

# CROSS RIVER STATE

BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN (BERAP) (2026 CYCLE)

-State Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER)

Program-





SEN. PRINCE B. OTU EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR



HON. PETER ODEY
DEPUTY GOVERNOR AND HEAD OF
STATE EODB COUNCIL

This BERAP was developed in consultation with the Private Sector in the State.

Authorised Signature

# **REFORM AREAS**













IMPROVED LAND ADMINISTRATION AND LAND NETWORK DEPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENT PROCESS

INCREASED FIBER OPTIC ACCESS TO BROADBAND

INCREASED SUSTAINABLE LARGE-SCALE INVESTMENT

ENABLING FIRM OPERATIONS AND REGULATORY REFORMS QUICK DETERMINATION OF COMMERCIAL DISPUTES

IMPROVED SECURITY OF LIVES AND PROPERTIS

Reform 1

Reform 2

Reform 3

Reform 4

Reform 5

Reform 6



Reform 1: Improved Land Administration and Land Investment Process



Reform Objective



Improve transparency and efficiency in land titles registration and administration;

Increased investment in land administration for agricultural (and nonagricultural purposes) **Deliverables** 



Complete the digitization and migration of 100% land records from 2022 to 2026 into a centralized GIS platform, and ensure 100% digital application and approval of CofOs from 2026

Facilitate the adoption and implementation of Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture (FRILIA) by all target institutions and achieve 90% of framework guidelines compliance across participating agricultural investment projects, setup FRILIA GRM centre and conduct 4 stakeholder trainings on FRILIA

**Expected Impact** 



- 1. Achieve a 2% increase in business capital formation in the state by comparing annual performance against the 2025 baseline level."
- 2. Achieve a 10% increase in land related revenue relative to the 2025 baseline revenue figures
- 3. Increase the number and scale agricultural adhering to FRILIA model compared with the 2025 baseline count and investment value.

Reform 2: Increased Fibre
Optic Network Deployment
and Access To Broadband

**Reform Objective** 

#### **Deliverables**



Attract investments through transparency of process of obtaining ROW



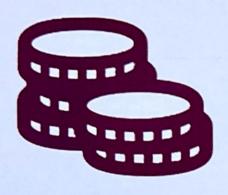
- Compile and publish a complete set of Right-of-Way (ROW) regulations — including procedures, responsible MDAs, processing timelines, and applicable costs — on the state website within the project period, ensuring 100% public accessibility."
- "2. Publish 100% of all approved ROW requests submitted by operators on the state website within 10 working days of approval, updated continuously throughout the year."
- "3. Digitize and index all existing ROW routes (100%) into a centralized digital database/GIS system, ensuring all routes are searchable and georeferenced by the end of the project timeline.

### **Expected Impact**



- 1 Increase transparency of optic fibre registration processes, demonstrated by the public availability of all required regulatory information and the routine disclosure of registration activities"
- 2 Provide 100% data on ROW approvals request
- 3 20% digitized and index ROW routes across the State 3 senatorial districts

Reform 3: Increased Sustainable Large-scale Investment

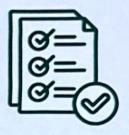


**Reform Objective** 



Improve investment promotion to encourage and stimulate large scale sustainable investment through public private Partnership

#### **Deliverables**



- Establish and operationalize the Project Facilitation Fund (PFF) by 4th quarter, including developing funding guidelines, securing initial capitalization, and allocating resources to at least 3 priority PPP pipeline projects within 2026"
- "2. Enhance and expand investment promotion services by developing and launching a minimum of 4 new investor-support initiatives (e.g., investment desk, investor roadshows, digital investment portal, sector briefs) within 12 months, and increasing investor engagement activities by at least 25% compared to year 2025.

#### **Expected Impact**



- 1. 3% of estimated capital investment for PPP Pipeline Projects provided in FY2026 budget as PFF
- 2. Achieve successful adoption and implementation of an investor Aftercare and Retention Programme that supports at least 10 investors in 2026, each committing a minimum capital investment of \(\mathbf{H}\)5 billion, thereby strengthening investor confidence and retention in the state."

Reform 4: Enabling Firm Operations and Regulatory Reforms



**Reform Objective** 



Increase transparency and openness; and increase accountability in the service delivery of eight business environment enabling (BEE) State MDAs

Develop guideline to boost trade and exports from the state

#### **Deliverables**



- 1. Design and deploy a fully functional digital permit platform enabling 100% online submission of permit applications by the end of the project period."
- "2. Implement an automated approval system that processes at least 80% of all low-risk business applications within 48 hours."
- "3. Develop and launch a real-time transparency dashboard that provides live status tracking for 100% of submitted applications, accessible to all applicants."
- "4. Establish and operationalize both manual and digital grievance redress mechanisms across all State BEE MDAs, ensuring 100% coverage and a maximum response time of 10 working days per complaint

### **Expected Impact**



- "Achieve a 10% increase in local investments compared to the 2025 baseline level."
- "2. Secure the entry of two Fortune 500 companies as new Foreign Direct Investors in the state, relative to zero such investments recorded in 2025."
- 3 "Ensure 100% compliance with Service Level Agreements across all eight BEE MDAs, improving on the compliance status recorded in 2025.

Reform 5: Quick Determination of Commercial Disputes

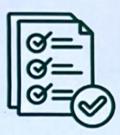


**Reform Objective** 



This reform area will improve the State Judiciary and strengthen access to an efficient commercial justice system

#### **Deliverables**



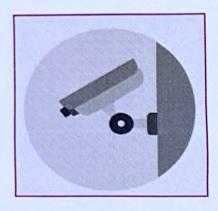
- Establish and operationalize at least two additional Small Claims Courts, each of which shall hear and conclude a minimum of one case within the first six months of operation.
- "2. Set up and fully operationalize a Small Claims Dispute Registration Centre within the State Judiciary, capable of registering 100% of small-claims filings and providing sameday case registration services.

#### **Expected Impact**



- 1. Reduce the average time to resolve a small claims case from 2 months to 1 month.
- 2. Achieve a 30% reduction in the backlog of pending Small Claims cases in the district courts compared to the 2025
- 3. Reduce the average legal costs incurred by businesses by 80%, relative to 2025 cost levels, through simplified procedures that eliminate the need for legal representation and ease commercial case congestion.

# Reform 6: Improve security of lives and properties



#### **Reform Objective**



This reform area will improve security of lives and properties thereby making the state the preferred location for Foreign and Domestic Direct Investment

#### **Deliverables**



- Establish and operationalize Local Vigilante units in all target LGAs in collaboration with Federal Security Agencies, ensuring that each unit is fully trained and deploys at least 20 active personnel by 4th quarter of 2026
- 2. Install and activate security infrastructure and equipment at a minimum of 50 strategic locations across the state, including surveillance systems, communication devices, and response tools, within the project period.

### **Expected Impact**



Reduce the statistics of robberies, tree logging, kidnapping and cultism from 20% to 5% by September 2026.

Mounting of 50 Security Camaras in the state capital strategic locations to capture and record offenses