

STATE ACTION ON BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS (SABER)

PROGRESS REPORT FOR IMO STATE

Original action plan as published										Progress Update		
S/N	Business Enabling Reform Areas	Reform Objectives	Action Steps	Description and Key Targets	Responsible MDA	Contributing MDAs	Budget	Planned Start Date	Planned End Date	Status	Description of Status	Next Steps
1	Starting a Business	Reduce time spent for initial registration of a business with state authorities	1. Drive adoption of e-registration for company registration by creating awareness. 2. Eliminate inspection for business premises registration by changing regulation/Law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One less procedure and 72 hours saved in registering a business in Imo state 	Ministry of Trade, Commerce & Industry	Imo State Internal Revenue Service, Imo State Investment Promotion Agency(ISIPA)	NGN55,800,000	1/30/2023	7/15/2023	On-going	E- Registration of businesses will remove unnecessary bottlenecks in the registration of Associations in the State 1. Sensitization of focal MDAs on the benefits of e-Registration for Associations and Groups. 2. Engagements with Business owners and organised groups for inputs on adoption of e-registration platform 3 Consideration for adoption of Executive Order on E-registration of Associations and Groups	Consolidation of application processes
2	Dealing with construction permits	1. Improve dispute resolution for issues related to building code 2. Reduce cost and time to obtain development permits.	Create and implement an independent dispute resolution mechanism for compliance issues related to building code requirements	Faster and more efficient dispute resolution – 80% of queries resolved within 7 days	Owerri Capital Development Authority – OCDA	Imo State Ministry of Land Imo State Ministry of Justice Imo State Internal Revenue Service	NGN55,000	2/20/2023	6/10/2023	Completed.	This Procedure provides an avenue for the sensitization of the public on the Processes and Procedures of OCDA 1. A legal unit was created to handle Building plans disputes 2. The unit has been able to resolve complaints between Enforcement unit and Building plan approval applicants 3. Media campaigns on the rights and responsibilities of Building Plans Applicants are ongoing	1) To strengthen the manpower requirements of the legal unit 2. To increase sensitization/awareness about the unit among stakeholders

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3	Tax Payment	Simplify the process and IIRS reduce the time for paying taxes	1.Map existing process for tax payment 2.Conduct MDAs stakeholder engagement to discuss harmonization and payment of all State Taxes to TSA Account. 3. Individual, all large and medium size enterprises to be registered on e-filing system	1.Reduce average time for filing and paying taxes by 50% 2. Automation of process for registration of personal income tax in Imo State	Imo State Inland Revenue Services & Imo State Ministry of Finance	1Imo State Ministry of Commerce and Industry 2. Imo State Ministry of Land 3. Imo State Ministry of Commerce and Industry	NGN65,000	1/25/2023	8/13/2023	Completed . This reform has improved tax efficiency in the State	1.Imo State Internal Revenue Service (IIRS) Designed and Implemented Consolidated Demand notice 2.The Service Implemented E-Platform for Personal income Tax Assessment 3 These Platforms have helped to Reduce the cost of defraying tax Liability 4.And make Capturing Of all Revenue subheads accrued to a tax payer at glance	1. To extend the E-Platform to other Tax components 2. And Increase Stakeholders engagements
4	Registering Property	1.Ensure availability of land information online. 2. Simplify and optimize the process of obtaining the Governor's Consent.	1.Drive the adoption of land plot information and make it available online. 2. Clearly defined fee schedules made available to public 3. Statistical information on land disputes available online	• Strict adherence to the 30- day process to obtain the Governor's Consent in Imo State. • E- signature accepted for Governors' Consent in Imo state.	Imo State Lands Administration and Geographic Information Service	Imo State Ministry of Land 2.Owerri Capital Development Authority – OCDA	NGN170,60	1/30/2023	6/10/2023	Delayed	The Ministry of Lands, Survey & Physical Planning is under restructuring for efficient service delivery	Online publication of Ministry Lands services to be implemented in 2024 2. The fee schedules will be published in local papers, flyers, and announced on the local Radio Stations

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5	Getting Electricity	Further reduce time to get connected to the grid by deploying online systems 2. Ensure compliance to revised procedures and timelines for getting connected to the grid	1.. Ensure compliance to revised procedures and timelines for getting connected to the grid 2. Clearly state the compliance procedures and 44-day timeline for new connections to the grid	1.Reduce time for getting electricity by 10 days' 2.Notice based system for works that involve crossing of road	Imo State Ministry of Power & Energy	EEDC	NGN56,500	2/10/2023	7/18/2023	Ongoing The Power Plant, when completed will bring about 24hr Electricity supply to the State	1.Construction of Egbema Power Plant is about 90% completion 3. When completed, the State will experience 24hr power supply And, 4. The economy of the state will improve	1. Collate verifiable data of power consumers in the State 2. Ensure efficient metering system 3 Ensure easy access to electricity by
6	Inter State Trading	Simplify the systems and procedures to increase the transparency and efficiency of Imo State interstate border.	1 Conduct stakeholders meeting to sensitize and elicit their commitment on the number of roadblocks in the State. 2.Published list of all approved checkpoints, available online and disseminated in local media 3. Eliminate all illegal roadblocks on major trading routes in Imo State	• Enable quicker and easier movement of goods across borders into Imo State 2. Enforce removal of illegal roadblocks 3.Ensure compliance with reduce documentations at the State border	Imo State Ministry of Transport	• Imo State Ministry of Commerce and Industry 2. Nigeria Police Force 3.Nigerian Custom Services	NGN45,500	2/2/2023	7/15/2023	Ongoing Elimination of unapproved Trade Road Blocks/Checks points	1. Stakeholders meetings held for inputs on illegal Check points 2. The State has Delisted illegal Check points for free flow of goods and services 3.The Online publication of the approved check points is underway	The Publication of approved on line check points to be completed in 2024 2. To set up a taskforce on eradication of illegal Check points

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7	Enforcing Contract	Improve the judicial process by providing easy access to costeffective resolution of debt recovery disputes involving small claims of five million naira (N5m) and below.	Specialized magistrates trained to handle commercial cases	Reduce the time it takes to resolve cases related tocommercial contract	Imo State Judicia	Imo State Ministry of Justice • Imo State Ministry of Lands	NGN35,500	2/20/2023	5/2/2023	Completed Quick resolution of commercial disputes that are within the financial jurisdiction of Small Claims Courts	1. Small Claims Courts were inaugurated in the State. 3. Spectalized Court Officials were equally trained for effective Small laims Court administration 2.The Courts have commenecc sittings and Judgements delivered 4. Costs of accessing Justice have reduced as litigants have options of self representation And, 5. Unneccessary delays in courts proceedings eliminated	More Magistrate Courts to be designated as Small Claims Courts