- Agricultural clusters
- Mining clusters
- Cement factories
- Waste recycling plants
- Ceramics plants.

Development of a State of the Art One-Stop Shop/ICT Hub

The scaling down and dissemination of technology is a major process in industrialisation. To achieve this, ABSLTDP proposes the creation of a technology/ICT hub where technologies and new inventions can be showcased, and the skills required to utilise those technologies can be transferred.

The hub will also host an ICT hub provided with functioning broadband internet access and other facilities. This will provide a platform for programmers and developers to design and showcase ICT innovations. In achieving and putting into use the policies described above, the State will embark on implementing the measures prescribed in the ABSLTDP for the industrial sector.

Industrialisation focusing on Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises

Strengthening of small-scale businesses and the promotion of industrialisation are priorities for economic recovery and development after COVID-19 pandemic. The industrial sector of Abia State is expected to contribute to growth in the short term through policies to improve the use of existing capacity, through increased availability of foreign exchange and greater domestic value addition. One major strategy is for Abia State to key into the implementation of the National Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP) through special economic zones (SEZs) in the State according to comparative advantage. The focus will be on priority sectors to generate jobs, promote exports, boost growth and upgrade skills to create 1.5 million jobs by 2050.



Shoe Factory Aba Photo: Government House, Umuahia

A revitalised manufacturing sector will create jobs, stimulate foreign exchange earnings and grow micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Strong development in the manufacturing sector is also anticipated, particularly in agro-processing and food and beverage manufacturing. The right strategies are to be put in place to improve the ease of doing business which will boost other manufacturing sector activities, including light manufacturing. Overall, the ABSLTDP estimates an average annual growth of 5 percent in manufacturing between 2020 and 2025 and continue to rise by 2.5 percent every five years until the end of the policy in 2050.

ABSLTDP seeks to improve the performance of the industrial/manufacturing sector, largely by developing special economic zones (SEZs) to attract manufacturing away from economies where the labour cost advantage is declining, and re-energise local industries that have suffered as a result of such activities as the influx and dumping of goods in the State.

The largest manufacturing sub-sectors are agro-processing, comprising food, beverages, light manufacturing, including textile and wood products, and resource processing, e.g., cement and basic metals. These sectors will enjoy sustained growth as ABSLTDP is being implemented.

ABSLTDP will key into the strategies of the Nigeria Industrial Revolution Plan (NIRP), a key pillar of the country's industrial policy. The NIRP addresses the key challenges in manufacturing, such as limited access to credit and financial services, poor infrastructure and unreliable power supply that forces businesses to rely on generators, thus increasing their input costs and reducing their overall competitiveness and profitability.

The industrial sector of ABSLTDP is designed to accelerate the build-up of industrial capacity within Abia State. It aims to achieve this objective by developing four industry groups where Abia State has a clear comparative advantage:

Agri-Business and Agro-Allied Business

Maximise the benefits from the State's agricultural resources by building an end-to-end integrated agriculture value chain, boosting local production to meet local demand, and reducing the State's reliance on imports of processed food products.

Solid Minerals and Metals

Create an enabling environment targeting large-scale investors to institutionalise world-class production standards in the State's solid minerals sector.

Oil and Gas-Related Industries

Provide the foundation for Abia State to build competitive oil and gas-driven industries, encourage high value-adding downstream investments, and build institutional industrial strength within the State.

Construction, Light Manufacturing and Services

Leverage the significant opportunities in local markets for construction (i.e., housing), light manufacturing and services offered by Abia State's large consumer population, business demands, and infrastructure needs

CLUSTER-BASED APPROACH TO INDUSTRIALISATION

To drive the ABSLTDP strategy of transforming the different areas of the State into economically viable zones, industrial clusters will be built in each of the State's zones. These clusters would be built around different sectors based on the economic geography of the geo-political zones. The 'hub-and-spoke' industrialisation approach will leverage the economies of scale and scope and the critical mass of economic activity, as a result of the industrial parks, to catalyse development across the State. The development of necessary infrastructure for these industrial clusters, leveraging private sector collaboration, will be a top priority of the government under ABSLTDP.

Cluster Development

Abia State should pursue a comprehensive policy towards cluster development. Clusters provide an institutional mechanism for the organisation of economic developmental policies and a framework for strategic public investment. Clusters create a community of businesses located in close proximity or a specified area, in which involved stakeholders seek mutual benefits, ultimately allowing the government to concentrate its efforts and investment in key economic centres around the State.

This industrial development strategy will focus on the development of both the manufacturing and processing industries. It will promote, through public-private partnerships, efficient and intensive mechanisms for the processing and manufacturing of selected export materials. Establishing clusters is a capital-intensive venture, and the major role of government would be addressing the large infrastructural deficit and investing heavily in relevant transportation networks and infrastructure for the manufacturing and processing industry. The government should pursue the public-private partnerships and attract private sector investment by facilitating access to low interest rate loans, long-term funding or specially-targeted funds. Doing so will create an enabling environment and will ultimately encourage investors to tap into opportunities across the productive sectors of the State's economy. This cluster development strategy will focus on the development of four key facilities: industrial parks, industrial clusters, enterprise zones and incubators.

Industrial Parks

Industrial parks are mega parks covering very large areas and created for large manufacturing companies to ensure high value addition in the production of finished products or raw materials. Activities in these parks focus on the development of resources in which the State has both comparative and competitive advantage. The parks to be established should concentrate on the following areas of business activity: palm oil refining and palm tree processing into biomass particle boards, manufacturing of plastic processing, leather goods, garments, etc.

Each park will have:

- an independent power unit
- a training school
- internal road network and major road links to the highways
- rail links, where possible
- security
- water supply/sewage treatment.

Abia State government should provide generous incentives for those investing in these industrial parks. Examples of generous industrial incentives to be provided for businesses in these parks include the following:

- Tax rebate (to be determined by the State government)
- Special duty on raw materials (to be determined by the State government)
- Low interest rates (to be negotiated with banks on behalf of investors by the State government)
- Zero stamp duties on new capital or expansion
- Training support.

Industrial Clusters

Industrial clusters are havens of industrial activities and commerce, covering a large portion of hectares for the organised private sector (OPS). They are usually smaller in scope than industrial parks. These clusters will be established with the participation and assistance of states and local governments. In addition to being enclaves of manufacturing activities, they could be used for breaking bulk. In deciding the establishment of industrial clusters, the following areas should be considered:

- In deciding the location of an industrial cluster, the following factors, among others, should be taken into consideration: access roads, railways, sea ports, cargo airports and proximity to a city
- The financing requirement will be between ₦10 billion and ₦50 billion, depending on size
- Management of an industrial cluster might be through a “private cluster company”; private investors or property developers could also establish and run industrial clusters in the State
- Generous industrial incentives similar to those in industrial parks will be provided
- Each cluster will have a skills acquisition/training centre for SMEs providing different modules.

Enterprise Zones

Enterprise zones are platforms of about 5-30 hectares, targeted at incorporating the informal sector into the organised private sector. This will empower farmers and small and medium-scale enterprises and enable them to efficiently and conveniently feed their

products into the value-chain of large-scale industries in the State. In setting up enterprise zones, the following should be considered:

- Enterprise zones will be located in the state capital and in every local government area
- These centres would accommodate mechanics, block makers, small-scale furniture manufacturers, timber merchants, welders/metal fabricators, garment makers, and other categories of artisans and vocational workers who constitute a large percentage of Abia State's private sector
- A skills acquisition/training centre will be located in each enterprise zone for skills upgrading, while management of the enterprise zone will be by a private sector company
- Funds required to set up an enterprise zone will be between ₦2 billion and ₦5 billion depending on the size. However, this could be much lower, especially if it is sector specific, e.g., for mechanics, furniture makers, garment makers, leather work, etc.

Business Incubators

An incubator is a start-up centre for new and inexperienced entrepreneurs, graduates of tertiary institutions, inventors and vocational persons wishing to set up their own businesses (namely, small and medium enterprises). In these incubators, prospective start-up companies are equipped with entrepreneurial skills and enterprise resources (i.e., innovation, appropriate technologies and credit) aimed at nurturing them from scratch to maturity. The following consideration should be given:

- These incubators will have shared facilities to reduce cost. They will also be provided with master artisans/mentors in their respective areas of business activities who would guide them in the early phase of the business
- Success of these companies is vital to economic health of the State; they will need a host of incentives from the government
- Incubators promote businesses, especially in ICT, development of special tools/moulds and commercialisation of inventions/research findings. They could also be easily attached to higher institutions of learning to promote innovation and research and development
- Given the fact that local governments may not have the level of funding, expertise and experience required to effectively run these incubators, state governments will be in a better position to establish them.

HIGH PRIORITY INDUSTRIES IN ABIA STATE

In addition to profitability of the sub-sector, ABSLTDP prioritises industries in Abia State based on the availability of:

- market/potential market size
- local raw materials

- simplicity of technology
- skilled manpower.

The identified high priority sub-sectors represent sectors of the manufacturing industry which can be easily developed in the short to medium term, and contribute positively in the long term within the context of ABSLTDP. They are the sub-sectors which have the highest potential to provide raw materials for other key industries in the longer term. They have great economic potential and are well-positioned to attract funding and achieve higher return on investments. Intensive efforts must be made to expand the capacity of these sub-sectors to make them globally competitive. The development of these sectors will require concerted public and private sector focus to attain the necessary growth rates, increase value addition and improve manufacturing contribution to the Abia State economy within the medium term. These prioritised industries are in line with the endowment in the State as enumerated in the background issues as follows:

- Agriculture which employs about 70 percent of the population
- Petroleum and natural gas with products like liquid petroleum gas fuels, gaseous fuels for domestic and industrial uses, condensed petroleum gas (CPG) for car fuel, liquefied natural gas (LNG) for industrial heating, liquefied nitrogen, solvents, waxes, lubricating oils and other petrochemical products and bye-products
- Silica sand used for sheet glass, hollow glass and sand paper, silicon fibre conductor, foundry and industrial moulds, among others
- Laterite/gravel, tar sand and shale which are mostly used for road construction and asphalt and tar plants
- Limestone and black marble used in the production of tiles, cement production, acetylene production, fertilizer production, oil stabilisation, chalk production and brick factories
- Kaolin which is used in the production of ceramic table wares, paints, tiles, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.

Food and Beverages

Since Abia State has about 70 percent of its working population in the agricultural sector, priority will be placed on establishing a strong raw material supply base which can be achieved through boosting agricultural production using both large-scale commercial farming and incorporating subsistence farmers throughout grower schemes/cooperative societies. Overall, agricultural production and the quality of the agricultural produce could be increased by utilising biotechnology and superior inputs (fertilizer) to increase quality and yields. An integrated supply chain from farms to manufacturing units and consumers should be established to reduce post-harvest losses in the State. In order to achieve this, the State government needs to put in place policies to:

- provide soft loans to invest in processing facilities, farming and out-grower co-operatives
- provide more subsidies for agro-allied inputs

- construct appropriate storage facilities near the farm gate to minimise losses caused by spoilage
- provide more industrial and food processing incubation centres with free basic amenities for a period of at least five years per potential entrepreneur.

Textiles and Leather Industries

A population of over 110,000 shoemakers and 50,000 garment makers in Abia State indicates the importance of these industries in the State. To achieve the vision for the Abia State textile and garment industry to become one of the highly valued garment and leather industries in Africa, capable of providing employment for 500,000-1,000,000 Abians by 2050, and meeting local demand within the country, and also of export demand, the development of this sub-sector should concentrate on building competence in a few areas along the textiles production chain. In light of this, the development of an organised wearing apparel market, utilising distinct distribution channels, and brand names in the State, should be pursued. This will require a shift from made-to-measure outfits in the wearing apparel activity, to mass produced, quality, ready-to-wear garments, thereby satisfying basic domestic needs and reducing the incidence of smuggling of high quality textiles and wearing apparel into the country. The domestic manufacture of components like buttons, threads, pins, linings, stiffeners, etc., for the garment industry should be increased to anticipate the subsequent increase in demand.

The leather industry should focus its efforts on working more proactively to meet domestic needs as well as export to neighbouring countries. This includes focusing on local shoe manufacturing industries and producing upholstery leather for Nigeria's burgeoning furniture industry. Currently, Aba shoe manufacturing clusters purchase leather locally and produce more than two million shoes a day. The next step for the industry is to increase participation in the production of higher quality leather goods.

In order to fully implement the above, government should provide for the following:

- Soft loans for those who wish to start or expand their businesses on the above
- Basic infrastructure needed to make the business clusters function effectively
- Regulatory bodies to monitor the quality of products.

Pharmaceuticals

A strong emphasis should be placed on sourcing materials locally in order for the Plan to achieve industry sub-sector's overarching mission of producing a good percentage of the local drugs needs by 2050 and ensure the global competitiveness of Abia State pharmaceuticals. The scourge of fake and substandard drugs needs to be addressed by significantly enhancing and implementing local intellectual property laws, as they will provide protection for legitimate manufacturing businesses. Effective linkages should be formed with local universities and research institutions within Abia State and beyond to encourage innovation and promote indigenous research and development.

The following strategic initiatives for the development of this sector are recommended as follows:

- Cooperate with relevant government agencies, e.g. SON, NAFDAC etc., to ensure Nigeria's pharmaceutical products meet global certification and WHO standards
- Encourage private sector investment in distribution
- Provide adequate infrastructure to attract private sector investment in the industry
- Provide soft loans by the government.

Petrochemicals

Abia State is one of the states in Nigeria where oil exploration takes place. The government will continue to encourage the establishment of industries that can support and benefit from oil exploration activities in the State. Industries can also spring up around the use of waste products of the sector. In doing these, government will prioritise domestic gas supply projects to ensure that local gas demand is met, especially for power generation.

Non-Metallic Mineral Products

The main products in this sub-sector are structural clay products (brick, tile, terra cotta), white wares (dinner ware, chemical and electrical porcelain), glass products, porcelain enamels and refractories. The industry is poised for continued rapid expansion, especially if Abia State Government is able to continue to capitalise on its backward integration policy on cement. To achieve the main goal of increasing local content in this sub-sector, potential raw materials should be identified and flagged for production in the State. This should be accompanied with appropriate levels of funding and investment. Abia State government can achieve this by pursuing the following policies in the development of this sub-sector:

- State government should embark on an awareness campaign of the potential investment opportunities in the ceramic industry
- Industries should demand technical details on the adaptability of imported technology to local raw materials
- Government should establish a research centre to increase innovation for key products.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TO DRIVE THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN THE STATE **Technology**

Abia State government should encourage industries to assess and upgrade their technology to modern and efficient ones. Technological innovation will play an important role in the economic growth and the process of industrialisation in the State. Abia State manufacturers need to develop the technical efficiency to innovate and create new goods that are globally competitive.

Quality Control and Certification

The State government should institute global quality standards for all goods manufactured and processed in the State to eliminate competition from lower quality imports. Commercial laboratories for testing industrial products should be established and all manufactured and processed goods should be subject to standards subscribed by SON, in addition to global ISO quality standards.

Infrastructure Development

Abia State government should work towards improving access to quality transportation networks in the clusters to large-scale manufacturing and/or processing establishments (industrial parks, clusters, and enterprise zones). The infrastructure should include road network, electricity, water, and other facilities.

Supply-Chain Management

The State government should institute integrated supply chain systems amongst all involved industries (customers and suppliers, industrial parks, clusters, and enterprise zones) that are more collaborative, transparent and efficient. Formal and informal mechanisms to gather feedback from up and down the supply chain should also be encouraged in Abia State to function effectively.

Research and Development

Research and development activity is key to global competitiveness. Abia State has a number of higher institutions, both federal and state government owned, and a good number of research institutes. The State should take advantage of this and even collaborate with other institutions in Nigeria in terms of research and development. The capacity of existing research and development facilities should be enhanced. Strong alliances with tertiary and research institutions should be formed to develop intensive new curricula in science and technology, and to conduct joint research in new technologies. Manufacturing companies should be encouraged to invest a certain percentage of their annual turnover on research and development.

Public-Private Partnerships

Abia State should leverage public-private partnerships (PPP) to help provide the skills, core competencies and best practices needed to deliver high standard of services, products and other public goods. Manufacturers can partner with federal, state and local governments, as well as syndicated private sector investors, to leverage the indigenous contributions of SMEs and upgrade manufacturing capacity in the State.

Responsible Institutions

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Lands, Survey and Urban Development
- Abia State Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency
- All the local government councils.

CONCLUSION

Industrialisation is widely believed to be a catalyst for rapid growth and development of any economy. Past administrations in the State have adopted policies aimed at promoting industrial development in the State. But the results, so far, are far from expectation. Given the severity of the challenges facing the industrial sector in Abia State, such as poor infrastructure, inadequate technical manpower, capacity under-utilisation, low standard of education, lack of research and development, scarcity of funds, etc., it is, therefore, recommended that most veritable paths to sustainable growth and development be adopted. Industrialisation should be a process of complete social and economic change whereby the State is transformed from pre-industrial and traditional State to an industrial one with all its features. Human capital development must be given serious attention. This calls for a review and restructuring of the school curricular to encourage the study of science and technology-related courses with adequate provision of equipment. The training and retraining of our traditional craftsmen and artisans should be entrenched.

Finally, serious attention must be given to infrastructure development. To this end, strategic alliance between public and private sectors should be encouraged in the development of the industrial sector. The public sector should champion the cause of infrastructural provision through relevant policy processes and create conducive business environment for the private sector to thrive. Hence, to forge ahead towards industrial growth and development in Abia State, there is need to establish the following:

- incubators
- export processing zones
- industrial clusters/parks
- information, communication and technology (ICT) hubs, and
- one-stop-shop.

These will serve as veritable strategic catalyst towards industrial development in Abia State.

Chapter 6

Trade and Investment

INTRODUCTION

The ABSLTDP (2020-2050) trade and investment pillar is developed to transform Abia State potentials to a strong hub of SMEs and industrialisation. This will expand the economy of the State through massive participation of the micro, small and medium enterprises as the bedrock of thriving economy. The vision of the State development is that of eliminating poverty, creating wealth, improving security and maintaining a healthy environment.



Courtesy: Government House, Umuahia

The economy of Abia State is premised to support trade and investment. The basic economic activities in Abia State are agriculture, manufacturing, trade and commerce. There is vibrant and bustling micro small and medium enterprise (MSME) development activities in and within Aba, one of the foremost commercial hubs in Africa, which has led to its being called the “Japan of Africa”. Technology development opportunities abound in the hinterlands for agricultural raw materials processing into secondary and final consumer foods.

In general, the emerging consensus on the strategic development of Abia State is using the “cluster” or “provincial specialisation” model to organise trade, investment, and industrialisation programmes of the State. The framework is shown in Fig. 6.1 and Fig 6.2.



Fig. 6.1: Suggested cluster framework for Abia State

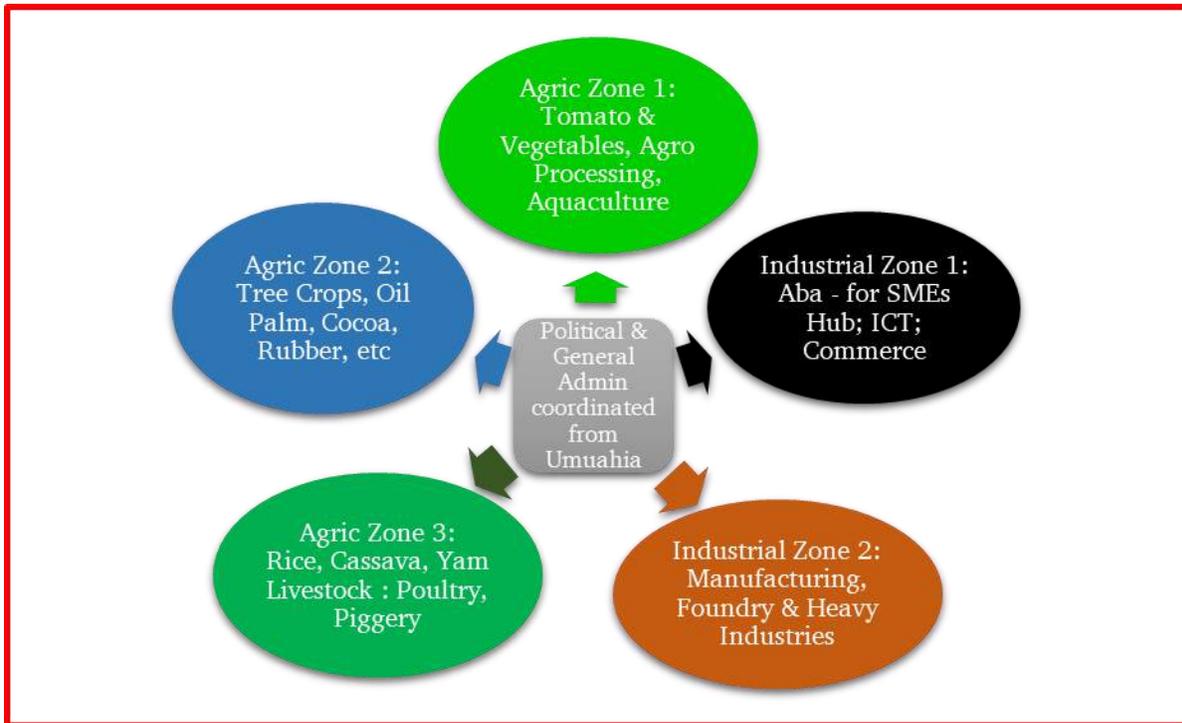


Fig. 6.2: The suggested provincial specialisation model for Abia State

SITUATION ANALYSIS OF THE TRADE AND INVESTMENT PLAN

- *Touting* across Abia State amounts to insecurity which affects trade and investment
- *Taskforces* by almost every ministry, department, local government, association, union, traders, landlords, etc., have touts working for them
- *Security* needs to be sustained and improved upon in collaboration with the law enforcement agents and community policing
- *Lack of credit facilities* to the business communities, especially micro small and medium enterprises and groups
- *Lack of industrial and housing accommodation* for people of Abia State. There are limited housing estates recreation centres, industrial zones in the State
- *Inadequate power (electricity) supply* to drive the economy of Abia State as majority of people use private generating sets
- *Double taxation and illegal collections* that do not get to the government purse
- *Weak government's involvement* in trade and investment, and inability to implement policies as stated
- *Poor data base* for business practitioners and investors
- *Lack of recognition of the organised private sector* in the business of governance in Abia State; the real practitioners need to be sieved from the political ones
- *High unemployment and underemployment* rate in the State
- *Use of non-professionals* as middle men in government businesses
- *Slow formation of co-operative societies* in the State
- *Unfair pricing systems*
- *Lack of public water supply* for both domestic and commercial use
- *Corruption in revenue collection* where government officers make more money than what government receives
- *Weak support of individuals* with creative ideas capable of developing the State economy entrepreneurially
- *High cost of doing business* in the State
- *Inability of the organised private sector* in Abia State to meet with global standards whereby so many trade groups are in the State, without global standards recognition, but not known to the government
- *Inadequate capacity building* for the State trade and investment practitioners.

VISION, MISSION AND TARGETS OF ABIA STATE TRADE AND INVESTMENT

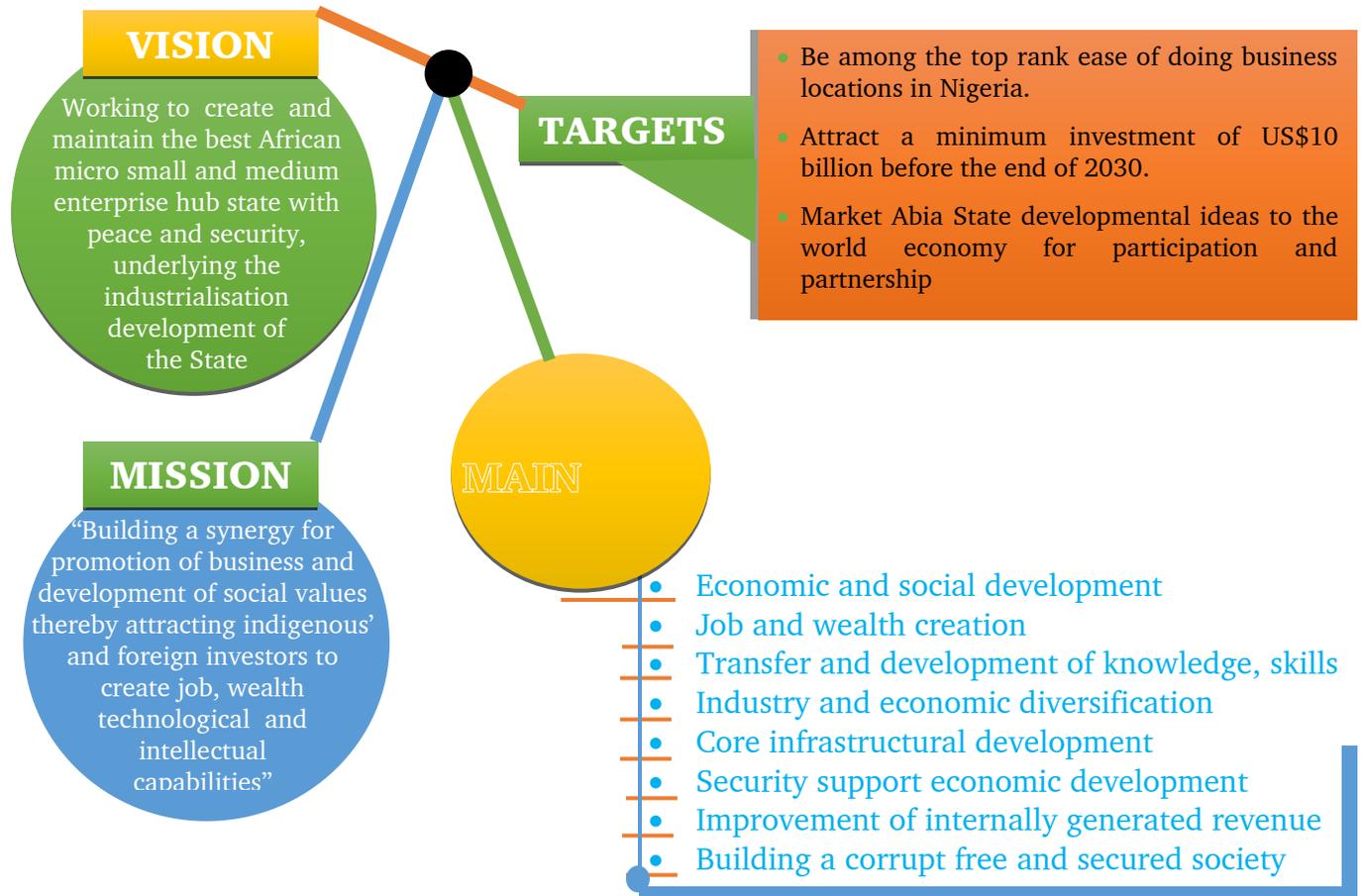


Fig. 6.3: Vision, mission and targets of ABSLTDP

RATIONALE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT IN ABIA STATE

Abia State ranks as one of the most peaceful and safest states in Nigeria. It deliberately seeks to promote trade and investment in Abia State. The outcomes are the following supporting systems:

- There is availability of mineral resources such as kaolin, gypsum, lead, limestone/granite
- There is the Abia Investment House which is a one-stop shop to provide the investors with care services
- There is the provision of fiscal and monetary incentives such as tax holidays
- There is availability of professionally-organised business bodies to guide and direct investors effectively with over 200,000 garment and fashion designers; Abia State is the West African hub of textile and garment fashion business
- Abia State has the largest producers of footwear products in the sub-Sahara Africa with over 800,000 operators in need of machines, a great attraction for private investors

- Abia State has the best natural water for the beverage industry
- The State has 90 percent arable soil which facilitates large-scale production of cash crops and food crops
- Abia State has access to all six geo-political zones and commercial nerve centres of the country
- Abia State has low cost labour and low cost of living in decent environment
- The State enjoys proximity to high level intellectual research and skilled labour with notable institutions located in the State
- The State is a foremost State for ease of doing business in Africa
- Abia State textile, leather, garment development services are in bilateral trade partnerships with major nations that have good business relationship with Nigeria, e.g., China, Korea, America, UK, France, etc.
- Abia State exhibits high regard for the rule of law and respect for regulatory and administrative procedures and is strong in governance, reforms and contracts enforcement
- Abia State is known as the African hub of small and medium enterprises.

PATHWAYS TO TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN ABIA STATE

Pathways, as scenarios building frameworks, permit the use of many lenses to view and anticipate the process and end-points of development programme, giving the possibilities and capacities for adjustments or alignments.

The ABSLTDP's trade and investment pillar is programmed on two pathways: realising the potentials of the State's natural resources, and the micro, small medium enterprises (MSMEs), and the informal sector.

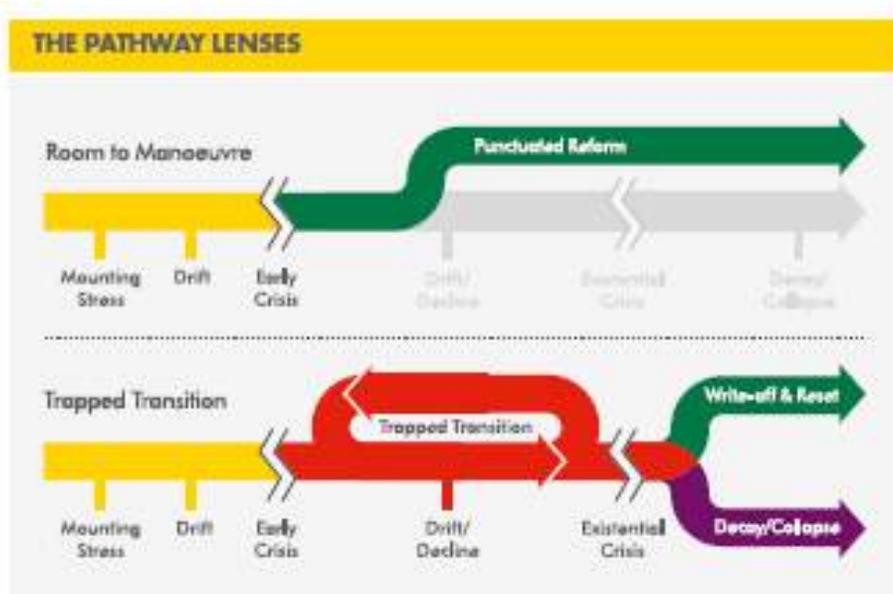


Fig. 6.4: The pathway lenses

Source: Shell, 2013

DEVELOPING THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF ABIA STATE

Abia State is richly endowed with natural resources which include:

- solid mineral resources
- petroleum (oil and gas)
- wood and timber
- agricultural resources
- tourism potential/development.

These resources have been considered in detail by appropriate pillars of this Plan. However, particular attention is focused on the following sectors as shown in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Mineral potentials of Abia State

S/N	Mineral type	LGA where located	Utilisation	Level of development
1.	Petroleum and natural gas	Ukwa East Ukwa West	Liquid petroleum fuels Gaseous fuels for domestic and industrial uses Condensed petroleum gas (CPG) for car fuel Liquefied natural gas (LNG) for industrial heating Liquefied Nitrogen for creating inert atmosphere in industrial reactions Solvents Waxes, Paraffin Creases and lubricating oils Asphalt and patches Petrochemicals, viz: * Crates/pallets, woven sacks/ plastic films/ind. packaging * Laboratory wares/cans & bottles for industrial packaging * Yarns, ropes and textiles * Chair backs and fibre glass products * Carbon black for lyres, horses, belt and footwear * Carbon paper for printer's ink * Detergents and cosmetics * Insecticides, weedicides, pesticides * Plant nutrient supplements (fertilizer boosters, etc) * Paints and laboratory/industrial chemicals * Pharmaceuticals and medical in plants/accessories * Synthetic leather and adhesives of various * Hair decorating pins/necklace (in place of expensive gold) * Pen and equipment casings.	Investigated
2.	Silica sand	Ukwa East Ukwa West Isiala Ngwa North	For sheet glass, hollow glass and sand paper silicon fibre conductor Foundry/industrial moulds	Investigated
3.	Laterite/gravel	Bende Ukwa East Arochukwu Isuikwuato Obioma Ngwa	For the road construction industry	Confirmed
4.	Tar	Isuikwuato	For the asphalt/tar plant	Confirmed

	sand/cil shale	Arochukwu Ohafia		
5.	Black marble	Isuikwuato Obioma Ngwa Ugwunagbo Osisioma	For production of Terrazzo Tiles	Confirmed
6.	Limestone	Arochukwu Bende Ohafia	For cement production, acetylene production, fertilizer production, oil stabilisation, chalk production construction, plastering and brick factories	Confirmed
7.	Kaolin	Ikwuano Umunneochi Umuahia South	For the production of ceramic table wares, paints, paper, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, building bricks, floor/wall tiles, plumbing, fixture and electrical	Partially investigated

Table 6.2: Agricultural potentials of Abia State

S/N	Agro products	Utilisation	LGA of natural occurrence
	<i>Cash Crops/ Horticulture</i>		
1.	Palm Produce	Palm oil, palm kernel (PKO), palm kernel cakes (PKC)	All parts of the State
2.	Timber	Building wood, plywood, pulp/paper	Arochukwu, Ohafia, Bende, Ukwa East/West, Umuahia North/South
3.	Raffia Palm	Palm wine, alcohol, yeast mats, ropes	Obingwa, Isiala Ngwa North/South, Ukwa East/West, Ikwuano, Ugwunagbo
4.	Cocoa	Beverages, cocoa, butter, chocolates	Umuahia North/South, Ikwuano, Arochukwu
5.	Rice	Alcohol production, food production, starch production	Bende, Ohafia, Isuikwuato
6.	Banana/Plantain	Plantain chips, flour, edible pulp, (locally consumed), ropes, bags	Ukwa East/West, Obingwa, Isiala Ngwa North and South, Bende, Ikwuano, Ugwunagbo, Osisioma
7.	Mango	Edible pulp, mango juice, jam	All parts of the State
8.	Citrus (Oranges, Grapes, Limes, Umous)	Fruits juice, soft drinks	All parts of the State
9.	Pawpaw	Edible pulp, fruit juice, jam, animal feeds, papain	All parts of the State
10.	Sugarcane	Sugar, alcohol, glucose	Obingwa, Isiala Ngwa North/South Ikwuano, Bende, Isuikwuato
11.	Cashew	Edible nuts/pulp wine, CNSL	Isuikwuato, Umunneochi, Bende
12.	Pineapples	Edible Pulp, Fruit Juice, Jam	Ukwa East/West, Umuahia North/ South, Osisioma, Ikwuano, Bende
13.	Ginger	Medicinal, spice, brewery/distillery	Umunneochi, Isuikwuato, Bende, Ikwuano, Ukwa West
14.	Kolanuts	Stimulants (caffeine) wine, dye, edible nuts	Umuahia North/South, Osisioma, Isiala Ngwa North/South, Bende, Ikwuano, Ukwa East/West

15.	Indian Bamboo	Local building materials, tooth picks	All parts of the State
16.	Rubber	Latex, tyre/rubers, foam, rubber sheets, adhesive/resin, rubber seed oil	Ukwa East, Bende, Ohafia, Umuahia North
17.	Coconuts	Edible pulp, cooking oil, brushes, ropes, timber	All parts of the State
	<i>Root Crops</i>		
18.	Cassava	Staple food, garri, starch, glue animal feed, pharmaceuticals, chalk	All parts of the State
19.	Yam	Edible tuber, (staple food), composite flour, starch, animal feeds	All parts of the State
20.	Cocoyam	Edible tuber, (staple food), composite flour, starch, animal feeds	Umuahia North/South

DEVELOPING MSMEs AND THE INFORMAL SECTOR

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) are known as critical drivers of growth and development. In developing countries, they are seen as the transformational agents of the information economy, and their strengths provide the guide for strategic actions.

Policy Objectives/Outcomes

- Maximise job creation
- Establish and strengthen linkages between formal and informal sectors, upstream manufacturers and downstream producers
- Promote self-regulation among the informal sector as far as possible
- Harness and support the role of women in this sector.

Box 6: Stylised facts about MSMEs

- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are recognized as engine of growth for most economies.
- They play a pivotal role through several pathways that go beyond job creation.
- They are growth-supporting sectors that not only contribute significantly to improve living standards and are responsible for driving innovation and competition in developed and developing economic.
- The general perspective is that MSMEs are seen as accelerating the attainment of broad socio-economic objectives, including poverty reduction, employment generation, wealth creation etc.
- Governments all over the world have undertaken initiatives to promote the growth and development of MSMEs.
- The current 2017 survey revealed that the total number of MSMEs in Nigeria is 41,543,028 employing 59,647,954 persons (86.3% of labour force) and contributing 49.78% to GDP and 7.64% to export

Source: SMEDAN, 2020

MSME/Informal Sector Plan

The State's commitment is to develop a strategic plan for the micro, small and medium enterprises/informal sector that identifies ways in which the sector can maximise its potential for job creation and add value to the economy of Abia State throughout the Plan

period. Information gathering and data analysis of the sector is critical to documenting the sector and identifying the main drivers of enterprise and the potential for growth in the sector. Inter-sectoral dependence of the formal and informal economy need to be further investigated to identify the key points of intersection and interchange. This will inform the State on how to balance the need for job creation, in both formal and informal sectors of the economy, with the need for orderly management of urban and rural areas.

Business Incubation Parks

The State will establish business incubation centres to provide a full range of entrepreneurial business environment, from conceptual, start-up, incubation, implementation, maturation, to profit and growth. It will also acquire and construct parks with sites and services for SMEs in all strategic locations, with the involvement of local authorities.

Accelerated e-Commerce

Working from the pillar of trade and investment generally, and MSMEs specially, strategies for accelerated e-commerce in the State will be intensified through:

- design and technology development
- marketing
- operations, logistics and customer support
- attitudinal and management change
- business development support

Three key approaches will be required to achieve this, namely, adoption of massive players (buyers and sellers), adaptation (encouraging marginal players to move on to the next level), and assimilation (products and practices). In general, the strategies required include penetration of digital initiatives and technologies, and shifts to online channels for business and cultural activities like shopping, meeting, learning, events, etc. Ultimately, the outcomes of the efforts include new skills and jobs and export of ICT and product differentiation and upgrades.

Finance

This includes strengthening micro-credit organisations to service the SME/informal sector, and creating business finishing centres to assist prospective investors to meet documentation requirements to access and utilise all available single digit interest financial windows from the CBN, BOI, DBN and multilateral loans/grants.

Business Development and Support Services

The Plan will provide advisory services and assist enterprises to access new markets. The State will also promote business linkages between the informal and formal sectors. Education, health and environmental health education shall be promoted among informal economic enterprises.

Capacity Building

Programmes for developing the capacity of MSMEs through entrepreneurship and vocational training are priority strategic actions. The purpose is to attain business management competencies for profitability and sustainability. The target is that by 2030, 60 percent of existing MSMEs shall have attained certification which attracts many other benefits.

Linkages with national programmes on MSMEs

As a matter of state policy, the State government is to proactively access the provisions of national programmes on the promotion of MSMEs. Some of the current ones, promoted by the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), include the National Business Skills Development Initiative (NBSDI), Young Business Owners in Nigeria (YBON) and National Business Development Service Providers (BDSP) Certificate and Accreditation framework. The State government shall also access programmes offered by international development partners in this direction.

THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THE ABSLTD

The overwhelming goal of the trade and investment pillar of ABSLTD is to harness and mobilise private sector and citizens' energies to stimulate and sustain growth and development of Abia State. The strategy is for the government to drive the initiatives that will unleash the potentials of private participants, including MSMEs, to foster the growth and development of the State. The pathway framework adopted obviously indicates that the interventions of the trade and investment pillar cut across all the sectors of the State. In the circumstance, strategic actions spreads across the State as shown in Table 6.3 and Fig. 6.5.

Table 6.3: Emerging trade and investment programmes and projects

Project	LGA	Duration	Timeline	Strategies	Focus
Agriculture	Ngwa/Bende	30yrs	21-23	Mechanised agriculture	Food security food export
Poultry	All LGAs	30yrs	20-22	PPP	Food security
Cassava	All LGAs	30yrs	20-22	PPP	Food security
Food production	Ngwa/Bende		20-50	Cooperatives of SMEs	Export
Agric-Crops	Umudike	1yr	20-21	SMEs	Export & food security
Vegetable	Along coast of Rivers		20-50	Irrigations	Health economy
Palm oil	Rural areas	5yrs	13 years	Agricultural	Cash & export
Vegetable oil	Uban	1yr	13 years	Agro Industry	Boost income
Auto mechanic cluster	Aba	6months	20-21	Provide land	Boost economy
Food processing & packaging	Ngwa/Aba	2yrs	20-23	Small-scale industry	Export
Fashion designing of specialised uniforms	Aba/Abiriba	1yr	22-23	Small -scale industry	Export & boost economy
Skilled health facility	Aba/Umuahia/Abiriba	1yr	20-22	Install specialist	Boost health & money to the state
Mining exotic silicon	Uturu	2yrs	20-22	Collaboration with int'l	Glass product and export
Cluster for aluminium	Aba/Umuahia	2yrs	20-22	Group investors	Job creation
Metal fabricators with training and exhibition centres	Ohafia	2yrs	20-22	Group investors	Job creation
Cement industry	Arochukwu	2yrs	20-22	Indigenous	Boost income, job

Mining of kaolin	Umuahia	1yr	20-21	investors Indigenous investors	creation Boost income job creation
Old peoples' homes	Umuahia, Aba, Abiriba	3yrs	20-23	State Govt. Investor- NGOs	Maintain healthy living and value for life
Accident emergency crop	Aba/Umuahia	1yr	20-21	Trained Health Officers	Road use & road security
Refinery, oil and gas	Ukwa	2yrs	20-23	PPP	Create employment
Shopping malls	Aba/Umuahia /Abiriba junc.	2yrs	20-23	PPP	Boost economy, Accommodation
Forestry	Aba/Uzoakoli	30yrs	20-22	PPP	Employment
Industrial cluster/park	Aba/Abia North	2yrs	20-23	PPP	Employment
Standard market	Aba, Bende, Umuahia	5yrs	20-25	PPP	Employment
Education, micro small and medium enterprises academy	Aba/Umuahia/ Abia North	2yrs	20-23	PPP	Special Education Development for Certification
Heavy & light vehicle recovery and road sweeper	Aba/Umuahia	5yr	20-25	PPP	Security & Environmental management
Abia thrift and loan savings	Aba, Umuahia, Ohafia and all LGAs	1yr	20-21	PPP	Financial Development
Abia State International Investment summit and exhibitions	State/ National /International	Every 2 yeas	2021-2035	PPP	Emerging markets, technologies, innovations and products

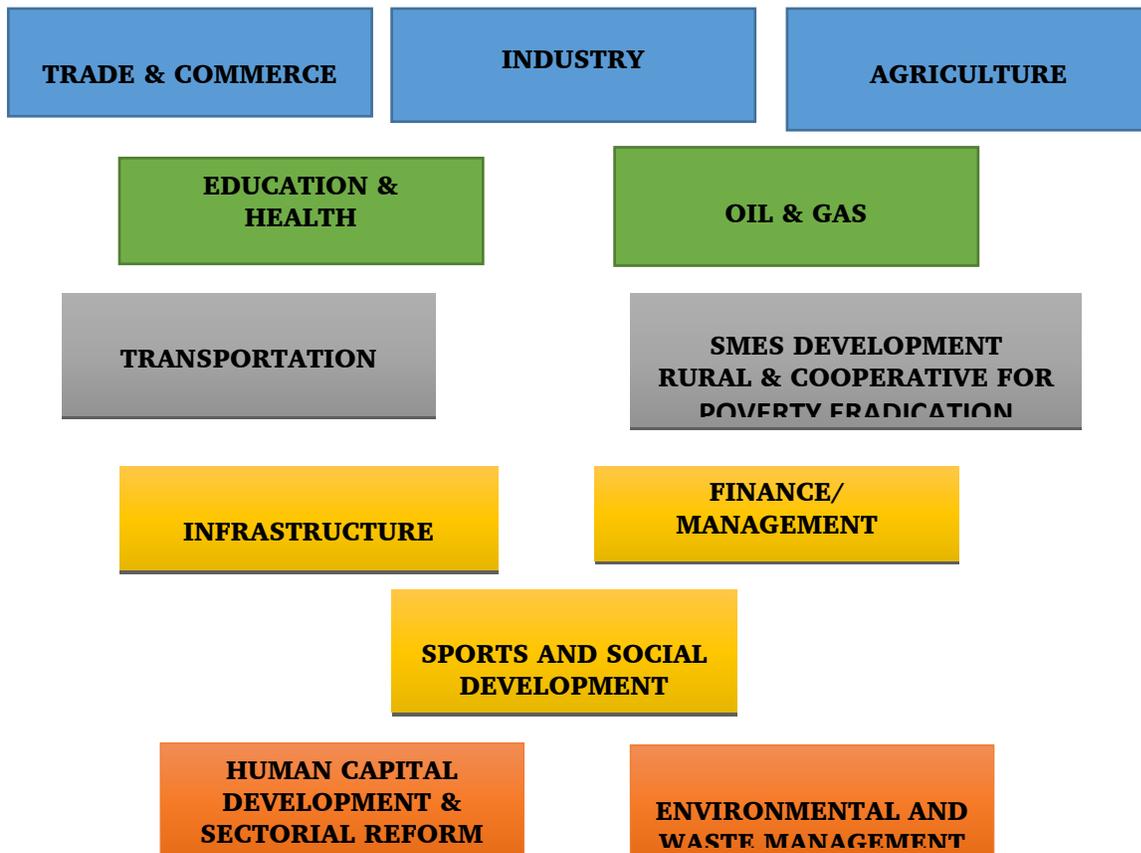


Fig. 6.5: Key areas to invest in the trade and investment sector in Abia State.

Areas for Trade and Investment

- Transportation-airport-cargo airport
 - bus terminal/station/intercity buses
 - trailer carriage
 - water ways
- New City Development: Enyimba Economic City
- Power generation
- Foundry
- Culture and tourism and theme park
- Agric, farming and tools and seedlings
- Housing, estate, markets, shopping malls
- Environment and waste management
- Education, research institute, training institute, sports college, ICT development, health educations, revenue generation
- Hospitality
- Industrial parks/clusters.

Chapter 7

Oil and Gas

BACKGROUND AND DRIVERS

Oil and gas deposits exist in commercial quantities in Ukwa East, Ukwa West and Ugwunagbo LGAs of Abia State. There are also deposits in other local government areas that need to be exploited. Currently, all the producing wells, producing about 60,000 BPD (barrels per day) are located only in Ukwa West LGA, with SPDC–JV as the operator. MOGCL recently joined in the oil production, operating a marginal field also located in Ukwa West LGA.

The contributions of the oil and gas sector to the State's GDP is about 40 percent. This is below expectation, considering that oil exploitation began in the State in 1958. It is worrisome that Abia State, being an oil producing state and a member of NDDC, is yet to experience the immense benefits of being classified as such. There have been attempts by various governments of the State, by way of policy formulation and implementation, to harness the potentials of the sector to develop the State. But the outcomes have not been of much impact.

Governments have established the ASOPADEC, CSDP and a full-fledged Ministry for the sector. However, the sector's contribution to the State's economy is still low and its poor performance in the State is attributed to poor policy articulation and implementation strategies and in most cases non-implementation of previous policies.

Abia State has many of the supporting drivers of the oil and gas sector in addition to being a relatively peaceful state. The city of Aba is the commercial and industrial hub of the South-East zone of Nigeria. The energy demand of the State is thus high and will continue to increase over time. There is abundant availability of manpower, both skilled and unskilled, to support any industrial activity connected to the oil and gas industry, and the market is huge considering its population of over 4.5 million people.

The establishment of a Free Trade Zone – EEC – in Abia is an advantage to the economic development of the State. Considering the high number of undeveloped wells (capped wells) in the area, there is need for the State to queue into the federal government's marginal field programme that promotes indigenous participation in the upstream sector for crude oil and gas production. Developing the marginal fields of the State will lead to increased derivation revenue, availability of feed stock for refineries, and gas for home and industrial uses.

With the growing number of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and a vibrant private sector in the State, the government can consider harnessing significant complementation through public-private partnership for the provision of the needed development facilities, infrastructure and programmes for the oil and gas sectors.

However, the high rate of robbery attacks on filling stations and other oil and gas facilities, pipeline vandalism and oil theft, with their attendant spillage that impacts negatively on the environment/lives, are serious threats to the development of the sector in the State and its economy. There is also a serious security gap which negatively impacts on the ease of doing business in the sector.

At the global space, emphasis is shifting to renewable energy. Hydrocarbon may not be popular in the next 30-35 years due to its adverse contribution to greenhouse gas (GHG) that is responsible for the increase in global warming. Therefore, the government of Abia State should, in addition, consider developing the renewable energy and solid minerals sectors as alternative energy source.

The global energy challenge impacts on the strategic actions of the oil and gas pillar. Currently, the challenge has five dimensions: growing population, rising energy demand, need for energy solutions, mitigating climate change, and improving air quality. Liquefied natural gas (LNG) and renewables are considered critical in meeting the energy challenge of the State (see Fig. 7).

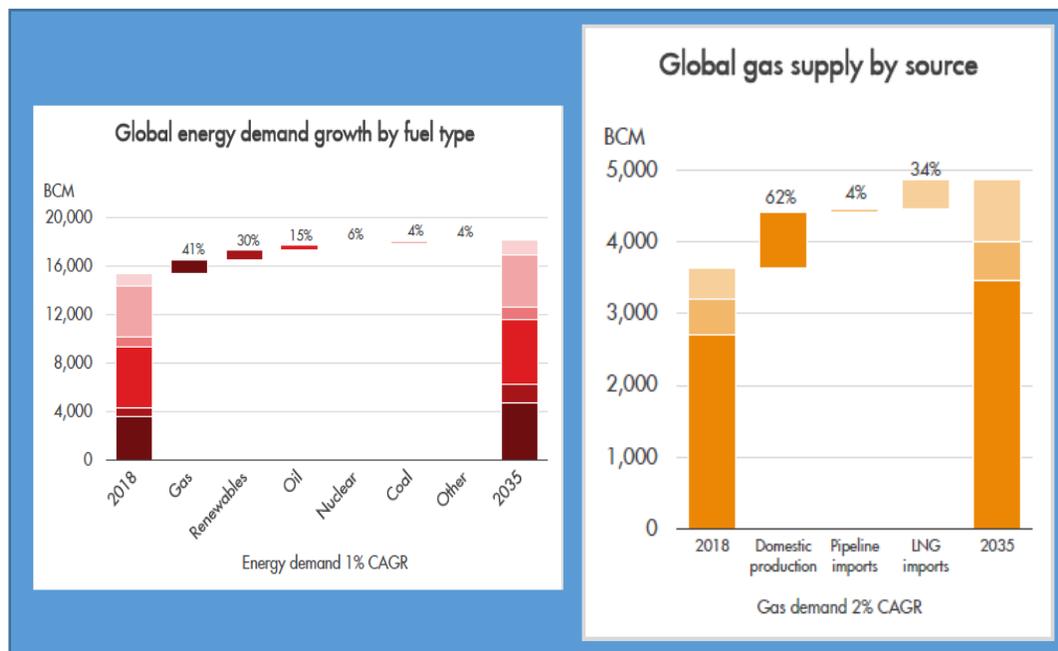


Fig. 7: Global oil and gas industry trend
 Source: Shell LNG Outlook 2019

It is the vision of ABSLTDP to ensure the provision of an enabling environment for the achievement of the following Plan objectives:

- Enable a vibrant oil and gas sector of Abia State economy, capable of generating millions of direct and indirect jobs, thereby creating wealth among the citizenry, now and in the long run
- Ensure provision of standard road infrastructure, particularly in the oil producing communities and improved security and other enabling indices to facilitate crude oil production and running of business, now and in the future
- Develop an oil and gas sector capable of contributing 40-45 percent to the State GDP in the next 30 years.

OIL, GAS AND ENERGY TRENDS

Oil and Energy

Globally, oil demand is estimated to decline by 9.5 mb/d year-on-year, reaching a level of 90.3 mb/d in 2020 (OPEC, 2020). EIA estimates that global oil markets have shifted from global liquid fuels inventories, building at a rate of 7.3 mb/d in the second quarter of 2020, to drawing at a rate of 3.1 mb/d in the third quarter.

Table 7.1: Five-year global oil and energy price trends

<i>Energy/Oil</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
Brent Crude(dollars/ barrel)	65.07	56.99	38.76	44.72
Diesel (dollars/gallon)	3.18	3.06	2.54	2.55
Electricity (Cents/Watthour)	12.87	13.04	13.09	13.22
	2.06	2.02	1.96	2.04

Source: EIA 2020

The Nigerian Oil Sector

Average daily oil production for Q2 2020 was 1.81 mb/d. This represents a 0.21mb/d reduction in the daily average production of 2.02 mb/d recorded in the same quarter of 2019, and 0.26 mb/d lower than the Q1 2020 production volume of 2.07 mb/d. Real growth of the oil sector was –6.63 percent (year-on-year) in Q2 2020 indicating a decrease of –13.80 percent points relative to the rate recorded in the corresponding quarter of 2019. Growth decreased by –11.69 percent points when compared to Q1 2020 which recorded 5.06 percent. Quarter-on-quarter, the oil sector recorded a growth rate of –10.82 percent in Q2 2020, contributing 8.93 percent to total real GDP in Q2 2020, down from figures recorded in the corresponding period of 2019 and the preceding quarter, where it contributed 8.98 percent and 9.50 percent, respectively.

Financing Initiatives

Petroleum development and related projects are always capital intensive, be it in the upstream sector and crude oil production or downstream activities of crude refining and distribution, etc.

Government alone may not successfully carry on in the business due to scarcity of development funds and the risks involved. There is need to intensify awareness for investors, both local and foreign, to partner with the State. Therefore, the need to partner with genuine private investors, who have the technical and financial capacity, is of utmost importance.

The ideal arrangement may be setting up an SPV for each project initiative, where government equity participation may be about 20-25 percent in a design, build, maintain and operate (DBMO) PPP arrangement.

Previous PPP arrangements in the sector failed mainly due to the State government's inability to meet up its financial contributions/other obligations. The State has no reasonable investment in the sector as a result of this.

In this ABSLTDP, the obligations of the State in any PPP oil and gas projects/programmes should be given first charge: high priority/attention in the budget. Partnerships with development and donor agencies in capacity building programmes/provision of social infrastructure, are also highly recommended.

Table 7.2: Actionable policy/programmes/projects

S/N	Policy Initiative-Projects/ Programmes	Local government areas where located	Responsible implementing MDA	Verifiable Indicators for M & E	
				Expected outcome	Expected impacts
1.	Development of oil wells	Ukwa West, Ukwa East, Ugwunagbo, etc	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey Others	Reactivation of capped wells. Improved oil and gas production	Increased derivation revenue. Growth in GDP
2	Establishment of a modular refinery	Ukwa West	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey, Others	Increased availability of petroleum products across the state	Wealth creation/employ ment generation. Increased econ activity/IGR to government
3	Reorganise the oil and gas sector in cooperation with federal agents and partnership with international oil companies		Ministries of Petroleum Abia State Planning Commission	Engagement marginal oil fields and exploitation of new fields	
4.	Natural gas to power projects compressed natural gas facilities (CNG)	Ukwa West, Osioma	Ministries of petroleum, Justice, Lands and Survey Others	Reduced gas flaring and production of electricity	Sustainable environment. Increased economic activity across the State/IGR to govt
5.	Economic empowerment programmes/grants to cooperative societies for establishment of SMEs	Across the State	ASOPADEC, CSDP, CSR of appropriate companies others	Employment generation	Wealth creation

6.	Policy review on ASOPADEC for increased funding to the commission up to 40% of the 13% derivation revenue. Appropriate logistics support to Ministry of Petroleum	Across the State	ABSG	Increased service delivery	Close of infrastructure and human capacity gaps in the affected communities
7.	Provision of basic services and sustainable infrastructure Standard roads Electricity, water, town halls, schools etc	Oil producing communities	ABSG ASOPADEC CSDP Others	Restoration of sustainable peace in the oil producing communities- improved community relations	Enabling environment for increased oil production
8.	Human capital development scholarships bursary skill acquisition	Oil producing communities	ABSG ASOPADEC CSDP	Improved local technical manpower	Improved human capacity. Improved employability of indigenes by IOC
9.	Sensitisation programmes	Across the State	Security agencies, Ministry of Petroleum	Reduction in crude oil theft and pipeline vandalism	Increased revenue availability of products at Aba depot. Reduced attacks on filling stations
10.	Solid minerals development: Geological survey/analyses. Exploitation of mineral deposits particularly limestone, kaolin, phosphate and value addition- establishment of cement and fertilizer industries	Umuhia South, Arochukwu, Ohafia and Bende LGAs, etc	Ministry of petroleum and Solid Minerals, Lands and Survey, Ministry of Justice	Data generation. Investments decisions/promotion of cement and fertilizer production	Employment generation, wealth creation, enhanced economic development of the State Food security

Projects Numbers 1,2,3, and 9 are to be financed through PPP arrangement.

Emerging Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) Programmes and Strategic Actions

The PIB is expected to be passed into law soon. Two germane features of the law are that it will promote production of more gas to power infrastructure in the various parts of Nigeria. There will be widespread development of gas projects to increase power generation and for domestic energy consumption. This prospect for increased activities in the natural gas sector calls for planning to utilise the opportunities. Also, law will transfer direct resources to host communities of oil and gas resources. A new architecture for security in these communities are required. Both call for flexibilities in policies and strategic actions.

CONCLUSION

Oil and gas production activities has lasted for more than 60 years in the State. The State would have experienced more economic contributions from the oil and gas sector to its GDP had there been proper policy articulation and implementation. In spite of the proven rich reserves oil and gas in the State, there is still no reasonable State investment in the sector or joint participation in any oil and gas business venture.

Most of the oil producing communities of the State lack basic infrastructure and the negative environmental impacts of petroleum exploration and exploitation is high. Little wonder the persistent poor community-oil company relations in the State. There is a proliferation of undeveloped wells (capped/marginal) in various parts of Ukwu East, Ugwuagbo LGAs, etc. The State should, as a matter of high priority, take advantage of the marginal field development programmes of the federal government and key into these assets to increase its crude oil production to double the current production in the next 10-20 years.

Also of priority is the establishment of a modular refinery in the State which will increase the availability of petroleum products across the State and enhance its economic activities and create wealth. By so doing, the menace of crude oil theft, occasioned by activities of artisanal/illegal refiners, and its negative impact on the environment, will be reduced. Appropriate PPP model, using an SPV to drive these investments, will benefit the State.

The solid minerals sector of the State will make significant contributions to the State GDP, if developed. Therefore, geological survey of the minerals deposits, acquiring the appropriate mineral titles/licences from the relevant Federal Ministry and partnership with genuine private sector investors for the exploration, exploitation, further investment(s) in the value chains, should be considered to maximise the full potential and economic benefits envisaged in the Plan in the long run.

Addressing infrastructural and human capacity gaps in the State, particularly in the oil and mineral producing communities, will reduce community agitations and enhance ease of doing business in the State. By maintaining the core values of resourcefulness and commitment to hard work and industry, Abia State will be able to achieve its dream as envisaged in the Plan.

SECTION FOUR

INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



UWALAKA STREET UMUAHIA

Chapter 8

Health

INTRODUCTION

Good health is central to human happiness and well-being. It also makes an important contribution to economic progress, as a healthy population lives longer, and is more productive. Many factors influence the health status of a state and its ability to provide quality health services for the citizens (World Health Organisation, 2020).

The goal of a health plan in the ABSLTDP, 2020-2050, is to protect, promote and restore the health of Abians and to facilitate easy access to quality healthcare services without financial or other constraints. Healthy Abians will contribute to the growth of the economy by spending longer time in productive activities, creating savings and reinvestments towards engendering a dynamic multiplier effect that leads to the health sector, drawing less on the State budget.

The Ministry of Health is saddled with the responsibility to provide policy guidelines and direction as well as develop plans and programmes to meet State and national goals and ensure the implementation of plans in line with national policy guidelines. Apart from the Ministry of Health, the State also has Primary Healthcare Development Agency (PHCDA), Abia State Health Insurance Agency (ABSHIA), and the hospitals' management board which are under the supervision of the State Ministry of Health and charged with the direct responsibility of coordinating health services in the State down to the grassroots.

The State also has a good number of health and other educational institutions which include Abia State University Teaching Hospital (ABSUTH), Aba; Abia State Specialist Hospital and Diagnostic Centre, Umuahia; School of Health Technology and Management Sciences, Aba; School of Nursing/Midwifery at Aba, Umuahia, Amachara and Abiriba; Federal Medical Centre, Umuahia; Abia State University, Uturu, and Abia State Polytechnic, Aba. These institutions help to produce manpower for the health sector and the successful realisation of health programmes and intervention revolves around them.

OBJECTIVES

- Extend sustainable and affordable healthcare to the grassroots
- Strengthen the availability and use of affordable, accessible and quality machinery and other health commodities in the health facilities
- Improve availability and functional health infrastructure for optimising service delivery at all levels
- Ensure effective health workforce management through retention, deployment,

work condition, motivation and performance management

- Reduce maternal and infant mortality in the State
- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the healthcare system in the State
- Improve the quality of life and well-being of Abians
- Transform the existing health services to a modern high performing system
- Extend health services to the grassroots
- Ensure effective health workforce management
- Reduce maternal and infant mortality, and
- Optimise service delivery at all levels.

VISION

To be a frontline State in the realisation of affordable, accessible and good quality healthcare service and delivery for all its citizens.

MISSION

To align, develop and implement health policies and programmes to maximally benefit Abians using appropriate partnership, technologies, strategies and networks to deliver on interventions and services as well as strengthen the health system.

CORE VALUES

- Engender dedicated and professional healthcare workers who will serve to the best of their ability
- A team-spirited healthcare workforce to achieve better results in health and medical services
- Engage skilled and highly professional healthcare workforce to ensure professionalism and excellent healthcare management and delivery.

SWOT ANALYSIS FOR THE HEALTH SECTOR PLAN

This is the first state long-term development project covering a period of 30 years (2020-2050). The Plan was informed by the need to provide and sustain quality healthcare delivery, and to strengthen the State's healthcare emergency response, including lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strengths

- Relevant programmatic policies and plans have been fully implemented
- The implementation of full primary healthcare delivery under one roof (PHCUOR) has improved performance of health delivery in the State
- The involvement of stakeholders, e.g., traditional rulers, religions leaders, etc., has helped to sensitise indigenes at the grassroots about government healthcare programmes, services and activities
- There are available guidelines and standard operation procedures to help in the management of diseases, etc.
- Technical assistance from development partners, such as UNPPA, FHI, etc., has gone a long way to improve implementation of activities

- Increased recruitment of trained healthcare personnel who provide and ensure good healthcare delivery
- Establishment of data consultative committee for health which has helped in the collection of data for decision making
- Regular payment of salaries which has increased productivity in the health sector
- Constant training and retraining of staff which have helped to update the skills and knowledge of health workers.

Weaknesses

- Staff alteration
- Inadequate human resources
- Inadequate office space
- Inadequate basic medical equipment
- No departmental vehicle for supportive supervision and effective implementation
- No ICT equipment for data management
- No good welfare package for health workers
- No imprest to run various departments and agencies
- Research is neglected because there is no budget line for it
- Non-release of take-off grant for health insurance which was prescribed in the law establishing the agency
- Poor emergency preparation and response due to lack of ambulances, drugs, etc., and emergency centre
- Absence of laboratories in health facilities
- Lack of functional logistics management coordinating unit
- Lack of water supply, electricity supply, good roads, waste disposal facility, ICT and security in some health facilities needed for supporting and facilitating health service delivery.

Opportunities

- Donor interest to support programmes in the health sector
- Availability of international technical support for healthcare programmes
- Public-private partnership to boost implementation of activities
- Available monitoring tools/checklist necessary for quality monitoring of facilities
- Available survey data to help in decision making and planning
- Funds generated from national resources can be used to improve the health sector and for long-term planning and implementation
- Use of abundant educational and research institutions in the State to produce manpower needs of the health sector
- A share of the internally-generated revenue in the State to be allocated to support the long-term plan for the State in healthcare management and delivery.

Threats

- Inadequate fund to run programmes and projects
- Competing needs to service equipment and vehicles

- High running cost to maintain and pay salaries as secondary healthcare is a threat to service delivery
- Inadequate number of qualified health workers to effectively deliver optimum healthcare service.

MAJOR HEALTHCARE ISSUES IN THE STATE

At 86 deaths per 1,000, Abia State is among the states with high under-five mortality rate in Nigeria, and second in the South-East zone after Imo State with 87 deaths per 1,000. In the South-East zone, Abia State posts the highest neo-natal mortality rate of 39 deaths per 1,000, which is more than twice the rate in Anambra State with 17 deaths. Abia also has the highest infant mortality rate of 65 deaths per 1,000, more than twice the rate in Anambra State at 35 deaths.

Furthermore, at 3.8 percent, Abia State comes second after Ebonyi State's 5.6 percent in terms of percentage of women, aged 15-49 years, who had live births in the last five years but never attended ante-natal care. Also, for the most recent live births, about 43 percent of the women did not go for the required post-natal care, in a modern health facility, for the new born in the first two days after childbirth.

The most serious problem that women, aged 15-49 years, face in the State with regard to access to health facilities when they are sick, is getting the money for treatment as indicated by 65.4 percent of the sample, the highest in the South-East zone. This is followed by the long distance it takes to get to a health facility (34.4 percent), the second highest in the zone. Overall, 68.1 percent of all women respondents reported at least one problem accessing healthcare in the State.

Also, even though vaccination coverage among children, aged 12-23 months, is highest in Anambra State (76 percent), and indeed highest compared to all the 36 states, Abia State, which is in the same zone with Anambra State, trails behind in the range of 34-48 percent (NDHS, 2018). Moreover, only 39.0 percent of children of 12-23 months in the State received all basic vaccinations, and only 28.9 percent received all age appropriate vaccinations. With the children age group widened to 24-35 months, figures indicate only 0.7 percent of the children received all the age appropriate vaccinations in the State.

Available figures also indicate that at 73.0 percent, Abia State has the lowest percentage of women in the South-East zone, age 15-49, with a live birth in the five years preceding the NDHS 2018 survey, who know about oral rehydration solution (ORS) packets for treatment of diarrhoea. Yet, diarrhoea accounts for a significant number of deaths among children.

The percentage of children, 6-23 months, who consumed food rich in vitamin A in the last 24 hours was the second least in Abia State (70.8 percent), compared to 88.9 percent for Imo State in the same geopolitical zone (NDHS, 2018).

Use of insecticide treated nets (ITNs) is relatively low in the State. Latest figures indicate that only 45.4 percent had at least one ITN. This low figure is closely related to the fact that only 32.2 percent of households have access to ITNs in Abia State. Indeed, only 23.9 percent of children slept under “any” mosquito net “last night”, just as only 25.2 percent of pregnant women, aged 15-49 years, slept under “any” mosquito net “last night” (NDHS, 2018).

Still related to health challenges in Abia State, about 60.0 percent of women in the reproductive age group, who have heard of HIV, have discriminatory attitude towards people living with HIV (NDHS, 2018). This is quite a serious problem that can lead to concealment and poor medication among persons living with the disease.

The main causes of morbidity and mortality in the State are malaria, diarrhea, acute respiratory tract infection, malnutrition, birth asphyxias, prematurity, sepsis, pneumonia, HIV/AIDS and meningitis. Birth asphyxias and malaria are responsible for most deaths during neo-natal and beyond neo-natal periods, respectively. The presence of trained personnel at all deliveries will help to reduce neonatal asphyxias.

The three tiers of health institutions, i.e., primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare, are very important in rendering health services to the populace. Primary healthcare is the most appropriate stage to tackle other future health challenges. The total number of public primary healthcare facilities in the State is 1,002, including health posts. Obviously, these public healthcare facilities should be put to standard and well equipped with necessary facilities and skilled manpower.

OTHER KEY HEALTH PROBLEMS

Staff Attrition

A major problem of health sector is staff attrition. When staff leave the system for one reason or the other, the staff will not be immediately, or even, replaced. This leads to loss of public resources spent on educating and training the health workers. Attrition also contributes to increased workload and worse working conditions for the remaining workforce which, in turn, contributes to lower quality of care and worse health outcomes.

Poor Funding of Healthcare System

Poor funding of the healthcare system is a major challenge to the implementation of health policies, programmes and projects in the State. The State’s health budget, as percentage of the total budget for the State during the period, 2013-2017, averaged 7 percent, as against the Abuja Declaration target of 15 percent (Health Policy Plus, 2020). For example, Abia State health spending, as a share of the State health budget (health budget performance) during the period, 2013-2017, was adjudged quite poor, dropping from 75 percent in 2013 to 52 percent in 2016 and further to 41 percent in 2017. This is against the background of poor allocation to the sector. Government should be able to make adequate allocations and actual budget release for effective and efficient service delivery in the health sector. Also worrisome is the non-release, by Federal Ministry of Health, of the 1 percent consolidated revenue fund from the basic health fund meant for emergency healthcare to the states.

High Out-of-Pocket Expenditure on Healthcare in the State

Abia State indigenes spent a total of ₦187.9 billion on healthcare services and products in 2019. This averaged ₦41,877 per person, or ₦145,839 per household. The ₦187.9 billion figure was extraordinarily high compared to the ₦5.7 billion spent on health by the State and the local governments (Health Policy Plus, 2020).

Table 8.1: Sources of healthcare funding in health financing landscape analysis

S/N	Sources of Healthcare Funds	Amount (Naira)
1	State government spending (2017)	4.9 billion
2	All LGAs spending (2017)	0.8 billion
3	Out-of-pocket spending by households (2019)	187.9 billion
4	Total spending per person by households	41,877

Source: Health Policy Plus (2020), Health Financing Landscape: Abia State, Nigeria

Corruption

Corruption is also a challenge in financing the health sector in the State. This manifests in diversion of drugs, medical supplies, procurements, and contract inflation.

Lack of Incentive

There is no incentive for health workers posted to hard-to-reach areas of Abia State, which leads to the high rejection rate among health staff posted to those areas, thus jeopardising healthcare service delivery in such places.

Lack of Specialised Healthcare Centres

There are no specialised healthcare centres in the State, such as eye care centres, cancer care centres, trauma/orthopaedic centres, etc.

Non-Functional Emergency Medical Services

The State does not have functional emergency medical services, including non-existent ambulance service which results to avoidable fatality.

Non-Availability of State Blood Bank

There is no State-owned blood bank where people can go to donate or procure blood for health facilities to run to in times of emergencies.

Inadequate Human Resources for Health

Currently, there is inadequate human resources for health. Table 8.2 shows the current health workers' distribution in the State.

Table 8.2: Distribution of health personnel in the State Ministry of Health

S/N	Profession	Quantity
1	Doctor	80
2	Pharmacy	8
3	Nurses	227
4	Scientific officer	141
5	Medical lab science	34
6	Community health extension worker	47
7	Nutritionist	8
8	Physiologist	1
9	Environmental health officer	23
10	Medical imaging	23
11	Catering	13
12	Physiotherapist	1
13	Optometrist	25

Source: Abia State Primary Healthcare HRH Audit, 2019

Table 8.3: Availability, mix and gaps in human resources by facilities under ABSPHCDA

Cadre	Expected					Available				
	HQT RS	PHC	HC	HP	Total (TE)	Facilities	HQT RS	Total (TA)	Gap (TATE)	Gap (%)
Medical officers	17	292	0	0	307	4	6	10	-297	-97
Community health officers	17	292	0	0	307	62	3	65	-242	-79
Nurse/Midwife	17	1168	508	0	1691	360	42	402	-1289	-76
CHEW	0	876	508	0	1384	925	48	973	-411	-30
JCHEW	0	1752	1016	155	2923	380	12	392	-2531	-87
Pharm tech	0	292	0	0	292	47	8	55	-237	-81
Env. officers (EHO+EHT)	119	292	0	0	397	328	367	695	298	75
Medical record officers	0	292	0	0	292	112	22	134	-158	-54
Lab tech	0	292	0	0	292	176	23	198	-94	-32
Others (HA, Security and GMS)	51	1460	1016	0	2527	1149	221	1370	-1157	-46
Nutrition officer	0	292	0	0	292	57	32	89	-203	-70
Environmental health assistant	0	0	257	0	257	130	43	173	-84	-33
Total	221	7300	3305	155	10961	3730	827	4556	-6405	-58

Source: Abia State Primary Healthcare HRH Audit, 2019

Vacancy Rate

Survey findings show that there has been a substantial vacancy rate in the past years under review across all cadres of health personnel in the State. This is better illustrated in Table 8.4.

Table 8.4: Level of vacancy rates of primary health care workers by cadre

<i>Cadre</i>	<i>Vacancy rate (%)</i>
Medical officer	97
Community health officer	82
Nurse/Midwife	78
CHEW	32
JCHEW	87
Pharm Tech	84
Env officer (EHO+EHT)	0
Medical record officer	61
Lab technician	43
Others (HA, security and GMS)	47
Nutrition officer	73
Environmental health assistant	15

Source: Abia State Primary Healthcare HRH Audit, 2019

A lot of doctors and nurses leave the services of the State healthcare facilities for better places. If the trend is not checked, the State will experience dearth of health manpower. Presently, there is dare need for medical personnel in the public healthcare system in Abia State.

Lack of Robust Health Information Management System for the State

There is no central State health databank, i.e., a one-stop shop with data nodes in all the health agencies, parastatals, and facilities. The State also does not have well-developed health information management system (HIMS). For instance, there is no software development packages and data analysis resulting in comprehensive data management for the entire health sector in the State. Also, the health workers in the facilities lack basic and up-to-date training.

Poor Welfare Care and Package

- The welfare of health workers must be given due consideration. Also, they must be provided with life assurance to enable them discharge their services optimally and with confidence
- The various health facilities in the State do not run imprest accounts and do not have departmental vehicles to assist the health workers in performing their duties
- Office spaces are inadequate, as many staff offices are overcrowded, constituting much inconvenience to the workers
- There are inadequate and well-secure accommodation for health workers in the health facilities
- Staff distribution between urban and rural health facilities is not balanced, as there are more staff at the urban centres than in the rural areas
- There are inadequate quality drugs and other health materials in the health facilities
- The State does not have functionary logistic management coordinating unit.

Inadequate/Obsolete Health Equipment and Infrastructure

Generally, the health system lacks basic minimum equipment and infrastructure as specified by the national guide for minimum service package for healthcare delivery such as buildings, water, power, roads, hospital equipment, vehicles, furniture, etc.

Poor Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

There is no standardised and coordinated monitoring and evaluation framework in the State. Each programme has a separate monitoring and evaluation framework, thereby creating lack of synergy among programme areas and non-unified data for health planning purposes.

Inadequate Transportation and Other Logistics for Service Delivery

The health sector is vast and do not have enough functional vehicles for monitoring and evaluating programme activities and other supervisory health activities.

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN THE STATE

The State has 1,282 health facilities, including private facilities that provide public health services in the State which are scattered in the 292 wards of the State. These facilities have been properly designated as ward health centres, health clinics and health posts. In addition, there are 19 public secondary health facilities including two dental health centres. The State also has two tertiary health institutions in addition to one federal medical centre.

State Ministry of Health and Collaborating Agencies

The State Ministry of Health provides policy guidelines and oversight functions on the implementation of health programmes and activities in the State. It works in synergy with the Abia State Primary Healthcare Development Agency and the Local Government Health Authorities.

State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (SPHCDA)

The agency is charged with the responsibility of providing sustainable primary healthcare development and delivery of services to Abians in partnership with government, non-governmental organisations, development partners, CSOs and communities. The agency works with the 17 local government health authorities and is incharge of primary healthcare management in the State. It also ensures that the nine pillars of “Bringing Primary Health Care Under One Roof (PHCUOR)” are effectively, efficiently and sustainably achieved in Abia State, in accordance with extant national guidelines. This ensures one management, one plan and one monitoring and evaluation for public healthcare service delivery in the State.

Local Government Health Authority

The authority recruits, deploys, posts, transfers, promotes, discipline and pays pension to public healthcare workers.

PRIORITY AREAS OF HEALTHCARE IN ABIA STATE

- Leadership and governance
- Community participation and ownership
- Partnership for health
- Reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, adolescent health services and nutrition
- Communicable diseases (malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, HIV/AIDS) and neglected tropical diseases
- Non-communicable diseases, care of the elderly, mental health, oral health, eye healthcare
- General and emergency hospital services
- Health promotion and social determinants of health (environmental health)
- Human resource for health
- Health infrastructure
- Medicines, vaccines and other health technologies and supplies
- Health information system
- Research for health
- Public health emergencies: preparedness and response
- Health financing.

CURRENT HEALTH PROGRAMMES IN THE STATE

The programmes currently driving the health aspirations of Abia State government include the following:

Abia State Health Insurance Scheme (ASHIA)

Abia State government officially launched its health insurance scheme in September 2019 with initial objective of providing health insurance for about 200,000 residents, a major leap forward in improving access to affordable and quality healthcare, thereby improving the people's health needs.

Free Ante-natal Care Programme

Abia State free ante-natal care programme was launched in 2018 with about 400 well-equipped primary healthcare facilities equipped with Sphygmomanometer, Littman Stethoscope, adult weighing scale, children weighing scale, thermometers, cord scissors, and medical examination lights. The programme was aimed at reducing child and maternal morbidity, and mortality rates in the State.

Dial-a-Doc Tele-Health Initiative

The tele-health initiative, known as Dial-a-Doctor, an innovative, laudable and timely programme, aims at closing the prevailing rural-urban healthcare gap. It was launched by the State government in 2018. The programme leverages on the GSM technology to deliver fast and affordable healthcare services to the people. The initiative was aimed at closing the healthcare gap between the urban and rural areas with the goal of improving life expectancy in the State. Acclaimed as the first of its kind in Nigeria, the programme makes it possible for every member of the community, both in the rural and urban centres,

to access medical healthcare by dialling dedicated GSM numbers and instantly getting medical attention from doctors in their homes.

Free Home Medicare for the Elderly

Also acclaimed as first of its kind in Nigeria, the State, in 2018, introduced the free home healthcare service designed for senior citizens of the State, especially those with diabetes, cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer, hypertension, arthritis, fracture, and stroke. It is also an integrated home care network providing quality services to meet diverse healthcare needs of those in the grassroots who could not get to hospitals. The programme is aimed at improving the health status of families, individuals and, especially, citizens in the 17 local government areas of the State. The packages, which focus on the elderly, include skilled nursing care services such as checking blood pressure, pulse and respiratory status assessment, monitoring nutrition and hydration status, monitoring response, administration of insulin, wounds and stormy care, catheter care, obtaining specimens such as blood for lab testing, and medical social workers available for various referrals throughout communities.

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19

Abia State takes the issue of the control and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 in the State very seriously with initial total lockdown with medical rapid response team put in place. Arrangements were also put in place for community testing in all the 17 local government areas in the State with a view to covering at least 30 percent of the population. As part of the containment efforts, government is in the process of procuring mobile laboratories and medical theatres to support the testing laboratories in the 17 councils in the State. At least, six molecular laboratories are planned to be set up in the State. Most importantly, the State government expresses the need for personal responsibility at individual, family, community, institutional and organisational levels, by strictly observing all the recommended prevention protocols in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

ACTIONABLE POLICY, PROGRAMME, PROJECTS AND POSSIBLE LOCATIONS

This section draws from the identified health challenges in the State and the preceding SWOT analysis. It is against this background that specific health programmes and projects to be implemented over the Plan period, are provided as follows:

Scaling up the State Health Insurance Scheme

Health insurance is embraced globally as it proves to be the best approach to universal provision of affordable and quality healthcare to a large population. The programme in developed countries is designed to cover the entire population, just as the Nigeria National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) programme is expected to cover different segments of the country's entire population. In the same vein, the Abia State government hopes to achieve a state-wide coverage both in the rural and urban areas during the Plan period.

Scaling up the Free Ante-natal Care Programme

Noting that Abia State comes second after Ebonyi State in terms of percentage of women,

aged 15-49 years, who had live births in the last five years, but did not attend ante-natal care, partly due to low availability of healthcare facilities, and the attendant problem of accessibility, the State government will provide additional one primary healthcare centre (PHC) in each senatorial district to reduce the difficulty of travelling long distances to the nearest PHCs. During the Plan period, government will also embark on aggressive sensitisation and awareness campaigns on the free ante-natal care provision and to stress the critical importance of health facility utilisation for ante-natal care, child delivery and post-natal care, including vaccinations. Other ancillary activities related to this include provision of relevant equipment to PHCs and the training of more healthcare personnel for deployment to PHCs located in rural areas in particular.

Upgrading the Dial-a-Doc Tele-Health Initiative

During the Plan period, government will establish and equip call receiving centres in each senatorial district with links to each ward in all the 17 LGAs. Calls received at the senatorial centres will be evaluated and passed to the ward centres with clear medical instructions. All health personnel in all wards will also be linked to the system to ensure smooth operation of the system.

Scaling-up the Free Home Medicare for the Elderly

It is an empirical fact that rising poverty over the years has negatively affected the traditional family care system which effectively covered the elderly. As a result, the elderly can no longer be adequately taken care of. This is the period that they need the most help in their lives. Accordingly, the integrated homecare network for the elderly will be reinvigorated to provide quality services for meeting diverse healthcare needs of the elderly, particularly those at the grassroots who are unable to go to the hospitals. Service packages will be re-visited for improvement.

Scaling Up Child Vaccination

Only 39.0 percent of children, aged 12-23 months, received all the basic vaccinations, and only 28.9 percent received all age appropriate vaccinations. With the age children group widened to 24-35 months, figures indicate that only 0.7 percent received all age appropriate vaccinations. It, thus, becomes necessary to urgently scale up the services.

Stepping up Efforts towards Containing COVID-19

With 894 confirmed cases of COVID-19 as at September 30, 2020, Abia State ranks 15th out of 36 states including Abuja (FCT). This is by no means something to be ignored given the low level of testing capacity nationwide. Therefore, in addition to the measures already taken by the State government, there is the need to step-up efforts to contain the problem, as no one is certain when the much needed vaccine will be ready for mass distribution. Given that pandemic has entered the phase of community transmission, the following measures need to be taken:

Environmental Health Considerations for Control of COVID-19

One of the mandates of the State Ministry of Environment is “securing quality environment adequate for good health and well-being”. COVID-19 transmission can be

made worse in urban or rural environment devoid of basic facilities such as good water supply and sanitation facilities. These are necessary requirements for good hygiene practices. Dense urban slums and settlements, and poor basic facilities in particular, are empirically known to be prone to community transmission of pandemics. Accordingly, the government will rise to the occasion to ensure no environment becomes conducive for community transmission of the pandemic in the State. Part of the practical steps to be taken will be to revitalise and empower environmental health/sanitation officers to ensure best practices in hygiene wherever people live, eat, and work in the State.

Restrategising Urban Renewal for Disease Control

The State will rethink urban renewal to also focus on the best way to reposition dense urban slums instead of the usual practice of city beautification. This is because empirical evidence indicates that displacement of slum dwellers through eviction only goes to reinforce development of new or mega urban slum settlements. Moreover, political calculations have hampered political office holders from such evictions over the years which has resulted in the development of mega-slum settlements in some Nigerian cities. What is, therefore, practicable is redevelopment/redesign of such settlements with basic facilities provided to prevent community transmission of diseases.

Repositioning PHCs for Disease Prevention, Maternal and Child Health Education

In view of the primary role of PHCs in health education, government will embark on aggressive training of relevant health workers to reinforce those currently available at the PHCs in all the 17 LGAs.

SPECIFIC HEALTH PROJECTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PLAN PERIOD

Based on the health aspirations of the State government, Table 8.5 presents specific projects to be carried out during the Plan period:

Table 8.5: Specific healthcare projects for implementation in the ASLTDP

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Project/Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
1	Renovate and equip one general hospital	Each senatorial zone	Within 5 years
2	Free maternal, child and neo-natal health services	Secondary and tertiary health facilities	From 2023
3	Youth-friendly services centres	All LGAs	One in each senatorial zone by 2024 and in all LGAs by 2030
4	Geriatric care/old peoples home services	Zonal headquarters	2023
5	Training and retraining of health care workers	State and LGAs levels	Bi-annually
6	Emergency health services/logistics	3 senatorial zones	One every 5 years
7	State health insurance scheme	State/LGA levels	2021
8	Cancer care centre	Umuahia	2024
9	Neurological/spinal centre	Aba	2025

10	Virology laboratory	Umuahia	2022
11	Severe acute malnourishment care centre	3 senatorial zones	2023
12	Dental care centres	Remaining 15 LLAs	1 every 2 years
13	Trauma centre	Aba and Umuahia	2024
14	Creation of office of medical officer of health	17 LGAS	2021
15	Creation of well-equipped state centre for disease control (SCDC)	Aba	2024
16	Put in place incentives that encourage health personnel to work in rural health facilities	Aba	2021

MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN ON HEALTH SECTOR

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems have played critical roles in advancing the scope of healthcare delivery through applying quantitative and qualitative methods in collecting, collating, and using health data, to inform decision making, applying rigorous evaluations in assessing programme effectiveness, and designing and conducting operational research that address implementation challenges.

Monitoring is a systemic and continuous collection and analysis of data about the progress of a project or programme over time. It involves a continuous process of data gathering and analysis that allows adjustments to be made in the objectives.

Evaluation is a systematic periodic collection and analysis of data on the progress of a project/programme. It provides credible and useful information enabling the incorporation of lessons learned into the decision-making process. It is in this regard that M&E is considered critical to the health plan for the State.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: BUILD CAPACITY FOR STATE M&E SYSTEM NARRATIVE

Broad Activities 1

Adapt M&E training modules, materials and guidelines.

Operational Plan

Adapt/adopt M&E training modules, materials and guidelines for the State: Prior to this time, there has not been any documents to serve as reference or SOPs for upcoming/new M&E officers. The unavailability of training modules and guidelines has made it difficult for step-down training to be carried out in the State. It is pertinent that the State has its training modules and guidelines for use in the State. Training resources used at the national level should be reviewed, adapted/adopted for state use.

Print and disseminate the materials: Operational guidelines and training materials should be printed in sufficient quantities and quickly made available to all facilities across the State.

Broad Activities 2

Re-training of State HMIS, programme, and M&E officers on the new revised NHMIS Version 2019, HIV/AIDS revised tools and DHIS 3.0 and other newer versions.

Operational Plan

Re-training of TOT on new NHMIS version 2019 and DHIS 3.0 and other newer versions: There is need to refresh the knowledge of State officers on the new NHMIS tools version 2019 since the roll out has been delayed for over a year after the zonal TOT was held. The officers trained in this exercise would further train other officers at the LGA and facility levels. It is hoped that the training will lead to improved quality of data from the State.

Step-down training of OICs and facility MHR officers on new NHMIS data tools version 2019 and other newer versions: This training is to build the capacity of OICs and facility M&E officers on the new NHMIS data tools version 2019. The M&E officers trained in the exercise above will serve as trainers for the OICs and facility M&E officers. It is hoped that the training will lead to improved data quality from the facilities.

Training of State and LGA programmes and M&E officers on new DHIS 3.0 and other newer versions: The purpose of this training is to equip State and LGA programmes and M&E officers with skills required for the new DHIS 3.0 platform. The training will enable data from Abia State to be reported accurately on the new DHIS 3.0 platform.

Continuous re-training of state and LGA M&E, OICs and other key programme officers on data quality assurance: There is need for more re-training of M&E, OICs and other programme officers on data quality assurance. It is hoped that this training will equip the trained officers with skills to conduct data quality assurance exercise.

Implementation of data quality assurance across facilities in the State: This is the actual application of the skills acquired from the re-training exercise to achieve data cleansing and update, thus ensuring that quality data that is useful for planning and decision making is generated from the facilities.

Routine supportive supervision of maternal and new-born child health week (MNCHW): There is need for adequate and timely monitoring of the key indicators of MNCHW in order to improve the health status of women and children by increasing coverage of key maternal, newborn and child health interventions.

Logistics management and commodity distribution: There is need to monitor commodity last mile distribution and general monitoring in order to reduce/eliminate stock out and expiry of essential health commodities, such as ARVs, TB and malaria drugs, etc.

Strengthen HIS through institutionalised data governance (HDCC and HDGC meeting).

Broad Activities 3

Enhance Data Demand and Use.

Operational Plan

Monthly presentation and analysis of data from facilities at OIC and other meetings: This is geared towards engendering data ownership amongst health workers.

Expand monthly integrated supportive supervision to all health facilities in the State: This is to ensure data ownership amongst health workers especially amongst non-programme supported facilities.

Broad Activities 4

Carry out needs-based capacity building for the M&E officers of SMOH, departments, agencies and programmes to be able to effectively track progress of the implementation of the ABSLTDP.

Operational Plan

Carry out needs assessment of M&E officers: This is to identify the knowledge gap in facilities, and ensure that the planned capacity building exercise is tailored towards addressing the identified knowledge gaps.

Capacity building of State, LGA, and programme M&E officers to track progress of programme implementation at their different levels: This exercise will equip programme officers with the knowledge to effectively track the key performance indicators (KPIs).

Broad Activities 5

This will encourage e-learning culture.

Operational Plan

Advocate e-learning culture to enhance capacity of M&E officers: It is good for the State to have a functional e-learning website domiciled at MOH and ABSPHCDA to enhance continuous capacity building of M&E and other programme officers at the State level.

REVIEW PROCESS

The review of this Plan is expected to be carried out every five years, taking into consideration the 15 pillars on health as identified in Abia State Strategic Health Development Plan II. All the stakeholders on health in the State will be co-opted into this review process, looking into the baseline data and indicators of success as set in the goals.

Each pillar of the 15 areas will be thoroughly reviewed in line with the guidelines on monitoring and evaluation reports which will be carried out quarterly till end of the Plan. This Plan will be updated with the current issues prevalent at the time of reviews and appropriate interventions recommended. The report of the review will be sent to the Abia State Planning Commission to be included in the ABSTLDP.

CONCLUSION

Abia State Health Development Plan, as a component of the ABSLTDP, 2020-2050, has articulated various programmes and actionable projects which will immensely enhance the status of the healthcare sector. The political will and commitment to translate these programmes to action is needed to transform the health sector from the present state to where we want it to be.

This Plan hopes to achieve SDGs 3, 6 and 7. This will need increased funding allocation to the health sector, improved monitoring and evaluation strategy, donor partnership and awareness, synergy among NGOs and CSO on health, inter-sectorial collaborations, improved public-private partnership, community involvement and advocacy.

The Plan will endeavour to harmonise the design, coordination, management, organisation and delivery of PHCs services in the State and provide a coherent investment plan for the health sector in the next 30 years. It is interesting also to know that Abia State has ongoing strategic health development plans I and II, 2010-2015 and 2017-2021, respectively.

Chapter 9

Education

INTRODUCTION

The ABSLTDP is a long-term development plan that is expected to fast-track the sustainable development of the State. To this end, the State Planning Commission constituted the eight-member education visioning committee, among other committees, to develop a blueprint to re-position the education sector for improved service delivery. The ABSLTDP is expected to make education more functional, more qualitative, and sustainable in the State.

OBJECTIVES

To develop and strengthen universal basic education and senior secondary education in Abia State.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Education is the bedrock of global goals on which the entire development structure rests. Wide consultations and SWOT analyses with major education stakeholders in the sector find the following features prevailing in the State:

Strengths

- Renewed interest by government to develop the sector
- Availability of human resources which could be harnessed
- School curricula tailored to engender self-employment
- Space for constructive involvement and meaningful participation of youths in community and social development.

Weaknesses

- Poor funding and delayed payment of teachers
- Lack of reliable data for planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Lack of infrastructure such as buildings/structures, instructional materials, laboratories, libraries, etc.
- Poor incentives/remuneration to teachers
- Low information and communication technology capacity
- Inadequate capacity to implement the curricula.

Opportunities

- Availability of unemployed graduates for engagement
- Prospects of the Diaspora and private sector participation

- Availability of willing development partners to be attracted to the State
- Availability of the Universal Basic Education Commission intervention funds
- Prospects of innovation and employment through the trade subjects
- The new secondary school curriculum as a gateway for self-employment.

Threats

- Poor funding of the sector
- Lack of reliable data for planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Dilapidated infrastructure
- Poorly-trained and ill-motivated teachers at all levels
- Dichotomy between university and polytechnic graduates: a disincentive to technical education
- Non-implementation of the teachers’ salary structure (TSS)
- Alarming rate of crime and unemployment
- Alarming male drop-out from schools.

EDUCATION SITUATION ANALYSIS

The issue of male drop-out from school is a major threat to educational development of Abia State. Available figures indicate that while boys generally dominate at the primary school enrolment level, male drop-out becomes glaring at the junior and secondary school levels. The ripple effects of this are felt at the tertiary level (Table 9.1). Should marriage and family demands impact negatively on the educational progress of females after senior secondary school level, then the State may not achieve its full potentials at the tertiary level, which could impact negatively on human capital and economic development aspirations of the State.

Table 9.1: Abia State school enrolment, primary, JS and SS for the period, 2012-2016

Year	2012			2013			2014			2015			2016		
	Enrolment (%)			Enrolment (%)			Enrolment (%)			Enrolment (%)			Enrolment (%)		
Gender	M	F	Both												
Primary	49.9	50.1	100.0	50.3	49.7	100.0	40.6	59.4	100.0	50.8	49.2	100.0	50.7	49.3	100.0
JS	45.5	45.5	100.0	44.8	55.2	100.0	46.3	53.7	100.0	47.3	52.7	100.0	44.4	55.6	100.0
SS	44.8	55.2	100.0	46.9	53.1	100.0	45.9	54.1	100.0	49.4	50.6	100.0	44.1	55.9	100.0

Source: Federal Ministry of Education (2017)

UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION (UBE) IN ABIA STATE

The universal basic education, as practised in the State, is the education given to children, 0-15 years of age. It encompasses the early childhood education, from 0-5 years, and nine years of formal school made up of six years of primary education and three years of junior secondary education.

The goals of the basic education are to provide opportunity for the child to develop manipulative skills that will enable the child function effectively in the society within the

limits of the child's capacity (NPE, 2013 p.14). Basic education is needed to build literacy and numeracy and to inculcate basic life skills and consolidate the skills of learning.

Table 9.2: School enrolment in basic education year, 2017-2018

<i>School level/year</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
ECCDE/2017	18,322	18,225	36,567
Primary/2017	52,350	49,278	101,628
JSS/2017	23,805	27,859	51,664
ECCDE/2018	22,582	21,756	44,338

Source: ASUBEB, 2019

Table 9.3: Number of schools by public/private sector ownership, 2018

<i>School level</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
ECCDE/Pre-Primary	868	681	1,549
Primary schools	868	681	1,549
JSS	270	590	860

Source: ASUBEB, 2019

Table 9.4: Number of teachers with required qualifications, 2018

<i>School Level</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i>
ECCDE	11	2,052	2,063
Primary	756	6,647	7,398
JSS	570	2,576	3,086
SSS	458	470	928

Source: ASUBEB, 2019

SENIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION

Senior secondary education is the education that students receive for a period of three years after the junior secondary education, and before the tertiary stage. It is comprehensive in nature, with a core curriculum designed to broaden students' knowledge and outlook.

In Nigeria, state governments are vested with the responsibilities to undertake the administration and control of senior secondary education which they carry out through their respective Ministries of Education who exercise administrative and professional duties. The teachers have the day-to-day responsibilities for what take place in the schools under the direction of the school heads.

Objectives of Senior Secondary Education in Nigeria

Some of the objectives of senior secondary education in State and Nigeria at large are as follows:

- Provide students, irrespective of sex, the opportunity for education of a high level, social status, religious or ethnic background
- Provide trained manpower in applied sciences, technology and commerce at sub-professional grades
- Inspire students with a desire for self-improvement and achievement of excellence to foster national unity with emphasis on the commonalities that unite the country
- Raise a generation of people who can think for themselves, respect the views and feelings of others, respect the dignity of labour, appreciate those values specified under Nigeria’s broad national educational goals and live as good citizens (National Policy on Education, 2013:18).

The introduction of senior secondary school curriculum in Nigeria is a fresh initiative which, according to NERDC (2011), aims to ensure that graduates from secondary schools are, among other things, professionally trained in entrepreneurship skills and possess relevant information communication technology (ICT) skills that will equip them for the challenges of the labour market.

All students, irrespective of their fields of study, are expected to study five core subjects, namely, English language, mathematics, civil education, computer studies and one trade subject. Students limit themselves to one or two trade subjects due to lack of teachers in those subjects, e.g., subjects like upholstery, carpentry and joinery, auto body repair, spray painting, etc.

Table 9.5: Senior secondary school enrolment, 2017-2018

Year	M	F	Total
2017	5,616	5,907	11,523
2018	458	470	928

Table 9.6: Number of secondary schools by public/private ownership

Year	Public	Private	Total
2018	248	590	11,523
2018	458	470	838

Table 9.7: Programmes and implementation activities on basic and senior secondary education sector in Abia State

S/N	Goal	Programme/ activity area	Strategies	Expected outcomes	Imple- menting agency	Budget estimate (₦)	Time frame
1	Educa- tion is more adequately funded	Allocation of 26% of annual state budget to education Attraction of the	State government allocates and releases more funds to	Education is better funded basic and senior secondary education more	State govt, ASPC, SMOEduc House of Assembly	₦900 m	5 years

		private sector, Diaspora, and other partners to fund education Access UBEC funds, other partners' funds Sustain free and compulsory basic and senior secondary education	education. Attraction of private sector, Diaspora and other partners to fund education	accessible Teachers' salaries are paid Rehabilitated infrastructure More functional education provided in schools	Private sector, Diaspora, other partners		
2	Teachers in schools are qualified, skilled and deliver in current methods	Training & re-training of teachers on current trends in delivery methods strengthen quality assurance	Conduct of regular refresher courses, Seminars workshops Monitoring and Evaluation	Teachers' skills upgraded on current trends in teaching/learning methodology Better delivery and classroom management by teachers	Colleges of Education Depts of Education of tertiary institutions	₦90 m	5 years
3	Teachers and other staff are qualified and motivated	Recruitment of qualified teachers and other staff Recognition/awards for outstanding performance	Transparency in employment to ensure that the best are recruited Payment of entitlements, Reward to best teachers, soft loans	Qualified teachers and other staff provide optimal services Teachers and other staff are motivated Teachers do not bully students	State govt, SMO, Education, SEMB, ASUBEB	₦200 m	5 years
4	Schools/classroom blocks are safe and conducive for teaching/learning	Renovation of classroom blocks Construction of new classroom blocks Provision of functional laboratories Provision of functional e-libraries Provision of functional vocational training facilities	Rehabilitation of school infrastructure	Schools are secure and conducive for learning	State Govt, SMO Education SMO Housing, Private sector partners, Diaspora	₦900 m	5 years
5	Schools utilise instructional materials & ICT equipment	Installation of electricity/power supply facilities, supplemented with renewable energy sources, esp., solar energy in schools. Procurement and distribution of computers and	Instructional materials and ICT are used in teaching Computers and other ICT needs are provided to schools	Teaching and learning become easier and well understood	State Govt SMO Educ. Partners, Diaspora Private Sector	₦500 m	5 years

		ICT equipment to schools Teachers acquire skills to teach ICT and media					
6	Entrepreneurship/Skill acquisition centres are available and functional	Establishment of functional entrepreneurship/skills acquisition centres for senior secondary schools in the 17 LGAs. Recruitment and posting of resource persons/artisans to the centres Procurement and installation of requisite equipment and materials Provide students with guidance and counselling Connect students to entrepreneurs for attachment/apprenticeship during holidays	Established centres have the 33 trade subjects. Resource Persons/Artisans provide services Ensure that centres are functional and provide practical skills to students	Students learn the trade subjects, are more creative and gainfully employed. Reduction in unemployment, Youth restiveness and crimes in the society	State Govt, Co-education SEMB ASUBEB Private sector Other Partners	₦500 m	5 years
7	Adequate Water and Sanitation (WASH) Facilities are provided in Schools	Construction of toilets in schools 10 facilities in each school Construction of boreholes with overhead tanks in schools	Building of standard toilets Provision of boreholes with overhead tanks in schools	Girls' friendly and conducive learning environment enhance learning teaching	State Govt, SMO Education Ministries of Public Utilities Partners, Diaspora Private sector	₦500 m	5 Years
8	Schools have adequate security	Construction of schools' perimeter fencing Trained security personnel are recruited and posted to schools	Schools perimeter fencing provided Synergy between SMO Education, Homeland Security, Police	Schools are secured Bullying, cultism, examination malpractices reduced in schools	State Govt., SMO Edu Homeland Security Police	₦500m	5 years
9	Model schools are available and operational in the 17 LGAs	Establishment of model schools in 17 LGAs for Basic Education and Senior secondary education	Establishment of model schools in 17 LGAs	The schools showcase best practices for others in learning, conduct and character.	State Govt., SMO Education SEMB ASUBEB Private Sector, Other partners	₦900m	5 years

10	Inclusiveness of other stakeholders in education	Conduct quarterly stakeholders' meetings in the education zones: SEMB, ASUBEB, NUT, NAPPS, ANCOPPS,	Promotion of better collaboration of major stakeholders Ease in Data collection Better implementation of policies and plans	-Synergy between the stakeholders Improved learning outcomes Better implementation of plan and policies Government gain trust, support and cooperation of the stakeholders	SMO Education, SEMB, ASUBEB, ANCOPPS, NAPPS, NUT, others	₦50m	5 years
11	Sustainability and continuity of the Education plan and policies	Conduct regular advocacy and sensitisation on implementation of the Curricula, plan and policies	Provision of legal backup for the plan Monitoring and Evaluation of plan implementation	The plan and policies are sustainably implemented	ASPC, House of Assembly, SMO Education, SEMB, ASUBEB	₦100m	5 year
12	Reliable Data is available and used for Planning	Build capacity of Staff for Data collection and Management Procurement of computers and other ICT equipment for data collection and management Procurement of vehicle for data collection and coordination Deployment of technology in Monitoring & evaluation Employment/ deployment of relevant staff	Staff are trained on data collection and management Data collection/ management is funded Computers/ other ICT equipment are provided	Planning is based on reliable data	SMO Education ASPC Private Sector, Other Partners	₦100m	5 years
13	Extra-Curricular activities contribute to students' well-being	Organise extra-curricular activities like debating, schools quiz, sports, clubs, cultural activities	Conduct schools competitions with prizes given: by LGEAs, Zones, etc.	Extra-curricular activities contribute to students' well-being and discipline	SMO Education SEMB, ASUBEB Private Sector, Other Partners	₦10m	5 years
14	Scholarship Awards produce qualified Teachers readily	Award of scholarships to pupils/students to study vocational, technical, business &	Selection through Transparent placement tests, examinations, Interviews	Education manpower need of the state are met	State Ministry of Education Partners, Agencies Private	₦600m	5 years

available to teach trade and technical subjects	science education. Award of scholarships to students for tertiary education on areas of need. Award of scholarship to 100 students in each LGA per annum	Sector Diaspora
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TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is the education and training which provide knowledge and skills for employment, using formal and informal learning methods. TVET is recognised as a crucial vehicle for social equity, inclusion and sustainable development. One of the key purposes is the preparation of the youth for work, which is achieved through the development of work-related skills and mastery of underlying knowledge and scientific principles. Work here refers to both formal employment and self-employment. Thus, to support self-employment, TVET curricula often include entrepreneurship training.

The rapid technological changes in the workplace demand that workers continuously update their skills. It is no longer fashionable, in technology-driven economies, to just acquire any degree from the conventional university. The dynamics of today’s labour market demand that one is equipped with one skill or the other to remain employable. As such, unlike in the past where a job could be held for life, it is commonplace to change vocations several times. TVET enables that in two ways by providing broad-based technical knowledge and transversal skills on which different occupations can be based and providing continuing vocational training to workers.

In the past, workers were given full-time employment for life, clear occupational roles and well-established career paths. However, current knowledge-dependent global economy is characterised by rapid changes in technology and related modes of work. Often, workers find themselves declared redundant and out of work. TVET has the responsibility of re-skilling such workers to enable them to find other opportunities and get back to work.

With the dearth of job opportunities for tertiary graduates, which Nigeria is constantly producing annually in great numbers, there is no better time to develop the TVET sector than now. In line with this, therefore, Abia State cannot continue to produce only graduates chasing white-collar jobs. The need for artisans with relevant skills to drive the economy cannot be overemphasised.

Education for Employment (E4E) Programme

In light of the above, the E4E programme was launched by Abia State government. It was designed to train youths in practical skills in schools to enable them engage in self or paid employment with the ultimate goal of poverty eradication in the State. The programme

was designed to divert the attention of Abia youths from dependence on white-collar jobs and become entrepreneurs and job creators in the process. At its inception, about 36,000 youth in the State were identified and captured in the take-off database for training in various vocations such as ICT, beauty therapy (hair dressing, weaving, professional make-up, etc.), fashion designing (tailoring and cloth making), leather works (shoe and bag making), welding and fabrication, hospitality and event management, social and health care, carpentry and security work, etc.

However, there will be need to rehabilitate and expand the existing technical colleges to deepen the production of technically-skilled youths to achieve the stated objectives. Out of three State-owned technical colleges, namely, Boys Technical College, Aba; Afara Secondary Technical, Umuahia, and Government Technical College, Ania, Ohafi, only two are partially functional. As a result, the State government is making efforts to upgrade the “three” technical colleges to international standards with the aid of World Bank under the Innovative Development Effectiveness in the Acquisition of Skills (IDEAS) Programme.

In Government Technical College, Ania, Ohafia, the student population was 34 in 2017, 52 in 2018 and 55 in 2019. In Boys Technical College, Aba, the student population was 402 in 2017, 482 in 2018 and 498 in 2019, while the teacher population in both schools were 14 and 12, respectively, as at 2019. The trade subjects offered in Government Technical College, Ohafia, are electrical installation and maintenance works, bricklaying, block-laying and concrete works and business trades. Boys Technical College, Aba, offers mechanical, electrical installation and maintenance, motor vehicle mechanic, welding/fabrication, carpentry/joinery, building and construction, and radio and television. There is need to increase these trades subject to availability of qualified technical instructors in the various colleges.

The goal of the project is to turn the colleges into mini production/business hubs. By the time the project is completed, the colleges will be well equipped and staffed to engage in business with the long-term objective of becoming self-sustaining and, therefore, return tax to the government, thereby boosting the internally-generated revenue of the State. It is expected that all arms of government will patronise these business development centres as a way to motivate and encourage enrolment into the colleges to boost revenue and also reduce unemployment in the society in the long run. Furthermore, it will rekindle interest in technical and vocational training among the populace.

SWOT Analysis of Technical and Vocational Education

Strengths

- TVET facilitates economic growth by increasing productivity of workers
- TVET also facilitates socio-economic development by enhancing the capacity of individuals to adopt practices that are socially worthwhile
- TVET aims to develop the broad range of personal capabilities that characterise an educated person
- Sufficient retired but not tired TVET teachers willing to be re-engaged to help develop the sector

- Sufficient resource persons in Abia Polytechnic to assist in training
- Renewed interest on the part of government to develop the TVET sector in the State.

Weaknesses

- Lack of infrastructure
- Lack of funds
- Lack of adequately equipped laboratories and equipment
- Lack of regular power supply
- Poor public perception of TVET
- Lack of commitment by successive regimes to develop the TVET sector.

Opportunities

- Available funds from World Bank to develop three pilot technical colleges in Abia State (covering the three senatorial zones) to meet international standards
- TVET as a gateway to self-employment
- Abundant opportunities for industrialisation abound
- Creates innovation through ICT.

Threats

- Inconsistency in funding the TVET sector
- Ignorance of the importance of technical education
- Poor perception of technical and vocational education
- Dichotomy between graduates of universities and polytechnic leading to indifference in choosing technical education.

OBJECTIVES OF TVET

The Plan aims to develop and strengthen technical and vocational education training (TVET) in Abia State.

Table 9.8: Programmes and implementation activities on the TVET sector in Abia State

S/N	Goal	Programme/ Activity Areas	Strategies	Imple- menting Agency	Expected Outcomes	Budget Estimate (₦)	Time- frame (Years)
1.	Adequate Human Resources produced for TVET in Abia State	Pre-employment training, in-house training and annual supervision	Assess current human resource needs (quality and quantity) Develop suitable curriculum for various sector skills areas Deliver identified training programmes (mentoring) monitoring	E4E	Each TVET institution to be adequately staffed in accordance with NBTE requirements	₦75 m	5 years

2.	Adequate equipment provided to deliver the courses in the TVET institutions	Upgrade existing equipment (if any) Purchase equipment to meet identified gaps		E4E	Provision of modern and adequate equipment for the TVET institutions	₦500 m	5 years
3.	Construction to ensure adequate learning environment in all TVET institutions in the State	Construct needed infrastructure	Assess infrastructure, map with the requirement of NBTE Monitor implementation to ensure compliance	E4E	Adequate infrastructure to meet NBTE requirements	₦750 m	5 years
4.	Partnership with private sector; To ensure effective partnership with private sector	Quarterly stakeholder meetings with stakeholders in each of the identified sector skills areas	Compile data of organised private sector (OPS) and match them with respective depts in the various TVET institutions in the State	E4E	Linkages between TVET institutions and Industries in the State	₦60 m	5 years
5.	Accreditation of all technical colleges by NBTE Ensure that all TVET institutions are accredited by NBTE	NBTE accreditation processes in each of the TVET institutions	Liaise with NBTE for initial assessment of the TVET institutions Implementation of the identified gaps in the NBTE assessment Invitation of NBTE for accreditation process Management of the accreditation report	NBTE	All TVET institutions are accredited by NBTE	₦500 m	5 years
6.	Monitoring and Evaluation	Conduct 3-year interval M&E	Update of teachers, technical instructors and student enrolment up to final year	Ministry of Education	Consistent increase in interest and number of enrolments	₦1 m	3 years

TERTIARY EDUCATION IN ABIA STATE

Tertiary education, which is at the apex of the education system, is the education provided after secondary education. This is received in such institutions as universities, inter-university institutions (such as the National Institute for Nigerian Languages), colleges of education, polytechnics, monotechnics and other specialised institutes as the colleges of

health technology. The delivery of learning experiences at this level may be formal or informal.

The goals of tertiary education are to produce adequately well-trained and motivated high-level manpower that will drive the continued economic and social development of the State in particular, and the nation, in general. In more specific terms, the National Policy on Education lists the following as the objectives of tertiary education:

- Contribute to national development through high level manpower training
- Provide accessible and affordable quality training opportunities in formal and informal education in response to the needs and interests of all Nigerians
- Provide high quality career counselling and lifelong learning programmes that prepare students with the knowledge and skills for self-reliance and world of work
- Reduce skill shortages through the production of skilled manpower relevant to the needs of the labour market
- Provide and encourage scholarship, entrepreneurship and community service
- Forge and cement national unity, and
- Promote national and international understanding and interaction.

The tertiary institutions in the State include Abia State University, Uturu; Abia State Polytechnic, Aba; Abia State College of Education (Technical) Arochukwu, and Abia State College of Health and Management Technology, Aba. Others which are run by the federal government are Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike; National Open University of Nigeria; National Institute of Nigerian Languages and National Teachers Institute.

The National Policy on Education also allows for the private ownership of tertiary institutions. Thus, there exists in the State the following private institutions: Rhema University, Aba; Gregory University, Uturu; Clifford University, Ihie; Umah Ukpai Polytechnic, Asaga, Ohafia; Covenant Polytechnic, Aba, and College of Education, Aba. These institutions, especially those owned by the Abia State government, must, of necessity, be brought into the long-term development Plan.

SWOT Analysis of Tertiary Education in Abia State

Strengths

- A large body of dedicated studentship very eager to learn
- A pool of dedicated academics and administrative staff
- Availability of fully accredited programmes.

Weaknesses

- Insufficient facilities
- Incessant strike actions which disrupt academic activities
- Insufficient number of academic staff
- Insufficient funding.

Opportunities

- Large pool of potential students
- Possibility of expansion and/or introduction of new programmes/disciplines
- Potentials for collaboration/linkages with national and international institutions
- Collaboration with industries and other users of higher education products.

Threats

- Inability to absorb all applicants for admission
- Inability to generate enough internal revenue
- Inability to meet remunerative needs
- Poor maintenance of existing facilities
- Insufficient funding of tertiary education
- Possibilities of strike actions.

University Education

The Abia State University, Uturu, offers instructions in two other locations. The Faculties of Agriculture and Law, as well as the Department of Vocational Education of the Faculty of Education, are located in Umudike, while the College of Medicine and Health Sciences is located in Aba.

The National Universities Commission (NUC), the regulatory body overseeing university education in Nigeria, in its blueprint on Rapid Revitalisation of University Education in Nigeria (2018-2023), identified 12 key challenges that the Nigerian university education faces. Some of these include inadequacies in facilities for teaching, learning and research; inadequate funding; deficit in teacher quality and quantity; governance deficit; inadequacies in access; deficiencies in research and post-graduate training; limited skills development and entrepreneurship and gender issues. These challenges are applicable to tertiary education in the State.

Technology Education

The State has two colleges of technology, namely, the Abia State College of Health and Management Technology, Aba, and the Abia State Polytechnic, Aba. Some technology courses are also offered in the universities.

The goals of technology education include the following:

- Courses of instruction and training in engineering and other technologies, applied sciences, business and management leading to the production of trained middle-level manpower
- Technical knowledge and skills necessary for agricultural, industrial, commercial and economic development of the State and country
- Manpower who can apply scientific knowledge to solve environmental problems for the convenience of man.

Teacher Education

Learning at all levels and systems of education is driven by teachers. It is also a true statement that no education system, and by extension no nation, can develop above the quality of its teachers. Quality teachers play a pivotal role in the provision of quality education at all levels. For these reasons, emphasis has continued to be laid on teacher education in education planning and development. Teachers are prepared by one of the following two modes:

- Combining education degree with a teaching subject leading to the award of B.Ed. or B.Sc./B.A. (ED) degree
- First obtaining a degree in a teaching subject and then a postgraduate diploma in education.

The institutions that train teachers in the State are Abia State University through its Faculty of Education, and the Abia State College of Education (Technical), Arochukwu. Others are Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike; the National Open University of Nigeria, and National Teachers Institute.

Objectives of Tertiary Education

To develop and strengthen tertiary education in Abia State. See Appendix 4 for analysis of strategies for developing and strengthening tertiary institutions in Abia State.

MASS LITERACY, ADULT AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

Abia State Agency for Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education was established in 1991. The core mandates include:

- Organise and carry out literacy programmes which shall include reading, writing, social studies and numeracy for adults in the State
- Develop, in the adult, the ability to use any acquired skills to enhance social and physical environment to improve on the mode of living
- Develop, in the adult, attitudes and commitments towards active participation in the improvement of the immediate locality and the nation at large
- Establish continuing education classes in the State
- Inspect, approve and monitor the private non-formal and continuing education establishments
- Establish functional literacy programmes with emphasis on skills development; and
- Promote or undertake any other activity which, in the opinion of the Agency, is calculated to help achieve the purpose of the Agency.

The target groups are:

- Young people and/or adults who are beyond school age but never had the grasp of the rudiments of reading and writing, otherwise referred to as “stark illiterates”

- Premature school drop-outs who never stayed to acquire permanent literacy for effective work
- Men and women who have been out of school for some time but need to further their education in post-literacy centres
- Disadvantaged groups like rural settlers, farm settlers, women and the disabled
- Artisans and technicians, like the roadside mechanics, hair-dressers, cabinet workers who had no opportunity to go through the formal school system
- Illiterate workers, including civil servants who lack the basic educational background
- Refugees, ex-convicts, returnees/deportees and retired workers.

Adult education is a second chance opportunity, for adults as well as youths, to actualise their educational aspirations and yearnings, which may have been truncated in the past.

Adult education provides opportunity for adults and youths, outside the formal school system, to be as educated as they wish, and are able to afford. In the present time, it is difficult to talk about adult and non-formal education without the skills acquisition component. Through skills acquisition, people are made self-reliant, more responsible, and able to contribute to the productive activities in the society. Adult and non-formal education is a life-long engagement.

Present State of the Agency

Presently, the agency has 211 adult education study centres, nine skills acquisition centres, 3,906 learners, 536 facilitators, 17 adult education unit heads, one bus (fairly serviceable). New applications for new centres are being processed. Between 2005 and 2018, the agency had enabled 522 candidates to register and write PSLAT.

Objectives of Mass literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education

- Mass literacy is intended to ensure that all citizens and residents can read, write and calculate, in their language of choice, especially, the business language of the area.
- Mass literacy, adult and non-formal education try to provide better understanding of such topical issues as militancy, insurgency, rapes, high maternal child mortality rate, out-of-school child syndrome, poverty, instability in families, citizens' non-participation in, and understanding of, government programmes and policies, lack of basic hygienic behaviour, bush burning, harmful agricultural practices, electoral violence, corruption, illiteracy, etc.

SWOT Analysis of Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education

Strengths

Through adult and non-formal education, driven by mass literacy, the following can be achieved:

- Reduction in crime rate in the society
- Improved basic sanitary and hygienic practices in families

- Checks against militancy and insurgency
- Enhanced citizens' understanding of, and participation in, government's policies and programmes
- individual self-reliance through skills acquisition
- Considerable reduction in poverty as more people become economically engaged
- Stability and peace in the society.

Weaknesses

- Lack of appreciation of the role and relevance of adult and non-formal education in the society by persons within the leadership brackets in the society
- Insufficient funding of adult and non-formal education programmes and services, and non-release of budgetary provisions
- Insufficient skills acquisition centres, as the existing ones are obsolete, obdurate, and unequipped
- Poor stipends to facilitators
- Lack of specialist teachers, since adult and non-formal education is a specialist field
- Non-cooperation among stakeholders in the adult education sub-sector
- Failure of some prospective learners, out of shame, to take advantage of adult education programmes and services
- Lack of resources by some learners to enable them register for the final examinations, which they desire
- Lack of modern equipment for teaching and learning, since teaching methods are dynamic
- Insufficient reading and instructional materials.

Opportunities

- Increased interest in skills acquisition by international development partners, networking and collaboration, UNESCO, UNICEF, NMEC, tertiary institutions, etc
- Private providers of adult education programmes and services can be encouraged
- Possibility of using the sub-sector for massive grassroots mobilisation and sensitisation for support of government programmes and services
- A vehicle for re-orientation of the society
- Reduction in poverty level through adult and non-formal education
- Reduction in crime rate through adult education programmes
- Collaborate with the tertiary institutions in the State.

Threats

- Insufficient funding
- Lack of specialist teachers
- Poor understanding of the relevance of adult and non-formal education
- Insufficient skills acquisition centres
- Lack of interest among the potential learners
- Insufficient reading and instructional materials.

Objectives Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education

To develop and strengthen mass literacy in Abia State. See Appendix 5 for detailed programmes and implementation activities on mass literacy in Abia State.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The term “disability” refers to a physical or mental condition that limits a person’s movement, senses, or activities. Persons with disability can and must contribute to the growth of the economy and benefit from this growth on an equal basis with others. This can become unrealistic when the person, because of the disability, becomes handicapped, which is the inability to perform certain functions such as reading, speaking, hearing, etc. Education is the tool to bridge this gap and as such, special needs education is designed.

In 1989, the United Nations ratified the Convention on the Right of the Child. The Convention states that disabled children have a right to enjoy a full and decent life. It states the right of the disabled child to special care education is a human rights issue. Thus, special needs education should not be considered a humanitarian service but as a right.

The National Policy on Education defines special education as a customised education programme, designed to meet the unique needs of persons with special needs (PWSN) that the general education programme cannot cater for.

The guidelines for special needs education is to serve as a tool for the education of the following categories of persons who have or are:

- visually impaired
- hearing impaired
- intellectual disability
- learning disability
- physical disability
- multiple disability
- communication disorder
- developmental disorder
- albinos
- gifted/talented.

The National Policy on Education further states that persons with special needs shall be provided with inclusive education services in schools which normal persons attend in age appropriate to general education classes, directly supervised by regular teachers. Inclusive education, therefore, is a system of education where children with special needs are placed alongside their able-bodied counterparts to learn either in the same classroom or in the same learning environment. It requires the services of both regular teachers and special education teachers in the school.

It is universally accepted that no matter the type and severity of disabilities in children, they should be placed and educated in an environment that is friendly, accepting, and devoid of any sort of discrimination.

To this end, upon creation and in adherence to special education policy, the State government established and adopted the existing special education centres in the State. These include:

- Special Education Centre for Visually Impaired, Afaraukwu
- Special Education Centre for the Deaf and Mentally Retarded, Umuahia
- Special Education Centre for the Deaf and Mentally Retarded, Aba
- Special Education Centre, Uzuakoli Leprosy Settlement.

The Special Education Centre for the Blind runs three major programmes

- The normal academic programme (Basic 1-6)
- Special (Braille) class
- The vocational department.

The special schools for the deaf and mentally retarded, as the name implies, see to the education and training of the deaf and mentally retarded. As institutions owned by the government, the schools provide accommodation and feeding at the centres. However, evidence shows that the feeding allowance/running cost by government has not been remitted since 2017. The present situation should be reconsidered.

Inclusive education is regarded as an effective means of combating discriminatory attitude and building of an inclusive society for achieving Education for All. Out of the eleven schools that were initially experimented with on inclusive education in the State, only Williams Memorial Secondary School, Afougiri, is standing with its skeletal state for this purpose. As at date, no school for the gifted/talented has been established in any part of Abia State.

Vision for Special Education

To obtain a paradigm shift to maximise human potentials of persons with special needs and nurture their intelligence, notwithstanding social, economic, political, religious, language and other circumstances (National Policy on Education, 2015).

SWOT Analysis of Special Education

Strengths

- Tuition free education for special needs education in the State
- Availability of gifted and talented children
- Availability of employable manpower.

Weaknesses

- Poor enrolment of people with disabilities (PWDs) in special schools
- Insufficient trained special education teachers and care givers for PWDs
- Lack of adequate statistical data
- No special education department in state-owned higher institutions
- No compulsory education for PWDs
- Problems resulting from handover of inclusive schools to original owners
- Ignorance on the parts of parents on the need to train people with disabilities.

Opportunities

- Availability of policy document on inclusive education
- Avenue for self-employment via vocational training
- Prospective funding from individuals and private organisations.

Threats

- Lack of adequate funding from government
- Poor perception of the public for people with disabilities
- Financial constraints of parents of people with disabilities
- Lack of motivation to study special education
- Poor public awareness for the existing special schools.

Objectives of Special Education

To develop and strengthen special needs education Abia State.

Table 9.9: Programmes and implementation activities on special needs education sector in Abia State

Accountable policy	Programme/project	Location	Implementing Agency	Strategies	Expected outcome	Budget Estimate in millions	Time-frame (years)
Compulsory and free special education up to secondary level	Special schools to be upgraded and inclusive schools set up starting with a few schools in each of the three educational zones	Umuahia Aba Ohafia	Government, MOE, SEMB, ASUBEB, Special Trust Fund	Modern facilities and equipment to be made available to the special schools. Establish three inclusive school in each of the three educational zones of Abia State.	More children with special needs will be in school	₦600 m	2-10 years
Public awareness/sensitisation on people with special needs	More awareness programme on the need for people with special needs to go to school	State Educational zones, LGAs, Communities	Government, Media houses, Stakeholders	Community leaders Village heads Radio and TV Newspapers Public lectures	Negative attitude of the general public on the children with special needs to be	₦100 m	2-20 years

Train/retrain Special education teachers/care givers	350 persons should be trained special education. Refreshers courses should be given to the few ones employed	States institutions of higher learning	Universities, COE, Government	Churches, etc. Award scholarships for the study of special education to 20 persons per LGA Give grants and other incentives to those already studying special education	reduced More qualified special education teachers will be produced.	₦700 m	2-20 years
Establish secondary school for the deaf in Abia State	Establish one secondary school for the deaf in each educational zone	Umuahia, Aba, Ohafia	State Government, MOE, SEMB, Private Sector	Upgrade existing schools not in full use	More special needs pupils will further their education	₦700 m	3-20 years
Adjustments to the physical infrastructure in the special schools	Physical infrastructure in the special schools according to the needs of the students	Special schools, inclusive schools, institutions for higher learning	Federal government, State government, NGOs, Individuals, education/special trust fund.	Building of ramps for wheel chairs, widening doors, adopting toilets, etc.	The environment will become friendly	₦900 m	1-25 years
Establish schools for the gifted/talented.	Three schools for the gifted/ talented to be established	Umuahia, Aba, Ohafia	State government, MOE, Private sector	Fresh construction of buildings and provision of suitable equipment	300 identified talented to be enrolled in school.	₦800 m	5-30 years
Set up vocational centres in schools with people with disabilities (PWD) to teach skills.	Provision of teaching and learning materials/ equipment	All special schools and inclusive schools	Federal government, State government, NGOs	Teaching of modern skills in the schools.	People with disabilities learn skills before graduation	₦800 m	2-15 years
Procure special equipment and materials for the special schools	Investing in equipment and materials for special education	Special schools, inclusive schools, institutions for higher learning	Federal government, State government, NGOs, Individuals, Education/ Special Trust Fund.	Provision of materials like Braille machines, abacus, mobility canes, computers with jaws, etc	Learning will be made easier	₦700 m	2-30 years
Employ qualified special education persons with consideration to those with special needs first.	Advertise for the employment of 30 specialist teachers/people with special needs from each LGA	States, LGAs	State government, Federal government, LGAs, MDAs	Objective selection of people.	Experts in special education will come out to be employed	₦900 m	1-20 years
Introduce sign language and Braille into the lower basic of our education	Sign language and Braille reading and writing should be taught by	All schools	State, MOEs, NCE, JCCE	5 schools in each of the 3 educational zones of Abia State should	More people will be acquainted with both sign	₦500 m	5-25 years

system.	specialist teachers in five pilot schools in each LGA			be used as pilot schools for the first phase	language and Braille writing and reading		
Establishment of special education dept. in Abia State University and College of Education Arochukwu	The faculty of Education of ABSU should open a Dept. of Special Education and the College of Education Arochukwu to start with certificate courses in special education	ABSU, COE Arochukwu	Federal government, NUC, State government	ABSU to employ more teachers in special education. College of Education Arochukwu to do same	Students should be admitted to study special education	₦800 m	3-30 years
Equip special education units in MOE, SEMB and ASUBEB to help monitor the Programme	Reinforce special education units in the MOE, SEMB and ASUBEB as before	Affected MDAs, Organisations, etc.	Government, MDAs, Organisation, etc.	Draw Some Senior and Experienced special educators to some of these offices to assist. Provide two project vehicles for easy M&E move-ments in the MOE, SEMB and ASUBEB	Special education activities will flow on its own with adequate support by the supervising agencies	₦80 m	2-30 years

YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Youths are among the greatest assets of any state or nation, not only because they are largely the leaders of tomorrow, but also are partners for today in both leadership and developmental issues. They are potentially the greatest investment for any country's development. Youths are recognised as vital resource whose prospects are inextricably tied to that of their state. Without the youths, there can be no future for any society. They serve as a good measure of the extent to which a state can reproduce as well as sustain itself. The extent of their vitality, responsible conduct and roles in society is positively correlated with the development of their states.

Nigeria's population is predominately young. Same is the case with the population of most of the federating states. In the same vein, the population of Abia State is primarily youthful. Abia State had an estimated population of about 3.8 million in 2015. The estimated population of young men and women in the State is 1.6 million at a growth rate of 12.6 percent annually. As a result of this recognition, it becomes overtly important that any policy or plan targeting development of the State must make very generous and concrete provision to include youths and youths-related challenges and prospects.

Even with the latest effort at weeding off adults who masquerade as youths by adopting a new definition of youths as persons between the ages of 15 and 29 years, Abia State

remains a state whose population is essentially very youthful. Abia youths experience variegated problems but share similar aspirations and concerns. But different categories of youths require concerted, focused and well-targeted attention. A worthwhile policy document, detailing strategy that would enable youths to transit to self-fulfilled and productive adulthood with opportunities for full effective and constructive participation in the state economy in the foreseeable future, would necessarily address youths based on their vulnerability and circumstances of living. They may include the following:

- students in secondary and tertiary institutions
- out-of-school youths
- unemployed and under-employed youths
- youths with disabilities
- youths engaged in crime and delinquency
- female youths
- gifted youths
- rural youths
- youths living in the street
- youth living with HIV/AIDS
- illiterate youths
- youths engaged in commercial sex work, and
- youth in the Diaspora.

Doubtless, youths are veritable assets to any society. However, youths who are neither in school nor in employment portend unimaginable danger to society. These challenges can be mitigated through the adoption of the United Nations World Programme of action for youths which focuses on education, employment, health, environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure time activities, youth participation in decision making activities. The ABSLTDP makes provision to effectively tackle youth problems if the following priority areas adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2005 are given priority:

- Impact of globalisation on youths
- Use of, and access to, information and communication technology (ICT)
- Increase in the incidence of HIV infection among young people and the impact of the epidemic on their lives
- Active involvement of young people in armed conflicts, both as victims and perpetrators, and
- Increased importance of addressing intergenerational issues in an ageing society.

Based on the socio-economic and political realities existing in the State and global best practices, the Plan should target the following priority thematic areas and critical concerns facing the Abia State youths:

Youths and Education

Education is the single most important factor contributing to the ability of young people to live a productive and responsible life. The Plan shall promote equal access to quality education, irrespective of socio-economic circumstances. Efforts should be made to promote reading culture among the youths, as readers are leaders.

Youths and Health

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. The health of youths in the State is increasingly being compromised due to bad habits, poor hygiene, risky behaviour, emerging diseases, among others. Youths constitute about one-third of the population of the State. So, the state of the health of the youths obviously would impact on the State’s productive potential. The Plan should design and implement health services that will promote and maintain a healthy youth population.

Youths and Agriculture

The Plan should aim at involving the youths in all the value chains of agriculture with a view to making agriculture demand-driven as an incentive to young agropreneurs.

Youths and Employment

Unemployment and under-employment among youths are global challenges. It has been argued that the frustration that accompanies long-term unemployment among youths could lead to political and ideological unrest, violence and deviance. The Plan would promote the provision of a wide range of vocational, entrepreneurial training, flexible employment opportunities, decent working condition, and life skills, which will in turn enable youths find and maintain gainful employment and sustainable livelihood without any form of discrimination. The Plan would promote master/trainer-apprenticeship model which ameliorates skill-gaps among the youths.

Youths and Science and Technology

Science and technology, the world over, offer the youths new opportunities as well as new challenges. The ABSLTDP would create an enabling environment that predisposes the youths to leverage on the benefits of science and technology, especially, information and communication technology (ICT).

Youths and Environment

Environmental issues, even in the most restricted sense, present some of the most profound and complex challenges requiring attention today and in the coming years. Environmental challenges thrust greater burden on the youths than on the older generation because, ideally, the youths have longer period to contend with the challenges than the older generation. The Plan would promote awareness among the youths in the State on issues associated with the environment and actions needed to improve and preserve the environment.

Young Women and Girls

The 2012 United Nations Women Report ranked Nigeria 151 out of 174 countries in terms of women's limited access to education and other vital resources. This is in addition to the perpetration of physical, psychological and sexual violence against girls and young women which hinder their potential for meaningful contribution to social progress. The Plan would promote strategies to eliminate all barriers impeding the educational pursuits of girls and young women.

Youths and Participation in Decision-Making

Young people have a right not only to be heard, but also for their views to be taken seriously. The Plan would discourage the age-old propensity of adults taking decisions concerning young people in their absence which is at variance with the commitment respecting the participatory rights of young people, especially in light of the extant "not-too-young-to-run" Act.

Youths, Sports and Recreation

The importance of leisure time activities in the psychological, cognitive, and physical development of young people cannot be over-emphasised. Leisure time activities include games, cultural events, entertainments and community service. Appropriate leisure programmes for youths can be targeted towards fighting such ills as drug abuse, juvenile delinquency and other deviant behaviours. Leisure time activities and sports do not only promote inclusiveness but is presently big business concern. The ABSLTDP would, in the next 20 years, promote the participation of young men and women in a wide range of leisure and sporting activities.

Youths and Poverty

Poverty is a complex phenomenon and is usually indicated by household income and poverty-line statics as well as lack of access to basic services and resources. Nearly 50 percent of Nigerian youths live on less than US\$2 a day and this very much reflects the case in Abia State. Young people constitute the highest segment of the population of the State. The distribution of the population continues to change due to issues like urban-rural migration, thereby compounding the problems of poverty in the State. The Plan shall create the necessary mechanism that will eliminate absolute poverty among young men and women in the State in the next ten years.

SWOT Analysis of Abia State Youths

Strengths

- Youths have enormous numerical strength in the State
- Youths are energetic and vibrant.

Weaknesses

- Skills-gaps due to poor education and lack of vocational training
- Unemployment, kidnapping and crimes which is prevalent amongst youths.

<p>2</p>	<p>To promote and maintain healthy youth population</p>	<p>Investing in young people's health. Promote personal responsibility for a healthy lifestyle. Discourage drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse among youths. Promote leisure and sports among youth</p>	<p>Implementation of the national standards and minimum service package for adolescent and youth friendly health services within the state. Institutionalise peer-to-peer health education strategy to equip and empower in-school and out-of-school, youths with comprehensive sexuality education and life building knowledge and skills. Integrate adolescent and youth-friendly healthcare to improve the access of youth to both preventive and curative services.</p>	<p>MOH, APHCA, MOYSD, MOE, Mass media, NUJ, traditional institutions, women and youth organisations, religious leaders, SAMM, ATMP, SUGs</p>	<p>Rekindle the interest of youths in agriculture by 30%. Reduce youth unemployment by about 40%. Secure food security by about 40%. It could be achieved at cost of N500 m</p>	<p>The state would become the food basket of the south east zone. The state becomes agri-business hub of the zone. Cost for this is estimated at ₦550 m</p>	<p>The state become major exporter of agricultural produce ₦250 m</p>	<p>All the expected outcome would scale up to 60% ₦600 m</p>	<p>All the expected outcome would increase and hit about 80% ₦600 m</p>	<p>Expected outcome would consolidate at 90% at a cost of ₦1 b</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Promote involvement and full participation of the youths in the agricultural value chain, for food security</p>	<p>Establish agri-business incubation centres in each of the three political zones of the state. Enhance agricultural</p>	<p>Promote teaching of the science of agriculture at all levels of education. State government and stakeholders to promote</p>	<p>MOE, MOA&RD, MOYSD, ADP, Bank of Agriculture, MOCSPA, private sector</p>	<p>Reduce youth unemployment by 30%. Reduce skill-gaps among youths by 35%. cost ₦200 m</p>	<p>Secure high level self employment by 4%. ₦250 m</p>	<p>Expected outcome to increase by 60% ₦300 m</p>	<p>Expected outcome to hit 75%, cost ₦400 m</p>	<p>Expected outcome to increase by 90% ₦450 m</p>	<p>Attain full employment ₦500 m</p>

		tural extension services with priority on youth agriculture Liberalise access to credit for youths in agriculture.	provision of agricultural inputs, including land, credits and extension services. Promote the formation of more youth-led agro and credit cooperative societies, Provide incentives for the study of agricultural science at all levels							
4	Promote provision of a wide range of vocational entrepreneurial training and life skills to enable youths maintain gainful employment and sustainable livelihood	Encourage flexible employment opportunities, decent working conditions and skills acquisition programmes for both in-school and out-of-school youths	Promote school-based career guidance services. Provide youth centres and career guidance centres Promote self employment Encourage vocational training and apprenticeship Provide more skill acquisition centres, upgrade and re-equip existing business development centres	MOE, MOYSD, master trainers MOT & E4E, ASAME						
5.	Promote participation of young men and	Design leisure and sporting activities	Reintroduce school sports as an annual	MOY & SD, MOE, Sports Council, MOF, pro-	School Sports would have been	School sports would have produce	Reduce all forms of youth deviance due to	Young people are empowered to attain	Create enabling environment for the inclusion	Secure tax reduction incen-

	women in a wide range of leisure and sporting activities.	as tools to unite the youths. Harvest and harness budding sporting talents at the grass-roots Promote private sector investment in a wide range of sporting activities in the state.	event. Rehabilitate the now moribund Nsulu games village to a one-stop modern games village. Create incentives for entrepreneurs to invest in commercial sporting ventures. ABSU and ACETA to start Department of Human Kinetics Mandatory/street provision of functional open spaces in all residential estates	Professional Sporting Bodies. Private sector, CBOs FBOs the Diaspora	entrenched as annual event. Young sporting talents would have been discovered and developed for national and international competitions. Rehabilitation of Nsulu Games village, equipped with modern amenities. Projected cost ₦1 b.	professional sports men and women. The State would have developed Sports entrepreneurs (sportspreneurs) Nsulu Games village would have attained 50% completion in terms of infrastructure provisioning cost ₦1.5 b	sustained synergy between academic and sporting activities in the schools. Nsulu Games village becomes a sporting hub in the South-East of the country. Projected cost ₦1.5 b. Create enabling environment for the inclusion of vulnerable and marginalised youths into the mainstream of the economy	their full potential with resultant increase in their productivity and reduction in youth unemployment and poverty. Nsulu Games village becomes a major revenue earner for the state. Projected cost ₦2 b.	of vulnerable and marginalised Youths into the mainstream of the State's social progress. Would have attained about 70% of all expected outcomes Cost ₦2.1 b	tives to sport-preneurs for investing in commercial sporting activities Achieve 90% of a expected outcome Projected cost ₦2.5 b
6.	Promote participation of young people in various forms of arts and culture. Ensure youths have sound understanding of their cultural heritage. Promote reading culture among the youths.	Develop structures and mechanism for the production Propagate and utilise local culture, arts and crafts industries among different cultures and clans in the State.	Intensify inclusion and implementation of arts and cultural education in schools' curricula at all levels. Encourage local communities in the State to undertake preservation of cultural sites and writing of local stories and folklores. Promote	MOE, MOY & SD, MOTAC, Abia State Arts Council, Mass media, traditional institutions	Scale up appreciation of our cultural heritage among the youths in the face of escalating and rampaging western culture. Stem the tide of the extinction of our local language among the youths as the purveyors of our posterity Projected	Achieve 25% of expected outcome. Cost ₦300 m	Scale up the rate of readership among the youths by about 40% Achieve the emergence of a crop of knowledgeable and literate youth population, imbued with local niceties and global appreciation Projected cost ₦300 m	Attain 70% of expected outcome. Cost. ₦350 m	Achieve 80% of expected outcome. Projected cost ₦400 m	Attain 90% of expected outcome Projected cost ₦500m.

			artistic and cultural activities among Youths in and out of school. Encourage the appreciation of our cultural diversity in the State. Promote learning and dissemination of local languages in the State. Promote establishment of reading clubs in and out-of-school system. Provide functional virtual and e-libraries		cost ₦250 m.					
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MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ABSLTDP

The underlisted indicators, among others, are proposed for the monitoring and evaluation of performance of the Plan. This should be carried out periodically with the required interventions put in place to plug identified gaps. The key performance indicators and milestones are:

- Increased percentage of budgetary allocation and release to education in the State
- Better equipped basic, secondary and tertiary institutions in the State
- Make available reliable data for monitoring and evaluation
- Increased private sector and other partners' funding in the sector
- Number of schools/school blocks renovated in the 17 LGAs per year
- Improved/standard infrastructure for teaching and learning in schools
- Increase in number of TVET teachers employed
- Increase in number of qualified teachers in schools
- Increase in number of scholarships given and funded at all levels
- Availability of functional ICT centres, laboratories and e-libraries in schools
- Improved pupil-teacher, student-teacher ratio in schools
- Increase in number of functional technical schools in the State

- Increase in number of functional skills acquisition centres in the 17 LGAs
- Increase in number of graduands equipped for self-employment
- Better motivated and satisfied personnel/providers available
- Increased literacy rate in the State
- Reduction in school drop-out rate
- Increased use of research results and prototypes from the institutions for industrial/commercial purposes
- More impetus given to scientific and technological innovation
- Increased IGR and self-reliance of tertiary institutions
- Closer synergy between employers of labour and producers of labour force
- Increase in number of self-reliant entrepreneurs/graduates
- Reduction in crime rate and youth restiveness
- A more buoyant and sustainable state economy
- Increased political stability
- Increased major stakeholders' collaboration and buy-in
- Emergence of more outstanding scholars//prize-winners in the State.

CONCLUSION

The success of the Plan hinges largely on strong commitment on the part of the State government in driving the implementation. There is the need for more collaboration with critical stakeholders in education to achieve the set goals of the Plan.

Chapter 10

Social Protection

DEFINITION AND BACKGROUND

The National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) for Nigeria defines social protection as a mix of policies and programmes designed for individuals and households throughout their life cycle to prevent and reduce poverty and socio-economic shocks by promoting and enhancing livelihoods and a life of dignity.

The implication of the above definition, which has been adopted in this exercise, is that social protection should translate economic growth into the improvement of the well-being of the majority of the citizens. It, therefore, sees social protection as imperative to the reduction of poverty and protection of vulnerable groups from shocks that may arise from social insecurity throughout the life cycle of an individual, and vulnerabilities caused by disabilities, accidents and disasters, among others, to live a life of dignity and well-being.

Social protection is now viewed as a major and important instrument on development agenda which Nigeria has embraced. In light of this, the government of Abia State is committed to effectively and efficiently mobilise the State's resources to serve and improve the lives of its citizens. In doing this, however, the State government is aware that there are enormous challenges in meeting these obligations. The whole world is currently being ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic which has brought more hardship to people all around the world and Nigeria is not an exemption to the economic woes it has brought. Before the emergence of the pandemic, Nigeria had over 50 percent of its population living below poverty line. The pandemic has, therefore, added to the woes of the country that just exited recession in 2017. As at the time the pandemic appeared, the country was still trying to stabilise its economy. This global and national outlook is shown in Fig. 10. The satiation of Abia State can be deduced from here.

Social protection interventions are meant to address multi-dimensional and cross-cutting issues, temporary and structural deprivations, shocks, and vulnerabilities (Federal Republic of Nigeria (FRN), 2016). Provision of adequate social protection measures for affected populations in addressing the COVID-19 crisis will ensure effective access to healthcare, support jobs and income security, contribute to preventing poverty and unemployment, strengthen better social stability and peace as well as serving as social stabilisers (ILO, 2020).

It is in this context that Abia State, as one of the states in Nigeria, operates. The State has a relatively high demographic burden with the 0-14 age range alone accounting for 36.8

percent of the population, and accounting in part for the 66.5 percent dependency ratio. Though the State has a fairly high literacy rate (75.2 percent for male and 73 percent for female), contributions by this group is largely incapacitated by high rates of unemployment and limited production complementarities from capital. As in many parts of the country, social security is very weak, largely relying on informal and poorly distributed extended family support system that is fast being weakened by urbanisation as well as changing value system and norms, and threats of crime from unemployed youths of which Abia State has had its fair share of violent crimes (robbery, kidnapping, etc.) due to high level of unemployment. While the worst days seem to be over and relative peace has re-emerged in the State, the risks continue to be high on account of unemployment.

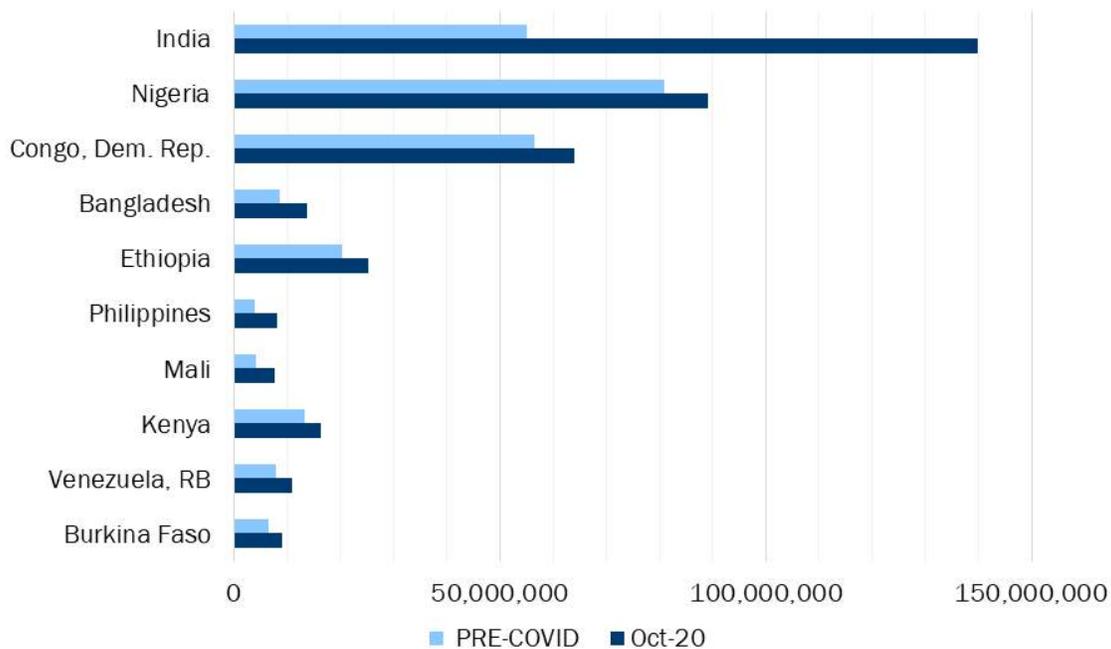


Fig. 10: Countries with highest likely increases in extreme income poverty headcounts compared to baseline 2020 (absolute numbers of people)

Source: Brookings, October 22, 2020

Abia State’s broad vision for development is to ensure the overall well-being and security of its citizens as well as become Nigeria’s premier business and pleasure destination by 2050. To achieve this, the State government intends to invest extensively in a number of foundational sectors including security, infrastructure, improving the business environment, healthcare and housing. Investments in these foundational economic blocks will lead to the acceleration of private-sector participation in the development and growth of the major sectors of the State’s economy. The key sectors of emphasis include agriculture, industry, commerce, oil and gas and education.

Much as the development programmes under this vision have been impressive in conceptualisation and implementation, the outcomes, as shown in the current socio-economic profile of the State, call for new perspectives to deal with persistent and new

challenges. The high numbers of the poverty rate, vulnerability and risk assessment, indicate that many people are likely to be poor if no action is taken. There is also a recognition that all men, women, and children, irrespective of location and age, are faced with wide range of contingencies and risks which threaten their well-being. Government has a responsibility to act to secure citizens' well-being. Actions in this new realm, which deal with the needs of the poor and currently non-poor for security in the face of life cycle events and in anticipation of shocks and threats, fall in the perspective of social protection.

Abia State has some pockets of social protection initiatives meant to fill the gaps created by the shortcomings of dominant and sectoral development policies and programmes. Some of these initiatives are rooted in political party manifestos and ideologies rather than becoming institutionalised in the State. Non-governmental organisations and international development partners have sponsored other inspiring initiatives, creating awareness on the huge potentials of social protection in the last decade. Abia State government itself has embarked on various social protection initiatives and interventions, independently under its various empowerment programmes and in collaboration with indigenous and international development partners.

However, some shortcomings have been observed on the trend in social protection in the State. The structure on ground at present makes it difficult to differentiate between social protection initiatives and poverty alleviation programmes. The latter are often politically determined and short-lived. Most of the social protection initiatives undertaken within the formal structure of government has been in the mould of poverty alleviation and are focused on income security, employment and income generation, leaving out the social dimensions that underpin exclusion, deprivations, vulnerability, and inequalities, which are the basic pillars upon which social protection rests. Above all, there are gaps in the existing social protection strategies. They are lacking in coherence and there is absence of social protection system. Coverage of beneficiaries are low and limited, and there is non-targeting of the core poor as beneficiaries, unpredictability in funding and transfer, poor coordination, and absence of policy framework.

The recent 2017 Federal Executive Council (FEC) approved National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) for Nigeria, has given further boost to the need for social protection policy at the state level. A social protection system within a policy framework has several pull factors and advantages. The social protection component of the ABSLTDP seeks to harvest these benefits in addressing poverty and vulnerability in the State under ABSLTDP.

The Abia State social protection component has been developed using the bottom-up approach through wide consultations with relevant stakeholders in the State. It seeks to place within the reach of Abians, the maximum benefits of social protection. The social protection component of ABSLTDP shall:

- engender a broader framework than social security and bring together multiple agencies and partners to provide services to the poor and vulnerable
- directly personalise the benefits of development to individuals and households
- strengthen investment in citizen-state relationship and promote development.

ABIA STATE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

This social protection section is formulated within the context of the ABSLTDP. The two key objectives of the social protection programme in the State are to:

- optimise human and natural resources to achieve rapid economic growth
- translate that growth into equitable social development for all citizens with improved living standards.

Other objectives of the social protection component of this ABSLTDP are as follows:

- Identify the critical stakeholders that will contribute, manage, and benefit from the social protection plan and programmes in the State
- Develop and publish Abia State Social Protection Policy Document and the implementation guidelines in the State
- Establish and host social protection system in the State, especially in Abia State Planning Commission
- Build capacity of personnel specialising in economic planning, social works, community development, etc., to help in effective implementation of the social protection programmes in the State
- Identify possible intervention programmes on social protection implemented by the federal government and other international governments and agencies willing to partner and support the State
- Establish a comprehensive and inclusive Abia State social register and local government social registers where potential beneficiaries will be selected from, for interventions by governments, organisations and good-spirited individuals
- Bridge the inequality gap in the society
- Develop social support for reform programmes
- Promote social justice and equity and make growth more efficient and equitable
- Facilitate investment in human capital for poor households and communities
- Provide protection for all citizens against shock and risk
- Promote social cohesion and social solidarity
- Compensate for declining effectiveness of traditional informal systems for enhancing livelihood
- Ensure continuity of access for all to the basic services necessary to develop human capital, meet basic needs and live a life of dignity
- Enable people to take economic risks to pursue their livelihoods
- Empower the extreme poor to have a means to contribute to economic development
- Strengthen citizen-state ties and social contract
- Provide collaborative approach to formulating appropriate social programming tool for addressing equity and fairer distribution of resources.

This social protection programme considers social protection goals as congruent with the ABSLTDP aspirations whereby expenditures on social protection are investments

necessary to kick-start growth and engender sustainable development in the state in the longer term.

Accordingly, this section of the ABSLTDP provides the framework not only to understand the vulnerability of the poor, but also institute measures to mobilise the assets and capabilities of individuals, households and communities, and convert them into sustainable human development in Abia State.

NEED FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION COMPONENT IN ABSLTDP

The government of Nigeria accepts the increasing relevance of social protection in engendering citizens' right to a life of dignity and the promotion of human and economic development. Abia State has keyed into this vision. Over the last decade, and especially in developing countries, social protection has emerged as a viable policy framework employed to address poverty, vulnerability, inequality and exclusion, and other threats to sustainable development. It is also interesting to note that some states in the federation have even developed their full social protection policy to address the above-mentioned issues. It is expected that Abia State will develop its full-fledged social protection policy.

In the meantime, recognising that economic growth alone is insufficient to bring about the transformation needed in the State. Abia State government seeks to adopt a balanced framework that promotes inclusive growth, equality, and security as it develops the long-term plan for the State.

RATIONALE FOR INVESTING IN SOCIAL PROTECTION IN ABIA STATE

Despite the resources committed by the government within the development Plan framework to tackle poverty, the level of poverty, though gradually declining, is still unacceptably high. The efforts of international development partners in creating awareness on the potential of social protection in complementing government's action towards achieving sustainable development is well recognised. However, the success recorded by the pilot efforts of the partners are not on a scale needed to have a significant impact on poverty and wellbeing of the citizens. That many developing countries are using social protection as a development strategy to address poverty and vulnerability further lends support for the consideration of social protection as a viable policy framework for Abia State.

In adopting the social protection framework, the ABSLTDP rests on the conviction that the framework allows the State to advance the wellbeing and security of its citizens by protecting them from vulnerability, deprivation, exclusion and inequalities. The need to guarantee sustained improvement in citizens' wellbeing is a strong rationale for social protection component of this development Plan. Further, social protection is rooted in the constitutional provisions of the fundamental objectives and directive of state policy as enshrined in Nigeria's 1999 Constitution relating to the "fundamental objectives and directive principles of State policy" which provide that "the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government".

APPROACH TO SOCIAL PROTECTION

The social protection approach adopted, reflects the underlying development perspective it seeks to support. The dominant social approaches are those that emphasise either risks, rights or needs. They share the important feature of being concerned with poverty reduction at individual and/or household levels.

Recently, there have been innovations in social protection programming which seek to maximise efforts at poverty reduction using the life-cycle approach because of its emphasis on integrated poverty reduction programmes. The main features of the life-cycle approach include the following:

- Everyone needs social protection from birth to death
- All individuals pass through different stages of life defined by the following age brackets: 0-5, 6-14, 15-24, 25-64 and 65 years and above
- Social interventions are age appropriate and gender-sensitive
- Social protection interventions address multi-dimensional and crosscutting issues
- Social protection also deals with the needs of the currently non-poor in the face of life-cycle events and in anticipation of the ever-present shocks and threats.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF SOCIAL PROTECTION COMPONENT OF ABSLTDP

The main goal of the social protection component of the ABSLTDP is to establish an integrated and inclusive framework or system that increases efficiency with which resources are used through the adoption of well-designed social protection programmes for the attainment of the well-being of all the citizens in the State.

The following strategies will be applied in achieving the objectives of the social protection programme of ABSLTDP:

- Provide guidance for development of social protection policy framework as a system supporting the developmental needs of the poorest individuals, households, and vulnerable groups through the life cycle
- Establish functional social protection coordination mechanism that makes the poorest and most vulnerable as the primary focus of the State development process
- Increase the delivery and use of high impact interventions that provide and protect the well-being of citizens as well as prevent the reversal of gains achieved
- Focus on the removal of hindrances to access and utilisation of basic services
- Establish and strengthen strong and stable institutions directly concerned with reducing and preventing poverty and vulnerability
- Promote increasing access to basic services and investment in human development
- Assure minimum well-being of citizens by guaranteeing access to essential goods and services, facilities, and infrastructure that secure life contingencies for all
- Provide measures and strategies to prevent and protect against risks and threats
- Promote poverty reduction and sustainable development
- Position social protection as a key component of the state development agenda.

THE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROFILE OF THE STATE

Social protection covers all the phases of the life-cycle with special consideration to support and improve the livelihood of the most vulnerable groups, perhaps for being victims of various forms of inequity, discrimination, and unequal access to socio-economic opportunities. Over the years, the socio-economic conditions of these “vulnerable groups” have drawn the attention of policy makers within government and among international development agencies. Based on the various imminent uncertainties and vulnerabilities of various segments of the populations, the State government has adopted numerous social protection programmes in the State.

Abia State has keyed into, and benefits from, the following the national social safety nets programmes of the federal government.

National Home Grown School Feeding

This programme was designed for primary one to primary three pupils. However, the State government scaled up the programme to accommodate pupils in primaries four to six in the State.

National Social Safety Net Coordinating Office-State Operations Coordinating Unit (NASSCO-SOCU)

This programme was set up to identify, target, and generate data of the poor and vulnerable households in the various communities in the State. It is presently working in six pilot LGAs of Isiala Ngwa North, Isiala Ngwa South, Ugwunagbo, Ukwu East, Ohafia and Umunneochi, and will cover the rest of the 17 LGAs of the State on or before 2022 when the programme is expected to round up. Presently, the State has its component social register of the National Social Register with more than 42,000 poor and vulnerable households (PVHH) as at April, 2020.

The NASSP Cash Transfer Programme

This programme is currently running in the State. Apart from these nationally conceived programmes, the State also has developed its own programmes being implemented by the State, e.g., the tele-health for the elderly, empowerment programmes from political office holders, housing programme for indigent widows and women in the State (being run through the office of the First Lady of the State). Many of these are implemented without proper documentation. For now, the social protection intervention in the State is not inclusive and very narrow in scope.

It is imperative, therefore, to have a framework with coordination to oversee these pockets of social intervention programmes and harness them for the good of the citizenry. The following are comprehensive frameworks of social protection programmes anticipated in the Abia State:

- Citizens’ engagement for awareness creation on the existence of such programmes in the State
- Develop and implement the State social protection policy framework at the State and local government levels

- Develop strong institutional and legal frameworks
- Government buy-ins and sufficient fund support in the budget
- Identify programme sponsors and support from corporate organisations and good spirited individuals
- Digitalised and real time capture of the targeted poor and vulnerable households in the State into the State/LG social register
- Reliable manpower with strong capacity to deliver.

Looking at the number of social protection interventions in the State, as shown in Table 10, there is no doubt that they are narrow in scope and limited in the number of beneficiaries benefiting from the programmes. Abia State has poverty headcount of 30.7 percent of the entire population of the State (NBS, 2020). This shows that the programmes are grossly inadequate to cater for the poor and vulnerable in the State. It becomes imperative, therefore, to introduce new programmes and scale up some of the existing ones to widen the scope and reach more beneficiaries. For instance, the federal government cash transfer, the YESSO project, as well as the CSDP, can be leveraged upon and expanded to cover more grounds in the State. Other programmes that will, in a short time, serve as low hanging fruits and provide succour for those whose businesses, have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, should be quickly introduced.

Table 10: Social protection/investment programmes coverage in Abia State

S/N	Social protection programme	Sponsor/type	Number of beneficiaries	% of beneficiaries in the state	Coverage by LGA
1	State Operations Coordinating Unit	NASSP/NASSCO (Poor and vulnerable household targeting) SSR	42,779 PVHH in the SSR	30%	6 LGAs (15,003 PVHHs available for mining)
2	Cash transfer programme	NASSP	9377HHs enrolled from the beneficiary register	97.4% coverage of the 9627 HHs in state beneficiary register	14,085 PVHHs available from the SSR but not yet enrolled 6 LGAs
3	N-Power	FG/NASSP	14,323	0.4%	17 LGAs
4	Home grown school feeding programme	FG/NASSP	523,000 pupils 3005 cooks	43%	All public primary schools (1-3 pupils)
5	GEEP	FG/NASSP	30,000	1.4%	17 LGAS
6	YESSO	FG	3,863	9.03%	6 LGAs
7	Skill for Job (S4J)	FG	5,777	13%	6 LGAs

Source: Abia State planning commission

MINIMUM PACKAGE OF PROTECTION

The government shall implement a transformative social protection framework which takes into consideration both economic and social sources of risk and is based on a framework in which social protection promotes social equity as well as economic growth. It includes four levels of social protection provision as follows:

Protective

This involves protecting household income and consumption which include social assistance programmes such as cash transfers, in-kind transfers, and fee waivers to support access to basic and social services.

Preventative

This will prevent households from falling further into poverty, including health insurance programmes and subsidised risk pooling mechanisms.

Promotive

The programme will promote household's ability to engage in productive activities and increase incomes, for example, through public works employment schemes and agricultural inputs transfers or subsidies.

Transformative

This addresses social inequality and discrimination which include core social protection programmes which tackle gender inequality and promote child rights and linkages to awareness-raising programmes or tackling discrimination.

Government will ensure that the social protection programme contributes to the realisation of citizens' rights to social security and essential services.

As the implementation of Abia State Social Protection Framework continues, government and partners will be committed to reliable funding, using appropriate mechanisms that provide predictable and institutionalised funding system to social protection, under the State government control, and sustainable over the long term.

ABIA STATE DIRECTION ON SOCIAL PROTECTION

In general terms, regardless of policy measures and the sequencing of the social protection programmes, Abia State hopes to achieve the following by the end of the implementation period of the ABSLTDP:

- On or before 2025, Abia State should have developed and established functional social protection institutional and legal frameworks that will encourage smooth implementation of programmes and projects targeted at reducing the number of the poor and vulnerable in the State
- By 2025, the State social register should have been well and inclusively populated with confirmed identities of the poor and vulnerable households and individuals in the State

- By 2030, 50 percent of the poor and vulnerable households in the State and local government areas should be out of poverty and contribute meaningfully to the development of the State
- By 2050, 70 percent reduction in youth restiveness and unemployment should be achieved in the various communities of the State
- By 2050, the State, through the mechanism of social protection, should have built-in stabiliser and stronger socio-economic shock absorbers that will cushion the adverse effect of income inequality in the State
- By 2050, 90 percent of all intervention programmes targeted at the poor and vulnerable should be completed by using the data in the State social register without misdirecting such interventions to persons with wrong identities, thereby reducing, to the barest minimum, if not completely eliminating, errors of inclusion and exclusion.

PRIORITISATION AND SEQUENCING OF POLICY MEASURES

Within the constraints of limited resources and great need, it is important to see which broad categories of the citizens are considered to include the most vulnerable. Also, it is important to map out programmes that will quickly address contemporary challenges faced by the citizens of the State. As earlier observed, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented serious challenges to people around the globe. But the situation is worse in the less-developed countries like Nigeria where social protection initiatives is poor. It is against the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with poverty, that Abia State should be determined to roll out social protection programmes based on prioritisation and progressive realisation. At the beginning of implementation, attention will be focused on the prioritised areas of interventions.

The policy measures to be rolled out at the short, medium, and long term, should revolve around the priority areas listed below by different stakeholders in the State during consultations, using the life-cycle approach:

Pregnant Women Care Programme

The Plan will provide free maternity/delivery care and improved nutrition for pregnant women. It will also provide cash transfer and food supply programmes

0-5 Years' Age Group

The Plan will make provision for immunisation, healthcare and good nutrition with vitamins A and E supplementation for children aged less than one year to five years.

6-14 Years' Age Group

There will be universal basic health coverage, free and qualitative education to junior secondary school for children between the 6-14 years' age bracket.

15-24 Year's Age Group

The Plan provides payment of social security stipends, engagement in menial public works and educational scholarship programmes and other free skills acquisition capacity building programmes

25-64 Years' Age Group

The Plan will provide unemployment social security stipends for the unemployed. It will make regular payment of pensions and gratuity, maintenance stipends to the aged and dependent unproductive population, and provide other social insurance programmes for the dependent population

65 years and Above Age Group

The Plan will provide for the building of aged people's homes and old age social health insurance programmes.

SHORT-, MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM SOCIAL PROTECTION MEASURES IN ABSLTDP

Short-Term Measures

The ABSLTDP will establish and provide basic minimum social protection package in the short term. During this period, attention will be focused on the prioritised areas of intervention, especially issues to address the consequences of the current COVID-19 pandemic, among others. The State has a workforce with high entrepreneurial spirit, with over 110,000 shoemakers and 50,000 garment makers and numerous small and medium enterprises. Brands of products like shoes, garments, furniture, and cosmetics, from the State will strongly compete with brands manufactured elsewhere in the world. Many of these businesses have been badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and need to be resuscitated. Also, as about 70 percent of the State's workforce engages in agriculture, these people also require social protection interventions. In achieving these, the following policy measures, objectives and strategies, which will be implemented in the first two years of ABSLTDP take off, will be applied.

Short-Term Policy Measure 1

The first policy measure is to strengthen the failing health system, which its inadequacies became obvious during the COVID-19 pandemic. In achieving this, government is to renovate and fully equip at least 60 percent (both in terms of medical equipment, supplies, and personnel) of the primary and secondary healthcare facilities in the State by the year 2022.

Policy objective: The objective is to have a health system that is well-prepared and ready to respond to the health challenges of citizens at all times and during emergencies.

Strategies: The following strategies will be applied:

- Restructure the State's healthcare system through increased coordination and integration of the healthcare service at state and local government levels

- Increase the funding of the health sector to enable employment of more healthcare personnel and purchase more crucial equipment and medical supplies
- Provide adequate remuneration and special incentives to health workers in the hard-to-reach areas
- Recruit more competent personnel to man State healthcare facilities, especially the PHCs, and health education at the community level
- Mainstream public health into the State development planning to form an integral part of discussions regarding States' development planning
- Long-term commitment by the State government to invest in, and coordinate, health emergency preparedness by focusing on data collection, research and development, and epidemiological surveillance
- Create the right environment and incentives to support domestic production of medical supplies such as gloves, nose masks, hospital gowns, etc.

Short-Term Policy Measure 2

This involves protecting the poorest and vulnerable, and providing jobs through cash transfer to at least 50 percent of poor and vulnerable households in the State, using the existing and expanded single register by 2022. Furthermore, government should employ, through cash for work programme, at least 30 percent of unemployed youths by 2022.

Policy objective: The objective is to help the citizens to live a life of dignity and well-being devoid of hunger.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the provision of:

- cash transfers to the poor and vulnerable households
- cash for work (public workfare) for unemployed youths.

Short-Term Policy Measure 3

Government should initiate and complete one community-driven development project in each political ward by 2023.

Policy objective: The objective is to involve more community members in income generating activities that will reduce poverty.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied are as follows:

- Build on the existing World Bank-assisted community and social development programmes currently going on in the State
- Allow community members to organise themselves into different economic groups that can work together to generate income
- Government to invest in these income generating activities
- Community members to explore comparative advantage of what the community can easily and reasonably achieve
- Government to provide market for agricultural produce.

Short-Term Policy Measure 4

The State government should, by 2021, provide bail-out funds for at least 50 percent of MSMEs negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic after the mapping exercise.

Policy objective: Resuscitate State MSMEs affected by the lockdown/shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied are:

- Carry out a mapping exercise of MSMEs affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Ascertain the capital invested into the business before the COVID-19 pandemic
- Ascertain number of employees in each of the MSMEs before COVID-19 pandemic
- Provide bail-out funds according to the need and capacity of the government
- Recall and pay disengaged employees for three months to stabilise the affected MSMEs.

Medium-Term Social Protection Response

The medium-term programme of the social protection framework (SPF) is to be rolled out within 2-3 years of the implementation of the ABSLTDP. These policy objectives and strategies are as follows:

Policy objectives: The programme has the following objectives:

- The poor and vulnerable citizens will have access to essential healthcare benefits, including maternity services, where the government will, by 2025, accept the general responsibility for ensuring the adequacy of the delivery system and financing the benefits for at least 70 percent of the people in this category by 2025
- Children of poor and vulnerable families will enjoy income security at least above the poverty level, through family/child transfers aimed at facilitating access to nutrition, education and healthcare for 70 percent of the population in this category by 2025
- Targeted income support for the poor and unemployed in active age groups, especially through cash-for-work and other labour intensive programmes, for at least 80 percent of population in this group by 2025
- Income security through pensions and transfers above the poverty level to at least 90 percent of residents in old age and disability bracket categories of people by 2025.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- The government shall be committed to bringing service delivery closer to the people by ensuring that the vulnerable gain priority access to basic social services provided by the government
- The government shall provide fund (both conditional and unconditional) to achieve access to nutrition, education and care for the children

- The Plan ensures inclusion of marginalised groups and individuals and the poorest in public programmes of government through links to youth and general employment promotion schemes
- Provision of income security, through social transfer projects of the government which will target the aged, those with disabilities, and all those in need of support, based on agreed targeting criteria and administrative systems for registration and payments.

Long-Term Social Protection Measures

With regard to the long-term measure, the State government will plan its actions in line with the United Nations Social Protection Floor (UN-SPF) which guarantees universal minimum package that adopts a life-cycle approach to social protection. It comprises access to education and essential health services, income security through family or child benefits and unemployment benefit, and income security in old age (non-contributory pension).

Abia State may not be able to move forward on all areas of social protection provision immediately ABSLTDP becomes operational. This is not only due to limited resources, but also because the approaches to adopt require testing and review in the context of different areas (in terms local government areas) of the State.

The evidence and milestones to establish effective performance of the social protection intervention projects, when applied throughout the State, need to be known. Moreover, the government will need to calculate the costs of State rollout of all the programmes. Given that there may be limited data on the numbers of qualifying people in different vulnerable groups, government shall commission the analysis of the results of existing censuses and undertake additional studies to fill information gaps.

In the long term, government and partners will be committed to reliable funding, use appropriate mechanisms that provide predictable and institutionalised funding to social protection, under government control, and sustainable over the period.

MEASUREMENT OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

For Abia State to achieve the objectives of the social protection framework/strategy, some of the following policy measures, policy objectives, and strategies, will have to be put in place.

Education and Health Services

Policy Measure 1

Free school meals will be extended to all primary school children in the State by 2030.

Policy objective: Improve food security of vulnerable children whilst impacting on access to education, particularly for girls.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Identify and maintain an inventory of government, donor and CSO programmes which support free school meals
- Set State targets and report regularly on the achievement of set targets
- Set up the State framework for school feeding
- Initiate new school feeding programmes.

Policy Measure 2

Expand free and compulsory UBE to ensure that education is totally free for all by 2030.

Policy objective: The programme will encourage enrolment and completion in basic education.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Provide conditional cash transfers to poor households
- Provide sufficient teaching and learning materials.

Policy Measure 3

Expand health and educational opportunities for all people with special needs by 2030.

Policy objective: All special needs children and adults to have free access to full healthcare, education and basic needs.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Identify and assign responsibilities for special needs groups
- Map existing programmes/interventions providing these services
- Ensure that existing services are gradually and incrementally decentralised to LGAs together with adequate resources, including trained staff and funding
- Initiate new programmes
- Strengthen the regulatory and supervisory capacity of health and education authorities.

Policy Measure 4

Abolish user fees for health services for the under-listed vulnerable groups by 2030.

Policy objective: Ensure vulnerable groups eligible for healthcare user fee waivers, such as pregnant and lactating women, physically challenged, unemployed, old people, and under-five, PLWHA, COVID-19 positive, have access to free health services.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Identify and maintain an inventory of government, donor and CSO programmes which support free access to health services through waiver of user fees
- Set state-wide targets and report regularly on the accomplishment of such targets

- Increase quality and quantity of health human resources and facilities
- Establish mechanisms with these providers for tracking adherence to their obligations to channel benefits to agreed vulnerable groups.

Policy Measure 5

Improve coverage of both State and community-based health insurance schemes (HIS) to 90 percent of the population by 2035.

Policy objective: The effective implementation of the HIS and improved access to quality healthcare is needed to improve the overall health and productivity of the poor.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Encourage both State and all LGAs to adopt and implement the health insurance scheme
- Increase the capacities of implementers of the scheme
- Take steps to guarantee the quality of service at the point of delivery
- Sensitise and step up awareness to reach the vulnerable and excluded
- Put in place measures to reduce operating cost, abuse and spillage to ensure sustainability.

Social Welfare and Child Protection

Policy Measure

Establish, by 2030, legal and institutional frameworks for child welfare and protection issues that cover all the children in the State.

Policy objective: Promote the welfare and healthy development of the child by eliminating child labour, child abuse, and child trafficking.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Abia State to domesticate the Child Rights Act
- Strengthen the relevant institutions to adequately handle the impacts of child protection issues
- Expand social welfare services to children who are abused, neglected, trafficked or at risk
- Observe all international agreements ratified by Nigeria in relation to child protection and welfare issues.

Social Housing

Policy Measure

Improve access to housing for at least 50 percent of low income earners and the poor by 2035.

Policy objective: Provide decent and affordable housing for the poor.

Strategies

- Government to provide land for housing development
- Government to encourage partnership with the private sector in form of corporate social responsibility
- Government to provide access to cheap and affordable mortgage financing
- Government to establish a framework to address housing needs of different economic groups.

Livelihood and Employment

Policy Measure 1

Build on existing policy initiatives to accelerate job creation and reduce unemployment by strengthening policy coherence and infrastructure, leveraging on existing structures such as YESSO and CSDP, among others, and reducing unemployment among the youths by 90 percent by 2030.

Policy objective: Create more jobs to reduce poverty.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Strengthen and expand existing public work programmes such as YESSO
- Initiate new public work programmes.

Policy Measure 2

Government to improve employment opportunities for targeted groups such as youths and persons with disabilities, by establishing at least two vocational centres in each LGA by 2025.

Policy objective: Improve employability of young persons and persons living with disabilities and others vulnerable to economic shocks.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Build skills in the area of vocational and entrepreneurship development
- Provide grants/start off packs and working tools
- Encourage the private sector to employ through tax incentives.

Policy Measure 3

The measure will provide support for sustainable livelihood for the poorest through skills training, access to land, and inputs for smallholder farmers and affirmative action for employment of youths and women. Government to provide this support for at least 70 percent of the population in this category by 2025 and 90 percent by 2030.

Policy objective: Increased earning capacity and acquisition of assets by the poorest of the poor.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Assess the support needs of poorer farmers and institute mechanisms by which they are targeted in agricultural programmes across relevant MDAs and CSOs (provision of inputs, processing/value addition facilities and market linkages and disaster preparedness)
- Encourage all LGAs and community leaders to provide access to land and other natural resources for use by the poor and vulnerable groups
- Encourage contractors to employ available local labour (the local content initiative)
- Increase State spending on skills development for youths and women
- Target employment schemes for youths, women and the most vulnerable of these groups
- Develop and pass legislation for employers to employ quotas of vulnerable groups, e.g., those with disabilities, and ensuring that training needs and accessibility are addressed to improve skills.

Social Insurance Schemes

Policy Measure 1

Improve on compulsory insurance, pensions, health schemes, etc., for 90 percent of formal sector employees and encourage extension to informal sector employees by 2030.

Policy objective: Extend compulsory insurance schemes to employees of the informal sector including the self-employed.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Map informal sector employees
- Identify the potential for extending compulsory insurance coverage to informal sector employees in the State
- Encourage relevant insurance providers to extend schemes to cover the informal sector including self-employed who are unable to afford contributions through government subsidies
- Maintain a framework of regular review of pensions for retired people to protect them from falling below the poverty line.

Policy Measure 2

Encourage mandatory insurance, pensions, and health schemes, etc., for at least 50 percent of the above population categories to be covered by the private sector by 2030.

Policy objective: Create enabling environment for private sector involvement in pensions and insurance provision schemes for those in the informal sector that are able to afford them.

Strategy: Create enabling environment for the private sector to take the lead in providing insurance cover for the informal sector.

Policy Measure 3

Put in place a social insurance mechanism to respond to shocks from natural/man-made disasters, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Policy objective: Protect communities and households vulnerable to risks of devastation in the event of floods, storms, fires, land/mud slides, deforestation, drought, conflict, militia/sectarian attacks and epidemics/pandemics, etc.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Adopt and disseminate a state policy on emergency preparedness
- Sensitise the general public on emergency preparedness
- Develop the capacity of emergency response volunteer reservists at community and local levels to respond to emergency
- Establish one-stock centres at both State and LGA levels
- Strengthen the structures for emergency response agencies.

Social Assistance Scheme

Policy Measure 1

Provide cash and food grants for 90 percent of at-risk children (orphans, street children, and children vulnerable to harmful traditional practices) and poor families by 2030.

Policy objective: Reduce poverty, hunger and starvation in households and individuals that are labour-constrained and at risk of falling into extreme poverty.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Map the pilot schemes existing in the State
- Initiate cost effective, age appropriate and gender sensitive means of delivering transfers to those at risk and vulnerable to fall into extreme poverty
- Initiate a programme of food grant for the poor and hungry.

Policy Measure 2

Expand both conditional and unconditional social transfer schemes to cover 90 percent of the children, women and aged by 2030.

Policy objective: Increase uptake of social services by vulnerable groups including the aged.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Map out the pilot schemes existing in the State

- Provide conditional and unconditional transfers for households with school age children
- Provide conditional and unconditional transfers for lactating mothers and children under five years
- Initiate cost effective, age appropriate and gender sensitive means of delivering unconditional social transfers to the aged
- Initiate a programme of social transfer for the aged.

Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

Policy Measure 1

Enhance gender equality and women empowerment by 2030.

Policy objective: Ensure that the strategic and practical needs of women, men, girls, and boys, are differentiated and addressed accordingly in developing all social protection programmes and that the issue of gender is mainstreamed into the frameworks/strategies.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Conduct a gender gap analysis in respect to social protection issues
- Mainstream gender in social protection issues
- Improve policy and legislative environment on women's property and inheritance rights.

Policy Measure 2

Encourage the participation of females in the labour force and provide affordable childcare services in at least 70 percent of working places by 2030.

Policy objective: Improve participation and productivity of women in development process.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Ensure participation of women in social protection strategy process
- Encourage the private sector to employ more women
- Provide gender sensitive working environment for women
- Encourage employment institutions to provide childcare facilities.

Traditional Family and Community Support

Policy Measure

Encourage and build on family and community-based support mechanisms for those vulnerable to shocks and in extreme poverty in at least 80 percent of the communities in the State by 2030.

Policy objective: Strengthening community and family resources and assets for supporting and caring for those vulnerable to shocks and extreme poverty within communities and families.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Promote participatory approach to strengthen community-based support mechanism
- Map out community-based support mechanisms that are amenable to social protection
- Identify and initiate programmes that will address discrimination towards specific groups or exclude groups or individuals by gender, ethnicity, strangers, youth, disability, etc.
- Develop solutions and provide awareness creation to improve the equity of intra-household and inter-community level social protection.

Legislation and Regulation

Policy Measure

Provide a legal framework that specifically protects all vulnerable children through inheritance rights, birth registration and school enrolment, by 2030.

Policy objective: Use existing legal framework to protect and promote the welfare of children.

Strategies: The strategies to be applied will include the following:

- Integrate birth registration into social protection initiatives
- Promote awareness of the inheritance right of children irrespective of sex.

COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION

Social protection interventions will be delivered in a timely, harmonised, and reliable manner. There will be inclusive processes that require the input of all stakeholders with clear resolve and assignment of roles and responsibilities for policy making, implementation, and regulation. Resonance and sustained partnerships will be developed between a diversity of stakeholders, including CSOs that represent the best interests of the vulnerable. Partners will commit to a common set of standards for financial management, targeting beneficiaries, reporting as well as monitoring and evaluation.

Several MDAs will have mandates to oversee specific elements of social protection. In order to avoid overlaps and an uncoordinated implementation of the social protection component of ABSLTDP, government will appoint appropriate bodies for oversight, policy implementation, and coordination across both State and non-State actors at the state and local levels.

To achieve coordination, the State government shall establish an institutional framework to effectively and efficiently deliver social protection programmes across the State in order to achieve coordination. A governing body, drawn from State and non-state organisations, shall be appointed to ensure that:

- the State social protection framework is kept on the front burner of government's political and budgetary agenda
- it is reporting and accounting to the coordinating agency and all others entrusted with implementation of social protection.

In terms of integration, the social protection system will be designed in a way that ensures that social protection services are integrated to effectively and efficiently address multi-faceted vulnerabilities. Government MDAs and partners involved in social protection will commit to a common set of financial management procedure, audit process, advancement, monitoring and evaluation and reporting processes, consistent with national, regional and international guidelines and indicators for the purpose of comparing progress made in different, sectors among others.

TARGETING AND REGISTRATION (SINGLE REGISTER SYSTEM)

The programme will be geographically targeted, prioritising both areas with greatest poverty and with greatest youth unemployment. This will take into account the needs of both the rural and urban poor, particularly the vulnerable groups. Criteria will be developed to assess the extreme poverty including assets, and vulnerability criteria using a combination of community-based targeting which the State is already carrying out in collaboration with the federal government social investment programme.

THE SINGLE REGISTER SYSTEM

In order for the social protection policy and programmes to be effective, a regular and reliable registration and tracking system must be put in place. A database system will be developed to manage programme beneficiaries and track their participation in other social services. The single registry system will be used to collect standardised information on beneficiaries. The services of the National Identity Management Commission, the National Health Insurance Scheme, and the National Bureau of Statistics services, will be required in this regard. It is the starting point for selecting beneficiaries.

The single register will be updated periodically to ensure the reliability of the data and correct irregularities that may be noticed over time. The database will provide the necessary information for ensuring that resources go to the right beneficiaries, and progress in their conditions are monitored to make sure that vulnerable groups do not become continually dependent on the programme to ensure sustainability.

The register will be populated and maintained at the community and LGA levels, and be compiled into a single registry at the State level. Extreme poor individual and household selection will be done in collaboration with existing community structures such as unit committees, traditional authorities, opinion leaders, etc. When fully developed, it will be

an automated system with data entry points in each community/LGA and networked into the State database.

GRADUATION AND EXIT

The ability of households/participants, enrolled in the social protection programmes, to reach a point where they no longer require social assistance through the programme, is a key objective of the programme. International experience shows that when social protection interventions, such as cash transfers, are combined with other complementary services, cash transfers go beyond asset building to enable households to focus on long-term investments and adopt higher return activities. Graduation from extreme poverty requires careful sequencing of social protection payments with other complementary services. Participants will be given access to other social assistance and other complementary forms of support in a sequenced fashion including financial services, training and asset transfers, and encouraged to save. The steering committee will develop clear and consistent definitions, indicators and operational mechanisms for determining graduation and set realistic expectations about the speed, level and sustainability of graduation. This must take into account households' future earning potential when they exit the social protection programmes.

The Abia State social protection framework will employ a beneficiary or intervention level exit strategy for graduating beneficiaries from the programme or continuing support depending on the category of the beneficiary. It is, therefore, expected that terminal beneficiaries with productive capacity will participate in other government programmes for a period of time to develop and sustain their basic livelihoods. During the latter stages, participants will be linked up with other complementary programmes to further enhance their social and economic capacities.

EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

To achieve efficiency, and maximise limited fiscal space and implementation capacities, would call for prioritisation of options for social protection development in the short term. The policy shall give priority to major sources of vulnerability, such as chronic and transient poverty, hunger, shocks, and social exclusion, by taking short- and medium-term measures, including cash and in-kind transfers and fee exemptions, public works programmes, and social welfare services.

A costing exercise for the medium- and long-term implementation of the framework will be developed as a priority activity during the first year of implementation, including a detailed costing of existing and planned interventions and fiscal space analysis.

The social protection framework shall be linked to budgetary processes to ensure sustainability and legitimacy of the social protection funding. The government will continuously assess the overall cost effectiveness of specific programmes to strengthen supervision and inspection, and reduce corruption. Government shall also build sufficient capacity and ownership for the sustainability of social protection programmes.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The key stakeholders needed for the successful implementation of social protection programmes in the State include the State government and the various MDAs in the State, international development partners/donors, local and international NGOs, CSOs, local government, traditional/community leaders, philanthropists, private sectors, and religious leaders, CBOs, etc. They all have different roles to play in making sure that the framework is successfully implemented.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

Effective M&E systems are important for demonstrating the impact of projects and programmes. The results communicate lessons that support long-term sustainability of programmes. Independent and credible systems have the capacity to fill the evidence gaps that could compromise effective programme design and implementation because problems would be identified and solutions proposed for future programming. Government, therefore, recognises the importance of effective M&E system in providing the government and the development partners with better means of learning from past experiences and improving service delivery while also demonstrating results as part of accountability to key stakeholders.

A monitoring and evaluation framework will be developed and applied to all MDAs, to capture the key performance indicators (KPIs) for outcomes and outputs in their strategic sectors, and ascertain their progress against annual targets. This will be applied to each of the policy measures identified in the policy design. The information collected through this means will support the performance-based approach to the budgeting process, as well as evidence-based planning and policy-making in other areas.

The KPI list will be developed in relation to the SPF activity of each MDA in consultation with the MDA and the planning commission. These constitute the starting point for MDAs to know the kinds of data expected in MDA scorecard submissions. It is also advised that the units of measurement for KPIs should be defined and clearly stated by each implementing agency.

Outcome key performance indicators measure the progress towards the State development objectives in the different strategic sectors in line with the ABSLTDP. The structure of the scorecard will cater for short- and medium-term targets and provide an understanding of how an MDA is doing in relation to the targets of the social protection policy measures and whether the agency is improving with regards to a given KPI.

All the above should be clearly spelt out in the implementation manual that operationalises how the social protection component of ABSLTDP will be applied. This document should be developed without delay for the SPF to be adequately monitored and evaluated.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Scorecards are to be submitted by the DPRS teams of the different social protection implementing MDAs on a quarterly basis during the first year of roll-out to ensure

consistent focus on implementing the necessary data collection processes on a yearly basis once the process has been institutionalised.

Following the definition of the KPIs and targets, the State Planning Commission (SPC) will liaise with each MDA working on social protection to identify and finalise the KPIs that are relevant to that MDA. After agreeing on detailed metrics with the SPC, they will submit the KPIs to the State Bureau of Statistics (SBS). All these agencies will regularly update their data collection processes, including surveys, to ensure the data related to these KPIs are collected on a consistent basis at the community and local government levels. Similarly, the MDAs will also update their internal data collection processes to enable them to collect information linked to their internal operations.

Upon generation of the required data by the SBS within the agreed timelines, the MDAs will download updated KPI data from SBS. The MDAs will combine this data with internally-generated data to update ministry scorecards and submit the scorecards to the SPC. The MDA scorecards are to be finalised by mid-June so as to serve as input for the medium-term sectoral strategy (MTSS) discussions on the budget. The SPC will then prepare the State report which it will submit to the government and the State House of Assembly.

In a nutshell, the whole process, from identification of beneficiaries to registration, to payment of benefits, and other processes in the SPF implementation, should be IT compliant and well computerised to allow for easy capturing and retrieval of data. There must be a real-time and online data base for the social register showing details and particulars of the identified persons and households in the State/LGA/community social register where any intervention can select beneficiaries.

SECTION FIVE

GOVERNANCE AND REFORMS

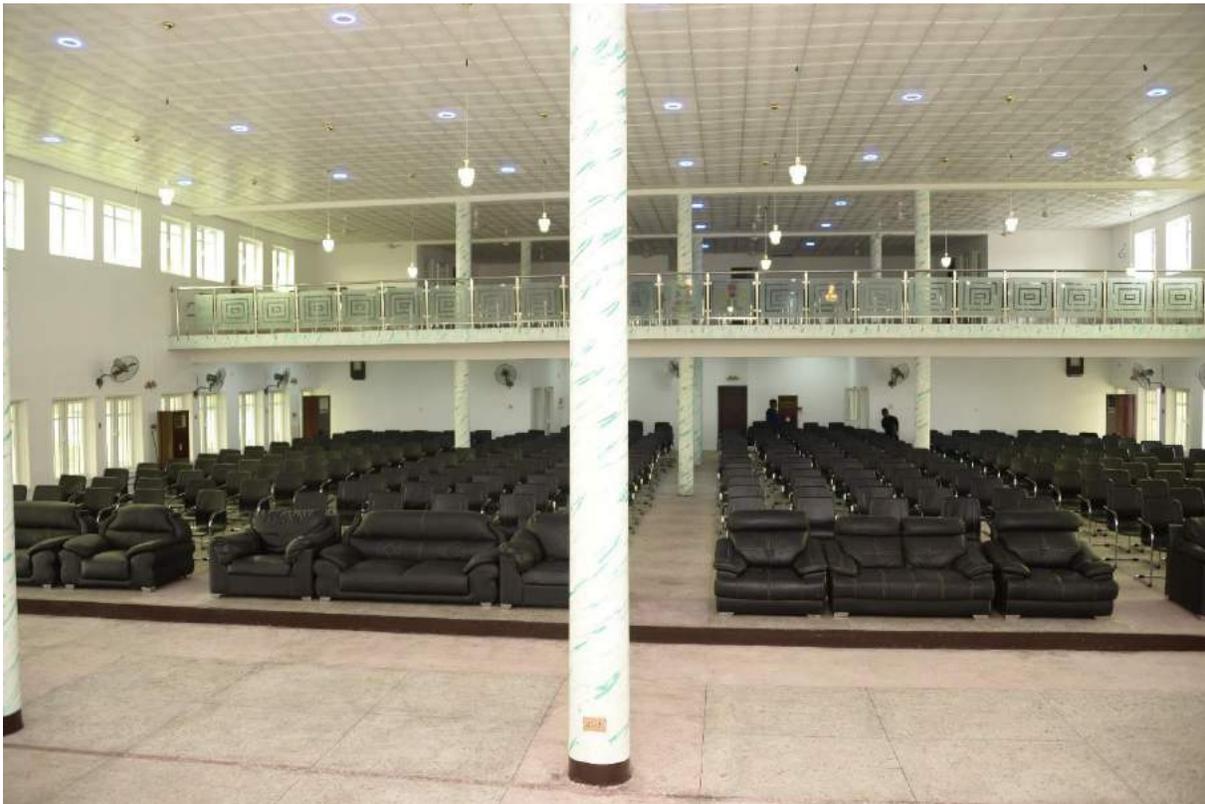


Chapter 11

Governance and Public Service Reforms

BACKGROUND

The desire for good governance is rooted in the underlying principles of an evolving state. The drive has received fillip from modern innovative ideas. Public service reform is an open expression of the desire to attain good governance using innovative strategies. While there are several definitions of governance and reform, there is a consensus on what the goals and major elements of both are. Some of these attributes are highlighted below.



Courtesy: Government House, Umuahia

In general, development challenges provide the impetus for good governance. The demand on both elected and appointed public functionaries, at all levels of government and establishments, to deliver quality and efficient services, has been identified as the single most important driver for good governance, underpinned by public service reforms.

Evidence of corruption, weak and inefficient infrastructure, poor service delivery, low motivation, anti-progressive conducts, etc., abound at the national and sub-national levels, underpinning the low development status of the nation and constituent states. But there are also mega forces at work compelling new actions at re-engineering governance, both in developing and developed countries, giving rise to “new” models of good governance and emergence of the “New Public Management” (NPM) approach and its several versions of the public service reforms. These mega forces, which include knowledge revolution, new development framework such as the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the ICT revolution, the open government movement (spread of democracy), and the increasing influence of the private sector (business/companies) and the civil societies, are shown in Table 11.1.

Table 11.1: Mega forces as drivers of good governance and reforms

<i>Change factor</i>	<i>Opportunities</i>	<i>Threats</i>
Growing role of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of leapfrogging in selected areas of economic growth • Resolution of social problems (food security, health, water supply energy, environment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing knowledge gap among nations • Redundancy for learning laggards
ICT revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easier access to knowledge, information and technology • Innovation • Proliferation of new skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing digital divide among and within nations, MDAs and individuals
Global labour market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easier access to expertise skills and knowledge embedded n professionals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing brain drain and loss of advanced human capital • Growing higher cost for experts
Open government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive environment for reform • Demands for new policies and programmes • Participation of plural stakeholders • Inclusion • Accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New resources required to meet growing expectations • Political instability • Windows for oppression/suppression.
New development frameworks (SDGs, ERGP, TPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership • New resources • Planning and anticipation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neglect of local actions • Loss of autonomy.

Source: Adapted from Ebebe Ukpong, 2010

The interaction of these mega-driving forces has produced a governance space of multiple actors and stakeholders. The implications of this interface are many, including the necessity for rules, mandate specifications, ethics and good behaviours to sustain the interactive space on sustainable and progressive bases. Having public confidence in this arrangement, including the embedded institutions, is key for sustainability.

GOVERNANCE

The UNDP defines governance as the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country’s (state) affairs at all levels. It comprises the mechanisms, processes, and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests,

exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations, and indicate their differences. Generally, it is the framework by which authority is exercised to attain agreed goals.



Courtesy: ABSLTDP Secretariat

Good governance is usually defined by specific attributes which include being participatory, transparent, and accountable. It is also effective and equitable, and promotes the rule of law. Good governance ensures that political, social, and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in society and that the voices of the poorest and the most vulnerable are heard in decision-making over the allocation of resources.

Table 11.2: Attributes of good governance

<i>Attribute</i>	<i>Expressive Characteristics</i>
Participation	All men and women should have a voice in decision-making either directly or through legitimate intermediate institution that represent their interest
Rule of law	Legal framework should be fair and enforced impartially
Transparency	Transparency is built on the free flow of information
Responsiveness	Institution and processes try to serve all stakeholders
Consensus orientation	Good governance mediates differing interests to reach a broad consensus on what is in the best interest of the group
Equity	Giving all men and women opportunities to improve or maintain their well being
Effectiveness and efficiency	Processes and institutions produce result that meet needs while making the best use of resources
Accountability	Decision makers in government, the public sector and civil society organisation are accountable to the public, as well as to institutional stakeholders
Strategic vision	Leaders and the public have a broad and long-term perspective on good governance as human development along with a sense of what is needed for such development
Capacity	Competence to participate, design and implement polices effectively

Good governance, to the ordinary citizen in Nigeria, may mean:

- free and fair election
- effective public service delivery reform or public financial management
- creation of employment opportunities
- access to basic infrastructure
- security of lives and property
- timely dispensation of justice.

Good governance must be undertaken by those who possess love for wisdom, intelligence, reason, virtue/virtuousness, reliability and willingness to live a simple life devoid of ostentation and inclination towards materialism. Effective governance derives from knowledge-driven leadership, and societal challenges are more likely solved by knowledgeable leaders. However, as a peace-loving State, the Abia Charter of Equity was adopted in order to maintain absolute peace through power-sharing among the three senatorial zones of Abia North, Abia Central, and Abia South.

PUBLIC SERVICE REFORMS

The dynamics of change is such that is usually resisted by all known forces, both visible and invisible. Human beings, naturally, resist change, and public service is not an exception in this instance. However, because it is inevitable, the Abia State Public Service must apply itself to the current global phenomenon, lest it will be left behind.

It is to be noted that several public service reforms have been embarked upon in the past in Nigeria, and are reflected in Abia State. They have been aimed at basically promoting efficiency, professionalism and establishing (global) success story benchmarks. Some notable reforms include the Udoji Public Service Review Commission of 1974, and Dotun Philips Civil Service Reform of 1988. The outcomes of the reforms include monetisation of fringe benefits, pension reforms and establishment of agencies and processes like the Bureau of Public Service Reforms, Code of Conduct/Tribunal, Servicom, etc. However, the public service is still bogged down with poor service delivery, corruption, low innovation penetration, decaying infrastructure, low morale and motivation, etc. This suggests that very little has been achieved, thus the over-arching need to implement more reforms.

Public service reforms seek and make changes to the structure and process of the organisation of the public service in providing public services to the citizens. The creative elements of reforms are summarised in Table 11.3.

Table 11.3: The creative elements of public service reform

<i>The Element</i>	<i>The Creative Mandate/Expression</i>
Creates	New structures and organisation, e.g., Commission charged with new mandates
Identifies	New services to be provided e.g., social protection
Outlines	Processes that efficiently improve the delivery of services, e.g., decentralise immunisation programme
Dissolves	Scrap or merge bodies and agencies that are out dated or constitute barriers
Enacts	Provide the authority for action on the new structures and processes created through enactment of enabling law.

It is in the spirit of the above understanding that the committee has taken time to x-ray the current public service position and proffer solutions on ways to reform the system with a view to getting the best out of it, both now and in the future.

ACTIONABLE POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The approach adopted here is to highlight the challenges or issues that require reform interventions and indicate the recommended intervention measures and strategies. Some of the actionable policies include:

Congest Financial Activities in the Office of the Accountant-General

To decongest the financial activities in the office of the accountant-general, all capital expenditure payment should be handled by the office of the two existing out-posts, namely, the Treasury Pay Office (TPO) and Sub-Treasury, Umuahia. The other sub-treasuries across the State should be maintained to undertake treasury operations as provided in the financial regulations. This will assist the office of the accountant-general to concentrate on other aspects of their statutory duties like the production of the State annual accounts, etc.

Measures for strict adherence to the provisions of the following public service documents are required to be put in place in the short run. They are:

- public service rules/regulations
- financial regulations
- financial memoranda in the case of the local government system
- laws and statutes establishing different government MDAs
- the constitution
- other relevant rules and guidelines made by government over time for the smooth operations of the various agencies.

Political Interference in Recruitment and Promotions

To achieve equity and promote competitiveness, due process is to be followed in employment and promotion processes. The employing agencies—the Civil Service Commission (CSC), Local Government Service Commission (LGSC), and Judicial Service Commission (JSC)—are made up of persons with adequate public service experience and integrity as chairman and members, as the case may be. A review of the processes of recruiting leadership in the State in general, has become urgent and shall be completed in the short term of the Plan, thus providing the template of actions in this direction in the future.

There is the need to set up staff needs assessment and verification/rationalisation committee to determine actual staff needs of each MDA, verify the mode of entry, credentials, progression, age, disciplinary records, health status, etc., with a view to rightsizing the over-bloated workforce. ABSLTDP anticipates early reinvention and revitalisation of the public service using cutting-edge strategies for reforms such as the Blue Ocean Strategy (BOS), New Public Management (NPM), New Industrial Policy (NIP) or simply Transformative Policy (TP).

Appointment to Offices of Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Service of Local Government

The appointment of permanent secretaries and heads of service of local governments should be based on seniority, competence and loyalty, among other reasons. Reform measures shall be put in place in the short term of the Plan that give high priority to the consideration of available vacancies on the basis of qualification, efficiency and productivity, length of service and experience, without deviating from the Public Service Rules (PSR), before making appointments into higher positions such as permanent secretaries, heads of service at the local government and directors. Such appointments should not be based on political sentiments in order not to promote mediocrity.

To arrest the distortions in the career profile and the negative implications, it is necessary to desist from irregular appointments in the directorate cadres of the public service as it is contrary to the provisions of the scheme of service and leads to distortions not only in the hierarchy but also in the experience and competence of persons within the system.

Multiplicity of Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs)

Debates persist on the rationality and functionality of the bloated MDAs in Abia State. The emerging view is that the creation of MDAs should follow the general principle whereby the creation of ministries will not lead to duplication of functions and those in existence with overlapping functions merged with the original/substantive ministries. In light of this, an earlier recommendation made in this regard can serve as a guide and be implemented specifying the following ministries:

- Ministry of Petroleum and Solid Minerals
- Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment
- Ministry of Lands, Survey and Urban Planning
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of information
- Ministry of Co-operatives and Rural Development
- Ministry of Sports and Youth Development
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Housing
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Works
- Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs
- Ministry of Public Utilities
- Ministry of Science and Technology
- Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development.

However, as at July 2020, there were 82 MDAs in Abia State as shown in Table 11.4.

Table 11.4: Ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) in Abia State

1. Government House	41. College of Health Science Aba
2. Office of the Deputy Governor	42. Metallurgical Complex Aba
3. Office of the Secretary to the State Government	43. Abia State Estate Development Agency
4. Bureau of Political (SSG)	44. Office of the State Auditor-General
5. Bureau of Special Services (SSG)	45. Board of Internal Revenue
6. Bureau of Economic Affairs (SSG)	46. Abia State Advertising Agency
7. EXCO Secretariat (SSG)	47. Judicial High Court
8. Office of the Head of Service (Inner Office)	48. Liaison Office Abuja
9. Bureau of Establishment & Pension (HOS)	49. Liaison Office Lagos
10. Bureau of Administration (HOS)	50. RUWASA
11. Bureau of Training (HOS)	51. Abia State Agency for Control of Aids
12. Bureau of Service Welfare (HOS)	52. Abia State House of Assembly
13. Bureau of Common Services (HOS)	53. Abia State Road Maintenance Agency
14. Accountant-General's Office	54. Abia State Independent Electoral Commission
15. Abia State Planning Commission	55. Agency for Mass Literacy
16. Ministry of Finance	56. Customary Court of Appeal
17. Ministry Health	57. Library Board
18. Ministry of Education	58. Examination Development Commission
19. Ministry of Works	59. Abia State Polytechnic
20. Ministry of Transport	60. Judicial Service Commission
21. Ministry of Trade and Investment	61. Umuahia Capital Development Agency
22. Ministry of Industry	62. Open Spaces Commission
23. Ministry of Lands	63. Broadcasting Corporation of Abia
24. Ministry of Public Utilities	64. Law Reform Commission
25. Ministry of Science & Technology	65. TIMASS
26. Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs	66. Abia State newspaper
27. Ministry of Corporation, Poverty & Reduction	67. College of Education Technical Arochukwu
28. Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development	68. Specialist Hospital Umuahia
29. Ministry of Justice	69. Abia State Housing & Property Dev. Corporation
30. Ministry of Petroleum and Energy	70. Tourism Board
31. Ministry of Housing	71. Pension Board
32. Agricultural Development Programme	72. Bureau of Statistics
33. Ministry of Agriculture	73. Public, Private Partnership Investment Promotion
34. Ministry of Sports	74. ASOPADEC
35. Ministry of Arts, Culture & Tourism	75. ASUBEB
36. Ministry of Youths Development	76. Abia State Health Insurance Agency
37. Ministry of Information and Strategy	77. Secondary Education Management Board
38. Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprise Development	78. Council of Arts and Culture
39. Ministry of Environment	79. Civil Service Commission
40. Abia State Water Board	80. Health Management Board
	81. Local Government Audit
	82. Local Government Service Commission

The same committee also favoured the creation of two new commissions, namely, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Commission and Energy Commission.

In light of the above recommendations for restructuring of the MDAs, a review of the assignment of responsibilities to the MDAs, as approved by the State Executive Council in 2008, to reflect the current realities, becomes an early action for implementation in the Plan.

Supervisory Roles of Parent Ministries over Parastatals/Agencies

The domiciliation of some parastatals/agencies outside their parent ministries does not allow for effective supervision and monitoring of operations of parastatals and agencies. Bifurcation potentially supports dysfunctional behaviour which stalls development. Some examples of agencies experiencing bifurcation include:

- Abia Road Maintenance Agency (ABROMA) – Ministry of Works
- Abia State Water Board – Ministry of Public Utilities
- Abia State Estates Development Authority (ABSEDA) – Ministry of Lands
- Abia State Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) – Ministry of Environment
- Niemba FC/Abia Warriors – Ministry of Youth & Sports Development
- Physical Planning and Infrastructural Development funds – Office of the Secretary to State Government
- Abia State Public Utility Maintenance Agency – Ministry of Public Utility

The following set of related policy actions are required in the short term, namely,

- All parastatals/agencies presently domiciled outside should revert to their parent ministries to allow for effective monitoring and supervision
- On their being appointed, heads of parastatals and agencies, should be given proper induction and orientation as to the functions of the parastatals/agency and channels of communication in the Public Service.

The Office of the Secretary to the State government should ensure that conditions of service of chairmen and members of the commission, boards of parastatals and committees, are spelt out, implemented and closely monitored with a view to eliminating abuse of power, financial misappropriations, and to close line of division between the political class and the bureaucrats in the public service.

Lack of Training and Retraining of Officers

Revitalisation of the public service depends heavily on the existence of executive capacity. This in turn depends on training and retaining which is in short supply in the State. There should be periodic training and retraining of all cadre of public and civil servants to get them properly equipped with requisite skills, rules and ethics of the service as well as update the role expected of them. This will ensure discipline and enhance productivity. Such training should also be extended to the heads of parastatals and agencies to acquaint them with their functions, including channels of communication. What will to be trained on are to be systematically identified and programmed for implementation throughout the duration of this Plan.

Abia Charter of Equity

This charter is to be adopted on a state-wide basis. However, a law is required to make the Abia Charter of Equity justiciable and subject to public hearing to have the input of Arians on its workability and to have the seal of approval of all Arians. This is programmed for implementation early in the Plan.

Non-Payment of Pensions and Gratuity

Pensions, running into several years of arrears and unpaid gratuities are outstanding for several years in the State, leading to much suffering on the part of pensioners. The long-standing arrears have incurred a lot of public contempt as government is seen as unjust, oppressive and nonchalant. This leads to dysfunctional behaviour as serving officers indulge in personal record falsification, lobby for tenure elongation and engage in fraud to save for the rainy day due to the uncertainty in the payment of pensions and gratuities.

Progressive measures for prompt payment of pensions and gratuity are required. In addition, pensions are to be reviewed every five years in accordance with the relevant pension laws. Payment of pensions should be made a first line charge alongside with salaries.

Enforcement of Rules and Regulations by Management of Establishments

The Abia State public service is bedevilled by:

- A near breakdown of discipline, low productivity, inefficiency, general lawlessness, absence of a sense of ownership as well as non-adherence to Public Service Rules and regulations in the State and local government services, lead to absenteeism, lateness to work, loitering, hawking openly in the offices, apathy and lack of maintenance culture. For instance, in the local government councils, the biometric capturing system, which has been introduced in four local governments only, is not serving the control purpose as some staff only come to work in the morning, log in and log out at the same time, and nothing is done about it. In some cases, they use proxies to log in and out. In all these, nothing is done about it by management
- A visit to any government office by 10 am on a working day will find most offices empty, with the premises looking like a graveyard. This is a general embarrassment to the entire public service. However, there are a few exceptions to this
- A visit to most local government offices finds the premises and offices highly unkempt, dirty, with unmaintained facilities, obsolete equipment and furniture littering around the premises.
- Politicisation of the public service with respect to appointments and promotions which make it difficult for management to sanction such public servants as provided in the Public Service Rules and Regulations, leading to placement of unqualified persons in the management cadre thus exposing their glaring incompetence and further weakening discipline in the service
- Inability of the management to convey to government the needs of the staff and their institutions in terms of their welfare, funding, materials for works, training,

and payment of all allowance. This gives rise to staff being contemptuous towards management and the low morale among the public servants

- Most of the public servants appointed into political offices fail to apply for leave of absence as provided by law, prior to assumption of such offices. This leads to the payment of double salaries to such officers, both as appointees and public servants
- MDAs, as well as local government councils in the State, except for payment of salaries, are not adequately funded to carry out their assigned responsibilities. Consequently, management is denied the opportunity to provide the necessary materials for the effective and efficient functioning of these establishments.
- In spite of the provisions of the assignment of responsibilities approved by the State Executive Council on June 4, 2008, some government agencies encroach on the functions of others in the discharge of their duties. For instance, the Government House has taken over the supervision and control of ASEPA in place of the Ministry of Environment that has the statutory responsibility for solid waste management
- Lack of delegation or assignment of duties and responsibilities to subordinate staff, thereby making the latter redundant and unproductive. The result is that such staff are denied the opportunity to gain experience on the job and to be relevant to the system.

The following actionable programmes are outlined for implementation in the short to medium terms of the Plan:

- There should be training and re-training of officers. This takes many forms, including in-house and external training programmes planned for workers. Induction and orientation courses should be organised for relevant categories of public servants to familiarise them with the new environment of the public service. New regimes of training, focusing on innovations introduced by ABSLTDP, are to be given to all public service officials
- Promotion of values and ethics is to be implemented as top priority and on an accelerated basis. A new mind-set is required to drive the society envisioned in ABSTLDP and this must spread to the generality of Arians. New values are to be evolved and new champions raised for advocacy and adoption. A specific and new agency will have to be created and given the mandate for this important task
- New technologies, especially ICT-based, are to be introduced in large number to bring innovation and productivity to the public service, e.g., the use of biometric becomes a service wide technology deployed for efficiency.

Previous Commission/Committee Reports

Records show that there are some committee reports on reforms which were not implemented in the past by the State government. The public, therefore, perceives further exercises in this direction as wasteful. This passive, non-committal attitude can undermine the potency of reforms. Among such unimplemented reports are:

- Report of the Committee on Implementation of the New Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) in Abia State Public Service, April, 2019

- Abia State Civil Service Commission (CSC) Report of Public Staff Verification, Volumes (I) to (III) June to July 2008
- Abia State Polytechnic Report
- Sir Harley Omaha's Local Government Staff Verification Report, 2010
- Executive Council Retreat Communiqués
- Broadcasting Corporation of Abia (BCA) Report
- Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs Staff Verification Report, 2017
- Judiciary Staff Audit Report, 2009
- Committee on Reforms of Institutions and Parastatals in Abia State Public Service, August, 2009.

Consequently, the following actions are scheduled for implementation in the short run:

- Identification of those reports and issuance of White Papers (policy directives) for implementation, where needed, to boost public confidence in public institutions
- Putting in place institutional/systemic arrangements guaranteeing that all major committee reports are duly considered and implemented to ensure that time and resources committed in such assignments are not wasted and those indicted are not shielded.

FLAWED BUDGETARY PROCESS

Budget occupies a critical position in the planning process. The budget process in Abia State is plagued with obvious deficiencies. The invitation to MDAs for budget preparation and defence are often sent out late. There is also lack of funding to enable the MDAs prepare adequately. Moreover, directors of planning, research and statistics, are not properly sensitised, briefed or involved in the process.

For several years running, State budgets are collated and produced by a consulting firm outside the State. This arrangement persists because of the inability of the State government to procure a software for both the budget preparation and account production. The final account of the State is also produced by the same firm which is not proper. The cost implication for the State in terms of expenditure, loss of revenue, experience and manpower development, is enormous. Besides, the budgetary allocations are not being released to the MDAs and local governments for proper implementation.

Consequent upon the above, the following programmes are identified for Plan implementation in the short term:

- The State Planning Commission is to be strengthened to lead in the management of the development process envisioned in ABSLTDP. The immediate actions include the need to:

- train, sensitise and brief the directors of planning, research and statistics, directors of administration, and directors of finance, on emerging trends in budgeting
 - intensify the broad budget reform while complying with the provisions of the enabling law in order to make budgetary processes meet the development aspirations of the citizens
 - procure and install the software for the production of State budget and final accounts
- The ongoing public finance management (PFM) reform in the State should be adequately sustained and outcomes fully implemented.

A summary outline of strategic measures for the implementation of the PFM projects is presented as follows:

- Create new agencies and design innovative processes to drive the reform measures identified in ABSTLDP
- Mainstream elements of good governance identified and listed in the Plan document with mechanisms for upholding transparency accountability and sustainability put in place
- Reform regulatory institutions to remove outdated laws and processes, and replace them with development-friendly ones
- Raise a culture of hard work, core values of integrity, honesty and public trust and instil same into the citizens through advocacy and exemplary leadership
- Create new framework for leadership recruitment and mentorship
- Introduce an executive bill on the application of M&E framework into law to ensure that all projects and polices are completed and their impacts on the people professionally evaluated
- Promote partnership and cooperation with development partners to help drive critical issues of governance, sustainable development and institutional reforms
- Revitalise the public service with inbuilt capacity for efficient service delivery
- Introduce policy measures promoting zero tolerance for corruption and dysfunctional behavioural patterns
- Develop communication strategy that clearly informs on the shifts in the development paradigm of the State and the contents of the emerging Abia State as a “mini-Dubai”, focused on broad inclusion, active participation and equitable sharing among all *Ndi Abia*
- Create trusted security system in the State, including establishing security trust fund based on partnership between the public and private sectors
- Create new service charters in line with the vision of ABSLTDP and institutional knowledge of, and compliance with, same.

SECTION SIX

GUARANTEEING PERFORMANCES AND LINKAGES



Chapter 12

Infrastructure

INTRODUCTION

Infrastructure refers to the fundamental facilities and systems serving a country, state, city, or other areas, necessary for its economy to function and the basic physical, organisational structures and facilities like housing, roads, water and electricity supplies, etc., needed for the operation of the society or enterprise. Infrastructure can improve the efficiency and productivity as well as make an economy more competitive and give a society the sense of well-being for taking economic risks. The two main types of infrastructure are physical and social.

Infrastructural development is the construction and improvement of foundational services with the goal of sparking the economy to improve the quality of life. Most advanced economies have gone through periods of intensive infrastructure development to improve efficiency and competitiveness.

The need for infrastructural development is one of the great global challenges of our time as it is the fulcrum of every economic advancement. Good infrastructure increases productivity and allows easier flow of information and goods/services.

The provision of adequate infrastructure, together with macroeconomic stability and a long-term development strategy, is one of the necessary conditions for sustainable economic and social development. In light of the foregoing, there is need to highlight the inadequacies of existing infrastructural facilities in the State and also estimate their future requirements.

The framework of analysis and anticipation adopted for this pillar of ABSLTDP simply sees infrastructure as an enabler and the resources committed to its development as investment with capability for multi-dimensional returns. Infrastructure basically functions to promote the growth of other sectors and the well-being of the citizens. The dynamics of the shared strength of infrastructure are conveyed in the framework shown in Fig. 12.1.

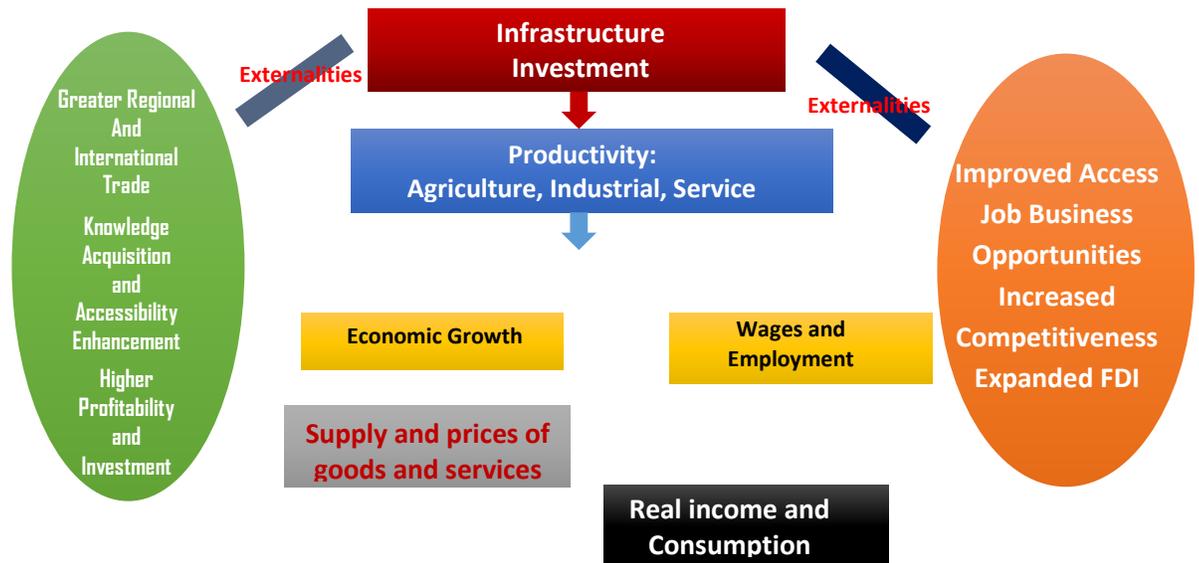


Fig. 12.1: Infrastructure investment and related effect

Source: Adapted from Ali and Pernia, 2003

THE CONCEPT OF INFRASTRUCTURE

In the realm of development economics, infrastructure is considered a pre-requisite for industrialisation and economic development. Generally, infrastructure consists of two parts: physical (economic) infrastructure which include roads, rail, electricity, telecommunications and irrigation, and social infrastructure such as public utility buildings for education and health services. Several studies have shown that infrastructure development is an indispensable component of poverty reduction.

Infrastructure plays a pointed, often decisive role in determining the overall productivity and development of a country's economy, as well as the quality of life of its citizens. Moreover, evidence exists that better quantity and quality of infrastructure can directly raise the productivity of human and physical capital and subsequently, growth. The relationship between infrastructure and development outcomes are quite complex and dynamic, with infrastructure impacts felt through multiple channels. Some of the channels of transmission identified include cost savings, increased disposable income and facilitation of private investment.

There is no consensus in the literature on a common definition of the term "infrastructure". The concept encompasses a wide range of definitions which often include facilities (fixed installations) used to deliver energy, transport, telecommunications, water and sanitation. What remains indisputable about the concept, however, is that the range of facilities classified as infrastructure share some common characteristics which are used to justify state involvement in their provision and financing. Characteristically,

infrastructure provides scale of economies in production, generates consumption externalities, are often non-excludable and generally speaking, are not tradeable.

The National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (2014-2043) of the National Planning Commission defines infrastructure as fixed assets with a long lifetime. In the Plan document, infrastructure was classified into core (transport, energy, ICT and water) and non-core (agriculture, mining, social infrastructure, housing, vital registration and security). Table 12.1 provides details of the scope of the two broad categories of infrastructure so defined.

Table 12.1: Infrastructure components

<i>Infrastructure</i>	<i>Examples</i>
Transport	Roads, rail, seaports and airports
Energy	Generation, transmission and distribution installations. Refineries, oil and gas pipelines
ICT	Telecom lines and transmission towers
Social infrastructure	Public utility buildings (schools and hospitals)
Housing and regional development	Low-income (social) housing
Security and vital registration	Public utility buildings (police offices, barracks and fire stations)
Agriculture, Water and Mining	Water treatment plants, sanitation plants, irrigation systems.

Source: NPC (2015)

SWOT ANALYSIS OF ABIA STATE INFRASTRUCTURE

The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis of Abia State infrastructure provides a background for more specific discussions of the infrastructural pillar of the State. Like every other administrative unit, Abia State has its positives (strengths and opportunities) and negatives (weaknesses and threats).

Strengths

- Abundance of thriving indigenous technology
- Presence of skilled and unskilled manpower, both in the public and private sectors
- One of the largest commercial hubs in West Africa (e.g., Ariaria market)
- Relative peace and security in the State
- Availability of raw materials
- Efficient management of economic resources.

Weaknesses

- Weak infrastructure base
- High population growth and high population density
- Fiscal indiscipline (non-implementation of approved budget)
- Absence of transport master plan
- Inadequate funding for projects as a result of dependence on statutory allocations
- Youth restiveness
- Lack of monitoring and evaluation of projects.

Opportunities

- Inter-state rail network links to the big cities of Port-Harcourt and Enugu
- Economies of scale in manufacturing and trade (textiles, leather, pharmaceuticals, footwear, etc.)
- Accessibility to development partners' support
- Inclusion of Abia State in NDDC.

Threats

- Economic shocks from volatile commodity prices
- Business relocations due to inadequate supply of basic infrastructure (high cost of doing business)
- Poor access to credit facilities from international financial institutions such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, London Club and Paris Club
- Ecological hazards such as flood and soil erosion.

Given Abia's key feature as a densely populated State, infrastructure investments are critical for the socio-economic well-being and quality of life of its residents. For instance, higher population density has implications for higher road network density. Moreover, the State's strong potential for industrialisation further underscores the need to prioritise infrastructure provision.

SITUATION ANALYSIS OF ABIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR

The infrastructure components in ABSLTDP focus on transport, electricity, water, housing and fire-fighting installations. Generally speaking, Abia State has a weak infrastructure base. Table 12.2 summarises the current state of infrastructure in the State. Indicators relate to competitiveness measures

Table 12.2: Infrastructure sector performance

Indicator	Measure	Abia State	Source	Nigeria	Source
<i>Transport</i>					
Road network density	Km per 100 sq km			21	Calculated based on NBS 2017
Paved roads	% of road network	63	Calculated based on NBS 2017	30	Daramola 2019.
Rail network density	Km per 100 sq km	3.2	Calculated based on NBS, 2017b	0.4	Calculated based on NRC, 2018,
Rail passenger/cargo throughput	% of national rail traffic	10 (pax);	Calculated based on NBS 2017 b & NRC 2018	100	NRC, 2018
	Annual % increase in passenger and cargo throughput	-42.3 (pax Q2 2016-Q2 2017)	NBS 2017	3.2 (pax 2017-2018); 132 (free 2017-2018)	NBS 2019
Port cargo throughput	% of national cargo throughput	0	NPA, 2017	100	NPA, 2017

	Annual % increase in port cargo throughput	0		1.6	NPA, 2017
<i>Electricity</i>					
Household access to public grid	% of households			61	NPoPC, 2014
Firm access to public grid	% of firms/ business units				
Metered connections	% of population				
Access to public electricity supply	Average daily hours	7			
Renewable energy stock	Renewable energy % of total energy resources			9.7	NBS, 2017
Household access to renewable energy	% utilising renewable energy sources				
Firm/business units access to renewable energy	% utilising renewable energy sources				
<i>Water</i>					
Access to improved water sources	% of households with access			56	NPoPC, 2014
Level of investments in new technologies (plumbing materials & treatment processes)	% of state capital expenditure				
<i>Housing</i>					
Low income housing development	% of total housing stock				
Access to low income housing	% in middle/low income groups with access				
<i>Fire fighting</i>					
Availability of fire fighting equipment	Number (functional) per LGA				

KEY CHALLENGES

Infrastructure, as an enabling sector of the economy, has a myriad of challenges which include the following:

- The long-term nature of infrastructure projects puts them at risk of abandonment, especially when such projects span different political administrations
- Lack of community ownership of infrastructure projects which may put sustainability and maintenance of projects at risk

- The long tenor involved in cost recovery which discourages private sector participation in infrastructure provision
- Non-payment of infrastructural development levy (due to low income of citizens) which hampers infrastructure financing.

SECTOR OBJECTIVES

Generally, infrastructure development has the following objectives:

- Ensures the provision of basic amenities for human development and improved standard of living
- Facilitates the utilisation and diversification of natural resources for economic empowerment
- Enhances national security
- Guarantees adequate, reliable and sustainable supply of goods and services at affordable costs
- Generates efficient and cost effective consumption of public utilities and infrastructure services (electric power, water, gas)
- Accelerates the process of acquisition and diffusion of technology
- Creates an enabling environment for private sector led investments in the economy
- Fosters regional and international integration.

In Abia State, specifically, the objectives of infrastructure development are to:

- improve the socio-economic well-being and quality of life for residents of the State
- provide a conducive and enabling environment for all classes and categories of businesses
- improve productive capacity in all sectors of the economy: agriculture, manufacturing and services and so increase the State's competitiveness.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

Key factors for the successful achievement of these objectives include:

- A well-articulated long-term plan, with medium-term components, to guide infrastructural development in Abia State
- The government to codify such plans into law
- The government to establish benchmarks for infrastructure spending, e.g., as proportion of capital budget
- The government to engender sustained political will for the provision and development of world-class infrastructure in the State
- Private sector participation, especially in the provision and-or maintenance of economic infrastructure
- A well designed monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan for the sector.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The vision in Abia State's infrastructure sector is to make Abia State stand out in the comity of states in terms of good road network, potable water and electricity supply, adequate and affordable housing as well as efficient transport system which will attract local and foreign investors.

Desirable outcomes in the infrastructure sector include:

- Consistent earmarked spending in the infrastructure sector
- Improved transport infrastructure, including revitalisation of rail and development of seaport
- Improved access to electricity for both domestic and commercial purposes
- Increased access to improved water supply sources
- Improved home ownership status among low and middle income categories
- Improved response time to fire and other disasters.

KEY STRATEGIES

The following strategies are programmed in the ABSLTDP to bring the State's infrastructure sector to its desired status:

Prioritisation of Infrastructure Projects based on Objective Criteria

This will dictate "what project is executed and when" during the 30-year Plan period. Prioritisation matrices are developed based on several factors depending on the infrastructure type in question. Factors include concentration of population, economic clusters, deprivation levels, market demand, supply origins, high risk zones for fire and other disasters, etc. The State capital, Umuahia, and the State's commercial nerve centre, Aba, are clear priority locations for some infrastructure projects. In the same vein, rural areas qualify as priority locations for some projects.

Adopting the Principle of Shared Risks

There should be shared risks in such ventures as public-private partnerships, as well as public-public partnerships in infrastructure provision and maintenance.

Designing Infrastructure Projects for Productive Employment and Innovation

Evidence and history show that infrastructure projects, also called public investment projects (PIPs), can double as employment-intensive investment strategies, if so designed. The International Labour Organisation recommends enhancing the employment impact of public investments via two approaches:

- Focus on public works activities that are labour intensive by default
- Introduce labour-based technologies and increase the labour input of selected construction activities, when the use of labour presents a competitive alternative to conventional construction methods.

Public investment projects (PIPs) have been used as poverty reduction and social protection instruments in several climes. Moreover, exploring indigenous technologies, and ensuring technological skills transfers on PIPs help improve local capabilities and potential for innovation.

Invest in ICT to improve Efficiency of Abia's Commercial Hubs

It is important to leverage ICT to increase the efficiency of commercial activity in Abia's commercial hub (e.g., Ariaria market). Entrepreneurs should be encouraged to explore electronic commerce platforms and form networks that will engender market penetration and enhance business sophistication. The State can facilitate these improvements by ensuring provision of dedicated broad-bands by telecom operators to commercial nerve centres in the State.

RESULTS FRAMEWORK

While Table 12.2 presents a situation analysis of the infrastructure sector in Abia State, Table 12.3 presents the desired state for the sector. Indicators are to be monitored, targets tracked, and outcomes evaluated.

Table 12.3: Results framework for Abia State's infrastructure sector

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline 2020	TARGETS		
Increased infrastructure spending	Infrastructure spending % of capital				
Diversified infrastructure funding	% of infrastructure spending from non-budgetary sources				
Improved transport infrastructure	Km of roads per 100 Sq km				
	Paved roads (%) of total road network				
	Change in rail pax throughput (%)				
	Change in rail cargo throughput (%)				
Improved access to electricity	Change in port cargo throughput (%)				
	Households' access to public grid (% of households)				
	Firms/businesses' access to public grid (% of firms/business units)				
Diversified energy sources	Renewable energy stock (% of total energy resources)				
	Household utilisation of renewable energy sources (% of households)				
	Firms/businesses' utilization of renewable energy sources (% of firms)				
Increased access to improved water sources	Households' access to improved water sources (% of households)				
Increased home ownership levels	Home ownership levels (% in low/mid income brackets)				
Reduced response time to fire and other disasters.	Response time to fire and other disaster.				

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

The programmes and component projects of the infrastructure pillar of ABSLTDP are outlined below with specifics in Tables 12.7-12.14. Actual implementation guides are expected to be worked into the five-yearly development plans of the State.

HIGHLIGHTS OF MDAs' MAJOR PLAN OUTLOOK, 2020-2050**Rail Transportation**

The Port Harcourt-Enugu rail line is the only rail way serving the State. The rail system was revitalised/refurbished in 2012. Since then, there has been no tangible achievement in the sector for the State.

Air Transportation

The State has inaugurated a committee for the actualisation of Abia airport, located between Ikwuano and Isiala-Ngwa North LGAs. Already all property owners in the area have been compensated. However, work is yet to start.

Water Transportation

The State has a seaport in Ogbaku in Ukwu West LGA. So far, draining of the waterways has been done. Presently, local technologies are the only means for water transportation via boats and canoes in the State.

Dry Port

The dry port is located in Amapu Ntigha in Isiala Ngwa North LGA along Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway. Land clearing has been completed.

This sector has the following as approved and ongoing projects:

Roads and Related Activities

- Build first computerised vehicle inspection test station in Aba
- Introduce Abia colour on commercial buses and tricycles
- MOT test certificate of road worthiness
- Enumeration and data capturing of commercial tricycles operators
- Establish Traffic Indiscipline Management Agency (TIMAS)
- Establish transport unions
- Set up bus rapid transit (BRT) scheme in Aba and Umuahia axes
- Establish six mega motor parks.



Housing

- Establish low income estates across Aba and Umuahia to reduce accommodation stress
- Promulgate a policy to avoid change of use of buildings around the State capital so that virgin areas can be developed
- Apportion an area for an industrial estate in the State capital
- Build estates in the 17 LGAs to close up the gaps and lapses from the State capital
- Construct a modern state of the art stadium in the State capital
- Construct a perimeter fence for the civil service secretariat, both old and new inclusive
- Build a museum to showcase Abia State cultural heritage (artifacts) and other recreational centres
- Develop a housing master plan for the State
- Build a five-star hotel for the State near the International Conference Centre
- Upgrade the School of the Blind at Umuahia into a rehabilitation centre.

Roadmap for Implementation

- Produce a State infrastructural master plan
- Draft bill on the new infrastructural master plan to be submitted and public hearing on the draft held
- Present the master plan to government
- Domestication of the master plan by Abia House of Assembly.

30 Years Projected Housing Infrastructure Development

- Good regional planning of layouts and estates
- Heavy construction of residential estates
- Strategies for city planning, urban design and development
- Design and implementation of smart city technologies
- Build city infrastructure
- Strategise overview of emergent cities
- Development of night economy through street lighting
- Setting out strategies for maintenance at a glance.

Fire Service

Fire service is an important sector that has the statutory responsibility to prevent, rescue, mitigate and fight fire as well as give information services.

CONCLUSION

Infrastructure are analogous to the connecting tissue in the complex body system consisting of modular organs. While organs are specialised and specific to their tasks, connecting tissues serve a more general purpose, serving the needs of modularity by establishing critical connections via networks. Their roles as connective tissues make infrastructure quintessentially public goods which may be provided publicly but is nonetheless not excluded from private participation. The effective and efficient functions of the many organs in an economic system depend, to a large extent, on the availability and strength of the connecting tissue of infrastructure in the system. This underscores the importance of the infrastructure sector in Abia State and the need for implementing a well-articulated plan and strategy for the sector.

Chapter 13

Environment and Regional Planning

INTRODUCTION

The environment presents the common heritage for the interaction of human and natural forces. Analysis of the environment must be taken into consideration and reflected in a complex interactive pattern. This pillar of ABSLTDP reflects a composite pattern. Abia State has consciously evolved policies and programmes that manifest this strategic consideration, thus earning external recognitions for this efforts. Box 13 specifically addresses this.

Box 13.1. Abia State new map success story

Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project, NEWMAP became effective in 2013 in Nigeria. Abia was one of the seven first mover states alongside Anambra, Cross rivers, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu, and Imo.

The contracts for the first intervention sites were awarded between May and June 2014. The sites were Umuezeukwu in Isialangwa north, Amuzukwu Ibeku, in Umuahia north and Amuda Achara in Umunneochi.

The political transition nationwide and the challenge of non - availability of government counterpart contribution made the state project management unit not to perform optimally. As at the mid - term review Abia was the least performing state.

Then the game changer came. In Dec 2015 the first tranche of N50m was received as GCC. All resettlement activities were completed and the civil works commenced. By August 2016 another N300m was paid by the State government which helped in expediting project implementation. And again by August 2018 another N400m was paid as GCC by the Abia State government.

Project implementation reached its peak within this period. The Engineering design and supervision firm churned out eleven more designs which were approved for implementation namely: Umuagu Ibeku/Umuda and Amafor Isingwu, Umuogele Umuakwu, Amuzukwu Ibeku additional works, Umuezeukwu additional works, Flood Mitigation works for Umuagbai (Obohia Road) Aba, Uratta Pond, Aba Ifeobara Pond Aba and Ndiegoro flood disaster plain in Aba also. The designs for Dodd's Methodist Church Uzuakoli erosion mitigation works, Elu-Amuke erosion site and Ogudu Asaa Isuikwuato. With these came the need for Resettlement Action Plans, Environmental and Social Management Plans, Baseline Studies, and Livelihoods Needs Assessments for these sites. Most were completed to ensure the implementation of the civil works for those sites. Civil Works were completed as follows, Umuezeukwu Nsulu principal works and additional works, Amuzukwu principal works and additional works, Umuagu Ibeku/Umuda and Amafor Isingwu, and Umuogele Umuakwu. Civil works are ongoing and nearing completion at Amuda Achara. The contract for the Uratta and Umuagbai Flood Mitigation works have been awarded and the contractor has resumed work.

Involuntary Resettlement activities(compensations) as well as Environmental and Social Management Plans have been implemented in the six communities where we have intervened. To further aid planned development across the state and to identify the erosion risk potential of Abia state the Project carried out a GIS mapping of Abia State. A major consultancy for Aba Urban Storm water management masterplan is also under way.

In furtherance of our commitment to leaving people better than we met them, the Project through our focal NGO organized residents of three of our intervention communities into community interest groups centred on livelihood options of their choice. The Project through the grant component, has raised over 80 cooperative groups and has trained and empowered them to set up businesses in agriculture (cassava cropping and processing, palm processing, poultry, piggery, fishery); hair dressing, tailoring, computer/data processing etc. These groups have brought succour to people in Umuezeukwu, Amuzukwu and Amuda Achara.

VISION OF THE SECTOR

To achieve its vision for total development of the State, the ABSLTDP will ensure the overall well-being and security of its citizens through an integrated, multi-sectoral grassroots development approach and economic empowerment of the people. This vision, in line with the environment and regional planning in the State, will be achieved through the following approaches:

- Improved infrastructure development which shall include massive road rehabilitation, construction and reconstruction, through public-private partnership
- Efficient erosion and flood control, afforestation, reforestation and regeneration
- Adoption of the concept of comparative advantage in siting projects
- Adoption of growth pole model for problem sub-regions for sustainable development.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SECTOR

The following are the objectives of the environment and regional planning sector:

- Maintain essential ecological processes and life support systems
- Ensure the sustainable utilisation of species and ecosystem and reservation of genetic diversity
- Establish effective erosion and flood control measures, forestry and conservation, afforestation and reforestation in the State using current approaches
- Integrated waste management approaches, institutional and occupational hygienic practices
- Propose climate change policy and action plan development document
- Spatial location of developmental activities comparatively
- Develop growth pole areas in the State.

SWOT ANALYSIS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR

The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of Abia State environmental sector are highlighted as follows:

Strengths

- Advantageous geographic location
- Abundant natural resources, both solid and liquid minerals
- Tourism and hospitality potentials
- Large market as a result of the State's large population of about 4.5 million (2019) with huge potential market
- Large arable farm land
- High level indigenous technology
- Homogeneity due to common language and culture
- Skilled and unskilled manpower that can be developed.

Weaknesses

- Inadequate data for physical planning for the design and implementation of the Plan
- Lack of regional plan that would have articulated potential regional resources and its development
- Weakly developed tourism and recreational facilities
- Inadequate financing of developmental (economic) activities.

Opportunities

The following opportunities exist in the State:

- Large regional and urban markets for industrial and other outputs
- Opportunities to harness the tourism and recreational potentials of the State
- Availability of fertile arable land for agricultural activities
- Abundance of natural resources that can be developed for optimal use in the State
- Potential for industrial and commercial establishment
- Possibility of dredging the existing water bodies.

Threats

The following are the threats to the development of the State:

- Ecological problems of erosion and flooding, land degradation and pollution. Large strips of land in the three senatorial districts are threatened by gully erosions and floods. Water and air in large parts of the State are polluted by effluents from diverse productive sectors of the State
- Boundary disputes and insecurity
- High level unemployment of teeming youth population
- Rural-to-urban drift that impacts on agricultural output/produce
- High level deforestation with minimal afforestation and reforestation
- Inadequate policies and non-implementation of existing ones
- Non-inclusive governance and lack of continuity in successive governments
- Neglect and disruption of cultural values
- Proliferation of tropical and waterborne diseases that threaten the health of the populace and agricultural produce
- Indiscriminate dumping of solid wastes
- Disjointed approach to the provision and location of physical development projects.

SECTORAL PROBLEMS

- Inadequate data on quality and quantity of regional resources availability, distribution, accessibility, uses and marketability in the State
- Inadequate funds for development of the identified local resources
- Excess reliance on liquid minerals (petroleum and gas) to the neglect of the other resources

- Lack of enabling environment for indigenous private sector participation in the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas
- Fluctuation in the price of crude oil
- Global insecurity
- Absence of appropriate policies on environment and regional planning
- Lack of synergy and collaboration among the MDAs in the State
- Silting of the major rivers like Imo, Igwu, Aba and Azumini Rivers and limited water transport infrastructure
- Unsustainable exploitation of forest resources with its attendant consequences on the environment and man
- Multiple gully erosion sites due to heavy rainfall, false-bedded nature of the soil, wrong road construction projects, abandonment of road construction projects by successive administration
- Lack of effective and integrated waste management approach.

EXISTING TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Tourism and Recreation

Tourism is an act of temporary travels for at least a night away from home or work for holiday making, sight-seeing, visiting an attraction or friends or relatives, going on a sports event (as spectator or participant) and for purpose of business. A traveller staying in a country for at least 24 hours is a tourist and tourists are not to take up paid job in the country of visit throughout the visit.

Tourism is free time available after work gainfully used for recreation. The main purpose of tourism is recreation. Leisure links tourism and recreation, yet leisure pursuits make demand on space. Recreational activities may take place indoors or outdoors. Places for outdoor recreation include parks, playgrounds, walkways, stadium, school playing fields, botanical gardens, and zoos, golf, polo, and race courses. Both tourism and recreation involve travel, often overnight and both require extensive interaction of visitors with resource base.

Abia State is blessed with abundant potentials that are scattered all over the State. Since the creation of the State in 1991, it has been at its best within its available resources in the identification, development and harnessing of these rich and abundant tourism potentials. Realising the importance of tourism, the government, in 2010, created a separate Ministry of Culture and Tourism to take charge of the administration of culture and tourism in the State. The new Ministry has taken several steps in the discharge of its responsibility through programmes and events that are aimed at creating tourism/culture awareness in the State.

Context of Tourism and Recreation

The town planner, in a bid to reach physical, economic and social community goals, embeds tourism and recreation potentials in the land use plans. They help to upgrade and preserve existing cities. Tourism and recreation are part the five land use considerations in planning amongst residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial uses of land.

The town planner is faced with a problem of what to provide for his planned population considering the quantity of land space at the most desirable locations for their non-money earning, and non-routine communal outdoor activities. The difficulty in defining what constitutes recreation to different people is a task for the physical planner. These basic recreational needs include relaxing, walking, driving for pleasure, sporting, dining/drinking out, gardening, watching and listening to radio, reading, watching pictures, cinemas and paintings in theatres, debating and dancing in halls, etc. Some of these tourism potentials in the State have been identified and documented while others are yet to be identified. Among those identified and documented are:

The Long Juju of Arochukwu

This is a cave with a long dark tunnel that is associated with the slave trade. Prior to the slave trade era, it had served as a court of arbitration for the settlement of local, tribal and inter-tribal disputes/problems. During the slave trade, it was an important route through which slaves were sold and transported outside the country through the Cross River to the ocean port in Port Harcourt. Because of the significant role it played during this period, the Long Juju gained international recognition in historical perspectives. The State government has, therefore, applied to the world body, UNESCO, for its recognition as a World Heritage Site. The site is open for development to internationally acceptable standards through private-public partnership (PPP).

The Azumini Blue River

This is a good relaxation spot for both local and foreign tourists. As the name implies, the blueness and freshness of the river makes it a unique spot for tourism attraction. The river that takes its course from the Aba River (popularly called waterside) has room for the construction of a world-class tourism resort. When fully developed, the Azumini Blue River site would provide an all-year round site for tourists, both local and international.

The Amakama Wooden Cave at Amakama

This is a wonder tree with a hollow inside that is capable of accommodating up to twenty people at a time. The tree is claimed to be as old as the Amakama community and had acted as a safe haven for the community during inter-tribal wars and the slave raids era. The beautiful serene environment of the site is good for the construction of a standard tourism village.

The Caves

These are located in the northern axis of the State ranging from Umunneochi to Arochukwu. They include:

- Ngodo Cave at Ngodo Isuochi which has both stalactite and stalagmite inside
- Uhuchukwu cave at Ahaba Imenyi in Isuikwuato LGA
- Ulochukwu Abiama Cave at Amankalu Alayi in Bende LGA
- Ezi Ofia Cave at Amekpu Ohafia
- Onu Ibina Cave at Ihechiowa in Arochukwu, LGA.

An outstanding feature of these caves is that they are cut out in wonderful natural rocky landscapes and they are tourist's delights any day. It is believed that the Uhuchukwu Cave, the Ulochukwu Abiama cave and the Long Juju cave (Ibini Ukpabi) were once residences of *Chukwu Abiama-Obioma*, the-kind-hearted deity that once wielded great powers of arbitration.

Cultural Festivals

The State boasts of a large variety of traditional festivals/dances in virtually all the autonomous communities in the State. These are celebrated at various seasons in the year. Officially, there is the State-owned Ugwuabia Festival. Ugwuabia (the pride of Abia) festival is a grassroots festival where all the LGAs in the State come to showcase the best of all their cultures in a carnival.

The National War Museum and Ojukwu Bunker in Umuahia

These are federal government establishments that contain the relics of the Nigerian civil war, as constant reminders of the evils of war. The museum also serves as a research centre.

The Museum of Colonial History in Aba

This is also a federal government establishment which houses the history of the evolution of Nigerian from pre-colonial, colonial to the present time. It also serves as a research centre.

Development Plan for Tourism in ABSLTDP



Azumini Blue River. Courtesy: Government House, Umuahia

The development and practice of tourism is capital-intensive which requires the active participation of both the public and capital sectors. Abia State is trying its possible best, in collaborating with the private sector/investors, to place Abia tourism potential as a strong revenue base for the State and tourists' destination. Abia State has a number of areas with immense scenic attraction. The rich cultural heritage of the State also lends itself to the promotion of tourism. A 1992 brochure on "Tourism in Abia State" lists the following tourist attractions:

- Arochukwu Long Juju
- Azumini Blue River in Ukwu
- National War Museum in Umuahia
- The famous traditional "Akwete" cloth weaving in Ukwu East LGA
- The Ohafia War Dancers
- Amafor Isingwu bi annual Iza aha ceremony
- The Ekpe Festival in Umuahia, etc.

Challenges of Tourism in Abia State

The National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism Studies (NIHOTOUR), as a research institute on tourism, has also been relegated to the background and is not consulted when appointments are made into tourism activities by the government, both at the federal, state and the local levels. The law establishing the institute places it under the supervision of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture instead of Education since it is an academic institution. The certificate awarded by this same institute is rejected by some government-owned institutions in Nigeria.

The greatest challenge to tourism in Abia State is wrong management and administration, and mismanagement of tourism programmes. Other challenges are enumerated below:

Multiple Taxation by Governments

One of the biggest challenges and drawbacks of tourism business operation in Abia State is the multiplicity of taxes at both federal and state government levels. Private sector tourism operators across the tourism value chain, especially hoteliers and resort owners, have had the profitability of their businesses retarded and, in some cases, grossly eroded.

Abia State tourism private sector operators are presently the largest financial investors in Nigeria's tourism industry, yet they are appalled by the lack of incentives for the hundreds of millions of naira they invested, over the years, to acquire land and assets, set up operational structures, routinely provide utilities (electricity, water and transport) and regularly pay staff members and vendors. But the new drive for internally-generated revenues are without incentives to local businesses, including tourism operators, thereby throwing them into bankruptcy and closure of businesses. Nigeria's tax codes must be fine-tuned to support, and not to punish, local investors. The slogan, "Ease of Doing Business" seem to favour mostly foreign investors. So far, there has been little or nothing, in the form of business operating palliatives, for domestic tourism investors and operators!

Lack of Infrastructure at Most Tourist Sites

The sheer dearth of basic socio-economic infrastructure across Nigeria are debilitating to a sustainable tourism development in Nigeria. There are virtually no roads to the most promising tourist destinations in Nigeria's hinterlands. And where the roads exist, they have since become impassable with pot-holes and erosion.

Abia State roads are mostly abandoned or poorly maintained, if ever! The common excuse for such dereliction of duty by government agencies is the argument of whether the affected roads are federal or state roads. The same lack of fundamental socio-economic infrastructure is evident in the areas of electricity, pipe-borne water, security, etc. The federal and state governments seem to ignore the fact that most tourist attractions are located in rural host communities and far-flung destinations. Yet, these host communities and destinations lack basic life-lifting and business enabling facilities. Over the years, our governments have been persistent with punitive measures in collecting incremental taxes from us. Yet, the governments have consistently turned a blind-eye to their responsibility of investing such tax collectibles on requisite socio-economic infrastructure.

Negative Perception of Nigeria Abroad

From the point of view of tourism destination management and tourist business development, the difference between Nigeria and other destinations with high crime rates is that those destinations, through the instrumentality of the new and traditional mass media, are controlling the narratives about their countries and thereby influencing the influx of inbound tourists to their destinations. If there is any benefit of the recent inglorious merger of tourism with Information Ministry in Nigeria today, it is for the supervising Ministry (i.e., Information Ministry) to, as a matter of national urgency, execute an international public communications campaign, deployed at our tourist source markets to counter their negative perception about Nigerians and inbound Nigeria tourism destinations.

Potential Recreational Sites

Abia State has been seen as having great tourism and recreation potentials as it has many cultural sites, cultural festivals, attractive and peculiar rivers and activities that can attract tourists. Hotels and restaurants of international standards exist that can support the industry.

Despite the various unique potentials for tourism and recreation, historic relics and museums as well as natural beach at Azumini Blue River (Ukwa East) and part of the natural beach of Cross River State in Arochukwu for tourism and recreation, the section has remained largely underdeveloped and under-utilised. Open spaces in layouts of urban centres, especially Umuahia and Aba,

- are not well developed (some converted into other land uses)
- have inadequate physical planning and designs of tourism resorts, and poor state of recreation facilities and paucity of tourism products

- have inadequate development control and attention given to conservation of landscape and preservation of the architectural heritage (in line with the provisions of section 72 of the Abia State Urban and Regional Planning Board/Planning Authorities Law, Cap 40, vol1.II, Laws of Abia State 2005 (as amended)).

Furthermore, lack of regional planning in the State, and together with lack of adequate data for planning, and inadequate local government involvement in tourism and recreation policy in the state, have grossly affected the industry. Equally, there is no integrated tourism and recreation development strategy. In essence, the tourism and recreation potentials of the State, are not fully explored for local, national and international attention and patronage.

Vast opportunities are open before Abia State to promote tourism and recreation. These opportunities include developing the abundant natural resources including waters, beaches, waterfalls, lakes, use of public- private partnerships, improving on transportation to resorts and recreational spots, and capitalising on the development of cultural festivals and carnivals in the State.

Targets

- Establish a dynamic database for tourism and recreation to ensure availability of data and information on the sector before the end of 2023
- Promote public partnership in the development of the tourism and recreation industry before 2025
- Build capacity for the implementation and monitoring of tourism policies (2022-2023)
- Adopt land use policies and design standards for tourism and recreation through developing design guides that will achieve a high standard of design and management of tourism and recreation resorts (2025-2030)
- Develop Azumini Blue River, Isuikwuato waterfall, the major caves, and the museums to international standards and economic active sector by 2030.
- Promote cultural tourism and carnivals utilising the diverse cultural heritage and marketing of tourism and recreation products of the State (2030-2040)
- Produce tour guide for the State by 2025
- Establish synergy in institutional reforms among the line ministries (Ministries of Culture and Tourism, Lands, Survey and Urban Planning Cum Sports and Youth Development) by 2024-2026
- Involve the local governments, by establishing a department of leisure and recreation parks and gardens in each local government council by 2030
- Convert Enyimba Stadium and Ahia Ohuru (New market) to Enyimba Plaza, as a big time recreational centre by 2030-2035
- Design strategies to protect sensitive environments, rare or fragile areas, (ecological historic or cultural)

- Adopt inclusive sustainable approaches via involvement of all the stakeholders: federal, ministries, departments and agencies in the State and local governments and civil society organisations in tourism and recreation: 2022-2025
- Establish regional parks and gardens in Abia North senatorial zone: 2022-2035
- Establish district parks and gardens in Abia Central (Bende) and Abia South
- Establish neighbourhood parks and gardens in the State as follow:
 - three parks in Aba metropolis: one each in Obi Ngwa area, Osisioma Ngwa area and Ugwunagbo area: 2025-2035
 - three parks in Umuahia: one each in Old Umuahia/Ubakala axis, Okaiuga Nkwoegwu-Afugiri-Ohuhu axis, and Ossa/Umu Okpara axis: 2035-2040
 - three parks in Ohafia: one park each in Arochukwu, Mbalano and Isuochi: 2040-2050.

WILD-LIFE IN ABIA STATE

The ecology of Abia State is akin to that of the rainforest in the southern part of the nation. It has a wet climate that becomes dryer inland. The wild-life is composed of its flora and fauna. The flora of the area consists of transitional blending elements from the Upper Guinean Forest to the Lower Guinean Congolian Forests. Some notable (flora) trees are the *Afzaha*, *Elacis guineanis* (oil palm), *bambusa vuganis* (bamboo), *musanga cecropioides* (umbrella tree), among others. The fauna comprises various wild species of large mammals, birds and reptiles such as monkey, hare, antelope, leopard, hyena, rabbit, squirrel, fox, wolf, weaverbird, kite, egret, the bee insect, among others. Much of the ecological system has been affected by agriculture, construction works and industrialisation.

TOPOGRAPHY OF ABIA STATE

Abia State is prone to natural disaster prone mainly due to erosion and flooding that cause great damage or loss of life.

Erosion

Erosion is one of the processes that modifies the landscape and constitutes one of the global environmental problems. Abia State is majorly affected by erosions, but gully erosion is the most serious cause of land degradation. The gullies may be actively eroding or inactive (stabilised).

Abia has been identified by the NEWMAP (2017) report to be in the centre of the part of Nigeria most prone to gully erosion. All the local government areas in the state possess gully erosion sites (Table 13.1) except Ugwunagbo Local Government Area.

Distribution of Erosion Sites in Abia State

The distribution of the gully erosion sites is shown in Table 13.1.

Table 13.1 The distribution of gully erosion sites in Abia State

S/N	LGA	Frequency	Percent	Some locations
1.	Aba North	2	0.7	Eziama and Ogor
2.	Aba South	0	0	Obuda/Uratta Road, Umuagbaghi, Ndiegoro
3.	Arochukwu	14	5.0	Añia, Ndi Uduma, Ihiechiowa, Ututu, Amangwu, Isingwu, Ndi Uduma
4.	Bende	64	22.9	Igbere, Onu Ibina, Bende, Oziitem, Amanba Uzoakoli, Ibina Ukwu, Amaudo Itumbzu, Ndiagho Ozuiitem, etc.
5.	Ikwuano	17	6.1	Amawom, Ibere, Elemaga Ibere, Ugwuibere, Inyilla Ibere, Amzo Oro
6.	Isiala-Ngwa North	17	6.1	Umuogu, Umuagu, Umuosu, Umuezegu, Umezu, Umutegha, etc.
7.	Isiala-Ngwa South	5	8.1	Ovungwu, Umuokoro-Onuwayanwu, Umuetegha Nvosi, etc
8.	Isikwuato	44	15.8	Obiagu uturu, Uturu, Umuanyi-Uturu, Umuunnekwuagbo, Uruala, Anubo
9.	Obioma-Ngwa	4	1.4	Agburuke, Amorji Ukwu, etc
10.	Ohafia	50	17.9	Amaogudu/Abiriba, Amamba/Amaeke/Ogborji/Abiriba, Asaga, Akanu, Ndiuduma, etc
11.	Osisioama Ngwa	5	1.8	Ogbokoala, Amuzu Ibeku, Amuzu Arongwa, Mbutu Umuka Amasa
12.	Ugwunagbo	0	0	0
13.	Ukwa East	2	0.7	Ndioma and Umukalu,
14.	Ukwa West	4	1.4	Obohia
15.	Umu-Nneochi	20	7.2	Nkwoegwu, Amafor, Afaraukwa, Umuafai, Nkata, Umuagu Ibeku, etc.
16.	Umuahia North	22	7.9	Agbama, Ohobo Afara, Okwulaga, Umuobia, Umuajata, etc.
17.	Umuahia South	9	3.2	Ngodo, Umueze, Umuobasi, Umubeke, etc.
	Total	279	100.0	

Source: Adapted from NEWMAP, 2017 Report



Flooding

Abia State experiences torrential rain, being in the equatorial rainforest of South-Eastern Nigeria. The localities prone to flooding are Aba-Ndiegoro, Eziukwu, Obuda/Uratta Road, Umumba, Ifeobara, Umuechem, Umunwarie, and parts of Ukwa East and Ukwa West LGAs that are low. Other parts of the State experience seasonal flooding when the downpour is excessively high. Current global climatic change is affecting the rate and volume of flooding in the State.

Solid Waste

The State produces about 990,000 metric tonnes of solid waste. Waste management mechanisms in place are through sanitary landfill and indiscriminate waste disposal. There are about three major dumpsites, namely, Enyimba Dump, Ngwaiyiekwe Dump, Ubakala 1 and 2 Dumps and Emelogu Dump. These dump sites are filled up and overflow into the roads. These waste are handled by contractors, roll-in and roll-out trucks, pay-loaders and tippers and waste bags.

PROFILE/ANALYSIS OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CHALLENGES AND PLANNED RESPONSES IN ABSLTDP

Natural Resources Profile of Abia State

The natural resources obtainable in Abia State are expected to be used in different ways to advance human development so as to play invaluable roles in the economy of the State. These natural resources are:

- petroleum and gas (liquid minerals)
- solid minerals
- agricultural and forestry
- non-timber forest products
- tourism and recreational sites
- hydrology - rivers and streams
- soils.

Targets

- Enhance the database on natural resources in the State, especially solid and liquid minerals
- Reduce the incidence of environmental degradation in the course of exploitation of natural resources
- Put in place erosion and flood control measures
- Reduce loss of biodiversity
- Enhance productivity of agriculture and forestry for food security
- Adopt integrated waste management approaches, institutional and occupational hygienic practices.

Environment

The judicious management of environmental resources to achieve sustainable development is imperative in economic and regional planning. Any intended planning

that is contrary to this will be counter-productive and invariably unfavourable to the development course.

Preservation of the environment in the course of economic and regional planning is a guarantee against increase in poverty as the livelihood activities of the people depend on the environment. For sustainable economic and regional development, the development of every sector, like agriculture, tourism, infrastructure, housing, settlement development, etc., must mainstream environmental safeguards into its concepts and plans.

Development activities in Abia State have not accorded sufficient attention to the ideals of environmental protection and conservation. This has given rise to the various kinds and extent of environmental degradation, namely, deforestation, bush burning, over-cropping, soil erosion, landslide and flooding, water, air and river pollution, acid rain, indiscriminate disposal of solid and liquid waste, loss of biodiversity, etc.

The environmental problems of the State cut across sectors of the economy with varied consequences that pose serious threats to the sustainable development of the State. The problems include:

- pollution of surface and underground water through leakage from the refuse heaps and dumpsites
- pollution that destroys the aesthetics of cityscape
- blocking of water drainage channels that lead to flooding and other social problems
- deforestation and biodiversity loss
- natural resource depletion
- climate change, etc.

Having an acceptable and sustainable environmental management is imperative for Abia State.





Soil Erosion and Flooding

Abia State has been devastated (ecologically and economically) by soil erosion and flood menace with about 279 gully erosion sites identified in 16 local government areas of Abia State. They are by far the most critical environmental challenge in Abia State. The State has suffered ecological degradation, ranging from loss of agricultural soil fertility, displacement of communities, to the disruption of the eco-bio-diversity due to natural and artificial pressure on land. Sheet, rill and gully erosions have cut off and displaced many farmlands, communities and villages and hamlets. Land slide has ravaged crop lands, and many infrastructure, leading to their collapse.

Flooding is predominant in the low-lying and flat areas of Abia South, as against the hilly and undulating topography of Abia Central and North, characterised by serious soil erosion. Aba, the commercial hub of the State, is the city that has suffered untold annual flooding problems over the years. Aba is located in a low-land topography making it prone to excessive flooding, together with non-maintenance of urban drains, storm water routes, rapid urbanisation, and organic city expansion without commensurate expansion of urban drainage infrastructure, layout plans and erection of buildings, especially within the environmental sensitive areas (along natural drainage lines, depressions, etc.) of the city.

Flooding in the State has brought about erosion of soil, loss of farmlands, destruction of tarred roads and concrete drainage systems, traffic jam and delays in traffic movement. These factors, when addressed, will deal with the health and environmental problems of the State, including such health issues such as malaria, typhoid, cholera, dysentery, loss of landed property, that are common with residents in flood-prone areas. Water resources is believed to be the most exploited natural system since the world began. It is a socio-economic good used for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes. It is of high value because the demand for clean water is higher than the supply. Potable water is demand-

driven. The demand for water by communities is normally noted and prioritised, and attention is given by government in line with pressing need/demand.

Provision of potable water in the State has been by piecemeal disjointed incrementalist approach. In the good old days, potable water (pipe borne water) was always available in homes in most parts of the urban areas, people paid water rate at the end of every month which served as one of the sources of generating revenue for governments.

There are so many abandoned water projects across the State that are allowed to decay into the rural areas. Also, so many communities do not have any source of potable water while some residents of the State have resorted to drinking water from stagnant ponds and rivers which result in afflictions from water-borne diseases.

Table 13.2: Abia State regional water schemes and their conditions

S/N	Water Scheme	Status/Condition	Programmes/Remarks
1.	Umuahia (town) water scheme	Inactive	USAID planned to take it up but for the capital intensive nature of the project. Government collaborating with "EWASH" to revitalise the scheme.
2.	Umuahia Regional water scheme, Umuopara, Umuahia South LGA.	Moribund	State government approached Belfix Bank in Belgium via Fed. Govt. for 20 million Euros for total turnaround maintenance of 2 major water schemes in the State.
3.	Ozuiitem surface water scheme, Bende LGA.	Abandoned	Government revitalising the scheme at ₦61.017 m completion of the project at 55%
4.	Nnamdi Azikiwe Civil Service Secretariat, Umuahia.	Abandoned	Project cost ₦14 m, ₦3 m paid and work done 21%
5.	Ezi na Erim civil centre water scheme, Nsirimo, Umuahia South	Being Rehabilitated	Project valued at ₦7.5 m, 15.5% completion.
6.	Umudike Ohia River Water Scheme Ikwuano LGA	Being Rehabilitated	Project cost ₦10 m, rehabilitation work yet to commence.
7.	Umuobiakwa scheme, Obi Ngwa LGA	Being Rehabilitated	Project cost ₦53.3 m, project yet to commence.
8.	Akanu- Item, Bende LGA	Being Rehabilitated	Project valued at ₦145.7m, work yet to commence
9.	Abiriba water scheme, Ohafia, LGA	Being Rehabilitated	Project valued at ₦27.4 m yet to commence
10.	Obegu water scheme, Ugwunagbo LGA	Abandoned	Community arranging on its rehabilitation with the Ministry of Public Utilities and Water Resources.
11.	Ogwe water scheme, Ukwa West LGA	Abandoned	No information on progress
12.	Aba urban water scheme at CKC aba	Abandoned	No information on progress

	south LGA		
13.	Osusu-Aba at Okigwe road/Brass street, Aba North LGA	Abandoned	No information on progress

Source: Environment and Regional Planning Sub-Committee, 2020.

There are numerous boreholes constructed all over the State provided by the various local government councils, NGOs and philanthropists. Most of them are begging for rehabilitation or renovation, rendering water supply grossly inadequate. The greatest problem to their functionality is lack of constant electricity.

Table 13.3: Key environmental programmes, targets and terms

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Reclaim and rehabilitate of major gully erosion sites	80%	2021-2050
Development of an Integrated Waste Management System		2025
Production of thematic maps of erosion sites in the State		2021-2024
Strengthen the synergy between Abia State and the NEWMAP on erosion management and among inter-ministerial synergy		
Enforcement of physical planning and development control measures on land uses		2021-2050 (continuum)
Reforestation, afforestation, tree planting and greening		2023-2035
Productions of action plan on climate change via inter-ministerial committee		(20205)
Environmental education on causes, danger, preventing and control of environmental hazards, efficient waste disposal, tree planting and discouraging careless felling of trees		2021-2024
Adopt better farming practice; discourage development in hazardous areas and environmental impact assessment before embarking on developments.		2022-2030
Elimination of waste dumping on major urban streets and at unauthorised locations.		2021-2030
Government's collaboration with donor agencies/non-governmental agencies in the delivery of portable water/good drinking water		2021-2026
Review of water policy to make Water Board, Ministry of Public Utilities and Water Resources more effective and efficient on provision of water to Abians		2025-2027
Evolve community driven demand approach to rural water supply		2030
Capacity building for sustainable water supply to urban and rural settlements		2024-2026
State and local government water governance structure to be uplifted through capacity building of water management		
Provision of portable water for Abians via rehabilitation of regional water schemes in the State.	70%	2040-2050

Solid Waste Management

Solid waste became a major problem in the State, especially Aba and Umuahia, due to the rapid population increase, urbanisation and urban growth in the State which have direct

consequence on high waste generation. Abia State Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) is the government agency responsible for managing waste generated in the State, while the Ministry of Environment is the policy regulator and the local government councils are major stakeholders by virtue of their constitutional role.

The ASEPA contractors are assigned with the tasks of collection, transportation, and disposal of wastes in designated neighbourhoods, while waste scavengers (pickers) and ASEPA staff collect the residuals, made up of vegetables, papers, putrescible, plastics, tins, metals, and glasses. Waste collection and transportation in Abia major cities of Aba, Umuahia and, of recent, Ohafia, are often collected from the generation points in households, markets, industries, highways/streets, neighbourhood and public places.

The nature of the settlements and morphology of most neighbourhoods in the State hinder refuse collection, as accessibility is poor. Consequently, refuse trucks cannot access such areas, especially in Aba urban.

Solid Waste Disposal and Management

The aim of waste management strategy is to properly dispose waste at designated locations. Current norms as regards sustainable development and best practices are material recovery and renewable energy from waste.

The four dump sites on the expressway near Umueghilegbu Shoe Market and Emelogu street dump site located at Aba are filled and overflowing into the roads. Likewise, the Ngwaiyiekwe/Ihie Ukwu (Ugwunagbo) dump site is almost full too. The Ubakala 1 and 2 dump sites are in the same position as those of Aba, full and over-flowing into the Port-Harcourt-Enugu Expressway. The increase in the volume of waste generated in these areas is as a result of the increase in population, urbanisation and rural-urban drift. The waste management strategy in place is insufficient, inadequate and inefficient. Hence, an integrated solid waste management plan is imperative.

The Process of Solid Waste Management

Effective and efficient waste management emphasises environmental sustainability and resource recovery which lean on the four Rs of the United Nations global waste management concept: Reduction, Re-use, Recovery, and Recycling. Also, it will include new methods of establishing compost production plant, championing waste-to-wealth initiatives and renewable energy potentials. The resource recovery programmes shall focus attention on:

- compositing-putrescible waste (vegetables and organic waste)
- briquetting-sawdust and compos
- pelleting-nylons and plastics.

The resource waste management programme holds a lot of potentials for investors, as it should be structured to protect the potential investor's interest and ensure service delivery for the consuming public.

The regulatory and institutional framework of the sector should be strengthened for efficiency. Investors shall invest in the areas of:

- compositing
- incineration
- land filling
- recycling
- landfill gas to energy (bio-gas, for fuel and electricity).

Major Challenges in Solid Waste Management

Solid waste sector has been suppressed over the years by:

- poor funding due to high cost of the funds required for effective and efficient solid waste management and investment into waste re-use, recovery, recycling and reduction
- low public awareness, weak public enlightenment strategies for re-orientation and poor stakeholders’ support
- socio-economic and socio-cultural factors as waste service is perceived as a social responsibility of government resulting in poor stakeholders’ participation in waste recovery and reuse
- non-payment for service delivery by supposed beneficiaries of the collection
- poor infrastructure due to porosity of funds, disparity in rapid population growth and housing demand.

Table 13.4 Proposed Abia State solid waste management programmes

<i>Scheme</i>	2021-2030	2031-2040	2041-2050
Monthly Environmental Clean-up exercise	Enhance environmental clean-up exercise	Sustain same	-do -
Street Sweeping	Recruitment of 200 persons as street sweepers and involve Private Sector Participation (PSP) procure refuse buckets and bags. Initiate night sweeping	Increase street sweepers and procurement of more buckets and bags by 50%	Increase street sweepers and buckets and bags by 50%
	Programme for the LGAs	Encourage night sweeping and private sector participation	Sustain the concept of the project for appraisal
Refuse Storage	Procurement of 1000 Dumpsters Bins/refuse containers at 200 meter apart on major roads. Provide dumpster for many regional markets in the state.	Procurement of 30 Nos refuse static compactors for urban, growth point centres and major regional markets in the State	Introduction of PPP in branding the refuse containers sustaining the policy and evaluate programme effect
	Introduction of 200 mammoth Dumpster Bins at 2000 meters on the Arterial streets and highways.	On urban, growth points and regional market areas, Introduction of litter bins in the streets	

Refuse Collection	Procurement of additional 30 Nos New Refuse Trucks for Waste Collection Creation of enabling environment for Public Sector Partnership to introduce additional 20 Nos trucks. Registration of 10 competent PSP operators	Transfer of ownership of trucks to PSP operators on concession arrangement and investment recovery	Total ownership of municipal solid waste by the PSP for street waste, household industrial and hazardous waste collection
Refuse Disposal	Procurement of Pollution Prevention Equipment for the 4 Nos. Dumpsites in Aba/Umuahia. Continue construction of Integrated Solid Waste facility at Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia	Construction of New Landfill sites at Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia. Procure 4 Nos. New D/8 Compactor Bulldozers for dumpsites. Procurement of additional refuse compactors for new dump sites	Construction of New Landfill sites at the Growth point Centres. Procurement of new landfill compactors for dumpsites at the Growth point centres.
Refuse Transfer Loading Station	Establish 8 Nos transfer loading stations, Aba 4 Nos, Umuahia 2 Nos, Ohafia 2 Nos	Construction of additional 20 Nos transfer loading stations to enhance solid waste management in the three major urban areas	Construction of new transfer loading stations of the growth point centre, where necessary.
Awareness Campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaigns on Solid Waste Management matters	-do-	-do-

Source: Environment and Regional Planning Sub-Committee, 2020.
Table 13.5: Proposed solid waste management strategic action plan

Activity	Short-Term (0-5 years) 2021-2025	Medium-Term (6-14 years) 2025-2034	Long-Term (15-30 years) 2030- 2050
Monthly Environmental Clean Up	Review the operations of the exercise. Initiate institutional and occupational hygiene	Appropriately involve the public and evolve the occupational health and institutional hygiene practices. Provide equipment for assistances to occupational health/institutions Agencies for hygiene	Continue the monthly environmental cleanup exercise Continue the provision of equipment and assistances to occupational health/institutions.
Street Sweeping	Review the operations in Aba and Umuahia for better Performance. Recruit more Street Sweepers via PSP programme. Update the Policy or involve LGAs in Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia to engage 100 street sweepers procure	Increase Street Sweepers in Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia by 100 Nos via PSP. Initiate Night sweeping programme for the major urban centres in the State via LGAs	Sustain the exercise increase the sweepers as need arises and cover the highways.
Refuse Storage	Provide 900 Dumpsters Bins/Refuse containers at	Provide 100 Nos Dumpsters for the	Extend the procurement of Refuse Static Compactors to

	200 meters apart on the major arterials. Introduction of 200 Nos mammoth-Dumpster Bins at 2000 meters on the arterials/highways	major Regional Markets in the state. Commence Procurement of 30 Nos Refuse Static Compactors for the 3 major cities. Introduce Public Partnering in Refuse Management	the Growth Points Sustain the Policy. Evaluate the Programme
Refuse Collection	Procurement of 20 Nos new Refuse Trucks for waste collection. Creation of enabling environment for Registration numbers PSP competent operators	Procurement of additional 10 numbers new Refuse Trucks for collection. Transfer of ownership management of trucks to PSP operators on concession arrangement and investment recovery. Provide bank guarantee for potential investors in the sector	Operationalize full ownership of Municipal Solid Waste by the PSP for all categories of collection, viz: street waste, household, industrial and hazardous. Provide bank guarantee for potential investors/operators
Refuse Disposal	Procure pollution prevention equipment for the 4 Nos dumpsites in Aba and Umuahia continue maintenance/rehabilitation of the dumpsites. Commence construction of integrated solid waste facility at Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia	Complete construction of integrated solid waste facility. Construction of new landfill sites in the 3 major cities. Complete procurement of Refuse Compactors Procurement of 4 numbers new D/8 Compactor Bulldozers for dumpsite	Operationalise the new Landfill Sites. Initiate fresh dumpsite upgrading. Increase pollution prevention equipment for all dumpsites construction of Landfill Sites at the Growth Point Centres. Procurement of new Landfill compactors for dumpsites at the Growth Point Centres
Refuse Transfer Loading Station (TLS)	Introduction of Refuse Transfer Loading Station in Aba/Umuahia and Ohafia	Complete Refuse Transfer Landing Station in the major Urban centres	Full operation of Refuse Transfer Loading Station in the Urban Centres
Resource Recovery (Waste Recycling)	Initiate earth care project on compost production and Alternative Source of energy. Negotiate on construction of new landfill site. Commence Project on waste Conversion-briquette (saw-dust) pellets (plastics)	Complete Earth care Project on compost Production and alternative source of energy. Construction of new landfill sites Commission Project on waste briquette (saw dust)	Evaluate the Projects
Awareness Campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign	Sustain awareness and enlightenment campaign

Source: Environment and regional planning sub-committee, 2020.

Strategies for Management of Physical Environment in Abia State

The Abia State government has taken some measures in managing the physical environment of the State. Those activities/programmes need to be sustained and refined for effective performance and result. Suggested strategies for improving the physical environment of the State are:

Exploration, Surveying and Updating of Physical Environment/Resources

There should be comprehensive exploration and survey of all physical and natural resources of the State, through baseline study of the various components of the environment which will include soil, water, flora, fauna, air, etc. This will lead to proper mapping of the resources of the physical environment.

There should be an institutionalised natural resource assessment and accounting framework once the baseline has been put in place for periodic updating of the database of the physical environment and advice government on the stock of the natural resources.

Sustainable Exploitation and Utilisation of Natural Resources

All forms of development should be sustainable including the strategies of physical environment development. Sustainable exploitation and utilisation of natural resources should involve land suitability assessment, land use evaluation and planning as guide to the use of physical environment.

Public Enlightenment Education

This will involve initiating a forum for public enlightenment and awareness for the local communities, NGOS, FBO, and CBOS, so as to enlist, empower and equip stakeholders for inclusive approach towards physical resource protection and conservation. The populace should be well-educated on judicious use and conservation of the natural resources. The public should have sufficient information and knowledge on some major issues like erosion and flooding, climate change, building without permit, environmental sensitive area development and on their consequences on the environment, and strategies for their adoption.

Human Resource Capacity Building

The expertise of Abia State relevant professional officials and land users in the development and management of natural resources, should be strengthened through the use of modern-day spatial data management tools like remote sensing and GIS. This will engender promotion of research and development activities geared towards the conservation and promotion of the natural resources. Also, adequate professional staff should equally be employed.

Investment in Social and Economic Infrastructures

Provision of amenities and facilities are *sine-qua-non* in the development of the physical environment. Therefore, effective and efficient survey, monitoring and conservation of the physical environment, require investment in social and economic infrastructure so as to enhance the work of those involved. Efficient and environmental friendly technologies for

the development and management of the physical environment must be evolved, locally and nationally.

Strengthen Institutional and Legal Framework

Adequate and effective institutional and legal frameworks for environmental protection and conservation/land use planning and management that encourage private sector participation, good administrative structures for governance and management of the physical environment, increased transparency and openness at all levels of governance, should be priority of the State government. Existing institutions, legal framework and planning regulatory machineries, shall be reviewed so as to meet standard for global best practices and the implementation and monitoring of various natural resources development and management of project and programmes.

Conclusion

Every physical environment is peculiar in terms of physical settings and diversity of natural resources.

Table 13.6: Summary of Abia State major environmental challenges: Causes, consequences and remedies

<i>S/N</i>	<i>Challenges</i>	<i>Causes</i>	<i>Consequences</i>	<i>Remedies</i>
1.	Soil (gully) erosion	Lack of physical planning and development control, lack of appropriate drainage channels, poor farming practices, nature of the soil	Myriad gullies, loss of soil fertility and farm lands, planted crops and buildings and community infrastructures such as roads, electricity poles, and drainage channels	Physical planning and management, informed development control, inventory of soil erosion hazards, appropriate farming practices and river channelisation, capacity building on best ways of handling erosion
2.	Flooding	Torrential rainfall with increasing intensity associated with climate change, development in flood prone areas, blocking of drains and river channels, low elevation, inefficient implementation of environmental sanitation laws and neglect of physical planning, inadequate natural drainage basins	Loss of lives, and farm land and landed properties	Effective urban planning and development control, good drainage designs and construction, environmental education, efficient implementation of sanitation laws, greening, discouragement in hazardous areas flood plains regulation
3.	Deforestation	Urbanisation, increasing population and pressure, ecological foot print, bush burning, increasing demand for	Biodiversity loss, loss of farmland; increased wind storms, reduction of fossil fuel and economic trees	Afforestation, reforestation, reduce deforestation, discourage bush burning alternative energy for cooking, greening environmental education

		fossil fuel, lack of afforestation and forest regeneration, over exploitation		
4.	Bio-diversity extinction	Deforestation, bush burning, disruption of ecological sites, pollution	Loss of wildlife and biodiversity [flora and fauna] and environmental aesthetics	Developing games park, discourage bush burning and poaching [of special species], reservation of genetic diversity
5.	Solid waste disposal	Increasing population and urbanisation, inadequate urban infrastructural facilities, disjointed land use development, use of inappropriate and in effective facilities/management	Nauseating stench, ground and surface water pollution, dirty and smelly environment [streets and roads]	Integrated waste management system, man power training, environmental education, institutional and occupational practices
6.	Air pollution	Increased and uncontrolled vehicular, industrial and domestic emissions, poor solid and gaseous waste management	Respiratory infections urban thermal discomfort	Controlling and managing industrial, vehicular and domestic emissions/effluent, tree planting
7.	Water pollution	Inefficient/inadequate disposal of industrial and agricultural chemicals, non-waste water management, fecal contamination, poor septic dumping and waste management	Outbreak of diseases, eutrophication and pollution of wetland, reduced crop yield	Treatment and management of waste water, appropriate disposal of domestic sewerage environmental education
8.	Soil Pollution	Oil spillage, agricultural chemical accumulation in soils	Pollution of surface and ground water, contamination of food and farm	Effective and efficient domestic, agricultural and industrial waste management

Source: Environment and Physical Planning Committee, 2020.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Transportation plays vital role in the social, economic, political and historical life of man. Transportation serves as a means by which nations, regions, communities, towns and villages connect and relate. It has also added value to farm produce, through regional trade and commerce. It has actually contributed greatly to the current level of global economic development and transformation. Transportation and communication have impacted in the area of trade and commerce, mobility, revenue generation, employment opportunities, acceleration of industrial development and urbanisation, institutional development and creation, socio-cultural and peaceful co-existence cum distribution of agricultural produce from the rural areas to the urban centres.

Transportation is demand-driven (as it only produces the means to an end) and capital intensive (huge capital is required for the provision, operation, maintenance, and renewal of its facilities). Reduction of investment may cause setbacks and deterioration for mobility infrastructure and facilities.

Existing transportation system in Abia State has environmental consequences, which include environmental pollution and degradation through exhaust or smoke emissions, blares from vehicle horns, street trading, traffic congestions, damaged rickety and abandoned/disused vehicles, accidented, and crash vehicles. They constitute environmental hazards and visual obstruction.

Flooding due to road infrastructure construction and asphaltting that provide solid pavements that aid run-off, deforestation and vegetation clearing, to provide transport infrastructure facilities and micro-climate change as high volume of vehicles on Abia roads disrupt the local environmental climate.

The challenges facing the transportation in Abia State is akin to those facing Nigerian states which are predominantly road-based system, public transportation majorly operated by the informal system, unreliable mass transit system, deplorable road system, urban traffic congestion, bad road geometry, inadequate hierarchy of road networks, lack of provision and maintenance of regional routes, overlapping of functions, poor maintenance culture, myriad and uncoordinated transport unions, exhaust emissions and pollution, bad road geometry and driving habits, absence/inadequate road traffic furniture, etc. The railway system is in comatose and the water transport system is relegated to the background while an airport is on existent in the State.

The transport sector of Abia State economy is mainly private-sector driven with little of government involvement. Abia Line Transport Service is the chief agency of government's direct involvement in road transport and the mass transit scheme of most of the local government councils in the State that are not reliable. Most of the vehicles in the mass transmit scheme are equally owned by individuals who registered in the transport loan scheme. But the programme has suffered setback, as some of the beneficiaries may not have been transporters *ab initio*, while some could not keep to the terms and conditions for the loan.

Targets

- Localise national transport policy to meet the transportation needs of the State: 2025-2028
- Revitalise Abia State Transport Cooperation (Abia Line) for efficiency and effectiveness and cost recovery: 2024-2028
- Improve on the public-private partnership in the State: 2023/2024
- Achieve synergy between transportation and environment via design of roads before their construction and rehabilitation; provision of road signs, lay-by, bus stops, waste bins in commercial vehicles, etc., and greening of road medians/traffic islands, roads verges and motor parks: 2022-2050

- Adopt traffic impact analysis policy by 2025
- Improve on water transportation by dredging Azumini Blue River and Aba River: 2025-2035
- Establish an airport of international standard around Umuahia North, Ikwuano and Isiala Ngwa North axis: 2021-2025
- Rehabilitate Trunk ‘A’ roads by synergising with the federal government and Trunk ‘B’ roads in the State: 2030-2035

REGIONAL PLANNING/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Regional planning is a subset of physical planning, while physical planning is synonymous with land use planning, spatial planning, town and country planning, community planning, urban and regional planning. Planning, on its own, is simply put, the co-ordination of goals and the resources available to achieve them. Regional planning is the process of minimising (or balancing) the economic inequalities within a geographic space like Abia State. Since the creation of Abia State in 1992, it has been experiencing regional inequalities in economic prosperity. The fundamental cause of this regional imbalance are planlessness, i.e., lack of regional physical master development plan for the State and master plan/growth point structure plans for settlements and development centres, disparity in regional employment and the provision of physical and social infrastructures in the State.

The basic objectives of regional planning are to achieve a satisfactory relationship in the regional distribution of employment opportunities and the provision of socio-physical infrastructure, so as to minimise inequality in the economic development of the components of the State, and to achieve maximum socio-economic returns. The regional disparities or imbalances in the location of natural resources in the State has led to population emigration from depressed and undeveloped (frontier) areas, giving rise to depopulation, under-utilisation of social capital and personal problems. The growing areas/urban centres (particularly Aba and Umuahia) to which people migrate have led to various forms of congestion and occurrence of other socio-economic challenges. This is aided by lack of political will and ignorance of the existence of an Old Master Plan (for Umuahia, Okpuala Ngwa, Bende, Mgboko, Oke-Ikpe) and Growth Point Structure Plans (for Abiriba, Akwete, Afugiri, Azumini, Bende, Item, Isuochi, Nbawsi, Nsulu, Obehie, Owerinta, and Uturu), and their non-implementation. Some of these projects could not be continued due mainly to change of government in which the new government often does not continue with projects started by the government it succeeded. In addition, there are the challenges of non-appreciation of the usefulness of the physical development plan already prepared, lack of awareness of the existence of the plans, over time, and lack of budgetary provision, affected regional development of Abia State.

Regional planning is multi-dimensional in nature and, therefore, integrates the strategies of economic, physical and social planning. It touches all facets of development objectives and sectors of any economy.

Targets

- Set up expert groups across every field from within and in diaspora to advice on the framework for Regional Development- 2022-2023
- Establish data bank on regional planning in the State on or before 2025
- Prepare three sector plans (structure plans) for Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia: 2020-2023
- Initiate the implementation of the three sector plans by 2023
- Develop Enyimba Economic City trade free zone: 2020-2024
- Prepare growth points physical development plans for major settlement areas in the State: 2025-2030
- Relocate Enyimba International Football Field (Aba Stadium) to a 10-hectare land at Akpa Mbato, Obi Ngwa LGA: 2030-2034
- Relocate Ahia Ohuru (New Market at Ngwa Road to a 5-hectare land at Owerri-Aba/Abayi Nchokoro in Ugwunagbo LGA: 2035-2039
- Build modular refinery at Owaza via public-private partnership arrangement: 2022-2024.
- Develop Owerinta as industrial city: 2025-2030
- Encourage and ensure the federal government develops the dry port at Ntigha, Isiala Ngwa North LGA: 2021-2025
- Build and develop Aba as a technology town by forming and establishing industrial clusters in Aba North, Aba South, Obi Ngwa, Osisioma Ngwa, and Ugwunagbo areas: 2030
- Ensure completion and full operation of geometric power project at Alaoji, Ugwunagbo for complete electrification of Abia State and South-East Region: 2025
- Upgrade Abia Teaching Hospital, the general hospitals in the State, Uzoakoli-Leprosy Centre to international and modern standards, among others.

Table 13.7: Structure/master physical development plans

S/N	Local Government	Growth Point Location Centre	Estimated cost (₦)	Development Period	Remarks
1.	Aba North	Covered by Aba Structure Plan	See Aba structure plan	2020-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
2.	Aba South	Covered by Aba Structure Plan	See Aba structure plan	2020-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
3.	Arochukwu	Arochukwu	18 million	2025-2030	LGA headquarters
		Ututu	18 million		Growth centre
4.	Bende	Bende Physical Development Plan	Prepared	2019-2020	Prepared by Federal Government via FMWH LGA headquarters
		Uzoakoli			Growth centre
		Umunator			Growth centre
5.	Ikwuano	Isiala Oboro	18 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Umudike	20 million		Growth centre
6.	Isiala Ngwa North	Okpuala Ngwa	25 million	2025-2030	Review the old plans and prepare the new one.
		Nbawsi	20 million		
		Ntigha	18 million		
7.	Isiala Ngwa	Omobo	20 million	2025-2030	LGA headquarters

	South	Owerrinta	30 million		To be developed as industrial city
8.	Isuikwuato	Mbalano	30 million	2025-2030	LGA headquarters
		Ovim	18 million		Growth centres
		Ututu	25 million		
9.	Obi Ngwa	Mgboko	20 million	2025-2030	LGA headquarters
		Ohanze-Umuobiakwa	25 million		Growth Centres
10.	Ohafia	Ohafia Structure Plan		2020-2023	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
		Isiama	18 million	2025-2030	Growth Centres
		Abiriba	18 million		
11.	Osisioma Ngwa	Osisioma Ngwa		2025-2030	Part of Aba Structure Plan
		Ariaria-Umuode	-		
12.	Ugwunagbo	Ugwunagbo	20 million	2025-2030	LGA headquarters
		Obegu	18 million		Growth centre
13.	Ukwa East	Akwete	18 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Azumini	30 million		To be developed as resort centre
		Obaku-Ohambele	18 million		Growth Centre
14.	Ukwa West	Oke-Ikpe	18 million	2020-2023	LGA headquarters
		Obehie	18 million		Growth centre
		Owaza-Imo-Gate	20 million		Industrial zone
15.	Umuahia North	Covered by Umuahia Structure Plan		2020-2030	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
16.	Umuahia South	Covered by Umuahia Structure Plan		2020-2030	Collaboration between Abia State and UN-Habitat
17.	Umunneochi	Isuochi	20 million	2025-2030	LGA Headquarters
		Lokpanta	18 million		Growth centre

Source: Environment and regional planning sub-committee, 202

Key Accelerator Development Programmes

The Enyimba Economic City will be a special economic free trade zone that will serve as global business hub in the South-East, so as to connect the nine states of the South-East and South-South of Nigeria that will provide world class infrastructure, comprehensive city, free trade zone and strong financial backing and employment for over 70,000 Abians.



Enyimba Economic City
Development Company Limited



A Global Business Hub In Southeast Nigeria . Free Trade Zone

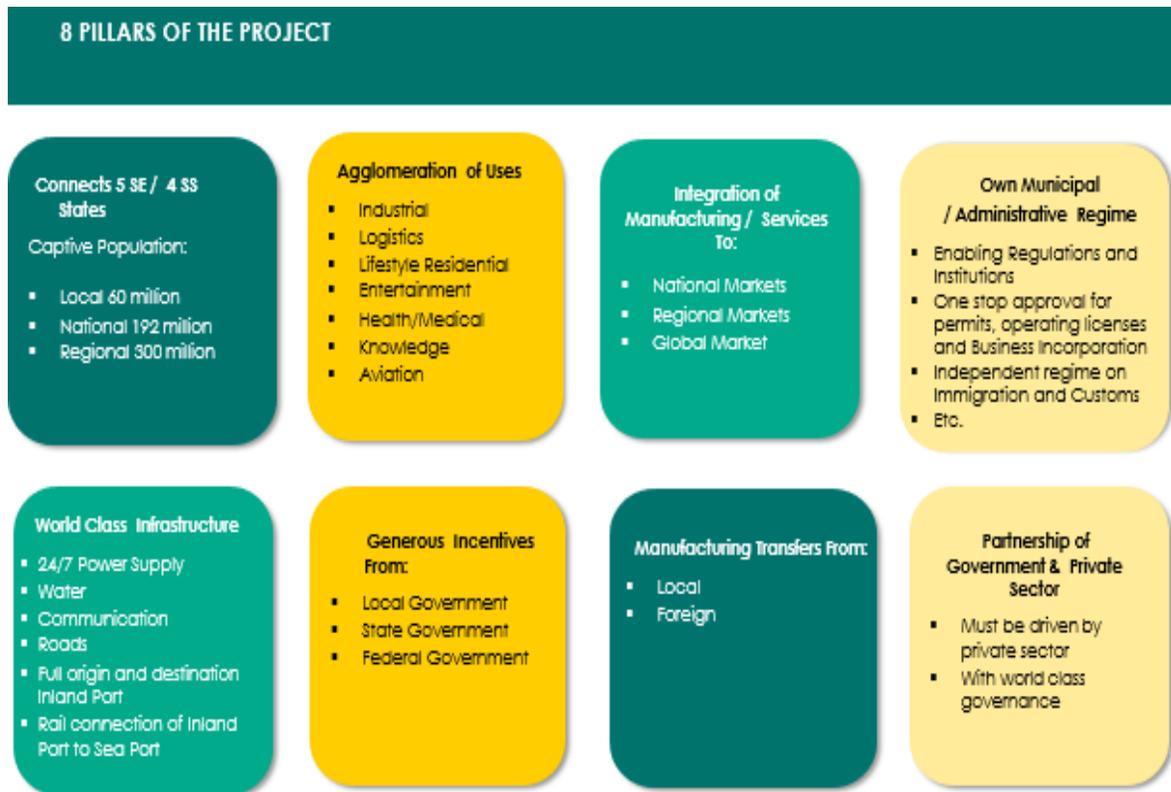


Fig. 13: The 8 pillars of the Enyimba Economic City

Table 13.8: Enyimba Economic City (EEC) – economic drivers

S/N	Activity Component	Land Use	Land in Hectares	Percentage %
1.	Anchor Driver	Industrial township	4,935	54.29
		Logistics	755	8.31
2.	Value Enhancer	Health and wellness city	100	1.10
		Knowledge and innovation city	179	1.97
3.	Mini Anchor	Residential township	1,612	17.73
4.	Support Components	Commercial and retail hospitality	1,131	12.44
5.	Footfall Drivers	Entertainment and recreational city	291	3.20
6.	Aviation	Airport and hanger	407	4.47
		Total	9,464	100.00

Source: Adapted from Enyimba Economic City, Master Plan, 2020

STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABIA STATE SETTLEMENT (PHYSICAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)

Land is a crucial factor in the effective development of the State. Every effort should be made to ensure that access to land for both the public and private sectors is facilitated and that the use of the land is rational and in the best interest of the people, individually and collectively. To achieve the above objective, all land within the State should be

subject to control, i.e., all physical development activities should be in conformity with approved physical development plan. Unauthorised development should be prohibited.

The settlements in Abia State should be categorised into three for development as follows: zonal centres (Umuahia, Aba, and Ohafia), local government headquarters, and growth centres/poles, e.g., Obehie, Owerrinta, Ujuakili etc. These are outside the local government headquarters but have growth potentials and can influence the development of other settlements in close proximity to them.

Master/structure plans should be prepared for each settlement in the above three categories of centres and appropriate agencies established for implementation of same. Starting with Umuahia, Aba, Ohafia, Owerrinta, and Owaza- Imo Gate.

The development of Umuahia is clearly one of the most important aspects of the overall effort to establish Abia State within the nation. The capital city should project, in concrete, physical forms, an unmistakable image of excellence. Umuahia, as the seat of administration, should also serve as religious/cultural centre. The existing Umuahia urban area should be integrated with the new development areas. Of course, great care should be exercised in the selection of sites for various uses considering the terrain of Umuahia.

Aba should be encouraged to continue to develop as a national commercial/industrial centre with Owaza- Imo Gate and Owerrinta as satellite industrial/technological centres. Ohafia in the north of Abia should be developed into a predominantly agricultural/commercial urban centre to serve as a zonal centre for the northern zone of the State. It should also serve as an intermediate city between settlements in the north and the bigger Centres of Umuahia and Aba.

The local government headquarters stand between the big centres and the small settlements. It is at their level that plan formulation and the design of basic needs can be successfully evaluated and implemented. To achieve the benefits of local government development, there is need for a regional plan which should identify the broad areas of development issues, namely,

- Identify the natural resources and economic base of each LGA
- Identify and provide physical infrastructure and utility requirements of each region as to improve on the quality of life of the people and the environment
- Identify and modernise regional markets to boost the economy of rural areas
- Identify urban and regional natural areas for tourism and recreational opportunities of each region (zone).

Regional markets such are Eke-Akpara in Osisioma Ngwa LGA; Afor Ogwe in Ukwa and orie Ntigha in Isiala North LGA; West LGA; Orié Ukwu Ama-Orji, Nkwoebe in Ndiolumbe-Nvosi in Isiala Ngwa South LGA; Afor Bende, Afor Ozu-Abam, Eke Itu, Itu-Mbauzor in Bende LGA; Nkwo Ohafia central market and Afor Asaga in Ohafia LGA; Ihieowa and Ozu Abam markets in Arochukwu LGA, among others, are to be linked to each other with

arterial road system and with distributor roads to their catchment or complimentary areas, by 2026. They should be rehabilitated and provided with modernised:

- industrial development, no matter the scale, is imperative for the development of growing agrarian economy of Abia State, especially now that the State is one of the frontline states in Nigeria saddled with the responsibility of establishing and growing small and medium scale enterprises (SME) in Nigeria the nation
- establish at least one cottage industry in each local government area
- establish and revitalise four agro-allied industries in each local government area that are not within urban areas.

These cottage industries and the agro-allied industries will complement the bigger. The urban industries and markets in the state, serving regional purpose.

HOUSING AND SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Housing and settlement development place demand on land resources. Development of settlements, especially urban landscape, involves the provision of housing for residents. Abia State is deficient in both the quality and quantity of housing, especially in the urban centres with inadequate or intermittent services.

Targets

- Provide information on housing sector
- Provide adequate and affordable housing for over 60 percent of Abians
- Create an enabling environment for private-public partnership arrangement in housing delivery, especially through site and services programmes: 2025-2040
- Promote cooperatives in the housing sector
- Promote and encourage use of local building materials.

CONCLUSION

Environment and regional planning are *sin-qua-non* to the development of cities and settlements, economies and human resources. While economic planning centres on the economic activities or fiscal policy, regional planning looks at the location of the economic activities and to balance them in time and space. These are housed within the environment which must be planned so as not to jeopardise the future of the unborn at the expense of today. It behoves on environmental, economic and regional planners to proffer solutions that will make development sustainable.

The problems of environment in Abia State—soil erosion, flooding, deforestation, biodiversity loss, solid waste, pollution, etc.—will be ameliorated if the recommendations proposed are put in place within the Plan period. On the other hand, the regional inequalities in the State will be balanced through adequate data on the potentials of the various localities in the State, provision of regional planning and master/structure plans for the settlements in the hierarchical order of the settlements and their development/implementation.

Chapter 14

Human Development: Poverty Reduction, Job Creation and Peacebuilding

INTRODUCTION

The overarching goal of the ABSLTDP is to improve the wellbeing, livelihood and security of lives and property of citizens of Abia State. It provides the framework and roadmap to that goal by ensuring that Abia State becomes the model state in terms of economic growth and prosperity, urban and rural development, qualitative education, peace and security, governance that works and high quality of life and well-being for its citizens. It is expected that economic growth will lead to job creation, foster peace and security and, thus, accelerate poverty reduction. However, economic growth by itself may not directly translate to better well-being for individual citizens because the trickle-down effects of general economic growth are too little, too slow, and too uneven. In fact, across developing countries with high rates of economic growth, unemployment (and underemployment) and poverty remain major challenges; hence, the need to plan the economy by allowing government to play a role at initial stage.

The ABSLTDP, therefore, recognises the need to specifically target programmes aimed at poverty reduction and, therefore, devote much attention to the reduction of unemployment and poverty. The ABSLTDP focuses on achieving economic growth while reducing poverty and unemployment through job creation, pro-poor growth and ensuring good working conditions for employed citizens. The relationship between economic growth, poverty and unemployment is complex with economic growth having widely different impacts on poverty reduction. But it is generally agreed that the creation of productive employment is the critical nexus between growth and the reduction of unemployment and poverty. Economic growth generates job opportunities which makes stronger demand for labour which is often the major asset of the poor. In turn, increasing employment delivers higher growth. The Abia State economy must grow at a minimum of double-digit and sustained for 15 years to begin to have impact on poverty reduction.

The relationship between growth and employment is not simply about the quantity of jobs created by growth; it is also about the types of jobs created. There have been concerns that the number of jobs in the informal sectors rises with growth alongside increases in the formal sector. Traditionally, informal employment is understood to be involuntary, a sector where “surplus” workers scratch a living while “queuing” for a limited number of better formal sector jobs. In this regard, informal employment should not be viewed as the disadvantaged counterpart of the formal sector but as a legitimate alternative which has the capacity to engage millions and foster entrepreneurial ambition. This combination of

formal and informal sector job creation is the focus of the job creation component of the ABSLTDP.

POVERTY REDUCTION

Poverty basically refers to a situation where individuals are deprived of necessities and conditions required for good living. At present, about 30.7 percent of the population of Abia State experience some forms of deprivation and, thus, are described as being poor (NBS, 2019). The ABSLTDP proposes to reduce by half the proportion of the population of Abia State living below the poverty line by 2050. The ABSLTDP recognises that there is no simple objective. The Plan, therefore, employs a synergy of multi-sectoral interventions towards achieving the goal of poverty reduction. These multi-sectoral interventions are presented and described hereafter.

Effective Governance

The ABSLTDP stipulates that governance in Abia State over the Plan period and beyond is deliberately and consistently directed such that it reduces poverty. Governance and public sector reforms, as stipulated by the ABSLTDP, require judicious expenditure of public funds to ensure that the Abia State government is able to deliver on its mandate to provide housing, amenities and public services across all parts of the State and, thus, ensure that no individual is left behind. Such areas of investment are education and skills acquisition, job creation, social protection, water and sanitation, erosion control, healthcare and emergency services, and agriculture.

Another aspect of effective governance which the ABSLTDP proposes is that governance reforms will enhance and foster political and social stability which will ensure that all factors which could lead to ethnic, religious and political crises and the subsequent displacement and destruction of livelihoods and in turn poverty, are kept at their barest minimum.

Sweeping reforms proposed across other pillars by the ABSLTDP are expected to create positive loops and improve the quality of governance and public sector services. The ABSLTDP stipulates, as a good governance measure, that the Abia State government will implement and ensure the prompt payment of the current minimum wage as stated by the federal government. It recognises that the payment of the minimum wage will provide more disposable income, increase savings and investment, and create multiplier effects across the economy such that more individuals are able to afford basic amenities and services thus reducing poverty.

These poverty reduction functions of effective governance are guided by the following principles and form the core of the ABSLTDP:

- It must be demand-driven such that public investments are planned through a bottom-up process, so that investments meet the needs of citizens across all strata of society

- The ABSLTDP stipulates that the planning, monitoring and evaluation of social protection, healthcare and education delivery, must be carried out at the local government level as this tier of government is closest to the citizens
- It must be independent of direct control of the governor or other executive members
- It must be professionally managed by an autonomous board of directors or trustees to be drawn from local institutions, and will perform supervisory functions and form feedback channels to the government as it carries out governance and public sector reforms aimed at reducing poverty.

Unleash the Power of Qualitative Education

Poverty is inevitably linked to income inequality and disparities in the capacity to earn income. These are, in turn, linked to skill gaps. Education has the power and potential to fill up this skill gap and, thus, empower and position citizens to earn income and reduce poverty. The type of growth and development which the ABSLTDP aims to achieve is largely driven by human capital accumulation and its associated returns. The reforms in the education pillar of the ABSLTDP have the effect of ensuring that education planning and investment will be based on sound policy based on evidence towards building human capital.

The ABSLTDP stipulates increasing and sustaining investments in education across primary, secondary and tertiary education, such that, by 2050, government expenditure on education will have risen to at least 7 percent from the current 4.9 percent share of annual budget. It further stipulates that the main thrust of such investment will be in the universal basic education (UBE) which empowers children with literacy and numeracy skills as precondition for future skills acquisition and makes it possible for the poorest of the poor families to be able to attain basic education and aspiration, thereby removing potential deprivation.

Increased investment in UBE also includes investment in the quality of personnel in education services. The ABSLTDP provides for periodic training and re-training of teachers and education administrators to improve the quality of education provided. It is also worthy of note that as a point of contact for other interventions such as vaccinations, home-grown school feeding programmes and birth registration, improving and expanding access to UBE will reduce deprivations and, therefore, reduce poverty.

Sound and consistent education policy, coupled with sustained public investment in qualitative education as dictated by the ABSLTDP, will encourage private investments in the supply side of education with the effect of creating value chains and creating employment and spreading wealth. The ABSLTDP hopes to further encourage private investment by granting support in the form of tax reliefs for private concerns that offer scholarships, bursaries, hardship allowances and other similar schemes that allow children from poor families to access education.

Reposition Agriculture

As the major source of livelihood for Abians, agriculture must be repositioned to provide better incomes and livelihoods for citizens of Abia State. ABSLTDP recognises that for agriculture to serve effectively as a tool for poverty reduction, it must be diversified and re-oriented to be private sector led. Therefore, ABSLTDP aims at reducing the proportion of citizens involved in primary activities in agriculture while increasing non-farm employment opportunities which are largely based on private investments. However, the only means of increasing private sector investment is through the deployment of sound evidence-based policy planning and increased targeted public investments in agriculture. Sound policies are needed to create an enabling environment for investment in agriculture and the non-farm economy. These serve as precursors for private investment. The ABSLTDP delivers on both criteria.

Under-investment in agriculture remains one major reason why rural poverty is still widespread and entrenched in many areas. Given the centrality of agriculture in the livelihood of poor rural people, it is not surprising that economic growth in this sector tends to generate the greatest benefits for poor people, particularly those in low-income countries. Growth in agriculture is up to 3.4 times more effective at reducing extreme poverty than growth in other sectors (Christiaensen, Demery and Kuhl, 2010). By 2050, the ABSLTDP will have achieved a 5 percent share of agriculture expenditure from the current 1 percent share. It is expected that increasing public sector spending on agriculture will create incentives for private investment which will include diversifications from conventional crop and livestock farming into higher value processes along the agriculture value chain such as processing, cold storage, and transportation. The ABSLTDP agenda provides support to smallholders to shift to agricultural practices that are more productive, sustainable and resilient, capable of meeting growing demand for high quality food and withstanding environmental pressures. It is expected that these diversifications will create value chains that will generate employment and aid poverty reduction.

The ABSLTDP includes plans to mainstream and leverage the potential of the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, and other agricultural research institutes located in Abia State. A short-term plan of the ABSLTDP includes creating an input industry for improved seeds, seedlings and breeds of livestock based on the work of these research institutes.

As the effects of climate change become more obvious, it is expected that weather shocks will become more frequent with the potential to greatly affect farm families and their investments. The ABSLTDP includes investment plans along the lines of climate change adaptations and environmental risk reductions.

Overall, the ABSLTDP seeks to refocus poverty reduction programmes from solely focusing on rural areas which are the major agricultural centres. Increased rural-urban migration implies that a lot of poor people are moving into urban areas often without tangible employment and accommodation and, thus, suffering serious forms of deprivation. The best interventions will be those that reduce the trend of rural-urban migration. Therefore,

beyond agriculture, the focus is broadened to improve the economic and social environments of rural areas, mitigating the risks poor rural people face, and nurturing their capabilities to take advantage of changes in agriculture and in rural markets. The widespread and massive investments in infrastructure and provision of amenities stipulated by the ABSLTDP are expected to improve living conditions in rural areas and thus help to reduce that trend. The use of agriculture value chain, as a strategy, is seen as critical to achieving these linkages.

VALUE CHAIN APPROACH IN AGRICULTURE

The value chain analysis involves the producer, processor, transporter, input supplier, financier, consumer and the government, each playing vital roles in the value chain process.

The value chain approach will be adopted to mainstream the impact of diverse actors and especially smallholders (with youth and gender sensitivity) in the agricultural transformation process of Abia State. An agricultural value chain illustrates steps taken by an agricultural produce from the farmer, as raw material, to the processor-consumer where it is processed, combined with other inputs, packaged, transported, displayed, etc., until it gets to the final consumer's table. The process is boosted by efficient and advanced research and development, transportation system, affordable and effective financing arrangement, extension services, ICT, social infrastructure, security, regulatory agencies, etc. Operators/actors can fit into any nodes or links of the chain.

In the perspective Plan period, with the renewed impetus of government to upgrade rural and urban infrastructure, many citizens would be sensitised to see the enormous but neglected opportunities in agriculture. Intensive sensitisation by the extension agents in the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Development Programme (ADP) will be pursued to integrate all chain actors, and incentivised to discharge their roles efficiently in order not to impact and constrain the performance of other actors and, ultimately, achieve the desired outcome. In this regard, the State will organise periodic seminars/workshops and collaborate with relevant agencies to train citizens to update/hone in the skills gap of key actors toward imbibing emerging technology in the sector.

The non-adoption of improved stocks and management practices adversely affects the quantity and quality of yields, performance and output from the processing plant, reputation of marketers (dealers and retailers), acceptability of products by consumers, and income accruable to each player in the chain.

Justification

The value chain approach considers the role of existing chain actors (producers, processors, marketers, transporters, input suppliers, and consumers), supporting actors, and the policy/infrastructural environment of government. It exposes the current challenges in a value chain, as well as the opportunities for improving the efficiency of the value chain and the benefits to the respective actors involved:

- Value chain will help improve agricultural processes, productivity and profitability, and practitioners could key into any of crops production, livestock husbandry, processing/manufacture and support services (input supply, transportation and logistics, warehousing, exports, and finance)
- Value chain identifies the linkages a product would take from farmer to the consumer, and also highlights the inter-relatedness between value chain actors and between economic sectors. These include research and development, input suppliers, production, processing, marketing, transportation and finance, and the complementary role of government in creating the enabling/operating environment, and inter-sectoral dependencies. By linking production with demand, it highlights how to properly organise the flow from farmer to consumers
- Agricultural value chain is very long and can employ more than 60 percent of the active population. While creating employment, the thrust is, however, to increase productivity and reduce the population of persons engaged in the sector
- Well-functioning markets and value chains can attract youth into farming or persuade them not to leave rural areas by offering better ways to earn decent income and recognise new income-generating opportunities
- The value chain also helps the small business entities to become competitive in a global environment by integrating with big players.

Value chain analysis is illustrated separately for each targeted crops and livestock to unmask their capacity to create countless jobs for people with diverse skill sets.

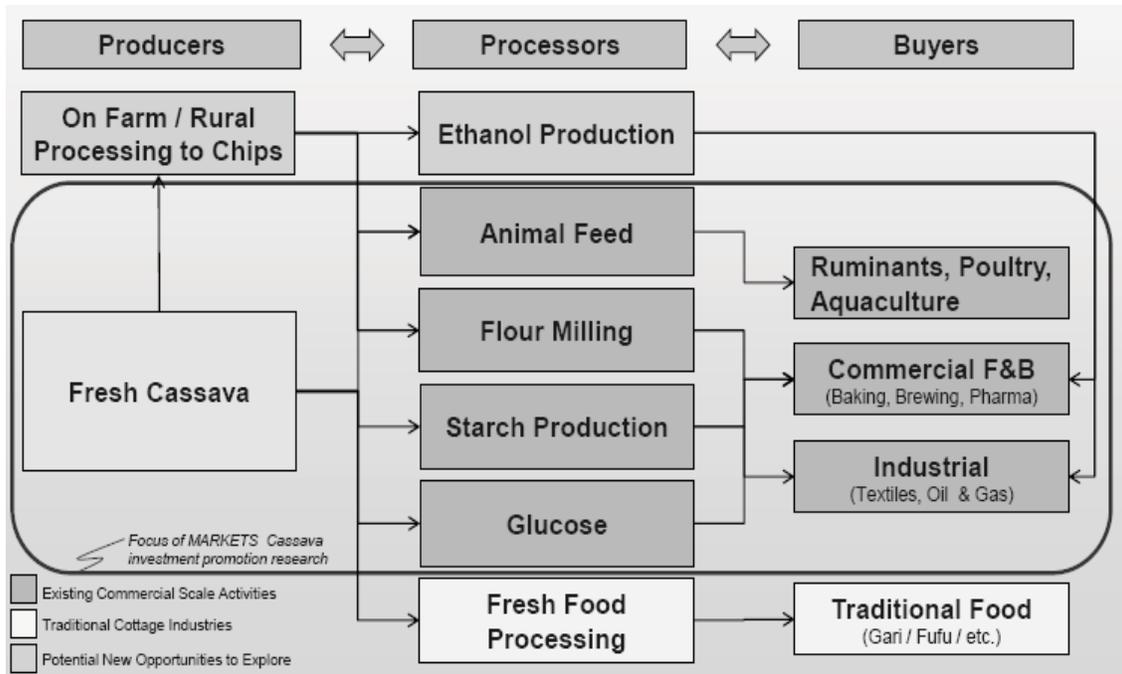


Fig. 14: Sketch of value chain analysis using cassava

Social Protection

Even after full implementation of the ABSLTDP, there will still be poor citizens of the State. Therefore, for the poorest of the poor, the ABSLTDP makes provisions to be covered by social protection programmes. Through increased social sector spending on inclusive education (UBE), healthcare (UHC) and water and sanitation, the Abia State government furthers its pledge to reduce poverty and deprivation. Emphasis will be given to the importance of food and nutrition-centred safety nets and of policy initiatives to reduce the risks faced by small agricultural producers, rural workers and their households. Safety net programmes will include non-contributory transfers of cash or food, which may be unconditional or be delivered upon condition that children are kept in school, and work is undertaken in exchange, and that medical checkups for infants and children are performed regularly, or other conditions. They will generally be targeted at population groups meeting specific criteria.

JOB CREATION

Abia State has the fourth highest unemployment rate of 31.6 percent in Nigeria (NBS, 2018) with youth unemployment almost 63 percent. Unemployment and prevalence of informal employment are real problems in the Abia State economy caused by a combination of structural factor such as mismatch between skills and job requirements or inadequacy of the educational and training system, as well as poorly designed labour market and social security systems. It is the vision of the ABSLTDP to create gainful and tangible employment for the citizenry by adopting a demand-led approach to solving the problem of youth unemployment and ensuring that employment generation programmes respond well to the evolving dynamics of the State labour market.

Guiding Principles for Job Creation Programmes of the ABSLTDP

Diversification and Value Chain Creation

The ABSLTDP places high value on the need to diversify the Abia State economy away from the mainstays of agriculture and oil. Much effort is devoted to creating opportunities in non-farm agro-allied activities such as processing and export horticulture (using greenhouses). As private investments into these non-farm activities grow, a value chain will be created with the potential for create jobs.

There is also considerable effort expended on planning for industrialisation, a major component of which will be the creation of industrial parks. Such parks will further create employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled labour.

ICT and ICT skills are assuming greater importance in today's increasing globalised and digital world. To prepare for the future and empower youths with the necessary IT skills for the future, the ABSLTDP proposes the creation of a Tech/ICT hub where technologies can be showcased, and the skills required to utilise those technologies can be transferred. The hub will also host an ICT hub provided with functioning broadband internet access and other facilities. This will provide a platform for programmers and developers to design and showcase ICT innovation and create jobs.

Quality Training for Employability

The ABSLTDP contains provisions to make general and technical secondary education more skills- and career-oriented. Often times, knowledge and skills acquired in the formal education system are poorly adapted to the needs of employers, and to the self-employed. Supplementary training, therefore, is required to make young people employable by industry standards. This can be done by bringing the workplace into schools and also by bringing schools into the workplace. The German Dual System is one well-known initiative which divides the technical secondary school week between time spent in the classroom and time spent under the direct supervision of employers in places of work. The ABSLTDP proposes this German Dual System in technical and vocational education.

Encouraging Self-Employment through Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

The ABSLTDP incorporates programmes to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship amongst young people through a comprehensive MSME policy. The ABSLTDP provides guidelines and frameworks for investments in infrastructure, and access to finance. Building on the domesticated SMEDAN policy (2007) and the creation of a Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises Development in 2017, the ABSLTDP will implement and adapt the action plan in Abia State to achieve the laudable goals of the State government in the MSME sector.

Microenterprises have fewer than ten employees; small enterprises fewer than 50 employees, and medium enterprises fewer than 250. The path to development is clearly associated with a growing role of the SME sector. SMEs are the major creators of employment opportunities and, therefore, hold an important key to employment and poverty reduction. SME expansion boosts employment more than large firms because SMEs are more labour intensive, less skill intensive, and less capital intensive, and thus create jobs better suited to the poor. This is also appropriate for developing countries with an abundance of labour and relative shortage of capital. SMEs contribute to a more equitable income distribution because they tend to be more widely dispersed geographically than larger enterprises, thus helping to reduce economic disparities between urban and rural areas. The presence of SMEs in the economy tends to increase competition, which promotes greater economic dynamism. SMEs are often the source of economic growth and innovation, and they support the development and diffusion of skills and entrepreneurial talent in the economy.

Integrating Youth Employment into Mainstream Job Creation Programmes

The ABSLTDP favours policies and programmes which create additional and good quality employment opportunities for new labour market entrants (young people). Private sector investments have the power to provide new opportunities for these new entrants. But attracting private investments depend on the relative ease of doing business. The ABSLTDP recognises this and sets out to improve the ranking of ease of doing business in Abia State to encourage foreign and local investments, thus, creating new job opportunities. Another critical factor will be the availability and state of infrastructure and overheads required to do business such as electricity and water.

ICT as a Tool for Poverty Reduction and Long-Term Development

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) constitute one of the most important resources of the 21st century with great potentials when applied to social and economic development. ICT has the potential to create jobs where they non-existent. For example, online work platforms break down business processes into smaller discrete tasks such as data entry and verification, copy-writing, and graphic design, thereby creating informal employment. Also, ICTs have the potential to expand formal businesses by making economic enterprises more accessible to global and local markets, improving access to information for better prices as well as lowering transactional costs. Indjikian and Siegel (2005) attest to the positive correlation between ICTs and economic growth in developed regions of the world, but argue that for such positive correlations to occur in developing regions, ICT policy and strategies must facilitate a faster rate of access and invest more resources into the ICT sector.

Generally, available literature provides scanty evidence of direct links between ICT and poverty reduction. However, ICTs offer opportunity for poverty reduction through greater access to information. Access, however, refers not only to connectivity but also to the capability to use the new tools afforded by ICTs and the provision of relevant content in accessible and useful forms. Even when the conditions for access are sufficient, the emergence of new ICTs and the opportunities therefrom pose the risk of leaving the poor further behind.

Therefore, for the potential benefits of ICTs to be effective in reducing poverty, State ICT policy must cater to all strata of the society. Many pre-requisites have to be put in place, including subsidies to, reduce the access gap while innovative institutional arrangements are made to increase access using such programme as public-private partnership. Regulatory frameworks, choice of technologies, and public action related to ICT investment should be broad-based and pro-poor. Innovative and creative approaches must be developed to broaden access to ICTs by, especially, the rural poor. These require a thorough understanding of the economic, social, and technological environment of ICT in Abia State.

The strategy of ABSLTDP for the use of ICT as a tool for poverty reduction and job creation is called the Abia State ICT Policy (AB-ICTP). The policy provides the regulatory and implementation framework which will engender the spread of ICT infrastructure, foster ICT-led innovation, increase incentives for risk-taking and development of new businesses, enable new and existing businesses to access capital and other resources, and generally encourage the free flow of information and knowledge for applications in education, health, and governance. The strategy also provides the framework for expanding ICT access to the rural areas, provide support for pro-poor innovation and innovators (thus aiding job creation) and enable greater cooperation and information sharing among donors and others involved in ICT-for-development programmes. The AB-ICTP stipulates the following actions once the implementation of the ABSLTDP begins:

Assessment of Previous ICT Policies, Infrastructure, and ICT Uptake in Abia State

This comprehensive assessment should provide in-depth information on the following:

- ICT infrastructure and access
- Access to, and use of, ICT by households and individuals
- Use of ICT by businesses
- ICT sector and trade in ICT goods and services
- Other information, e.g., related to, and investment in, ICT skills and computer literacy
- Quality of, and access to, ICT infrastructure
- ICT policy experts should assess the impact of telecommunications sector reforms, if any, including liberalisation and access costs, to appraise improvements in access to ICT facilities
- Capacity-building of SMEs in the ICT sector
- Financing of, and investment in, SMEs in the ICT sector (venture capital)
- Innovation and research and development in the ICT sector
- Online e-business sectoral initiatives (e-marketplaces)
- Promotion of ICT-enabled services, such as business process outsourcing
- Special ICT parks or zones
- Telecommunications regulations
- Investment regulations
- E-commerce laws (digital signatures, intellectual property laws, e-payments, etc.)
- Cybersecurity laws and regulations and their implementation,
- Existence of a computer emergency response team (CERT)
- ICT skills in primary and secondary schools
- IT graduates and programmes (universities)
- Training projects to enhance the IT workforce in the business community
- Incentives for private sector companies to organise/support IT capacity-building
- Migration of ICT workers.

A rigorous analysis of the ICT-related dimensions of poverty and low growth, and of the possibilities and limits of ICTs as tools to address poverty and promote development, is also required.

Development of the AB-ICT Policy and Implementation Framework

The Abia State Ministry of Science and Technology is assigned with the authority and responsibility of coordinating the development and implementation of the AB-ICTP. In conjunction with the Abia State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Ministry of Science and Technology is expected to describe institutional framework for policy implementation, delineate policy measures, state policy coordination, identify participating institutions, implementation mechanisms and stakeholder roles and responsibilities. The policy should determine funding requirements, elucidate requirements for private investments into ICT and create room for partnerships with local and international development partners.

Rolling Review of Abia State ICT Policy

Periodic performance review of the policy is stipulated every five years to track progress in implementation and correct any faults. Annual monitoring and evaluation reports are also required at the end of every implementation year.

MAINSTREAMING PILOT PROJECTS INTO THE ABSLTDP

An objective measure of success of pilots or innovative project is whether they are transformed into sustainable strategies or programmes. The accelerated adoption of new innovation and technologies and infusion into programmes at daily operational schedules, rather than being “stuck in pilot purgatory”, is an indication of innovation adoption. In the recent past, Abia State government has seen the proliferation of development initiatives on pilot scale, sponsored by both the government and other development partners (both local and international). Some of these progressed into producing low hanging fruits that warrant consideration for inclusion into planning perspective. They are to be identified and included in the ABSLTDP. The initiatives of Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) are presented as transformation from pilots to programmes perspective.

The Foundation for Partnerships Initiative in Niger Delta (PIND) is a Nigerian non-profit organisation established to promote equitable economic development and peace in the Niger-Delta through partnerships with state governments in the Niger-Delta, including Abia State. For the period, 2020-2024, which coincides with the start of implementation of the ABSLTDP, PIND intends to focus on two programmes as dictated by peculiar needs and perspectives of the Niger Delta. These focus programmes are: economic development that facilitates inclusive, sustainable and diversified economic growth, and peacebuilding that strengthens conflict management systems and capacities. PIND also seeks to integrate both programmes in a way to create synergies and enhance cohesion in reducing poverty and conflict.

Economic Development

PIND understands the critical connection between the lack of economic opportunities and violence and the imperative of immediate action. In 2017, PIND initiated the Niger-Delta Youth Employment Pathways (NDYEP) programme to actively target youth in the region and address identified systemic constraints through an evidence-driven and demand-led approach.

The aim is to develop and pilot models of skills training that not only equip youths with market-relevant technical skills in key growth sectors but also support their transitioning into employment and entrepreneurship as pathways to work. The project actively targets unemployed, out of school and vulnerable youth, including young women and people with disabilities, with the relevant sector-specific and soft skills in ICT, construction, and agriculture in the target states. Key features of the NDYEP Model include:

Evidence-led and Demand-Driven

Nigeria's educational system currently produces school leavers and graduates who do not have the right skill set and, therefore, are not fit for the available jobs. NDYEP responds to the actual needs within the labour market by carrying out systematic research, analysis, and understanding of how this employment market functions to determine specific occupations and skill sets currently in demand and those technical and soft skills that are currently being supplied, and how they are being delivered. The research findings are critically evaluated and help to determine the priority sectors for skills development in each state given the peculiarities of their economies and the intervention designs tailored accordingly.

Competency Focused

NDYEP focuses on developing the requisite skills and knowledge for successful job performance by the youths in the relevant sectors. Rather than focus on traditional skills-building and training, NDYEP takes an innovative approach to develop a competent and confident workforce and a corps of local entrepreneurs that can bolster employment in the states. The project seeks to promote a competency-based approach to technical and vocational training through collaboration with the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE). The Plan is to develop a competency framework that will underpin, and, ultimately, lead to accreditation of training programmes and participants following the national skills qualification framework developed by NBTE, especially for the building construction skills.

Modelling Multiple Pathways to Employment

The economies of the pilot states are largely agrarian, which reflects the national economy. Therefore, agriculture is the largest employer of labour, followed by the civil service. Though, oil-producing, there are very limited employment opportunities within the oil and gas sector and others such as manufacturing and industrial, within the three pilot states.

Given this, NDYEP has developed multiple pathways as models to simultaneous skills development and job creation in these states. One broad pathway, which combines the development of technical skills with soft skills, would lead to formal, waged employment. A second approach builds the pathway to self-employment through the development of dynamic entrepreneurship skills either in agri-business or ICT that would ultimately transform the youth who graduate from the programme into a new class of job creators.

Strengthening the Ecosystem of Actors

Employers, jobseekers, policy makers, and trainers are key stakeholders of NDYEP. The model is working to strengthen coordination and facilitate positive engagements among these actors to ensure the development of an enabling environment for focused skills training and development that leads to employment and entrepreneurship. Technical support will be provided to relevant government agencies and training institutions to promote the adoption and scale-up of the model.

Entrepreneurship plus Support System

Most of the traditional skills acquisition programmes fail to deliver sustainable results because they do not pay enough attention to what happens to entrepreneurs that they produce after the training. NDYEP is working around this pitfall by developing a robust infrastructure for post-training support that assists the young entrepreneurs/emerging start-ups navigate the very harsh conditions of the business world that cause business failure. This support system is built on a foundation of business advisory services, market linkages, and access to finance both as investment or working capital for growth and expansion.

The NDYEP programme works on the broad logic that if sector targeting and skills development content can be sufficiently tailored to the local economic context, then a combination of tailored training for young people, which includes technical and soft skills and entrepreneurship, support into employment or entrepreneurship, and capacity support to existing training organisations, will move a cohort of young people from unemployment into employment, stimulate the local economy through upskilling enterprise, and strengthen the ecosystem of actors and their interactions. Using the NDYEP model engages local stakeholders, empowers actors, and generates evidence that provides the basis for scale-up to benefit further youth cohorts in the states (PIND Foundation, 2019).

Mainstreaming value chain-based pilot projects of PIND provides a veritable route to achieve the poverty reduction and job creation objectives of the ABSLTDP. By partnering with PIND, the Abia State government seeks to strategise, share resources and expertise, and provide learning opportunities in value chain-based enterprises towards spurring resources, innovation, and creativity required for long-term economic development. PIND currently operates three pilot projects, namely,

- Agri-business innovations through the activation of crop and non-crop value chains
- technology innovations in scalable technologies such as solar, energy and refrigeration
- skill development in agriculture and ICT for youth employment.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATIONS THROUGH VALUE CHAINS

Cassava Value Chain

- Improve coordination between value chain actors to increase the supply of cassava from farmers to processors and ensure the right raw material is delivered to processing plants in the most efficient and cost-effective manner
- Strengthen the capacity of cassava processors so they can improve production and productivity
- Promote the use of improved, high yielding, disease-resistant cassava varieties and the use of good agronomic practices by enabling better extension services for farmers and improving the capacity of nurseries to provide consistent cassava varieties aligned with the types desired by processing companies and end market users

- Increase the capacity of processors to increase production, specifically for high-quality cassava flour (HQCF)
- Strengthen advocacy bodies to create a more conducive regulatory environment for growth in the sector.

Aquaculture Value Chain

- Improve fish farming practices
- Improve relationships between fish feed companies and fish farmers
- Strengthen fish farming associations
- Improve access to finance.

Oil Palm Value Chain

- Incentivise private and government ownership of oil palm plantations
- Improve yields by facilitating access to high yielding and disease resistant varieties
- Improve coordination between actors in the oil palm value chain
- Improve upon technologies for harvesting, processing and storing palm oil
- Expand market opportunities and access for oil palm farmers.

Cocoa Value Chain

- Increase links and coordination among actors in the value chain
- Encourage adoption of new and improved varieties
- Incentivise vertical integration in the cocoa value chain
- Improve organisational capacity of oil palm farmers.

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS

The access to energy (A2E) project follows the energy efficiency and renewable (EER) model designed to have positive human development impact, and create health, education, and livelihood benefits. Access to energy enables people to work their way out of poverty.

Energy also improves health and well-being, especially for women and children. As such, the focus of the A2E project is on practical power: renewable, locally-sourced, sustainable energy solutions which lift people out of poverty. The economic development opportunities are a combination of direct energy markets, technology markets, services and indirect support functions which aim to:

- increase economic development by saving or making money for businesses through energy access or reduced energy use, thus ensuring continuous access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy use as desired by SDG 7
- foster peacebuilding by improving household and community welfare through lighting for MSMEs in education and health
- reduce fossil fuel use while transitioning to the use of cleaner sources of energy.

Skills development for youths in agriculture and ICT is in consonance with the objectives of the ABSLTDP. A detailed discussion of PIND pilot projects is available in the PIND Foundation document titled, “Overarching Objectives: Strategic Plan 2020-2024”. It is expected that these PIND partnership projects will enable the realisation of the poverty reduction and job creation objectives of the ABSLTDP.

PEACEBUILDING

Economic growth, prosperity and long-term development are realisable only within conditions of peace and security. Therefore, maintaining peace and security is a priority area of the ABDLTDP. Abia State has repeatedly recorded low conflict incidents and fatalities compared to other states in the Niger Delta from 2016-2019. However, conflicts still occur and directed action is required to prevent conflicts. There was an increase in reported incidents of conflict risk and violence in Abia State in April-June 2020, compared to January-March 2020. Conflict issues in the State include communal tension, violent criminality, land disputes, armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, and ethno-nationalist agitations.



Courtesy: Government House, Umuahia

Considering the dynamic nature of conflicts, a segmented or inflexible approach cannot effectively address the varied drivers, triggers, vulnerability, and risk factors of a particular conflict system. Therefore, effective prevention, as well as proactive conflict management and resolution, must be informed by an equally dynamic and integrated early warning system. Such a system should include state and non-state actors as part of a systematic and multi-faceted process of data collection, information sharing, and verification (Claire, 2015). Conflict prevention involves a whole spectrum of activities that include peace

education, sensitisation, and awareness on issues, etc. All these are activities that CSOs and other non-security actors can engage in.

Specific Interventions for Peacebuilding

The following specific interventions are designed for the ABSLTDP:

Creation of Peacebuilding Roadmap

This document outlines multiple opportunities to advance conflict prevention and peacebuilding objectives in the State. It also sets out the direction and expectations over a medium-term period and provides metrics for the measurement of success and progress over short- and medium-term periods. The precise actions are:

- Participatory process of consultations that brings together all key stakeholders involved in conflicts in the State. These include government agencies, civil society organisations, community leaders, community groups and community-based organisations, academics, vigilante outfits, faith-based organisations, security institutions, and the media
- Create a vision of peace for the State
- Conduct an analysis of conflict in the State, identifying key stakeholders, patterns, trends, etc.
- Develop strategic themes, e.g., peace education, communal conflict management, gender, and youth, etc.
- Develop a goal, strategy, and objectives for each strategic theme

Formation of Abia State Peacebuilding Commission

The peace commission is a government agency established to drive conflict resolution efforts in the State, especially to drive the implementation of the peacebuilding roadmap or framework. The commission embodies the needed neutrality to deploy multi-stakeholder approaches to conflict resolution and peacebuilding, a task which security agencies are ill-equipped for and which civil society organisations often lack the necessary government backing to accomplish. Furthermore, a state peacebuilding commission can act as a clearing house for civil society actors working on conflict issues in the State and can provide government support and the organisation necessary for peace and security actors to share information and plans for enhanced coordination and cooperation in addressing conflict issues in the State. The State peacebuilding commission plays a key role in peace education, capacity building, post-conflict rehabilitation, research, coordination, and grassroots mobilisations. For sustainability, institutional support, and credibility, the State peacebuilding commission should be a creation of law, backed by the legislation of the State House of Assembly.

Proposed Powers of the Peacebuilding Commission

- Liaise with all relevant agencies to cause the attendance of any person before it to answer questions relevant to the subject matter of the hearing before the commission

- Interview any individual, group or members of organisation or institutions and at the commission's discretion, to conduct such interviews in private or public
- Collaborate with similar agencies in other states to achieve set objectives
- Issue invitations, summons and subpoenas, as it deems necessary, for carrying out its functions
- Require that statements be given under oath or affirmation and to administer such oath or affirmation.

Proposed Composition of the Commission

- A chairperson who shall be a person of impeccable character and a respected leader in the society
- Executive vice chairperson who shall be a person of integrity with not less than ten years' experience in peace, mediation and conflict resolution, to also serve as the chief executive officer of the commission
- Permanent commissioners
- The Secretary to the State Government
- The Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice
- Special adviser to the Governor responsible for security matters
- The commander of the State Vigilance Service
- One representative of the Muslim community in the State
- One representative of the Christian community in the State
- Three representatives of the traditional council in the State, one from each senatorial district
- Representatives of youth, women groups, etc.

Through the ABSLTDP, the Abia State government will partner with PIND to keep security levels at the barest minimum, especially in communities that have previous records as conflict flashpoints. For the period, 2020-2024, PIND's focus is to strengthen conflict management systems and capacities to enable peace and economic growth by using analysis and advocacy to address constraints to peace. PIND also seeks to actively engage 5,000 peace actors in conflict mitigation and reduction in areas of militancy, election violence, cult/gang violence, communal violence and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). The ABSLTDP places Abia State in pole position to benefit from PIND's initiatives.

Access to Land and Multiple Taxation

The ABSLTDP hinges its potentials for growth and development on two broad themes: agriculture and the informal business sector which comprises macro, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The two sectors have recognised potentials to achieve economic diversification and, thus, spur economic activity and growth, reduce unemployment and poverty. However, current realities indicate that even with full implementation of the ABSLTDP, maximum gains may not be derived in these sectors. Therefore, the ABSLTDP, through its synergy with PIND, focuses considerable attention on removing the barriers to success in these sectors and pointing policy directions and actions for long-term implementation.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture has the potential to generate employment, and foreign exchange and create wealth for individuals and the government. Land is the most important factor in agricultural production because all agricultural activities take place on land. Land is the most important asset, particularly in poor communities where wealth and survival are measured by control and access to land. Ownership and access to land reduce vulnerability to hunger and poverty, influence capacity to invest in productive activities and the sustainable management of resources, enhance the prospects for better livelihood and help them to develop more equitable relations with the rest of their society, thus contributing to peace and sustainable development.

But the current reality of access to land in Abia State is that for millions of farming households, especially those in rural areas, access to land is problematic and complicated with implications on agricultural production and growth. The complications arise from conflicts between deep-rooted traditional systems of accessing and using land and formalisation of rural ownership, competition over land for alternative uses and surrounding natural resources, land fragmentation, and intensification of land use leading to decreased productivity. Communal land ownership and socio-cultural dynamics, which favour male dominance in access to and use of land, add further complications.

There is a need to review and re-direct long-term policy for the access and use of land for agricultural purposes in the implementation of ABSLTDP. Therefore, the following policy actions are highlighted for the ABSLTDP:

Comprehensive GIS-based Audit of Total Land Available for Agricultural Purposes on a 5-Year Term

This requires a comprehensive GIS-based land mapping and inventory of agricultural lands towards developing land information every five years throughout the ABSLTDP. This audit will also provide a comprehensive profile of family and community owners of land as a guide for decision making on land-related issues as they relate to agricultural development. It would also provide information that can be made public to enable potential investors to access data on available arable land and possible mainstreaming of smallholder farmers in outgrowers schemes.

Review of Existing Land Allocation Systems

The Abia State government is expected to conduct a collaborative review of the traditional systems of land allocation and ownership towards improving land allocation and supporting communities to open up land for expansion of agricultural activities. Emphasis must be given to involving community and traditional leaders to obtain their buy-in and support for the review. This will improve access for the majority of individual farmers who contribute to the economic growth of the State through agriculture.

Open Locked up Government Lands

There is anecdotal evidence in some communities that choice land is usually reserved for the government. Long-term land policy for Abia State should favour the opening up of

such fallow lands for agricultural purposes. These newly opened lands would address the issue of land scarcity as against the current practice of providing input to farmers who do not have adequate land to implement or effectively utilise the land.

Mainstream Gender Equity into Land Allocation System

There should be targeted efforts to support women and other marginalised groups in accessing land. A first step in achieving this involves a needs assessment for smallholder farmers and marginalised groups within communities. This is to facilitate a better understanding of the constraints and address the issues militating against increased access. The government could also influence industrial agro-allied companies to effectively mainstream smallholder farmers in their agricultural programmes or schemes. It should promote and enhance women's purchasing power through access to credit and common voice in assessing communal lands.

Boosting Informal Business Sector

For decades, the informal small business sector has been the engine of growth and diversification in the economy of Abia State. The sector is also projected to be a major driver of growth and employment in the future. But the sector is beset with a number of constraints such as poor power supply and inadequate finance. These constraints are further compounded by a regime of multiple taxation and illegal levies across the 17 local government councils in Abia State.

On the average, MSMEs in Abia pay around 32 percent of pre-tax profit as taxes. Small traders are penalised even more, with small industries in the agriculture sector disproportionately taxed about 54 percent of pre-tax profit as tax. MSMEs pay an overwhelming share of taxes to the federal government (about 87 percent of the tax burden), and only a small share of taxes is collected at the state, local and MDA levels in form of numerous small taxes that is less than 1 percent of total tax revenues which is tantamount to "nuisance taxes". Taxes on mobility are particularly high, traders with mobile factors (inputs and outputs) are subjected to road-related taxes and/or levies which impede their pre-tax profits. These multiple and illegal taxes have significant implications for businesses by reducing incentives to expand production which leads to higher prices, and distorts factor incomes. As businesses take investment decisions based on long-term returns on capital, the cost of multiple taxations and illegal levies reduce the size of capital stock and aggregate output in the economy and discourage investments in productivity-enhancing measures. This ultimately leads to lower returns to capital and lower job creation.

Addressing the issues of multiple taxations, illegal levies, and reducing the burden, would increase the expected return on small businesses and entrepreneurs, encourage capital accumulation, investments, and encourage job creation. Therefore, the ABSLTDP sets out the following policy actions towards reforming taxes leading to an expansion of scale and greater economic efficiency in the State:

Improve Transparency of Taxation to Build Trust and Cooperation

Over the long-term planning period, transition to digital tools and methods in taxation should be actively sought. Adopting electronic payments and electronic reporting of tax activities is a sure way to improving transparency, reduce corruption, building trust and cooperation in the tax system.

Eliminate Illegal Levies and Alignment of the Tax Base

The Abia State government should initiate negotiations with other tiers of government (federal and local) to align the tax net in such a way that reduces the number of taxes individual businesses pay without reducing the total tax revenue. Within the long-term planning period, it is necessary to designate legitimate tax collection points in all local governments in place of roaming and sometimes unidentifiable tax collectors. Each collection point should be properly located, staffed and provided with express information and clarifications on what kinds of taxes are payable as well as the amounts payable.

Periodic Review and Reform of Tax Regimes for Informal Small Businesses

There is need to regularly review, maybe on a five-yearly term, the business climate and economic trends that have a bearing on business of small business (businesses with less than 10 employees and capital stock less than ₦5 million). The tax regimes for small businesses should be designed in such a way that they encourage voluntary participation. Seasonal businesses may be granted tax breaks in the off season, and taxes re-imposed when the season come on.

Improve Budgetary and Fiscal Performance

Improving overall budgetary and fiscal performance is an effective way to ensure that the tax regime does not exert undue pressure on agriculture and informal business sectors. Improved performance can be achieved through financial autonomy for local governments and their direct allocations from the federal government, allocation of 10 percent of State IGR to local governments, and adequate funding of all ministries and agencies of government.

SECTION SEVEN

BUILDING COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY



NEW WORKER'S SECRETARIAT UMUAHIA

Chapter 15

Implementation and Coordination

INTRODUCTION

The overall success of the ABSLTDP crucially depends on the implementation of projects, programmes, strategies and policies that are put in place for attaining sustainable development objectives. Effective development planning goes beyond the preparation of good plans; it also incorporates efficient mechanisms through which plans are linked to budgets, budgets are executed, monitored and evaluated, and monitoring and evaluation are used to improve performance of ongoing operations as well as to inform the subsequent preparation of better plans. A broad spectrum of themes and cross-cutting issues were considered in developing this Plan, and its implementation will inevitably require coordination, collaboration, and cooperation between stakeholders.

Effective coordination involves

- keeping all stakeholders focused on the various goals, actively seeking to foster synergy between the duties of line ministries, other public bodies and SOEs
- reducing duplication of efforts
- reviewing resource availability and deviations from intended paths with a view to devising alternative routes where necessary
- closely monitoring national, regional and international developments and how these are likely to impact on the work of line ministries, other public bodies and SOEs, and working towards exploiting opportunities or overcoming challenges
- galvanising the efforts of non-state actors to partner with the public sector towards the overall vision or goal for the country
- actively seeking to overcome conflicts, overt or implicit, that may likely hinder progress towards achieving national goals.

Effective implementation will require motivating all public sector staff to give their best towards the common goal, and to actively manage for change.

This implementation strategy provides the framework for effective liaison, engagement, collaboration, and cooperation among stakeholders. It also assigns roles and responsibilities to stakeholders to ensure clarity and coherence. It is hoped that this implementation strategy will deliver on the social contract between the Abia State government and the citizens of the State. This chapter highlights stakeholders' roles and institutional responsibilities for the implementation of the Plan.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ABSLTDP IMPLEMENTATION

Central Planning and Budgeting

Conformity with international best practices which necessitates that coordination of actions across functional lines of government for the implementation of the ABSLTDP is best served by a ministry tasked with both the budgetary function and the development planning function. To set an appropriate institutional framework for the implementation of the ABSLTDP and for development planning in general, development planning and budgeting functions are domiciled in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. Within this Ministry, the Abia State Planning Commission is established and empowered to serve as the nucleus of development planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting.

In the course of implementation, provisions are made for periodic review and realignment of the structure and organisation of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and the Abia State Planning Commission. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has the following duties:

- Provide leadership to other line ministries to revolutionise and greatly improve the effectiveness of programme budgeting. This will require optimising the capacity to provide training and guidance to line ministries, departments and agencies with respect to strategic planning, programme budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation
- Lead the budgeting process, including review of budget submission and interaction with line ministries towards arriving at credible multi-year programme budgets that are linked to the ABSLTDP
- Monitor the implementation of the ABSLTDP and other broad planning documents
- Provide monitoring and evaluation reports for deliberation by Abia State executive council and its sub-committees. Based on feedback from the State executive council, the Ministry of Economic Development and Finance uses ABSLTDP monitoring and evaluation information to inform subsequent annual budgets in line with programme budgeting practices
- Update the ABSLTDP as milestones are met and prepare subsequent development plans and other desirable planning documents, making strong efforts to utilise monitoring and evaluation information with respect to preceding documents
- Implement strategies across line ministries, other public sector bodies and stakeholders
- Serve as the guardian and champion of the ABSLTDP implementation framework and the sustainable development approach to planning and implementation.

Effective performance of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is ultimately the foundation of successful implementation of the ABSLTDP.

Coordination across Ministries

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is expected to interface with other ministries to promote increased ownership of the ABSLTDP, reduce conflicts by promoting better understanding of interrelationships across functions, improve the effective use of fiscal resources by increasing the opportunities for synergising efforts across functional lines and for reducing duplication of efforts, and improve planning, monitoring and evaluation through the better use and interaction of the expertise that exist across functional lines.

Steering Committees

The ABSLTDP requires the formation of steering committees, where necessary, with regard to the necessary conditions for achieving the objectives of the ABSLTDP and to serve as project steering committees. Such committees shall be convened once approved by the State executive council on the recommendation of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development which shall consult with the Ministry that has the substantive responsibility for the area concerned.

Sustainable Development Stakeholder Consultation

Provisions are made for the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development to periodically convene stakeholder consultations to review progress with respect to the implementation of the ABSLTDP and/or other national planning documents, and to provide recommendations for improving the achievement of development objectives. Participation in the consultation will be requested from a wide range of stakeholders including civil society, labour unions, the private sector, academia, research institutions, and regional institutions. Recommendations from the consultations will be fed into the work of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

Donor/Development Partner Coordination

The ABSLTDP is the basis for aligning donor activity to the development efforts of Abia State. The close alignment of development partners' efforts to the ABSLTDP is expected to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of these efforts. All development partners' activities must be channelled through the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development for information purposes first. Subsequently, the Ministry will develop appropriate financial recording procedures with respect to all development partner assistance, both in kind and grants, and where necessary, will make appropriate adjustments to legislation to support efforts to improve recording and coordination of development partner activities.

Public Information and Awareness

Community enthusiasm and knowledge play an important role in building sustainable societies. Hence, strategies for the effective building of public awareness are important. Government policy will be less effective where there is weak public awareness and understanding of programmes, their aims, or the benefits that can accrue from them. The implementation of the ABSLTDP requires increased efforts in the design of effective public awareness programmes focused on three activities: communication/information, advocacy, and education. The public awareness programme will be an important complementary tool for communicating the Plan in order to improve stakeholder support,

and consequently the likelihood of success. More generally, it will be a tool for sharing the vision of the Abia State government.

The Ministry of Information and Strategy is expected to conduct a pre-implementation study to achieve the following:

- Review the existing mandate for public information and relations and its effectiveness as a development tool
- Assess the effectiveness of normal public relations efforts including the extent to which they reach target audiences
- Assess the effectiveness of different communications modalities in reaching intended audiences
- Survey opportunities to strengthen the public sector PR function to support the implementation of the ABSLTDP
- Make recommendations for enhancing the role of communication as a development tool and assess the financial implications in that regard including adjusting for opportunities to rationalise PR functions across line ministries and other public sector bodies.

Legal Framework

Without the legal framework required to implement stated programmes, projects, policies and actions, stakeholders will be ineffective in delivering on the development objectives of the ABSLTDP. Legislative accent is required from the Abia State House of Assembly for the ABSLTDP. The legal framework for the implementation of the ABSLTDP stipulates as follows:

- It is a pre-implementation requirement that all line ministries will have to review and document the desired legal authority that would enable them to effectively perform the functions that are critical to reaching desired development objectives. These reviews will form the basis on which line ministries will submit requests to the Abia State Ministry of Justice for preparation of draft legislation
- The Office of the Attorney-General will sensitise line ministries on their roles with regard to the above action, and where necessary, provide training to enhance the capacity of line ministries to conduct such reviews, and to adequately document the adjustments that are desired to be made to legislation
- The Office of the Attorney-General will review and enhance its capacity to prepare draft legislation to enable line ministries to effectively pursue development objectives
- The Office of the Attorney-General will review all agreements and legal commitments (national, regional and international) to be undertaken by the Abia State government prior to their finalisation.
- The Office of the Attorney-General will submit the full documentation of the ABSLTDP to the Abia State House of Assembly for legislative accent and onward for gazetting.

Stakeholder Description and Responsibilities

Abia State Government

The primary duty of the Abia State government is to ensure the security of lives and property while ensuring the prosperity of all citizens of Abia State. It is in the quest to deliver on this mandate that the Abia State House of Assembly has developed this ABSLTDP. The Abia State government is, therefore, the primary stakeholder in this development plan. It has the duty to source and provide resources, track and monitor progress achieved and report that progress to the citizens. The Abia State House of Assembly has the duty to provide an enabling business environment, security, and the infrastructure to bring about economic development.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

Civil society organisations afford citizens voluntary membership and expression of interests, aspirations, and concerns. As for citizens from a wide range of backgrounds, CSOs provide a true reflection of the perspectives of the citizenry. As rallying points, CSOs can prove invaluable in pushing advocacy and convincing citizens to buy-in to the ABSLTDP.

Private Sector

The private sector, formal and informal, possesses tremendous economic power, with the capacity to attract and direct investments into the most vibrant sectors of the economy while creating employment and value. It has the responsibility to support and collaborate with the Abia State House of Assembly for best outcomes in the implementation of the ABSLTDP. Therefore, there is the need to mainstream the private sector into the implementation of the ABSLTDP.

Academic Institutions

This includes the numerous universities, technical institutions, research institutes, schools of surveying and urban planning, and schools of public policy in Abia State. They are major stakeholders in the development planning and implementation process. These are expected to provide technical inputs, generate high quality research and collaborate with other stakeholders in the implementation of the ABSLTDP.

Development Partners

The PIND Foundation, bilateral and multi-lateral donors, regional development agencies, the Central Bank of Nigeria, UN agencies and the World Bank, are major development partners in the ABSLTDP. They are expected to provide technical and financial inputs as necessary through the planning and implementation process.

Local Governments

As the closest tier of government to the citizens of Abia State, the local governments constitute invaluable stakeholders. Local governments are multi-purpose bodies responsible for delivering a broad range of services in relation to roads, traffic, planning, housing, economic and community development, environment, recreation, amenity services, fire services and maintaining the register of electors. The local government provides the policy framework within which local authorities work and deliver services to

the communities that they represent and serve. Each of the 17 local governments is expected to designate an Abia State Planning Commission Liaison Office.

Abia State Citizens

The entire citizenry of Abia State is the target beneficiary of the ABSLTDP. Therefore, all citizens are stakeholders in the development process. Individual and community buy-in and cooperation are prerequisite for successful implementation of the long-term development plan.

Implementation Timeframe

The implementation of the ABSLTDP is split into four timeframes: immediate, short term, medium term and long term. The respective implementation action timeframes are highlighted and presented as follows:

Immediate (6 months)

- Obtain legislative consent
- Launch of ABSLTDP and communication campaign to generate citizen buy-in
- Designate the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development as the coordinating ministry responsible for central planning and budgeting
- Establish implementation and strategy teams for each development pillar.

Short Term (6 months-3 years)

- Deepen engagements with all stakeholders
- Build technical and managerial skills and capacity in implementation teams across pillars of development
- Actively drive, automate and harmonise internally generated revenue (IGR)
- Catalyse investments in infrastructure
- Lead institutions/agencies begin implementation
- Annual monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Medium Term (5 years rolling)

- Sustain the development and expansion of supporting infrastructure
- Invest in education, technology transfer and skills acquisitions
- Integrate value chain approaches through SMEs and private sector participation
- Incentivise public-private partnerships
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting every five years.

Long Term (15-30 years)

- Encourage foreign direct income
- Monitor progress towards KPI targets
- Holistic performance review of the ABSLTDP.

Appendix 6 presents a comprehensive summary of strategic actions for implementation.

Chapter 16

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

INTRODUCTION

A major challenge of government is to become more effective. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) processes can assist the public sector to evaluate its performance and identify the factors which contribute to its service delivery outcomes. M&E is uniquely oriented towards providing its users with the ability to draw causal connections between the choice of policy priorities, the resourcing of those policy objectives, the programmes designed to implement them, the services actually delivered, and their ultimate impact on communities. M&E helps to provide an evidence base for public resource allocation decisions and helps to identify how challenges should be addressed and successes replicated.

Development of the M&E plan is an essential step in managing the process of assessing and reporting progress towards achieving project outputs and outcomes, and to identify what evaluation questions will be addressed through evaluation.

M&E provides managers with important feedback on the appropriateness and effectiveness of programme, project, and activity designs, including the way they have been implemented, and any unanticipated effects that may have emerged.

However, M&E is extremely complex, multi-disciplinary and skills intensive. It is even more so with government-wide M&E, since it requires detailed knowledge, both across and within sectors, and interactions between planning, budgeting, and implementation. The picture is complicated even further when the machinery of government is decentralised, with powers and functions being distributed across the three spheres of government. It is precisely this complicated inter-governmental structure, with diffused powers and functions, which requires strong M&E systems to promote coordination and prevent fragmentation.

The M&E framework is designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of achieving the goals of Abia State government towards attaining the vision of ensuring the overall well-being and security of its citizens and creating an enabling environment for sustainable growth and development as reflected in the ABSLTDP. Therefore, the overarching Abia State government-wide M&E system aims to provide an integrated, encompassing framework of M&E principles, practices and standards to be used throughout government, and function as an apex level information system which draws

from the component systems in the framework to deliver useful M&E products for its users.

M&E is crucial as it ensures that Plan implementation remains on course and that expected deliverables are achieved in a transparent, cost effective and timely manner that meets international best practices. The ABSLTDP sets a robust M&E system that will be technologically empowered to track performance of the Plan. The proposed M&E implementation strategy/framework will operate at two levels: input-output tracking and output-outcome assessment. Input-output monitoring ensures that resources are effectively deployed, and expected deliverables are achieved, timely and efficiently. It also ensures that implementation difficulties are identified and promptly rectified. Output-outcome assessment, in this context, ensures that developmental objectives are being achieved.

M&E activities will involve regular tracking, collection, analysis, and assessment of information on progress in the implementation of the Plan, as well as periodic production of M&E reports and policy briefs over the Plan period. It will cover policy, programme, and project implementation performance and impact assessment. M&E revolves around the following elements:

Inputs

These are all the resources that contribute to the production of service delivery outputs. Inputs are “what we use to do the work”. They include finances, personnel, equipment, and buildings.

Activities

These are processes or actions that use a range of inputs to produce the desired outputs and ultimate outcomes. In essence, activities describe “what we do”.

Outputs

These are final products, goods and services produced for delivery which may be defined as “what we produce or deliver”.

Outcomes

These are the medium-term results for specific beneficiaries which are the consequences of achieving specific outputs. Outcomes should relate clearly to an institution’s strategic goals and objectives set out in its plans. Outcomes are “what we wish to achieve” and are often further categorised into immediate/direct outcomes and intermediate outcomes.

Impacts

They are the results of achieving specific outcomes, such as reducing poverty and creating jobs. Impacts are “how we have actually influenced communities and target groups”. The ABSLTDP M&E framework is designed to enable a fact-based assessment of states’ performance and enhance the execution capacity of Abia State government efforts to achieve accelerated economic development. Abia State requires a single framework for

M&E which should offer a platform for assessing any programme implemented in the interest of the State.

The development of Abia State M&E framework is hinged on the following five guiding principles:

- M&E will be an integral aspect of governance in the State and will involve the entire spectrum of activities of Abia State government at both state and local government levels. The aim is to define a coherent “system”, of which some of the building blocks already exist, and move away from stand-alone structures linked to specific programmes and the duplications this invariably generates. Putting in place such a system will require legislative support
- Significant value can be created by better decision making with regards to the strategies to pursue, on the one hand, and more efficient government operations, on the other hand. The M&E system must, therefore, capture:
 - strategic outcomes, i.e., achievement of targeted objectives that are strategic to ABSLTDP, and
 - effectiveness, i.e., an assessment of whether outcomes are achieved in an efficient manner
 - high performance in government will be driven by the achievement of strategic outcomes at minimal cost
- M&E will serve as an input for evidence-based decision making, i.e., the value of M&E is in its application for planning and budgeting
- Accountability for performance needs to be entrenched in the system. The M&E system will encourage rewards for individual and institutional performance at all levels of government
- The M&E framework will be applicable at the MDA and State levels.

OTHER USES OF M&E IN ABSLTDP

Monitoring the ABSLTDP will be done in two methods. Since this is a long-term plan, the indicators that will need to be developed will have to reflect the long-term outcomes that are being sought, and the extent to which the Plan is on track to meet them. Some interim targets that can measure progress towards the long-term outcomes will be required. These might reasonably be five-year targets. The second method is the MTSS M&E process. This will provide a regular snapshot of how well the long-term development aspirations are being met. The M&E system is one that has been adopted by Lagos State for the MTSSs.

Monitoring the performance of the ABSLTDP will be vital in ensuring that the Plan is on track in terms of the intended sequencing, and any necessary adjustments and corrections can be made in a timely manner. Evaluating performance will involve a wider stakeholder engagement and will take a broader five-year period of progress that could lead to changes of direction. Other uses include the following:

- M&E of the ABSLTDP is effectively linked into existing systems used to monitor and evaluate MTSS and other government plans
- M&E activities undertaken by Abia State government and its partners to assess whether or not ABSLTDP objectives/outcomes are being realised
- M&E systems provide the basis of accountability to the citizens and other stakeholders for ABSLTDP performance.

ABIA STATE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN M&E PRINCIPLES

Table 16.1 shows the principles upon which the ABSLTDP will be hinged. Everything to be done in terms of M&E will be implemented on the basis of the guiding principles in the Table.

Table 16.1: Principles guiding the implementation of ABSLTDP M&E

<i>1. M&E should contribute to improved governance</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency • Accountability • Participation • Inclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All findings are publicly available unless there are compelling reasons otherwise. • Use of resources is open to public scrutiny. • Voice is provided to historically marginalised people. • Traditionally excluded interests are represented throughout M&E processes.
<i>2. M&E should be right based</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill of Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A right based culture is promoted and entrenched by its inclusion in the value base for all M&E processes
<i>3. M&E should be development-oriented at the State and local government levels</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro-poor orientation • Service delivery and performance • Learning • Human resource management • Impact awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty's causes, effects and dynamics are highlighted, and the interests of poor people are prioritised above those of more advantaged groups. • Variables reflecting institutional performance and service delivery are analysed and reviewed, links are identified and responsive strategies are formulated. • Knowledge and the desire for learning are nurtured in institutions and individuals. • The skills required for delivering M&E are available, fostered and retained while the knowledge needed for strategic HR utilisation is available and used. • The possible impacts of M&E interventions are considered and reflected upon in plans and their actual outcomes are tracked and analysed systematically and consistently
<i>4. M&E Should be undertaken ethically and with integrity</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidentiality • Respect • Representation of competence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processes ensure the responsible use of personal and sensitive information. • Promises of anonymity and non-identifiability are honoured and relied upon. • Dignity and self-esteem is built amongst stakeholders and affected people. • There is skilful and sensitive implementation of M&E processes. • Those engaged in monitoring and evaluation fairly represent

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair reporting 	<p>their competence and the limitations of their reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting provides a fair and balanced account of the findings
<i>5. M&E should be utilisation- oriented</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defining and meeting expectations Supporting utilisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M&E products meet knowledge and strategic needs. A record of recommendations is maintained, and their implementation followed up. An accessible central repository of evaluation reports and indicators is maintained
<i>6. M&E should be methodologically sound</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent indicators Data/evidence based Appropriateness Triangulated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common indicators and data collection methods are used where possible to improve data quality and allow trend analysis. Findings are clearly based on systematic evidence and analysis. Methodology matches the questions being asked. Multiple sources are used to build more credible findings
<i>7. M&E should be operationally effective</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned Scope Managed Cost effective Systematic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an integrated component of public management, M&E is routine and regularised. The scale of M&E reflects its purpose, level of risk and available resources. Conscientious management of the function leads to sustained on-time delivery of excellence. The benefits of M&E are clear and its scale is appropriate given resource availability. Robust systems are built up that are resilient and do not depend on individuals or chance.

Sequencing and Phasing

- Processes established which link the ABSLTDP to medium-term sector strategies and annual budgets of the State
- MDAs are aware of linked and relevant policies and programmes of other MDAs in the ABSLTDP that relate to their activities
- Established milestones and targets that provide a basis for monitoring the ABSLTDP on phased, i.e., short term, medium term and long term.

Institutional Framework for Monitoring and Evaluation of ABSLTDP

The institutional framework for M&E will comprise the following:

- A central M&E unit in the Abia State Planning Commission to drive and coordinate the M&E process
- Directorate of project monitoring in the office of the Executive Governor to independently monitor project implementation and coordinate CSOs/CBOs' M&E activities
- Sector M&E teams and units in the various MDAs to undertake sector specific M&E.

In addition, the Governor may constitute ad-hoc M&E teams/third party monitors to review the implementation of the Plan from time to time.

Monitoring and Evaluation Roles and Responsibilities

Each segment of government and the government MDAs in Abia State have several roles and responsibilities to take up in implementing the ABSLTDP. Table 16.2 shows some of these roles and responsibilities.

Table 16.2: Defining institutional roles and responsibilities

<i>Who Will Do</i>	<i>What To Do</i>
Legislators	As elected representatives, government and all its structures are accountable to legislators and must exercise consistent and informed oversight of the bodies accountable to them, using insight gained from M&E systems
Executive authorities	Use M&E findings in the political oversight of institutional performance and for ensuring that desired outcomes and impacts are achieved. Also, provide the bodies to whom they are accountable with detailed regular reports on the institutions under their control
Accounting officers and accounting authorities	Accountable for the frequency and quality of M&E information and the integrity of the systems responsible for its production and utilisation. Need to ensure that prompt managerial action is taken in relation to M&E findings
Programme managers, other line managers and officials	Establish and maintain M&E systems, especially collecting, capturing, verifying and using data and information
Designated M&E units	Ensure the implementation of M&E strategies by providing expertise and support as well acting as a service hub for related initiatives

Office of the Executive Governor of Abia State

The Office of the Executive Governor will serve as the chief monitor and have oversight responsibility for ensuring a hitch-free implementation of ABSLTDP. The Directorate of Project Monitoring (DPM) in the Office of the Executive Governor will be responsible for carrying out specific M&E as may be directed by the Governor of Abia State.

The State Economic Planning Commission (SEPC)

The State Economic Planning Commission will be responsible for the following activities, among others:

- Anchor the coordination of the M&E System at the MDAs level
- Collate, analyse and interpret M&E reports from the various MDAs
- Prepare the M&E report yearly, prior to the start of the budgeting process
- Submit the M&E reports to the Governor
- Publish an Executive Summary of the report annually
- Take ownership of the M&E format and work with the M&E units within the MDAs to ensure high quality data collection, analyses and reports that conform to prescribed formats, are submitted timely and quarterly

- Statistics desk under the M&E unit in the State Economic Planning Commission will be responsible for data/information portal which the MDAs can access on a real time basis
- Provide the M&E manual for the guidance of all
- Carry out any other activity contingent on successful M&E implementation in the State.

MDAS, Sector Teams/Units and Other Implementation Monitoring Bodies

The MDAs sector teams/units will be responsible for the following:

- Manage M&E operations/activities across departments and related agencies, to cover programme/project completion levels/rates, budgeted and actual expenditure, physical site visits, etc. Operational monitoring will primarily focus on inputs-outputs
- Prepare quarterly performance reports, which will focus on output-outcomes and impacts in clearly stated KPIs and submit to the central M&E unit
- Implement any other guidelines that may be issued from time to time on the successful implementation of monitoring and evaluation
- Before submitting State report cards, ministries should validate the accuracy of the data by leveraging on the institutions State Bureau of Statistics as well as civil society organisations. The Commissioner signs off the Ministry scorecard before submission to the SPC.

The State Statistical System

The State Bureau of Statistics (SBS) has a critical role to play in the successful establishment of Abia State M&E system. This agency will continue to collect data and administer surveys in accordance with their respective mandates. However, it is advocated that all the MDAs replicate and store relevant M&E data centrally on the SBS infrastructure so that all ministries and agencies in the State can have access to the information online. The SBS will have the following responsibilities under the proposed Abia State M&E system:

- *Data collection:* The SBS infrastructure will form the central data access platform for all M&E-related data and will work closely with the MDAs and states to ensure that all data requirements are captured efficiently
- *Data quality assurance and statistical analysis:* The SBS will assure the quality of data used in the M&E process, and will also provide data analysis services as required by MDAs in the State
- The SBS will provide a web-based data/information portal which all states and ministries will be able to access on a real time basis
- All KPIs defined in Ministry scorecards will be included into surveys, censuses, etc., so as to be collected by SBS and other relevant statistical agencies.

The mandatory use of SBS data for the M&E system will be legislated. Supporting the State M&E process and acting as the primary custodian of the statistical data will have implications on the capability and infrastructure requirements of SBS.

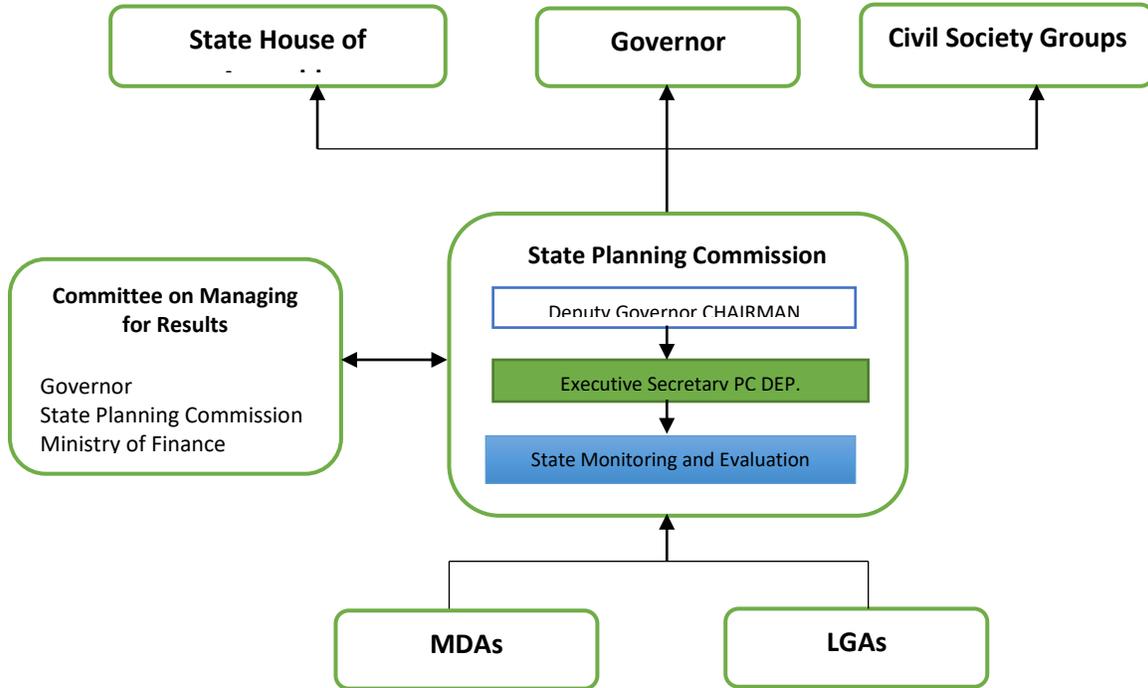


Fig. 16.1 The governance framework of M&E for the Abia State Long-Term Development Plan

MDA SCORECARD

The MDA scorecard will be generated by respective MDAs and used as input to the State’s M&E report, and also provide a detailed view of the performance of MDAs for subsequent planning and budgeting. The development of scorecards at the MDA level will be implemented by the Department of Planning, Research and Statistics (DPRS) in the respective ministries under the supervision/coordination of the SPC to ensure consistency with the ADSLTDP. Scorecards are to be submitted by the DPRS teams of the different ministries on a quarterly basis during the first year after roll-out so as to ensure consistent focus on implementing the necessary data collection processes. This will be on a yearly basis once the process has been institutionalised.

The critical capacity requirement for the agencies that will implement the M&E system in Abia State is shown in Table 16.3.

Table 16.3: Critical capability requirements for M&E implementing agencies

S/N	Agency	Implementation Consideration
1	State Planning Commission	The M&E function of the SPC will be established as a separate directorate, given its significance to Abia State's strategic aspirations Enhancement of the capacity and capabilities of the SPC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilled personnel in various subject matters to enable proper M&E across MDAs • Ability to perform necessary M&E analysis and prepare the required reports • Suitable technology and other tools as well as efficient processes to handle potentially high volumes of operations
2	State Bureau of Statistics	The M&E System will confer enormous responsibilities on the SBS. The invariable dependence of all MDAs on the SBS will imply potentially high volumes of activity which will require enhanced capacity for the SBS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human capital (skilled manpower) • Enhanced IT platform
3	Department of Planning, Research & Statistics (DPRS) in MDAs	The Departments of Planning, Research & Statistics within ministries will require necessary capabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of M&E activities of operational departments is also important. • Budgetary provision must be made for M&E activities in all MDAs

Reporting Timeframe

M&E reports are to be submitted quarterly, half-yearly or annually, depending on the nature of programmes/projects.

Monitoring Tools

“Balanced score cards”, “Action plans” and “Progress reviews” will be used for monitoring.

Balanced Scorecards

A balanced scorecard makes it possible to monitor implementation progress and performance in several pillars and simultaneously across several implementing units. These scorecards are designed specifically to track, report and present data on the progress towards the key performance indicators (KPIs) of the ABSLTDP in each of the 17 local government areas in Abia State. These will provide useful feedback for revision of the Plan, especially the action plans.

The Action Plan

The action plan will indicate expected input and output and activities described in a schedule sequence in relation to each immediate related objective including planned commencement and completion dates and the MDAs responsible for carrying out the activity. This will be for all activities to be performed or implemented in the ABSLTDP document.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

The ABSLTDP should be subject to an annual performance management review along the lines of the recently agreed performance management review process for the State. It would be appropriate to conduct such annual reviews as a relatively simple exercise, noting trends and serious potential diversions from long-term goals and objectives. A more thorough exercise, involving a thorough review with all stakeholders, may be held every five years. In both cases, the basic approach will be the same. ABSLTDP performance will be reviewed on a regular basis. The progress review will show whether:

- inputs are being made available as planned
- activities are being carried out according to work plan
- outputs are according to schedule
- changes have taken place
- problems or difficulties have been encountered
- remedial actions have been taken or are planned
- citizens have access to reports on the ABSLTDP performance
- ABSLTDP strategies are tracked and analysed to determine whether they are achieving the government's desired outcomes
- revision of ABSLTDP strategies will be carried out to make them more effective for delivering better performance results and outcomes for citizens.

Performance Management Report and Review Process

The performance management report and review process are as follows:

- Capture, annually, documents and reports on the performance of the ABSLTDP
- Measure, annually, the delivery performance against a suite of established key performance indicators and targets
- Using a traffic lighting system, such an assessment will show whether the State's performance against a particular key performance indicator is either good, average, or in need of improvement
- Identify and recommend, through the review process, changes to the public service delivery system – procedures, processes, deliverables – that are required in order for ABSLTDP to get back on track
- Revise its annual sector plans (MTSS) and resource allocations (budgets) in a way that provides a closer adjustment to the Plan.

Performance Management Report Process

The performance management report process will entail the following:

- Establish structures and procedures for capturing service performance data and information from, amongst others, frontline service delivery managers, service users, non-government service providers, government suppliers and contractors
- Analyse the service users' information to determine what outcomes are being achieved through the delivery of services

- Document the above information in the performance management report, together with the challenges that the State has faced which have impacted on the quality and quantity of the long-term programmes in the ABSLTDP
- Include recommendations which address the challenges that the State faces and would lead to future programme improvement and enhanced programme outcomes
- Revising the strategies and resource allocations which are the core of the ABSLTDP.

Uses of the Outcomes of the Performance Management Review

The outcomes of the performance management review will be used for the following primary purposes:

Feedback to Citizens

The results of the review can be disseminated to the general public as government's account of actions being taken to achieve the long-term outcomes of the Plan. This process lays down a baseline of progress that citizens can expect for the future as well as to give them the information with which they can query government about its future performance.

Revision of Sector Strategies

As the outcome of the performance management review includes an account of Plan performance, a highlight of sector challenges and recommendations that should lead to improved performance in the future need to be taken into account when the sector's MTSS is being revised. Revisions to the MTSS should, therefore, reflect ways of achieving the ABSLTDP through sector priorities, implementation plans and programmes and service delivery mechanisms, e.g., where a service may be better delivered through the private sector in an environment where government has a robust regulatory framework.

Revision of Resource Allocations

By using the outcomes of the review to revise the sector's MTSS, the opportunity also arises for future allocations of State resources to be revised in line with the State strategies that will produce the best ABSLTDP outcomes for citizens. If new methodologies or strategies are recommended, then revisions need to be made to how resources are allocated across sectors and programmes. Such revisions need to be reflected in the following year's annual budget of the State.

Requirements for Effective M&E

To achieve an effective M&E, the following are required:

- Adequate staffing (in terms of number, quality and cognate experience) of the M&E units, especially the M&E unit in the State Economic Planning Commission
- Release of funds for projects to be premised on a clean report from the M&E units on the earlier programmes/projects executed or funds released
- Adequate funding of M&E units with running grants and timely release of such funds as well as appropriate equipment

- Constant dialogue and exchange of ideas and experiences among the various levels of M&E units
- Insistence on clearly defined KPIs in all programmes/projects. No project will be admitted into the budget or approved without explicit statement of how it will be monitored and evaluated, including, where possible, quantifiable indicators and targets
- All budget proposals will be required to indicate a ‘risk benefit analysis’, stating the critical assumptions and external factors upon which the achievement of budget objective depends.

M&E Reporting Format

All MDAs will be required to adopt the same M&E reporting format and other guidelines that would be provided from time to time. All reports will ensure that:

- approved projects include an M&E plan with appropriate indicators
- there are sections for feedback from the various government supervisory agencies and stakeholders
- performance evaluation of budgets and projects are carried out at the end of the budget year or during project implementation. This would be regularised and included in project design for effectiveness.

The report format addresses the following, among others:

- *MDAs initiatives/activities/projects*: each MDA to provide full details on every project, clearly stating targets to be achieved
- *Implementing*: MDA directly implementing the project
- *Monitoring agency*: supervisory agency and/or other stakeholders, including but not limited to third-party monitors
- *Monitoring frequency*: project monitoring frequency depending on the project nature which could be quarterly, half yearly or annually
- *Key performance indicators (KPI)*: observable improvements expressed in quantitative and qualitative terms
- *Percentage completion*: extent of the programme/project completion
- *Identified risks*: issues associated with programme/project execution
- *Mitigation*: necessary remedial action taken to prevent or minimise the impact of the risks identified.

M&E System of ABSLTDP

M&E system is a series of policies, practices, and processes that enable systematic and effective collection, analysis, and use of M&E information. A well-designed M&E system “will ensure a consistent approach to the collection, analysis and use of information, whilst allowing considerable scope for different parts of an organisation to develop their own solutions in response to their own particular situations”.

There are many different formats for depicting an M&E system. Table 16.4 is an example of an empty template of how of an M&E system could be visually presented. It shows parts of the logical framework and goes a step further to cover the frequency at which the indicators will be monitored, the persons responsible, and where the information will be presented.

Table 16.4: Blank template for depicting a M&E system

Item	INDICATOR	DEFINITION <i>How is it calculated?</i>	BASELINE <i>What is the current value?</i>	TARGET <i>What is the target value?</i>	DATA SOURCE <i>How will it be measured?</i>	FREQUENCY <i>How often will it be measured?</i>	RESPONSIBLE <i>Who will measure it?</i>	REPORTING <i>Where will it be reported?</i>
Goal								
Outputs								
Outcomes								

Table 16.5 illustrates “M&E System” template that goes beyond just giving more insight into the logical framework. This template touches on how data will be stored, the learning mechanisms, and other practical issues.

Table16.5: Areas of M&E system on data storage, learning mechanisms and other practical issues

Areas of M&E System	Narrative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Planning systems</i> Planning approaches, tools, methodologies, and templates 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Settings objectives</i> How objectives are set within an MDA, what they look like, and how they are linked together between different levels 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Indicators</i> Selection, collection and use of indicators 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Baseline information</i> Collection, use and analysis of information that shows the situation at the beginning of a piece of work to compare progress at a later date 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Tools</i> The different mechanisms used for recording, generating, or analysing information, ranging from straightforward techniques, such as interviews and observations, to more complex methodologies such as most significant change (MSC) and outcome mapping 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Participation</i> Who participates in different M&E processes, how and why. This area is particularly concerned with the involvement of partners and service users 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Information disciplines</i> Use of evaluations, impact assessments, appraisals, assessments, situational analyses, 	

research studies and other disciplines. These are concerned with how and when these exercises are carried out, and how they are linked	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The use and analysis of data</i> How information is used for different purposes at different levels of an MDA 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reports</i> Range of reports generated at different levels of an MDA from simple reports outlining activities undertaken through to more complex analysis reports 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning mechanisms</i> The different tools, techniques and procedures used to share information and learning within and between different levels of an organisation 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Data storage</i> How information is stored and retrieved at different levels 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supporting processes</i> Vast range of processes essential to the effective implementation of an M&E system, such as how people are trained and supervised, how information flows between different people, how information is reviewed at different levels and how an organisation deals with the reporting of mistakes and failures 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Practical issues</i> The resources required to implement and maintain an M&E system, including the personnel and finance available. 	

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) INDICATORS

The main points of the M&E framework are based on the context of goals, policy objectives, and implementation strategies within the 11 pillars that are considered in the ABSLTDP. To be able to effectively carry out M&E, indicators have to be defined. In the context of M&E, an indicator is a quantitative metric that provides information to monitor performance, measure achievements, and determine accountability. A good indicator should produce the same results when used repeatedly to measure the same condition or event, measure only the condition or event it is intended to measure and show changes in the State or condition over time.

It is also vital for targets to be set for the various indicators for the different goals. The M&E framework also sets baselines for the various indicators for the policy measures as well as the targets for which performance will be measured at least annually. This will allow for an evaluation of the performance of the strategies and ensure efficiency of the implementation of the ABSLTDP.

This section presents the indicators for each pillar of the ABSLTDP.

FINANCE AND REVENUE PILLAR

The overarching objective of the finance and revenue pillar is fiscal consolidation through proper budgetary planning and control, steady increases in the revenue profile (FAAC, IGR, FDI and donor grants) of Abia State and applying fiscal discipline in the disbursement of these funds to create an enabling environment for public and private investments and economic growth and prosperity. The public expenditure and financial accountability (PEFA) framework of the World Bank (2005) identifies critical indicators

for measuring the attainment of revenue generation and fiscal discipline as discussed below:

Measures for Effective Taxpayer Registration and Tax Assessment

Effectiveness in tax assessment is ascertained by an interaction between registration of liable taxpayers and correct assessment of tax liability for those taxpayers. Taxpayer registration is facilitated by control mechanisms introduced by the revenue administration (RA). Maintenance of a taxpayer database, based on a unique taxpayer identification number, is an important element of such a control system. But it is most effective if combined with other government registration systems that involve elements of taxable turnover and assets (such as issue of business licences, opening of bank accounts and pension fund accounts). In addition, RAs should ensure compliance with registration requirements through occasional surveys of potential taxpayers, e.g., by selective physical inspection of business premises and residences. Ensuring that taxpayers comply with their procedural obligations of taxpayer registration and tax declaration, is usually encouraged through penalties that may vary with the seriousness of the default. Effectiveness of such penalties is determined by the extent to which penalties are sufficiently high to have the desired impact and are consistently and fairly administered.

Modern revenue administration systems rely increasingly on self-assessment and use of risk targeted auditing of taxpayers as a key activity to improve compliance and deter tax evasion. Inevitable resource constraints mean that audit selection processes must be refined to identify taxpayers and taxable activities that involve the largest potential risk of non-compliance. Indicators of risk are the frequency of amendments to returns and additional tax assessed from tax audit work. Collection and analysis of information on non-compliance and other risks are necessary for focusing tax audit activities and resources towards specific sectors. More serious issues of non-compliance involve deliberate attempts at tax evasion and fraud, which may involve collusion with representatives of the RA. The ability of the RA to identify, investigate, and successfully prosecute major evasion and fraud cases, on a regular basis, is essential for ensuring that taxpayers comply with their obligations. Dimensions to be assessed are:

- controls in the taxpayer registration system
- effectiveness of penalties for non-compliance with registration and declaration obligations
- planning and monitoring of tax audit and fraud investigation programmes.

Measures for Effective Collection of Tax Payments

Prompt transfer of the collections to the Treasury is essential for ensuring that the collected revenue is available to the Treasury for spending. This may take place either by having a system that obliges taxpayers to pay directly into accounts controlled by the Treasury (possibly managed by a bank) or where the RA maintains its own collection accounts by frequent and full transfers from those accounts to Treasury-controlled accounts (time periods mentioned do not include delays in the banking system). Aggregate reporting on tax assessments, collections, arrears and transfers to (and receipts

by) the Treasury must take place regularly, and be reconciled, where appropriate, in order to ensure that the collection system functions as intended, that tax arrears are monitored, and the revenue float is minimised. Dimensions to be assessed are:

- collection ratio for gross tax arrears, being the percentage of tax arrears at the beginning of a fiscal year which was collected during that fiscal year (average of the last two fiscal years)
- effectiveness of transfer of tax collections to the Treasury by the revenue administration
- frequency of complete accounts reconciliation between tax assessments, collections, arrears records, and receipts by the Treasury.

Effective Payroll Controls

The wage bill is usually one of the biggest items of government expenditure and susceptible to weak control and corruption. This indicator is concerned with the payroll for public servants only. Wages for casual labour and discretionary allowances that do not form part of the payroll system are included in the assessment of general internal controls. However, different segments of the Public Service may be recorded in different payrolls. All of the more important of such payrolls should be assessed as the basis for scoring this indicator and mentioned in the narrative. The payroll is underpinned by a personnel database (in some cases called the “nominal roll” and not necessarily computerised) which provides a list of all staff who should be paid every month and which can be verified against the approved establishment list and the individual personnel records (or staff files). The link between the personnel database and the payroll is a key control. Any amendments required to the personnel database should be processed in a timely manner through a change report and should result in an audit trail. Payroll audits should be undertaken regularly to identify ghost workers, fill data gaps and identify control weaknesses. Dimensions to be assessed are as follows:

- Degree of integration and reconciliation between personnel records and payroll data
- Timeliness of changes to personnel records and the payroll
- Internal controls of changes to personnel records and the payroll
- Existence of payroll audits to identify control weaknesses and/or ghost workers.

Effective Internal Audit

Regular and adequate feedback to management is required on the performance of the internal control systems through an internal audit function (or equivalent systems monitoring function). Such a function should meet international standards in terms of appropriate structure particularly with regard to professional independence, sufficient breadth of mandate, access to information, and power to report and use professional audit methods, including risk assessment techniques. The function should be focused on reporting on significant systemic issues in relation to reliability and integrity of financial and operational information, effectiveness and efficiency of operations, safeguarding of assets and compliance with laws, regulations, and contracts. The internal audit functions

may be undertaken by an organisation with a mandate across entities of the central government (such as government inspection-general or IGF) or by separate internal audit functions for individual government entities. The combined effectiveness of all such audit organisations is the basis for this indicator. Dimensions to be assessed are:

- coverage and quality of the internal audit function
- frequency and distribution of reports
- extent of management response to internal audit findings.

Timeliness and Regularity of Accounts Reconciliation

Reliable reporting of financial information requires constant checking and verification of the recording practices of accountants. This is an important part of internal control and a foundation for good quality information for management and for external reports. Timely and frequent reconciliation of data from different sources is fundamental for data reliability. Two critical types of reconciliation are

- reconciliation of accounting data held in the government's books with government bank account data held by central and commercial banks in such a way that no material differences are left unexplained, and
- clearing and reconciliation of suspense accounts and advances, i.e., of cash payments made from which no expenditures have yet been recorded.

Advances would include travel advances and operational imprests but not budgeted transfers to autonomous agencies and local governments which are classified as expenditures when they are effected even if reporting on any earmarked portion of the transfers is expected periodically.

Dimensions to be assessed are:

- regularity of bank reconciliations
- regularity of reconciliation, and
- clearance of suspense accounts and advances.

Effective External Audit

A high-quality external audit is an essential requirement for creating transparency in the use of public funds. Key elements of the quality of actual external audit comprise the scope/coverage of the audit, adherence to appropriate auditing standards including independence of the external audit institution, focus on significant and systemic PFM issues in its reports, and performance of the full range of financial audit, such as reliability of financial statements, regularity of transactions and functioning of internal control and procurement systems. Inclusion of some aspects of performance audit (e.g., value for money in major infrastructure contracts) would also be expected of a high-quality audit function. The scope of audit mandate should include extra-budgetary funds and autonomous agencies. The latter may not always be audited by the supreme audit

institution (SAI), as the use of other audit institutions may be foreseen. The scope indicates the entities and sources of funds that are audited in any given year. Where SAI capacity is limited, the audit programme may be planned by the SAI in line with legal audit obligations on a multi-year basis in order to ensure that most important or risk prone entities and functions are covered annually, whereas other entities and functions may be covered less frequently. While the exact process will depend, to some degree, on the system of government, in general, the executive (the individual audited entities and/or the ministry of finance) would be expected to follow up on the audit findings through correction of errors and of system weaknesses identified by the auditors. Evidence of effective follow up of the audit findings includes the issuance by the executive or audited entity of a formal written response to the audit findings indicating how these will be or already have been addressed. The following year's external audit report may provide evidence of implementation by summing up the extent to which the audited entities have cleared audit queries and implemented audit recommendations. Dimensions to be assessed are:

- Scope/nature of audit performed, including adherence to auditing standards
- Timeliness of submission of audit reports to legislature
- Evidence of follow up on audit recommendations.

Legislative Scrutiny of the Annual Budget Law

The power to give the government authority to spend rests with the legislature and is exercised through the passing of the annual budget law. If the legislature does not rigorously examine and debate the law, that power is not being effectively exercised and will undermine the accountability of the government to the electorate. Assessing the legislative scrutiny and debate of the annual budget law will be informed by consideration of several factors, including the scope of the scrutiny, the internal procedures for scrutiny and debate, and the time allowed for that process. Adequacy of the budget documentation made available to the legislature and in-year budget amendments, constitute a common feature of annual budget processes. In order not to undermine the significance of the original budget, the authorisation of amendments that can be done by the executive must be clearly defined, including limits on extent to which expenditure budgets may be expanded and re-allocated, and time limits for the executive's presentation of amendments for retroactive approval by the legislature. These rules must also be adhered to. Dimensions to be assessed are:

- Scope of the legislature's scrutiny
- Extent to which the legislature's procedures are well-established and respected
- Adequacy of time for the legislature to provide response to budget proposals, both the detailed estimates and, where applicable, for proposals on macro-fiscal aggregates earlier in the budget preparation cycle (time allowed in practice for all stages combined)

- Rules for in-year amendments to the budget without ex-ante approval by the legislature.

Aggregate Expenditure Out-turn compared to Original Approved Budget

The ability to implement the budgeted expenditure is an important factor in supporting the government's ability to deliver public services for the year as expressed in policy statements, output commitments, and work plans. The indicator reflects this by measuring the actual total expenditure compared to the originally budgeted total expenditure (as defined in government budget documentation and fiscal reports), but excludes two expenditure categories over which the government will have little control. Those categories are

- debt service payments which, in principle, the government cannot alter during the year while they may change due to interest and exchange rates movements, and
- donor-funded project expenditure, the management and reporting of which are, to a high degree, typically under the donor agencies' control.

In order to understand the reasons behind a deviation from the budgeted deficit, it is important that the narrative describes the external factors that may have led to the deviation, and particularly makes reference to the impact of deviations from budgeted revenue. It is also important to understand the impact of a total expenditure deviation on the ability to implement the expenditure composition as budgeted. The dimension to be assessed is the difference between actual primary expenditure and the originally budgeted primary expenditure, i.e., excluding debt service charges, but also excluding externally financed project expenditure.

Aggregate Revenue Out-Turn Compared to Original Approved Budget

Accurate forecasting of domestic revenue is a critical factor in determining budget performance since budgeted expenditure allocations are based upon that forecast. A comparison of budgeted and actual revenues provides an overall indication of the quality of revenue forecasting. External shocks may, however, occur that could not have been foreseen and do not reflect inadequacies in administration. They should be explained in the narrative. The calibration allows for a top score even if, during one year in the last three, the outturn is substantially different from the forecast, e.g., as a result of a major external shock occurring during budget execution. For this indicator, information from budget execution reports or final government accounts, should be used to the extent available, rather than data from other sources such as a revenue authority or the central bank. The narrative should explain the sources of data and any concerns regarding consistency or reliability which may also be highlighted by assessment of revenue data reconciliation. Dimensions to be assessed include actual domestic revenue collection compared to domestic revenue estimates in the original, approved budget.

Public Access to Key Fiscal Information

Transparency will depend on whether information on fiscal plans, positions and performance of the government is easily accessible to the general public or at least the relevant interest group. The narrative of the assessment should comment on the quality of information made available, e.g., understandable language and structure, appropriate layout, summarised for large documents, and the means used to facilitate public access, such as the press, websites, sale of major documents at no more than printing cost and notice boards for mainly locally relevant information. The extent to which the means are appropriate depends on the nature of the documentation and the characteristics of the relevant interests or user groups, such as access to different media. Elements of information to which public access is essential include:

Annual Budget Documentation

A complete set of documents can be obtained by the public through appropriate means when it is submitted to the legislature.

In-Year Budget Execution Reports

The reports are routinely made available to the public through appropriate means within one month of their completion.

Year-end Financial Statements

The statements are made available to the public through appropriate means within six months of completed audit.

External Audit Reports

All reports on central government consolidated operations are made available to the public through appropriate means within six months of completed audit.

Contract Awards

Award of all contracts with value above approximately US\$100,000 equivalent, are published at least quarterly through appropriate means.

Resources Available to Primary Service Units

Information is publicised through appropriate means at least annually, or available upon request, for primary service units with national coverage in at least two sectors such as elementary schools or primary health clinics.

Dimensions to be assessed are the number of the above-listed elements of public access to information that is fulfilled. In order to count in the assessment, the full specification of the information benchmark must be met.

Orderliness and Participation in the Annual Budget Process

While the Ministry of Finance is the driver of the annual budget formulation process, effective participation in the budget formulation process by other MDAs, as well as the political leadership, impacts the extent to which the budget will reflect macroeconomic,

fiscal, and sector policies. Full participation requires an integrated top-down and bottom-up budgeting process, involving all parties in an orderly and timely manner, in accordance with a pre-determined budget formulation calendar. The calendar should allow for passing of the budget law before the start of the fiscal year as well as for sufficient time for the other MDAs to meaningfully prepare their detailed budget proposals as per the guidelines. Delays in passing the budget may create uncertainty about the level of approved expenditures and delays in some government activities, including major contracts. Clear guidance on the budget process should be provided in the budget circular and budget formulation manual, including indicative budgetary ceilings for administrative units or functional areas. In order to avoid last minute changes to budget proposals, it is important that the political leadership is actively involved in the setting of aggregate allocations, particularly for sectors or functions, from an early stage of the budget preparation process. This should be initiated through review and approval of the allocation ceilings in the budget circular, either by approving the budget circular or by approving a preceding proposal for aggregate allocations, e.g., in a budget outlook paper. Dimensions to be assessed include:

- Existence of, and adherence to, a fixed budget calendar
- Clarity/comprehensiveness of, and political involvement in, the guidance on the preparation of budget submissions (budget circular or equivalent)
- Timely budget approval by the legislature or similarly mandated body within the last three years.

Competition, Value for Money and Controls in Procurement

A significant proportion of public spending is achieved using the public procurement system which ensures that money is effectively and efficiently used. Open competition in the award of contracts has been shown to provide the best basis for achieving efficiency in acquiring inputs and value for money in delivery of programmes and services by the government. This indicator focuses on the quality and transparency of the procurement regulatory framework in terms of establishing the use of open and fair competition as the preferred procurement method, and defines the alternatives to open competition that may be appropriate when justified in specific, defined situations. The procurement system benefits from the overall control environment that exists in the PFM system, including internal controls operated by implementing agencies and external control undertaken by external audit.

Unique to the public procurement process, however, is the direct involvement of participants from the private sector who, along with citizens, are direct stakeholders in the outcome of the procurement process. A good procurement system uses the participation of these stakeholders as part of the control system by establishing a clearly regulated process that enables the submission and timely resolution of complaints submitted by private sector participants. Access to the process and information on complaints allows interested stakeholders to participate in the control of the system. Dimensions to be assessed include:

- Evidence of the use of open competition for award of contracts that exceed the nationally-established monetary threshold for small purchases
- Percentage of the number of contract awards that are above the threshold
- Extent of justification for use of less competitive procurement methods
- Existence and operation of a procurement complaints mechanism.

The indicator framework for the finance and revenue pillar of the ABSLTDP is presented in Table 16.6.

Table 16.6: Finance and revenue policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

<i>Finance and Revenue</i>		
<i>Goals</i>	<i>Policy Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Increase revenue generation and stricter fiscal discipline for proper public financial management	To boost IGR and maximise other sources of resources, such as grants from develop partners. To adjust fiscal strategy in a way that ensures implementation of the ABSLTDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effectiveness of measures for taxpayer registration and tax assessment ● Effectiveness of penalties for non-compliance with registration and declaration obligations ● Effectiveness in collection of tax payments ● Degree of automation in tax processing and collection ● Annual increase/decrease in taxes collected ● Annual increase in development grants accessed ● Effectiveness of payroll controls ● Annual budget surplus/deficit trends
Proper allocation of resources in public spending to create incentives for private investments	To create an enabling environment that encourages massive local and FDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Composition of expenditure out-turn compared to original approved budget ● Existence of and adherence to a fixed budget calendar ● Aggregate revenue out-turn compared to original approved budget ● Budget share devoted to infrastructure development
Building accountability mechanisms into government financial administration	To increase transparency and accountability in public financial management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Degree of Orderliness and participation in the annual budget process ● Effectiveness of internal audit ● Timeliness and regularity of account reconciliation with banks ● Timeliness of budget approval by the legislature ● Income/expenditure information on donor-funded projects which is included in fiscal reports. ● Competition, value for money and controls in procurement. ● Number of contract award details published annually ● Public access to financial records ● Presence of, Scope, nature and follow-up of external audit.

AGRICULTURE PILLAR

Agriculture remains an important economic sub-sector that drives growth and development in Nigeria. All the value chains in agricultural production, processing and product marketing activities, provide employment and social values to individuals, groups, and members of households. The agriculture pillar of ABSLTDP has a vision to develop a sustainable and technologically-driven agriculture sector that meets socio-economic aspirations of Abians by providing sufficient food for the population, raw materials for industry, and fosters profitable agro-allied enterprises for domestic and export markets. Much focus is given to engendering inclusive growth through investment in young and inexperienced farmers: young in age and/or experience.

A joint report by the World Bank, FAO and Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (2008) recommends key indicators to track the achievement of development objectives and is adopted in the M&E framework for the ABSLTDP. In addition, the M&E framework also involves the identification and strengthening of data systems to ensure that indicators can be captured in a timely and reliable fashion. Specific indicators are suggested that allow comparisons to be made between urban and rural areas, as well as within rural areas, specifically between agriculture and non-agriculture dependent communities and households. Separate sets of indicators are suggested for the agriculture and rural development sector as a whole, and the various sub-sectors, namely, crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, rural micro and small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) finance, research and extension, irrigation and drainage, agri-business and market development, and related thematic areas (community-based rural development, natural resource management, and agricultural policies and institutions). They include price indices, food production, agricultural exports, fertilizer use and imports.

The key indicators are categorised and presented, with respect to access, use, and satisfaction, as follows:

Crop, Livestock and Forest Product Yield

- Include percentage change in yields of major crops of the State
- Yield gap between farmers' yields and on-station yields for major crops of the State
- Percentage of total land area under permanent crops
- Percentage increase in yield per livestock unit, and
- Percentage change in livestock values.

Sustainable Crop Production Practices

- Services related to sustainable crop production practices, technologies, and inputs
- Percentage of small-scale farmers who know about sustainable crop production practices
- Percentage of farmers who applied/purchased the recommended package of inputs the previous season
- Percentage of farmers who adopted sustainable crop practices in their farms

- Percentage change in yields resulting from improved practices, for major crops in Abia State.

Livestock Services

- Percentage of livestock owners in contact with livestock officers in the last month
- Percentage of livestock owners using veterinary services within the last month
- Percentage of livestock owners satisfied with the quality of livestock services.

Fisheries/Aquaculture Services

- Percentage of fishing communities in contact with a fisheries officer in the last month
- Percentage of rural communities that constructed a fish pond in the last year
- Percentage of fishers satisfied with the quality of fisheries services.

Forest and Forestry Services

- Percentage of communities aware of the activities of forestry services in their areas
- Percentage of communities involved in sustainable forest management
- Percentage of communities planning to expand area under sustainable forest management
- Value of removals of wood and non-wood forest products (selected currency)
- Area of forest, in hectares, under sustainable forest management
- Proportion and percentage of land area covered by forest
- Growing stock per hectare (m³/ha) of forest
- Employment in forestry-related activities (full-time equivalents).

Rural Finance Services

- Percentage of the rural population eligible to obtain a business loan
- Percentage of users who are satisfied with the banking services
- Change in farmer income, by gender, as a result of new technologies

Research and Extension Advice

- Percentage of farmers having knowledge of a specific technology being disseminated by extension system
- Percentage of farmers trying the specific technology advice from extension systems on their farms
- Percentage of farmers satisfied with the specific technological recommendations of the extension system and judged it beneficial, with or without adaptation.

Irrigation and Drainage Services

- Irrigated land as percentage of crop land and percentage change in the proportion of farmers with access to a functioning (reliable and adequate) irrigation and drainage network
- Percentage change in the number of users.

Agri-Business and Market Services

- Percentage of farmers aware of market price and information services
- Percentage of farmers using market price and information services
- Percentage of farmers who are satisfied with agri-business and market services.

Community-based Rural Development Organisations

- Percentage of members of community/producer associations and/or cooperatives reporting increased production or profits as a result of membership.
- Public investment in agricultural research as a percentage of GDP from the agriculture sector

A comprehensive set of indicators is presented in Table 16.7.

Table 16.7: Agriculture policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

Agriculture		
Goal	Objectives	Indicators
Increase production, productivity and qualities of food crops, cash crops and livestock/animal protein sources using modern technologies that attract young farmers as entrepreneurs or group of farmers	Encourage and drive agriculture through increased government spending	Annual public spending on agriculture sector Public spending on agricultural input subsidies as a percentage of total public spending on agriculture
	Increase the production and productivity of food crops (cassava, rice, yam, cocoyam, plantain, maize, cowpea, and banana) by farmers in Abia State within the period 2020 to 2050 Increase the production and productivity of cash/export crops (oil palm, cocoa, cashew, rubber, ginger, turmeric, garden egg, and cucumber) by farmers in Abia State within the period 2020 to 2050; Increase the production and productivity of livestock (poultry, pigs, goats, sheep, and rabbits) and animal protein/mineral sources (fishes, snails, grass cutters and honey bees) in Abia State within the period 2020 to 2050	Area, production and yield change data for major food crops production on a year-by-year basis Area, production and yield change data for major cash/export crops, livestock numbers and yields, felling rate for forest resources, fishery production statistics on a year-by-year basis Livestock number and unit prices of livestock by species and breed Per animal yield of milk, eggs, meat, wool, etc., separately for each species Total number of fishing community's/ fishing households; the number of which received a visit from a fisheries officer during the last month, the number of which constructed fish ponds in the last year; and the number of which were satisfied with the quality of services received by type of service. Production from aquaculture, water used in aquaculture production, number of aquaculture units and their water holding capacity

	<p>Attract, train and provide starter packs within the plan period to young farmers as entrepreneurs into various choice enterprises for self-reliance within the plan period</p>	<p>Youth participation in agriculture as percentage of total population in agriculture Number of youth trained in agaric-entrepreneurship Total number of farmers and area of their holdings; number of farmers who know/use sustainable crop production practices; total area under sustainable crop practices Total number of livestock owners; number of which were visited by a livestock officer during the last month; number of which were satisfied with the quality of services received by type of service.</p>
	<p>Generate a database on all areas of agricultural production as a guide for future decision making</p>	<p>Enumeration of stand of trees and other forest resources of economic importance Time series of crop yields per unit of land area for major crops or crops covered by a specific programme Area with forest certification, area with forest management plan, local (documented) knowledge, time series if available Area of forest as proportion of total land area Area of forest, growing stock (volume) Proportion of arable land used for agricultural purposes Total value of agricultural exports from Abia State Rural poor as a proportion of total poor population Cost and volumes of agricultural products transported by mode of transport and region Prices received by domestic producers of food items (farm gate prices) compared against market prices of food items Total number of days/persons (rural household members) worked in agriculture, by type of work (paid/unpaid; permanent/occasional) during a specified period. Annual growth rate of rural household income attributable to agricultural activity (percentage) Number of agricultural cooperatives Total number of farmers; number of which had knowledge of a specific technology disseminated by the extension services; number of which applied the technologies suggested by extension services; and number of which were satisfied with the quality of the extension service Total number of rural households; number of which are eligible to benefit from rural finance services by type of loan requested; and number of which are satisfied with the quality</p>

		<p>of banking services.</p> <p>Total production of major agricultural products</p> <p>Use and types of Agricultural machinery</p> <p>Access to extension services</p> <p>Extension agent -farmer ratio</p> <p>Budget allocations to agriculture research institutions</p> <p>Yield before and after introduction of new technology, prices of outputs, distribution of agricultural land, area dedicated to new technology</p> <p>Total number of farmers; number of which have access to a reliable/adequate irrigation and drainage network; number of which use the irrigation and drainage network</p> <p>Total crop land area; irrigated crop land area</p> <p>Total number of farmers; number of which are aware of market prices and information services; number of which used market price information and/or market services; and number of which were satisfied with market information services received.</p> <p>Number and value of transactions managed by agro-enterprises, by type of business</p> <p>Number of agro-enterprises by type of business.</p> <p>Percentage increase in private sector investments in agriculture</p> <p>Percentage increase in market share of cooperatives/agribusiness enterprises.</p> <p>Percentage of farmers who are members of community/producer organisations</p> <p>Percentage of agricultural households that have legally recognised rights to land</p>
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TRADE AND INVESTMENT PILLAR

The centrality of economic development arises because of its ability to create more equitable and sustainable livelihood for all people. An inclusive and well-diversified economy, hinged on sound trade and investment policies and environment, and with strong backward and forward linkages, can help in achieving better economic performance, while reducing exposure to external shocks, especially the vagaries of international economy. With this in mind, the mission of the ABSLTDP with regards to trade and investment is to create a synergy between the agriculture sector, commerce and industry towards becoming the Nigerian hub for small and medium enterprise business development as the State drives towards industrialisation. The M&E framework for this pillar focuses on key variables of job and wealth creation, transfer and development of skills and knowledge, localisation of industries, core infrastructural development, and economic diversification.

Table 16.8: Trade and investment policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

<i>Trade and Investment</i>		
<i>Goals</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Building a synergy between agriculture, commerce and industry for the promotion of business and development thereby attracting local and foreign investment to create job, wealth and sustainable economic growth	<p>Improvement of business environment</p> <p>To diversify the economy of the state</p>	<p>Ease of doing business ranking</p> <p>Foreign direct Investment</p> <p>Evaluation of investors and companies regarding the business environment in terms of protection</p> <p>Evaluation of business operators and legal professionals regarding the consistency of business-related laws enacted in accordance with reference materials on the drafting and examination process</p> <p>Amount of trade (imports and exports, trade balance, current-account balance)</p> <p>Trade structure (breakdown of export destinations and origins of import, by country and by product)</p> <p>Number of standards and specifications developed</p> <p>Annual number of applicants for trade procedures</p> <p>Time and expense required for trade procedures</p> <p>Number of reported TBT (technical barriers to trade)</p> <p>Number of new agro-allied industries per annum</p> <p>Total market value of agro-allied industries</p> <p>Total employment by agro-allied industries</p> <p>Total employment by MSMEs</p>
Improvement of systems for trade promotion	<p>Strengthening of international competitiveness</p> <p>Improvement of access to foreign markets</p>	<p>Number of trade promotion agencies</p> <p>Actual export values of the local export companies which use the services of the trade promotion agencies</p> <p>Satisfaction level of the local companies which use the services of trade promotion organizations such as export information services, export promotion services, and product development services, etc.</p> <p>Number of customers who continuously and repeatedly use the services of trade promotion organisations</p> <p>Number of local export companies that use the services of trade promotion organisations</p>

<p>Improvement of systems for investment promotion</p>	<p>Improvement of investment policies and systems</p>	<p>Number and amount of domestic investments Number and amount of foreign direct investments (FDI) The increase/decrease of the amount of direct investment received Number of foreign companies in operation Foreign direct investment-state revenue ratio Satisfaction of investors and customers with investment services and the policy environment Ease of doing business indicator Investor satisfaction with investment promotion and facilitation services provided by investment promotion organisations Number of days required for the acquisition of investment certificates and licenses Satisfaction with administrative procedures (one-stop service) and after-investment services of investment promotion organisations</p>
<p>Improvement of infrastructure Overheads necessary for trade and investment</p>	<p>To provide core infrastructure needed for industry</p>	<p>Number and mileage of link roads to trade hubs Number and mileage of rail projects Quality and capacity of airport Investment in renewable energy sources Number of electrification and water projects Reliability of electric energy supply Investment in ICT</p>

OIL AND GAS PILLAR

Meeting the growing demand for energy in a responsible manner represents ABSLTDP strategy to incorporate oil and gas industry concerns into the long-term development of Abia State. ABSLTDP vision for the oil and gas sector is to create an enviable and vibrant oil and gas sector capable of generating jobs, thereby, creating wealth among the citizenry into the future through the provision of standard road infrastructure, particularly in the oil producing communities, and improved security and other conditions to facilitate crude oil production, local manufacture of petroleum-based products, and an oil and gas sector capable of contributing 70-80 percent to the GDP of the State in the next 50 years.

The upstream and downstream are the two main segments of the oil and gas sector. The upstream segment is responsible for oil and natural gas exploration activities, field development, production, storage, and processing. The downstream segment is the product and service-led arm of the oil and gas sector, which includes activities such as manufacturing, transportation and supply of oil, and petroleum and other services related to retail customers. The M&E framework of ABSLTDP encompasses both segments and uses indicators which point out areas of progress and areas that require further attention. The indicators include:

- crude inventories (stock levels) which represent the amount of oil currently stored for future use
- data on provision of necessary infrastructure for the oil and gas sector
- data focused on crude oil production, covering domestic production, refinery input, and utilisation, and other inventory levels (motor gasoline)
- data on spillages, gas flaring and other environmental issues.

Table 16.9: Oil and gas policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

<i>Oil and Gas</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Create an enviable and vibrant oil and gas sector, capable of generating jobs, thereby, creating wealth among the citizenry into the future through the provision of standard road infrastructure particularly in the oil producing communities and improved security and other conditions to facilitate crude oil production, local manufacture of petroleum based products and sustainable development	To create jobs and wealth	Annual revenue increase from the oil and gas sector Total investment in the oil and gas industry disaggregated for upstream and downstream sectors Total state investment in oil and gas sector Total employment disaggregated by upstream and downstream sectors Reported recordable injuries Existence of a state health and safety policy for oil and gas workers
	To provide standard infrastructure required for oil and gas sector development	Total network of oil and gas pipelines Total number of production sites Total volume of stored oil and gas products Number new oil and gas production site discovery and development
	To ensure environmentally sustainable development	Extent of communications of statutory requirements to employees and employers. % management and supervisors job descriptions that contain specific health and safety responsibilities Number of completed monitor/ audit/review activities versus number planned.

		Degree of diversity and inclusion in employment Total number of roads and mileage linking production and storage Annual number of and volume of oil spillages Total value of damage caused by spillage (N) Existence of and compliance with CSR protocol for the oil and gas sector.
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HEALTH PILLAR

The ABSLTDP vision for the health sector is for the State to become the frontline state in the realisation of good health for all citizens through the development, alignment, and implementation of health policies and programmes in a way that maximally benefits Abians using appropriate partnerships, technologies, strategies, and networks to deliver on interventions and services as well as strengthen the health system. USAID (2017) and WHO (2009) suggest the use of an M&E framework of healthcare strengthening systems (HSS) which groups indicators into four domains:

Inputs and Processes

These are indicators of governance, health financing, infrastructure, health workforce, supply chain, and information.

Outputs

These include indicators of access to and quality of interventions and health services as well as the readiness of providers to deliver these interventions

Outcomes

These are the indicators of the population coverage of interventions and health services, e.g., percentage of children under five years of age who are vaccinated; percentages of patients with specified health conditions who receive treatment.

Impacts

These are indicators of the ultimate objectives of health systems such as financial risk protection, responsiveness, and efficiency.

Recently, M&E in HSS is also paying increased attention to universal health coverage. Indicators used to assess progress toward universal healthcare, measure effective coverage of essential healthcare services and other interventions and financial risk protection. Using M&E framework, essential coverage indicators are classified as outcome indicators, and financial risk protection indicators are classified as impact indicators.

This M&E framework, therefore, adopts these indicators to reflect the true current state and the rate of progress of the healthcare system.

Table 16.10: Health policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

<i>Health</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Development, alignment and implementation of health policies and programmes in a way that maximally benefits Abians and strengthens the state's healthcare system	To create health care system that adequately take care of the health of citizens	Total health expenditure as % of GDP Total health expenditure per capita % General government expenditure on health Total number of health care centres disaggregated into primary, secondary and tertiary and public and private facilities Doctors per 10,000 population Nurse/midwives per 10,000 population Graduates of health training institutions per 10,000 population Hospital beds per 10,000 population Doctors using electronic health record Number and distribution of health facilities offering specific services per 10,000 population Number of hospital days per doctor Percentage of households more than 5/10/20 km from health facility/pharmacy to dispense essential medicines Births attended by skilled health staff (% of total) Antenatal care coverage, at least one visit (%) Index of service readiness (combines availability of infrastructure, human resources, medicines & equipment, training) TB treatment success rate (DOTS) Skilled birth attendance Access to safe water Access to improved sanitation Life expectancy at birth Child mortality (under-5) Maternal mortality ratio Mortality by major cause of death HIV prevalence among adults, 15-49
	To improve Routine Immunisation Uptake and child and maternal care. To reduce and prevent the spread of non-communicable diseases	DPT 3 Immunisation coverage Contraceptive prevalence rate ARI in under-fives taken to health facility Diarrhoea in under-fives receiving ORT ITN coverage among children and pregnant women
	To improve UHC and improve emergency response time	Out of pocket as % of total health expenditure Insurance coverage (% covered by public or private health insurance) Number of primary care or outpatient visits per person to health facilities per year Emergency response time – less than 15 minutes

EDUCATION PILLAR

The vision of ABSLTDP is to create an education sector that is functional, more qualitative, and sustainable in the State. The ABSLTDP recognises the crucial role of M&E systems to be able to achieve this vision. While the proper assessment of quality aspects of the teaching-learning mix is no doubt an important function of M&E measuring, the performance of other impact aspects of education, such as decentralisation, school autonomy and greater accountability for outcomes, are equally important functions. The involvement of all stakeholders in the M&E process would greatly enhance its ownership by them. In recent times, M&E in the education sector focuses on providing timely and reliable data on evidence-based indicators of progress at the different levels of implementation, including at the local school and community levels.

Monitoring in the context of education development is critical to properly guide the programme implementation process. A good M&E system will make the evidence-based decision-making process more practical and effective. Evaluation is not a one-time event, but an exercise involving assessments of differing scope and depth carried out at several points in time during a programme cycle in order to assess its impact on the target group or issue. Evaluation provides insights and knowledge that could be built into the next programme cycle to address any potential problems or to reduce delays. As an implementation proceeds, the same activities of monitoring gradually acquire a qualitative character with a greater focus on the outcomes of the investment made, problems faced, new challenges identified, and, via these things, the overall impact of the implementation process of a project or a programme.

One major purpose of M&E in education is to ensure that equitable and quality education is being provided to all of the population and at all levels. Quality education is a multi-dimensional concept that considers the quality aspects on input (human, material, and financial), process (teaching-learning and effective management practices), and outputs and outcomes (the learning outcomes and quality of results). In terms of inputs, processes and outputs, M&E, in education, can be broken down into:

Compliance Monitoring

This is a bureaucratic system of monitoring to ensure that the educational institutions comply with predetermined standards and norms set by rules and regulations. It is mainly focused on educational input of teachers, textbooks, classrooms, teaching equipment, etc.

Diagnostic Monitoring

This type of monitoring focuses on the instructional processes relating to what happens in the classroom and whether the students are actually learning what they are supposed to learn. Since the teaching-learning process is equally as important as input variables in education, having such monitoring would give insightful information on explaining the quality of education provided by the educational institutions.

Performance Monitoring

The emphasis of this kind of monitoring is on the academic achievement of the students through testing to see what results have been yielded by the investments made in education.

The ABSLTP M&E framework is useful for the Abia State government, development partners, and donors, as well as all those concerned with education and its quality and coverage. Since such an M&E gathers and disseminates robust data as evidence, it provides a reliable base for effecting improvements to quality and reach of education to all. The key performance indicators that will be employed in M&E for education are presented in Table 16.11.

Table 16.11: Education policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Education</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To create and education sector that is functional, more qualitative, and sustainable in the State.	Expand and improve comprehensive early childhood care and education	Gross enrolment in early childhood development programs, including public, private and community programs, expressed as a percentage of the official age-group concerned, if any, otherwise those aged 3 to 5 Public expenditure on primary, secondary and post-secondary school education Percentage of qualified teachers Number of teachers recruited each year Procedures and criteria for teacher recruitment. Teacher distribution by category (location, school type, teacher qualifications, experience, gender, age, subjects taught) Total stock of civil service teachers Pupils-teacher ratio in primary schools Girls' completion rate literacy rate of 15-24 years' old Literacy-Gender Parity Index ICT penetration and usage in schools disaggregated for public and private schools Transition rate from secondary to tertiary institutions Number of teachers and education staff trained Number of public schools with SBMCs Number of schools inspected using the reformed quality assurance instrument Percentage of schools inspected being graded 'satisfactory' Percentage of students enrolled/completed in TVET & Universities under scholarship, year on year Year-on-year drop out and repetition rates, by category (location, school level, gender, poverty status, disability)
	Promote inclusive education for PLWDAs	Disability classification criteria. Enrolment trends (number/proportion) in all schools by disability type where reliably classified. Training records for disability classification.

SOCIAL PROTECTION PILLAR

M&E activities constitute important tools in the improvement of social protection systems by providing important feedback on performance and progress of implementation, identifying gaps, and ultimately enhancing accountability and transparency. M&E serves broader learning objectives, such as building a knowledge base that serves as a global public good. It provides evidence on social protection's core impacts, while exploring why and how the interventions work, and contributing insight into how best to strengthen the value for money that systems produce.

The process of selecting appropriate indicators to measure results is important. Therefore, in setting targets, the ABSLTDP sets targets in a balanced way to avoid being overambitious or excessively prudent. Targets are disaggregated, for example, by gender, disability, or geography, which may be particularly relevant to monitor the inclusiveness of programmes and where there are major disparities in the provision of key services by gender or region or through other forms of exclusion.

The choice of indicators for the social protection pillar of the ABSLTDP is based on the SDG goals that are directly linked to social protection systems, namely,

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its form everywhere
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Other SDGs, not directly linked to social protection, were considered and they produced other indicators. The resulting indicators are recognised as not necessarily ideal, in terms of their functions as indicators of progress towards the SDGs, but they are accepted as the result of political compromise.

Table 16.12: Social protection policy goals, policy objectives and indicators

<i>Social Protection</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Policy Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To give all the citizens in Abia a life of dignity and well being	End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection) Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a proportion of the national budgets and GDP Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable
	Promote sustained,	Proportion of population living below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location

	inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	(urban/rural). Proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population Coverage of essential health services Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities. Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by age, sex and persons with disabilities Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers
	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definition.

GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORMS PILLAR

The ABSLTDP recognises the crucial role of governments' structures and governance in achieving the long-term goals of the State, hence the need to take on reforms in governance and public sectors. With that in mind, the ABSLTDP seeks to reposition the public service to meet world class standards while delivering best quality service to the citizens of the State. Governments at all levels, and government agencies, are under increasing pressure to demonstrate that they are making effective use of taxpayers' money. Therefore, performance management, which refers to the systematic process by which an agency involves its employees, as individuals and members of a group, in improving organisational effectiveness in the accomplishment of agency mission and goals, has become a very critical part of governance.

Public organisations are purposive and, in some regards, are like private business organisations in the sense that they have pre-defined goals and objectives, and they deploy resources towards achieving those objectives. However, given the fact that public organisations are not profit-making businesses, it is impossible to export performance metrics from business to public organisations. There is, therefore, the need to design and develop specific indicators to use in tracking the performance of government and government agencies. In taking up the complex task of measuring government performance, the ABSLTDP employs assumptions that rest on solid conceptual grounds, i.e., definitions are clear and withstand logical scrutiny, and that data is collected with appropriate and rigorous methodologies. The starting point is the adoption of an operational definition of governance by Fukuyama (2013) that defines governance as a government's ability to make and enforce rules, and to deliver services. This definition is limited but not limiting. It focuses inquiry on the execution of policies by the public administration, rather than the quality of those policies (a normative orientation), or the checks and balances that curb state power. Afterwards, the M&E framework identifies four dimensions for capturing the quality of governance, namely,

- Rules (procedural measures), including meritocratic recruitment and promotion, technical expertise, formality, etc.
- Capacity, including both resources and degree of professionalisation
- Performance (output measures), consisting of the delivery of services
- Bureaucratic autonomy, being a dimension of governance that is inversely related to the number and nature of mandates provided by political authorities.

A combination of these dimensions provides the list of indicators which will be used for performance evaluation as Abia State undertakes the ABSLTDP. These indicators are presented in Table 16.13.

Table 16.13: Governance and public sector reforms policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Governance and Public Sector Reforms</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
Reposition the public service to deliver best quality service to the citizens of Abia state	Improved quality and transparency in the use of public funds	Government entities representing at least 75 percent of the total expenditure are audited annually covering revenue and expenditure Submitting audit report to the state legislature within 6 months from the end of the financial Time taken by state legislature to scrutinise and issue report on external audit report in Abia state Access to public officials by citizens Number of times State executive council meet Number of bills passed by the state house of assembly Number of bills signed into law by the governor Development of modern accounting and financial reporting system based on the Standard Chart of Accounts and preparation of new operating manuals Restructuring the Office of the State Auditor General and internal audit Existence of an office of public complaints
	Improved credibility of state budget and budgeting process	Reduction in the deviation of actual expenditure from budgeted capital expenditure in Development and use of multi-year budget framework and 3 year rolling sector strategies and fiscal planning in at least in 5 pilot MDAs
	Improved revenue collection efficiency	Growth in the percentage of actual collection of projected internally generated revenue Increase in taxpayer coverage/tax datable Increase in taxpayer coverage/database beyond the public service PAYE taxpayers
	Improved value for money in the procurement of public goods and services	Growth in the percentage of public contracts above threshold awarded through open competitive process Establishment and enactment of Procurement legislation and regulatory unit Growth in the percentage of public contracts published/publication of major contract award decisions by the state
	Improved effectiveness	Reduced discrepancy between personnel database and payroll database Frequency of reconciliation between personnel records and payroll

	of personnel and payroll controls	database HRMIS installed and operational in all line ministries
	Improved Judicial services delivery	Number of police cases moved on to the courts Number of pre-trial detainees Caseload per judge disaggregated by class and rank of courts Number of industrial actions embarked upon by labour unions in the State
	Improved security and political stability	Number of riots or protests embarked on by citizens Incidence of election violence Number of legal actions against state and local governments or its agencies
	Improved civil service	Number of public servants trained annually Extent of computerisation and automation in civil service Public service rules and regulations reviewed Percentage of workers with access to ICT facilities Improved public perception of service delivery

INFRASTRUCTURE PILLAR

The vision of ABSLTP for infrastructural development is to make Abia State become a model state in terms of good road networks, potable water and electricity supplies, adequate and affordable housing as well as efficient transport system to attract foreign investors. The major areas of infrastructure are energy supply (renewable and non-renewable), telecommunication and transportation. The major indicators are shown in Table 16.14.

Table 16.14: Infrastructure policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Infrastructure</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To make Abia state become a model state in terms of good road networks, potable water and electricity supplies, adequate and affordable housing as well as efficient transport system to attract foreign investors	To build infrastructure that will support the development aspiration of the state	Total annual government expenditure on infrastructure provision Total number of miles of tarred roads Number of ongoing road projects Number of ongoing rural and urban electrification projects Number of waterways cleared or dredged Total funding for state water corporation Installed water production capacity Total water yield from different water sources Number of ports: airports, seaports, inland dry ports Quality of port infrastructure Number of bridges, post offices, fire stations Number of telecommunication masts Area covered by telecommunication networks Internet penetration (number of internet users) Distribution of utilities- electricity, water Total energy supply as a percentage of total energy requirement Percentage of population with access to electricity: rural/Urban

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**Tourism**

The ABSLTDP has the vision to make tourism more sustainable by adopting a policy that makes optimal use of environmental resources, respects host communities and incorporates long-term economic operations to provide fairly distributed benefits among tourism stakeholders. The goals of making tourism more sustainable face a set of economic, environmental, social, and political challenges, which require adequate management and evidence-based public policies. The use of monitoring indicators, associated with sustainability objectives, therefore, constitutes a fundamental component of the implementation and M&E in this sector. The existence of credible, clear, and comparable indicators, generates some advantages (UNWTO, 2004), namely:

- Reducing risks or costs, promoting better decision making
- Preventive action by identifying emerging issues
- Corrective and adaptive management, measuring impacts
- Measuring the performance and implementation of plans
- Anticipating deviations and promoting continuous improvement
- Reducing risk of planning errors
- Greater transparency (accountability), providing public information on the development process.

The following indicators are adopted by the ABSLTDP:

Table 16.15: Tourism policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Tourism</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To make Abia State an enviable tourist attraction state in Nigeria	To transform the tourism industry into a major source of revenue for ABS	Annual government expenditure on tourism development Annual increase in private investment in tourism and hospitality services
	To create jobs and wealth for citizens of ABS	Total employment in tourism sector disaggregated by gender and qualification Total revenue accruing from tourism and hospitality services Number of ecotourism sites Number of zoological and botanical gardens; game and wildlife reserves
	To promote and boost the economy of the state	Number of hotels disaggregated by hotel rating Total number of Eco tourists each year Number of unexploited tourism sites Number of cultural tourism events hosted per year Number of art galleries, museums and studios Percentage of jobs that are seasonal Average daily spending for overnight tourists Number of bed nights per month

		% tourists satisfied % of return visitors % residents satisfied with the impacts of tourism Tourism Intensity Tourism density
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Youth and Sport Development

The ABSLTDP seeks to promote sports through a development programme that will encourage Abians to imbibe a culture of physical fitness. Another policy thrust is the employment of sports for sustained wealth and job creation. The indicators to guide the M&E process in this sector are as shown in Table 16.16:

Table 16.16: Youth and sport policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Youth and Sport</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To make Abia youth useful to the state and unite all through sport	To curb youth restiveness	Total youth population Youth unemployment disaggregated by sex and age Average youth income by age and gender Critical issues for youth: educational, economic, financial, psychological, etc. % of public expenditure on sport, physical education and physical activity Youth participation in sport Trends of youth performance in state, national and international sporting events
	To contribute positively to the state economy through the activities of youth and sport	Number of sports facilities rehabilitated and refurbished Number of mini-stadia completed and equipped Number of schools with quality sporting facilities Percentage of youth accessing the sporting facilities Number of Public private partnerships in sports Number of coaches and sports administrators trained Number of local and international sporting activities organised or hosted Number of Sports academies established Availability of insurance scheme for sportsmen and women Number of laurels won by indigenes of Abia State % of population reporting that participating in sport, fitness and active recreation has a positive impact on themselves, their family and community % of females who actively participate in sport, fitness and active recreation % of presidents, board members or executive leadership post-holders in sport organisations who are female % of funded sport bodies that have invested in a strategy for inclusion of people with disabilities within sport Existence of state policy explicitly including an inclusive access to sport for all strategy to support participation by least active groups

Housing, Urban Renewal and Development

The ABSLTDP vision is to create the legal framework and an enabling environment that makes private sector-led delivery of affordable housing possible. The primary objective is to improve environmental and housing quality, social and economic viability of Abia State as an attractive and desirable state to live in. The indicators for M&E in this sector are shown in Table 16.17:

Table 16.17: Housing, urban development and renewal policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To make Abia State a comfortable place to live and do business	To provide comfortable and social housing for the poor	Urban and rural proportions of population Rural urban migration patterns and trends Average number of persons per room Proportion of population that are homeowners Rate of expansion
	To provide affordable housing for low income earners	Number of housing units built within the past 10 years Average cost of acquiring land in rural and urban areas, respectively Units of low and medium earners houses constructed Kilometres of road network in the new layouts paved Drainage network completed Percentage of electricity network duly connected to national grid Percentage of newly constructed buildings with access to portable water supply
	To create employment in the housing industry	Number of new jobs created in the housing sector

Microfinance

Microfinance institutions have played a tremendous role in helping millions of poor people in developing countries to escape poverty and live meaningful lives. Microfinance institutions also provide essential lifeblood to MSMEs. Recognising the potential of microfinance in the long-term economic development of citizens, the ABSLTDP has a vision of creating an environment that allows microfinance to flourish and thrive without placing extra burdens on citizens and MSMEs. The following indicators will guide the implementation of ABSLTDP with respect to microfinance:

Table 16.18: Microfinance policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Microfinance</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To promote small and medium scale businesses	To encourage people to go into SMEs	Percentage of adults in the state that use at least one formal financial service Total number of MFB customers Total loans disbursed by MFBs
	To reduce poverty and unemployment	Number of microfinance providers that transform, e.g., from informal to formal or from a microfinance institution

		to a bank Level of compliance with Code of Conduct (Number of institutions per level of compliance) Number of financial education trainings Total number of microfinance banks in ABS Challenges faced by MFBs
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Gender and Women Development

The ABSLTDP seeks to mainstream gender equality in the development framework in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted by nations in August 2015. The overriding goal is to ensure gender equality in Abia State. The objectives include the following:

- Reduce gender disparity in top public sector positions and higher education
- Facilitate women empowerment
- Ensure equitable access to factors of production, such as land and capital
- Improve the percentage of young girls pursuing professional courses such as engineering, medicine and ICT in tertiary institutions to enhance their participation in knowledge economy and electronic business, and
- Increase ICT and financial literacy among women and children.

It is essential to monitor and evaluate the outcomes of both gender-focused and mainstreamed development interventions and policies. This can provide crucial information for adjusting programmes and activities in order to better achieve gender equality-related goals, and in order to know if and when such efforts have been successful. In order to assess and address differences in the impact of development interventions on women and men, M&E mechanisms need to be sensitive to gender issues. The indicators for the M&E process are:

Table 16.19: Women development policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

Women Development		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To promote gender equality and empower women	To ensure equality in access to education and rights for women and the girl child.	Female proportion of population of ABS Gender parity index Gross enrolment rates for women disaggregated for primary, secondary, and post-secondary school Budget share for ministry of women affairs
	To encourage women to participate in paid employment	Maternal mortality rates Percentage of women in paid jobs aside agriculture Literacy gap between men and women Life expectancy and average income for women compared against men Proportion of women in political office Number of women in top management in public and private sector Percentage of women in elective and non-elective positions.

		Percentage of girl children pursuing science related courses. Number of women and vulnerable that have access to credit facility Number of women cooperatives Number of women owning and managing MSMEs Percentage of government policies that mainstream gender issues Number of enlightenment campaigns to sensitise women on health issues Difference in income level between female- and male headed households Percentage of women who have control or joint control over family income and farm products Number of Policies and strategies produced without a gender perspective
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Environment

Sustainable economic development is closely linked with sustainable use of the environment in such a way that preserves the environment for future generations. A core theme in environment sustainability is the issue of climate change and its impacts. ABSLTDP recognises the critical importance of the environment in development. Therefore, the implementation of the ABSLTDP will be such that best environmentally friendly policies and practices will be adopted. The M&E process will be used to ensure this. The indicators that will be used as guide are described in Table 16.20:

Table 16.20: Environment policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Environment</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To promote clean and safe environment to live in and do business	To prevent man-made and natural disaster as much as possible	Concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in the air Generation of: municipal waste – industrial waste – hazardous waste – nuclear waste Intensity of forest resource use (actual harvest/productive capacity) Extent of degradation- soil erosion, oil spillage
	To improve disaster preparedness and readiness to respond	Presence of early disaster warning systems Disaster preparedness (safety guidelines, number of disaster relief personnel, emergency services profile in ABS, number of emergency services employees, number of fire trucks, specialized vehicles, and equipment)

ABIA STATE INDIGENES IN THE DIASPORA

Citizens of Abia State in Diaspora constitute a major part of the internal economy of Abia State via their economic contributions through remittances, social capital, direct investment into business, investments in real estate and agriculture, etc. There is, therefore, the need to engage and harness the potentials of Diaspora Abians in the

development process. The ABSLTDP incorporates this approach. The indicators for the M&E of Diaspora engagement are presented thus:

Table 16.21: Abians in Diaspora policy goals, policy objectives, and indicators

<i>Abians in Diaspora</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Indicators</i>
To promote the development of the state through Abians in Diaspora	To harness both human and material resources of Abians in Diaspora towards the development of the state	Number of Abians in Diaspora disaggregated by location, education and profession Records of formal engagement with diaspora Abians Investment commitment by Abians in diaspora – when and where

ABLTDMP PERFORMANCE MONITORING MATRIX

The performance monitoring matrix presents key performance indicators (KPIs) which will be used for the M&E of ABLTDMP inputs, processes, and outcomes. The KPIs for each pillar of the ABLTDMP are presented in Tables 16.22-16.39.

Table 16.22: KPI for finance

<i>Vision statement</i>	<i>Key Performance Indicator</i>	<i>Baseline</i>			<i>Measurable benchmark</i>					<i>Data collection method</i>	
		<i>Year</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Mile-stone 1 (2025)</i>	<i>Mile-stone 2 (2030)</i>	<i>Mile-stone 3 (2035)</i>	<i>Mile-stone 4 (2040)</i>	<i>Mile-stone- 5 (2045)</i>	<i>Target (2050)</i>		<i>Expected Target Value</i>
Fiscal consolidation through proper budgetary planning and control, steady increase in the revenue profile of Abia state	Total IGR	2019	₦14.7bn*	50% increase 21.85bn	50% increase	50% increase	50% increase	50% increase			Annual Budget review
	Ratio of IGR to total funding requirement	2020							100%		As above
	Percentage contribution of IGR to total revenue	2019	22%*								As above
	Total share of tax net collected	2019									
	Ratio of IGR to FAAC	2019	0.28*								

* National Bureau of Statistics (2020)

commerce and industry for the promotion of business and development thereby attracting local and foreign investment to create jobs, wealth and sustainable economic growth	investment promotion									
	FDI (\$)	2019	Nil*	1,000,000	500,000	10,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	5,000,000	
	Ease of doing business ranking (distance from frontier)	2020	53.9 [#]	50	48	46	44	42	40	
	Number of Infra-structure Development projects									
	Electrification									
	Road rehabilitation Road construction									
Total number of MSMEs	2013	904,721 ^o								
Total employment by MSMEs	2013	1,968,410 ^o								

* NBS (2019), [#] World Bank (2018), ^oSMEDAN/NBS (2013)

Table 16.25: KPI for ease of doing business

Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark					Target (2050)	Data collection method
	Year	Rank	Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3	Milestone 4	Milestone 5		
Starting a business: Number of procedures Time Cost	2018*	16 10 25 28.1%							
Registering property: Number of procedures Time (days) Cost Quality of		34 12 128.5 15.8% 7							

land administration index									
Construction permits:		13							
Number of procedures		14							
Time		65							
Cost		5.0%							
Building quality control index		9.5							
Enforcing contracts:		32							
Number of procedures									
Time		464							
Cost		51.7%							
Quality of judicial process index		5.5							

* World Bank (2018).

Table 16.26: KPI for oil and gas

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark						Data collection method
		Year	Value	Milestone 1 (2025)	Milestone 2 (2030)	Milestone 3 (2035)	Milestone 4 (2040)	Milestone 5 (2045)	Target (2050)	
Create a vibrant oil and gas sector capable of creating jobs and wealth	Oil and gas share of state GDP	2020	39%*							
	Total oil production	2017	1,100 bpd#							
	Total investment in oil and gas sector: Indigenous Foreign									
	Number of new exploration sites (annual)									
	Total employment by sector									

* Wikipedia (2020), #Climate scorecard (2019).

Table 16.27: KPI for health

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark					Target (2050)	Data collection method
		Year	Value	Milestone 1 (2025)	Milestone 2 (2030)	Milestone 3 (2035)	Milestone 4 (2040)	Milestone 5 (2045)		
To ensure good health for all citizens through the development, alignment and implementation of health policies and programmes for efficient healthcare delivery and healthcare systems strengthening.	Life expectancy									
	Infant mortality	2018*	65/1000							Reduce by half
	U5 Mortality	2018	86/1000							Reduce by half
	% of children less than 2 that had all vaccinations	2018	39.0%							Reduce by half
	HIV prevalence	2019#	2.1%							Reduce by half
	Health sector share of annual budget	2020°	3%							15%
	Doctor to patient ratio (per 10,000)									
	Total number of health care centres: primary secondary tertiary									
	Birth attended to by skilled health attendant	2018	95.8%							100%
Percentage of households with Insecticide treated mosquito nets	2018	45.4%	Increase by half	Increase by half	Increase by half	Increase by half	Increase by half	Increase by half	100%	

*NDHS (2018), #NACA (2019), °ABSG (2020).

Table 16.28: KPI for education

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark Expected Target Value					Target (2050)	Data collection method
		Year	Value	Mile-stone 1 (2025)	Mile-stone 2 (2030)	Mile-stone 3 (2035)	Mile-stone 4 (2040)	Mile-stone 5 (2045)		
To create an education sector that is functional, qualitative and sustainable across basic, secondary and tertiary levels in the State	Education share of annual budget	2020*	4.9%	5%	5.5%	6%	6.25%	6.5%	7%	Annual Budget Review
	Gross enrolment rate: Primary JSS SSS	2017#	29.46 13.00 10.75							
	Gender parity Index: Primary JSS SSS	2017	1.0 1.3 1.3							
	Completion rate: Primary JSS SSS	2017	28.98 12.78 21.19							
	Pupils-qualified teacher ratio: Primary JSS SS	2017	19 14 12						1:40 1:40 1:40	
	Classroom-pupil ratio: Primary JSS SSS		38 49 28						1:40 1:40 1:40	
	Literacy rate among children age 5-16	2008	96.5%						100%	
	Number/ proportion in all schools by disability type where reliably classified									
	Proportion of secondary school graduates with a score of 5 credits and above including English and Mathematics at one sitting								80%	

* ABSG (2020), # NEMIS (2017).

Museums										
Zoological gardens										
Botanical gardens										
Historical sites										
Total number of tourists annually										

Table 16.33: KPI for youth and sport

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark Expected Target Value						
		Year	Value	Milestone 1 (2025)	Milestone 2 (2030)	Milestone 3 (2035)	Milestone 4 (2040)	Milestone 5 (2045)	Target (2050)	Data collection method
To make Abia youth contribute economically to the state through sporting and youth activities	Government expenditure on youth and sport development	2020*	0.7%							
	Number of registered coaches and trainers									
	Number of training courses organised for coaches and trainers									
	Number of sporting activities participate in by Abia state									
	Number and type of laurels won by Abia State contingent									
	Number of sport academies established									

* ABSG (2020)

Table 16.36: KPI for gender and women development

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark					Target (2050)	Data collection method
		Year	Value	Milestone 1 (2025)	Milestone 2 (2030)	Milestone 3 (2035)	Milestone 4 (2040)	Milestone 5 (2045)		
To ensure gender equality in Abia State	Annual budget share of women empowerment									
	Life expectancy at birth for women	2016*	56						75	
	Proportion of women aged 18-59 with access to credit facilities									
	Proportion of women in paid employment									
	Percentage of women representation in public service and Political Offices									
	Number of women who accessed legal aid against gender violence									

*NBS (2018)

Table 16.37: KPI for environment

Vision statement	Key Performance Indicator	Baseline		Measurable benchmark					Target (2050)	Data collection method
		Year	Value	Milestone 1 (2025)	Milestone 2 (2030)	Milestone 3 (2035)	Milestone 4 (2040)	Milestone 5 (2045)		
To promote clean, safe and sustainable environment to live in and	Existence of domesticated policy on sustainable cities and climate change action									
	Public spending	2020	.33%		Increase		Increase		Increase	

Table 16.39: KPI for M&E template for ABSLTDP

S/N	Pillar	Goals	Indicators	Base-line	Target	Data source	Frequency	Responsible	Reporting
1	Finance and Revenue	Increase total Revenue	Increased IGR share of revenue	22%	70%	Annual Budget	Annually	Min. of Finance and Economic Development	Every 5 years
2	Agriculture	Boost agricultural Production (crops livestock fisheries and forestry)	Increased Share of annual budget	1%	10%	Annual budget	Annually	Min. of Agriculture	Every 5 years
			Increased Share of GDP	10%	70%				
3	Trade and Investment	Increase local and foreign business investment	FDI Ease of Doing business	0 53.9	\$25m 40	World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report NIPC	Every 5 years	Min. of Trade and Investment	Every 5 years
4	Oil and Gas	Increase total revenue	Oil sector share of GDP	39%	65%	Annual budget	Annually	Abia State Planning Commission	Every 5 years
		Create jobs and wealth	Number employed	n/a	Every 5 years				
5	Health	Ensure UHC and foster good health for all	Health sector share of budget UHC IMR Life expectancy	3% 1% n/a	20% 100% 75 year	Annual budget Min. of health UNICEF NBS	Annually Every 5 years	Min of Health APHCDA	Every 5 years
6	Education	Improve access to inclusive, qualitative and functional education	Share of annual budget Gross Enrolment rates Primary JSS SSS Gender Parity Index Primary JSS SSS Literacy (5-24 years)	4.9% 29.46 13.00 10.75 1.0 1.3 1.3 96.5%	10% 45 45 45 100	Annual budget Min. of education NBS	Annually Every 5 years NEMIS	Min. of Education	Every 5 years

7	Social protection	Improve wellbeing for all Abians	% below poverty line Social sector spending in budget: Health Health insurance Water Education Welfare Unemployment rate	30.7% 3% 0.7% 4.9% 3.2% 31.6%	15% 20% 100% 10% 30% 15%	NBS Annual budget	Annually Every 5 years	Min. of Finance and Economic Development	Annually Every 5 years
8	Governance and public sector reform	Upgrade public service to world class standards	Budget performance Discrepancy between personnel database and payroll database Frequency of and number of workers trained % of contacts awarded through open and competitive process % of bills passed by HoA that were signed into law by governor	66.9% n/a	100%	Min. of Finance and Economic Development Office of the governor Ministry of Justice ABS House of Assembly	Annually Every 5 years	Abia State Planning Commission Min. of Finance And Economic Development	
9	Infrastructure	Improve roads, water and electricity	Budget share of works %	12	20	Min. of works Annual	Annually Every 5 years	Abia Planning commission Min. of Works	Annually Every 5 years

		supply, housing and transport infrastructure	population with access to: Water Electricity % population with access to town water supply Ongoing projects: Roads Housing Electrification Water and sanitation			budget Abia Planning Commission			
10	Tourism	Position tourism as a major revenue and job creation channel	% of revenue directly from tourism Number employed in tourism/hospitality sector Total number of tourist sites: Museums Zoological gardens Botanical gardens Historical sites	n/a n/a	10% 10%	Annual audits Min. of Trade and Investment Min. of Environment	Annually Every 5 years	Ministry of Economic Development	
11	Youth and sport	Increase youth and sport contribution to economic growth and development of Abia state.	Budget share of youth and sport development Number and type of laurels won by Abia	0.7%	5%	Annual budget Enyimba Football Club Min. of Education	Annually Every 5 years	Abia state Planning Commission	Annually Every 5 years

			State contin- gent						
12	Housing, Urban Renewal and Development	Provision of affordable and quality shelter for Abians	Budget share of housing, urban renewal and development Number of new housing units	2.54%	10%	Annual budget Min. of Works Min. of Lands, Survey and Urban Renewal	Annually Every 5 years	Abia State Planning Commission Min. of Works	Annually Every 5 years
13	Micro-finance	To promote the growth and development of small and medium scale businesses	Total number of micro-finance institutions proportion of population that use at least one micro-finance channel Total volume of loans disbursed by Micro-finance institutions			Min. of Finance and Economic Development	Annually Every 5 years	Abia State Planning Commission	Annually Every 5 years
14	Gender and Women Development	Improve wellbeing of women and enhance gender equality	Budget share of women empowerment Life expectancy at birth Number of women who accessed legal aid against gender violence	56	75	Annual budget Min. of Justice Min. of Women Affairs	Annually Every 5 years	Abia State Planning Commission	Annually Every 5 years
15	Environment	Promote clean, safe and sus-	Government spending on	1.33%	7%	Annual budget Min. of	Every 5 years	Min of Environment Abia State	Every 5 years

		tainble environ-ment	environ-mental protection and erosion control as percentage of total annual spending			Environ-ment		Planning commission	
15	Abians in Diaspora	Increase partici-pation of diaspora Abians in growth and develop-ment of Abia State	Total FDI by Abians in diaspora			Min. of Finance and Economic Develop-ment	Every 5 years	Min. of Finance and Economic Development Abia State Planning Commission	Every 5 years

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

List of Stakeholders/Participants consulted in the Process of Developing the ABSLTDP

S/N	Categories of Stakeholders/Participants	Nature of Meetings	Number of Meetings	Total Number of Participants
1	<i>High Level Stakeholders' Consultation with</i>			
	a. Executive Governor	Advocacy/Data Gathering/Validation	1	42
	b. Deputy, Governor	Advocacy/ MoU Signing	2	48
	c. Speaker ABSHOA	Advocacy	1	28
	d. Chief Judge of the State (State Chief Registrar)	Advocacy/Data Gathering	1	17
	e. State Executive Council	Advocacy	1	20
	f. Chief of Staff	Advocacy/Approach/MoU	3	69
	g. Secretary to the State Government	Advocacy	2	20
	h. Head of Service	Advocacy/ Data Gathering	1	7
	i. Accountant General	Advocacy/ Data Gathering	2	11
2	<i>Consultative/Town Hall Meeting</i>			
	a. Abia North Senatorial Zone - Ohafia	Advocacy/ Data Gathering	1	397
	b. Abia Central Senatorial Zone - Umuahia	Advocacy/ Data Gathering	1	216
3	c. Abia South Senatorial Zone - Aba	Advocacy/ Data Gathering	1	178
	<i>Capacity Building and Diagnostic Meetings</i>			
	a. Workshop	Capacity Building/ Advocacy/ Data Generation	3	279
4	b. Approach	Diagnostic/ Advocacy	3	100
	c. Introductory	Flag-off/ Advocacy	1	30
	<i>Evidence Generation Contacts by TWG/VCs at MDAs</i>			
	<i>Background Issues VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	2	14
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	5	26

	<i>Education VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	2	90
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	7	72
	<i>Health VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/ Sensitization	Advocacy/Sensitization	5	36
	b. Data Gathering/Report writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	8	52
	<i>Infrastructure VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	1	12
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	9	67
	<i>Trade & Investment VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	4	56
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	6	24
	<i>Governance and Public Service Reform VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitization	Advocacy/Sensitisation	2	6
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	6	29
	<i>Finance and Revenue VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	2	16
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	5	35
	<i>Monitoring & Evaluation VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	3	19
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	5	32
	<i>Environment/Regional Planning VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitization	Advocacy/Sensitisation	2	27
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	7	71
	<i>Industry VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitisation	3	18
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	6	48
	<i>Agriculture VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy / Sensitization	Advocacy/Sensitization	4	19
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	10	64
	<i>Oil & Gas VC</i>			
	a. Advocacy/Sensitisation	Advocacy/Sensitization	2	11
	b. Data Gathering/Report Writing	Data Gathering/Report Writing	9	40
5	<i>Draft Preparation Meetings</i>	Visioning Committees meeting with the Consultants to adopt work plan for the commencement of Draft	2	256

		report preparation		
6	<i>Final Drafting Consultative Meetings</i>	Closeout Meetings of Visioning Committees with the Consultant to look into issues raised in the Draft report	6	131
7	<i>Validation Preparatory Meeting</i>	Meeting with Visioning Committee Chairmen and TWG preparatory to the Validation Meetings	1	52
8	<i>Others (MOU Signing)</i>	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Abia State Government and PIND	1	48
9	<i>Meeting with Abia State Police Command</i>	Advocacy meeting the Abia State Commissioner of Police with DCPs, ACPs, DPOs, Senior Officers, SWAT Commander, etc.	1	29
10	<i>Validation Meeting with Stakeholders</i>	Validation of the Draft Plan (COVID-19 Protocol Compliance)	2	78
11	<i>Meeting with People in the Diaspora</i>	Advocacy/Data Gathering	1	3
12	<i>Meeting with External Assessors</i>	Quality Assurance Meeting	2	6
	<i>Total</i>		160	2,980

Appendix 2

Abia State Projected Population by LGA, Sex and Year, 2010-2050

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, SEX AND YEAR FROM 2020 - 2050

ABA NORTH LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0-4	6,324	6,102	12,426	9,309	8,982	18,291	10,687	10,317	20,999	12,269	11,839	24,108	14,086	13,597	27,678	15,172	15,604	31,776	18,566	17,914	36,481	21,315	20,567	41,882	24,315	23,552	47,867	27,867	27,015	54,882
5-14	11,664	12,265	23,929	17,169	18,054	35,223	19,711	20,727	40,438	27,630	23,796	46,426	25,981	27,319	53,300	29,827	31,364	61,191	34,244	36,008	70,252	39,314	41,339	80,653	47,867	49,882	97,749	54,882	56,897	
15-24	10,583	12,960	23,543	15,578	19,077	34,655	17,885	21,902	39,786	20,533	25,144	45,677	23,573	28,867	52,440	27,063	33,141	60,204	31,070	38,048	69,118	35,670	43,682	79,352	47,867	49,882	97,749	54,882	56,897	
25-64	2,285	2,123	4,408	3,644	3,125	6,769	3,865	3,825	7,690	4,444	4,156	8,600	5,000	5,910	10,910	4,725	5,810	10,535	6,535	7,345	13,880	7,100	8,200	15,300	9,100	10,200	19,300	11,100	12,200	
65+	1,589	1,288	2,877	2,339	1,896	4,235	2,685	2,177	4,862	3,083	2,494	5,577	3,539	2,869	6,408	4,063	3,294	7,357	4,665	3,781	8,446	5,356	4,341	9,697	6,046	5,356	11,402	7,402	8,102	

ABA SOUTH LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0-4	23532	21993	45525	34639	32373	67012	39787	37167	76954	45656	42670	88326	52415	48587	101002	60176	56241	116417	69086	64568	133654	79315	74128	153443	91123	86211	177334	107334	102000	
5-14	51203	48709	99912	75370	71699	147069	86530	82315	168844	99341	94503	193844	114050	108495	222545	130937	124559	255496	150333	143002	293335	172581	164175	336756	207334	198222	395556	247334	238000	
15-24	48847	49742	98589	71907	73120	145127	82548	84061	166609	94770	96507	191277	108302	110796	219598	124912	127201	252112	143407	146034	289441	164640	167656	332296	207334	207334	414668	257334	257334	
25-64	89348	81861	171209	131519	120498	252017	150992	138340	289332	173348	158877	332171	199015	187338	381353	228481	209336	437817	267311	240330	507641	301149	275914	577064	357334	357334	714668	457334	457334	
65+	7611	4575	12186	11703	6734	17938	12864	7731	20394	14766	8876	23643	16953	10190	27143	19463	11099	31182	22345	13431	35776	25653	15420	41073	25653	15420	41073	25653	15420	

AROCHUKWU LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0-4	9,864	9,300	19,164	14,570	13,689	28,259	16,669	15,726	32,395	19,138	18,043	37,181	21,911	20,715	42,626	25,224	23,782	49,006	28,959	27,303	56,262	33,247	31,346	64,593	38,247	36,346	74,593	44,593	42,692	
5-14	22,315	19,835	42,150	32,847	29,197	62,044	37,711	33,520	71,231	43,294	38,483	81,777	49,705	44,181	93,885	57,064	50,722	107,786	65,313	58,232	123,545	75,213	65,854	141,067	86,067	81,111	167,178	107,178	102,000	
15-24	18,963	18,295	37,258	27,913	26,930	54,843	32,046	30,917	62,963	36,791	35,495	72,286	42,238	40,750	82,989	48,492	46,784	95,276	55,672	53,711	109,383	63,915	61,684	125,599	75,599	73,684	149,283	99,283	97,368	
25-64	30,413	33,007	63,420	44,768	48,586	93,353	51,396	55,780	107,175	59,006	64,038	123,044	67,747	73,520	141,267	77,777	84,406	162,178	89,788	96,503	186,291	102,508	111,751	214,259	133,751	128,000	261,751	161,751	156,000	
65+	4,140	3,207	7,347	6,094	4,721	10,815	6,996	5,420	12,416	8,032	6,222	14,254	9,221	7,143	16,365	10,587	8,701	18,288	12,154	9,415	21,570	13,954	10,809	24,763	15,763	14,800	30,563	19,563	18,600	

BENDE LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0-4	11,192	11,068	22,260	16,474	16,292	32,766	18,914	18,704	37,618	21,714	21,474	43,188	24,925	24,657	49,582	28,620	28,303	56,923	32,858	32,494	65,352	37,723	37,305	75,028	45,028	44,600	89,628	52,628	52,200	
5-14	23763	21607	45370	34,979	31,805	66,784	40,158	36,514	76,672	46,104	41,921	88,024	52,910	48,128	101,038	60,767	55,254	116,020	69,764	63,435	133,199	80,004	77,827	157,831	97,831	95,900	193,731	123,731	121,800	
15-24	20429	19947	40376	30,071	29,354	59,426	34,524	33,701	68,225	39,635	38,690	78,326	45,504	44,419	89,923	52,241	50,996	103,237	59,976	58,546	118,523	68,856	67,215	136,071	81,071	79,146	158,217	100,217	98,280	
25-64	34458	38524	72982	50,727	56,707	107,434	58,232	65,103	123,335	66,854	74,742	141,596	76,757	85,809	162,566	88,116	98,514	186,630	101,163	113,100	214,263	116,141	128,846	245,987	145,987	141,000	286,987	176,987	172,000	
65+	5833	5805	11,638	8,586	8,545	17,131	9,857	9,810	19,667	11,317	11,763	23,080	12,992	12,930	25,922	14,916	14,845	29,761	17,125	17,043	34,168	19,660	19,566	39,226	24,226	24,100	48,326	31,326	30,800	

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, SEX AND YEAR FROM 2020 - 2050

IKWUANO LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	7,619	7,384	15,003	11,215	10,869	22,084	12,876	12,478	25,354	14,782	14,326	29,108	16,971	16,447	33,418	19,483	18,882	38,369	22,368	21,678	44,046	25,680	24,888	50,568
5 - 14	17,544	15,761	33,305	25,825	23,200	49,024	29,648	26,635	56,283	34,038	30,579	64,617	39,078	35,106	74,184	44,864	40,404	85,168	51,506	46,772	97,778	59,132	53,123	112,255
15 - 24	17,342	15,907	33,249	25,527	23,415	48,942	29,307	26,833	56,189	33,646	30,861	64,508	38,678	35,431	74,059	44,347	40,677	85,025	50,913	46,700	97,614	58,452	53,615	112,066
25 - 64	24,543	25,555	50,098	36,127	37,617	73,744	41,476	43,186	84,662	47,617	49,580	97,198	54,667	56,921	111,589	62,762	65,349	128,111	72,054	75,325	147,079	82,723	86,134	168,856
65+	3,461	2,781	6,242	5,095	4,094	9,188	5,849	4,700	10,549	6,715	5,396	12,110	7,709	6,194	13,903	8,850	7,112	15,962	10,161	8,165	18,325	11,665	9,373	21,039

ISIALA NGWA NORTH LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	9,052	8,717	17,769	13,324	12,831	26,156	15,297	14,731	30,028	17,562	16,912	34,474	20,163	19,416	39,579	23,148	22,291	45,439	26,575	25,592	52,167	30,510	29,381	59,891
5 - 14	19,621	18,296	37,917	28,882	26,931	55,813	33,158	30,919	64,077	38,068	35,497	73,565	43,704	40,753	84,457	50,175	46,787	96,962	57,604	53,714	111,318	66,133	61,667	127,800
15 - 24	16,527	17,010	33,537	24,328	25,038	49,366	27,930	28,746	56,676	32,965	33,002	65,967	36,812	37,888	74,701	42,263	43,498	85,761	48,521	46,938	95,459	55,705	57,333	113,037
25 - 64	26,665	29,949	56,614	39,750	44,085	83,835	45,062	50,612	95,674	51,734	58,105	109,840	59,304	66,709	126,033	68,188	76,586	144,774	78,284	87,925	166,209	89,875	100,944	190,819
65+	4,386	3,850	8,246	6,471	5,667	12,138	7,429	6,506	13,935	8,529	7,470	15,998	9,792	8,576	18,367	11,241	9,845	21,087	12,906	11,303	24,209	14,817	12,977	27,791

ISIALA NGWA SOUTH LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	8,325	8,140	16,465	12,254	11,982	24,236	14,069	13,759	27,825	16,152	15,793	31,945	18,543	18,131	36,674	21,289	20,816	42,104	24,441	23,898	48,339	28,060	27,436	55,496
5 - 14	17,614	16,079	33,693	25,928	23,668	49,596	29,766	27,172	56,939	34,174	31,196	65,399	39,234	35,815	75,048	45,043	41,117	86,160	51,712	47,205	98,917	59,368	54,195	113,563
15 - 24	13,812	15,070	28,902	20,361	22,183	42,543	23,375	25,467	48,842	26,836	29,238	56,074	30,810	33,567	64,377	35,371	38,537	73,908	40,608	44,243	84,851	46,621	50,794	97,415
25 - 64	23,458	26,583	50,041	34,530	39,130	73,660	39,642	44,023	84,566	45,512	51,575	97,087	52,251	59,211	111,462	59,987	67,978	127,965	68,869	78,043	146,912	79,069	89,599	168,664
65+	3,976	3,573	7,549	5,853	5,259	11,112	6,719	6,038	12,757	7,714	6,937	14,646	8,856	7,959	16,815	10,167	9,137	19,304	11,573	10,490	22,165	13,401	12,043	25,444

ISUKWUATO LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	5,673	5,686	11,359	8,351	8,370	16,720	9,587	9,609	19,196	11,006	11,032	22,038	12,636	12,665	25,301	14,507	14,540	29,047	16,655	16,693	33,348	19,121	19,165	38,286
5 - 14	13,427	12,340	25,767	19,764	18,154	37,929	22,691	20,854	43,544	26,050	23,941	49,992	29,907	27,486	57,394	34,336	31,556	65,892	39,419	36,228	75,648	45,256	41,592	86,848
15 - 24	14,228	15,274	29,502	20,943	22,483	43,427	24,044	25,812	49,856	27,604	29,634	57,238	31,692	34,021	65,713	36,384	39,059	75,443	41,771	44,842	86,613	47,956	51,481	99,437
25 - 64	19,567	21,817	41,384	28,802	32,114	60,917	33,067	36,869	69,936	37,963	42,328	80,291	43,584	48,595	92,179	50,037	55,791	105,827	57,445	64,051	121,497	65,951	73,535	139,486
65+	3,765	4,017	7,782	5,542	5,913	11,455	6,363	6,788	13,151	7,305	7,794	15,098	8,386	8,948	17,334	9,628	10,272	19,900	11,055	11,793	22,847	12,690	13,539	26,229

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, SEX AND YEAR FROM 2020 - 2050

OBINGWA LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0 - 4	10,748	10,733	21,481	15,821	15,799	31,620	18,185	18,138	36,323	20,853	20,824	41,676	23,940	23,907	47,847	27,485	27,447	54,931	31,534	31,510	63,065	36,226	36,176	72,402						
5-14	23,151	22,915	46,066	34,078	32,908	66,986	46,484	45,121	91,605	61,605	60,486	122,091	83,190	81,675	164,865	106,365	104,890	211,255	138,255	137,045	275,300	174,610	173,655	348,265						
15 - 24	18,592	20,411	39,003	27,367	30,045	57,412	31,419	34,593	66,012	36,071	39,600	75,672	41,412	45,464	86,876	47,544	52,195	99,739	54,583	59,923	114,506	62,665	68,795	131,460						
25 - 64	31,869	34,459	66,328	46,911	50,723	97,634	53,856	58,233	112,089	61,831	66,856	128,687	70,985	76,754	147,740	81,496	88,219	169,715	89,614	93,567	183,181	101,166	109,778	210,944						
65+	5,233	4,683	9,916	7,703	6,893	14,596	8,843	7,914	16,757	10,152	9,086	19,239	11,856	10,731	22,587	13,281	11,975	25,357	15,363	13,745	29,112	17,636	15,784	33,422						

OHAFIA LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0 - 4	14,880	14,007	28,887	21,903	20,618	42,521	25,146	23,671	48,817	28,809	27,176	55,985	33,144	31,199	64,343	38,051	35,819	73,870	43,585	41,122	84,807	50,153	47,211	97,364						
5-14	32,543	28,731	61,274	47,907	42,144	90,051	54,985	48,384	103,369	63,138	55,548	118,687	72,687	64,773	137,460	83,215	73,213	156,428	95,541	84,056	179,597	109,687	96,500	206,188						
15 - 24	27,559	26,248	53,807	40,546	38,637	79,183	46,571	44,357	90,928	52,465	50,925	103,390	61,385	58,665	119,850	70,474	67,122	137,596	80,565	77,060	157,625	92,884	88,469	181,353						
25 - 64	47,989	47,097	95,086	63,270	69,328	132,605	72,849	79,591	152,440	83,405	91,375	174,780	95,754	104,104	200,659	109,332	120,437	230,369	126,709	138,269	264,978	144,835	158,741	303,577						
65+	6,445	5,588	12,033	9,487	8,225	17,712	10,937	9,443	20,380	12,504	10,842	23,346	14,356	12,447	26,802	16,481	14,290	30,771	18,921	16,405	35,327	21,723	18,634	40,357						

OSISIOMA LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0 - 4	14,927	14,016	28,943	21,977	20,631	42,604	25,726	23,666	49,392	28,961	27,193	56,154	33,249	31,239	64,488	38,171	35,842	74,013	43,823	41,149	84,972	50,312	47,211	97,523						
5-14	26,157	25,775	51,932	38,503	37,946	76,449	44,104	43,565	87,669	50,749	50,015	100,764	58,262	57,670	115,932	66,889	65,322	132,211	76,799	73,683	150,482	89,163	86,889	176,052						
15 - 24	22,576	25,070	47,646	33,158	36,903	70,061	38,067	42,367	80,434	43,704	48,639	92,343	50,175	56,841	107,016	57,604	64,109	121,713	66,133	73,621	139,734	75,924	84,409	160,333						
25 - 64	43,153	41,570	84,723	63,522	61,190	124,712	72,926	70,250	143,176	83,723	80,652	164,375	96,119	92,593	188,712	110,351	106,303	216,654	125,690	122,043	247,733	145,448	140,313	285,761						
65+	4,027	3,487	7,514	5,928	5,050	10,978	6,806	5,898	12,704	7,813	6,608	14,421	8,970	7,856	16,826	10,298	8,789	19,087	11,823	10,090	21,913	13,573	11,584	25,158						

UGWUNAGBO LGA

Year	2006			2010			2015			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T			
0 - 4	5,317	5,295	10,612	7,827	7,703	15,530	8,995	8,847	17,842	10,316	10,157	20,473	11,843	11,660	23,504	13,597	13,387	26,984	15,610	15,369	30,979	17,921	17,645	35,566						
5-14	11,184	10,786	21,970	16,463	15,141	31,604	18,900	17,383	36,283	21,699	19,956	41,655	24,911	22,911	47,822	28,600	26,303	54,903	32,874	30,198	63,072	37,696	34,669	72,365						
15 - 24	9,134	9,484	18,618	13,445	13,960	27,405	15,436	16,027	31,463	17,721	18,400	36,121	20,245	21,125	41,370	23,358	24,253	47,610	26,816	27,843	54,659	30,786	31,966	62,752						
25 - 64	15,249	15,933	31,182	22,594	23,453	46,047	25,935	26,326	52,261	29,779	30,917	60,694	34,189	35,289	69,478	39,251	40,744	79,995	45,062	46,777	91,839	51,734	53,703	105,437						
65+	1,817	1,632	3,449	2,675	2,402	5,077	3,071	2,758	5,829	3,525	3,166	6,691	4,047	3,635	7,682	4,646	4,173	8,820	5,334	4,791	10,126	6,124	5,501	11,623						

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, SEX AND YEAR FROM 2020 - 2050

UKWA EAST LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	3,707	3,864	7,271	5,457	5,246	10,703	6,265	6,023	12,287	7,192	6,915	14,107	8,257	7,938	16,196	9,480	9,114	18,593	10,883	10,463	21,346	12,495	12,013	24,507
5-14	7,814	7,000	14,814	11,502	10,304	21,806	13,205	11,830	25,035	15,160	13,581	28,741	17,405	15,592	32,997	19,982	17,900	37,882	22,841	20,551	43,391	26,337	23,594	49,931
15-24	6,278	6,034	12,312	9,241	8,882	18,123	10,609	10,197	20,806	12,180	11,707	23,887	13,984	13,440	27,424	16,054	15,430	31,484	18,431	17,715	36,146	21,160	20,338	41,498
25-64	10,277	11,020	21,297	15,128	16,221	31,349	17,367	18,623	35,990	19,939	21,390	41,329	22,801	24,546	47,347	26,280	28,180	54,461	30,172	32,353	62,524	34,639	37,143	71,782
65+	1,334	1,111	2,445	1,964	1,635	3,599	2,754	1,878	4,132	2,588	2,156	4,744	2,971	2,475	5,446	3,111	2,841	6,252	3,916	3,262	7,178	4,496	3,745	8,243

UKWA WEST LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	5,295	5,158	10,453	7,794	7,593	15,387	8,945	8,717	17,662	10,273	10,007	20,280	11,794	11,489	23,283	13,540	13,190	26,730	15,545	15,143	30,688	17,847	17,385	35,232
5-14	11,197	10,354	21,551	16,482	15,241	31,723	18,922	17,498	36,420	21,724	20,088	41,812	24,940	23,063	48,003	28,633	26,471	55,104	32,873	30,398	63,270	37,740	34,896	72,636
15-24	9,388	9,467	18,855	13,819	13,898	27,717	15,865	15,856	31,821	18,214	18,319	36,533	20,911	21,031	41,942	24,145	24,152	48,152	27,562	27,720	55,282	31,642	31,824	63,467
25-64	16,460	16,682	33,142	24,229	24,556	48,785	27,816	28,191	56,008	31,935	32,366	64,300	36,663	37,158	73,821	42,092	42,659	84,751	48,324	48,976	97,299	55,479	56,227	111,706
65+	1,809	1,582	3,391	2,663	2,329	4,992	3,057	2,673	5,731	3,510	3,060	6,570	4,029	3,524	7,553	4,626	4,046	8,671	5,311	4,644	9,955	6,097	5,332	11,429

UMUJAHIA NORTH LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	12,603	12,143	24,746	18,551	17,874	36,426	21,298	20,521	41,819	24,452	23,559	48,011	28,072	27,047	55,120	32,228	31,052	63,281	37,000	35,650	72,650	42,479	40,928	83,407
5-14	26,401	24,708	51,109	38,862	36,370	75,232	44,616	41,795	86,411	51,272	47,937	99,159	58,806	55,035	113,841	67,513	63,183	130,696	77,509	72,539	150,048	88,985	83,279	172,264
15-24	25,709	25,574	50,783	37,107	37,645	74,752	47,601	42,218	89,820	48,909	49,617	98,527	56,151	56,964	113,115	64,465	65,398	129,863	74,009	75,081	149,090	84,967	86,198	171,165
25-64	42,900	43,269	86,169	63,148	63,691	126,840	72,498	73,172	145,670	83,237	83,948	167,185	95,556	96,378	191,934	109,704	110,648	220,352	125,947	127,031	252,978	144,595	145,839	290,434
65+	5,482	4,845	10,327	8,068	7,132	15,200	9,284	8,188	17,452	10,636	9,400	20,036	12,211	10,792	23,007	14,019	12,390	26,408	16,094	14,224	30,318	18,477	16,330	34,807

UMUJAHIA SOUTH LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	7,544	7,270	14,814	11,105	10,701	21,806	12,749	12,286	25,035	14,635	14,105	28,741	16,804	16,193	32,997	19,292	18,591	37,882	21,348	21,344	43,491	25,427	24,504	49,931
5-14	16,168	16,194	32,362	23,770	23,837	47,607	27,789	27,367	54,656	31,330	31,419	62,748	35,968	36,071	72,039	41,294	41,411	82,705	47,408	47,543	94,951	54,427	54,587	109,009
15-24	14,805	16,075	30,880	21,793	23,662	45,455	25,019	27,166	52,185	28,724	31,188	59,912	32,977	35,806	68,783	37,859	41,107	78,967	43,465	47,194	90,659	49,901	54,181	104,082
25-64	26,042	26,951	52,993	38,333	39,671	78,005	44,009	45,545	89,555	50,525	52,289	102,814	58,006	60,031	118,037	66,595	68,919	135,514	76,455	79,124	155,579	87,775	90,839	178,614
65+	4,411	3,618	8,029	6,493	5,326	11,819	7,454	6,114	13,568	8,558	7,019	15,577	9,825	8,069	17,884	11,280	9,752	20,532	12,950	10,622	23,572	14,867	12,195	27,062

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

ABIA STATE POPULATION PROJECTION BY LGA, SEX AND YEAR FROM 2020 - 2050

UMUNNEOCHI LGA

Year	2006			2020			2025			2030			2035			2040			2045			2050		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
0 - 4	9,443	9,126	18,569	13,900	13,433	27,333	15,958	15,422	31,380	18,321	17,706	36,027	21,033	20,327	41,361	24,148	23,337	47,485	27,723	26,790	54,513	31,828	30,756	62,584
5-14	21,360	19,356	40,716	31,442	28,497	59,939	36,097	32,710	68,807	41,442	37,553	78,995	47,577	43,214	90,691	54,622	49,497	104,119	62,009	56,826	118,835	71,994	65,240	137,234
15-24	17,481	17,617	35,098	25,173	25,832	52,105	30,049	29,772	59,820	34,498	34,180	68,677	39,606	39,240	78,846	45,470	45,050	90,520	52,207	51,721	103,928	59,931	59,378	119,310
25-64	29,499	31,077	60,576	43,422	47,070	90,492	49,811	54,079	103,890	57,232	62,040	119,273	65,706	71,226	136,932	75,435	81,772	157,207	86,804	93,879	180,683	99,427	107,775	207,202
65+	3,949	3,071	6,960	5,813	4,452	10,245	6,674	5,088	11,762	7,667	5,842	13,503	8,296	6,707	15,503	10,298	7,900	17,998	11,504	8,940	20,493	13,310	10,142	23,459

SOURCE: Abia State Bureau of Statistics

Appendix 3

Forecasting of Revenues for Abia State, 2020-2050

- a. Forecasting for the next 30 years of FAAC at 10% growth rate using average FAAC of ₦43,779,555,484.40:

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦43,779,555,484.40}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦131,338,666,453}$$

Approximately ₦ 131.3B

- b. Forecasting for the next 30 years of IGR at 10% growth rate using average IGR of ₦59,766,335,075.10:

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦59,766,335,075.10}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦179,299,005,225}$$

Approximately ₦ 179.3B

- c. Forecasting for the next 30 years of capital receipts at 10% growth rate using average capital receipts of ₦19,012,501,915.50:

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦19,012,501,915.50}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦1,901,250,191.55}$$

Approximately ₦ 1.9B

- d. Forecasting for the next 30 years of Administrative Sector IGR at 10% growth rate.

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦46,871,703,764.90}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦140,615,111,294.00}$$

Approximately ₦ 140.6B

- e. Forecasting for the next 30 years of Law and Justice IGR at 10% growth rate

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦85,400,856.97}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦256,202,570.91}$$

Approximately ₦256.2M

- f. Forecasting for the next 30 years of Social Sector at 10% growth rate

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦3,092,588,136.30}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦9,277,764,408.90}$$

Approximately ₦9.3B

- g. Forecasting for the next 30 years of Economic Sector at 10% growth rate

$$\left(\frac{10}{100} \times \frac{₦51,757,966,889.10}{1} \right) 30 \text{ Years} = \underline{₦155,273,900,667}$$

Approximately ₦155.3B

Appendix 4

Analysis of Developing and Strengthening Tertiary Institutions in Abia State

S/ N	Goals	Programme/ activity	Strategies	Imple- menting bodies	Expected outcomes with timeframe & budget estimates					
					2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
1	Increase access to tertiary education to 45%	It should be noted that 100% transition to tertiary education from the post-basic level is not possible. As at the present it is less than 25% Construction of additional infrastructure in the institutions Conduct and sustain distance and continuing education programmes Increase the number of scholarships for identified areas of need Conduct merit-based admissions. Establish a mechatronics department at Abia Polytechnic to facilitate the production and commercialisation of spare parts such as tricycle parts and enhance IGR.	Encourage meritocracy in admissions. Increase the admission quota of the institutions by the respective regulatory bodies. Expand/ Encourage distance and continuing education Increase the number of scholarships for identified areas of need.	Tertiary institutions MOE; Scholarship board; Government Private sector Diaspora	Construct additional infrastructure leading to increase in access by 5%.	5% Increase in access	5% increase in access	5% increase in access		

2.	Facilitate improvement in facilities for teaching and learning.	Provide modern teaching and learning facilities: video-conferencing facilities, Install interactive boards Enhance existing network system Develop local capacity to install and maintain facilities Complete construction and movement to Osisioma Campus of Abia Polytechnic Upgrade Abia Polytechnic to a degree awarding Institution	Provide modern teaching and learning facilities Train staff on use of modern facilities Enhance the existing network system; Develop local capacity to maintain installed facilities	State govt. (budgetary allocation, Tertiary institutions TETFUND; Private sector Diaspora.	Rehabilitate existing facilities (₦3bn).	Upgrade existing facilities (₦3bn)	Construct an interdisciplinary research facility at the Abia State University Uturu (₦4bn) This will serve as research facility for all institutions	The state of art teaching facilities constructed in all tertiary institutions in the State (₦5bn)		
3.	Ensure adequate and qualified academic and non-teaching staff.	Recruit all categories of staff through transparent processes. Conduct training and further training for staff. Ensure that all academic staff obtain the PhD in their respective disciplines to qualify for further promotion beyond Lect. I. Ensure that all teaching staff in tertiary institutions are licensed by the TRCN. Conduct appropriate seminars/workshops on a regular basis.	Advertise and follow due process for all vacancies and/or recruitment. Mount appropriate seminars/ workshops on a regular basis. Encourage staff that do not have degrees in education to obtain, at the least, professional diploma in education. This qualifies them for induction into the teaching profession. Provide incentives to motivate teachers.	The governing councils	Seminars and workshop at least, bi-annually (₦1.2b). Train & retrain (₦3b)	Train & retrain (₦4bn)	Train & retrain (₦4b)	Train & retrain (₦3b)	Train & Retrain (₦3)	Train & retrain (₦3b)

4.	Improve quality of graduates & reduce exam mal-practices	Ensure the acquisition of at least 2 trade skills by each student before graduation. Discourage unethical practices during examinations Construct halls and theatres for examinations. Recruit qualified teachers. Train and retrain of teachers. Provision of adequate facilities and infrastructure. Construction of befitting libraries.	Conduct skills development & entrepreneurial training. (This usually be outside the students' discipline and can be managed by the institution or in partnership with private individuals/groups) Improved quality of teaching. Regular & adequate remuneration of teachers. Proper spacing of examinees. Use of exam ethics marshals. Ensure greater emphasis on practical teaching/ learning than on theory. Greater emphasis laid on continuous assessment and Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES)	Governing Councils; Institutional staff; Private individuals and organisations; Government Exam ethics marshals.	Establish/ refurbish skills acquisition centres in the institutions (₦1bn). Change in the distribution of scores between practical and theory Constitute exam ethics marshal groups. Reduce the incidences of examination mal-practice by at least 50%	Construct facilities for the teaching of skills (₦2bn) Retrain teachers in specific skill areas Reduce mal-practices by 75%	Achieve 100% skills training for students Reduce examination mal-practices by 90%.	Reduce examination mal-practices by 95%.		
5.	Curriculum re-engineering	Review the curricular/ introduction of new curricular. Design curricula based on emerging needs. Set up a materials science lab to attract science and engineering researchers to	Review existing curricular in consultation with stakeholder, including students; Introduction of new curricular. Recruit qualified staff Allocate	Tertiary institutions NUC State Govt. Other stakeholders	Constitute and inaugurate the review team; Begin the review process (₦12m) Complete the review Introduce the curricular/ New	Continued implementation of the reviewed/ curricular				

		Abia Polytechnic	courses to lecturers		curricular completed & (₦15m)					
6.	Sustainable funding of tertiary institutions	Increased funding to education Sustain TETFUND funding. Embark on more Commercial ventures to raise IGR: Establish Micro- Finance Banks, water production, bakeries, Increased advocacy to the Diaspora to fund education. Increased advocacy to the private sector to fund education Introduction of a State Education Trust Fund. Expand Consultancy services. Dissemination of research results & prototypes production. Patenting of ideas and/or research outcomes Construct ultra-modern ICT complex. Set up portals to handle issues relating to students from registration to graduation to enable students/ graduates generate transcripts online.	Increased advocacy to government to implement the UNESCO benchmark of 26% of the annual budget allocation to education Intensify search for endowment funds attract autonomous funds from donor agencies, commercial companies, others. Marketing of research findings and products of students' practicals Erecting of industries to produce consumables & materials commonly used in Institutions Review of patency laws. Increased political will by the govt	Government Industries local governments; Tertiary institutions Private individuals. Diaspora.	100% collection of school fees; Government will have increased budgetary allocation to Education to 6%; Establish commercial activities (₦2bn).	Govt increases allocation to education to 10%. Endowment funds well established; Industry related to the activities of the institutions established (₦10b)	Govt budgetary allocation to education reaches 15%; Contribution of IGR to finance of the institutions should have reached 60%	Govt budgetary allocation to education reaches 20%; Contribution of IGR should have reached 75%.	Budgetary allocation reaches 26%; Contribution of IGR should reach 100%	
7.	Reduction of Academic Corruption	Institute and enforce sanctions to reduce various types of	Tighten the recruitment process by not engaging	Governing councils. Staff and Management of	Strengthen the Quality assurance unit;	Corruption reduced by 95% (₦40 m)				

		<p>academic corruption: plagiarism, false reporting of grades, sexual harassment, absenteeism, sale of grades, replacement or swapping of scripts, etc. Strengthen Quality Assurance Units Promote zero tolerance for academic corruption. Review and strict enforcement of extant disciplinary regulations.</p>	<p>those who are not attitudinally qualified to teach in tertiary institutions; Open and competitive staff recruitment Share data on those disciplined. Encourage greater transparency in teaching and conduct of research; Strengthen sexual harassment policies, Improve on students' assessment of lecturers Detect plagiarism through use of appropriate software; Enforce commensurate sanctions. Strengthen the reward system for those who excel in their duties.</p>	<p>tertiary institutions Students of tertiary institutions</p>	<p>Constitute relevant committees. Corruption reduced by 50% (₦40 m)</p>					
8.	<p>Strengthen & expand teacher education through the establishment of a university of education</p>	<p>Consolidate teacher education at one location (e.g., at the present site of the Abia State College of Education. Construct befitting infrastructure. Recruit additional academic and administrative staff. Enactment enabling law</p>	<p>Enact an enabling law to merge all teacher training activities to one centre Construct additional infrastructure. Expand facilities for teaching & research. Recruit additional staff. Put in place appropriate administration.</p>	<p>State govt; House of Assembly NUC; TETFUND; Private individuals and groups; Diaspora</p>	<p>The Enabling Law Enacted; Movement to the campus completed Administrative structure established</p>	<p>Recruitment of additional staff undertaken; Construction of additional infrastructure</p>				

Appendix 5

Programmes and Implementation Activities on Mass Literacy in Abia State

S/ N	Goal	Present Situation	Strategies	Expected Outcome/ Result						Implementation Agencies
				In 5 Years 2025	In 10 Years 2030	In 15 Years 2035	In 20 Years 2040	In 25 Years 2045	In 30 Years 2050	
1	Create more and intensive awareness and mobilisation about the role and relevance of adult education in the society. Increase appreciation of adult education, as a panacea for some of the current Social challenges; Reduction in crime rate Improve basic hygiene in families Reduce militancy and insurgency Reduce maternal/child mortality rates Enhance citizens' understanding of and participation in government's policies and programmes Self reliance through skill acquisition Reduce poverty More stable families Better road-safety behaviour	Poor	More media engagements More advocacy More robust collaboration between and among stakeholders Outdoor activities/ programmes	Fairly good ₦10m	Good ₦10m	Better ₦10m	Improved ₦5m	Best ₦5m	Excellent ₦5m	SAME State Govt Trad. Ldrs Rel. Ldrs Pol. Ldrs Women Orgs. Autonomous communities Mkt associations Road transport workers
2	Appoint adult education ambassadors	None	Advocacy	Establish 30 persons	Establish 60 persons	Establish 120 persons	Establish 120 persons	Establish 200 persons	Establish 500 persons	SAME MIN. OF EDU NOGALSS

3	Adult study centres are available and accessible in the 17 LGAs	211. Not enough centres	Increased budgetary provision Encourage churches/private persons to establish adult education study centres. Community leaders to build adult education study centres.	Establish 400 centres ₦1 m	Establish 600 centres ₦1 m	Establish 620 centres ₦1.5 m	Establish 630 centres ₦1.5 m	Establish 650 centres ₦1.5 m	Establish 1000 centres ₦1.8 m	SAME State govt (Planning Commission) Ldrs Political leaders Religious leaders Leaders of thought
4	Create more synergy among academic and non-academic, as well as other stakeholders in the education sector.	Lack of synergy by stakeholders	Advocacy Exchanges goodwill and drive.	Pronounced ₦3 m	Very pronounced ₦2 m	Strong ₦2 m	Very Strong ₦2 m	Very Good ₦2 m	Excellent ₦2 m	SAME MoE Higher institutions NOGALSS Leaders across board
5	Profuse use of ICT for delivering adult education programmes and services.	Near Absent	Employ appropriate Staff. Procure ICT Tools Increase budget provision and release.	ICT must be introduced ₦2 m	Improved ₦2 m	Sustained m	Common place ₦2 m	Common place ₦2 m	Common place ₦2 m	STATE GOVT SAME NMEC Philanthropists Inter-national development partners NOGALSS Leaders across board
6	Vehicles are available for effective monitoring/supervision of Centres in the 17 LGAs.	None	Budget provision and releases	One vehicle provided per senatorial zone ₦30 m	Two vehicles available per senatorial zone ₦60 m	3, per senatorial zone ₦90 m	1 vehicle, per LGA ₦850m	2 vehicles per LGA. ₦850 m	2 vehicles per LGA ₦1 b	STATE GOVT.
7	Conducive learning environment and infrastructure available in 17 LGAs- classroom, furniture, etc.	Poor	Appropriate budget provision/releases. Standard classrooms and furniture available Setting benchmarks for adult education purposes.	Improved ₦2 m	Improved ₦2 m	Good ₦2 m	Better ₦2 m	Very good ₦3 m	International condition ₦4 m	State govt SAME MOE ASUBEB Local govt. education authorities NOGALSS
8	Recruitment of specialist teachers/facilitators.	None	Recruit specialist teachers to deliver the programmes and services	120 facilitators available	200 facilitators available	300 facilitators available	500 facilitators available	600 facilitators available	Needed facilitators available	State govt SAME NOGALLS Private providers
9	Improved budget provision and releases.	Less than 25% for more than 15yrs	Appropriate budget provision and release	35% budget performance	45% budget performance	60% budget performance	75% budget performance	85% budget performance	98% budget performance	State govt SAME

10	Improve stipend paid to the Facilitators	₦4,000 only	Make adult education facilitators, pensionable employees of govt.	₦10,000	₦20,000	Pension-able full civil servant	Pension-able full civil servant	Pensionable full civil servant	Pension-able full civil servant	State govt SAME Private providers
11	Constantly train and retrain for adult education personnel	Scanty	Workshops Symposia Seminars conferences	4 times, yearly. ₦2 m	4 times, yearly. ₦2 m	5 times, yearly. ₦3 m	5 times, yearly. ₦3 m	5 times, yearly. ₦3 m	5 times, yearly. ₦3 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS MoE
12	Improved and more productive relationship between SAME and International Development Partners	None	High level advocacy	Attract 2 international development partners to support the program ₦1 m	Attract 3 international development partners ₦1.5 m	Attract 4 international development partners ₦1.5 m	Partner with 5 international development partners ₦1.5 m	Attract 6 international development partners to support program ₦1.5 m	Attract 7 international development partners ₦2 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS
13	Improved data collection, protection and appropriate use and regular updating	Fair	Identify and demand for appropriate data from relevant stakeholders Proper handling of data	Fairly better ₦4 m	Good ₦4 m	Sustained ₦4 m	Sustained ₦4 m	Sustained ₦3 m	Sustained ₦3 m	State govt. SAME
14	More skills acquisition centres built and equipped. old centres renovated and upgraded	Majorly, obsolete and obduratee mpty skills acquisition centres	Budget Provision and releases Employment of skill/vocation teachers	All existing skill acquisition centres upgraded ₦10 m	One model skill acquisition centre in each LGA ₦170 m	2 model skill acquisition centres per LGA ₦340 m	3 model skill acquisition centres per LGA ₦510 m	4 model skill acquisition centres per LGA	6 model skill acquisition centres per LGA	State Govt. LGA Private providers SAME
15	Empower products trainees from the skill acquisition centres	None	Certified exams at end of skill training	20% of trainees, em-powered ₦6 m	30% of trainees empowered ₦10 m	40% of Trainees, empowered ₦20 m	50% of Trainees, em-powered ₦30 m	60% of Trainees, em-powered ₦50 m	80% of Trainees, em-powered ₦80 m	State Govt. SAME IDP Philanthropists
16	State tertiary institutions to admit and train more adult education specialists. Possible scholarships.	Near absent	Advocacy	20 graduates produced	40 graduates produced	60 graduates produced	100 graduates produced	200 graduates produced	200 graduates produced	State Govt. SAME MoE Tertiary institutions in the State
17	Increased provision of reading/instructional materials for adult learners	Poor	Budget provision and releases	Improved ₦5 m	Improved ₦5 m	Improved ₦10 m	Good ₦10 m	Better ₦10 m	Excellent ₦10 m	State Govt. SAME
18	Major churches to establish at least, 3 adult education study centres, in each of the 17 LGAs of the State	None	Advocacy	1 per LGA ₦5 m	3 per LGA ₦15 m	5 per LGA ₦25 m	5 per LGA ₦25 m	6 per LGA ₦30 m	7 per LGA ₦35 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS Philanthropists
19	Some spaces deliberately provided for, during Government	None	Recruitment provision for ex-products of adult	2%, of total employment provision	2%, Of Total Employment Provision	2%, Of Total Employment Provision	3%, Of Total Employment Provision	3%, Of Total Employment Provision	3%, Of Total Employment Provision	State Govt. SAME MoE Planning Commission

	employment exercises, for ex-products of adult education programmes.		education programmes	₦3 m	₦3 m	₦3 m	₦3.5 m	₦3.5 m	₦3.5 m	
20	Skill Acquisition Centres to be made Self - Sustaining	None	Budget Provision and Releases	30% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦1m	50% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦1.5m	50% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦1.5m	60% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦2m	70% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦2.5m	80% of existing ones, made self-sustaining ₦3m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS
21	Start-up packs for ex-products of our skill acquisition centres	None	Budget provision and releases	30% ₦10 m	50% ₦20 m	50% ₦20 m	60% ₦21 m	70% ₦25 m	80% ₦30 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS
22	40 mins radio/TV program per week in the radio/TV stations in the State	Scanty	Phone-In Program commentary News News talk	Begin with 3 radio houses ₦2 m	All the radio houses ₦10 m	All the radio and TV Houses ₦15 m	All the radio and TV houses ₦15 m	All the radio and TV houses ₦15 m	All the radio and TV houses in the state ₦15 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS NUJ
23	Effective supervision/ monitoring of adult education study centres and skill acquisition centres	Once a Year	Visit to the centre phone calls to the community contacts	Each centre to be visited 3 Times, yearly ₦5 m	Each centre to be visited 4 times, yearly ₦8 m	Each centre to be visited 5 Times, yearly ₦10 m	Each centre to be visited 5 Times, yearly ₦10 m	Each centre to be visited 5 Times, yearly ₦10 m	Each centre to be visited 5 Times, yearly ₦5 m	SAME Community Contacts Adult education unit heads Centre coordinators
24	Recruitment of full time pensionable adult education facilitators	None	Recruitment	5% of adult education facilitators ₦3 m	10% of adult education facilitators ₦4 m	30% of adult education facilitators ₦6 m	60% of adult education facilitators ₦10 m	80% of adult education facilitators ₦15 m	100% of adult education facilitators ₦20 m	State Govt. SAME NOGALSS
25	Ensure proper and safe custody of Installed equipment at the centres	Lack of security at most of the centres	100%	10% of centres are fenced ₦15 m	30% of centres fenced ₦20 m	40% of centres fenced ₦30 m	55% of centres fenced ₦35 m	65% of centres fenced ₦40 m	80% of centres fenced ₦50 m	State Govt. SAME Host community Security agencies and para-military bodies Vigilantes Adult education unit heads Learners Ex-learners

1. NOGALSS – Non-Governmental Organisation for Literacy Support Services
2. ASUBEB – Abia State Universal Basic Education Board
3. PDV – Project Driving Vehicle
4. SAME – State Agency for Mass Education

Appendix 6

30 Years Actionable Policy/Programmes/Projects and Possible Locations for Implementation

Appendix 6A: Future development programmes/projects in infrastructure for Abia North, 2020-2050

S/N	Name Of Project/Programme	Present Status	Location	Mile-stone	Start Time	Compl-tion Time	How do you want it executed?	Expected benefits (outcome)
A	Abia North							
(1)	Road Construction/Rehabilitation	New project	Umunneochi					
1	Reconstruction of Nneato Umuchukwu Boundary Road							
2	Reconstruction/Erosion control in Mbala Umuaku Road	Ongoing	Umunneochi	15%	2020	2023		
3	Erosion Control of 6 spots		State roads			2030		
4	Construction of Uzoabam Ndi Okereke-Arochukwu Rd		Bende					
5	Construction of Amangwo-Achara-Ihechiowa by Pios Rd		Bende			2032		
6	Construction of Bende-Idima Aba Road		Arochukwu		2024	2032		
7	Construction of Amankalu Alayi Akoli Imenyi Road		Bende			2032		
8	Construction of Ugwu-Nkpa Amaegbuato Road		Bende					
9	Construction of Lohum-Nkpa Enugu/PH Express way		Ohafia		2029			
10	Construction of Abiriba Junction Eitiamama Nkporo Road		Ohafia					
11	Construction of Isingwu Road		Ohafia					
12	Construction of Ebem-Isingu-Ndi Oji Road		Bende			2035		
13	Construction of Uzuakoli Nkpa-Umuhu Road		Umunneochi					
14	Construction of Uzuakoli Ozuitem Road		Bende					
15	Construction of Amuda Achara Ngodo Road		Bende					
16	Construction of Uzuakoli Highway Road Umuagu		Ohafia LGA		2031			
17	Construction of Ndiebe Bridge		Ohafia LGA					
18	Construction of Eziamo – Obulo-Ngodo Rd., Umunochi		Bende					
19	Construction of Abiriba Ring Road		Bende			2045		
20	Construction of Eluama-Amibo-Acha Otamkpa Road		Ohafia					
21	Construction of Access Road to Umu Ukpai Polytechnic		"			5		
22	Construction of Okwoyi-Ozuitem Road		Ohafia					
23	Construction of Okwoyi-Ozuitem Road		Ohafia					
24	Reconstruction of Okwueze-Bende Umuahia Road		Isuikwuato					
25	Construction of Asaga Afara, Umuchiakuma Ring Rd		Bende					
26	Reconstruction of Okon Aku		Bende					
27	Rehabilitation of Ozuitem Erosion Control		Isuikwuato			2036		

28	Construction of Ofeme Nkpa		Ohafia				
29	Construction of Asaga-Akanu Road		Ohafia	}	2050		
30	Construction of Ohafia Township Roads		Ohafia				
31	Construction of Abonta Junction Umuokogbuo Eluama Village Road		Ohafia				
32	Construction of Nnanna Ochereoma Road		Bende	}	2050		
33	Rehabilitation of Bende Itumbuzo Road		Isuikwuato				
34	Rehabilitation of Bende Itumbuzo Road		Bende				
34	Construction of Ukwumangwu Ndudu Road Uturu		Bende	}	2041		
35	Construction of Ukwumangwu (phase I) Isunabo Uturu		Umunneochi				
35	Construction of Ukwumangwu (phase I) Isunabo Uturu		Umunneochi				
36	Construction of Obiagu Umuanyi Road Uturu		Umunneochi				
36	Construction of Obiagu Umuanyi Road Uturu		Umunneochi				
37	Rehabilitation of Umuenyere Alayi Nkporo		Umunneochi				
38	Construction of Akanu Road						
39	Construction of Amaeke Akanu Amaekpu Item Road						
40	Reconstruction of Oba Magbuzo Amaogwugwu Abiriba						
41	Construction of Amangwu Achara Ihechiowa Road						
41	Construction of Amangwu Achara Ihechiowa Road						
42	Construction of Uzuakoli Ozuitem Road						
42	Construction of Isuikwuato Ring Roads						
43	Construction of Okeimenyi Ozuitem Road						
44	Construction of Amuda-Achara Nkpa Road						
45	Construction of Umudim Ngodo Road						
46	Mbala Nenwe Road						
47	Mbala Umuaku Road						
48	Amuda Ugwueme Road						
49	Ngodo Ihube Road						
50	Amuaku-Amuda-Mbala Road						
51	Nneato – Ngodo Road						

Appendix 6B: Future development programmes/projects in infrastructure for Abia Central, 2020-2050

S/N	Name of Project/ Programme	Present Status	Location	Mile- Stone	Start Time	Compl- tion Time	How Do You Want It To Be Executed	Expected Benefits (Outcome)
B	<i>Abia Central</i>							
1	Road Construction/							
2	Rehabilitation	Ongoing	Umuahia	65%	2020	2023	Award of contract	Eased transportation of goods and services in all nooks and crannies of the state.
3	Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of 3 No Rd in Afara Umuahia		North Abia Central					
4	Reconstruction/Dualisation of Ururuka Road from Isicourt to Umuobikwa							
5	Construction of Ezizama Ntigha – Nsirimo – Ubakala Road	Ongoing	Isiala Ngwa North /Umuahia	25%				
6	Construction of Uratta		South					
7	Umuoleke Egbelu Ubi Road		Isiala Ngwa South					
8	Reconstruction of Obikabia Isialangwa North Road		Umuahia South					
9	Rehabilitation of Trinity College Road Afara	Ongoing	Umuahia North	60%				
10	Construction of Nbawsi Urban Roads Isiala Ngwa North		Isiala Ngwa North					
11	Rehabilitation/Channelization of Aba-Owerri Rd	Ongoing	Isialangwa North	3%				
12	Construction of Apumiri Umuoshi-Umuejeanya							
13	Mgbarakuma Ahimorie Umuosu Road		Umuahia North					
14	Construction of Osisioma Ekeakpara-Umuekaa Road							
15	Construction of Amapu Ntigha Abam-Ubakala Rd		Umuahia South/ Isialangwa North					
16	Construction of Ubakala Ntigha Old Road							
17	Mbawsi Agburuike Apumiri Ubakala		Osisioma Osisioma Umuahia					
18	Construction of Umuezeagu Ntigha Okpuala Road		South					
19	Construction of Umuwocha-Ikem, Osusu, Amaorji Road		Isialangwa North					
20	Construction of Ariam Usaka Ikwuano Ring Road		Umuahia South					
21	Construction of Amaoba-Nnono Ngoro Oboro with Spur to Ikputu	Ongoing	Osisioma/ Isialangwa South	50%	2024	2028		
22	Construction of Umuokoro Road Egbem Layout Umuahia		Isialangwa North					
23	Construction of Umueze Agbo-Ubani-Ibeku Ultra-modern		Umuahia South					
24	Rehabilitation of World BANK Housing Estate Road		Umuahia South					
25	Construction of Afaraukwu Ring Road		Isialangwa North					
26	Construction of Ezizama-Obulo Osisiankita Umuda		Umuahia North					
27	Ahiaukwu Olokoru-Amizi-NRCRI Road		Umuahia North					
28	Construction of Federal Girls College Umuezeala Umuahia		Isialangwa South					
29	Construction of 3 No. Roads Umuana – 1st gate IBB GRA & Ahiaeke Road		Ikwuano					
30	Construction of Agbama Lodu Rd							
	Construction of 7 Up-House of		Ikwuano					

31	Assembly Qtrs Road Amauba Reconstruction of John Udeagbala bypass (Ahaba Umueze Rd)	Ongoing	Umuahia South	60%			
32	Dualisation of Ubakala Road		Umuahia South				
33	Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of various completely failed roads in the state.		Umuahia North				
34	Construction of Ahiaeke-Umuzuoro-Umuhute Road		Umuahia North				
35	Construction of Internal Roads of Luxury Bus Terminal Umuahia	Ongoing	State Roads Umuahia North				
36	Construction of Road 4 & 6 in Federal Low cost, Housing		Umuahia North				
37	Construction of Umuimo – Arongwa Junction Road		Umuahia South				
38	Construction of Osioma Modern market		Umuahia South				
39	Construction of Uzodinma Ugele Road Layout, Umuahia		Umuahia North				
40	Rehabilitation/Disilting of tunnels and drainages in the state	Ongoing	State				
41	Construction of Ohokobe Afara-Umuahia Road		Umuahia South				
42	Construction of Bridges & Flyover in Abia State	Ongoing	Entire state				
43	Construction of Agbama Housing Estate Ring Road		Umuahia South				
44	Construction of Nbawsi Eziala Nsulu Road		Osisioma Umuahia South		2029	2032	
45	Construction of Ahia Nkwo Abia Class Foss, Umuahia		State Roads				
46	Reconstruction of Araelu Road, Unity Garden		Umuahia North				
47	Construction of 170km Rural Roads in the 17 LGAs		Umuahia North				
48	Construction of Amorji Junction in Ahiaba Ubi Road		Umuahia North				
49	Construction of Uratta Egbelu Ubi Road		Umuahia North				
50	Construction of Umuezeagbo, Ibeku Ultra-modern market		Osisioma				
51	Construction of flyover Concrete bridge at Osioma		Osisioma				
52	Construction of 3 No Roads in Government Station Layout		Osisioma Umuahia North				
53	Reconstruction of Umuchukwu boundary Rd	Commen- cement stage	Umuahia North	0%	2033	2036	
54	Maintenance/Rehabilitation of State Completely Failed Rds		Umuahia North				
55	Construction of Cottage Road Nbawsi Isiala ngwa		Umuahia North				
56	Construction of Ajiwe Street/Immaculate through Abulanya from Kamalu Road		Osisioma Umuahia South				
57	Construction of Eziamah Ossah Amaimo Ojukwu Bunkar Road		Isialangwa North				
58	Construction of Internal Access Roads, parking lots.		Osisioma				
59	Erosion control works in Abia House of Assembly premises		Osisioma				
60	Construction of Ogbuebule-Oloko Road in Ikwuano		Osisioma				
61	Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of 3 No roads in Umuahia: Afara,		State roads				
62							

63	Umuobasi, Eze Ogbulafor Street Rehabilitation of Agbazuere Road, Poet Filling Station to	On-going	Isialangwa North				
64	Nwokwa Road, Nnokwa Street,		Osisioma				
65	Enugu ukwu Street, Ndoki Road,		Umuahia North				
66	Health Centre to Upstair line,						
67	Mazi Akuma Okoro Road						
68	Junction, Kolping (upstair line) and Mao Ohuabunwa		Osisioma				
69	Construction of Ohuokwu-Ubaha Road		Umuahia North				
70	Construction of Apumiri Umoshi-Umuejeanya		Osisioma				
71	Mgbarakuma Ahiamorie		State roads				
72	Umuosu Road						
73	Rehabilitation of Umuchichi Road (Phase I)		Isialangwa North				
74	Construction of Amapu Ntigha Aban-Ubakala Road		Osisioma				
	Reconstruction of Ekeakpara Road from Osisioma junction						
	Construction of Ehimiri Housing Road		Umuahia North				
75							
76	Construction of House of Assembly Road Okwu Eze Bende Road		State roads				
	Construction of Umuikaa Umune		Umuahia North		2036	2045	
77	Omoba Road						
78	Construction of Umuala Umeme Umuebi Umuna Road		Ikwuano				
	Construction of Okpu-Umuobo Road		Umuahia North				
79							
	Nbawsi Umuezekwe Umuode Ururuka Road				2046	2050	
80	Construction of Access Road to NNPC		Umuahia North				
81	Construction of road landscaping new Abia Secretariat		Umuahia North				
82	Construction of Ajata Isieke Road		Umuahia North				
83	Construction of Kputuke Nneisi-Umuezu, Umuada Road						
84	Construction of Umuejea Umuoba Osokwa Road						
85	Amapu Ntigha/Umuogele Ntigha/Nsirimo Road	Isialangwa North					
86	Agburuike Nsulu Nbawsi Road/Isialangwa North	Umuahia South					
87	Ohuhu Nsulu/Ikwuano Road	Umuahia South					
88	Construction of Ekeakpara/Obuzor/Egbede/Road linking Rivers State	Osisioma					
89		Isialangwa North					
90	Avor Ntigha/Egbelu/Nsirimo Road						
91	Umueve-Iheogbo Road	Osisioma					
92	Apumiri post office, Express Amaibo junction						
93	Ikem-Umuapiti-Okpuala Ngwa Road	Umuahia North					
94							
95	Umuwocha-Amaufuruegbelu-Okpuala Ngwa road	Isialangwa South					
	Ebeyi, Okpokiri, Umuhu,						
96	Umuada Road	Osisioma					
	Okpokiri Umuehiem Umuru Rd						
97	Umuejia Ngbokonta Umuogele	Osisioma					

Appendix 6C: Future development programmes/projects in infrastructure for Abia South, 2020-2050

S/N	Name of Project/Programme	Present Status	Location	Miles Stone	Start Time	Completion	How Do You Want It To Be Executed	Expected Benefits (Outcome)
ABIA SOUTH								
1	Road Reconstruction of cemetery Road	Commencement stage	Aba South	0%	2020	2023	Award of contract	Enhanced economic activities in all nooks and crannies of the state Reduction in crime rate Influx of local and foreign investors Reduction of Road Accident rate Reduction in prices of goods and services Value of landing properties appreciate
2	Reconstruction of link roads: Orlu, Arondizogu Ndiuche & Akakwa Road	Commencement stage	Aba South	0%				
3	Reconstruction of Aba Area Command Road	Ongoing	Aba South	40%				
4	Reconstruction of link roads: sacred Heart, Ngozi Avenue, Imo Avenue, All of Faulks Road	On going	Aba South Ukwa west	7%				
5	Rehabilitation of Ajali-Ngw, Itm, Oharoko Road	On going	Aba South	8%				
6	Reconstruction of Akumunkama Bridge	On going	Aba	20%				
7	Reconstruction of 4 Nos. Roads in Aba: Mberi Victoria, Okoro,	On going	Aba South	30%				
8	Onyebuchi Ibere Roads	On going	Aba	25%				
9	Ehare and Drainage Ikot Ekpene Road	On going	Aba South	40%				
10	Repairs and strengthening of Ngwa Road Bridge	On going	Aba	5%				
11	Reconstruction Uzuabam Ahazu Road	On going	Aba South Aba North South	40%				
12	Reconstruction of Port Harcourt Road Aba	On going	Aba South	40%				
13	Reconstruction of Immaculate Heart Avenue Aba	On going	Aba North	40%				
14	Reconstruction Emelogu/ Opopo Junction	On going	Aba South	40%				
15	Reconstruction/ construction of Obohia Road	On going	Aba North	40%				
16	Reconstruction of failed section of 9 NO Road Aba	On going	Aba North	40%				
17	Reconstruction/ construction of Ohanku Road	On going	Aba North	40%				
18	Reconstruction of Greater Aba Drainage System	On going	Aba North	40%				
19	Reconstruction/Dualization of Aba-Owerri Road Aba from Rail to Osioma	On going	Aba North	40%				
20	Reconstruction of Uratta Road Aba	On going	Aba North	40%				

21	Construction of Ohanze Ntighuzo Abala Uhema		Aba North		2024	2028		
22	Reconstruction of Obikabia Umuola Road	On going	Obingwa	25%				
23	Reconstruction of Eziukwu		Aba South		2024	2028		
24	Construction of Umuaro-Ntigha Umuarunu Umurikiri-Ekwereazu Road		Aba North					
25	Construction of Azuka Road to Akpu Road, Aba		Aba South		2024	2028		
26	Dualisation of Entrance road/single road into industrial market	Commen cement state	Aba South	0%				
27	Rehabilitation of cemetery road		Aba South		2024	2028		
28	Rehabilitation of Hospital Road Aba		Aba South					
29	Rehabilitation of Market Road Aba		Aba South		2024	2028		
30	Construction of Bible College to Ahiaba Junction Ogor Hill, Aba		Aba North					
31	Rehabilitation of Police to Azikiwe Road, Aba		Aba South		2029	2032		
32	Rehabilitation Umuola Road		Aba North					
33	Rehabilitation of Ikot Ekpene Road to Opopo junction		Obingwa		2029	2032		
34	Construction of Access Road to St. Bridget College		Aba South					
35	Construction of Aja Road Layout Aba		Ukwa east		2029	2032		
36	Construction of Okwe-Obohia Umuamenike		Obingwa					
37	Construction of Umuobiakwa Itukpa Crescent		Ukwa east		2029	2032		
38	Construction of Ring road, Umuagu		Aba					
39	Construction of Ring road, Umuagu Obaaokuwu Itungwa		Ukwa east		2029	2032		
40	Construction of Ohie Ogwe Road, Ukwa		Ugwunagbo					
41	Construction of Umuocheala/Abaiyi-Ihie Road		Ukwa east		2029	2032		
42	Construction of Obehie Umuakalu Road		Aba					
43	Construction of Asannentu Road Network, Aba		Obingwa		2033	2036		
44	Construction of Obuzor Ozatta Ugwati Road		Obingwa					
45	Construction of Osusu Aku Umunnesi Owerri Aba Ugwunagbo		Obingwa		2033	2036		
46	Construction of Ahunanya Street, Aba		Obingwa					
47	Rehabilitation/Expansion of Ururuka Road from Water side Aba to Obikabia		Aba South		2037	2036		
48	Construction of Obingwa Amuzu, Ahiba Road		Aba South					
49	Construction of Ebenma/Egege/Ornoba Road		Ugwunagbo		2037	2036		
50	Reconstruction of 4 No Road in the crown centre at Aba (Ehi Road, Azikiwe Road and Adaz Road)		Aba South					
51	Rehabilitation/reconstruction of Echefu Owerrinta		Aba South		2037	2036		
52	Construction of Flyover concrete bridge at Ala-oji Junction Enugu/Port Harcourt Expressway		Aba					
53	Rehabilitation of Ibigbo Aba Sports Club GRA Road		Aba					
54	Rehabilitation of Aba PZ Road Aba							
55	Rehabilitation of Egbelu Railway line Aba Owerri Road							

Appendix 6D: Future development programmes/projects in infrastructure (roads) Abia South, 2020-2050)

S/N	Name Of Project/Programme	Location	Start Time	Completion Time	How Do You Want It Executed	Expected Benefits (Outcome)
A.	Abia South:					
(I)	Rural Electrification in this Zone:					
1.	Umunwokoma Acha Village, Okahia	Obingwa		9months	Direct Labour	Improvement of electricity in the area.
2.	Asa Umudioka	Obingwa		9months	Direct Labour	“
3.	Okenkwu Autonomous Community	Obingwa		6months	Direct Labour	“
4.	Amuzu/Amasa	Osisioma		9months	Direct Labour	“
5.	Ahuama Main Asso.	Obingwa		9months	Direct Labour	“
6.	Okiriko/Chimco/Divine Close/Benjamin Azuka	Aba North		9months	Direct Labour	“
7.	Ogbor Hill, Aba Environs	Obingwa		6months	Direct Labour	“
8.	Chilaka Avenue, Off Kamalu Road, Umuacham	Osisioma		9months	Direct Labour	“
9.	Ovom, Nwaogwugwu, Long-John, Chimeh Streets And Environs	Obingwa		9months	Direct Labour	“
10.	Oberete Community Ibeme	Obingwa		9months	Direct Labour	“
11.	Umuokorogu Village, Owo Ahiafor	Obingwa		6months	Direct Labour	“
12.	Umunya Community, Industrial Ward (Ii), Aba.	Aba South		9months	Direct Labour	“
(ii)	Street Lighting of Markets In This Zone:					
13.	Ohanze Market	Obingwa		3months	Direct Labour	Illumination Of Our Markets For Security Measures
14.	Osisioma Market	Osisioma		3months	Direct Labour	“
15.	Ugwunnagbo Market	Ugwunnagbo		3months	Direct Labour	“
16.	Obehie Market	Ukwa West		3months	Direct Labour	“
17.	Obohia Market	Ukwa East		3months	Direct Labour	“
18.	Installation of Solar Streetlight: Aba-Owerri			3months	Contract	Beautification Of Major Cities And Aesthetics
19.	Installation Of Solar Streetlight: Aba Road To Port Harcourt Road			3months	Contract	“
20.	Installation Of Solar Streetlight: Obikabia Junction To Aba River Bridge			3months	Contract	“
B	Abia Central					
21.	Agburuike Nsulu	Isialangw North		9months	Direct Labour	Improvement Of Electricity In The Area
22.	Ofeme Autonooous Community	Umuahia North		9months	Direct Labour	“
23.	Elugwu Na Mgbeala	Umuahia South		6months	Direct Labour	“
24.	Ubaka (Amibo) Auto. Community	Umu. North		9months	Direct Labour	“
25.	Faith Drive, Umuajiji Isieke	Umu. North		6months	Direct Labour	“
26.	Umuada Isingwu	Umu. North		9months	Direct Labour	“
27.	Amafor Isingwu	Umuahia North		8months	Direct Labour	“
28.	Avonkwu Auto. Community	Ikwanano		6months	Direct Labour	“
29.	Elugwu Nkata Layout	Umuahia North		6months	Direct Labour	“
30.	Ossah Ibeku	Umuahia North		9months	Direct Labour	“
31.	Umuokiri/Umuaocha Community Royal Ave./Njionye/Ewereji	Isiala-ngwa South		6months	Direct Labour	“

32.	Emede Ibeku	Umuahia North		3months	Direct Labour	“
33.	Nkwoegwu Market	Umuahia North		3months	Direct Labour	Illumination Of Our Markets For Security Measures.
34.	Apumiri Market, Ubakala	Umu. South		3months	Direct Labour	“
35.	Ariam Market	Ikwuano		3months	Direct Labour	“
36.	Orie Ntigha Market	Isialangwa North		3months	Direct Labour	“
37.	Umoba Market	Isiala-ngwa South		3months	Direct Labour	“
(iii)	<i>Constrction/Rehabilitation of Streetlight In This Zone:</i>					
38.	Rehabilitation of Solar Streetlight: Bende Rd to Isieke Ibeku Prim. Sch			3months	Contract	Beautification Of Major Cities And Aesthetics
39.	Streetlight Along Abia Tower			3months	Contract	“
40.	Streetlight Along Major Streets In The Capital City, Umuahia			6months	Contract	“
C.	Abia North					
(i)	<i>Rural Electrification In This Zone:</i>					
41.	Amankwu Community	Ohafia		4months	Direct Labour	Improvement of electricity in the area.
42.	Ogbokwe Rd and Environs, Asaga	Ohafia		6months	Direct Labour	“
43.	Amaigbo Oguduasa	Isiukwato		6months	Direct Labour	“
44.	Ohonjo Community, Ovim	Isiukwuato		9months	Direct Labour	“
45.	Ufiele Community	Ohafia		6months	Direct Labour	“
46.	Ntubi Ubibia	Bende		6months	Direct Labour	“
47.	Biakpan Road Asaga	Ohafia		4months	Direct Labour	“
48.	Ndi Ibe Rd-Asaga Distribution Line (Ugwu Okwasi)	Ohafia		6months	Direct Labour	“
49.	Agborji Ring Rd Abiriba	Ohafia		6months	Direct Labour	“
50.	Echiele Otampa	Isiukwuato		6months	Direct Labour	“
51.	Etitiama Nkporo Community	Ohafia		9months	Direct Labour	“
52.	Achara Community	Isiukwuato				
(ii)	<i>Street Lighting of Markets</i>					
53.	Orie Ngodo Market	Umunneochi			Direct Labour	Illumination of Our Markets for Security Measures
54.	Afor Market, Asaga	Ohafia			Direct Labour	“
55.	Ahia Nkwo Market	Arochukwu			Direct Labour	“
56.	Eke Market, Uzuakoli	Bende			Direct Labour	“
57.	Orie Ndu, Ovim Market	Isiukwuato			Direct Labour	“
(iii)	<i>Constrction/Rehabilitation of Streetlight In This Zone</i>					
58.	Installation of 3-In-One Solar Streetlight Between Amaekpu to Ebele Jonathan And Along Ebem Road To Asaga	Ohafia			Contract	Beautification of Major Cities and Aesthetics
59.	Streetlight Installation Along Major Road of Isuchi	Umunneochi			Contract	“
60.	Streetlight Installation Along Major Road of Arochukwu	Arochukwu			Contract	“

Appendix 6E: Future development programmes/projects in water infrastructure, 2020-2050

S/N	Name of Project/ Name Of Scheme	Type Of Scheme	Location	Mile-stone	Status of Scheme	Completion Time (Duration)	How Do You want It Done	Expected Benefits (Outcomes)
1	Rehabilitation of Okoko Item Water Scheme	Ground Water	Okoko Item	Proposed	Non-Functional	6 Months	To be executed by direct labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
2	Rehabilitation of Umuahia Regional Water Scheme	Surface Water	Umuopara	Proposed	Non Functional	1 year and 6 Months	By contract	As at 1998 when water scheme was functioning, the revenue per month realised from the water scheme was about ₦1.2 m. Projecting this amount to the current value it worth, the scheme will be generating about ₦5 m per month, making a total of ₦60 m per annual if revamped.
3	Rehabilitation of Abiriba Water Scheme	Ground Water	Abiriba	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To be executed by direct labour	Revenue Generation
4	Rehabilitation of Ovuokwu Ovungwu Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ovuokwu Ovungwu	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To Be Executed By Direct Labour.	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace of Isialangwa South safe from water borne diseases
5	Rehabilitation of Omoba Water Scheme	Ground	Umuoba	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
6	Rehabilitation of Ututu water scheme	Ground Water	Ututu	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
7	Rehabilitation of Ovim Girls Water Scheme	Ground	Ovim	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
8	Rehabilitation of Aba Regional Water Scheme	Surface Water	Aba Town	Proposed	Non Functional	1 year And 6 Months	By Contract	As at 1998 when the water scheme was functioning, the revenue per month realised from the water scheme was about ₦1.7 m. Projecting this amount to the current value it worth, the scheme will be generating about ₦7 m per month, making it the total of ₦84 m per annual if rehabiliyated

9	Rehabilitation of Agbagwu Water Scheme	Ground Water	Agbagwu (Arochukwu LGA)	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
10	Rehabilitation of Ugwunta Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ovim (Isuikwuato LGA)		Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
11	Rehabilitation of Umuagbai Water Scheme	Ground Water	Umuagbai	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
12	Rehabilitation of Akanu Ohafia Ground Water Scheme	Ground Water	Akanu Ohafia	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To Be Executed By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
13	Rehabilitation of Elu Ohafia Ground Water Scheme	Ground Water	Elu Ohafia	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
14	Rehabilitation of Nmam Surface Water Scheme	Surface Water	Mbala Isiochi	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Revenue Generation
15	Rehabilitation Of Ngwaukwu Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ngwaukwu	Proposed	Non Functional	6months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
16	Rehabilitation of Igbere Water Scheme	Ground Water	Igbere	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
17	Rehabilitation of Afuugiri Water Scheme	Surface Water	Afuugiri	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
18	Rehabilitation of Nnono Water Scheme	Ground Water	Nnono Oboro	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
19	Rehabilitation of Ariam Usaka Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ariam Usaka	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
20	Rehabilitation of Nkpa Water Scheme	Surface Water	Nkpa	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year)	By Contract	Revenue Generation
21	Rehabilitation of Eziam Nvosi Water Scheme	Ground Water	Eziam Nvosi (Isialangwa North)		Non Functional	1 Year)	By Contract	Revenue Generation
22	Rehabilitation of Amayi Nvosi Water Scheme	Ground Water	Amayi Nvosi (Isialangwa North)	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
23	Rehabilitation of Bende Water Scheme	Surface Water	Bende	Proposed		1 Year	By Contract	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
24	Rehabilitation of Umuahia Old Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ministry of public utilities' premises	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace of Isialangwa South

								safe from water borne diseases
25	Rehabilitation of Ubakala Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ubakala	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
26	Rehabilitation of Nkporo Water Scheme	Surface Water	Nkporo	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Revenue Generation
27	Rehabilitation of Okeikpe Water Scheme	Ground Water	Okeikpe	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
28	Rehabilitation of Uzuakoli Water Scheme	Surface Water	Ozuakoli	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Revenue Generation
29	Rehabilitation Of Uturu Water Scheme	Surface Water	Uturu	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
30	Rehabilitation of Obegu Water Scheme	Ground Water	Obegu	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
31	Rehabilitation of Umuchieze Water Scheme	Surface Water	Lekwesi Umuchieze	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Good potable water from the scheme will keep the rural populace safe from water borne diseases
32	Rehabilitation of Ntigha Water Scheme	Ground Water	Amapu Ntigha	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	Revenue Generation
33	Rehabilitation of Apanu Item Water Scheme	Surface Water	Apanu Item	Proposed	Non Functional	1 Year	By Contract	Revenue Generation
34	Rehabilitation of Nenu Water Scheme	Ground Water	Nenu	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
35	Construction of new water scheme at Acha Isuikwuato	Ground Water	Acha Isuikwuato	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
36	Construction of new surface water scheme At Asaga Ohafia	Surface Water	Asaga Ohafia	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year	By Contract	
37	Construction of new surface water scheme at Ugwueke	Surface Water	Ugwueke	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year	By Contract	
38	Construction Of Umuafai Ndume Water Scheme	Surface	Umuafai Ndume	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Contract	
39	Rehabilitation of Mbutu Ngwa Water Scheme	Ground Water	Mbutu Ngwa	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months)	To be executed by direct labour	
40	Rehabilitation of Itu Ngwa Water Scheme	Ground Water	Itu Ngwa	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	Direct Labour	

41	Rehabilitation of Olokoro Water Scheme	Ground Water	Olokoro	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To Be Executed By Direct Labour	
42	Rehabilitation of Lokpanta Water Scheme	Ground Water	Lokpanta	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To Be Executed By Direct Labour	
43	Rehabilitation Of Ogwe Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ogwe	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
44	Rehabilitation of Azummiri Water Scheme	Ground Water	Azummiri	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
45	Rehabilitation of Akwuete Water Scheme	Ground Water	Akwuete	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
46	Rehabilitate Mgboko Water Scheme	Ground Water	Mgboko	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
47	Rehabilitate Umuobasi Amavo Water Scheme	Ground Water	Umuobasi Amavo	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
48	Rehabilitate Uhuru Water Scheme	Ground Water	Uhuru	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
49	Rehabilitation of Urata/ Umuoha water scheme	Ground Water	Urata/Umuoha	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
50	Rehabilitation Of Nbausi Water Scheme	Ground Water	Nbausi	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	To be executed by direct labour	
51	Rehabilitation of Okpuala Water Scheme	Ground Water	Okpuala	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
52	Rehabilitation of Owaza Water Schemess	Ground Water	Owaza	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
53	Rehabilitation of Ohanku Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ohanku	Proposed	Non Functional	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
54	Construction of Greater Umuahia Water Scheme (Expansion)	Surface Water	Umuahia	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year and 6 Months	By Contract	
55	Construction of Greater Aba Water Scheme (Expansion)	Surface Water	Aba	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year and 6 Months	By Contract	
56	Construction of greater Ohafia water scheme	Ground /Surface Water	Ohafia	Proposed	Proposed	2 Years	By Contract	
57	Construction of New Olokoro Water Scheme	Ground Water	Olokoro	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
58	Construction of Ntalakwu Water Scheme	Surface Water	Ntalakwu	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year	By Contract	
59	Construction of Nunya Water Scheme	Ground Water	Nunya	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
60	Construction of Isiadu Water Scheme	Surface Water	Isiadu Ibeku	Proposed	Proposed	1 Year and 6 Months	By Contract	

61	Construction of Amawum Water Scheme	Ground Water	Amawum Oboro	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
62	Construction of Ndiolumba Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ndiolumba	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
63	Construction of Obokwe Water Scheme	Ground Water	Obokwe	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
64	Construction of Obieketa Water Scheme	Ground Water	Obieketa	Proposed	Proposed		By Direct Labour	
65	Construction of Akpa-Osisioma Water Scheme	Ground Water	Akpa Osisioma	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
66	Construction of Akano Ngwa Water Scheme	Ground Water	Akano Ngwa	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
67	Construction of Etit Asaa Water Scheme	Ground Water	Etit Asaa	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
68	Construction of Ohando Water Scheme	Ground Water	Ohando	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
69	Construction of Owuala Water Scheme	Ground Water	Owuala	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	
70	Construction of Osuokwa Nvosi Water Scheme	Ground Water	Osuokwa Nvosi	Proposed	Proposed	6 Months	By Direct Labour	

Appendix 6F: Abia State housing programmes/projects for long-term development plan, 2020-2050

S/N	Name of Project/Programme	Present Status	Location	Mile-stone	Starting Time	Comple-tion Time	How Do You It Executed	Expected Benefits (Outcomes)
1.	Completion of the new ultra-modern Government House	Uncompleted	Umuahia	15%		2021	Contract Award	Ensure The Authority of Governance Is Properly Accommodated
2.	Construction of New Secretariat Building, Phase 3	New Project	Umuahia		2021	2023	Contract Award	Provision of Office Space To Staff
3.	Provision of Housing Infrastructure at the Proposed Air Port	New Project			2020	2025	Contract Award	to boost economic activities
4.	Provision of Office Buildings at the Proposed Dry Port	New Project	Aba		2021	2050	Contract Award	To Boast Economic Activities
5.	Remodelling of Abia State Liaison Office, Lagos To A 27 Storey Building	New Project	Lagos		2021	2024	Through PPP	To Enhance IGR Of Abia State
6.	Provision of Housing Infrastructure at the Proposed Sea Port	New Project	Ukwa		2025	2029	Contract Award	To Boast Economic Activities In All The Sectors
7.	Provision of 30,000 Low Cost Housing Units	New Project	In All The 17 LGAs		2021	2050	PPP/ Contract Award	Provision of Affordable House To Abians
8.	Conduct Enumeration of Public & Private Buildings in the Abia State	New Project	Abia State		2020	2021	Engage Consultants	It Will Help to Identify Housing Needs
9.	Establish a Housing Infrastructure Unit In The Ministry of Housing to Manage Public and Private Housing Information	New Project	Umuahia		2021	2050	Ministry of Housing	
10	Introduction of Umuahia Housing Scheme of 30 Blocks (360 Units) Of 12 -In-1, 12, 2, & 3 Bedroom Flats	New Project	Umuahia		2025	2028	Award Of Contract	To Provide Affordable Housing to Abians
11	Aba Housing Scheme of 35 Blocks (420 Units) of 12-IN-1, 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Flats	New Project	Aba		2029	2032	Contract Awards	To Provide Affordable Houses to Abians
12	Provision of Estate Agency Regulatory Activities	New Project	Umuahia		2021	2050		
13	Maintenance of Public Buildings and Government Housing Estates in Abia State	New Project	Abia State		2021	2050	Through direct labour (by the Ministry of Housing)	To Restore Building Standard
14	Completion of JAAC Building	On-Going	Umuahia	30%	2014	2023	Contract Award	
15	Realisation of Enyimba Economic City	On-Going	Aba			2025	Thro PPP	
16	Construction of Public Buildings	New Project	Across The State		2021	2050	Contract Award	Provision of Offices For Public Use
17	Public Service Academy Complex	New Project	Umuahia		2021	2030	Ministry of Housing	For Training And Retraining of Staff

Appendix 6G: Future development programme/projects of Abia State Fire Service, 2020-2050

S/N	Name Of Project	Location	Starting Time	Completion	Mode Of Execution	Expected Benefits (Outcomes)
1.	Establishment of Fire Service Stations in the 17 LGAs in Abia State.	All the LGAs in the State.	2020	2022	Through International Development Partners	Reduce the destruction of Agricultural products. Save life and property Enhance the employment opportunities of our teeming youths roaming the villages and reduction in crime rate.
2.	Establishment of Boreholes/ Fire Hydrants in the 17 LGAs in the State.	All the LGAs in the State.	2020	2022	Direct funding by Govt. NGOs and Freewill donations	

Appendix 6H: Abia State development programme/projects for the transport sector 2020-2050

S/N	Project/ Programmes	Present Status	Location	Mile-stone	Starting	Completion	How Do You Want It Done	Exp benefits
1	Installation of Road traffic Furniture (Road sign, traffic signs and lights) in all state road networks	30% Installation of Road furniture in the state	All State roads in Abia State		2020	2030	Funding from Govt through FA and IGR	Safety of commuters
2	Establishment of Computerised Vehicle Inspection Test Station in the three senatorial zones of the state	Aba Test Station has been completed. Efforts on top gear to start up Umuahia and Ohafia stations	Aba, Umuahia and Ohafia	1 (no) test station completed in Aba	2020	2025	PPP	
3	Establishment of Abia State Airport	Land acquired and property owners compensated	Ikwuano-Isiala Ngwa North	(1) Land acquisitions (2) Inauguration of committee for actualisation of Abia Airport	2020	2025	PPP/Govt	Easy transportat ion services
4	Development of Abia State Seaport and its usage	Draining of sand to clear water way	Ogbaku-Ukwa West	Draining of sand	2030	2040	PPP/Govt	Easy transportat ion services
5	Development of Abia State Dry port	Land acquired	Amapu Ntigha in Isiala Ngwa LGA	Land acquired	2021	2023	PPP/Govt	Easy transportat ion services
6	Development of Transport Master Plan	No visible plan on ground	Umuahia Aba and Ohafia	(1)inaugura tion of the committee	2021	2023	Govt	Clear Transport plan

				(2) Development of draft doc. (3) publication				
7	Establishment of 6 State Mega Bus Terminals, two per each senatorial zone	Established one in Ohiya and not fully functional	Along Ogbor Hill Aba Around over head to Port Harcourt Asannetu axis in Aba Osisoma Mega Park Along Ikot Ekpene Road between Ohokobe and New Timber market. Between sign Board and Ubani Market along Uzuakoli road (vi) Umuahia modern bus terminal.	(1) one established (2) Land acquired for the remaining.	2021	2025	PPP/Govt	Reduction of private parks and enhanced environment
8	Procurement of 1,000 (no) costal buses.	To include in the Ministry's budget.	Aba, Umuahia, Ohafia	Documentation	2021	2030	Govt	Enhanced services delivery and complement private sector initiatives
9	Establishment of Trailer Parks in the 3 senatorial zones	Land acquired	Osisoma, Umuahia, Lokpanta	Acquisitions of land in the 3 areas	2021	2025	Govt/PPP	Safety of commuters
10	Establishment of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Scheme in Aba and Umuahia axis	MOU has been signed	Aba, Umuahia	Signing of MOU	2021	2030	Govt	Easy and cheap transportation
11	Introduction of Abia Colour on commercial buses and tricycles	60% completion in Umuahia for tricycles. Nothing has been done for buses in the State.	Aba Umuahia Ohafia		2020	2025		Easy identification
12	MOT Test Certificate of Road Worthiness-	Creation of awareness	Aba Umuahia Ohafia		2020	2050		Right usage of the road
13	Establishment of 9 Driving Schools, 3 per senatorial zone	Proposal written for approval	Abia North, Central and South	Proposal written for approval	2021	2026		Training of quality drivers

Appendix 6I: Comprehensive summary of strategic actions for implementation

7.5	Sector	Chapter	Strategic Action	Implementation Strategies	Item Frame	Lead Institution/ Agency	Estimated Cost
1	Finance and Revenue	2	<p>Sustain the automation of tax payments in Abia State.</p> <p>Sustain the enforcement and prosecution policies on tax defaulters in Abia State.</p> <p>Sustain the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).</p> <p>Sustain the collaboration with MDAs and the private sectors to enhance IGR.</p> <p>Sustain the provision of enabling platforms and good governance reforms for economic development.</p> <p>Sustain the implementation of E-payments for all Government transactions.</p> <p>Maintain plans to continuously update the databases of tax payers in the state.</p> <p>Sustain the policy of bringing more people into Abia State Tax Net through advocacy and collaborations with other relevant agencies.</p> <p>Sustain the policy and implementation of centralised payroll system.</p>	Annual budgeting will be the main tool for implementation	Short term Long term	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development in conjunction with all relevant MDAs	
2	Agriculture	3	Revitalise and revamp all institutions involved in production of major staple and cash crops towards increasing production and creating vibrant value chains	<p><i>Cassava: Cassava growers' association;</i></p> <p>Credit and loans institutions;</p> <p>Promoting agricultural mechanisation (tractorisation and use of light machines in planting, weeding and spraying);</p> <p>Ensure adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidized prices and at convenient locations to farmers;</p> <p>Improved high yielding and disease resistant /pest tolerant varieties of released cassava from NRCRI,</p>	Short term Medium term Long term	Ministry of Agriculture Abia state planning commission	<p>₦60 b</p> <p>₦90 b</p> <p>₦90 b</p>

			<p>Umudike and IITA, Ibadan. Establish community-level cassava collection centres for surplus products in all the local governments of Abia state; Encourage the establishment of cassava primary processing facilities at the community level; Encourage large-scale cassava production and processing into products like garri, flour, starch, pellets, ethanol, and sundry by-products; Improve physical infrastructures (roads, electricity, education, and health facilities) to enhance rural development; Reintroduce State commodity marketing board to take care of the export components of the state; Form cassava production and processing clusters, farmers' groups and cooperative societies engaging mainly the young farmers; Inaugurate cassava production policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation committee in each of the 17 LGAs to guarantee faithful implementation of the plan.</p>			
			<p><i>Rice:</i> Rehabilitate abandoned rice production schemes and increased investment in irrigation infrastructure; Ensure adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidised prices and at convenient locations to farmers; Provide improved high yielding and disease resistant/pest tolerant varieties of released rice varieties; (i) Increase in area under rice cultivation by using all potential rice lands in the state; Increase in output per unit area through introduction and adoption of improved technologies and efficient use of farm resources; (ii) Improve physical infrastructures (roads, electricity, education, and health facilities) to enhance rural development;</p>	<p>Short term Medium term Long term</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture Abia state Planning Commission</p>	<p>₦2.4 b ₦4.8 b ₦8.4 b</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) Formation of rice production and processing clusters, empowering farmers groups and cooperative societies engaging mainly the young farmers (iv) Increase paddy rice production through the use of improved varieties from good planting materials; (v) Improve on the effectiveness of agricultural extension system. (vi) Enlightenment campaigns on the benefits of eating locally produced and processed rice. (vii) Encourage local fabrication of rice processing machines. (viii) Formulate state and local government Technical and implementation committee to help: (ix) Source and distribute inputs to empower rice farmers and processors; (x) Register and document farmers participating in the rice value chain; (xi) Monitor and supervise the registration and authentication of input supply companies and distributors. 			
			<p><i>Yam:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Strengthening the agricultural extension system; (ii) Subsidizing seed yams and yam agro inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides) to reduce yam production costs; (iii) Use of improved production technologies, e.g. aeroponics and Temporary Immersion Bioreactor (TIB); (iv) Use of organized off-takers to ensure good and prompt returns to farmers. (v) Process output into alternative intermediate food products 		<p>Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>Abia state Planning Commission</p>	
			<p><i>Maize:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ensuring adequate and timely supply of agro-inputs for maize production (fertilizers, pesticides, good seeds and seedlings, herbicides) at subsidised prices and at convenient locations to farmers: (ii) Providing improved high yielding and disease resistant/pest tolerant varieties of released maize 		<p>Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>Abia State Planning Commission</p>	

			<p>varieties;</p> <p>(iii) Increase in area under maize cultivation by using all potential maize lands in the state; Increase in output per unit area through introduction and adoption of improved technologies and efficient use of farm resources;</p> <p>(iv) Improve physical infrastructures (roads, electricity, education, and health facilities) to enhance rural development;</p> <p>(v) Formation of maize production and processing clusters, empowering farmers' groups and cooperative societies engaging mainly the young farmers;</p> <p>(vi) Encouraging value addition through processing into derivative products;</p> <p>(vii) Improve on the effectiveness of agricultural extension system.</p>			
			<p><i>Melon, leafy and fruit vegetables:</i></p> <p>(i) Encourage dry season vegetable production and peri-urban agriculture;</p> <p>(ii) Encourage use of appropriate levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers and agro-chemicals;</p> <p>(iii) Acquire certified improved crop varieties from research centres and national seed service and multiplication and distribution of same in partnership with out-growers and contact farmers;</p> <p>(iv) Promote massive production of food crops and vegetables to meet the daily needs of citizens of Abia State;</p> <p>(v) Ensure accessibility and timely availability of basic farm inputs such as fertilizers, agrochemicals, improved seeds and planting materials;</p> <p>(vi) Encourage young farmers' involvement in large scale agriculture;</p> <p>(vii) Use environmentally friendly tractorisation and mechanisation of cropping operations;</p> <p>(viii) Encourage foreign and domestic investment in large scale food crop and vegetable production and</p>			

				processing; and (ix) Encourage all year round availability of vegetables through installation of new irrigation facilities at Ubani Ibeku, Uzuakoli, Ozuitem, Abam and Arochukwu and the establishment of Greenhouses in proximate urban locations.			
				<p><i>Oil Palm:</i></p> <p>(i) Revive the oil palm farm settlement scheme in the state in line with the original concept emphasising the provision of electricity, pipe borne water, healthcare centres, schools and other amenities;</p> <p>(ii) Adopting the community-based cluster oil palm production approach to drive the oil palm revolution in the state;</p> <p>(iii) Raising annually in nurseries high yielding varieties (Supergene Tenera) capable of fruiting less than 2 years with up to 15 FFB per fruiting. Shorter, easy to reach trees, and 25 years lifespan. This will help replace the low yielding wild groves. In addition, a central Seedlings Nursery would be set up for supply of this improved variety to Farming Clusters <i>tenera species</i> covering 50,000 ha lands in various communities in the first ten years of this plan <i>tenera species</i> and distributing to farmers on demand;</p> <p>(iv) Deploy agricultural extension workers to educate farmers on modern field management of the oil palms;</p> <p>(v) Raise palm fruit processing units with the assistance of private investors under Public Private Partnership (PPP) agreement for processing Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) at some designated centres in the state;</p> <p>(vi) Making investment credit available to farmers through the soft loan windows of the CBN and Development Finance Institutions including Bank of Agriculture (BOA) and Bank of Industries (BOI). Particularly, producers would be primed and guided to access CBN 'Real</p>	Short/ Medium term	Ministry of Agriculture	₦3.09 b
					Long term	Abia state planning commission	₦30.92 b

				Sector Support Facility' which is an integral part of FGN/CBN Nigerian Oil Palm Industry Development Initiative aimed at promoting the Oil Palm Value Chain. A Fund of N55billion has been earmarked for this programme in 2019.			
				<p><i>Cocoa:</i></p> <p>(i) Reviving government owned cocoa plantations;</p> <p>(ii) Raise and distribute one million improved F3 Amazon cocoa seedlings annually to cocoa farmers in the state for expansion of their holdings and gradual replacement of low yielding cultivars;</p> <p>(iii) Distribute cocoa farm inputs to farmers at affordable prices;</p> <p>(iv) Embrace Private, Public Partnerships (PPP) by government with individuals and firms committed to commercial production, processing and exporting of cocoa;</p> <p>(v) Deploy agricultural extension workers to educate cocoa farmers on the correct ways to apply pesticides to reduce contaminations and other hazards;</p> <p>(vi) Create all-season roads leading into cocoa producing locations;</p> <p>(vii) Ensure proper grading of cocoa beans to encourage standardised high quality produce.</p>	Short term Medium/long term	Ministry of Agriculture	<p>₦133.8m*</p> <p>₦2.54 b</p>
				<p><i>Rubber:</i></p> <p>(i) Reviving government owned rubber plantations using global best practices;</p> <p>(ii) Raise and distribution of one million improved clones of rubber seedlings annually to rubber farmers in the state for expansion of their holdings and gradual replacement of low yielding clones;</p> <p>(iii) Distribute cocoa farm inputs to farmers at affordable prices;</p> <p>(iv) Embrace Private, Public Partnerships (PPP) by government with individuals and firms committed to commercial production, processing and exporting of rubber;</p> <p>(v) Assist rubber farmers with accessible credit to enable them increase their</p>		Ministry of Agriculture	

			holdings; (vi) Create enabling environment to attract youths into rubber agriculture in the state; (vii) Create all-season roads leading into rubber producing locations; (viii) Mounting an integrated rubber processing machine in the state.			
			<i>Cashew:</i> (i) Rehabilitation and expansion of State owned cashew estate at Mbala Isuochi (ii) Raising and distribution of one million improved seedlings of cashew annually to cashew farmers in the state for expansion of their holdings. (iii) Distribution of cashew farm inputs (pesticides) to farmers at affordable prices; (iv) Assisting cashew farmers with accessible credit to enable them increase their holdings; (v) Create enabling environment to attract youths into cashew value chain in the state (vi) Provision of cashew processing facilities at least one in each of the five major cashew producing communities in the state	Short term Medium/long term	Ministry of Agriculture	₦133.8 m* ₦803.1 m
		To achieve self-sufficiency in meat (protein) production, provide employment, attain food security and provide surpluses for local industries and for exports within the next 10 to 30 years	<i>Poultry:</i> (i) Establish a 150,000 DOC capacity incubator to produce about 1.13 million improved day-old-chicks annually. In the first ten years, this will amount to producing 11.25 million DOCs. This is proposed to be sold at concessionary prices to farmers. (ii) Establish a parent stock farm of 10,000-12,000 proven parent stock to produce 1.02 million to 1.20 million fertile eggs to feed the incubator annually or 10.20 million to 12.24 million fertile eggs in ten years; (iii) Install a 10 ton/hr feed mill working 8 hrs/day at 250 days/year to produce 10,000 tonnes or 400,000 25kg bags of balanced poultry feed annually or 100,000 tonnes of (4,000 25kg bags of balanced livestock feed) in the first ten years to be sold to farmers at moderate prices;	Short term Medium term Long term	Ministry of Agriculture	₦1.98 b* ₦1.44 b ₦7.33 m

			<p>(iv) Contract Feed-milling to UniAgric Umudike and outsourcing of input/service needs would be explored;</p> <p>(v) Empowering the private sector to install a jute packing bag manufacturing factory to produce feed bags;</p> <p>(vi) Establish a livestock feed Quality Control Laboratory with modern facilities for feed analysis, quality control and grading;</p> <p>(vii) Establish or encourage private investors to install standard processing plants and cold rooms for processing and handling of farmers' excess animal products;</p> <p>(viii) Rehabilitate all Zonal and Local Government livestock offices to enable extension workers to extend technologies and scientific messages to farmers all year round;</p> <p>(ix) Establish poultry clusters in all the 17 LGAs of the state.</p>			
			<p><i>Cattle, sheep and goats:</i></p> <p>(i) Encourage research institutions to participate in the establishment of breeding/multiplication farms for cattle and small ruminants. The focus should be on stock selection for body size and twinning ability, cross breeding and upgrading to enhance prolificacy of the foundation stock;</p> <p>(ii) Empower ten out-growers per local government area (at 50 Does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 8,500 improved goat seed stock and 25,500 sheep seed stock annually (i.e. 42,500 improved goat seed stock and 127,500 sheep seed stock of sheep in ten years) to be sold to the farmers at affordable price as incentive.</p> <p>(iii) Encourage farmers to establish backyard fodder banks and gardens;</p> <p>(iv) Encourage farmers by extension staff to use fadama land facilities for the production of forages during the dry season;</p> <p>(v) Encourage the use of agricultural by-products to</p>			<p>₦181.11 b</p>

				<p>enhance the feeding of goats and sheep especially during the dry season;</p> <p>(vi) Encourage the development of ranches, particularly for cattle in the state, or the establishment of smallholder feeding (fattening) lots for cattle;</p> <p>(vii) Establish cattle, sheep, and goats model farms in the state to provide education and enlightenment to the farmers (for both extensive and intensive systems);</p> <p>(viii) Provide veterinary services departments with the necessary drugs and vaccines and equipping them to effectively handle the animal health programmes of the state;</p> <p>(ix) Establish the Public-Private sector participation in the provision of modern abattoirs, processing facilities, and cold rooms to handle the slaughtering, processing and preservation of animal products.</p>			
				<p><i>Pigs:</i></p> <p>(i) Encourage research institutes to participate in establishment of multiplication farms for pigs. The focus will be on stock selection, cross-breeding and upgrading to enhance fecundity and prolificacy of the foundation stock;</p> <p>(ii) Empower ten out-growers in each of the seventeen LGAs of the state to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 41,600 improved foundation seed stock annually (416,000 improved foundation stock in the first ten years);</p> <p>(iii) Encourage farmers to embark on pig fattening programmes for slaughter;</p> <p>(iv) Encourage the processing of blood and bones into meals for feed production;</p> <p>(v) Scale up of levels of grain and tuber production for production of concentrates and animal feeds at affordable prices to the farmers.</p> <p>(vi) Establish a model but affordable pig house built with local materials for the farmers to copy for both</p>		Ministry of Agriculture	<p>₦259.276 m</p>

				<p>extensive and intensive systems of management. (vii) Assist farmers through subsidies and micro-credit; (viii) Promote routine animal health care management.</p>			
				<p><i>Grass-cutter:</i> (i) Lay a solid foundation for rapid domestication and production of cane rats (<i>Thryonomys spp.</i>) in the state; (ii) Encourage private sector participation (research institutions) in cane rat breeding, domestication, selection, cross-breeding and multiplication to produce good seed stock; (iii) Empower ten out-growers per local government area (10 Does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 6,800 domesticated cane rats annually and 34,000 improved seed stock in ten years to be sold to the farmers at modest price as incentive; (iv) Sensitise farmers on the viability of homestead cane rat farming; (v) Rear cane rats for table consumption; (vi) Demonstrate model and affordable grass cutter pens for farmers to copy; (vii) Encourage capacity building through training, workshops, seminars, and conferences; (viii) Establish grass cutter fodder bank at the backyards.</p> <p><i>Rabbit:</i> (i) Encourage and create awareness on rabbit rearing and the high quality rabbit meat through workshops, seminars, field days and establishment of pilot farms; (ii) Embark on stock selection, cross breeding, and upgrading, to enhance prolificacy, and body size through research institute-government partnership; (iii) Empower ten out-growers per local government area (10 Does/out-grower) to achieve rapid multiplication and distribution of 510,000 improved rabbit seed stock</p>			

			<p>annually (i.e. 5,100,000) improved seed stock in ten years to be sold to the farmers at modest price as incentive;</p> <p>(iv) Provide technical know-how to encourage appropriate management and assistance to farmers to identify marketing outlets;</p> <p>(v) Encourage rearing of rabbits for table consumption as specialised rabbits farming operation.</p> <p>(vi) Encourage farmers to establish fodder banks at their backyards;</p> <p>(vii) Encourage processing of rabbit furs for shoe making.</p>			
			<p><i>Fisheries and Aquaculture:</i></p> <p>(i) Establish modern fish hatchery of 5.0 million fingerling capacity to make available fingerlings to be sold to the farmers at affordable prices. In 30 years (2050) it is expected that 150 million fish fingerlings would have been produced and purchased by the farmers in the state;</p> <p>(ii) Year-round culture of good and proven brood stock for fish eggs and semen production for hatchery operations and sales to farmers at affordable prices;</p> <p>(iii) Installation of simple hammer mill and pelleting machines to produce fish feeds in the state all year round.</p> <p>(iv) Provision of fishing inputs such as nets, hooks, boats, water pumps, and twines at affordable prices;</p> <p>(v) Provision of subsidies to empower native private sector participation in fingerling and brood stock production and distribution;</p> <p>(vi) Empower the private sector to install cold storage rooms and other facilities for processing, preservation and storage;</p> <p>(vii) Organise training workshops and seminars on the production of fish fingerlings, brood stock and fish preservation;</p> <p>(viii) Collaborate with NDDC (an agency of FGN) to train Abia youth at the Okeikpe, (Ukwa West) Aquaculture Training Centre;</p> <p>(ix) Conduct fisheries</p>		Ministry of Agriculture	₦330.7 m*

				diagnostic survey, collection, collation, and analysis of bio-statistical data on fish production; (x) Provide soft loans to poor fish farmers at easily affordable interest rate and conditions; (xi) Establish the requisite machinery for the implementation of state fisheries policy.			
3	Industry	4	An integrated multi-sectoral grassroots Development Approach to economic empowerment of Abia state and its people through Industrialisation over the next 30 years and transform Abia state to the industrial hub of the southeast region and Nigeria at large.	(i) Create a comprehensive state policy for industrialisation (ii) Grow agro-processing by 10 percent in the short term, 30 percent in the medium term, and 50 percent in the long term (iii) Reduce the cost of doing business by 2 percent annually in the short term, 3 percent in the medium term, and 5 percent in the long term. (iv) Enhance access to credit for youth entrepreneurs to establish or expand existing industries. (v) Create at least 1000 new jobs annually from industrial parks established. (vi) Develop incubation centres for agro-businesses. (vii) Create an enabling environment and grow MSMEs by 10 percent in the short term, 20 percent in the medium term, and 30 percent in the long term. (viii) Contribute the manufacturing sector to the GDP to increase to about 40% (ix) Expend on Research and Development in industry to increase by 10% annually (x) 40 new specialist industrial parks created (xi) Number of days required to start up a new manufacturing business cut by 50% (xii) Access to finance by Manufacturing sector improved and streamlined (xiii) Occupy existing industrial estates increased to 70% capacity	Short term Medium term Long term	Ministry of Small and medium enterprises development Ministry of Finance and economic development Ministry of Commerce and Industry Abia state Planning Commission	
4.	Trade and Investment	5	Build a synergy for promotion of business and development of our social values thereby attracting indigenous' and foreign investor to	(i) To be among World/African top rank ease of doing business in Nigeria for African economic growth of the SMEs as a state. (ii) To attract a minimum of US\$10 b before the end	Short term Medium term Long term	Ministry of Trade and Investment Abia State Planning Commission	

			create job, wealth and intellectual ability economically	of 2030 through development of Trade, Commerce and attracting investors of both National and International by developing generally the God's given ability of Abia State as God's own state. (iii) Market Abia developmental idea to the world growing economy for participation and partnership. (iv) Set a strategy for partnership development that will cut across boarder value creation relationship with sub-national government and education entrepreneurial institution development for Abians technically, economically making them financial giants.			
5	Oil and Gas	6		(i) Policy review on ASOPADEC for increased funding to the commission up to 40% of the 13% derivation revenue.			
6	Health	7	Development, alignment and implementation of health policies and programmes in a way that maximally benefits Abians and strengthens the state's healthcare system	(i) Extend health care to the grassroots (ii) Strengthen the availability and use of affordable, accessible and quality machineries and other health commodities in the health facilities (iii) To improve availability and functional health infrastructure for optimising service delivery at all levels (iv) Ensure effective Health workforce management through retention, deployment, work condition motivation and performance management. (v) Reduce maternal and infant mortality in the state. (vi) Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of health system	Short term Medium term Long term		
7	Education	8	Allocation of 26% of annual state budget to education Attraction of the Private Sector, Diaspora, and other Partners to fund Education Access UBEC Funds, other Partner funds Sustain free and compulsory basic and senior secondary education	State Government allocates and releases more funds to education. Attraction of Private Sector, Diaspora and other Partners to fund education	Short term	Ministry of Education	₦900 m

APPENDICES

		Training & re-training of teachers on current trends in delivery methods Strengthen Quality Assurance	(i) Conduct of regular refresher courses, Seminars Workshops (ii) Monitoring and Evaluation	Short term	Ministry of Education	₦90 m
		Recruitment of qualified teachers and other staff Recognition/Awards for outstanding performance	Transparency in Employment to ensure that the best are recruited -Payment of entitlements, Reward to Best Teachers, soft loans	Short term	Ministry of Education ASUBEB	₦200 m
		Renovation of classroom blocks Construction of new classroom blocks Provision of functional laboratories Provision of functional e- libraries Provision of functional vocational training facilities	Rehabilitation of School infrastructure	Short term	Ministry of education Ministry of Works and Housing	₦900 m
		Installation of electricity/power supply facilities, supplemented with renewable energy sources, esp., solar energy in schools. - Procurement and distribution of computers and ICT equipment to schools - Teachers acquire skills to teach ICT and media	Instructional materials and ICT are used in teaching - computers and other ICT needs are provided to schools	Short term	Ministry of Education Diaspora	₦500 m
		Construction of toilets in schools - 10 facilities in each school -Construction of boreholes with overhead tanks in schools	Building of standard toilets Provision of boreholes with overhead tanks in schools	Short term	Ministry of education	₦500 m
		Construction of Schools' perimeter fencing Trained security personnel are recruited and posted to schools	Schools perimeter fencing provided Synergy between SMO Education, Homeland Security, Police	Short term	Ministry of education ASUBEB Abia state Police Force	₦500 m
		Award of scholarships to pupils/students to study vocational, technical, business & science education. -Award of scholarships to students for tertiary education on areas of need. - Award of scholarship to 100 students in each LGA per annum	Selection through Transparent placement tests, examinations, Interviews	Short term	Ministry of Education	₦600 m

		Free school meals will be extended to all primary school children in the state by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identify and maintain an inventory of Government, donor and CSO programmes which support free school meals (ii) Set state targets and report regularly on the accomplishment of such targets (iii) Set up the state framework for school feeding (iv) Initiate new school feeding programmes 			
		Expand free and compulsory UBE to ensure that education is totally free for all by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Provide conditional cash transfers to poor households (ii) Provide school materials 			
		Expand health and educational opportunities for all people with special needs by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identify and assign responsibilities for special needs groups. (ii) Map existing programmes/interventions providing services (iii) Ensure that existing services are gradually and incrementally decentralised to LGAs together with adequate resources – trained staff and funding. (iv) Initiate new programmes (v) Strengthen the regulatory and supervisory capacity of health and education authorities. 			
		Abolish user fees for health services for all under listed vulnerable groups by 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Identify and maintain an inventory of Government, donor and CSO programmes which support free access to health services through waiving of user fees (ii) Set state wide targets and report regularly on the accomplishment of such targets (iii) Expand quality and quantity of health human resources and facilities (iv) Establish mechanisms with these providers for tracking adherence to their obligations for channelling benefits to agreed vulnerable groups. 			
		Improve coverage of the Health Insurance Scheme and the Community-Based Health Insurance Scheme to 90% of the population by 2035.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Encourage the entire state and all LGAs to adopt and implement HIS and CBHIS schemes (ii) Increase the capacities of implementers of the schemes (iii) Take steps to guarantee the quality of service at the point of delivery; (iv) Sensitisation and 			

				awareness creation will be stepped up to reach the vulnerable and excluded; and (v) Measures will be put in place to manage operating cost, abuse and spillage to ensure sustainability.			
			Establish legal and institutional framework for child welfare and protection issues that covers all the children in the state by 2030	(i) Abia State to domesticate child right Act Strengthen the relevant institutions to prevent and adequately handle the impacts of child protection issues. (ii) Expand social welfare services to children who are abused, neglected, trafficked or at risk (iii) Observe all international agreements ratified by Nigeria in relation to child protection and welfare issues			
			Improve access to housing for at least 50% of low income earners and the poor by 2035	(i) Provide land by government for housing development (ii) Encourage the private sector to partner with the government in form corporate social responsibility (iii) Access to cheap and affordable mortgage financing. (iv) Establish a framework that will address housing need of different economic groups			
			Build on existing policy initiatives to accelerate job creation and reduce unemployment by strengthening policy coherence and infrastructure. This will be achieved by leveraging on existing structure as YESSO and CSDP among others and reduce unemployment among youth by 90% by 2030.	(v) Strengthen and expand existing public work programmes such as YESSO (vi) Initiate new public work programmes			
			Improve employment opportunities for targeted groups such as youth and persons with disabilities. To achieve this, the government will establish at least two vocational centres per LGA by 2025.	(i) Skill building in the area of vocational and entrepreneurship development. (ii) Provide grants/start off packs and working tools (iii) Encourage private sector to employ through tax incentives			
			Provide support for sustainable livelihood for the	(i) Assess the support needs of poorer farmers and institute mechanisms by			

			<p>poorest through skills training, access to land, and inputs for smallholder farmers and affirmative action for youth and women's employment.</p> <p>Government is to provide this support for at least 70% of population in this category by 2025 and 90% by 2030.</p>	<p>which they are targeted in agricultural programmes across relevant MDAs and CSOs (provision of inputs, processing/value addition facilities and market linkages and disaster preparedness).</p> <p>(ii) Encourage all LGAs and community leaders to provide access to land and other natural resources for use by poor and vulnerable groups.</p> <p>(iii) Encourage contractors to employ available local labour (the local content initiative).</p> <p>(iv) Increase state spending on skills development for youth and women.</p> <p>(v) Target employment schemes for youth, women and others at the most vulnerable of these groups.</p> <p>(vi) Develop and pass legislation for employers to employ quotas of vulnerable groups, e.g. those with disabilities, ensuring training needs and accessibility areas are addressed to improve skills.</p>			
			<p>Improve on compulsory insurance, pensions, health schemes, etc, for 90% of formal sector employees and encourage extension to informal sector employees by 2030</p>	<p>(i) Mapping of informal sector employees</p> <p>(ii) Identification of the potential for extending compulsory insurance coverage to informal sector employees in the state.</p> <p>(iii) Encourage relevant insurance providers to extend schemes to cover the informal sector including self-employed who are unable to afford contributions through Government subsidies.</p> <p>(iv) Maintain a framework of regular review of pensions for retired people to protect older retirees from falling below the poverty line.</p>			
			<p>Encourage mandatory insurance, pensions, health schemes etc. to be covered by private sector for the above population categories for at least 50% of the population by 2030.</p>	<p>(i) Create f the enabling environment for the private sector to take the lead in providing insurance cover for the informal sector.</p>			
			<p>Put in place a social insurance mechanism to respond to shocks from natural/man-made disasters, such as COVID-19.</p>	<p>(i) Adopt and disseminate a state policy on emergency preparedness</p> <p>(ii) Sensitise the general public on emergency preparedness</p> <p>(iii) Develop the capacity of</p>			

			<p>emergency response volunteer reservists at community and LGA level (Local Government Emergency Management Authority) to respond to emergency</p> <p>(iv) Establish one stock centres at state level and LGA levels</p> <p>(v) Strengthen the structures for emergency response agencies (SEMA, LEMA, etc.)</p>			
		<p>Provide cash and food grants for 90% of at-risk children (orphans, street children, and children vulnerable to harmful traditional practices) and poor families by 2030.</p>	<p>(i) Mapping of the pilot schemes existing in the state</p> <p>(ii) Initiate cost effective, age appropriate and gender sensitive means of delivering transfers to those at risk and vulnerable to fall into extreme poverty.</p> <p>(iii) Initiate a programme of food grant for the poor and hungry.</p>			
		<p>Expand unconditional and conditional social transfer schemes to cover 90% of the children, women and aged by 2030.</p>	<p>(i) Map the pilot schemes existing in the state</p> <p>(ii) Provide conditional and unconditional transfers for households with school age children</p> <p>(iii) Provide conditional and unconditional transfers for lactating mothers and children under five</p> <p>(iv) Initiate cost effective, age appropriate and gender sensitive means of delivering unconditional social transfers to the aged.</p> <p>(v) Initiate a programme of social transfer for the aged.</p>			
		<p>Promote the development of small and medium size enterprises through business training, micro finance and support for value addition for 70% of MSEs in the state by 2030.</p>	<p>(i) Legislate and mandate micro finance providers to introduce affordable loan schemes for poorer people including farmers, with safeguards against terms and conditions (such as collateral) which increase risk to be vulnerable.</p> <p>(ii) Develop the capacity of the poor people in micro-enterprise activities, development of business plans, basic account bookkeeping, pricing, marketing of products, etc.</p> <p>(iii) Set up a fund for financing microenterprise initiatives for the poor</p>			

			Enhance gender equality and women's empowerment by 2030 Enhance gender equality and women's empowerment by 2030	(i) Conduct a gender gap analysis in respect to social protection issues (ii) Mainstream gender in social protection issues Improvements policy and legislative environment on women's property and inheritance rights			
			Encourage the participation of females in the labour force and providing affordable child care services in at least 70% of working places by 2030.	(i) Ensure participation of women in social protection strategy process (ii) Encourage the private sector to employ more female (iii) Provide gender sensitive working environment for women (iv) Encourage employment institutions to provide child care facilities			
9	Governance and Public Service Reforms	10	Reposition the public service to deliver best quality service to the citizens of Abia state.	(i) Create new agencies and designing innovative processes to drive the reform measures identified in ABSTLDP. (ii) Mainstream elements of Good Governance identified and listed in the Plan document into the Government (administration) with mechanisms for upholding transparency accountability and sustainability put in place. (iii) Reform of regulatory institutions to remove outdated law, processes and replace them with development-friendly ones. (iv) Raise a culture of hardwork, core values of integrity, honesty and public trust and instilling same into the citizens through advocacy and exemplary leadership			
10	Infra-structure	11	Transform Abia state to become a model state in terms of good road networks, potable water and electricity supplies, adequate and affordable housing as well as efficient transport system to attract foreign investors.				
11	Environmental and regional Planning	12	Improved infrastructural development which shall include massive roads rehabilitation, construction and reconstruction, through public-private partnership, flood and Erosion control,	Maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support systems. i. Ensure the sustainable utilisation of species and ecosystem and reservation of genetic diversity. Established effective erosion and flood control measures, forestry and conservation, afforestation and			

			reforestation, afforestation and regeneration.	reforestation in the State using current approaches. iv. Integrated waste management approaches, institutional and occupational hygienic practices. v. Propose climate change policy and action plan development document. vi. Spatial location of developmental activities comparatively			
12	Monitoring and Evaluation	13	Enable a fact based assessment of States' performance and enhance the execution capacity of Government as Abia State strives to achieve accelerated economic development.	<p>i. Adequate staffing (in terms of number, quality and cognate experience) of the M&E units, especially the M&E unit in the State Economic Planning Commission.</p> <p>i. Release of funds for projects will be premised on a clean report from the M&E units on the earlier programmes/ projects executed or funds released.</p> <p>i. Adequate funding of M&E units with running grants and timely release of such funds as well as appropriate equipment.</p> <p>v. Constant dialogue and exchange of ideas and experiences among the various levels of M&E units.</p> <p>v. Insistence on clearly defined KPIs in all programmes/projects. No project will be admitted into the budget or approved without explicit statement of how it will be monitored and evaluated, including where possible, quantifiable indicators and targets. All budget proposals will be required to indicate a 'risk benefit analysis', stating the critical assumptions and external factors upon which the achievement of budget objective depends.</p>	Short term Medium term Long term	Abia State Planning Commission All MDAs Abia state bureau of statistics	