



**ONDO STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP**

2023 - 2024

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ACRONYMS & DEFINITIONS

AFAN:	All Farmers Association of Nigeria
ANCOPSS:	Nigeria Confederation of Principals
BPP:	Bureau of Public Procurement
CBOs:	Community Based Organizations
CDAS:	Community Development and Adherence Support Initiatives
CEOs:	Chief Executive Officers
CON:	Commander of the Order of the Niger
CSOs:	Civil Society Organizations
DPSRD:	Department of Public Service Reform and Development
e-GP:	Electronic Government Procurement
EMIS:	Education Management Information System
FOMWAN:	Federation of Muslim Women’s Association in Nigeria
FIBAN:	Freelance and Independent Broadcasters Association of Nigeria
FOI:	Freedom of Information
FSPs:	Fiscal Strategy Papers
HMIS:	Health Management Information System
ICAN:	Institute of Chartered Accountant of Nigeria
ICT:	Information & Communication Technology
IGR:	Internally Generated Revenue
JDPI:	Justice Development and Peace Initiative
KPIs:	Key Performance Indicators
LEMI:	Lifeline Empowerment initiative
MDAs:	Ministries, Agencies and Departments
MEDAs:	Ministries, Extra-Ministerial Departments and Agencies
MIS:	Management Information System
MTEF:	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MTSS:	Medium Term Sector Strategy
NANS:	National Association of Nigeria Students
NACOMYO:	National Council of Muslim Youth Organization
NAWOJ:	National Association of Women Journalists
NBA:	Nigerian Bar Association
NCWS	National Council of Women Society
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NLC:	Nigerian Labour Congress
NMA:	Nigerian Medical Association
NOA:	National Orientation Agency
NUJ:	Nigerian Union of Journalists
NUT:	Nigerian Union of Teachers

OCDS:	Open Contracting Data Standard
ODSIP:	Ondo Service Improvement Programme
ODBPP:	Ondo State Bureau of Public Procurement
ONDOHRM:	Ondo Human Resources Management System
OGP:	Open Government Partnership
OSACA:	Ondo State Agricultural Commodity Association
OSRC:	Ondo State Radiovision Corporation
PPIMU:	Project and Performance Implementation Monitoring Unit
PTA:	Parents Teachers Association
PWDs:	People with Disabilities
PFM:	Public Financial Management
RATTAWU:	Radio, Television, Theatre and Arts Workers' Union of Nigeria
RCA:	Reform Coordinating Agency
SAN:	Senior Advocate of Nigeria
SAP:	State Action Plan
SFTAS:	States Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability
SIFMIS:	State Integrated Financial Management Information Systems
SITA:	State Information Technology Agency
SSC:	State Steering Committee
TQM:	Total Quality Management
TUC:	Trade Union Congress

FOREWORD

Ondo State Government joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in line with our administration's aspiration to further promote transparency, accountability and an enabling environment for effective citizens' participation in governance, as well as sustain the fiscal reform achieved through the implementation of State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) Program for Result in the State.

The OGP principles are in tandem with the policies adopted in implementing programmes and projects in the State since inception of our administration. To ensure effective implementation of OGP in the State, the OGP State Steering Committee was set up comprising equal representation of both State and Non-State Actors according to the OGP global guidelines. The State Steering Committee is saddled with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of OGP in the State.

The OGP State Action Plan (SAP) was co-created through collaborative efforts from relevant Government Agencies, Civil Society Organisations, Private Organizations, Academia, Media Practitioners and Professional Bodies. It sets out ambitious commitment which reflects our belief that Open Government plays a key role in creating an open, transparent and accountable Government, strengthening public trust in our institutions, producing better public service outcomes, and a better quality of life for everyone. This SAP which span a two-year period of 2023-2024 focuses on four Thematic Areas of **Fiscal Transparency, Access to Information, Service Delivery and Citizens Engagement** with five Commitments. We are confident that these commitments will drive improvements that are crucial to ensuring that decision making is open and accessible to the people of our dear State.

Finally, with the robust and cordial support of Non-State Actors, we shall continue to put all mechanisms in place to drive the achievement of this SAP within the specified period of two years and we hope to immediately step up to a new level at the expiration of the plan. It is envisaged that the reforms in this action plan will further enhance transparency, citizens' engagement and efficient service delivery to ensure improvement in the quality of lives of Ondo State residents.

Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*
Ondo State Governor

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are delighted that the Ondo State Government's desire to produce its first Open Government Partnership (OGP) State Action Plan (SAP) has finally materialized. The development of the SAP which involves a co-creation process between Government Ministries, Departments & Agencies (MDAs) and other stakeholders, including the Civil Society Organisations, Private Organisations, Media, Professional Bodies, Academia etc, has been an excellent example of Government and Non-Government Actors working in a truly collaborative way to design a robust public policy.

We are therefore convinced that the Ondo State Action Plan which covers a period of 2023-2024 will further enhance citizens' access to information, participation in governance, improve Government service delivery, and promote fiscal transparency in the State. We are also confident that the co-creation process of developing this SAP will engender the buy-in and commitment of all stakeholders to the Plan.

On this note, we appreciate, most sincerely, the Executive Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*, for his unwavering support and commitment to transparency and accountability which are the key tenets of OGP implementation.

In the same vein, we appreciate the efforts and doggedness of members of the OGP State Steering Committee in facilitating a seamless co-creation process for the SAP and the Core Work Group for working tirelessly in ensuring the timely completion of this document.

We would like to appreciate the National Secretariat of the Open Government Partnership, MacArthur Foundation and African Centre for Leadership, Strategy & Development (Centre LSD) for the capacity building on OGP co-creation process organised for the State and Non-State Actors towards the crafting of this State Action Plan (SAP).

We are equally grateful to all other stakeholders, especially the relevant MDAs and Non-State actors for their support towards the development of this SAP. We look forward to working together with all stakeholders to promote the commitments in this Plan and to further strengthen OGP principles and practices in Ondo State.

Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan
Honourable Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget (Co-Chair)

SECTION ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Ondo State, otherwise referred to as the "Sunshine State", was created from the defunct Western State on 3rd February, 1976. The present Ondo State was formed when Ekiti State was carved out of it in October 1996. The State has land area of approximately 15,317sq kilometers representing 1.66 percent of the total surface area of Nigeria. The year 2006 census puts the population of the State at 3,441,024, the projected population as at 2022 was 5,477,901.15. The State is made up of 18 local governments while the Administrative capital is Akure. Ondo State is located entirely within the tropics and it has the longest coastline in Nigeria with considerable territorial waters offshore, rich in aquatic and mineral resources.

The State's economy is basically agrarian with large scale production of cocoa, palm produce and rubber. Other crops like maize, kolanut, yam and cassava are produced in large quantities. 65% of the State's labour force is in the agriculture sub-sector. The State is also blessed with very rich forest resources where some of the most exotic timbering in Nigeria abound. Ondo State is equally blessed with extensive deposits of crude oil, bitumen, glass sand, kaolin, granites and limestone. Therefore, the State has great potentials for rapid industrial growth in view of its raw material base. The tourism potentials of the State is also high as its historical sites, long coastline, lakes, forest and cultural events can be developed for tourism. Ondo State is one of the most peaceful states in Nigeria and this makes her the most viable tourist and investment destination.

Ondo State Government joined OGP via a letter of intent signed by Mr. Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*, in May 2022 and the approval was received in July, 2022. The decision of the State Government to join OGP was informed by its aspiration to further promote Transparency, Accountability, Inclusiveness and an enabling environment for effective citizens' participation in governance, as well as sustain the fiscal reform achieved through the implementation of State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) Program for Result in the State.

The tenets of OGP are already being held dearly in Ondo State since the inception of Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, *SAN, CON*, led administration by putting in place necessary legal frameworks to ensure effective implementation of OGP in the State. Some of the legal frameworks put in place include the Fiscal Responsibility Law (2017), Public Procurement Law (2017), Financial Regulations and Store and Audit Laws. All these laws aimed at transparency and accountability were signed within the first year of this Administration.

The OGP is a new paradigm in promoting open government and democratic principles through the creation of participatory mechanisms. The cardinal objective is efficient and effective use of developmental resources across the world. It is popularly believed that openness in the management of an economy through proper disclosure and inclusiveness would lead to optimal resource utilization and reduction in corruption through citizens' participation in governance.

1.2 OVERVIEW OF ONDO STATE OGP ACTION PLAN

The Ondo State Open Government Partnership (OGP) 2023-2024 Action Plan was co-created by stakeholders consisting of both State & Non-State Actors, to be implemented within two years. The State Action Plan (SAP) is predicated on four (4) thematic areas and five (5) commitments. The thematic areas and the commitments are as tabulated below:

Summary of the State's Action Plan Thematic Areas and Commitments

THEMATIC AREA 1: FISCAL TRANSPARENCY	
Commitment 1	To ensure openness and citizens engagement in the entire budget cycle.
Commitment 2	Ondo State will ensure that for all procurements, at least 50% will be undertaken through open, competitive procurement process
THEMATIC AREA 2: SERVICE DELIVERY	
Commitment	Improve service delivery in Agriculture, Education, Health and Infrastructure sectors through deployment of relevant and sustainable technology.
THEMATIC AREA 3: ACCESS TO INFORMATION	
Commitment	Domestication of Freedom of Information Act and effective implementation of the act by Public Institutions in Ondo State.
THEMATIC AREA 4: CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT	
Commitment	To develop and sustain the Permanent Dialogue Mechanism for citizens' engagement and feedback on government programmes and projects.

SECTION TWO

2.1 GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TOWARDS OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

The Governor of Ondo State, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*, at the inception of his administration introduced the mantra “Think anew....Act anew”, this signposted a paradigm shift in governance in the State. There was a renewed commitment on the part of Government to make governance all-inclusive and more transparent. Within the first year of the administration’s first term in office, a number of public financial management laws were enacted to ensure openness, transparency and accountability in government activities. These laws include the Fiscal Responsibility Law (2017), the Public Procurement Law (2017), the Store and Audit Law (2017).

A great deal of efforts were also exerted to ensure that the Public Service is reformed to birth a bureaucracy that is more responsive to the citizens and renders efficient and effective service to the public. Some of the activities of the State towards Open Government Partnership include:

- i. Establishment of Ondo State Bureau of Public Procurement and inauguration of the State Board on public Procurement.
- ii. Issuance of Standard Bidding Documents in works and goods.
- iii. Introduction of e-procurement and open contracting.
- iv. Passage of the State Revenue Administration Law and granting of full autonomy to the State Internal Revenue Service.
- v. Issuance of identity cards with biometric data of all State’s civil servants and pensioners to eliminate payroll fraud.
- vi. Publication of audited annual financial statements of the State within 6 months of financial year-end.

- vii. Citizens' participation in Budgeting process through Town Hall meetings across the State.
- viii. Online and offline feedback mechanisms on Budgeting Process.
- ix. Online publication of Quarterly Budget Performance Reports on the Ministry's website(www.ondobudget.org/www.mepbondostate.org)
- x. Online publication of the debt status of the State on quarterly basis.
- xi. Online publication of approved State Budget.
- xii. Establishment of Health Management Information System (HMIS).
- xiii. Establishment of Education Management Information System (EMIS).
- xiv. Creation of toll free line (0800555555).

SECTION THREE

3.1 METHODOLOGY

Ondo State Open Government Partnership (OGP) Action Plan was co-created by the State Actors and the Non-State Actors. The Action Plan preparation process began with the approval of the composition of the State Steering Committee (SSC) comprising equal representation of State and Non State Actors by the Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*, in May, 2022.

Following the approval, a 4-day sensitisation and capacity building workshop was organised by the State Government with support of Africa Centre for Leadership, Strategy and Development (Centre LSD) and MacArthur Foundation for the SSC members and other stakeholders such as representatives of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Professional Bodies, Academia and Private sector from Tuesday, 11th to Friday 14th October, 2022.

After exhaustive deliberation at the workshop, both the State and Non-State actors agreed on four thematic areas with five commitments for the Ondo State OGP Action Plan.

The first draft of the State Action Plan (SAP) was collated by the Secretariat after incorporating comments and observations made during the group presentation at the OGP capacity building workshop. The list of the collated thematic areas and commitments was shared with participants through the WhatsApp platform created for the four thematic areas, additional comments and observations raised in each of the WhatsApp platform was used to update the first draft. The draft collated thematic areas and commitments was forwarded to the OGP National

Secretariat for comments. Thereafter, joint review/validation workshop was held to produce the State Action Plan (SAP).

The State Action plan was developed to address the identified OGP challenges in the State in line with OGP Principles. In summary, the SAP undertook a painstaking and robust public engagement activities to achieve the first OGP State Action Plan (2023 -2024). The underlisted are the key events that heralded the SAP:

- i. Engagement with key Government Actors
- ii. Awareness Creation of the OGP process through media engagements;
- iii. Approval of the composition of the State OGP Steering Committee by the Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON*;
- iv. Sensitisation and capacity enhancement of both State and Non-State Actors on the OGP Process;
- v. Priorities Development: Priorities were identified and reviewed; prospective theme and commitment areas were developed at stakeholder consultative meetings involving both State and non-State Actors;
- vi. Multi-Stakeholder Meetings: A series of workshops for identification and joint development and validation of commitments by State and non-State actors and this increased stakeholders' ownership of the Open Government Partnership initiative.
- vii. Finalizing the Action Plan: The harmonized and validated State Action Plan was finalized at a multi-stakeholder meeting.
- viii. Submission and Approval: The finalized action was submitted to the OGP National Secretariat and approval received
- ix. The Governor's approval and sign-off on the State Action Plan marked the end of the process.

SECTION FOUR

4.1 THEMATIC AREA 1: FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Thematic Area:	FISCAL TRANSPARENCY	
Commitment 1:	To ensure openness and citizens engagement in the entire budget cycle.	
Start and end date:	January 2023 – December 2024	
Lead MDA:	Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget	
Responsible Persons:	Mr. Bayo Philip	
Designation:	Permanent Secretary	
Email and Phone:	ilemophilip@yahoo.com	
Other Actors Involved in implementation:	State Actors	Ministry of Finance, Ondo State Internal Revenue Service, Accountant General Office, Debt Management Office, Ondo State Bureau of Public Procurement, Project Performance Implementation and Monitoring Units, Ondo State House of Assembly, House of Assembly Commission and other MEDAs.
	Non-State Actors	CSOs, CBOs, PWDs, Citizens Group, Private Sector etc.
General problem/challenge addressed by the commitment:	Weak Feedback Mechanism, Inaccessibility of Citizens’ budget, Inability of the citizens to track the content of the Appropriation Law and its level of implementation.	
Main Objective:	To improve openness and citizen participation in the entire budget process in order to ensure that citizens have access to budget information timely.	
Brief description of commitment:	Ondo State is committed to ensuring that budget information is available and accessible to all citizens timely. This commitment will improve accountability on the part of government, provide openness and transparency in the budget process, and ensure that citizens are engaged throughout the budget cycle.	
Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	Inadequate and weak feedback mechanisms on budget process	
Rationale for commitment:	Effective and efficient citizens’ participation in the entire budget process, thus promoting transparency accountability and accessibility of the Appropriation Law to the citizenry.	
Expected Impact:	More citizens would have confidence in Government policies and be committed to playing their civic roles and responsibilities.	

		Results			Performance Indicator
Expected Outcomes: i		Increased Citizens' Participation in the entire Budget process.			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Community Engagements held 2. Number of Focus Groups Discussions held. 3. Number of Town Hall Meetings conducted
ii		Improved timeliness of release of budget document			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timely issuance of call circulars 2. Timely presentation of Budget to the State House of Assembly 3. Timely passage of the Budget by the State House of Assembly 4. Timely assent to the appropriation bill by the Governor
ii		Improved transparency and accountability in governance			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Percentage of citizens aware of the budget process 2. Percentage of citizens with access to Budget Implementation Report
S/ N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Results	Performance Indicators

i.	Conduct of town hall meetings in at least the three Senatorial Districts in the State to harvest citizens' input into the pre-budget statements using the draft MTSS and MTEF documents as tools/background documents in the fora.	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Report of the Town Hall meetings.	Number of Town Hall meetings held.
ii.	Mobilize CSOs' and other stakeholders' participation in budget preparation.	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	CSOs' and other stakeholders participated in the budget preparation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of CSO and stakeholders involved in budget preparation. 2. Number of engagements held to mobilize CSOs and other stakeholders in budget preparation
iii.	Prompt publication of all key budget documents to facilitate citizens' participation in line with Ondo State Fiscal Responsibility Law (2017).	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Key Budget documents (budget calendar, call circular, etc) published timely	Timely issuance of budget calendar and call circular
iv.	Publish a citizens' budget alongside the Appropriation Law.	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Citizens' Budget published	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publication of the Citizens' budget Publication of the Appropriation Law
v.	Publish (online) Quarterly budget Implementation Reports (online) on average four weeks of quarter end.	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Budget Implementation Report published.	Online Publication of quarterly implementation reports.
vi.	Conduct quarterly citizens' satisfaction survey	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Survey conducted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of citizens 2. Number of citizens satisfaction survey conducted
Source of Funding:		Ondo State Government Budget, CSOs, Donor Agencies & Private Sector			

Thematic Area:	FISCAL TRANSPARENCY	
Commitment 2:	Ondo State will ensure that for all procurements, at least 50% will be undertaken through open, competitive procurement process	
Start and end date:	January 2023 – December 2024	
Lead MDA:	Ondo State Bureau of Public Procurement (ODBPP)	
Responsible Persons:	Tolu Fadahunsi	
Designation:	Director General, ODBPP	
Email and Phone:	ondobpp@gmail.com and 07015327627	
Other Actors Involved in implementation:	State Actors	All MDAs and Procuring Entities
	Non-State Actors	CSOs, NGOs, Professional Bodies
General problem/challenge addressed by the commitment:	Lack of citizens' (particularly vendors) participation in Budget implementation through open public procurement.	
Main Objective:	To improve openness, competitiveness and value addition in public procurement	
Brief description of commitment:	The commitment to open competitive procurement process is expected to stimulate the interests of citizens, especially vendors to the contents of the State Budget, with a view to latching on to the opportunities available therein, especially by deploying the use of innovation and technology. This is expected to make them register with the Ondo State Government and qualify for procurement bidding processes. The more the bidders in a procurement process, the more the competitiveness and value to be added and the better for the State Government	
Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	<p>Reduction in the use of Force Account/Direct Labour, which does not promote revenue generation</p> <p>Better engagement of citizens in fiscal policy and programmes</p> <p>Improvement of the availability of information about government fiscal policy and programmes</p> <p>Ameliorating the lack of competitiveness and, hence, high contract project cost</p> <p>Winning the trust of the citizenry in procurement processes by deploying the use of innovative electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) end-to-end</p>	
Rationale for commitment:	Ondo State intends to further its Public Procurement Law, which has made open, competitive procurement process the default method of procurement in the State	

Expected Impact:		<p>Total openness in public procurement processes end-to-end Improved access to information about public procurement vis-à-vis annual procurement plans, bid notices, award notifications in OCDS formats through the existing e-GP environment The general public will be more aware of projects in their localities through Specific Procurement Notices. This will further provoke their participation in the Budget process. Better revenue generation through vendor registration, as vendors will have to remit taxes and other charges to be eligible for bidding Reduction in project cost through competitive prices</p>			
		Results		Performance Indicator	
Expected Outcomes:		i		Increase in advertised projects against previous year's	
		ii		Increase in vendors registered against previous year's	
		iii		Increase in revenue generated	
		Iv		Increase in contracts awarded through open, competitive process	
S/N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Results	Performance Indicators
i	Publishing of Specific Notices through the e-GP platform	January 2023	December, 2024	Improved and increased use of the e-GP platform by all Procuring Entities through a decentralized system data and information that can be uploaded from any office	Number of e-Notices and Adverts published through the e-GP platform
ii	Registration of Vendors	January 2023	December, 2024	Improved activity of self-registration on the e-GP platform from any location in the world	Number of vendors registered on the e-GP platform

iii	Submission and Evaluation of Bids at MDAs	January 2023	December, 2024	Improved activity of e-submission of bids as well as e-evaluation on the e-GP platform from any location in the world	Number of bids submitted through the e-GP platform Number of e-evaluations carried out on the e-GP platform
Iv	Contract awards	January 2023	December, 2024	e-Notification of contract awards available to all bidders regardless of their locations	Percentage of contract awards made available through e-notifications
v	Debriefing and Dispute Resolution	January 2023	December, 2024	Possibility to conduct an e-Review of disputes as Arbitrators, Auditors, Legal Officers are enabled on the platform	Number of disputes resolved Number of disputes e-reviewed Number of Arbitrators, Auditors, Legal Officers enabled to carry out e-review of disputes
Vi	Publication of Contracts in OCDS	January 2023	December, 2024	Automatic e-Publication of contract awards on OCDS once e-Notification is sent	Number of contract awards e-published on OCDS portal bpp.on.gov.ng and https://eprocurement.on.gov.ng/epps/home.do
Source of Funding:		Ondo State Government Budget, Donor Partners, Development Agencies, Private Sectors, CSOs			

4.2 THEMATIC AREA 2: IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

Thematic Area:	IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY	
Commitment 1:	To improve service delivery in Agriculture, Education, Health and Infrastructure sectors through deployment of relevant and sustainable technology.	
Start and end date:	January 2023 – December 2024	
Lead MDA:	Ondo State Reform Office	
Responsible Persons:	Mr. Festus Omomowo	
Designation:	Administrative Secretary	
Email and Phone:	08033578019	
Other Actors Involved in implementation:	State Actors	Ministry of Health, Primary Health Care, Ondo State Contributory Health Commission, Ondo State Psychiatric Hospital, Hospital Management Board, Ondo State College of Health Technology, University of Medical Sciences, University of Medical Sciences Teaching Hospital, Ministry of Education, State Universal Basic Education Board, Teaching Service Commission, Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Adekunle Ajasin University, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Ministry of Land and Infrastructure, Ministry of Agriculture, Ondo State Agribusiness Empowerment Centre, Agriculture Input Supply Agency, and Agriculture Development Programme
	Non-State Actors	Ondo State Civil Society Coalitions, PTA, Farmer Associations in Ondo state, OSACA, CFAN, AFAN, PTA, NUT, ANCOPPS, Private Schools Proprietors Association, NAWOJ
General problem/challenge addressed by the commitment:	Nonchalant attitude to work and lackadaisical nature of service providers and managers in identified thematic areas.	
Main Objective:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To encourage good practices in the public service delivery in line with global best practices ii. To encourage and support emerging innovations that will lead to improved service delivery to the people of the State 	
Brief description of commitment:	This commitment is aimed at providing un-hindered, environmental friendly and improve service delivery to the citizens.	

Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	Inadequate and poor service delivery in education, health, agriculture, and infrastructure sectors				
Rationale for commitment:	To improve service delivery in education, health, agriculture and infrastructure sectors				
Expected Impact:	Improved service delivery in Health, Education, Agriculture and Infrastructure Sectors				
	Results			Performance Indicator	
Expected Outcomes: i	Improved service delivery and enhanced citizens confidence in government policies and programmes			<p>Number of service delivery gaps resolved as identified from citizen's feedback through use of innovative technical solution.</p> <p>Number of monitoring visits conducted.</p> <p>Number of Monitoring Reports produced.</p> <p>Number of validation meetings held</p>	
ii	Public servants improve their attitudes significantly towards professionalism and be more results oriented.			<p>Number of Performance Evaluation Report of MDAs produced.</p> <p>Citizens' perception of the services offered by the affected MDAs.</p> <p>Number of citizens patronizing Public Service Outlets.</p>	
S/N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Results	Performance Indicators
i	Mapping and identification of gaps in service delivery in	January, 2023	December, 2024	Gaps in innovation and use of technology in effective and	Number of sector mappings carried out on service delivery.

	the four identified Sectors.			efficient service delivery identified.	Number of identified gaps in service delivery resolved.
ii	Advocacy visit/ Sensitization Meeting to the management of selected/Relevant MDAs e.g. Ministry of Health, Education, Agriculture, Lands and Infrastructure, HMB, SUBEB, AISA RAAMP, e.t.c on improvement in service delivery	January, 2023	December, 2024	Seek buy-in of CEOs of selected MDAs	Number of advocacy visits carried out on service delivery. Number of sensitization meetings held to management of relevant MDAs on service delivery
iii	Review and amendment of affected extant laws	January, 2023	December, 2024	Affected extant laws reviewed and amended.	Number of review committee set up. Number of laws/policies reviewed. Number of laws/policies passed Percentage level of compliance to implementation of the extant law. Review of score card/template

					<p>Number of Service Compliance reports produced</p> <p>Number of reports published on the websites</p> <p>Number of progress reports produced</p> <p>Number of meetings held with Management to discuss compliance levels and challenges</p>
iv	Capacity building for relevant professionals in the identified sectors.	January, 2023	December, 2024	Capacity of relevant professionals in the identified sectors built.	<p>Number of capacity building trainings held for relevant professionals</p> <p>Number of relevant professionals trained.</p>

v	Increased capital budget line in Agriculture, Education, Health and Infrastructure Sector	January, 2023	December, 2024	Budgets of the MDAs in the affected sectors increased	<p>Percentage change in the budget allocation to the targeted MDAs in the affected sectors</p> <p>Ratio of the actual Budget release in relation to actual expenditure of the affected MDAs in the targeted sectors.</p>
vi	Develop the capacity of the citizens to engage Government	January, 2023	December, 2024	Increased engagement and interaction between public institutions and citizens.	<p>Number of meetings held.</p> <p>Number of sensitizations carried out.</p> <p>Number of reports produced.</p> <p>Number of reports and responses documented through technology.</p>
vii	Peer review to performing MDAs on service delivery in the sectors.	January, 2023	December, 2024	Peer review/study to performing MDAs conducted.	Number of peer review/study carried out.

					Number of MDA peer reviewed. Number of peer review/study reports produced.
Source of Funding:	Ondo state Government, INGO, Private/business institutions, CSO.				

4.3 THEMATIC AREA 3: ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Thematic Area:	ACCESS TO INFORMATION	
Commitment 1:	Domestication of Freedom of Information Act and effective implementation of the act by Public Institutions in Ondo State.	
Start and end date:	January 2023 – December 2024	
Lead MDA:	Ministry of Information	
Responsible Persons:	Toyin Onisile (Mrs)	
Designation:	Administrative Secretary	
Email and Phone:	toyenonis@gmail.com ; 08036006479	
Other Actors Involved in implementation:	State Actors	Ministry of Information, Civil Service Commission, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Ministry of Finance, House of Assembly, State Information Technology, Agency(SITA), Ondo State Bureau of Statistics, Ondo State Radio vision Corporation(OSRC), Orange Fm.
	Non-State Actors	Knowledge and Care Providers, Upline Centre for Development, St Joavics Foundation, Justice Development and Peace Initiative (JDPI), NUJ, Private media stations, NAWOJ, FIBAN, Lifeline Empowerment initiative (LEMI), National Council of Muslim Youth Organization (NACOMYO), Ondo State Chapter, Les Soeurs Initiative, Community Development & Adherence Support Initiative (CDASI), Federation of Muslim Women’s Association in Nigeria (FOMWAN), ZOE Foundation, etc.
General problem/challenge	Low access to Government information by the general public. Inadequate dissemination of Government information through social and mass media	

addressed by the commitment:					
Main Objective:	To allow the citizens have unhindered access to Government policies and programmes				
Brief description of commitment:	This commitment seeks to ensure domestication and effective implementation of the Freedom of Information Act regarding record management, mandatory publication, reporting obligation and responsiveness.				
Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Poor access to information ii. Inadequate information on government policies and programmes iii. Low citizens' demand for government accountability 				
Rationale for commitment:	There is currently low public knowledge of the FOI Act by public institutions and citizens thus, disempowering the public and affecting the demand for Government accountability.				
Expected Impact:	Increased public access to information, inclusiveness and overall development.				
	Results				Performance Indicator
Expected Outcomes:	i Freedom of Information Act domesticated in the State				Freedom of Information law enacted in the State.
	ii Citizens get unhindered access to Government information				Percentage change in level of responses to FOI requests by citizens.
	iii Increased citizens participation in government activities (partnership in governance)				Percentage of citizens involved in the governance processes.
S/N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Results	Performance Indicators
i	Advocacy for domestication of FOI Act.	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Advocacy visit to top Government officials on the domestication of FOI Act in the State carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of advocacy visits carried out Number of advocacy visit reports produced.
ii	Creation of an online portal for submitting FOI requests	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Online portal for submission of FOI request created	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FOI online portal Web address created Number of FOI requests submitted through the FOI portal

iii	Creation of social media platforms and websites for Ondo OGP	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Social media platforms created for Ondo OGP	Number of social media platforms created for Ondo OGP Number of social media handle links created
iv	Engaging mass media on public sensitization of the FOI Act	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Relevant mass media engaged on public sensitization of the FOI Act	Number of mass media engagements held
v	Creation of Free toll lines	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Toll lines created.	Number of toll lines created. Number of traffic recorded on the toll-free lines
vi	Village and Town Hall meetings across the State	Jan, 2023	Dec, 2024	Reports of the town hall meetings	Number of town hall meetings held.
Source of Funding:		Ondo state Government, NGOs, Donor partners, Private/business institutions, CSO.			

4.4 THEMATIC AREA 4: CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT

Thematic Area	CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT
Commitment 1:	To develop and sustain the Permanent Dialogue Mechanism for citizens' engagement and feedback on Government programmes and projects.
Start and end date:	January 2023 – December 2024
Lead MDA:	Ministry of Information
Responsible Persons:	Toyin Onisile (Mrs)
Designation:	Permanent Secretary
Email and Phone:	toyenonis@gmail.com ; 08036006479.

Other Actors Involved in implementation:	State Actors	Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Ministry of Finance, Ondo State Internal Revenue Service, Ministry of Health, Primary Health Care, Ondo State Contributory Health Commission, Ondo State Psychiatric Hospital, Hospital Management Board, Ondo State School of Health Technology, University of Medical Sciences, University of Medical Sciences Teaching Hospital, Ministry of Education, State Universal Basic Education Board, Teaching Service Commission, Olusegun Agagu University of Science and Technology, Adekunle Ajasin University, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Ministry of Land and Infrastructure, Ministry of Agriculture, Ondo State Agribusiness Empowerment Centre, and Agriculture Input Supply Agency, and Agriculture Development Programme
	Non-State Actors	Ondo State Civil Society Coalition, Farmer associations in Ondo state, INGOs, PTA, CSOs, CBOs, PWDs, NUJ, NAWOJ, RATTAWU, NLC, NBA, NMA, ICAN, NANS, TUC, NCWS
General problem/challenge addressed by the commitment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Limited citizens' participation in governance process ii. Low knowledge about government programmes and policies iii. Nonchalant attitude of citizens concerning government projects iv. Limited citizens' access to government data v. Wrong perspectives of citizens about government policies and programmes. 	
Main Objective:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To enhance citizens' participation in governance and make government more responsive to citizens' priority needs ii. To build mutual trust and confidence between government and citizens 	
Brief description of commitment:	To ensure that citizens are carried along and participate fully in all government programmes and projects.	
Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Decreasing public trust in government and governance decision making ii. Low citizen engagement in governance 	
Rationale for commitment:	To improve citizens' participation in governance and government's responsiveness to citizens needs in order to build their trust and ensure active participation in governance	
Expected Impact:	Overall development of the State	
	Results	Performance Indicator
Expected Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Increased dissemination of information on government programmes and policies. 	Number of town hall meetings held leading to greater community participation.

	ii	Increased in the number of feedbacks enabled platforms.	Number of MEDAs with Feedback platforms.
	iii	Increased citizens active participation in governance	Percentage of citizens involved in governance process. Percentage change in citizens participating actively in the governance process.
	iv	Increased citizens' trust and accountability in governance	Percentage of citizens with positive perception of Government projects, programs and policies delivery.
	v	Increased responsiveness by the government to the citizens needs especially persons with disability, women, children and youths	Number of government policies and programmes deployed to address the needs of vulnerable persons.
	vi	Increased commitment of citizens to engage	Number of citizens that engage government on public information and records based on community engagements done during the course of implementation of government projects

S/ N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Results	Performance Indicators
i	Proper and timely dissemination of government activities to the members of public through effective channels	Jan 2023	Dec,2024	All government activities disseminated as and when due	Number of dissemination meetings held Numbers of MEDAs involved in information dissemination

ii	Creation of functional feedback mechanism for the citizens	Jan 2023	Dec,2024	Functional feedback mechanism created for citizens feedback	Number of functional feedbacks created
iii	Creating awareness of the citizens on the need to participate actively in government activities	Jan 2023	Dec,2024	Awareness on the needs of citizens engagement in governance created	Number of feedbacks received from the awareness programmes. Number of citizens participating in government business.
iv	Creation of social media handles on Citizens engagement	Jan,2023	Dec,2024	Social media on citizens engagement created	Number of social media links created Number of visit to the social media platforms by citizens.
Source of Funding:		Ondo state Government, NGOs, Donor partners, Private/business institutions, CSO.			

SECTION FIVE

5.1 IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION PLAN

The Ondo State OGP framework is modelled after that of the Federal Government of Nigeria. The State Action Plan (SAP) was jointly co-created by State and Non-State actors and the Action Plan finds its root in the second term eight (8) cardinal programme of the Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu *SAN, CON* administration acronymed **"REDEEMED AGENDA"** and some identified challenges militating against good governance in the State as highlighted by State and Non-State actors' stakeholders. The SAP is a road map for achieving transparency, accountability, inclusiveness and enabling environment for effective service delivery in the State.

5.1.2 STATE STEERING COMMITTEE

The State Steering Committee (SSC) is the highest decision-making body within the Ondo State OGP structure. It is made up of sixteen (16) Steering Committee members with an equal representation of eight members each from State and Non-State Actors. i.e. eight members represents the Government while eight represents the Non-State Actors that comprised of Civil Society Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Private Sector, Academia, Professional Bodies and Media whose mandates cut across the State OGP thematic areas.

The responsibility for the attainment of the goals of the action plan lies on all the stakeholders, but effective coordination is the responsibility of the State Steering Committee (SSC). Members of the State Steering Committee will hold office for a period of two (2) years, at the expiration of which new

members will emerge in the second phase of the State Action Plan Development. This is to avail other MDAs and Non-State actors the opportunity to become members of the State Steering Committee.

5.1.3 FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The roles of the SSC are to:

- Set high-level strategies, policies, and procedures;
- Provide targeted outreach and support to encourage members, government institutions, and non-state actors to meet their OGP commitments;
- Help with fund raising;
- Represent OGP and promote its accomplishments on the national and international platforms;
- Set a strong example by upholding OGP values and principles and make ambitious commitments;
- Recruit and brief new Steering Committee members during the second phase of the State Action Plan; Connect the State OGP Secretariat to key potential partners; and,
- Approve the Budget of the State OGP Secretariat and annual work plan.

5.1.4 CO-CHAIRS FOR THE STATE OGP

The SSC is led by two Co-chairs, with the Commissioner for Economic Planning & Budget, Pastor Emmanuel Igbasan as Government Co-Chair while High Chief Pius Akomolafe serves as Co-Chair representing Non-State Actors. The Government Co-Chair is to organize and convene the quarterly OGP meetings in the State and other high-profile events and campaigns. The two

Co-chairs, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget and the Head of the State OGP Secretariat (Focal Person) will serve as the governance and leadership sub-committee of the SSC.

Their responsibilities are to:

- Ensure vitality of OGP leadership by recruiting and orienting Co-chairs and members of the State Steering Committee;
- Work with the OGP Secretariat to Plan and run Steering Committee Meetings;
- Supervise the OGP Secretariat;
- Ensure sufficient funding for the OGP to achieve strategic objectives;
- Provide Financial, Legal and Ethical Oversight.

5.1.5 OGP SECRETARIAT MANAGEMENT TEAM

The State OGP Secretariat will be domiciled in the Ministry of Economic Planning & Budget and will be led by a supervising Director from the Ministry, who will act as the Focal Person/OGP State Coordinator, he will be assisted by a desk officer and other support staff as may be required, to ensure that the SAP is efficiently implemented and also ensure that the interest of all stakeholders including the Non-State actors and the general public are harnessed and properly articulated and protected.

5.1.6 TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Technical Working Groups will be established along the three (4) thematic areas and related commitments. Technical Working Groups will be made up of Representatives of MDAs, CSOs, NGOs, and private sector based on expertise and commitment. Each TWG will be headed by the representative

of the lead MDA and one representative of the Non-State actors in each thematic area.

5.1.7 ACCOUNTS:

The OGP Secretariat shall maintain an account with commercial banks in the State and such account shall be managed by the State Coordinator/Focal Person who shall be a signatory to the account.

5.1.8 FUNDING

The State OGP process will be largely funded through Government's annual budget, contribution from agencies that have primary responsibility on commitment areas and development partners.

SECTION SIX

6.1 CROSS-CUTTING AREAS

In order to ensure effective implementation OGP commitments in the State, the SAP recognizes the importance of a strong Information Communication Technology (ICT) presence, a robust Monitoring & Evaluation framework and efficient finance system.

The three cross-cutting areas are:

- a. Technology and Innovations
- b. Communication Strategy
- c. Monitoring & Evaluation

For the commitments and output deliverables set out in the SAP to be realized, efficient utilization of the three (3) tools mentioned above is extremely required. The Technical Working Group created for each thematic areas are saddled with the duty of integrating those tools into the commitments under their thematic areas and strategically collaborate with State and Non-State Actors to effectively deploy and implement these tools.

6.2 TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The use of technology to provide better access to information and data is a key to an open and transparent Government. The SSC recognizes that Technology and Innovation spans all the four OGP thematic areas and that suitable and adaptable technological infrastructure are required to fulfill each commitment. Therefore, each thematic group have to take into consideration

the appropriate technology to be deployed to aid the delivery of the commitments. This can be achieved by:

- Identifying available Government IT solutions and infrastructure that can be readily deployed for implementing OGP commitments.
- Establish their present condition and the IT gaps that exist.
- Recommend the solutions to be proffered to the identified gaps enhancement in the current facilities and infrastructure or the use of new and revolutionary IT solutions which are realistic given the prevailing financial realities.

Thus, the Technology Working Group working with the State ICT Department will:

- Conduct a prioritized audit of available IT tools and gaps in the MDAs that can be deployed for the OGP process.
- Address diagnosed IT gaps in order of priority, taking cognizance of the constrained timeline and resources.
- Provide a continuous technology support mechanism to the OGP commitments.
- Ensure that all technological implementations across relevant MDAs conform to global information technology standards to guarantee systems interoperability for effective support of OGP commitments.
- Establish Open Government Information Platform on the existing State website for OGP information.

6.3 COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Recognizing that openness in and of itself is not an end to achieving transparency and accountability, the SSC has included within the SAP a strategy for the use of both existing and new platforms for citizen engagement and feedback on the four SAP thematic areas. The Communications Strategy includes methods to reach out to citizens directly through civil society, religious leaders and influencers, elected representatives, and the media. It will employ the ACADA (Assessment, Communication, Design, and Action) concept in the development and implementation of this communication strategy. Key elements of the strategy include:

- A reorientation of the psyche of public officials to their responsibility to the citizenry and stakeholders, including donors, businesses and civil society to account for the management of government revenue, loans and grants.
- Increasing awareness by citizens of their right to reports of stewardship by public officials, the right to information on demand as provided for by the Freedom of Information Act (FoIA), and the right to a minimum standard of service delivery from public institutions that possess a direct interface with the public in the provision of services.
- Reducing the communication gap between the government and its citizens by the identification and adoption of existing or establishment of new, credible and robust feedback mechanisms, which promote transparency and support participation in governance by the citizens and other stakeholders in the business of governance.

Through this, citizens will be better informed about the progress made towards the implementation of OGP commitments and can hold government to account. This includes understanding their rights under existing and new laws, along with the obligations of government and the private sector regarding openness and transparency.

6.4 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Internal Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) of the SAP implementation is important for MDAs to ensure that (i) they are on track to fulfil their obligations under each commitment; (ii) assist the SSC to oversee the implementation process and identify potential gaps and determine where support and resources are needed to be directed; and (iii) for citizens, the private sector, civil society and the media to hold government to account with respect to delivering on its OGP commitments. The SAP will use a Results Based Management (RBM) Framework, along with appropriate output and outcome Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), crafted to track achievements, results and impacts of OGP commitments. The M&E system will be presented in a simple template for ease of implementing MDAs and Civil Society to monitor and evaluate progress.

Each of the five (5) commitments articulated in the SAP have KPIs that will guide the M&E process. Through consultation with stakeholders, the M&E framework will include acceptable results (what should be expected or seen) for each commitment area. Each of these results will be reviewed with respect to how they link to citizens' needs and there will be agreed indicators

for these results. The method to capture results most effectively will be agreed upon as well as who will be responsible for this, within the MDAs.

SECTION SEVEN

7.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS

The Ondo State Government will cascade the principles of the Open Government Partnership to all the 18 Local Government Areas in the State. Local Government will be encouraged to duly carry along their relevant stakeholders in the selection of commitment areas so as to ensure the actualization of the programme at the grass root. It is to be noted that the State Action Plan will remain a yard stick for learning in the course of introducing OGP in Local Government Areas thereby providing avenue for referral and correction mechanisms.

SECTION EIGHT

8.1 CONCLUSION

This first edition of Ondo State Open Government Partnership Action Plan was co-created through a robust partnership between the Government and Civil Society right from outset. The SAP will help consolidate the on-going public sector reforms in the State. Working together with Non-State Actors and Development Partners, the State is hopeful of achieving the set goals and ensure improved service delivery, more effective utilization of public resources, re-establishment of public trust in government and deepening of democracy in Ondo State. Policy makers at all levels of governance are therefore expected to remain open to constructive feedbacks and suggestions on ways to successfully implement the Ondo SAP to benefit the people of the State.