



BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS ACTION PLAN, 2024

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Contributing Entities:

1. Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency
2. Bayelsa Geographical information systems
3. Bayelsa Inland Revenue Service
4. Bayelsa Ministry of Trade, Industry & Investment
5. Bayelsa State Judiciary
6. Bayelsa State Ministry of Justice
7. Bayelsa State Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development
8. Bayelsa State Ministry of Works
9. Bayelsa State Ministry of Communication, Science & Technology
10. Bayelsa State Physical Planning & Dev. Board
11. Bayelsa State Ministry of Finance
12. Bayelsa State Ministry of Environment
13. Bayelsa State House of Assembly
14. Women Entrepreneurs in Export
15. Small, Medium, Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria
16. Yenagoa Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines & Agriculture
17. National Agency for Food & Drug Administration
18. Nigerian Export Promotion Council
19. Corporate Affairs Commission
20. Nigeria Immigration Service
21. Nigeria Custom Service
22. Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission
23. Joint Tax Board, Nigeria
24. Standards Organization of Nigeria

This **Business Enabling Environment Reform Action Plan** was approved by the State Executive Council, on 20th December 2023, **(SEC. NO. 124, 2023)**

BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN, 2024 - BAYELSA STATE

S/N	Business Enabling Reform Area	Reform Objective	Action Steps	Description & Key Targets	Beneficiaries	Responsible MDA	Contributing MDA	Estimated Costs	Planned Start Date	Planned End Date
1.	Improved Efficiency in Property Registration	Self-service for Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop web portal for C of O application. 2. Train staff on management of digital application 3. Organize public workshop on usage of the portal 4. Conduct pilot phase and application testing 5. Launch the portal 	The general public can apply for C of O by electronic means, without visiting the physical Land Registry.	Investors, business persons, general public	Bayelsa Geographic Information Systems	Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development	₦75,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024
2.	Improved Investment Promotion Environment	Implement One-Stop Investment and Doing Business Centre (OSIDBC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact relevant Federal and State business facilitator agencies and propose partnership. 2. Sign partnership agreements with relevant State and Federal business facilitator agencies for service provision at the OSIDBC. 3. Setup physical workspaces at the OSIDBC for operation of partner agencies. 	Facilitation of access to services provided by business enabling agencies such that business persons do not have to visit multiple offices for business services.	Investors, business persons, general public	Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency	Corporate Affairs Commission, Bayelsa Inland Revenue Service (BIRS), Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), Bayelsa Geographical information systems (BGIS), Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Custom Service, Ministry of Trade, Industry & Investment,	₦100,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024

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			<p>4. Organize sensitization sessions to inform business community about the OSIDBC</p> <p>5. Commission OSIDBC for operations</p>				Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Office, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria, Women Entrepreneurs in Export			
2.	Improved Investment Promotion Environment	Enact Ease of Doing Business Law	<p>1. Organize sensitization campaigns at local government and rural levels</p> <p>2. Organize private sector consultation meetings.</p> <p>3. Engage with State House of Assembly Committee on Trade, Industry & Investment</p> <p>4. Send Executive Bill to State House of Assembly</p> <p>5. Pass the Bill into Law</p>	<p>1. Facilitate and regulate entrepreneurial activity, business growth and ease of doing business reforms.</p> <p>2. Provide clarity and transparency to investors and business community on government incentives, policies and investment protection mechanisms.</p>	Investors, business persons, general public	Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency	Ministry of Trade, Industry & Investment, Ministry of Justice, Bayelsa State House of Assembly, Government House.	₦40,000,000	25/01/24	31/12/24
3.	Simplified State Business Tax & Levy Collections	Cashless collection of taxes and levies (except payments in banks)	1. Setup electronic payment channels for revenue collection	This will put an end to arbitrary and unlawful tax, levy and revenue collection, and also	Business persons, NSMEs, general public	Bayelsa Internal Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade, Industry & investment,	₦600,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024

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			2. Train revenue staff and agents on new tax collection protocol 3. Setup designated pay-point centres	curb impersonation of government agents.			Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency, Government House, and all revenue collection MDAs			
4.	Quick determination of commercial disputes	Access to prompt, simple and inexpensive judicial determination of small civil disputes	1. Carry out sensitization workshops to ensure public awareness of the already existing Small Claims Courts and their benefits. 2. Establish at least one Small Claims Court in each Local Government Area 3. Obtain feedback from litigants who have used the Small Claims Court on level of satisfaction	NSMEs and general public will be able to achieve faster resolution of small civil disputes without arduous and expensive procedures of litigation.	Business Community, NSMEs, General public	Bayelsa State Judiciary	Ministry of Justice	₦ 50,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024
5.	Development of effective PPP framework	Enact PPP Law	1. Organize private sector consultation meetings. 2. Engage with State House of Assembly Committee on	Facilitate and regulate Public-Private Partnerships in Bayelsa State to achieve sustainable development	Investors, Bayelsa State.	PPP Office	Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency, Ministry of Justice, Bayelsa State House of Assembly,	₦ 5,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024

			Trade, Industry & Investment 3. Send Executive Bill to State House of Assembly 4. Pass the Bill into Law				Government House.			
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6.	Increased fiber optic network deployment and access to broadband	Simplify procedure for laying of broad band cables by private investors.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish inter-ministerial team for assessment of applications and monitoring of Broad Band deployment. 2. Publish process of obtaining Right Of Way (ROW) including costs and timeframe on relevant Government website(s) 3. Maintain reduced ROW fees for broadband deployment. 	This reform will ensure seamless application process and transparency in the process of broadband deployment.	Telco Companies, Private Investors, Business Community, General Public.	Bayelsa State Physical Planning and Development Board.	Ministry of Communication, Science and Technology, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Works.		25/01/2024	31/12/2024
7.	Increased Transparency of official fees and procedures	Simplify access to information on procedures and fees for government services pertaining to doing business.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update existing publications and guides on official fees and procedures for C of O Issuance, Procurement of Right-Of-Way for Broadband, Construction Permits, and all 	This reform should increase awareness within the business community of relevant procedures and fees necessary for conducting business in Bayelsa State.	Business Community, Investors, General Public.	Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency	Bayelsa State Physical Planning and Development Board, Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development, Bayelsa State	₦ 50,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024

			<p>taxes, fees and levies pursuant to the Bayelsa State Revenue Administration Law.</p> <p>2. Organize sensitization sessions for business community and the general public.</p> <p>3. Publish updated guides on relevant government websites, and in printed materials.</p>				Geographic Information System, Ministry of Science and Technology, Board of Internal Revenue, Ministry of Finance			
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8.	Improved domestic and external trade competitiveness	1. Implement Joint Tax Board (National) Single Haulage Fee Regime (SHF)	<p>1. Organize interaction with private sector (particularly haulage companies), and Joint Tax Board to understand existing challenges.</p> <p>2. Organize training session for SHF agents.</p> <p>3. Organize sensitization session for general public on the SHF.</p> <p>4. Setup designated haulage</p>	This reform will Eliminate illegal haulage fees and charges, particularly at entry points into Bayelsa State.	Traders, Business Owners, Haulage Companies, General Public.	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment	Board of Internal Revenue, Bayelsa Investment Promotion Agency	₦ 50,000,000	25/01/2024	31/12/2024

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			<p>inspection and pay-point centres</p> <p>5. Publish official designated haulage drop off and pick-up locations and fees.</p> <p>6. Launch the SHF initiative including Grievance Redress Mechanism.</p>							
		2. Establish 3 Export Production / Processing Parks (1 in each Senatorial Zone of the State)	<p>1. Engage with Local Government and Community Leadership for selection of commodities for production / Processing (based on the One Local Government One Product [OLOP] model).</p> <p>2. Engage consultants for offtake viability and offtake agreements.</p> <p>3. Sign MOU with the Nigerian Export Promotion Commission</p>	This will enable NSMEs have access to fully equipped and certified facilities for export production and processing which has been identified as a major impediment for NSMEs who wish to access export markets.	Traders, Local Communities , Export Value Chain Actors.	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment	Ministry of Agriculture, Local Government Councils, NEPC, NAFDAC, SON	₦ 500,000,000	25/01/24	31/04/24

			<p>(NEPC) for support.</p> <p>4. Engage other relevant export regulatory agents such as SON and NAFDAC.</p> <p>5. Select sites for building processing / production parks and commence construction</p> <p>6. Purchase production / processing equipment for the parks.</p> <p>7. Select persons for export production / processing training.</p> <p>8. Launch the OLOP Export Production / Processing Scheme.</p>							
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