

## 2024 BUSINESS-ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN (BERAP), AKWA IBOM STATE

S/N	Business Enabling Reform Areas	Reform Objectives	Action Steps	Description and Key Targets	Beneficiaries	Responsible MDA	Contributing MDAs	List of Private Sector contributors	Estimated costs	Planned Start Date	Planned End Date
1	Improved efficiency in property registration and other land related matter	Quick intervention for a sustainable land management process	A. Enhance transparency, streamline processes, and facilitate a more accessible, secure, and efficient system for land transactions in the State	Harmonize land administration processes through digitalization, standardized procedures, and interagency collaboration, integrating geospatial technology and robust data security	*General Public *SMEs *Private Investors *Applicants for land CofO *Business Owners *Applicants for Construction permits	Ministry of Lands and Fire Service (MLFS)	* Office of the State Surveyor General *Land Use and Allocation Committee *Akwa Ibom Internal Revenue Service (AKIRS) *Akwa Ibom Geographic Information System (AKWAGIS) *Uyo Capital City Development Authority (UCCDA)	*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) *Nigeria Institute of Surveyors (NIS) *All Farmers Association of Nigeria (ALFAN) *Uyo chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (UYOCCIMA) *Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL Plc.)	N300 Million	30/01/2024	30/04/2024
			A.1 Fostering public awareness and ensuring legal framework alignment, to achieve efficient property registration.	Formal launch of the land administration processes in the State							
			A.2. Establish and build consensus among relevant MDAs on institutional and policy reforms being proposed and/or implemented including but not limited to developing and maintaining digital titling of all landed properties in the State	Ensure at least 70% of buildings in major towns (Uyo, Abak, Itu and Ikot Ekpene) are enumerated and recorded							
			B1 Publish the process for obtaining CofO including all relevant MDAs, time frames and costs on the State official website	The Ministry of Lands & Town Planning in collaboration with Akwa Ibom Geographic Information System (AKWAGIS), will offer detailed guidance on obtaining a Certificate of Occupancy in the State.							
			B2. Publish the process for obtaining construction permit including all relevant MDAs, time frames and costs on the State website.	Uyo Capital City Development Authority (UCCDA) in collaboration with Ministry of Housing shall provide comprehensive information on the process of obtaining Construction permits in the State.							
			B3 Develop the Terms of Reference (ToR) for creation of data-centric digital archive of CofOs with a searchable index in accordance with international standards	AKWAGIS in collaboration with Ministry of Lands to ensure end-to-end processing of land transactions at the data center and digital archiving of the electronically signed registered CofOs and other instruments							
			B.4. Digitization and indexation of existing CofOs in a digital archive	Ensure at least 75% of existing certificates are digitized and archived.							
			C. Establish Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Agriculture (FRILIA)	(i) Set-up FRILIA Steering Committee to develop FRILIA document to address challenges in Land administration for Agricultural and Industrial purposes in the State; (ii) Create a Multi-Stakeholders' Platform (MSP) for consultation on key issues	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	N100 Million	04/01/2024				
C.1. Issuance of Executive Order on FRILIA	The Steering Committee shall develop an Executive Order on FRILIA for review by the Ministry of Justice, before execution by the Governor.										

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			C.2. Adoption and implementation of the FRILIA	FRILIA Steering Committee shall ensure the adoption and implementation of FRILIA in the State							
2	Improved regulatory framework for private investment in fiber optic infrastructure.	To Strengthen the digital economy through enhanced fast, reliable and accessible fixed broadband to incentivised operators for the deployment of fixed broadband in the State.	<p>A. Passing of legislation/regulation to adopt aggregate fees charged for broadband deployment on a per liner meter basis at a maximum of NGN145 per meter</p> <p>A.1. Maintenance of the aggregate per linear meter fees for broadband deployment</p> <p>B. Publication of Right of Way (ROW) process</p> <p>B.1 Establishment of framework for the ROW process in the State</p> <p>B.2. Publish on the state official website, the process for obtaining ROW including all relevant MDAs, timeframes, and costs</p> <p>C. Deployment of non-Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) fibre optic cable kilometres</p> <p>C.1 increase in total deployed GPON fibre optic cable kilometres against 2022 baseline meets target. Basic target: 20-99% Stretch target: &gt;100%</p>	<p>Provide Executive Order on broadband fees to a Law duly passed by the State House of Assembly</p> <p>Ensure a law that caps the Right of Way tariff at not more than N145 per linear meter is enacted.</p> <p>Publish the ROW process on the State website</p> <p>Establish a framework for ROW deployment across the State</p> <p>Publish all ROW related processes and fees on the State website.</p> <p>Ensure deployment of GPON fibre infrastructure across the State in at least 2,000km across the State.</p> <p>The State shall ensure that there is an increase of more than 100% in the total deployed GPON fibre optic cable kilometers against 2022 as baseline</p>	<p>*Telecommunication Service Providers</p> <p>*Private Investors</p> <p>*Consumers</p> <p>*Local Businesses</p> <p>*Government Agencies</p> <p>*Land Owners</p>	Ministry of Science and Technology (MST)	<p>*Ministry of Lands</p> <p>*Governor's Office</p> <p>*Ministry of Works</p> <p>*Ministry of Justice</p> <p>*Ministry of Finance</p> <p>*Akwa Ibom Internal Revenue Service (AKIRS)</p>	<p>*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME)</p> <p>*Nigeria Institute of Surveyors (NIS)</p> <p>*Uyo chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (UYOCCIMA)</p> <p>*Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN)</p>	N300 Million	30/01/2024	30/07/2024
3	Sustainable Large-Scale Investments	(1) Optimize collaboration between the public and private sectors for efficient infrastructure development. (2) To create a business-friendly ecosystem that fosters economic growth, job creation, and technological advancement.	<p>A. Mandate Akwa Ibom Investment Company (AKICORP) (state level technical unit) as the lead organization to facilitate PPP and promote investment into the State</p> <p>A.1. Obtain the approval of the State Executive Council (EXCO) mandating Investment Company as lead agency to facilitate PPP and promote investment into Akwa Ibom State</p> <p>A.2 obtain the approval of HoA mandating Investment Company as lead agency to facilitate PPP and promote investment into Akwa Ibom State</p> <p>A.3. implementation of the mandate that Investment Company should be the lead agency to facilitate PPP in the State</p> <p>B. Establishment of effective PPP models</p>	<p>Review the Law establishing a State Investment Promotion Agency and develop a strategic plan to operationalise the agency</p> <p>Enact and implement a State Public Private Partnership Law designating Investment Company as lead agency for PPP facilitation</p> <p>Enact and implement a State Public Private Partnership Law designating Investment Company as lead agency for PPP facilitation</p> <p>The Investment Company as the primary agency responsible for facilitating Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) will take a central role in coordinating and overseeing the development, implementation, and management of PPP projects.</p> <p>Develop a frameworks to determine the PPP models required for various investment opportunities in the State.</p>	<p>*Local Contractors and Suppliers</p> <p>*Private investors</p> <p>*Citizens and Communities</p> <p>*Private Sector Companies</p> <p>*Government Agencies</p> <p>*Financial Institutions</p> <p>*Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)</p> <p>*Economic Development Agencies</p>	<p>Akwa Ibom Investment Corporation (AKICORP)</p> <p>Akwa Ibom Investment Company (AKICORP)</p>	<p>*Ministry of Finance</p> <p>*Ministry of Trade and Investment</p> <p>*Ministry of Justice</p> <p>*Governor's Office</p> <p>*Ministry of Special Duties</p> <p>*Ministry of Works</p> <p>*Ministry of Economic Development</p> <p>*Raw Material and Research Development Council (RMRDC)</p>	<p>*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME)</p> <p>*UYOCCIMA</p> <p>*African Women Agric. Business Network (AWAN)</p> <p>*Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN)</p>	Not Applicable	04/01/2024	31/03/2024
										04/01/2024	31/03/2024
										04/01/2024	30/06/2024
										04/01/2024	30/06/2024
									N80 Million	04/01/2024	31/07/2024

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			B.1 Establishment of Akwa Ibom State Fiscal Commitment and Contingent Liability (FCCL) Management Framework	Develop and obtain State EXCO approval for a Fiscal Commitment and Contingency Liability Management Framework							
			B.2 Establishment of PPP legal and institutional framework, including guidelines and manual	Investment Company to develop guidelines and manual of PPP framework.							
			B.3 Establishment of the PPP disclosure Framework	PPP framework established and published on State website							
			B.4 Online publication of the (i) PPP Fiscal Commitment and Contingent Liability (FCCL) Management Framework; (ii) PPP legal and institutional framework, including guidelines and manual; and (iii) PPP disclosure framework	(i) Amendment of PPP Law to include FCCL Management framework (ii) PPP Guidelines and manual to be developed (iii) PPP disclosure framework to be implemented					Not Applicable	04/01/2024	31/07/2024
			B.5. Adoption and disclosure of PPP pipeline (of which at least 50% is linked to climate adaptation and mitigation)	Publish a list of PPP projects and their respective status to promote transparency.							
			B.6. Online publication (or web-based disclosure portal) of the pipeline projects	Investment Company to publish pipeline projects on her website. The beneficiaries are the potential investors, investors and							
			C. Establishment of State Project Facilitation Fund with a minimum funding of 3% of the total pipeline estimated capital investment	Establish a State Wealth Fund which will include Project Facilitation Fund to catalyze private investments		Ministry of Finance/ Ministry of Economic Development			N1 Billion	04/01/2024	31/07/2024
			D. Develop an inventory/ database of all investment incentives (Federal and State) available in Akwa Ibom State	Inventory of all investment incentives in the State already developed and published online. The beneficiaries are the investors and business owners.		Akwa Ibom Investment Corporation (AKICORP)			Not Applicable	04/01/2024	31/07/2024
			D.1. Online publication of the inventory of all investment incentives available in the State	Inventory of all investment incentives in the State already published online. The beneficiaries are the investors and business owners.							
			E. Update of state website with required information (including information on access to credit)	State website to be updated with required information. The beneficiaries are the investors, business owners and potential investors					N50 Million	04/01/2024	31/07/2024
			F. Organization of quarterly information sessions annually for investors	Ensure quarterly sessions are held in 2024 to engage with investors operating in the State, to discuss among others Business Environment Reforms and tax compliance.						04/01/2024	31/12/2024

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			G. Development and adoption of aftercare and retention program	Develop and implement an aftercare programme that caters to existing investors.							
			H. Creation of Business Support Office (BSO) to provide comprehensive assistance for start-ups and existing businesses.	This office will serve as a resource hub providing guidance and support throughout different stages of business development.						04/01/2024	31/03/2024
4	Transparency of official fees and procedures	This reform area will increase transparency of official fees and procedures focusing on key business environment enabling MDAs	A. Finalise process mapping and developing business regulatory processes in BEE MDAs	Business regulatory process mapping signed off by all included MDAs and approved by the relevant authority	*Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) *Contractors *Women organizations *Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	Akwa Ibom State Internal Revenue Service (AKIRS)	*Ministry of Economic Development, *Ministry of Trade and Investment, *Ministry of Health, *Ministry of Education, *Ministry of Transport *Akwa Ibom State Environmental Protection and Waste Management Agency (AKSEWMA) *Nigerian Agric. Quarantine Services (NAQS)	*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) *UYOCCIMA *Manufacturing Association of Nigeria (MAN) *African Women Agric. Business Network (AWAN) *Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) *NIRSAL	N150 Million	04/01/2024	04/06/2024
			A.1. publication of the regulatory processes to include fees, services, delivery timelines in 5 Business Enabling Environment (BBE) MDAs on the State official Website	Publish the business regulatory processes put in place on the official website of the State so that old and new business owners can access it easily							
			A.2. develop State Grievance Redress Mechanism with legal backing	State will develop guidelines for Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and ensure it has the required legal support							
			A.3 development of Service level agreements in the BEE MDAs	State will coordinate the BEE MDAs to reach a level of agreement on service areas for each MDA to remove overlapping roles							
			A.4. issuance of State Executive Order to direct 5 BEE MDAs to publish on State official website(s) their fees, procedures, SLAs, GRM, and mandatory advance communication rule.	An Executive order directing the BEE MDAs to publish their fees, procedures, SLAs, GRM and mandatory advance communication rule on the State official website							
			A.5 online publication of the report on monthly basis the operation and implementation of the GRM and SLAs in the BEE MDAs	Publish monthly reports on GRM and SLA compliance on the State website.							
5	Increased Transparency of Fees and Levies for Inter-State Trade and Enhanced Exporter Certification	To enhance the transparency of fees and levies for inter-state trade and to strengthen exporter certification in other to promote a more conducive business environment.	A. Establishment and online publication of schedule of trade related fees and levies on inter-state movement of goods	Provide comprehensive information on schedule trade related fees and levies on inter-state movement of goods	*Government Agencies *Traders *Business owners in the State *Entrepreneurs *General Public	Ministry of Trade and Investment	*Akwa Ibom State Internal Revenue Service (AKIRS) *Ministry of Transport *Ministry of Justice *Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC) *Raw Material and Research Development Council (RMRDC) *Nigerian Agric. Quarantine Services (NAQS) *Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON) *NAFDAC *Technology Incubation Centre (TIC)	*National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) *Association of Nigerian Exporters (ANE) *Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) *Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) *UYOCCIMA *Manufacturing Association of Nigeria (MAN)	N100 Million	04/01/2024	30/06/2024
			A.1. Sensitization on the schedule of trade related fees and levies on inter state movement of goods	Conduct advocacy meetings with groups and unions, embark on distribution of leaflets and fliers to sensitize the operators							
			B. Establishment of GRM for traders with SMS/hotline for reporting and redress	Establish an office and appoint a desk officer whose no shall be made available							
			B.1 Reporting on issues which are addressed by the GRM on monthly basis	Produce a monthly report of their activities to the Secretariat for monitoring purpose							
			C. Reinvalidate the State Committee on Export promotion (SCEP)	The Committee shall be reinvigorated to deliver on its mandate.							
			C.1 Allocation of an operational budget to the SCEP in the 2024 budget	The Ministry of Trade and Investment shall include the SCEP in its 2024 budget estimate							

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			D. Develop Akwa Ibom State export strategy and guidelines	A strategy leveraging the One State One product for Export national strategy should be developed							
			D.1 Online publication of Akwa Ibom State Export Strategy and Guidelines 2.0	The Ministry of Trade and Investment shall publish the State Export Strategy and Guidelines for easy accessibility							
			E. Increase the number of firms with export certificates from Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) attracted to the State	SCEP and Ministry of Trade and Investment shall make sensitization campaign to attract new Exporters with incentives put in place to help Export business in the State							
			F. Organize an Export Investment Summit	To facilitate international trade and investment opportunities to bring together key stakeholders, showcase export potential, attract foreign investors, and foster partnerships to enhance global market access for local businesses.							
			G. Establishment of Domestic Export Warehouse (DEW)	Streamline export processes and enhance logistical efficiency to improve storage and distribution capabilities, reduce export lead times, lower operational costs, and promote a conducive environment for increased export volumes.							
			H. Organization of International Trade Mission to abroad	To promote bilateral trade and explore business opportunities to facilitate networking, showcase domestic products/services, foster partnerships, and attract foreign investment for mutual economic growth and global market expansion.							
			I. Establishment of ISO1725 certified/ accredited laboratory for testing made-in- Akwa Ibom products	To ensure quality compliance to enhance product quality, build consumer confidence, meet international standards, and promote export competitiveness for Akwa Ibom-based products.							
6	Simplification of State and Local Business Tax Regimes	To enhance the procedures of payment of tax in the State	A. review the existing State revenue law to adopt presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses  A.1 Establish a presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses in Akwa Ibom State  B. Subsume all business-related local government charges/fees/taxes into a consolidated demand notice  B.1 Raise consolidated demand notices for all business-related local government charges/fees/taxes	To review the Akwa Ibom State Internal Revenue Service Law  Achieve 100% growth in both number of taxpayers and value of taxes collected  Generate harmonized Demand Notice  Print and serve consolidated Demand Notices	*Small Businesses - Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) *Business Owners * Investors	Akwa Ibom State Internal Revenue Services (AKIRS)	*Ministry of Finance *State Budget Office (SBO) *Ministry of Justice *Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly (AKHA) *Ministry of Commerce, *Ministry of Local Government Affairs	*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) *UYOCCIMA *African Women Agric. Business Network (AWAN) *Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) *Association of Nigerian Exporters (ANE) *All Farmers Association of Nigeria (ALFAN)	N50 Million	04/01/2024	30/04/2024

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			C. Establish electronic platform for collection of taxes, levies and fees from businesses and generate automated e-receipt (QR code or unique payment ID) for all BEE MDAs	Develop Electronic Payment Solution							
			D. Ensure electronic payment of all State- level and local government taxes, levies and fees from business (with adoption of at least 75% of State collection of taxes, levies and fees from businesses	Increase adoption of electronic Payment of taxes							
7	Quick determination of commercial disputes	To improve the State Judiciary and strengthen access to an efficient commercial justice system	A. Establishment of State Judicial Committee by the Chief Judge of Akwa Ibom State Judiciary	The chief Judge of Akwa Ibom State Judiciary shall obtain the approval of the Governor for the establishment of Judicial Committee	*Small Businesses - Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) *Business Owners *Investors	Akwa Ibom State State Judiciary	*Ministry of Justice *Office of the Secretary to the State Government * AKIRS *Ministry of Trade and Investment *Ministry of Transport	*Nigeria Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) *VIYOCIMA *African Women Agric. Business Network (AWAN) *Small and Medium Enterprises Dev. Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) *All Farmers Association of Nigeria (ALFAN)	N30 Million	04/01/2024	30/06/2024
			B. establishment and operation of small claims courts (tried at least one case each)	The Judicial Committee shall appoint some judges to preside over the small claims courts in the State							
			B.1 Development of the State Judiciary website	to ensure transparency, the State Judiciary shall establish a functional website							
			B.2 publication on State Judiciary website the practice Directions of the small claims courts	to ensure transparency, the State Judiciary shall establish a functional website							
			B.3. write monthly report for small claims courts from inception of the courts to December 2023	The Judiciary shall provide a monthly report on the activities of the small claims court on a monthly basis							
			B.4. publication on the State Judiciary website reports for small claims courts on monthly basis	The Judiciary shall provide a monthly report on the activities of the small claims court on a monthly basis							
			C. submit disposition time report to include the % of cases dispose within 60 days	The Judiciary shall provide a monthly report on the activities of the small claims court on a monthly basis and ensure at least 80% performance achievement							
			D. submit execution time report to include the % of judgement executed within 30 days	The Judiciary shall provide a monthly report on the activities of the small claims court on a monthly basis and ensure at least 80% performance achievement							