

VOLUME 1 NOVEMBER 2022

Okowanomics

*Factfile of Governor Okowa's
Developmental Impacts in
Delta State since 2015*



A transforming and
prospering economy

Job & wealth
creation evidence

Unprecedented network
of roads, urban renewal and
boost of the services sector

An era of policy
and institutional
reforms

A modernized
educational system

A transformed
healthcare system

A better business
environment

Historic upliftment of
living conditions in
riverine communities

Produced by



DELTA STATE JOB AND WEALTH
CREATION BUREAU

PROF. CHIKE EDOZIEN SECRETARIAT, ASABA





HIS EXCELLENCY,
SENATOR DR. IFEANYI OKOWA

GOVERNOR OF DELTA STATE

ABOUT

The **Okowanomics** Factfile

Okowanomics is brand identity of the distinctive political shrewdness, developmental philosophy and governance ideology of His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State. Governor Okowa's legendary "school of thought" is displayed in his people-centred approach, economic wisdom, mission orientation, excellent administrative capability, effective social skills and impactful tenure as Governor of Delta State.

The concept of Okowanomics defines Governor Okowa's first-rate personality brand, leadership endowment and statecraft ability. It is rooted in his exceptional assortment of character qualities notably, self-discipline, critical thinking, clear foresight and strategic planning. These are blended with his characteristic personality virtues of executive intelligence, people management, humility, patience and temperance.

The purpose of Okowanomics Factfile is two-fold: [i] to track and document the factual evidence of Governor Okowa's outstanding governance achievements and exemplary leadership performance in Delta State and [ii] to authoritatively inform and instruct key national stakeholders and the public at large.

Okowanomics Factfile contains fact sheets that are short easy-read summaries of key information and evidence of Governor Okowa's landmark strides, legacy policies and impactful footprints in the social, infrastructural and economic development of Delta State, from 2015 to date. The summaries are deliberately presented in simple, precise and concise formats mixed with infographics for rapid digest.

Okowanomics Factfile is developed and published by Delta State Job & Wealth Creation Bureau, using verified information and data from relevant state government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and National Bureau of Statistics [NBS]. Therefore, data and information provided by MDAs and NBS are gratefully acknowledged.

Professor Eric Eboh

*Chief Job and Wealth Creation Officer & Head
Delta State Job and Wealth Creation Bureau*

November 2022.

6

A transforming and prospering economy



8

Job & wealth creation evidence



10

Unprecedented network of roads, urban renewal and boost of the services sector



13

An era of policy and institutional reforms



17

A modernized educational system



19

A transformed healthcare system



21

A better business environment



24

Historic upliftment of living conditions in the riverine, coastal and creek communities of Delta State



1

A TRANSFORMING AND PROSPERING ECONOMY

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION: WHAT IT MEANS

Economic transformation refers to positive and desired structural changes in the production and consumption of goods and services. An economy is said to be transforming if there is progressive shift along the lines

of economic growth, economic prosperity and sustainable development.

Economic transformation is a continuously evolving long-term process of improvements in economic opportunities and social outcomes which together manifest in reduction of unemployment and poverty.

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND PROSPERITY SINCE 2015: FACTS AND FIGURES

The key arenas for assessing economic transformation include sector composition of the economy, growth rate of the economy, size of the economy, unemployment situation, poverty incidence and outlook of the private sector.

No.	ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION INDICATOR	PERFORMANCE FROM 2015 TO DATE
1.	Size of Delta State Economy – Gross Domestic Product [GDP]	Delta State Gross Domestic Product [GDP] is currently estimated at about US\$14.5-15.0 billion, the third largest state economy in Nigeria. It is estimated that the state economy has grown by 51-60% from 2015 to date.
2.	Delta State Income Per Capita	Delta State per capita income is estimated at between US\$2,701, higher than Nigeria’s national figure of US\$2,085 as estimated by World Bank.
3.	Delta State Ranking on Oil Production in Nigeria	Delta State is No. 1 in crude oil production arising from peace, security and good governance in the state.
4.	Delta State Economy Has Been Increasingly Diversified	Increased diversification of the state’s economy whereby non-oil sector constitutes 52.50% of 2020 GDP compared to 41.90% of GDP in 2013.
5.	Boost of the Services Subsector Delta State Economy	<p>Services sector increased from 18.77% of 2013 GDP to 29.73% of 2020 GDP.</p> <p>The service sector has performed at double-digit growth. Accommodation and Food Services Subsector recorded the highest growth rate at 59.69% from 2019 to 2020, followed by Arts, Entertainment and Recreation, which grew at 17.10%, Education 16.85%, Trade 16.81% and Construction 12.33.</p> <p>The boost of the services sector is the result of well-planned and faithfully executed policies and programmes of skills acquisition and entrepreneurship development among youths, financial and technical interventions for the growth and development of micro, small and medium enterprises and efficient road network across the state.</p>
6.	Growth Rate of Delta State Internally Generated Revenue [IGR]	IGR has performed increasingly better from 2016–2021. In nominal terms, it increased by 82.04% from 2016 to 2021.
7.	Unemployment Rate in Delta State	Based on the most recent statistics of National Bureau of Statistics [NBS], unemployment rate is 31%, less than the national all-states average of 37.2%.

8.	Delta State Poverty Ranking or Position among Nigerian States	Delta State was ranked the 2 nd lowest poverty rate in 2020, a significant leap from 12 th lowest poverty rate in 2010, according to the most recent national survey by National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). This ranking corresponds with the findings of 2021 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey/ National Immunization Coverage Survey conducted by National Bureau of Statistics [NBS] and United Nations Children Fund [UNICEF]. The findings show that only 4.2% of households fall within the poorest quintile [20%].
9.	Health Insurance Coverage	Delta State has attained 20% coverage under the Contributory Health Insurance Scheme, the No. 1 position in comparative universal health coverage across Nigerian States. This is corroborated by National Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Report 2021 which puts health insurance coverage for children under 5 years at 19.9%.
10.	Economic Boost by the development of Asaba Airport	Asaba Airport has moved up from 15 th position to 6 th regarding passenger traffic, and recently won an award as one of the Best Regional Airports in Africa.
11.	A Better Business Environment has been Created	The better business environment in Delta State is confirmed by independent national and international assessments. World Bank's Nigerian Subnational Ease of Doing Business Survey shows that Delta State improved on ease of doing business from the score of 51.73 in 2014 to 54.97 in 2018. The survey also confirmed that Delta State has implemented regulatory reform regarding "registering property" during the reference period. Recently also, the African Heritage Institution's Business Environment and Competitiveness Across Nigerian States [BECANS] in 2020, ranked Delta State No. 1 among the 36 Nigerian states regarding the benchmark "Regulatory Services" which comprises five indicators "Collection of Taxes and Levies", "Land Registration", "Commercial Dispute Resolution" "Business Registration" and "Fiscal Management and Public Procurement".
12.	Strategic Planning, Monitoring & Benchmarking for Sustainable Development	Delta State Medium Term Development Plan 2016-2019 followed by Delta State Medium Term Development Plan 2020-2023. Periodic Measurement of Development Achievements against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs] 2016-2019. These are glaring examples of universal best practice in development planning, policy monitoring and feedback.

THE ROLE OF OKOWANOMICS IN TRANSFORMING AND PROSPERING THE ECONOMY

The economic transformation of Delta State since 2015 is driven by a virtuous combination of the economic ideology, political philosophy and leadership effectiveness encapsulated in Okowanomics. The empirical elements of Okowanomics in transforming and prospering the economy of Delta State are outlined as follows.

I. The culture of strategic planning and development roadmap towards the realization of the SMART Agenda, in

alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs].

II. Rational prioritization of policies and programmes to people-centred public service delivery.

III. Fiscal discipline, project-based budgeting and prudent public expenditure.

IV. Enthronement and sustenance of peace and security through proactive multilevel strategies of peace building and conflict resolution.

V. Well-coordinated closely monitored execution of

programmes and projects.

VI. Significant development of key economic infrastructure [roads and transport, markets, urban facilities] and their impacts on enhanced ease of doing business.

VII. Boost of private sector through the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises [MSMEs], skills training, retraining and support for startups, enhanced government demand for private sector in public works, goods and services.



Gov. Okowa presenting starter pack item to a STEP beneficiary in welding and fabrication

2

THE JOB AND WEALTH CREATION EVIDENCE

THE JOB AND WEALTH CREATION EVIDENCE

Governor Okowa, has from 2015 to date:

- A. Created 14,075 new youth entrepreneurs among previously unemployed or underemployed youths through skills training, retraining, mindset reorientation, entrepreneurship training, startup and working capital support.
- B. Created 223,905 direct jobs through multifaceted programmes and initiatives

in skills development, skills upgrading, entrepreneurship training, microcredit, livelihood sustenance, business support grants and public service job placements.

- C. Created 1,325,750 indirect jobs from ancillary and multiplier effects of public infrastructure works, public private partnerships, community-level and local government-level development projects and activities, public-private collaborative youth empowerment grants and related programmes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EVIDENCE

The detailed break-down of the job and wealth creation evidence is as follows:

- i. Direct Beneficiaries of Skills Acquisition, Entrepreneurship Development and Youth Empowerment Programmes – 14,075 persons. These are the NEW ENTREPRENEURS directly created under the various job creation and youth empowerment platforms, from 2015 to date, viz, STEP, YAGEP, GEEP, RYSA, GEST, ICT-YEP,



Starter Packs for GEST trainees



Starter Packs for RYSA trainees

WESAP, WIDOWS EMPOWERMENT & DESOPADEC skill acquisition and empowerment programme.

ii. Enrolment in Youth Skills Acquisition/Learning and Skills Upgrading Programmes of the State Government - 37,922 persons. These are beneficiaries of government support for technical colleges and vocational skills acquisition centres.

iii. Direct Interventions in Support of Micro, Small Businesses and Enterprises and Livelihood Support - 62,821 persons. This number includes microcredit, grants, loan guarantees, training, working capital support, inputs subsidy, business linkages, market support, financial inclusion, etc.

iv. Direct Public Service

Employment and Related Job Placements - 6,770 persons. This refers to public service recruitments by government Ministries, Departments and Agencies [MDAs] and other direct government-supportive job placements.

v. Indirect Support for the Acquisition of Entrepreneurial and Vocational Skills by Students of State-Owned Tertiary Education Institutions - 116,392 persons. This includes all tertiary education students who have taken part in curriculum-embedded entrepreneurship courses and those who have acquired vocational skills during their course of study at the university, polytechnic or college of education.

vi. Indirect and ancillary

Jobs resulting from youth empowerment, enterprise support, community-level projects and public infrastructure works (construction of roads, bridges and drains, water projects, building of schools, health centres, markets, real estate, parks, etc.) - 1,325,750. This is the aggregate of various consequential jobs arising from indirect, primary and secondary outcomes of government programmes and projects in youth entrepreneurship, business enterprise support, livelihood support, agricultural intervention projects, community-level projects, and public infrastructure works.



Effurun Otor Owor Bridge, Ughelli

3

UNPRECEDENTED NETWORK OF ROADS, URBAN RENEWAL AND BOOST OF THE SERVICES SECTOR

This Okowanomics Fact Sheet focuses on Governor Okowa's legacies of unprecedented network of paved roads, urban renewal and attendant boost of the services sector.

THE LEGACY OF ROADS AND DRAINS

Today, the road landscape and urban outlook of Delta State has changed for the better. The evidence is live and self-commending. The array of

paved roads across the state can be felt and seen by Deltans as well as commuters from other states. This unparalleled feat has not come by chance, but by deliberate planning, effective implementation and close supervision, which are the



hallmarks of Okowanomics.

The legacy of road networks and urban renewal is the direct result of Governor Okowa's early and consistent prioritization of the construction and rehabilitation of road networks since 2015. The development of road networks across the state is in sync with development economics principle that road infrastructure is fundamental to economic and social progress.

Recent statistics show that from 2015 to date, the total length of roads constructed and rehabilitated throughout the state is 1,932.14 km while the total length of drains constructed and rehabilitated throughout the state is 1,035.95 km.

This impressive stock of roads and drains has been achieved under various mandate Ministries, Departments and Agencies as shown in the following table.

THE NEW OUTLOOK OF URBAN AREAS

The urban renewal agenda of Okowanomics combines good road networks, proper environmental sanitation, orderliness of vehicular and human traffic, planned development of housing and marketplaces. Most towns and cities in the state are today linked by paved roads thereby ensuring efficient and smooth transport of persons, goods and services from one location to another.

The state has recorded phenomenal growth of the services sector – tourism, hotels, entertainment, food and beverages, supermarkets, real estate, etc. Delta State, particularly Asaba, the capital city, is now a regular host to national and international events including sports festivals, professional conferences, international meetings, national summits and colloquia.

There is now a network of passable paved roads with drains in and around Asaba capital. The construction of storm drainage works to solve the perennial flash floods in Asaba and Warri has addressed age-long ecological and environmental threats to sustainable urban living.

By standardizing Asaba International Airport and concessioning it to a private

Construction & Rehabilitation of Roads and Drains from 2015 to date

Ministry, Department & Agency (MDA)	Road Construction and Rehabilitation -km (completed and ongoing)	Drains Construction and Rehabilitation - km (completed & ongoing)
Ministry of Works	1,672.00	843.85
Ministry of Urban Renewal	65.748	38.205
Delta State Capital Territory Development Agency	116.457	86.572
SEEFOR Project	10.20	6.08
Warri/Uvwie Environs Area Development Agency	10.587	55.231
Direct Labour Agency	57.15	6.012
Total (km)	1,932.14	1,035.95

operator, Delta State is now open to national and international business and tourism. In addition, the progressive capital development and sustainable professional management of the airport are assured into the future. The almost-completed Ughelli-Asaba highway will ease road travel to-and-from the ends of the state.

The delineation and construction of roadside stopover shopping booths has improved orderliness of traffic and enhanced serenity in Asaba. The greening, beautification and regular cleaning of major roads in Asaba capital has also improved the urban environmental landscape. Another important urban renewal element is the delineation and development of new locations for exclusive use by business clusters, for example, the automobile maintenance and repair workshop centre in Asaba, and the upcoming Umunede Rest Park and Warri Trailer Park.

The renovation of dilapidated urban marketplaces, relocation of obstructive market structures and creation of new market infrastructure have eased urban congestion,

reduced traffic disorder and improved the physical environment for selling and buying in urban and semi-urban areas. Evidence of market renovation/upgrading abound in Orerokpe market, Owa-Alero market, Bomadi market, Ubulu-Uku market, Igbodo market, Isiokolo market, Owanta market, and Oghara market.

BOOST OF THE SERVICES SECTOR

In line with standard economic logic, there is a direct link between improvement of road networks and the growth of the services sector. Improved road network brings about smooth and less costly movement of goods and services which translates to ease of doing business. The result is more efficient business transactions, greater volume of businesses per time and better business confidence.

The boost of the services sector arising from improved road networks is evidenced by the fact that the services sector increased from 18.77% of 2013 GDP to 29.73% of 2020 GDP. This trend is substantiated by the fact that the services subsectors are the highest performing in terms of accelerated growth rates

from 2019 to date, as follows: accommodation and food services 59.69%, arts, recreation and entertainment 17.10%, trade 16.81%, construction 12.33% and transportation and storage 11.97%.

Business activities in the real estate sector (land and housing) have accelerated on account of the opening-up and improved accessibility of towns and rural communities. This is evidenced by the increased demand for registration of building plans in Asaba Capital Territory and other parts of the state.

CONCLUSION

Altogether, the accelerated growth of the services sector is creating new jobs and incomes among micro and small enterprises, thereby reducing economic vulnerability and poverty. Clearly, the combination of road networks, urban renewal and the boom of the services economy represent landmark footprints of Okowanomics in the landscape of Delta State.

The policy synergy underlying these landmark achievements should be sustained in the state and emulated by other states in the country, for urban economic prosperity.



The Honourable Speaker Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborewori (r) and Clerk Mrs. L. Ocholor (m) of Delta State House of Assembly watch as Governor Ifeanyi Okowa signs a Bill into Law

4

AN ERA OF POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

This Fact Sheet focuses on policy and institutional reforms which form the taproot of the spectacular development strides that have been achieved under the effective leadership of His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State, since his assumption of office on 29th May 2015. By classical definition, policy and institutional reforms imply

inventive changes, amendments and revisions to existing framework polices, organizations, methods and laws. Such inventive changes, amendments or revisions are aimed at predetermined development goals, objectives and targets – improvement of existing situations, creation of new and better conditions, elimination of undesirable conditions and replacement with desirable

conditions.

Linking policy and programme execution to policy and institutional reforms is one of the essential ingredients of Okowanomics, consistent with the scientific tenet for policy practice. The fact that reforms were conceived, formulated and enacted, as the initial basis for execution of policies and programmes, reflects first-rate

critical thinking, clear foresight and disciplined planning culture of Okowanomics. It is a truism that development outcomes become real, enduring and sustainable if and where they are built on

solid, genuine and legitimate policy, legal and institutional foundations, as exemplified by Okowanomics. This brief therefore profiles, in a tabular format, an illustrative

sample of policy and institutional reforms that constitute the foundation of the outstanding Okowanomics scorecard across the various sectors, since 2015.

A Sample of Governor Okowa's Policy and Institutional Reforms

YEAR OF REFORM	INSTRUMENT OF REFORM	PURPOSE OF REFORM	ASPECT OF SMART AGENDA
June 2015	Establishment of Office of the Chief Job Creation Officer	Special Purpose Vehicle created to plan, design and implement youth-focused job and wealth creation programmes	Job & Wealth Creation
July 2015	Delta State Capital Territory Development Agency Law	Superintend and facilitate sustainable development of Asaba Capital Territory (infrastructure, public utilities and services, etc.)	Urban Renewal
July 2015	Board for Technical and Vocational Education Law	Revive, manage and regulate technical colleges and vocational training centres	Education Policy
August 2015	Delta State Peace Building and Advisory Council	Foster peace and conflict prevention and resolution in the state	Peace building, political and social stability
September 2015	Delta State Medium-Term Development Plan 2016-2019	Provides the strategic plan, roadmap, policy priorities and benchmarks for social, infrastructural and economic development based on the SMART AGENDA	Development planning
February 2016	Delta State Contributory Health Commission Law	Establish Delta State Contributory Health Commission and Contributory Health Insurance Scheme for universal health coverage	Health for All Deltans (HeFAD)- Health Policies
April 2016	Inauguration of Delta State Traffic Management Authority	Control road traffic and enforce road traffic regulations Ensure free flow of road (vehicular) traffic and safety of all road users	Conducive Business Environment
May 2016	Advocacy Committee Against Vandalism of Oil and Gas Facilities	Engage and dialogue with oil producing communities and other relevant actors for the protection and security of oil and gas facilities and personnel	Peace building, political and social stability
August 2016	Delta State Anti-Kidnapping and Hostage-Taking Law	Curb the incidence of Kidnapping and related crimes	Security and social stability
November 2016	Delta State Agriculture and Rural Development Agency (Amendment) Law	Refocus, realign and strengthen existing Agricultural Development Programme for greater relevance, efficiency and effectiveness	Agricultural Reforms
December 2016	Delta State Anti-Terrorism and Anti-Cultism Law	Curb terrorist and cult-related violence and killings	Security and social stability
August 2017	Delta State Investment Development Agency Law	Facilitate private sector investments and promote public private partnerships	Conducive Business Environment

August 2018	Delta State Public and Private Property Protection Law	Protection of, eliminate undue interference or obstruction to public and private property and thereby ensure conducive business environment	Conducive Business Environment
July 2019	Warri/Uvwie and Environs Area Development Agency Law	Superintend and facilitate sustainable development of Warri/Uvwie and Environs (Infrastructure, public utilities and services, etc.)	Urban Renewal
September 2019	Delta State Job and Wealth Creation Bureau Law	Institutionalize and strengthen the existing Office of the Chief Job Creation Officer	Job and Wealth Creation
November 2019	Ministry of Youth Development	Upgrading of the Directorate of Youth Development to Ministry of Youth Development to strengthen and broaden its mandate	Youth Development for Wealth Creation
April 2020	Public Procurement Law	Transparency and accountability of public procurement	Public Procurement
May 2020	Delta State Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Law	Fiscal planning, budgetary responsibility and debt management	Fiscal Policy
June 2020	Delta State Internal Revenue Service Law	Autonomy and Professional management of the state's revenue collection agency in line with best practice	Public Revenue and Fiscal policy
September 2020	Delta State Medium-Term Development Plan 2020-2023	Successor to the Delta State Medium-Term Development Plan 2016-2019 Policy Framework and Implementation Roadmap for a 'Stronger Delta'	Development Planning
March 2021	Delta State University of Science & Technology, Ozoro Law University of Delta, Agbor Law Dennis Osadebay University Asaba Law	Access to university education as the bastion of human capital development	Education policy
July 2021	Delta State Audit Law	Independent examination of public expenditure by granting financial and operational autonomy to Offices of Auditors-General (State and Local Government)	Public Accounts
August 2021	House of Assembly Service Law	State establishment and institutional management of the House of Assembly	Legislature
September 2021	Delta State Judiciary Fund Management (Financial Autonomy) Law	Financial autonomy to the judiciary arm of government	Judiciary
October 2021	Urban and Regional Planning Board Law	Sustainable development of urban areas through better regulation and enforcement mechanisms	Urban Renewal

This broad, though not exhaustive, diary of policy and institutional reforms shows that His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State, is a pacesetter in development-enhancing reforms. Also, the foregoing sample of cross-sector legal instruments illustrate that the development strides achieved since 2015 are products of good intellect (good thinking).

The implication of these extant legal frameworks is that current policies and programmes are not superficial in nature. Rather they have become duly legitimized and entrenched for sustainability.

Herein lies the novelty, peculiarity and robustness of the Okowanomics scorecard

(i) the outcomes and impacts are not superficial but deeply rooted in the legitimate development aspirations and desires of Deltans

(ii) the policies and programmes are embedded in laws enacted by the people's elected representatives in the Delta State House of Assembly

(iii) the connection between policies, programmes and the enabling legal and institutional

frameworks stands out as a typical example of good governance.

No doubt, therefore, the Okowanomics development outcomes together with their policy and institutional reform taproots demonstrate a development model that should be emulated by other states of the country and at the national level.



Modern Technical College, Effurun

5

A MODERNIZED EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

This Okowanomics Fact Sheet spotlights Governor Okowa's legacy of a transformed educational system. The evidence spans the development of school infrastructure at the primary, secondary and tertiary education levels, enhanced adequacy and quality of teachers, improved access to education and the phenomenal growth of technical education and tertiary education, particularly, universities.

THE EDUCATION FACTOR IN ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Education is key to human capital development in any society. It is widely acknowledged that education generates direct benefits to the individual as well as indirect [multiplier] impacts on the social and economic development of any country. Development economics provides ample evidence of

positive private and social returns to investment in education, with returns varying from basic to tertiary education.

In essence, the education system [its relevance, content and quality] is fundamental to the transmission, application and growth of knowledge, skills and technology in the country. Also, the quality and functionality of the educational system determines, to a large extent, the

competitiveness of the economy. Consistent with this universal truth, His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State, since assumption of office on the 29th of May 2022, prioritized the development of education in the SMART Agenda and Delta State Medium Term Development Plans from 2016–2019 and 2020–2023.

REFORM OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

As an early sign of the priority

attention to educational development, Governor Okowa convened an educational summit which rallied all the educational stakeholders to address the sector’s challenges and chart a roadmap for education system reforms. The education summit was held from 25–26 January 2016 with the aim of refocusing the educational curriculum in the state to equip students with the requisite knowledge and entrepreneurial skills for business, trade, commerce and industry. The summit addressed issues ranging from access,

infrastructure, curriculum, functionality, costs, teaching, quality and parental involvement.

THE EVIDENCE IN PERSPECTIVE

Arising from the summit, several transformative reforms have been designed and implemented in the state’s educational system. The Okowanomics scorecard on various educational sector development indicators is illustrated in the following table.

Table 1. Okowanomics Scorecard on Educational Sector Transformation

Education Sector Development Indicator (ESDI)	Achievement from 2015 to date (nos.)
1. Establishment of new State-Owned Universities	3
2. Establishment of new Technical Colleges	3
3. Revamping of existing Technical Colleges	6
4. Establishment of Teachers Professional Development Centre	1
5. Establishment of new public primary schools	17
6. Establishment of new public secondary schools	45
7. Construction of new school classrooms	1,511
8. Renovation of existing schools classrooms	2,758
9. Provision of new students’ furniture	147,428
10. Provision of new teachers’ furniture	20,581
11. Construction of new school administrative blocks	50
12. Renovation of existing school administrative blocks	32
13. Construction of new science laboratory blocks	27
14. Renovation of existing science laboratory blocks	111
15. Construction of new school block wall fences	41
16. Renovation of existing school block wall fences	25
17. Per cent increase in the total annual student population of technical colleges from 2015 to 2022	144%
18. Establishment of new Vocational Skills Acquisition Centres	10
19. Increase in the number of teachers in the State-Owned Primary and Secondary Schools	2660
20. Increase in the number of teachers in State-Owned Technical Colleges	325

CONCLUSION

The evident transformation at all levels of Delta State educational sector since 2015 is the result of Governor Okowa’s prioritization

of policies and excellent planning matched with faithful execution, judicious resource management and effective leadership.

These good governance

qualities are the hallmarks of Okowanomics worthy of emulation by other states and replication at the national level.



Asaba Specialist Hospital

6

A TRANSFORMED HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

This Okowanomics Fact Sheet spotlights the transformational achievements in the healthcare system in Delta State.

Today, the healthcare system in Delta State has changed for the better, in terms of availability and affordability of services as well as efficiency and constancy of service delivery.

This milestone turnaround of the healthcare system is the direct result of His Excellency, the Governor's vision, sound planning and faithful implementation of the contributory health insurance policy and strategy for universal

health coverage.

FOUNDATION OF THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM TURNAROUND

Driven by his vision to enthrone a first-rate healthcare system aimed at universal health coverage, His Excellency, the Governor, enunciated the policy of "Health for All Deltans" to effectively domesticate the national and international goals of universal health coverage. His vision for universal health coverage predates his election and assumption of office as Governor of Delta State on 29th May 2015. As Senator of the Federal

Republic of Nigeria and specifically Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, he championed national legislative action leading to enactment of Nigeria's National Health Act 2014 – the legal framework for the regulation, development and management of national health system.

Not surprisingly therefore, few months into his first tenure, Governor Okowa worked out and submitted an Executive Bill to the Delta State House of Assembly, for the establishment of the Contributory Health Insurance Scheme. The legislative process resulted in the landmark

enactment of Delta State Contributory Health Commission Law in February 2016. Deriving from this legal framework, His Excellency constituted the Delta State Contributory Health Commission [DSCHC] to run the Delta State Contributory Health Scheme [DSCHS]. Following its inauguration on 4th February 2016, the DSCHS commenced service delivery on 1st January 2017.

EVIDENCE OF THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM TURNAROUND

From “ground zero”, Delta State Contributory Health Scheme has covered 1,169,470 persons as of June 2022. The enrollees comprise equity health plan (pregnant women, children under 5 & elderly) – 987,988, formal health plan (principal enrollees & dependents) – 163,828 and informal health plan (artisans, market women, students etc) – 17,654.

The premium rates under the contributory health insurance scheme is (i) informal health plan – N7,000 per annum (ii) formal health plan: 1.75% contribution from the gross salary of the employee and a counterpart 1.75% contribution from the employer and (iii) equity plan [involving pregnant women, children under 5] – N7000/person/annum.

The present coverage translates to 20% of the state’s estimated population of 6,000,000, compared to 0% prior to Okowanomics era. Under the scheme, so far, the total number of accredited public and private hospitals is 510.

Three service delivery innovations are worth mentioning.

I. “Access to Finance” Program in which the Bank of Industry, partnering with DSCHC provides single-digit loans to enable healthcare providers establish accredited healthcare facilities in remote and hard to reach communities to ensure no one is left behind in access to healthcare service delivery.

II. The service delivery processes are digitalized whereby DSCHC operations has been listed and designated as compliant with the National Data Protection Regulations (NDPR) requirement of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA).

III. The health services benefit package has been recognized as a standardized health insurance benefit package and adopted as the national minimum benefit health package in Nigeria.

On the strengths of its phenomenal growth in coverage and innovative service delivery mechanisms, Delta State Contributory Health Scheme has earned national and international recognition/awards.

To mention a few, on 27th July 2018, Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with ThisDay Newspapers and World Bank Group Nigeria awarded “Certificate of Excellence” to Delta State for having the most people covered under the Social Health Insurance Scheme with a focus on poor and vulnerable population, within the framework of Saving One Million Lives Programme for Results. Earlier, in 2017, the Nigerian Healthcare Excellence Award recognized Delta State in the category of Healthcare Programme of the Year 2017.

JOB CREATION OUTCOMES OF THE HEALTH SCHEME

In addition to its impacts on the healthcare system in Delta State, the contributory health scheme has created more than 1,500 direct jobs and more than 550 indirect jobs along the health services value chain [field registration/enrollment agents, healthcare service personnel, health insurance service personnel and others].

LESSONS FOR OTHER STATES AND THE NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

As the pacesetter state-level contributory health insurance programme with tested service delivery innovations, Delta State Contributory Health Scheme is the role model for other states.

In all, the success story of Okowanomics health plan in Delta State is worthy of emulation by other states and in fact, the entire national health system. The emulation should not be a “copy and paste” approach, rather it should be based on adequate review and understanding of the underlying success factors, throughout the conception, planning, implementation, documentation and supervision of the scheme.



Aerial View of part of Asaba Capital City



His Excellency, Sen. Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa presides over the ceremony for the concession of Asaba International Airport



Asaba International Airport

7

A BETTER BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

This Fact Sheet focuses on Governor Okowa’s legacy of a better business and investment environment evidenced by Delta State’s No. 1 position in crude oil production, phenomenal boom of the services economy, public-private partnership [PPP] projects/investments, hosting of national and international sports competitions and sharp rise of air traffic at the Asaba International

Airport.

FACTORS AND CONDITIONS THAT HAVE CREATED A BETTER BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The economic growth and sustainable prosperity of any society directly correlate with the state of business and investment environment for private enterprise.

This is because private sector is the society’s economic engine and pivot of job and wealth creation. The ingredients of business environment, such as, cost of doing business, transparency and efficiency of regulatory institutions, efficient transportation, communication and power infrastructure and good quality labour, have definitive impact on the functioning, performance and

growth of the private sector.

With this understanding in mind, His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State, on assumption of office on the 29th of May 2015, prioritized the attainment of a better business environment.

Within the framework of S.M.A.R.T Agenda and Delta State Medium-Term Development Plans 2016-2019 & 2020-2023, better business environment was envisioned and is being pursued through multiple policy pathways and instruments. The policy measures include skills development and functional educational systems to improve the quality and productivity of labour, urban renewal efforts notably, improvement of roads, better physical planning, traffic regulation, renovation of market buildings and facilities, elimination of ecological risks, particularly flash flooding. Other policy strategies are peace building & security and promotion of public private partnership investments.

Specifically, some of the factors and conditions that have brought about better business environment are identified as follows:

i. Enhancing skills, employability and productivity of youths and promoting entrepreneurship and MSMEs. In acknowledgment of the fundamental role of skills, innovativeness and productivity of youths in creating a better environment for the private sector, His Excellency, the Governor, at inception on 29th of May 2015, commenced youth-targeted skills development programmes [STEP and YAGEP]. Subsequently, additional implementation platforms were established [RYSA, WESAP, ICT-YEP] to widen

programme coverage and achieve social inclusiveness. To date, the combined programme efforts across the various implementation platforms have produced more than 14,000 new youth entrepreneurs in various services-based and agricultural enterprises. These new youth entrepreneurs constitute a rich pool of value-adding skills and competencies in the current business environment.

ii. Peace building, conflict prevention and resolution and ensuring security. The proactive policy action in establishing the Advisory and Peace building Council in August 2015 and Advocacy Committee Against Vandalism of Oil and Gas facilities in May 2016 has provided mechanisms and channels for continual constructive engagement with conflict-prone communities in the state. Also, the proper handling of the ethnic diversity of the state through inclusive, fair and equitable political and economic management has created an atmosphere of trust, mutual respect and sense of belonging to diverse ethnic groups of the state.

iii. Facilitating private investors' access to agricultural land. The establishment of Agricultural Land Data Bank Initiative in July 2016 to develop a data repository on available agricultural lands and facilitate or intermediate access of private agro-investors to agricultural lands by working with the local communities. By this facility, the state government has given business confidence to private agro-investors by ensuring that they have smooth, dispute-free, community-friendly access to and possession of cultivable lands. One of the outcomes of this initiative is successful facilitation of

access to arable land for large-scale oil palm value chain investment by Norsworthy Farms and Agro-Allied Industries at Akwukwu-Igbo, Oshimili North LGA.

iv. Promoting public-private partnership investments and projects. The establishment of Delta State Investment Development Agency in August 2017, with dedicated responsibility for facilitating and promoting private sector investments and fostering public private partnerships for economic growth. The environment for private sector project execution has also been boosted by the enactment of the Delta State Public and Private Property Protection Law in August 2018.

v. Massive state-wide road construction and rehabilitation. Cognizant of the crucial importance of roads in ensuring ease of doing business, His Excellency, the Governor, has from 2015 to date, achieved road construction and rehabilitation totaling 1,932.14 km and drains totaling 1,035.95 km. Reinforced by the establishment of Delta State Traffic Management Authority in April 2016, the unparalleled development of roads has eased intra-state and intra-city transportation for social and business activities.

vi. Sustainable urban renewal through the institutionalization of area-specific intervention agencies. The legal creation, establishment and functioning of Delta State Capital Territory Development Agency [July 2015] and Warri/Uvwie and Environs Area Development Agency [July 2019] is instrumental to the recorded urban renewal strides in terms of physical development, road network, sanitation, market facilities and beautification.

EVIDENCE OF BETTER BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN DELTA STATE

i. Remarkable evidence of the better business environment in the state is willingness, interest and ability of private investors to partner with the state government through profitable public private partnership investments that create jobs, guarantee returns on investment and promote economic growth.

Fifteen [15] examples of existing public private partnership [PPP] projects are [i] Concessioning of Asaba International Airport [ii] Leisure Park and Film Village [iii] Agro-Industrial Park, Aboh Ogwashi-Uku [iv] Norsworthy Farms and Agro-Allied Industries, Akwukwu-Igbo [v] Delta State Rest Park, Umunede [vi] Automobile Dealers and Mechanics Park, Asaba [vii] Warri Trailer Park [viii] Ogbe-Ogonogo Market, Asaba [ix] UTM Offshore Floating Liquefied Natural Gas Project, Warri [x] Stallion Tricycle Assembly Plant, Asaba [xi] Private-Public Ownership of Songhai Delta Agricultural Complex, Amukpe [xii] Virtual Gas CNG gas plant, Ebede, Ukwuani LGA [xiv] DELCOM CO-OP 17,345 hectares Oil Palm Development Initiative [xv] Concessioning of Uvwie Fish Feed Mill to O-Secul Nigeria Ltd.

ii. Another noteworthy sign of improved business environment is the historic shifting structure of the economy towards non-oil sector, driven by the accelerating growth of the services sector including hospitality, real estate, transportation, wholesale and retail commerce, personal services [microenterprises], etc.

Non-oil sector share of GDP increased from 41.9% in 2013 to 52.50% in 2020, signaling diversification of the state's

economy. Tied to this trend is the fact that the services sector increased from 18.77% of 2013 GDP to 29.73% of 2020 GDP, just as agriculture share of GDP increased from 9.53% of 2013 GDP to 13.22% of 2020 GDP.

The better business environment is reflected also by the fact that the services subsectors are the highest performing in terms of recent accelerated growth rates from 2019 to date, as follows: accommodation and food services 59.69%, arts, recreation and entertainment 17.10%, trade 16.81%, construction 12.33% and transportation and storage 11.97%.

iii. The award of hosting rights for and successful hosting of national and international sports competitions in the state is a clear testament of a conducive business and social environment.

Delta State, specifically the capital, Asaba, successfully hosted the 2018 African Athletics Championships [AAC] from 1st to 5th of August 2018, AITEO Cup Final between Enugu Rangers and Kano Pillars on 24th October 2018, international friendly football match between Super Eagles of Nigeria and Uganda Cranes on 20th of November 2018, AFCON Qualifier between Super Eagles and Seychelles on 22nd March 2019 and international friendly football match between Super Eagles of Nigeria and Pharaohs of Egypt on 26th of March 2019. Also, Asaba will host the epic 2022 National Sports Festival [NSF] in November-December 2022.

iv. Delta State today occupies the first position in oil production in the country, due to the maintained peace and security in the oil-producing communities.

v. The better business environment in Delta State is confirmed by independent national and international assessments. For instance, evidence from World Bank's Nigerian Subnational Ease of Doing Business Survey shows that Delta State improved on ease of doing business from the score of 51.73 in 2014 to 54.97 in 2018. The survey also confirmed that Delta State has implemented regulatory reform regarding "registering property" during the reference period. Recently also, the African Heritage Institution's Business Environment and Competitiveness Across Nigerian States [BECANS] in 2020, ranked Delta State No. 1 among the 36 Nigerian states regarding the benchmark "Regulatory Services" which comprises five indicators "Collection of Taxes and Levies", "Land Registration", "Commercial Dispute Resolution" "Business Registration" and "Fiscal Management and Public Procurement".

CONCLUSION

His Excellency, Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, Governor of Delta State, has, by his excellent leadership, illustrated the significant positive effect of a conducive business environment on the growth of the private sector and overall economic performance. The central lesson of Delta State success story is that achieving a better business and investment environment entails a multidimensional policy approach covering social, infrastructural, regulatory and public service improvements. This shining example of good governance should be replicated by other states and at the national level.



Obotobo I - Obotobo II - Sokebolou - Yokri, Ogulaha Road



Agbarho/Orherhe Road, Ughelli North LGA



Ogheyeye Floating Market

8 SERIES

HISTORIC UPLIFTMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE RIVERINE, COASTAL AND CREEK COMMUNITIES OF DELTA STATE

Given its location, Delta State has a unique geo-ecological landscape. On its western boundary, the State has a long Atlantic Ocean coastline of about 163 km. More than one third of its total area of 18,050 square kilometres consists of natural water bodies such as rivers, streams, tributaries, creeks, coastal swamps and

estuaries. This geographical feature has both advantages and disadvantages for the affected communities and the entire State.

On the one hand, the main advantages of the state's geography relate to the huge potentials for the development of marine economy, aquaculture, artisanal fishing and maritime

transport. The State has a rare quadruplet of seaports along the Niger Delta coastline in the port towns of Warri, Sapele, Koko and Burutu and two critical national economic assets - crude oil terminals at Escravos and Forcados. On the other hand, the geospatial and topographical peculiarities of the riverine, coastal and creek communities pose tremendous constraints to

their infrastructural, physical and economic development. The constraints of infrastructural and physical development of these communities imply huge additional project construction costs and highly difficult transport logistics to deliver on health and education facilities, housing and transport infrastructure. Overcoming this geospatial challenge requires strong political will, sound planning, cost effectiveness and faithful execution of projects. These are the qualities and virtues which His Excellency, Governor of Delta State, has brought to bear in the historic transformation of the living conditions and welfare of communities and people of the state's riverine, coastal and creek communities.

The historic transformation of these riverine, coastal and creek communities is manifest in the assortment of development projects that have either been completed or ongoing, from 2015 to date. The development projects include roads, bridges, schools, health centres, housing, markets and support for economic activities. These projects have had historic impact in uplifting the living conditions, people's welfare and development prospects in these communities.

A sample of Okowanomics scorecard on development projects in the riverine, coastal and creek communities is enumerated as follows.

ROADS AND BRIDGES [COMPLETED AND ONGOING]

- Trans Warri-Ode-Itsekiri bridge and access roads in Warri South LGA.
- Town [internal] roads in Okerenkoko, Ogidigben, Gbaramatu, Benikrukru and Kunukunuma in Warri South West LGA.
- Ogulagha-Youbebe-Biniebiama road, Obotobo-Sekebolou-Yokori road and town [internal] roads of Ogbobagbene, Egodo-Agbodobiri in Burutu LGA.
- Town [internal roads] in Ogbeinama, Esama, Ekamita, Kpakiamia and other communities in Bomadi LGA.
- Kwale-Beneku bridge across Ndokwa East and Ndokwa West LGAs., Beneku access roads and internal roads at Ushie and Ashaka in Ndokwa East LGA.
- Ikpide-Irri and Aviara access road, Idheze Emede ring road and other internal in Isoko South LGA.
- Oko Amakom/Oko Obiokpu road in Oshimili South LGA.
- Ayakoromor bridge across River Forcados and Oviri-Olomu/Egodor road across Ughelli South and Burutu LGAs.
- Access road to Uduophori, Kabowei road and Aghogho road in Odorubu, Patani LGA.

HEALTH SECTOR PROJECTS

- Rehabilitation, renovation and refurbishment of Primary Health Centres [PHCs] at Debiri in Warri South West LGA, Tsekelewu in Warri North LGA, Kalafiogbene in Bomadi LGA and Obotebe in Burutu LGA.
- Rehabilitation, renovation and refurbishment of Secondary Health Facilities [SHFs], that is, Cottage/General Hospitals at Ogrigabene in Bomadi LGA, Aboh in Ndokwa East LGA, Okerenkoko in Warri South West LGA, Ojobo in Burutu LGA, Ogidigben in Warri South West LGA, Bomadi in Bomadi LGA, Koko in Warri North LGA.

EDUCATION SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Esanma in Bomadi LGA.
- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Ogbeinama, Ogrigabene and Akugbene, Ogbeigbene in Bomadi LGA.
- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Burutu, Obotebe, Ofou, Ojobo, Bikorogha, Ogbeingbene, Torugbene, Tamigbe-Zion, Eseimogbene, Bolou-Ndoro, Akparamogbene in Burutu LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Sokebolou, Ojobo, Egodor, Tamigbe, Obotebe, Burutu, Gbekebor, Tuomo, Okpokunou in Burutu LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Toru-Angiama, Uduovie, Aven, Abari, Patani, Bolu-Angiama and Abari in Patani LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Uduophori, Patani, Agoloma, Odorubu, Bolu-Angiama and Toru-Angiama in Patani LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Koko, Ogheye, Oboghoru, Ajagbodudu, Tsekelewu and Ogbudugbudu in Warri North LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Abigborodo, Tsekelewu, Oboghoru and Ogbinbiri in Warri North LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Ogidigben, Ogbe-ljoh, Madangho, Ajudiabo, Sumoge, Agogboro, Costain,

Otseyi and Diabo in Warri South West LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Isaba, Kokodiagbene, Ogidigben, Ogbe-ljoh, Agogboro and Oporoza in Warri South West LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Obikwele, Ase, Ibrede, Isselegu, Ossissa, Utchi in Ndokwa East LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Iyede-Ame, Aboh, Okpai-Oluchi, Ibedeni and Igbuku in Ndokwa East LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of primary school classrooms at Olomoro, Igbide, Ewokpaka-Aviara, Enwhe and Otor-Aviara in Isoko South LGA.

- Construction, renovation and furnishing of classrooms, administrative buildings, staff residences or laboratories in secondary schools at Umeh, Igbide, Araya and Enwhe in Isoko South LGA.

TRANSPORT, HOUSING, MARKETS AND COMMERCE

- Ogheye Ultra-Modern

Floating Market, Warri North LGA.

- Landing concrete jetties at Naifor, Eniegbone, Salvation city and Ajuju in Warri South West LGA

- Development of Housing Units in Okerenkoko, Warri South West LGA.

CONCLUSION

The historic transformation of living conditions in the riverine, coastal and creek communities of Delta state through unprecedented development of roads, water transport facilities, health centres/hospitals, educational facilities and market facilities is the result of Okowanomics. The development landmarks have been achieved by strong political will, thorough planning, astute resource management, people-centredness and faithful execution, which are among the defining elements of Okowanomics.

Successful targeting of development interventions in the riverine, coastal and creek communities of Delta State is a policy model that should be emulated by states with similar geo-ecological conditions. Also, it presents important policy lessons for the federal government to improve living conditions in Nigeria's riverine, coastal and creeks communities.



AERIAL VIEW OF STEPHEN KESHISTADIUM

OKOWANOMICS FACTFILE 2015 TO DATE

- ✓ A transforming and prospering economy
- ✓ Job & wealth creation evidence
- ✓ Unprecedented network of roads, urban renewal and boost of the services sector
- ✓ An era of policy and institutional reforms
- ✓ A modernized educational system
- ✓ A transformed healthcare system
- ✓ A better business environment
- ✓ Historic upliftment of living conditions in riverine communities

Driven by critical thinking, clear foresight, sound planning, effective execution, smart coordination, political wisdom and executive intelligence

*Okowanomics FactFile
is produced by Delta State Job &
Wealth Creation Bureau*

Readers can also obtain online information and updates on Governor Okowa's scorecard at <https://bit.ly/okowanomics> and <http://www.laokowa.org>



His Excellency, Sen. Dr. Ifeanyi Arthur Okowa
Governor of Delta State