



Delta govt lauded for releasing N1bn counterpart contribution for NEWMAP-EIB project

By Felix Ofou

The National Project Coordinator, Nigeria Climate Adaptation-Erosion and Watershed Project (NEWMAP-EIB), Engr. Anda Yalaks has confirmed the approval and release of the sum of N1 billion by the Governor Sheriff Oborevwori-led administra-

tion as counterpart fund for the European Investment Bank (EIB) intervention in the state.

Engr. Yalaks who confirmed the release of the fund commended the State Government when he led the Federal Project Management Unit delegation on a courtesy visit to the Office of the Secretary to the State Government of

Delta state, Dr. Kingsley Emu in Asaba, Delta State.

He noted that the payment of the counterpart funding was a demonstration of the highest level of political will to tackle environmental challenges in the state, while explaining that the payment of N1 billion has secured the state as one of the 23 beneficiary States for

European Investment Bank intervention.

"It is an example of what we are expecting from our authorizing environments," he said. He also confirmed that after conducting an assessment of the prioritized sites which are currently active, aggressive,

Continued on page 7

Delta REVEALED

www.deltastate.gov.ng



A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF NEW MEDIA OFFICE

VOLUME 2 NO 41 | MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025

Firm to attract \$1bn, boost jobs, transform Delta's agriculture

By Nelson Egware

Delta State Governor, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborevwori, has said that the Delta State Commercial Oil Palm Plantations Growers Cooperative Society Limited (DELCOM COOP) project was

expected to attract close to \$1 billion in development finance over the next decade.

Governor Oborevwori who disclosed this at the public presentation and launch of DELCOM COOP/Delta State Oil Palm Plantations Development Land Bank and Agric

Data in Asaba, said it was expected to create thousands of jobs, stimulate the local economy and position Delta State as a frontrunner in Nigeria's agricultural transformation.

He said that transforming Delta State's Oil Palm

Industry was in furtherance of his MORE Agenda, which underscores the unwavering commitment to unlocking the immense potentials of agriculture, particularly the oil palm sector, as a catalyst for sustainable development, wealth creation and the en-

hancement of livelihoods.

According to him, "today, we come together at a pivotal moment in the history of Delta State - an opportunity to shape a future where agriculture, particularly the oil palm industry, becomes the cornerstone of our economic

transformation.

"This journey began on 20 November, 2018, when the Delta State Government, under the visionary leadership of my predecessor, initiated a bold partnership with the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN).

Continued on page 7



Oborevwori Emphasizes Need for Unity, Peace in Achieving National Growth

By Dennis Otu/
Nelson Egware

Delta State Governor, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborevwori, has urged Nigerians to reflect on the power of unity and peace as the prerequisite for growth and development of the country.

Governor Oborevwori gave the charge at the 60th birth anniversary thanksgiving service of the State Deputy Governor, Sir Monday Onyeme, at St. Phillips Anglican Church, Asaba on Sunday.

While commending the celebrant for his medical outreach in the course of the

celebration, he maintained that the nation's future was bright, if the people worked together in peace and unity for the development of the country.

He said: "Today, we have come to celebrate the very reliable and dependable brother, very loyal and dedicated Deputy Governor.

"My brother Onyeme we are happy that you came to church first to give thanks to God before the merriment that follows.

"Whatever you have achieved today, it is not by your power, God did them. I love the fact that you

did medical outreach and touched lives. God will continue to bless you for putting the people first.

"Your loyalty is not 99 percent but 100 percent and I appreciate you on this special day for your support. I am very happy to work with you as my deputy governor.

"As we celebrate you today, we also celebrate the values you stand for, which is hard work, integrity and pursuit of excellence. You have given so much to Delta State and I know you will continue to do more.

"To my fellow Deltans and Nigerians, this is a time to

reflect on the power of unity because it is good for us to be united and dedicated for our common good.

"Let us continue to support one another, work together for progress and uphold the values that will make our state and nation greater.

"The future is bright when we commit ourselves to selfless service just as Onyeme has exemplified. My prayer for you is that God will continue to bless you and give you joy and strength to continue to serve our people.

"On behalf of my family,

Continued on page 7

EDITORIAL

Applying sanctions for rejecting classroom postings

SEE PAGE 3

FOCUS



IMAGES FROM THE CELEBRATION OF THE STATE DEPUTY GOV., HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR MONDAY ONYEME IN ASABA, THE STATE CAPITAL

SEE PAGES 4/5

PHOTOSPEAK

IMAGES FROM THE FLAGGING OFF OF THE 2ND NIGER BRIDGE 17.5KM DUAL CARRIAGE ACCESS ROAD BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, ON MONDAY, MARCH 2025. SEE PAGE 8





60 Garlands

For a

**Consummate Politician,
Servant Leader, and
Philanthropist Par Excellence**

Your Excellency,

**I rejoice with you and your
lovely family as you attain
the age of 60 today. May
God grant you the desires of
your heart, and fill the rest
of your years with joy, peace,
and wonderful blessings.**

Happy 60th Birthday.

**His Excellency
Sir Monday Onyeme**

DEPUTY GOVERNOR, DELTA STATE

Rt. Hon. (Elder) Sheriff F.O. Oborevori
Governor, Delta State

Applying sanctions for rejecting classroom postings

THAT education remains the foundation of any progressive society, and teachers are at the heart of this foundation is not in doubt. However, in Delta State, an alarming trend has emerged where classrooms are suffering from a severe shortage of teachers, while education ministries are filled with officers who appeared to have abandoned teaching for administrative roles, a very troubling situation if you asked me.

This growing imbalance threatens the future of education in the state, prompting the Governor, Rt. Hon. Sheriff Oborevwori, to impose sanctions on education officers who refused postings to classrooms.

While this move is a step in the right direction, it only scratches the surface of a much deeper problem. The real issue lies within the system itself, which has long enabled this misconduct. Many senior education officers manipulate postings, using their influence to remain in ministry offices rather than in the classrooms where their expertise is desperately needed.

The lack of discipline within the civil service, combined with corruption at the top, has allowed this trend to persist for years. High-ranking officials worsen the situation by accepting bribes and granting exemptions, making it easier for officers to reject postings, especially to rural areas where teacher shortages are most critical.

The civil service law is clear, public servants, including teachers, can be posted anywhere they are needed. No individual should be allowed to become bigger than the system.

If the education sector is to be fixed, the government must enforce these laws with fairness and transparency. It is commendable that the current administration is taking steps to address the issue, but forced postings alone are not a long-term solution.

During the tenure of Senator Dr. Ifeanyi Okowa, about 1,500 teachers were recruited to bridge the gap in the education sector. While this was a significant step, it was still inadequate given the growing number of students and the increasing demand for qualified teachers.

The government must prioritize consistent and large-scale recruitment of teachers to ensure that classrooms are adequately staffed. If this is not done, the education sector will continue to decline, and the shortage of teachers will become even more dire.

Additionally, the government must resist the urge to overpopu-

late ministries with teachers who should be in schools. The current system, where experienced teachers are converted into desk officers, is detrimental to education. It deprives students of quality instruction while creating an unnecessary administrative burden on ministries.

While sanctions may serve as a temporary corrective measure, they do not address the core reasons why teachers are avoiding the classroom. Many teachers actively reject postings because of poor working conditions, lack of infrastructure, and inadequate salaries. If the government is truly committed to revitalizing the education sector, it must go beyond mere enforcement and invest in the fundamental needs of schools.

Secondary schools, in particular, require urgent attention, as they play a critical role in shaping students for higher education and the workforce. Without proper investment in these institutions, the quality of education will continue to deteriorate.

Teacher welfare must also be a top priority. The government must recognize that poor compensation and lack of incentives drive teachers away from the classroom. To encourage teachers to remain in the profession, salaries must be improved, benefits must be provided, and career growth opportunities must be made available within the teaching profession.

When teachers feel valued and supported, they are more likely to remain dedicated to their roles, thereby improving the overall quality of education.

The future of the education system depends on how effectively these structural challenges are tackled. If the right measures are put in place, Delta State can set an example for other regions, proving that with proper planning, commitment, and investment, a fair and efficient education system is achievable.

The Crew

PUBLISHER
Felix Ofou

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Norbert Chiazor

EDITOR-AT-LARGE
Igho Akeregha

EDITOR
Pius Mordi

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Dennis Otu

DEPUTY EDITOR
Nelson Egbare

CORRESPONDENTS
Freeborn Eghagha
Daniel Bayagbon
Ghene Igbogidi
Oreva Godwin

ONLINE EDITOR
Christopher Odamah

WEB MASTER
Louis Osiobe

GRAPHICS
George SKY

PHOTOS
Donatus Oji

All correspondences to the Editor:
+234 906 066 5476 (WhatsApp only)



FOCUS

IMAGES FROM THE CELEBRATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY, SIR MONDAY ONLY





FOCUS

OF THE STATE DEPUTY GOVERNOR,
EME IN ASABA, THE STATE CAPITAL



Pay attention to personal hygiene, career, the foundation tells students

By Christopher Odamah

The Chief Executive Officer, CEO, of Ima Teens Empowerment Foundation, Ms Oreva Godwin, has asked teenagers in secondary to imbibe the culture of personal hygiene, fear of God and strive for excellence in their life's endeavour.

She made the appeal while speaking to students of Mac Delight Academy and FeliHeights International School in Asaba as part of the foundation's outreach program for teenagers, during which issues of personal hygiene, menstrual cycle, career development and effective personal relationship with God were emphasized.

Ms Godwin urged the students to learn to take care of themselves, pointing out that cleanliness was next to godliness. She said personal hygiene was very important for teenagers.

"You must try to bathe at least twice a day, use deodorants, and also always have sanitary pads in your school bags. Boys should always change their boxers daily, she advised.

On choosing the right career path, the CEO told her audience to choose a course of study that they are passionate about and not because it's in vogue. "Don't choose a course because you just love the teacher handling it, but choose the one you are passionate about. If I ask any of you what you want to be, you will say lawyers, doctors, engineers, etc. But most of you want to be a medical doctor because your best friend wants to be a medical doctor, and you're comfortable because your best friend is there to open their work and show you and help you pass. "The ugly reality is that, after secondary school, you and your best friend might not be in the same university, so how will you cope? When maybe you would have been better in the Arts. "Education is not a scam. It might not give you immediate success, but it prepares



you for it", she said.

Ms Godwin also spoke about keeping the right company, stressing that, "if you must be stubborn, don't be foolish. Channel your stubbornness into positivity. Keep the right company and choose people who will make you a better person. Say no to bullying. Stop being attracted to bad company. And avoid peer pressure and read books that will develop your minds, she emphasized.

She further spoke on the importance of having role models. "Who is your role model? Choose the right role model. Look up to the right people, and when choosing a role model, don't choose just because they have money and are flashy. Choose them because they are responsible. They align with your career dreams and aspirations."

"Learn to open up to your parents. Your parents are not against you. Yes, you feel they don't get and understand you, but communicate in a calm



and respectful manner. Control your anger. "Let not your anger make you say things that you can't take back. Your parents are not your enemies. They love you and will listen with time.

"Remember that no adult has the right over your body, not even your parents. Yes, we've been hearing stories of how parents sleep with their children. These are people who are meant to protect you from sex. Speak up, tell your teachers if you must. When I was 10 years old, my class teacher told me to take our home work note books to his house that was close to our school. Little did I know he had evil plans. He took a shortcut and got ahead of me, I opened his door, got in, and dropped the notebooks and was about to leave, not knowing my teacher was behind me. He tried to drag me towards the bed. I screamed and struggled and escaped. But I told nobody, not even my best friend.

"5 years later, I saw on Linder Ikeji blog that my teacher was caught raping a 12-year-old, his student, and was jailed. All this would have been prevented if I had spoken up. I would have saved innocent children with whom he might have had his way

with. So you have to speak up and save the next child from falling a victim, she stated.

The CEO similarly spoke on the importance of having a personal relationship with God. She urged the teenagers to live a life worthy of emulation and pleasing to God, adding that they must learn to stay off sex at this age as "it will destroy your beauty and divert your attention from achieving the desired life's goals".

A youth corps member, Daniel Oyewale, spoke on skills acquisition, stressing the importance of doing so at a young age. "You're not too young to acquire a skill. There is no job waiting for anybody. The time is now. Have a skill, be computer literate, as the world is going digital, and we have to go digital. Know little of everything. No knowledge is a waste. Find your passion and work towards it. Leadership is a skill and must be developed. You're not too young to develop your leadership qualities", he declared. The high point of the visits was the distribution of sanitary pads, deodorants, and New Testament Bibles to the teenagers of both schools and told them to be of good behaviour.



Oborevwoori Cautions: Avoid recurrence of fire outbreak, commissions section of Igbudu Market rebuilt by Warri South Council

Wife of Delta State Governor, Deaconess (Mrs.) Tobore Oborevwoori, has advised traders at Igbudu Market, Warri, particularly those in NUPE Line to avoid recurrence of fire outbreak, just as she encouraged beneficiaries of the latest ten-million-naira revolving loan scheme launched by the Comr. Agbateyiniro Weyinmi Isaac administration of Warri South Local Government Area, to put the loan to productive use.

The Delta State First Lady, gave the advice Friday March 28 in Warri, Delta State, during the Commissioning/Handover of The Reconstructed Nupe Section of Igbudu Market and Presentation of Ten Million Naira Cheques to Market Traders' Associations, Spare parts Dealers' Associations And ANCOPS, for free registration of students for NECO and JAMB Examinations in Warri South Local Government Area.

Deaconess Oborevwoori, commended the Chairman of Warri South Local Government Area, Comrade Weyinmi Isaac Agbateyiniro and the leaders of the market traders for their tireless efforts in making sure the burnt shops was rebuilt, describing their efforts as testament to the determination of the people of Delta State. The Delta State Governor's Wife appreciated women of Delta State for their hard-work, saying their daily activities have brought joy and peace to various homes.

She praised Comr. Agbateyiniro for improving lives of people in Warri South and for initiating the revolving loan scheme as well as educational support programmes.

The Chairman of Warri South Local Government Area, Comr. Agbateyiniro Weyinmi Isaac, in his address, noted: "Our business here today is to through the First Lady commission and hand over the

burnt reconstructed Nupe section of Igbudu market, present revolving loan cheques to traders and market associations, present cheques to ANCOPS/C.I.E. for the free registration of students for NECO and JAMB examinations.

"Permit me to briefly highlight some of our key success stories since we assumed office, we respectfully usher you to do the business of the day. Your Excellency, on assumption of office, I inaugurated four (4) committees to assist me in driving effective people-oriented governance. The committees are: i, Warri Brand Committee ii, Warri Investment Committee iii, Warri-South Property and Investment Development Board iv, Committee on the restoration of night-life and economic activities in Warri-South Local Government Area.

"Your Excellency, I have successfully signed six (6) bills into law, created two (2) strategic offices for governance efficiency (Supervisor for Human Capital Development and Supervisor for Innovation and Sports) a first of its kind administrative structures in local government administration in Nigeria.

"Our interventions so far covers the KEEP WARRI CLEAN INITIATIVE (KWCI), operation zero tolerance to potholes, roads and streets beautification, free enrolment of all primary school pupils for the First School Leaving Certificate Examination, Free enrolment of students for NECO and JAMB examinations for secondary school students, award of Bursary of N20,000.00 each for 1,000 students of Warri-South origin, capacity building training by the Nigeria Police Force for vigilantes and anti-cult crusaders, approval of N150,000.00 stipend for successful military and paramilitary applicants of

Warri-South origin.

"Enhanced peace and security in Warri-South, the Council repaired the operational vehicles and trucks of the Nigerian Army and the Police.

"Food security is a key responsibility of government to its people. In this regard, plans are ongoing to cite farm estates in our riverine communities to boost food production.

"Environmental sustainability is a key focus area of the M.O.R.E Agenda. Pursuant to this, we desilted blocked canals, opened blocked drains, and cleared our rivers and creeks of water hyacinths and sea weeds. "Our markets have received a lot of attention from us through the construction of modern abattoirs, meat cafes, ranch and cold rooms at Pessu market.

"The pursuit of easy commuting between the Ifiekporo mainland and island and the desire to improve public physical infrastructure, drove us to design and award the ongoing 60-meter Ifiekporo bridge - our 8th wonders of the world and the anticipated 9th wonders of the world, through the proposed Warri Atlantic City. "In advancing His Excellency's social intervention programme through our

SHERIFF CARES programmes for the vulnerable, the Council is paying a monthly stipend of N20,000.00 each to senior citizens above the age of 65yrs of the council area, each widow of the Council area and each person leaving with disability in the council area till the end of our tenure.

"Today will go down as a day of promise kept in relation to the reconstruction of the burnt Nupe section of Igbudu market. During our electoral campaigns, we pledged to rebuild the burnt section of this market, and by the grace of God, it's a reality today.

"This reconstructed Nupe section of this market represents more than just a physical space to Warri-South; it symbolizes the resilience and determination of our people. It is a hub where our people can come together to make out a leaving. We are therefore very happy to keep their hopes of livelihood alive.

"Our N10,000,000.00 market and traders revolving loan program for each market in the local government area is designed to support our people in all the markets in Warri-South (Pessu, Ogbeloh, Mciver, Ugbuwangue, Ubeji, Spare-parts, Main market etc.).



Oborevwoori Emphasizes Need for Unity, Peace in Achieving National Growth

Continues from page 1

the government and the good people of Delta State, I celebrate you on this special occasion. May your years on earth continue to be blessed."

On security, Governor Oborevwoori said, "the service Chiefs are here, we work together. What happen in other states does not happen here. Some of them are media stunts, but we will improve more." Archdeacon and Vicar of

the church, Ven. Felix Okonkwo, in his sermon, described thanksgiving as an "expression of gratitude or appreciation to God for what he has done in our lives.

"Thanksgiving could also be in advance of what we are expecting God to do in our life". He described Onyeme's political trajectory as the finger of God in action, adding that "when you appreciate God for what He has done, you open doors for more."

The Deputy Governor, Sir Monday Onyeme and wife Ezinne Catherine, read the first and second lessons, re-

spectively, at the thanksgiving service which was attended by Bayelsa Deputy Governor, Senator Lawrence Ewhrudjakpo; Senator Dr Akon Eyakenyi (Akwa-Ibom), and Samuel Ode (Benue). Immediate past Governor of the State, Senator Ifeanyi Okowa, Speaker of the State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Emomotimi Guwor, State Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Chief Solomon Arenyeka, members of the National Assembly and members of the State House of Assembly, were also in attendance.

Delta govt lauded for releasing N1bn counterpart contribution for NEWMAP-EIB project

Continues from page 1

threat to infrastructural development, and a threat to lives, Delta is considered as candidate site in line with the conditions precedence of the European Investment Bank intervention. They are sites to invest in and have met the conditions precedence, Delta State has met all by 100%", he stressed.

Welcoming the FPMU delegation, the SSG, Dr. Kingsley Emu highlighted some notable achievements under

the NEWMAP phase 1, such as the Owanta erosion and storm water management project in Ika North East and Obomkpa and Ukwu-Nzu erosion sites in Aniocha North Local Government Area, which he said, followed due process of project specifications. Dr. Emu appealed to NEWMAP-EIB for a replica of this success in other ongoing projects in the state. He assured the NEWMAP-EIB FPMU delegation of the Delta State government's unwavering support in ensuring a

safe environment and resilience to the impact of climate change.

Earlier, in his remarks, the Commissioner for Environment, Hon. Jamani Tommy Ejoro revealed that the promise of Governor Sheriff Oborevwoori to the people of Okpanam community during his election campaigns, have begun to yield positive results in the community following the approval of the Amachai/Ogbozoma and Vanguard Area Erosion Sites for intervention. Hon. Jamani

reiterated the state government's resolve to extend the NEWMAP-EIB project to other communities ravaged by erosion. "This move aims to secure and sustain the environment in Delta state," he said. Present at the meeting were the Commissioner for transport, Mr Onoriode Agofure, newly appointed Head of Service, Dr. Minnie Oseji, State Project Coordinator, Mr. Benedict Nwaokocha, NEWMAP-EIB Specialist Staff, amongst other top government officials.



Firm to attract \$1bn, boost jobs, transform Delta's agriculture

Continues from page 1

"That meeting marked the genesis of our commitment to the CBN's 10-year Oil Palm Development Initiative, a programme designed to reclaim Nigeria's global leadership in oil palm production and drive unprecedented growth in this vital sector.

"Delta State, like other participating states, is committed to contributing 100,000 hectares of farmland to this national initiative.

"Through the CBN/Bankers Committee's N500 billion RSSF-DCRR Funding Facility, we aim to access N120 billion over the next decade to revolutionize our oil palm sector. This is not merely an investment in agriculture; it is an investment in the future of Delta State."

The Governor held that since the establishment of DELCOM COOP on 04 August, 2020, "we have achieved remarkable milestones."

He said, "Starting with 41 Limited Liability Companies and 1,971 Smallholder Farmers, DELCOM COOP has now expanded to encompass 145 companies and 3,080 Smallholder Farmers.

"This exponential growth reflects the steadfast support of the Delta State Government and the collective resolve of our stakeholders.

"A cornerstone of our success is the adoption of the Delta State Model - a community-centric approach that places both land and wealth in the hands of our people.

"Through the Community Land Release and Participatory Model, 68 host communities across Delta North, Central and South, have generously released 130,000 hectares of dormant arable land, surpassing our initial target of 100,000 hectares.

"Of this, 10% is reserved for the benefit of indigenes, while 22% of the annual net profit from commercial operations will be allocated to the communities.

"This model ensures that our people are not merely beneficiaries but active participants and stakeholders in this transformative project."

He disclosed that the state would establish six strategic hubs for the aggregation and processing of Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) into high-value products such as palm oil, palm stearin and organic fertilizer. "The DELCOM Project is being implemented in phases. The first phase targets 30,000 to 35,000 hectares and involves the establishment of two oil mills, with an estimated cost of

\$150 million, within the first two years.

"To demonstrate our commitment, the Delta State Government has already approved a N25 billion ISPO guarantee for Tranche 1 of Phase 1.

"Sustainability lies at the core of this project. DELCOM COOP has posted a counter-guarantee to the Delta State Government, ensuring the project can self-finance its second phase of 65,309 hectares.

"This is supported by the cultivation of intercroops such as cassava, maize, soybeans and sorghum, which will be harvested and sold to appointed off-takers within the first 12 months of the project.

"By revolutionizing our oil palm industry, we are generating meaningful economic opportunities for our people, particularly in rural areas, where access to finance and infrastructure has historically been limited.

"We are also fostering peace and security by empowering communities and ensuring that they have a vested interest in the success of this project.

"To our traditional rulers, community leaders and stakeholders, I urge you to sustain your invaluable support for this initiative. Your cooperation and commitment have been pivotal to our achievements thus far and I am confident that, together, we will achieve even greater milestones," he added.

Oborevwoori emphasized that the transformation of Delta State's oil palm industry was not just a government project; but a collective endeavour requiring the dedication of all stakeholders.

He said, "Together, we can unlock the immense potential of this sector, create wealth and build a brighter future for generations to come."

Earlier, Secretary of DELCOM, Dr Felix Okonti, said DELCOM COOP hoped to lift two million Deltans out of poverty and create 15,000 millionaires 1,080 billionaires in Delta by the year 2032 through the oil palm projects initiative.

He said a new foreign private equity funding was being processed to secure \$900 million for DELCOM COOP's 100,000 hectares plantations and six large scale 150 MTPH FFB Oil Mills Projects Development.

He added that the DELCOM Project had the capacity to generate more than 288,700 jobs in the first instance and one million jobs in the long run.

Delta REVEALED

www.deltastate.gov.ng



A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF NEW MEDIA OFFICE

VOLUME 2 NO 41 Monday, March 31, 2025

**Keep
Delta State
Clean**

It is your civic duty

ON THE MOVE:

**IMAGES FROM THE FLAGGING OFF OF THE 2ND NIGER BRIDGE
17.5KM DUAL CARRIAGE ACCESS ROAD BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,
ON MONDAY, MARCH 2025. PHOTOS BY DONATUS OJI**

