



[Cross River State| Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau] Investment Approval Process

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 In Accordance with the provisions of [Cross River State |Investment Promotion Bureau] Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau law No 19 of 2007and

Large-scale agricultural investments in Cross River State are underpinned by a framework defined by Cross River State Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau FRILIA Principles. This large-scale agricultural investment approval process has been designed to be in line with the principles of FRILIA. It consists of the following six (6) stages:

Process Stage	Responsible Party
<p>Stage 1: Initial Inquiries & Know Your Customer (Due Diligence) Assessments</p> <p>A. Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau One Stop Investment Centre should be the primary entry point for ALL large-scale agricultural investments in Cross River State</p> <p>B. The Investment Promotion Bureau can be approached by potential investor (or in some cases an Investment Promotion and Facilitation Officer may reach out to a potential investor</p> <p>C. The Investment Promotion Bureau officer in collaboration with other MDAs conducts preliminary due diligence on investor and provides investor with information related to potential investment.</p> <p>D. Possible initial engagement with community if area has been preliminarily identified. Less than 14 working days.</p>	<p>Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau</p>

<p>Stage 2: Information Exchange & Site Visits</p> <p>A. Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau through the One Stop Investment Centre continues to provide information and resources the potential investor may need to proceed with the investment. Also coordinates the investor’s interaction with other government agencies and helps the investor locate service providers.</p> <p>B. Ministry of Lands and Ministries of Agriculture arranges for site visits for the investor after notifying local officials and communities of investor interest.</p> <p>C. Ministry of Lands and Ministry of Local Government Affairs notifies local government officials, other ward and community stakeholders to engage in internal consultations and then to respond preliminarily whether they might welcome the investment. Maximum of 21 working days</p>	<p>Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau, Ministries of Agriculture, Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Local Government Affairs, investors and Stakeholders identified)</p>
<p>Stage 3: Potential Investor Proceeds or Withdraws</p> <p>A. The investor reacts to the community’s initial response to the potential investment and the investor’s own assessment of the viability of the investment and potential site. If the investor decides to withdraw, the process stops. If the investor wishes to consider a different location within the State, the process reverts to Stage 2. The process also ends if the community decides not to proceed.</p> <p>B. If the potential investor decides to proceed and the community is supportive, the investor should engage further, build relationships with the community and get them fully involved. The investor and the community (with legal assistance provided by Cross River State Ministry of Justice and Community Legal Council should begin to discuss a community engagement plan to guide the ongoing consultations. 21 working days</p>	<p>Cross River State Ministry of Justice, Cross River State Ministry of Lands, investors and Stakeholders identified)</p>
<p>Stage 4: Investor Enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) with CRS Investment Promotion Bureau, Ministry of Lands, Ministries of Agriculture and Representatives of the Affected Communities.</p> <p>A. CRS Investment Promotion Bureau does more in-depth due diligence on the investor and the CRS Investment Promotion Bureau shares additional due diligence findings with other stakeholders.</p> <p>B. Consultations with the community continues and a community engagement plan may be agreed to at this point.</p> <p>C. If all parties continue to be supportive of the proposed investment, they attempt to agree on an MoU that covers the framework of the investment, how much land is required, benefits that may accrue to the community, commitments to ongoing consultation, preparation of an</p>	<p>Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau, Ministry of Lands, Ministries of Agriculture, investors and Stakeholders identified)</p>

<p>ESIA, etc. The MoU does not legally commit any party to a final agreement on the proposed investment. 21 working days</p>	
<p>Stage 5: Investor Completes and Shares a Feasibility Study, Business Plan and an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).</p> <p>A. Cross River State Ministry of Environment makes its determination whether the ESIA is acceptable and notifies the investor within 14 working days of receiving it. B. If not already completed, a community engagement plan should be finished in this stage. C. Land lease discussions can continue (if begun in a previous stage) or begin. Leases should not be finalized and signed until Stage 6. 21 working days</p>	<p>Cross River State Investment Promotion, Cross River State ministry of Environment, investors and Stakeholders identified</p>
<p>Stage 6: The parties enter into Final Agreements.</p> <p>A. The final agreement is likely to be contained in several individual agreements or could be combined into one document. While the precise requirements will vary, approved investment is likely to include some or all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Land lease agreement 2. Outgrower contract(s) 3. Community impact and benefit agreement 4. Community engagement plan 5. Monitoring plan 6. Inclusive, accessible and equitable dispute resolution mechanisms <p>31 working days</p>	<p>Cross River State Investment Promotion Bureau, Cross River State Ministries of Agriculture, Cross River State Ministry of Lands, Cross River State Local Government Affairs, Cross River State Ministry of Justice, investors and Stakeholders identified)</p>

The six (6) stages provide an overarching framework that guides all the toolkits of FRILIA. However, the unpacking of these stages varies from one toolkit to another. Hence, each of the FRILIA toolkits has its own approach embedded within the overall investment project cycle.