



GOVERNMENT OF IMO STATE, NIGERIA

IMO STATE INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (ISIPA)

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IMO STATE INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Driving Investment, Supporting Enterprise and Building a Competitive Imo Economy

Reporting Period: 1 January – 31 December 2025

Agency: Imo State Investment Promotion Agency (ISIPA)

Headquarters: Imo Trade & Investment Centre, Pocket Layout, Port Harcourt Road, Owerri, Imo State

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2025 was a period of strengthened investment promotion, investor facilitation, business-enabling reforms and strategic positioning for the Imo State Investment Promotion Agency (ISIPA).

ISIPA's mandate is to facilitate, coordinate, promote and monitor investments in Imo State, with the objective of making the State increasingly private-sector driven. Its 2024–2029 Corporate Plan targets US\$1 billion in investment attraction and 3,000 direct jobs, with at least 30 new inward investment projects across agribusiness, light manufacturing, renewable energy and solid minerals over the five-year period.

During 2025, the Agency's activities centered on five strategic priorities:

1. Enhancing Imo State's investment visibility;
2. Attracting and facilitating private-sector investment;
3. Improving the investment and regulatory environment;
4. Strengthening investor aftercare and problem resolution; and
5. Building partnerships with government, financial institutions, investors and development partners.

ISIPA also operated within a broader business-enabling reform programme. The State's 2025 Business Enabling Reform Action Plan specifically identified PPP and investment promotion as areas requiring stakeholder engagement and assigned ISIPA a leading role in promoting partnership investments in the State economy.

The Agency's investment facilitation model provides investors with information and guidance, assistance with permits and approvals, intermediary services with government agencies, investment promotion and aftercare support. ISIPA's published Service Level Agreement provides, among other targets, for investor concerns to be resolved within two working days and for at least one major promotional event to be organised quarterly.

ISIPA'S 2025 INVESTMENT STRATEGY

2.1 Strategic Direction

ISIPA's 2025 investment strategy was anchored on positioning Imo State as a competitive destination for domestic and international investment.

The strategy was aligned with the Agency's 2024–2029 Corporate Plan, which identifies five corporate priorities:

Strategic Priority	2025 Strategic Focus
1. Visibility	Market Imo as an attractive investment destination
2. Investment Attraction	Generate, screen and facilitate credible investment leads
3. Enabling Environment	Support reforms that reduce barriers to doing business
4. Partnerships development partners	Build relationships with investors, financial institutions and
5. Operational Excellence	Strengthen ISIPA's internal systems and investor-service capacity

The Corporate Plan specifically identifies agribusiness, light manufacturing, renewable energy and solid minerals as priority sectors for new inward investment.

3. PRIORITY INVESTMENT SECTORS

A. Agriculture and Agribusiness

ISIPA promoted investment opportunities across:

- mechanized agriculture;
- cassava, rice and maize production;
- palm produce;
- cocoa and other cash crops;
- food processing;
- livestock;
- aquaculture;
- agricultural logistics;
- agricultural input production; and
- agro-industrial processing.

The Agency's investment portfolio identifies significant opportunities in agricultural production, food processing, preservation, livestock, aquaculture, horticulture and agricultural machinery.

B. Manufacturing

Investment promotion focused on:



- agro-processing;
- building materials;
- ceramics and tiles;
- chemicals;
- food and beverages;
- textiles;
- industrial processing;
- automobile assembly; and
- SMEs and light manufacturing.

C. Energy and Gas

ISIPA continued to position Imo's oil and gas resources as opportunities for:

- gas processing;
- independent power generation;
- captive power;
- renewable energy;
- gas-to-power;
- CNG-related investment;
- petrochemicals; and
- energy infrastructure.

The State's investment portfolio specifically identifies independent power plants, captive generation and renewable energy as investment opportunities.

D. Tourism and Hospitality

Investment opportunities promoted included:

- Oguta Lake and Golf Resort;
- Imo Wonder Lake Resort;
- Abadaba Lake Resort;
- hotels;
- conference facilities;
- leisure and entertainment;
- hospitality infrastructure; and
- tourism-linked real estate.

The Agency has specifically structured opportunities such as the Imo Wonder Lake Resort under potential BOT/BOOT private-sector participation.

E. Infrastructure and PPP

ISIPA promoted opportunities for private participation in:

- industrial parks;
- markets;

- housing;
- tourism;
- energy;
- transport infrastructure;
- waste management;
- commercial facilities; and
- other public infrastructure.

The 2025 State Business Enabling Reform Action Plan specifically included PPP development and partnership investment as a reform activity, with ISIPA identified as the lead agency

4. INVESTMENT MARKETING AND PROMOTION

4.1 Investment Marketing Approach

In 2025, ISIPA's marketing approach was built around:

- investment opportunity packaging;
- direct investor engagement;
- stakeholder meetings;
- investment forums;
- business matchmaking;
- investor enquiries;
- government-to-business engagement;
- strategic partnerships;
- digital promotion; and
- positioning Imo as an investment destination.

The Agency's published service framework expressly provides for marketing campaigns, investment forums and trade missions as instruments for investment promotion.

4.2 Imo Economic Summit 2025

One of the major investment-promotion platforms during the year was the Imo Economic Summit 2025, held on 4–5 December 2025 in Owerri, under the theme:

"Unlocking Imo's Economic Potential: Partnership, Investment and Innovation."

The summit brought together government, investors, financial institutions, business leaders and development partners and focused on sectors including:

- agriculture and agribusiness;
- energy;
- manufacturing;
- infrastructure;
- technology;
- healthcare;

- tourism;
- real estate; and
- innovation.

The event provided an important platform for investor engagement and investment matchmaking. NIPC reported that it participated in the summit and engaged with state officials, private-sector leaders and development partners concerning investment opportunities in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, ICT and energy.

Key Investment-Marketing Outcomes

The summit:

- increased visibility of Imo's investment opportunities;
- brought major financial institutions and corporate executives into direct engagement with the State;
- created opportunities for investor enquiries and matchmaking;
- promoted partnerships in energy, agriculture, infrastructure and manufacturing;
- strengthened collaboration between ISIPA and national investment-promotion institutions; and
- provided a platform for showcasing bankable investment opportunities

5. INVESTOR FACILITATION AND AFTERCARE

5.1 Investor Aftercare

ISIPA's investment-promotion mandate extends beyond attracting new investors. The Agency also provides aftercare services designed to help existing investors expand and sustain their operations.

The Agency's published Service Level Agreement commits it to providing timely and effective aftercare and resolving investor concerns within two working days.

Major Aftercare Functions

During 2025, ISIPA's aftercare framework focused on:

1. identifying investor challenges;
2. facilitating interaction with MDAs;
3. assisting with permits and approvals;
4. providing information on government requirements;
5. facilitating access to investment incentives;
6. supporting land and infrastructure-related enquiries;
7. resolving regulatory bottlenecks;
8. maintaining investor relationships;
9. supporting business expansion; and
10. monitoring investor projects.

6. MARKETING ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO INVESTORS

ISIPA's marketing assistance during the year included:

6.1 Investment Information

The Agency provided investors with information concerning:

- available investment opportunities;
- incentives;
- regulatory requirements;
- investment procedures;
- land availability;
- sector opportunities; and
- government policies.

ISIPA operates a One-Stop investment service model through which investors can access information on investment opportunities, incentives, registration and business connections.

6.2 Government Interface

The Agency served as an intermediary between investors and government MDAs, helping investors navigate:

- permits;
- licences;
- registrations;
- land-related processes;
- regulatory requirements;
- taxation-related information; and
- other government approvals.

6.3 Investment Opportunity Packaging

ISIPA continued to package investment opportunities into sectors and projects capable of being presented to prospective investors.

6.4 Business Connections

The Agency facilitated connections between:

- investors;
- government institutions;
- financial institutions;
- business associations;
- development partners;
- technical experts; and
- local businesses.

7. INVESTMENTS AND INVESTOR PROJECTS SUPPORTED DURING 2025

Investment/Investor	Sector	ISIPA Support/Engagement	2025 Status
Seplat Energy / NNPC–Seplat	Oil & Gas/Energy	Investor relations and engagement	Existing investment/aftercare

operations		with an existing strategic investor operating in Imo	
Waltersmith Petroman	Oil Oil Gas/Refining &	Investment engagement and promotion of Imo's energy-sector opportunities	Investor engagement
Energy and gas-sector opportunities around the ANOH corridor	Gas/Energy	Promotion of energy and gas investment opportunities	Investment pipeline
Imo Economic Summit investment engagements	Multi-sector	Investment promotion, matchmaking and investor enquiries	Pipeline/engagement
Agribusiness investment leads	Agriculture	Opportunity promotion and investor facilitation	Investment pipeline
Manufacturing investment leads	Manufacturing	Investment information, facilitation and government interface	Investment pipeline
Tourism/hospitality opportunities	Tourism	Project promotion and private-sector engagement	Investment pipeline
PPP opportunities	Infrastructure	Promotion of partnership investment and stakeholder engagement	Pipeline

8. INVESTMENT FACILITATION PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

KPI	2025 Target	2025 Actual
New investment leads generated	50	20
Investors formally facilitated	15	15
Investment projects supported	15	10
Investment projects reaching financial close	6	4
New projects commissioned	5	4
Capital investment facilitated	₦1b	₦500
Direct jobs expected	2,500	2,300
Direct jobs created	500	325
Investor complaints received	≤20	12
Investor complaints resolved	≤90%	70%
Average complaint-resolution time	≤2 days	1.6 days
Investment promotion events	≥4	5
Investor aftercare visits	≥8	10

Investor enquiries handled	≥15	19
Business connections facilitated	≥25	38
PPP investment opportunities promoted	≥5	7

9. **BUSINESS-ENABLING REFORMS**

In 2025, Imo State continued implementing reforms under the State Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER) framework.

A July 2025 PEBEC engagement in Owerri highlighted reforms including:

- digitalization of land administration;
- business-registration improvements;
- access to MSME financing;
- road infrastructure;
- electrification;
- improvement of the airport;
- and investment facilitation through ISIPA.

The 2025 Business Enabling Reform Action Plan also specifically identified PPP development, fibre-optic investment and tax-administration improvements as areas involving investment facilitation and stakeholder engagement.

10. **INVESTMENT INCENTIVES AND INVESTOR SUPPORT**

ISIPA promoted available government incentives designed to reduce the cost and risks of investing in Imo.

These included support relating to:

- availability of industrial land;
- industrial layouts;
- enterprise zones;
- infrastructure support;
- government facilitation;
- investment information;
- regulatory guidance;
- PPP opportunities; and
- access to relevant federal and state incentives.

11. **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP INVESTMENT PROMOTION**

PPP constituted an important component of the State's investment strategy in 2025.

ISIPA promoted private participation in projects where government could leverage private capital, technology, management expertise and operational capacity.

Priority PPP areas

- tourism;
- industrial parks;

- markets;
- housing;
- energy;
- waste management;
- commercial infrastructure;
- agriculture;
- transport;
- healthcare; and
- other revenue-generating infrastructure.

12. INVESTOR RELATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

ISIPA strengthened relationships with:

- Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission;
- Imo State Government MDAs;
- financial institutions;
- organised private sector;
- development partners;
- investors;
- professional bodies;
- business associations; and
- international investment stakeholders.

13. 2025 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Strengthened investment visibility

ISIPA continued to position Imo as an investment destination through direct marketing, investor engagement and major investment forums.

2. Improved investor facilitation

The Agency maintained a one-stop approach for providing information, guidance and government-interface services to investors.

3. Strengthened aftercare

Investor aftercare was incorporated into the Agency's service-delivery framework, including mechanisms for resolving investor concerns.

4. Increased investment-sector promotion

Priority sectors including agriculture, manufacturing, energy, tourism, ICT and infrastructure were actively promoted.

5. Strengthened PPP investment pipeline

PPP was integrated into the State's investment and business-enabling reform agenda.

6. Major investment-marketing platform

The Imo Economic Summit 2025 provided a high-level platform for investment matchmaking, investor enquiries and partnership development.

7. Investor engagement

14. CHALLENGES

The Agency's investment-promotion activities continued to face challenges associated with:

- infrastructure financing requirements;
- access to long-term investment capital;
- regulatory coordination;
- availability of bankable project information;
- land and project-development issues;
- investor risk perception;
- need for faster approvals;
- limited availability of investment-performance data;
- project preparation and bankability; and
- the need for stronger investment aftercare information systems.

15. 2026 PRIORITIES

Building on the 2025 experience, we will focus on the following priorities in 2026:

A. Investment pipeline development

Develop a structured database of all investment leads, projects and investors.

B. Bankable project preparation

Convert investment opportunities into properly structured Project Information Memoranda (PIMs) and feasibility studies.

C. Investor aftercare

Introduce a systematic investor-aftercare program involving:

- quarterly investor surveys;
- investor roundtables;
- site visits;
- problem-resolution tracking;
- expansion facilitation; and
- investor-retention monitoring.

D. Investment marketing

Develop sector-specific investment campaigns for:

- Energy & Gas;
- Agribusiness;
- Manufacturing;
- Tourism;
- ICT/Digital Economy;

- Mining;
- Infrastructure; and
- PPP.

E. Investment dashboard

Establish a real-time investment dashboard tracking:

Investor → Project → Sector → Location → Capital → Jobs → Stage → Bottleneck → ISIPA Intervention → Outcome.

F. PPP project development

Work with the Imo State PPP Office and relevant MDAs to develop a pipeline of bankable PPP projects capable of attracting institutional and private capital.

16. CONCLUSION

The 2025 operating year marked an important phase in the evolution of ISIPA from a conventional investment-promotion institution toward a more proactive investment attraction, facilitation, aftercare and project-development agency.

The Agency's 2024–2029 strategy provides a clear medium-term ambition: to attract US\$1 billion of investment, facilitate at least 30 inward investment projects and support the creation of 3,000 direct jobs.

The investment-promotion activities undertaken in 2025—including investor facilitation, aftercare, sector marketing, PPP promotion, stakeholder engagement and the Imo Economic Summit—provided platforms for advancing that strategy.

ANNEX I — PROPOSED 2025 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Indicator	Result
Investment enquiries	76
Investment leads	20
Investors facilitated	15
New investments attracted	12
Total investment value	₦500M
Projects under development	10



Projects commissioned	4
Jobs expected	2,300
Jobs created	500
Aftercare interventions	10
Investor complaints resolved	100%
Investment missions/forums	4
PPP projects promoted	7
PPP projects at development stage	4
Investor expansion projects	3

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