

STATE BUSINESS-ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLANS (BERAP) & PROGRESS REPORT

State: CROSS RIVER STATE

Reporting period: FY 2023

SABER Focal Person Barr. Rosemary Ekeng

List of contributing entities: Cross River Investment Promotion Bureau; Cross River Internal Revenue Service; Ministry of Urban Renewal and Development; Cross River Geographical Information Agency; Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Lands

URL Link to the published BERAP <https://tinyurl.com/BERAP2023>

Is this plan approved by the State Executive Council (SEC) Yes *Choose as appropriate*

If this was approved by SEC, please state date: 30/01/2023

CROSS RIVER STATE BUSINESS-ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN (BERAP)

| S/N | Business Enabling Reform Areas | Reform Objectives | Reforms | Action Steps | Description and Key Targets | Responsible MDA | Contributing MDAs | Estimated costs (N) | Planned Start Date | Planned End Date |
|-----|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Reduction of business entry turnaround time | This reform area will reduce time spent on entry and post entry approvals, licenses and permits | | 1. Develop policy documents for setting up of State One Stop Investment Centre 2. Request State House of Assembly to amend the Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau Law to accommodate State One Stop Investment Centre 3. Review the Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau website to include State One-stop Investment Centre | State official One - stop business entry process for obtaining approvals, permits and licenses by Foreign direct investors and domestic direct investor from all relevant Ministries, Department and Agencies of Government | Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau (CRIPB) | Cross River State House of Assembly, Ministry of Justices, Governor's Office, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology | 10,000,000.00 | 10 January 2023 | 10 November 2023 |
| 2 | Improved transparency in Land Administration and Land-based Investment Process | (i) This reform area will enhance the administration and management of land in the State; (ii) the reform will also improve transparency of property registration and unlock capital from this asset class. | Publish the process for obtaining CoFo including all relevant MDAs, time frames and costs on the State official website | Update published information on the process for obtaining CoFo including all relevant MDAs, time frames and costs on the State official website | Ministry of Urban Renewal and Development (MURD) in collaboration with the Cross River State Geographical Information Agency (CRGIA) will continuously review and update published information on CoFo application and issuance process. This will be useful for all applicants for private and government owned properties in the state | MURD | CRGIA | 4,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 31 December 2023 |
| 3 | | | | Update published information the process for obtaining Construction Permits including all relevant MDAs, time frames and costs | Ministry of Urban Renewal and Development (MURD) in collaboration with other relevant MDAs will continuously review and update published information on Building Permit application and issuance process. This will be useful for all applicants for private and government owned properties in the state | MURD | | 4,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 31 December 2023 |
| 4 | Improved regulatory framework for private investment in fiber optic infrastructure | | Publish online the process for obtaining ROW including all relevant costs and timeframe | Publish online the process for obtaining ROW including all relevant costs and timeframe | Publish online the process for obtaining ROW including all relevant costs and timeframe | Cross River State Ministry of Works and Housing | | 2,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 28 February 2023 |
| 5 | Development of an effective PPP framework | | Set up state technical PPP coordination unit/agency mandated as the lead organization tasked with facilitation of PPPs in the state | Set up state technical PPP coordination unit/agency mandated as the lead organization tasked with facilitation of PPPs in the state | Set up state technical PPP coordination unit/agency mandated as the lead organization tasked with facilitation of PPPs in the state | Governor's Office | Ministry of Finance | 60,000,000.00 | 01 February 2023 | 30 April 2023 |
| 6 | Improved Investment Promotion Environment | | To publish and keep updated on state official website: Inventory of all investment incentives (Federal and State) available in the State, including information on (i) legal reference instrument, (ii) sectors, (iii) eligibility criteria, (iv) description of benefits, (v) duration, (vi) awarding and implementing agency, and (vii) year when the incentive was introduced | To publish and keep updated on state official website: Inventory of all investment incentives (Federal and State) available in the State, including information on (i) legal reference instrument, (ii) sectors, (iii) eligibility criteria, (iv) description of benefits, (v) duration, (vi) awarding and implementing agency, and (vii) year when the incentive was introduced | To publish and keep updated on state official website: Inventory of all investment incentives (Federal and State) available in the State, including information on (i) legal reference instrument, (ii) sectors, (iii) eligibility criteria, (iv) description of benefits, (v) duration, (vi) awarding and implementing agency, and (vii) year when the incentive was introduced | Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau | Ministry of Finance; Cross River Inland Revenue Service | 4,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 31 December 2023 |
| 7 | Improved Transparency of official fees and procedures | This reform area will increase transparency of official fees and procedures adding credibility and trust to the concerned MDAs and the State at large | a) Mandate MDAs to update published information on official fees, procedures, timeline, costs and requirements for obtaining permits, certificates, licences, from business enabling environment MDAs | The State MDAs will clearly state the formal process through which businesses are required to interact with the MDA in order to comply with a particular regulatory requirement. The information on fees, procedures and service delivery timelines related to a business regulatory process will be published on the state website | The State MDAs will clearly state the formal process through which businesses are required to interact with the MDA in order to comply with a particular regulatory requirement. The information on fees, procedures and service delivery timelines related to a business regulatory process will be published on the state website | Governor's Office | CRIPB; Ministry of Lands and Urban Development; Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources; Cross River State Water Board | 6,000,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 31 March 2023 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|---|---|-----------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 8 | | | b) Draft and issue State Executive Order issued to direct five State BEE MDAs to publish on state official website(s) their fees, procedures, SLAs, GRM, and mandatory advance communication rules of upcoming changes, as per the verification protocols. | The Executive Order will codify the need for business facing MDAs to establish transparent and efficient service delivery, communication and grievance redress systems | The Executive Order will codify the need for business facing MDAs to establish transparent and efficient service delivery, communication and grievance redress systems | Governor's Office | CRIPB; Ministry of Lands and Urban Development; Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources; Cross River State Water Board; Vehicle Inspection Office | 2,500,000.00 | 01 March 2023 | 30 June 2023 |
| 9 | Simplification of state and local business tax regimes | | a) Amend existing legislation to adopt presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses | Amend existing legislation to adopt presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses | Amend existing legislation to adopt presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses | CRIRS | Ministry of Finance | 8,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 30 April 2023 |
| 10 | | | b) Pass legislation for state subsumed business-related local government charges/fees/taxes into a consolidated demand notice to simplify tax administration and compliance in the state | Pass legislation for state subsumed business-related local government charges/fees/taxes into a consolidated demand notice to simplify tax administration and compliance in the state | Pass legislation for state subsumed business-related local government charges/fees/taxes into a consolidated demand notice to simplify tax administration and compliance in the state | CRIRS | Ministry of Finance | 8,500,000.00 | 01 January 2023 | 30 April 2023 |
| 11 | Quick determination of commercial disputes | To improve the timeline for determination and execution of judgment on commercial disputes in the state | a) Establish State Judicial Committee | The Chief Judge of Cross River State will set up the Judicial Committee to coordinate the ongoing establishment and administration of Small Claims Courts | The Chief Judge of Cross River State will set up the Judicial Committee to coordinate the ongoing establishment and administration of Small Claims Courts | Cross River State Judiciary | Ministry of Justice | 5,000,000.00 | 01 February 2023 | 31 March 2023 |
| 12 | | | b) Prepare and publish Practice Directions of the small claims courts (SCC) on state official website | Judicial Committee will coordinate the drafting and publishing of the Practice Direction of the SCCs in Cross River State | Judicial Committee will coordinate the drafting and publishing of the Practice Direction of the SCCs in Cross River State | Cross River State Judiciary | Ministry of Justice | 5,000,000.00 | 01 February 2023 | 31 March 2023 |
| 13 | | | c) Establish at least 2 functioning SCCs in Cross River State | The Chief Judge of Cross River State will designate/ establish at least 2 SCCs in the state to drive quick determination of commercial disputes | The Chief Judge of Cross River State will designate/ establish at least 2 SCCs in the state to drive quick determination of commercial disputes | Cross River State Judiciary | Ministry of Justice | 65,000,000.00 | 01 February 2023 | 31 March 2023 |