



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

2021-2023

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ACRONYMS

ACADA	Assessment, Communication, Design and Action
BHECOD	Centre for Better Health Community Development
BIGIF	Balm in Gilead Foundation for Sustainable Development
BPP	Bureau of Public Procurement
BROSHCAD	Breach Repairers Organization for Sustainable Healthcare and Development
CAN	Christain Association of Nigeria
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDCL	Center for Development, Human Capacity Building and Good Leadership
CEFSORD	Centre for Social Reconditiong and Development
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DINABI	Disability Not A Barrier Initiative
EKICCIMA	Ekiti Chambers of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture
EKIRS	Ekiti Internal Revenue Service
EKSG	Ekiti State Government
EXCO	Executive Council
FBO	Faith Based Organization
FEBHICOD	Febram Health Initiative and Community Development
FIDA	International Federation of Women Lawyers
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FOJSOD	Foundation for Justice and Social Development
FTC	Fiscal Transparency Champions
GRIP	Gender Relevance Initiative Promotion
ICAN	Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria
ICDC	Inspiration Care and Development Center
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IEC*	
JDPI	Justice Development and Peace Initiative
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LAPDO	Life and Peace Development Organisation
LGAs	Local Government Areas
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	Ministry Department and Agencies
NBA	Nigeria Bar Association
NGO	Non-Govenmental Organization
NIGAWD	The New Generation Girls and Women Development Initiative
NISD	New Initiative for Social Development
NLC	Nigeria Labor Congress
NMA	Nigeria Medical Association

NUBIFIE	National Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions Employees
OCDs	Open Contracting Data Standard
OGP	Open Government Partnership
RBM	Result Based Management
SAP	State Action Plan
SMS	Short Messaging Service
SSC	State Steering Committee
SUBEB	State Universal Basic Education Board
SWAN	Society for Women and AIDs in Africa
TUC	Trade Union Congress

FOREWORD

The need to restore the traditional value of Trust and Ownership, and redefine the relationship and linkage between Government and Citizens have become more imperative now than ever. Over the years, the trust deficit between Government and the governed has created a huge distortion or perception of it, in terms of resources management and effective use of resources to support equitable economic growth, effective service delivery, social inclusion and cohesion. The negative trend has undermined democratic governance and limited opportunities for sustained and inclusive growth at many national and sub-national levels.

Open Government Partnership (OGP) has, as its primary focus, the template for reversing the negative trend, through Partnership based on the ethos of openness and transparency. Governance is concerned with structure and processes with the target to preserve and strengthen stakeholder's confidence. To engender effective partnership in the processes, OGP is advocating a strategic collaboration between civil society and reformers in governments to join forces to create a credible platform that can promote transparency, support civic participation, fight corruption and harness new technologies for innovation in a way to ensure that public institutions work for the benefit of citizens.

Building trust through this process of openness and transparency, and creating opportunities for citizen participation will ensure they play a role in shaping and overseeing government and help to improve the relationship between people and their government, with a long-term, exponential benefits for all.

As a government, we are committed to enshrining the OGP Principles in the State's activities, by opening up our processes for wider public input, allow them to view our progress and get involved. We are also actively engaging the civil society organizations to share practical know-how and help promote best practices in ensuring that open government leads to a more dynamic, mutually beneficial relationship between public officials and citizens based on reciprocal trust.

We have developed a two-year Action Plan for the Open Government initiatives in consultation with organized civil society and various stakeholders in the State including the private sectors. Our target is to expand beyond opening up access to data and information, to also supporting more meaningful, dependable and honest dialogue between citizens and government.

Overall, OGP has defined the pathway forward but every stakeholder must play their roles and display the required commitments, in the spirit of multi-stakeholder collaboration, to deliver real benefits to citizens. Our government will provide the appropriate enabling

environment with necessary frameworks that can guarantee the rights and obligations for both government and stakeholders and ensure that it leads to an improvement of the citizens' lives and livelihood.

Dr. John Kayode Fayemi CON

Ekiti State Governor

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Open Government Partnership Action Plan (EKS-OGPAP, 2021-2023) is a joint effort of civil society, the private for business organisations, labour unions, professional bodies and the governmental ministries, departments and agencies, among other key stakeholders in Ekiti State. This is the first time such a Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Initiative is taking place in the State, bringing together participants from the public, private and civil society bodies, to concretely discuss and plan together the path of governance for the State.

We are therefore resolute that all the contents in this Plan are comprehensive and impact oriented enough to meet the needs and expectations of the citizens and more so to make all stakeholders work together for their huge success. We are assuring all partners (state level, sub-national, national and international) of our commitment in this process to ensure its full and effective implementation

We will like to first appreciate the Executive Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. John Kayode Fayemi for his onerous drive and commitment to OGP Principles and practices even before Ekiti State joined the OGP.

We also appreciate the passion and sacrifice of all OGP Steering Committee members and Sub-committee members in the process of getting this document together in time.

In conclusion, all state partners especially the governmental bodies and non-state actors must always come together for the effective implementation of this Action Plans as we take co-responsibilities for the Plans, Implementations, Monitoring and Evaluation to guarantee prosperity, peace and development of Ekiti State citizens and residents.

Femi AJAYI

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

Christopher OLUWADARE

Chairman, Coalition of Ekiti Civil Society Organisations (Co-Chair)

SECTION ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Ekiti State is situated within the tropics, and lies south of Kwara and Kogi State, East of Osun State, and bounded by Ondo State in the East and in the south. It has a total land Area of 5887.890sq km, and 16 Local Government Councils. The 2006 population census by the National Population Commission put the population of Ekiti State at 2,384,212 people.

Agriculture is the mainstay Ekiti State, and provides the income and employment for more than 75% of the population in the State. Some of Ekiti's agricultural produce are cassava, cocoa, rice, oil palm, cashew, plantain, and rubber. Ekiti State is also rich in several mineral resources including columbite, bauxite, charconites, tantalum, foundry quartzite among others.

The current administration. Led by Dr Kayode Fayemi has embarked on various reform programmes to promote transparency and accountability in governance. The State Public Procurement office has embarked on series of reform to further bring accountability and transparency in the State's procurement process, including the use of an Open Contracting Portal, on which details of procurement activities are published. The State has also participated in the World Bank supported States Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability Programme for Result, and Ekiti's success in the programme is a demonstration of its determination to entrench the principles of transparency and accountability in public financial management. Given that the objectives of the ongoing reforms in the State share the same values that underlie Open Government Partnership, joining the OGP will therefore deepen the reforms, by strengthening service delivery programmes with improved partnership between the public and private sectors as well as the civil society.

Open Government Partnership (OGP) is an international initiative aimed at enlisting support and ensuring partnership between governments and the governed to forge trust and promote integrity, transparency, efficiency and accountability in public

administration. This is achieved by forging collaboration between the government and the citizens represented by Non-State Actors (Including Non-Government Organisations, Civil Society organisations, Organised Private Sector and Private Businesses, the Academia, Women and Youth Groups, as well as Town unions, Community Development Associations and Cultural Associations etc.). The overriding objectives include empowering citizens to participate in governance, combating corruption, enabling access to information and harnessing new technologies, in connection with achieving more effective and accountable service delivery in public administration. Ekiti State Government through the OGP is set to increase public integrity by improving public services, enhancing citizen's participation and empowerment as well as effectively managing public resources and increasing accountability. The Ekiti State OGP Action Plan will therefore focus on measures to:

- Enhance a more effective management of public resources;
- Ensure a more effective delivery of public service in the key sectors of health, education and environment;
- Establish enduring and user-friendly technology and innovation mechanisms for meaningful citizen engagement in policy development and implementation processes;
- Hold government officials accountable to the public and the communities they serve.

1.2 OVERVIEW OF THE STATE ACTION PLAN

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Action Plan in Ekiti State is anchored on 5 thematic Pillars and supported by 9 potentially impactful commitments.

a) Fiscal Transparency:

Revenue Generation, Budget and Public procurement processes are conducted with input from the people, the relevant information is available, accessible and easy to understand. Allowing the people to track how their monies are spent and understand how government fiscal decisions are made are key elements of good governance.

b) Access to Information:

The people have the right to access publicly held information. Thus there is a legal obligation on the part of the government to disseminate certain information and records in a proactive manner. Therefore, a clear system and standards for the creation and management of public information and records will be established. Citizens by this will have the tools and information they need to hold government to account, and this in turn builds trust on public institutions.

c) Citizens Engagement and Empowerment:

This theme ensures that people are empowered to meaningfully interact with and participate in government decision making process through a continuous dialogue mechanism utilizing an easy-to-understand platform. A legal obligation is created on the part of the public service to routinely involve citizens in government activities, including policy formulation and implementation. The people are afforded the opportunity to make their voices heard on government policy and programs from the start.

d) Anti-Corruption and Asset Disclosure:

The challenges of corruption and sharp practices in the process of contracting and implementation of Government projects and programmes are addressed with this thematic area.

e) Promoting Effective Governance and Regulatory Reform:

The Challenges of public sector inefficiency, waste and abuse are addressed by reforming operational processes of selected MDAs to enable seamless service delivery.

1.3 SUMMARY OF STATE ACTION PLAN COMMITMENT BY THEMATIC AREAS

Access to Information	
1.	Establish a Central Communications/Information Unit/Systems for the general public to easily access official information.
2.	Improved awareness of FOIA and develop citizens' capacity on the usage of FOIA.
Citizen engagement and empowerment	
3.	Develop technology-based citizens' feedback on programmes and projects for transparency and accountability.
4.	To strengthen the civic space for more inclusiveness through government engagement with every layer of citizen groups.
Fiscal transparency	
5.	Full operationalization of Open Contracting and use of Open Contracting Data standard (OCDs) to meet diverse stakeholders' needs
Promoting effective governance and regulatory reforms	
6.	To reform the operational processes of selected revenue generating MDAs for effective service delivery.
7.	To digitalise government records for easy access by stakeholders.
ANTI-CORRUPTION & ASSET DISCLOSURE	
8.	Establish a Public Register of beneficial Owners of Companies.
9.	To adopt and adapt the national anti-corruption strategy.

SECTION TWO

2.1 PROGRESS TO DATE IN OPEN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Over the last two years, Ekiti State Government under the leadership of Dr. Kayode Fayemi have made great efforts to run an all-inclusive government towards making the State a citadel of good governance in the country by improving the business environment and create a favourable business climate, increase transparency and accountability in the conduct of public administration. The government have also made great efforts to transform the public sector, reduce waste as well as address inefficiencies associated with bureaucratic processes and procedures, thus improving the quality of the services provided to citizens. Closely aligned to these efforts are significant progress made in implementing a range of cross-cutting measures aimed at combating corruption; enhancing citizen participation and promoting regulatory reforms.

2.1.1 FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Ekiti State Government is strongly committed to fiscal transparency as a first step towards open government through the following actions:

- a. Implementation of Open Contracting and adoption of Open Contracting Data Standards in the State's public sector. Ekiti State through the Office of Director-General, Bureau of Public Procurement have developed a single portal that provides access and information to citizens on the entire chain of government's contracting process;
- b. The state is presently working to improve fiscal accountability through enactment of necessary Laws such as Ekiti State Procurement Law 2020, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Law 2019, Debt Management Law 2020 and Ekiti State Public Private Partnerships Law.
- c. Ekiti State has already met several World Bank's criteria to enhance Fiscal Transparency and accountability:

- d. Publication of Audited Annual Financing Statements of the State within 6 months of financial year-end;
- e. Online publication of approved State budget;
- f. Implementation of Treasury Single Account;
- g. Approval of Tax Codification & Consolidation Law;
- h. Biometric capture of all State's civil servants and pensioners to eliminate payroll fraud,
- i. Online submission of Freedom of Information requests
- j. Online publication of the debt status of the State on quarterly basis.

2.1.2 EFFECTIVE CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSIVE BUDGETING;

The Ekiti State Government is committed to grassroots communications and citizens engagement and the Government has consistently engage the people through different medium including creating a catchy, relatable and effective platform tagged; "S'etigbo? (translated 'Have You Heard')". This is use to drive all EKSG activities through regular and detailed communications of policies and achievements of Dr. Fayemi's administration. And the citizens are also engaged across the entire budget cycle through consultative meeting with stakeholders to ensure demands of the people are collated for inclusion e.g Community Engagement, Town Hall Meetings, Stakeholders/MDA and NGO's meeting, Pre-Treasury Board Meeting and Treasury Board Meeting.

2.1.3 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Ekiti State Government has passed into Law the Freedom of Information Act to demonstrate its commitment to grant citizens unhindered access to government information. And the government has also recently launched an e-weekly newsletter to increase citizens' access to information and deliver news content with brevity and clarity in a digestible digital layout. This is in demonstration of the Governor's commitment to

the FOI act and OGP by optimising digital technologies to create, store, organise, manage, and disseminate information for public consumption.

The State's website has also been upgraded to include sections for submission of FOI requests, for public complaints and feedback. The State's social media channels have been optimized to respond to inquiries and requests for information seamlessly.

SECTION THREE

3.1 METHODOLOGY

Development of Ekiti State Open Government Partnership (OGP) Action Plan effectively commenced with the inauguration of the State Steering Committee by the Governor, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, on 21st September, 2020. After selection of five thematic areas, a workshop was organised on 15th November, 2020 towards developing the State Action Plan. The meeting was declared open by the Hon. Commissioner for Economic Planning and Budget, Mr. Femi Ajayi and facilitated by the OGP National Secretariat. At the meeting, that had both State and Non-State Actors in attendance, participants were taken through the process of developing OGP Action Plan, with special focus on action plan at sub-national level. The participants were thereafter shared into the 5 thematic groups and were asked to come up with at least two commitments which is to be submitted to the OGP Steering Committee. Following from that meeting, another broad multi-stakeholders meeting was convened on 23rd and 24th February, 2021 to develop the State's Action Plan for the nine selected Commitments by both State and Non-State Actors and on April 15, 2021 another session was held to validate the Action Plan by both State and Non-State Actors, the Governor, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, declared the session open.

The Action plan was created to effectively address the identified OGP challenges in the state within the contextual issues as well as aspirations of different stakeholders in the State. In summary, it undertook robust and rigorous public consultation activities, which included:

- i. Engagement with key Government Actors
- ii. Awareness Creation of the OGP process through media engagements;
- iii. Inauguration of the State OGP Steering Committee by the Governor, Dr. Kayode Fayemi.
- iv. Trainings and Capacity Enhancement of both State and Non-State Actors on the OGP Process; Trainings and workshops were held on the relevant processes and the development of the action plan;

- v. **Priorities Development:** Priorities were identified and reviewed; prospective theme and commitment areas were developed at stakeholder consultative meetings involving both government and non-government 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 by 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 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Thematic Area:	Access to Information		
Commitment 1:	Establish a Central Communications/Information Unit/Systems for the general public to easily access official information.		
Implementation Period:	Start Date:	1st April 2021	End Date: 31st March 2023
Lead MDA:	Ministry of Information and Values Orientation		
Responsible Person:	Hon. Akin Omole		
Designation:	Honorable Commissioner		
Email and Phone Number(s):	aomole@ekitistate.gov.ng		
Other Actors Involved in the Implementation:	State Actors	Bureau of Communications and Strategy, Office of Transformation, Strategy and Delivery, Office of Capacity Development and Reforms, Civil Service Commission, Bureau of Information, Communication and Technology, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning.	
	Non-State Actors	Foundation for Justice and Social Development (FOJSOD), Justice Development and Peace Initiative (JDPI), Febram Health Initiative and Community Development (FEBHICOD), Centre for Development, Human Capacity Building and Good Leadership (CDCL)	
Brief Description of Commitment:	This commitment will ensure that the government create and properly store information for easy access by the public and empower the managers/handlers of this information with the appropriate orientation and training to speedily process FOI requests and public feedbacks.		
General Problem / Challenge Addressed by the Commitment:	The central communications unit/systems where government information is stored for easy public access, requests, and feedback is weak and not organized. The internal users who are mostly civil servants are not empowered and oriented to engage FOI requests and speedily process such requests and feedback which often causes delay. The lack of coordinated and active channel of		

	communications demoralizes external users- CSO and the public from making request in line with FOIA.	
Specific OGP Issue(s) in Focus:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of active central communications unit/systems 2. Lengthy bureaucratic procedure to process FOI requests 3. Lack of capacity building for managers and users of government information. 4. Low response to FOI requests. 	
The rationale for the Commitment:	By establishing an active central communications/information systems/unit and building the capacity of information managers and users, this commitment will ensure government compliance with the FOIA concerning mandatory publications provisions requirement and strengthen the functions and responsibilities of record management officers in government.	
Main Objective:	To ensure the creation, storage, organisation and management of government information and public record for easy access by the general public.	
Anticipated Impact:	Improved and easy access to information and speedy processing of FOI requests and feedback, through a centralized communication system/unit and reoriented internal information managers and users.	
Expected Outcomes		
Milestones (Performance Indicators)		
1.	Upgraded central communications/information systems/units for effective storage and management of government information and public records.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Highly interactive and functional government website and public data systems/portals. ii. Organized and coordinated communication channels for processing FOI requests and public complaints. iii. Improved access of the informal sector and grassroots communities to government information and public records.
2.	Capacity building for focal persons in all MDAs, line managers, internal information users, and file handlers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Speedy filing and processing of FOI requests and public complaints. 2.Premium attention and humane responses to FOI requests and public complaints. 3.Timely feedback and dissemination of information to CSOs and the public.

3.	Improved access to information	1. Percentage of external users' access to public records.			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Output(s)	Output Indicator(s)
1.	Conduct Quarterly Assessment Survey for the number of FOI requests received, processed, and granted including the timeframe used.	August 2021	March 2023	Comprehensive Reports on the number of FOI requests received, processed, and granted by MDAs including the timeframe used.	Number, Percentage , and timeframe of requests processed, and granted by MDAs
2.	Upgrade of existing central communications unit/systems for optimal storage and management of government information.	April 2021	December 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upgrade of the state website to contain frequently requested information from citizens as well as recent updates in government activities and transactions. 2. Functional public records portals. 3. Active central communications unit/systems. 4. Optimal use of sectoral handlers to disseminate information to traditional institutions, informal sector, and the grassroots on public records and information 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of information and project/programme updates published on the state website. 2. Consistent update of public records on government portal/data systems. 3. Improved access of traditional institutions, informal sector, and the grassroots to public records and information

3.	Capacity building for focal persons in all MDAs, internal information users, line managers, and desk officers.	April 2021	December 2022	1. Improved willingness and preparedness of Focal persons and internal users to give premium attention to FOI requests and public complaints. 2. Up-skilling of internal users to speedily process and grant FOI requests and public feedback.	1. Reduction in the delay of processing FOI requests and speedy responses to FOI requests and feedback
Source(s) of Funding:		Ekiti State Government Budget and Donor Agencies			

Thematic Area:	Access to Information				
Commitment 2:	Improve awareness of FOIA and develop citizens' capacity on the utilization of FOIA.				
Implementation Period:	Start Date:	1 st April 2021	End Date:	31 st March 2023	
Lead MDA:	Bureau of Communications and Strategy				
Responsible Person:	Mr. Akin Rotimi				
Designation:	Special Adviser				
Email and Phone Number(s):	arotimi@ekitistate.gov.ng akinrotimi@gmail.com				
Other Actors Involved in the Implementation:	State Actors	Ministry of Information, Broadcasting Service of Ekiti State, Radio and TV stations in Ekiti State, Office of Transformation, Strategy and Delivery, Bureau of Chieftaincy, Local Government Service Commission, Bureau of Information, Communication and Technology,			

		Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Civil Service Commission, Ministry of Justice.
	Non-State Actors :	Foundation for Justice and Social Development (FOJSOD), Justice Development and Peace Initiative (JDPI), Febram Health Initiative and Community Development (FEBHICOD), Centre for Development, Human Capacity Building and Good Leadership (CDCL), Reformers of Africa
Brief Description of Commitment:	This commitment will ensure that citizens of the state are fully aware of the Freedom Of Information Act and how best to access information from the Government and all other Public Agencies	
General Problem / Challenge Addressed by the Commitment:	There is lack of information available to the citizens of the state on the FOIA and most people cannot access information about things going on around them because they don't know how to access it. This often results in citizens not being informed, and thus not being able to relate to the projects and activities of the government. This ultimately weakens accountability in governance.	
Specific OGP Issue(s) in Focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor knowledge of FOIA • Poor access to information. • Low citizens' demand for government accountability • Poor public services ratings. • Weak transparency mechanism. • Citizens' apathy 	
The rationale for the Commitment:	By enlightening the citizens on the FOIA, there will be room for improved accountability of government institutions, making information available and accessible to all citizens and in a usable format	
Main Objective:	To ensure that the public have the knowledge and are aware of the FOIA in the state to make monitoring and reporting easy	
Anticipated Impact:	Increased knowledge of citizens on FOIA and demand for Government accountability and transparency through access to public information	
Expected Outcomes		
	Expected Outcomes	Milestones (Performance Indicators)
•	Increased knowledge on FOIA	Percentage of citizens that are aware of the FOIA based on FOI requests made
•	Increased commitments of citizens to engage	Number of citizens that engage the government on public information and records based on community engagements done during the course of the project.

	government on public information				
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Output(s)	Output Indicator(s)
1	Advocacy and community sensitization/engagement on FOIA across all 16 LGAs of the state	April 2021	March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive representation in community engagements across all 16 LGAs • Increased awareness on the Freedom Of Information Act in all 16 LGAs • Signed community actors willing to take public requests to the Central Communication Unit at the state level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports of all engagements in 16 LGAs • Attendance of community actors
2	Print and distribute Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials in English and Yoruba	April 2021	March 2023	Increased FOIA awareness	Number of IEC materials printed and distributed across the state
3	Reproduce, translate and distribute copies of the Freedom Of Information Act as domesticated in the state	April 2021	March 2023	Increased FOIA awareness	Number of FOIA copies reproduced, translated and distributed within the state.
4	Community survey on the awareness of FOIA and	April 2021	December 2022	Comprehensive report on survey carried out in each community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage and number of community

	engagement of government on public information				members engaging government on public information
5	Production and airing of radio and TV Jingles and other edutainment in English, Ekiti and Yoruba languages alongside discussions on radio and TV stations in the state	April 2021	March 2023	Jingles aired in radio stations and TV stations in the state Radio and TV discussions held monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of jingles produced and aired • Number of Radio and TV discussions held
6	Create social media platforms and websites for OGP Ekiti	April 2021	December 2021	Active Social media channels and websites for OGP Ekiti	Social media engagements on Twitter, Facebook and websites.
7	Create contents (videos, images, info-graphics and articles) for social media campaigns	April 2021	March 2023	Active online engagement on website and social media	Analytics of social media engagement (likes, comments, re-tweets, re-posts, followers/subscribers)
8	Partner with communication network providers in the state to send SMS alerts to registered phone numbers within the state	April 2021	March 2023	Increased FOIA awareness	Analytics of citizens reached by network providers

9	Conduct interactive sessions for civil servants in various MDAs on the importance and application of the FOIA	April 2021	March 2023	Increased FOIA awareness	Number of Civil Servants aware of the FOIA
10	Online Portal for submitting FOI requests	April 2021	May 2021	Increased accessibility to submit FOI requests	Number of requests submitted and treated
Source(s) of Funding:		Ekiti State Government Budget and Donor Agencies			

4:2 CITIZENS ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

Thematic Area	Citizen's Engagement and Empowerment
Commitment	To strengthen the civic space for more inclusiveness through government engagement with every layer of citizen groups.
Start and End Date	15 th April 2021 – 31 st March 2023
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Information and Value Orientation
Responsible Persons	Hon. Akinbowale Omole, Esq.
Designation	Honourable Commissioner

E-mail and Phone	08033976212; 08109539988; akinomole188@yahoo.com
Other Actors involved in the implementation	<p>State Actors: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Office of the Accountant-General of the State, Office of the Auditor-General of the State, Office of the Auditor-General of the Local Government, Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Ekiti State House of Assembly, National Orientation Agency, Ministry of Information and Value Orientation, Medium Enterprise Development Agency, Ministry of Trade and Investment, Ekiti Board of Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Ministry of Women Affairs, Bureau of Employment, Labour and Productivity, Ministry of Youth and Sports Development, Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Works, Ministry of Local Government Affairs.</p> <p>Non-State Actors: Nigerian Union of Journalists, Nigerian Bar Association, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), FIDA, COECSO, Ekiti Youth Parliament, Justice Development and Peace initiative (JDPI), Centre for Better Health Community Development (BHECOD), Gender Relevance Initiative Promotion (GRIP), New Initiative for Social Development (NISD), The New Generation Girls and Women Development Initiative (NIGAWD), Disability Not a Barrier Initiative (DINABI), Life and Peace Development Organisation (LAPDO), Ekiti Chambers of Commerce Industries, Mines and Agriculture (EKICCIMA), Society for Women and AIDS in Africa Nigeria (SWAN), Centre for Social Justice, Good Health and Community Development, Triple G Eco Revival Solutions, Centre for Society Reconditioning, Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Trade Union Congress (TUC), Nigeria Medical Association, National Council for Women Societies (NCWS).</p>
General problem and challenge addressed by the commitment	There is inadequate citizens' engagement and participation in government policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This results in limited participation of citizens in critical government decision making processes, and thus not being able to relate to government plans.

Main Objective of the commitment	To promote inclusiveness and ownership of government agenda.
Brief description of the commitment	This commitment will ensure that all citizens, including private sector actors, CSOs, human rights defenders, gender advocates, youth organisations, group of persons with disability and the media have power to inform and influence government policies and actions through their freedom to associate, assemble and express themselves freely. This is expected to ensure that agreed projects and programmes that would improve the livelihood of people and the business environments are included in government agenda.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The commitment will strengthen citizens and citizen organisations participation for effective advocacy, including working collectively towards open and responsive government, guaranteed protection of basic civil liberties such freedom of association, assembly and expression.
Specific OGP Issue(s) in Focus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Low level of citizens voices in the policy making process. II. Weak citizens and civil society engagement in government decision-making. III. Weak civil society-government relationship.
Rationale for commitment	Strengthening the civic space will promote transparency and accountability which will help curb corruption as citizens- society people, CSOs, media and all non-state actors will be included in decision making processes from policy formulation through to its implementation/execution and this will help greatly in the delivery of dividends of democracy. This will enable citizens of the State to own every project and programme of Government, therefore, such projects will be jointly

	monitored and maintained. By strengthening the civic space, the citizens and citizen organizations would be able to express their views freely and without fear or restrictions of any kind.
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Expected Outcomes		Milestones (Performance Indicators)			
1	To create a space where citizens and citizen organizations can freely associate and assemble to enhance and inform public policy.	Increase in the percentage of non-State actors participation in public policy.			
2	All citizens and citizen organizations regardless of ethnicity, religion, political affiliations, economic status should be able to freely express their opinion(s) on government policies and programmes.	Number/percentage of citizens and citizen organizations signifying the ability to express themselves without fear of arrest or self-censorship.			
3	Safeguard against undue interference from the State actors through the use of laws and regulations to restrict non-State actors from expressing themselves freely.	Percentage of non-state actors (CSOs, human right defenders, media, etc), expressing their ability to carry out their work without undue interference or impartial application of laws and regulations.			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Outputs	Output Indicators
1.	Advocate for more open civic space	May 2021	March 2023	Improvements in the ability of Non-State actors to express their opinion freely.	1. Number of advocacy meetings. 2. An increase in the number of non-State actors engagements with the State actors.

2.	Organise quarterly interaction between the citizens and citizen organisations and the State actors across the sixteen local government areas.	July 2021	March 2023	Scheduled interactions between the non-State actors and State actors to deliberate on government policies and programmes.	1. Number of meetings held at each local government areas in twelve months.
3.	Bi-annual (six months) analysis of survey on citizens and citizen organisations experiences expressing their views when dealing with the government.	September 2021	March 2023	To ascertain the extent to which citizens and citizens organization express themselves in the State.	1. Percentage of citizens and citizen organizations that experienced difficulty in freely expressing their views on government policies and programmes.
Source(s) of Funding:		Ekiti State Government and Development Partners			

Thematic Area	Citizens engagement and empowerment
Commitment	Develop technology-based citizens' feedback on programmes and projects for transparency and accountability.
Start and End Date	15 th April 2021 – 31 st March 2023

Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Information and Value Orientation
Responsible Persons	Akinbowale Ayedele-Omole Esq
Designation	Honourable Commissioner
E-mail and Phone	08033976212; 08109539988; akinomole188@yahoo.com
Other Actors involved in the implementation	<p>State actors: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Office of the Accountant-General of the State, Office of the Auditor-General of the State, Office of the Auditor-General of the Local Government, Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Ekiti State House of Assembly, National Orientation Agency, Ministry of Information and Value Orientation, Directorate of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), Medium Enterprise Development Agency, Ministry of Trade and Investment, Ekiti Board of Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Ministry of Women Affair, Bureau of Employment, Labour and Productivity, Ministry of Youth and Sports Development, Bureau of statistics, Ministry of Works, Ministry of Local Government Affairs, Ministry of Education, Science & Technology.</p> <p>Non-State actors: Nigerian Union of Journalists, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), FIDA, Ekiti Youth Parliament, Justice Development and Peace initiative (JDPI), Centre for Better Health Community Development (BHECOD), Gender Relevance Initiative Promotion (GRIP), New Initiative for Social Development (NISD), The New Generation Girls and Women Development Initiative (NIGAWD), Disability Not a Barrier Initiative (DINABI), Life and Peace Development Organisation (LAPDO), Ekiti Chambers of Commerce Industries, Mines and Agriculture (EKICCIMA), Society for Women and AIDS in Africa (SWAN), Centre for Social Justice, Good Health and Community Development, Tripple G Eco Revival Solutions, Centre for Society Reconditioning, Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Trade Union Congress (TUC), Nigeria Medical Association.</p>

General Problem and Challenge addressed by the commitment	There is inadequate citizens' access to information on government activities so citizens cannot effectively engage with government on execution of projects and programmes. This has not only aided ineffective execution of projects and programmes but has also gives little or no room for accountability and transparency in the management of the State's scarce resources.
Main Objective of the commitment	To ensure that government projects and programmes can be effectively tracked and affords citizens access to information in the format that is simple and accessible to all.
Brief Description of the Commitment	This commitment will ensure that citizens are aware of all government programmes and projects, including the timelines, and the resources allocated via technology-driven platforms. This will promote regular and prompt feedbacks on government activities.
The Specific OGP Issue(s) in Focus:	Accountability and Transparency Citizens Participation Effectiveness of Public Service delivery
The Rationale for Commitment	Effective usage of technology-driven platforms to inform citizens about government's projects and programmes and therefore avoid abandonment that contributes to inefficient use of public funds. If citizens are well informed of government's business, they will be in good position to track and monitor government's activities.

Expected Outcomes		Milestones (Performance Indicators)
1	Increased dissemination of information of government activities.	Increase the percentage of MDAs that makes information about their programmes and projects accessible to the citizens.
2	Increased the number of feedbacks enabled platforms.	Increase the number of resolved identified service delivery gaps through feedbacks enabled platforms.

3	Improved government accountability, and transparency.	Percentage of citizens aware of the government programmes and projects			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Outputs	Output Indicators
	Organise stakeholders' meeting on the need for OGP portal across the three senatorial districts.	April 2021	July 2021	Increase familiarization on OGP	Number of meetings organized.
2	Build and manage OGP portal for aggregating feedback from MDAs and CSOs to help strengthen the feedback process.	May 2021	March 2023	Functional portal for aggregating feedback and data analytics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of participating users. 2. Number of items of feedback from citizens and response from Government.
3	Capacity building of users of the OGP platform.	July 2021	July 2022	Enlightened and effective usage of the platform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of participants that are proficient with the usage of the platform.
4	Awareness creation and media engagement (traditional and modern information dissemination methods) about the existence of OGP platform.	May 2021	March 2023	Increased awareness of the importance of feedbacks on released government programmes and projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of feedbacks received quarterly. 2. Number of created contents about OGP.
5	Quarterly analysis of citizens feedback for government attention and response.	August 2021	March 2023	Quarterly Analysis Report detailing citizen feedback on government projects and programmes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of enquiries and feedback by citizens 2. Number of government actions to address enquiries/ feedback
Source(s) of Funding:		Ekiti State Government and Development Partners			

4.3 FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Thematic Area	Fiscal Transparency
Commitment	Full Operationalization of Open Contracting and use of Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) to meet diverse stakeholders needs
Start and End Date	1 st April 2021 – 31 st March 2023
Lead implementing agency	Ekiti State Bureau of Public Procurement
Responsible Persons	Director General
Designation	Director General
E-mail and Phone	oodewale@ekitistate.gov.ng 08032887664
Other Actors involved in the implementation	MDAs> Ministry of Budget and Economy Planning, Ministry of Finance, Office of the Accountant-General, Office of the Auditor-General, Fiscal Responsibility Commission, State House of Assembly, National Orientation Agency, Ministry of Information and Value Orientation, Ministry of Works, Transport and Housing, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, State Emergency Management Agency, SUBEB, Ministry of Education, EKIRS, Office of Transformation, Strategy and Service Delivery.
	CSOs, NGO and Private Sectors, etc.

	<p>Nigerian Union of Journalists, NIGAWD, Inspiration Care and Development Center (ICDC), EDFHO, Kids & Teens Resource Centre, NISD, PAAM Literacy, Life and Peace Development Organization (LAPDO), BIGIF, FIDA, BEHCOD, CEFSORD, Nigeria Institute of Quantity Surveyor Nigeria, National Council of Women's Societies (NCWS).</p>
<p>Brief description of the commitment</p>	<p>This commitment will ensure transparency in public procurement, provide accessible and timely information on public procurement process: contractors, suppliers, service providers. To ensure that the Open contracting data portal is user friendly, updated and all MDAs share correct, complete and up to date information.</p> <p>This commitment will also ensure Open Contracting Process is done through constructive engagement and empowerment of citizens and to engage citizens in all the procurement processes, get feedback to fix problems and deliver results.</p> <p>To ensure government work for the people, and also ensure value is delivered for every kobo spent on public projects. This is vital to the effective delivery of goods and services to citizens which also play an important role in economic inclusion and improved business climate.</p>

General Problem and Challenge addressed by the commitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adequate information not available to the public on contracting processes 2. On the limited available information, no provision for feedback mechanism from the public and this makes public participation in this process very ineffective. 3. Ministries, Departments and Agencies do not proactively disclose procurement information in a uniform format that is accessible to all citizens.
Main objective of the commitment	To improve accountability and transparency of the procurement processes through the implementation of open contracting and public participation in contracting process
Specific OGP issues in focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved transparency in procurement processes 2. Effective citizen engagement in governance processes 3. Unhindered access to government procurement information 4. Include technology and innovation in government process
Rationale for Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will promote transparency in public procurement processes and increase availability of information about government activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting civic participation. Engaging with contractors, CSOs and citizens in all the contract process can provide governments with much needed feedback about the performance of contracts, as well as instill confidence in potential bidders that irregularities will be addressed. • It will improve accountability and professional integrity in government. Having more and better quality contracting data will improve governments' systems and save money. • Increase access to new technologies for openness and accountability. Adopting the Open Contracting Data Standard, an open source standard for governments to release their procurement information in accessible and user-friendly ways, will help them reap the full benefits of transparency, accountability and participation. It would also stimulate data-driven innovation. 						
Anticipated Impact	Openness in all the contracting processes: from Planning to tender to award and to full implementation thus achievement of better value for money in public contract delivery because of reduction in corruption and fraud in public procurement processes.						
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="178 1203 896 1279" style="background-color: #cccccc;">Expected Outcomes</th> <th data-bbox="896 1203 2024 1279" style="background-color: #cccccc;">Milestone (Performance Indicators)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="178 1279 312 1421">1.</td> <td data-bbox="312 1279 896 1421">Increase access to procurement data and information in both</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="896 1279 2024 1421">Number of MDAS complying with the BPP guidelines on open data standards</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected Outcomes	Milestone (Performance Indicators)	1.	Increase access to procurement data and information in both	Number of MDAS complying with the BPP guidelines on open data standards	
Expected Outcomes	Milestone (Performance Indicators)						
1.	Increase access to procurement data and information in both						
Number of MDAS complying with the BPP guidelines on open data standards							

	human and machine readable format				
2.	Increase citizen participation in the entire procurement process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number community engagements, town hall meetings, focus group discussion conducted. 			
3.	Improve government's response to the public on identified deficiencies in the open contracting process in the state	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of projects monitored by open contracting team of CSOs in the state using the state open contracting data portal. • The number of Fiscal Transparency Champion trained on Open contracting process, and engaged to drive the process at the community level • Number of quarterly meetings and community engagement conducted to validate the open contracting compliance by MDAs 			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Output(s)	Output Indicator(s)
1.	Full implementation of Open Contracting Data Standard for full public procurement process, including the phases i.e planning, tenders, awards, contracts, implementation	1 st April 2021	March 2023	Operationalization of the e-procurement portal with the MDAs uploading data on	i. Number of MDAS complying with the

				the portal in line with Open contracting standard	BPP guidelines on open data standards
2.	Redesign the Open Contracting Portal to work in areas where access to internet is limited	1 st April 2021	March 2023	The redesigned portal with demonstrable capacity to work in areas without access to internet	Number of people in areas without access to internet that are able to access the portal
3.	Develop a feedback mechanism for citizens on the open contracting portal	1 st April 2021	November 2022	The provision of an online portal with provision for feedback to government and provision for community engagement to sensitize citizens on procurement processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback features added to the portal for better interface with the end user. • Number community engagements, town hall meetings, focus group discussion conducted.

4.	Conduct quarterly joint validation Meeting with BPP to ensure information is open, correct, complete and up to date	1 st April 2021	Quarterly	Validation meeting is conducted with the Bureau of Public procurement on quarterly basis to validate the open contracting process in all the MDAs	Number of quarterly meetings and community engagement conducted to validate the open contracting compliance by MDAs
5.	Appoint Fiscal Transparency Champions (FTC) at LGA and WARD level	1 st April 2021	July 2021	Fiscal transparency champions selected at the LG/ward level to further drive the process at the community level	24 LGAs Champions and 177 wards champions selected
6.	Select and train Fiscal Transparency Champions (FTC) at community level	1 st April 2021	August 2021	Fiscal transparency champions selected and trained on the open contracting processes at the LG/ward level to further drive the	24 LGAs Champions and 177 wards champions trained

				process at the community level	
7.	Quarterly citizens' engagement in the monitoring of public contracting for integrity, efficiency, effectiveness, and fairness.	1 st April 2021	Quarterly	At least 10% of Public projects picked from open contracting data portal successfully monitored for integrity, efficiency, effectiveness, and fairness.	Numbers of public projects monitored by citizens and feedback received will further achieve efficient, effective open contracting process in Ekiti state.

Source of Funding:	Ekiti State Government, CSOs, private sector and Development Partners
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4.4 ANTI-CORRUPTION & ASSET DISCLOSURE

Thematic Area	ANTI-CORRUPTION & ASSET DISCLOSURE
Commitment	To adopt and adapt the national anti-corruption strategy.
Start and End Date	April 2021 – March 2023
Lead implementing agency	Ekiti State Ministry of Justice
Responsible Persons	Hon. Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice
Designation	Hon. Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice
E-mail and Phone	moj.ekitistate.gov.ng (08033142501)

Other Actors involved in the implementation	<p>STATE ACTORS: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Office of the Ekiti State Accountant-General, Ministry of Information Value Orientation, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Service, Bureau of Public Procurement, Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Ekiti State House of Assembly, Ekiti Judicial Service Commission, Corporate Affairs Commission, Offices of State and Local Government Auditor General, and Code of Conduct Bureau</p> <p>NON-STATE ACTORS (CSOs, NGO, FBOs, CBOs and Private Sectors): Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), National of Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions Employees (NUBIFIE), Breach Repairers Organization for Sustainable Healthcare and Development (BROSHCAD), New Initiative for Social Development (NISD), and Disability Not a Barrier Initiative (DINABI).</p>
Brief description of the commitment	This commitment will take deliberate actions that will lead to adoption and adaptation of national anti-corruption strategy for Nigeria.
General Problem and Challenge addressed by the commitment)	There is a culture of corruption in Nigeria that fuels corrupt practices, with impunity. The mechanisms, systems and institutions are too weak to tackle the level of impunity associated with corrupt practices. It was based on this that the National Government developed a National Anti-Corruption strategy. Thus, this commitment is geared towards adopting and adapting the strategy in Ekiti State.
Main Objective of the commitment	To take appropriate actions to adopt and adapt the National Anti-Corruption strategy and alter the culture of corruption and promote transparency and accountability in Ekiti State
Specific OGP issues in focus	This commitment is meant to address the challenge of transparency and accountability
Rationale for commitment	Over the years, corruption has become widespread across governments, private sector and the civil society. This has impacted negatively on all aspects of life in Nigeria. There is therefore the need to take a range of actions to reduce the negative impact of corruption and promote transparency and accountability in governance in Ekiti State.

Anticipated Impact		Reduction in corrupt practices in Ekiti State			
Expected Outcomes		Milestones (Performance Indicators)			
1.	Improved accountability and transparency in the management of public funds	15% reduction in audit queries.			
2.	Level of fraud and other related offences reduced	15%% of fraud related cases reduced.			
3.	Increased public knowledge on the need for accountability and transparency	40% of the populace are better informed on the need for accountability and transparency			
4.	Increased coordination between government, private sector, and civil Society Stakeholders in the fight against corruption	An increase in number of fraud cases jointly pursued to logical conclusion increase.			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Output(s)	Output Indicator(s)
1.	Ekiti State Ministry of Justice get National Anti-Corruption Strategy/documents	1 st of April 2021	31 st May 2021	National anti-Corruption strategy obtained for study	Availability of the document
2.	Advocacy visit to Public Account Committee, Ekiti State House of Assembly to adopt and adapt National anti-corruption Strategy	1 st of June 2021	30 th June 2021	Advocacy visit conducted	Report and Pictures of Visit
3.	Review and highlight the relevant provisions applicable to Ekiti State	1 st July 2021	30 th July 2021	Adopted Draft bill available	Draft bill made ready for Ekiti state Executive Council(EXCOS)

4.	Draft bill for domestication of National anti-corruption strategy presented to Ekiti State Executive Council by the Ministry of Justice	2 nd August 2021	30 th August 2021	Ratification of the bill by EXCOS	EXCO Extract received by Ministry of Justice
5.	Draft bill sent for legislative consideration and passage	1 st September 2021	30 th October 2021	Draft bill considered and passed	Copy of draft bill available for Governor
6.	Presentation of draft bill for Governor's assent.	1 st November 2021	30 th November 2021	Draft bill assented to by the governor	Assented bill available for usage
7.	Sensitization of Government officials and the public through training and community engagement.	15 November 2021	31 st March 2023	Public officials, private sectors and general public sensitized	5000 Public officials, 5000 Private sector, 300 CSOs and 500000 general Public sensitized
8.	Ministry of Justice to Publish half-yearly report on the status of the implementation of Ekiti Anti-Corruption Strategy	1 st January, 2022	31 st March, 2022	Assessed report on the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy.	Published report made available to the public
9.	Chief Judge of Ekiti State to publish half-yearly report of the state of Anti-corruption cases.		31 st March, 2022	Published half year report of corruption cases	Published report made available to the public
10.	To develop, review, produce and deploy a framework for the continuous monitoring and reporting of anti-corruption cases by CSOs and MDAs	1 st July 2022	31 st March 2023	Framework and report developed	Framework and report produced made available for public use
Source(s) of Funding		Development Partners and State Government			

Thematic Area	ANTI-CORRUPTION & ASSET DISCLOSURE
Commitment	To establish a Public Register of beneficial Owners of Companies.
Start and End Date	1 st April 2021 – 1 st March 2023
Lead implementing agency	Bureau of Public Procurement
Responsible Persons	Mr. Seun Odewale
Designation	Special Adviser / Director General of Public Procurement
E-mail and Phone	OOdewale@ekitistate.gov.ng (08032887664)
Other Actors involved in the implementation	<p>STATE ACTORS: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Office of the Ekiti State Accountant-General, Ministry of Information and Value Orientation, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Service, Bureau of Public Procurement, Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Corporate Affairs Commission Ekiti State office, Ministry of Trade and Investment, Ministry Works and Transport, Cabinet and Special Services Department, Offices of State and Local Government Auditor General</p> <p>NON-STATE ACTORS (CSOs, NGO CBOs, FBOs and Private Sectors): Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), National of Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions Employees (NUBIFIE) Breach Repairers Organization for Sustainable Healthcare and Development (BROSHCAD), New Initiative for Social Development (NISD), Disability Not a Barrier Initiative (DINABI), Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ekiti State.</p>
Brief description of the commitment	The establishment of a public register of beneficial owners of corporate entities will enable the relevant authorities mandated to curb

	corruption, identify natural persons who directly or indirectly own, control or enjoy the benefits of the corporate entity.
General Problem and Challenge addressed by the commitment	Although, the State Government has a policy that every company executing project(s) on its behalf must have an office in the State. It is observed however that this policy is not fully complied with. It is equally observed that some of the companies that enjoy this patronage do not add value to job creation in the State because of the non-existence of their offices. Suffice it to say that a lot of revenue is being lost through capital flight. In addition, it is viewed that this commitment will prevent public officials from engaging in sharp practices of being on government payroll and at the same time winning contracts for themselves. The commitment will also aid public knowledge of companies executing contracts in the state
Main Objective of the commitment	To put in place a system that enables openness, transparency and full disclosure of beneficial ownership information.
Specific OGP issues in focus	Openness, Accountability and Transparency
Rationale for commitment	The identification of beneficial owners of corporate entities will discourage corruption and enable the government to trace and curb illicit financial flows, empowering citizens to be part of anti-corruption efforts.
Anticipated Impact	A comprehensive database on companies and their shareholders operating in Ekiti State thereby curbing sharp practices in procurement processes and award of contracts in the State.

	Expected Outcomes	Milestone (Performance Indicators)			
1.	Updated register of beneficial owners of companies in Ekiti State made available to the public.	Register of beneficial owners of companies made available to the public			
2.	Tax compliant companies in Ekiti State identified for revenue purposes	Percentage (%) increase in revenue base of Ekiti State Government			
3.	Increase in the number of employed persons in Ekiti State	Percentage (%) increase in the level of employment in Ekiti State			
4.	Curbed patronage of fictitious companies in the State	Zero (0) level or non-existence of patronage of fictitious companies in Ekiti State.			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Expected Output(s)	Output Indicator(s)
1.	Using Freedom of information (FOI) Act to ask for company Owners in Ekiti State from Corporate Affairs Commission by Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP)	1 st April 2021	30 th April 2021	Database of companies in Ekiti State	Availability of the database on the BPP website.
2.	Presentation of the register to State EXCO for adoption and approval	2 nd May 2021	31 st May 2021	Register legitimized for use in Ekiti State	EXCO extract received by BPP

3.	Produce company owner's register for circulation to government institutions, private sector, CSOs and the general public	1 st June 2021	30 th June 2021	Registers produced for circulation	Number of Beneficiaries Reached
4.	Sensitize the general public, private sector and CSOs on the register.	1 st July 2021	31 st March 2023	Public awareness on the register created.	The number of people reached.
5.	Periodic reconciliation of public register with companies executing projects in Ekiti State.	1 st August 2021	31 st March 2023	A document showing the variance between the registers and the companies executing projects avoided	Document available for public use in soft and hardcopy.

6.	<p>Monitoring and Feedback:</p> <p>i. To determine the quality of jobs being handled by companies executing projects in the state</p> <p>ii. To determine whether the employees meet the local content principles</p> <p>iii. to determine whether the companies pay the required contracting fees</p> <p>iv. Community engagement to get feedback on the quality of service delivery by the companies</p>	1 st September 2021	31 st March 2023	Improved Transparency, Accountability service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report made available to the public in soft and hardcopy.
Source(s) of Funding		Federal Government, State Government and Donor Agencies			

4.5 PROMOTING GOVERNANCE AND REGULATORY REFORM

Thematic Area	Promoting Governance and Regulatory Reforms
Commitment	To reform the operational processes of all revenue-generating MDAs for effective service delivery
Start and End Date	1 st April 2021 – 31 st March 2023
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Responsible Persons	Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development
Designation	Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development
E-mail and Phone	
Other Actors involved in the implementation	State Actors: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Service, Bureau of Public Procurement, Ministry of Justice, Civil Service Commission, Bureau of Lands, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Environment,
	Non-State Actors: CSOs, NGOs, Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria, ICAN, Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) and Private Sector etc.

General Problem and Challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-accountability in revenue remittance • Difficulty in revenue collection • Indiscriminate exploitation by revenue consultants • Sharp practices in revenue generation • Leakages in internally generated revenue • Tax evasion by citizens • Multiple taxes imposed on citizens
Main Objective of the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make payment of tax easy for the citizens. • Facilitating sustainability and effectiveness in process of revenue generation. • Ensuring transparency in all revenue generating processes
Brief description of the commitment	<p>To reform the process of revenue generation in selected MDAs through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automation of revenue generating process • Sustained sensitization and enlightenment of the citizen on importance of tax payment and mode of tax collections. • Regular training of revenue collectors • Feedback mechanism should be introduced and sustained on the use of tax payers'
Specific OGP challenge addressed by commitment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will aid transparency and accountability in revenue collection and sensitize citizens on the State tax codes while enabling effective service delivery.
Rationale for commitment	<p>The commitment is geared toward improving service delivery, transparency and accountability in revenue generation in the State</p>
Anticipated Impact	<p>Seamless process in revenue collection and thereby increase in internally generated revenue of the State.</p>
Expected Outcomes	Milestones (Performance Indicators)

1.	Aligned revenue collection processes for MDAs	The list of revenue collecting MDAs and the revenue bring collected.			
2.	Review of the automation platform for revenue collection	Report of the review exercise with recommendations on how to optimise the automation platform for revenue collection.			
3.	Seamless revenue process that is customer's focus	Percentage increase in the number of customer that satisfying with the revenue collection process.			
Planned Activities		Start Date	End Date	Outputs Results	Output Indicators
1.	Review of the available automation platform for revenue collection	April 2021	June 2021	Report of the review exercise	Review report with recommendations for platform optimisation
2.	Mapping of MDAs with responsibility for revenue collection and the process of revenue collection	April 2021	August 2021	Database of MDAs with responsibility for revenue collection and their processes	The report of the mapping exercise that contains the database of revenue collecting MDAs and their processes.
3.	Reactivation of automation of tax processes	October 2021	December 2021	Reactivation of the platform for possible capturing of all MDAs with revenue collection responsibility	Readiness of the platform for revenue collection
4.	Capacity development for revenue collection MDAs' officials	August 2021	September 2022	Readiness of the MDAs to deploy the platform for revenue collection	The seamless process in revenue collection.

5.	Sensitization of Citizens	December 2021	October 2023	Public awareness of the automation platform and ability to effectively utilise it by tax payers	Increase in percentage of taxpayers utilising the platform
6.	Regular town hall meetings, Phone-in, radio and television programmes	October 2021	March 2023	Gauged public opinion on the effectiveness of the platform	The number of town hall meetings held in a year vis-à-vis its impact on revenue collection.
Source(s) of Funding		Ekiti State Government and Development Partners			

Thematic Area	Promoting Governance and Regulatory Reforms
Commitment	Digitalization of Government records for easy access by Government officials and general public
Start and End Date	May 2021– April 2023
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Head of Service
Responsible Persons	Head of Service
Designation	Head of Service
E-mail and Phone	

Other Actors involved in the implementation	State Actors: Office of Establishment and Service Matters, Ekiti State Internal Revenue Service, Bureau of Public Procurement, Bureau of ICT, Ministry of Justice, Civil Service Commission
	Non-State Actors: CSOs, NGOs, and the Private Sector.
General Problems and Challenges addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of proper record keeping mechanism of Government documents • Loss of vital information and documents through destruction i.e sabotage, termites and natural disasters • The slow pace of conducting Government business due to poor access of essential government documents
Objective of the commitment	To digitalise records and documents for effective and efficient performance of government business.
Brief description of the commitment)	To digitalize existing and future records for easy access to Government records.
Specific OGP challenge addressed by this commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick and unhindered access to government records • Enhance effective and efficient service delivery in Government
Rationale for commitment	The digitalization of government records will aid effectiveness, efficiency and promote transparency and accountability in the conduct of official transactions.

Anticipated Impact		Easy access to government information and records		Reduction in the cost of government transactions	
		Expected Outcomes		Milestone(Performance Indicators)	
1.		Improved service delivery		Efficiency in service delivery	
S/N	Planned Activities	Start Date	End Date	Output Result	Performance Indicators
1.	Sensitization of officers	May 2021	Dec 2021	Informed officers that are skilfully equipped to use the new system	Acceptance of the process and readiness for the training
2.	Training of officers on ICT	May 2021	Sept 2021	The number of officers that are fully equipped to engage the new process	Proficiency in ICT
3.	Sorting, scanning and storing of records	July 2021	Dec 2021	Government information and documents digitalized and accessible	The volume of documents digitalised through the process
4.	Procurement of ICT equipment	May 2021	Dec 2021	The procured equipment	ICT equipment available and being used.

Source(s) of Funding	Ekiti State Government and donor agencies				
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SECTION FIVE

5.1 IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION PLAN

5.1.1 CONTEXT

The Ekiti State OGP governance framework is patterned after that of the central government. The Action Plan was co-created by State and Non-State Actors and the Action Plan finds its root in the Dr. Kayode Fayemi's 5 Pillars of Development Agenda and some identified challenges militating against good governance in the as highlighted by all stakeholders from both the government and citizen groups. The Action Plan provides a roadmap to the actualization of the government's desire to entrench democratic values and improve the living condition of the Ekitit people.

5.1.2 STATE STEERING COMMITTEE

Responsibility for the attainment of the goals of the action plan lies on all the stakeholders, but effective implementation is the responsibility of the State Steering Committee (SSC). The SSC is the highest decision-making body within the Ekiti State OGP structure. It is made up of 16 Steering Committee Members drawn from government actors and Non-State Actors. There are eight members that represented Government while eight represent the Non-State Actors that comprised of Civil Society Organizations, private sector institutions, and professional bodies whose mandates cut across the OGP thematic areas.

5.1.3 FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The State Steering Committee (SSC) is drawn from civil society, private sector actors and government institutions, and will ordinarily meet quarterly.

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. It comprises the Lead Government Co-chair and CSO Co-chair. The Lead Government Co-Chair is to set the tone and theme during the two-year cycle, organize and convene the quarterly OGP meetings in the State and other high-profile events and campaigns. The two Co-chairs and the Head of the State OGP Secretariat (Desk Officer/Focal Person) will also 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 Head of 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 led by the Focal Person/ OGP State Coordinator – who shall be the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Accounting Officer and would be assisted by such number of senior staff and support staff as may be required to ensure a smooth operation and also ensure that the interest of all stakeholders including the Non-State Actors and Public Sector Actors are harnessed and properly articulated and protected.

5.1.6 TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Technical Working Groups is established along the thematic areas and related commitments headed by Co-chairs. Working Groups is made up of Representatives of MDAs, CSOs and private sector based on expertise and commitment.

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

To ensure effective implementation of the State OGP commitments, the SAP recognizes the imperative of a strong Information Communication Technology (ICT) presence; Strong Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and a Robust Finance System.

These three forms the fulcrum of our cross-cutting areas namely:

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

Achieving all the commitments and objectives under the SAP requires the effective utilization of the three tools. The specific working groups established are tasked with the responsibility of integrating these tools into the commitments under the thematic areas and will work closely with State and Non-State Actors in the use and implementation of these tools.

6.2 TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

The use of technology to provide greater access to information and data is at the heart of an open and transparent government. The SSC recognizes that Technology & Innovation cuts across all five OGP thematic areas and that appropriate solutions and infrastructure are required to deliver on each of the commitments. Therefore, a specific Technology & Innovation Working Group has been established to:

- Identify existing government IT solutions and infrastructure that are available for the implementation of OGP commitments.
- Establish what their current status is and what gaps exist.

- Recommend how those gaps can be filled through improvements in existing systems and infrastructure or the use of new and innovative tools that are realistic given the present economic realities.

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

- Conduct a prioritized audit of IT capacity and gaps within MDAs relevant to the OGP process.
- Address identified IT gaps in order of priority, considering limited 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 five 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 9 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 State Government shall be cascading the principles of the Open Government Partnership in all the 16 Local Government Areas of the State.

SECTION EIGHT

8.1 CONCLUSION

This first State Open Government Partnership Action Plan will help consolidate the on-going public sector reforms in the State. Working together with Non-State Actors and Development Partners, the States 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 our State.