



# THE SOLUDO SOLUTION

A PEOPLE'S MANIFESTO FOR A GREATER ANAMBRA



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**SOLUDO** CFR.

SEPTEMBER, 2021

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**As the  
Chairman of  
Anambra  
Vision 2070, I  
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and the  
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secure the  
future.**

”



The Future





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# introduction

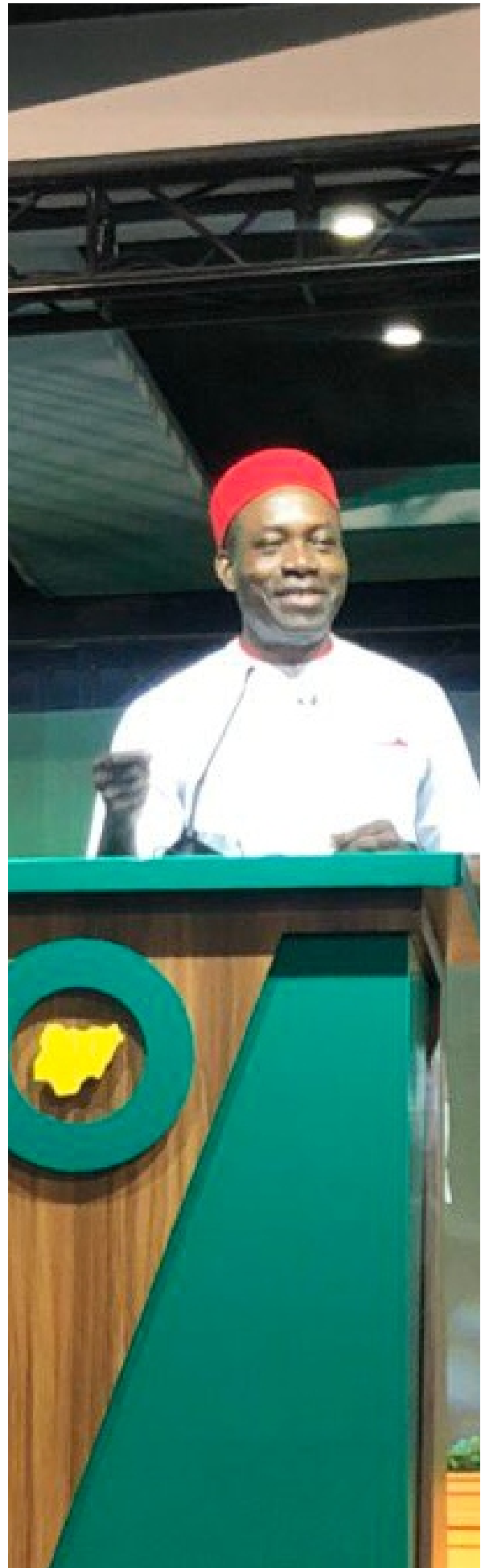
## MY CONTRACT WITH NDI ANAMBRA

**W**ith humility and gratitude to God, I offer myself as a vehicle for selfless servant-leadership to Ndi Anambra in our quest to build a liveable and prosperous smart megacity. It is a vision of a homeland that is the preferred destination in which to live, invest, learn, work, and relax and enjoy. It is an Anambra that aspires to be the best in every positive way, not only in Nigeria/Africa but in the world.

I am a passionate village boy with humble beginnings who has received abundant grace and blessings from God. I have traversed the world (lived in Ethiopia, the UK, and the USA and visited 45 other countries on all continents as an itinerant scholar and consultant) and served the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) in numerous capacities (see my short profile in the Appendix). At this stage in my life and with excellent health, I believe it is now time for me to give back in full to my immediate community---Anambra State---by devoting all my God-given talents, education, exposure and experience, national and global networks---to contribute to leaving my state better than I met it. What we present here is a synopsis, designed to give Ndi Anambra a feel for the future we envision. I believe that public service offers the biggest platform to positively touch millions of lives. If you employ me as your chief servant, I will devote every minute of my time to work with and mobilize all critical stakeholders to make Ndi Anambra proud. I will hit the ground running from Day One; I won't be learning on the job. As the Chairman of Anambra Vision 2070, I have thought through our challenges and the disruptive changes needed to secure the future. We commit to vigorously implement the foundational phase of Vision 2070.

There is a sense of nostalgia about our rich past. In the First Republic, our founding fathers built the Eastern Region as the fastest growing economy in the world. Through a frugal use of tax revenue from peasant farmers, they built the cities of Onitsha, Enugu, Aba, Calabar, Port Harcourt, Umuahia, Uyo, etc with pipe-borne water and electricity as well as the largest market in West Africa (Onitsha Main Market), the University of Nigeria with campuses at Nsukka and Enugu, industrial estates, palm plantations and farm settlements, etc. Theirs was the classic developmental state, where wealth creation/poverty reduction was buoyed up by hard work, excellence in education, competition, integrity, and service-driven public service.

Oil in Nigeria has proven to be a curse. The structures and institutions built around its consumption created a rentier state --- a wasteful distributional/sharing system, with debilitating entitlement and a something-for-nothing culture. Because one does not need any special skills to "share", governance became another kind of "business" dominated by transactions and little productivity. Now that oil is on its way out, Nigeria faces an emergency to systematically return to the fundamentals of wealth creation or face a chaotic unravelling. If the FGN can unleash the 36 states of Nigeria to start the bottom-up transition, Nigeria would quickly take its pride of place as the true leader of the black race. Indeed, it is time to decongest the heavy concentration in Abuja and encourage most people who have something to offer Nigeria to go to drive development from below--- the States!





Yes, Nigeria faces huge challenges which can hamstring any state including declining oil revenues and foreign direct investment (FDI), insecurity, unemployment, especially youth unemployment, double-digit inflation and weakening of the Naira, gross domestic product growth lower than population growth, high levels of poverty, climate change with desertification/flooding, etc. Anambra State has its share of structural vulnerabilities.

Our manifesto derives from a firm belief that despite the defects of the current federal system, there is sufficient room to manoeuvre and fully exploit synergies and complementarities with the FGN, and other states, Development Financial Institutions (DFIs), and private sector to build a liveable and prosperous state. It is also based upon the belief that the Igbo, as a nascent global tribe, need Nigeria, Africa, and the world to maximize their economic potential. As a Pan Africanist (dreaming of the United States of Africa), I see infinite possibilities and opportunities for Anambra State especially in the context of the new African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA-- with a market size of over US\$3.2 trillion, and over 1.2 billion consumers), and other global opportunities which favour the exceptional enterprise of Ndi Anambra.

In some ways, our future is in our past. We aim to build upon the foundation of our founding fathers and immediate past and current leaders to leapfrog Anambra into a post-oil/ digital world of the 4th Industrial Revolution. As an ideology for framing our vision for the state, I am a Pan-African neo progressive—a centrist ideology that combines some ennobling principles of the left and the right. The Igbo is ostensibly individualistic – republican but with social and communal conscience and duty. He is at the same time global, urban but local in terms of consciousness to his heritage and homeland. As a cosmopolitan and mobile tribe, its economic framework is built around creative destruction and adaptation and always searching for an ecosystem that rewards talent, ideas, productivity and collaboration. African neo progressivism believes in market principles to create sustainable wealth. Its foundation is the adaptive, albeit largely conservative social and religious agenda, with emphasis on strong families as the unit of the open society. As a product of, and believer in, this neo progressive ideology, I subscribe to a responsible market economy that promotes competition and value-creating opportunities for all, and which is also humanized by a developmental state to ensure sustainable communities and responsible citizenship. This ideology underpins our Plan for Ndi Anambra.



**Our primary target is sustainable and inclusive wealth creation with jobs, jobs, and jobs. We target at least 100,000 jobs per annum for our youths and 1,000 youth millionaires per annum in the medium term.”**

Our primary target is sustainable and inclusive wealth creation with jobs, jobs, and jobs. We target at least 130,000 private sector jobs per annum for our youths and 1,000 youth millionaires per annum in the medium term.

We envision Anambra as an industrial-technology hub to lead Africa's export market under AfCFTA; strengthen our dominant status as the shopping centre of West Africa; orchestrate the traffic of millions of visitors per annum as we position to become Africa's number one destination for entertainment, leisure and creative economy.

We plan to position Anambra as a centre of excellence for human capital development and proactively leapfrog our students/youths as Africa's digital tribe; actively ensure planned cities, communities, and markets, and a more sustainable, clean, green, and liveable environment; and a mainstreaming of the core Igbo values of integrity, hard work, competition, compassion, and morality.

We envision a public service that truly delivers timely and efficient service to the citizens, and a

target as the state with guaranteed rule of law and property rights such that commercial disputes are settled within 30 days, etc. We also envision a compassionate society in the true sense of neo progressivism as embodied in APGA's manifesto. APGA's motto is: 'Be your brother's and sister's keeper', (Onye aghana nwanne ya) and we will formalize specific programmes to give content to this progressive philosophy by caring for the elderly, vulnerable widows, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, mainstreaming crowd charity, and formalizing the "Adopt A School" programme.

We seek a framework for compounding the state wealth and ramping up fiscal revenue with the target that after eight years, Anambra would not need federation account allocations for its basic needs. Indeed, after four years, Anambra should generate more than 100% of its recurrent expenditure. To sum it up, we envision Anambra, whereby our homeland population will have no incentive to migrate to other places in search of opportunities, and the itinerant population will have a proud homeland to return to.





Our servant-leadership seeks to mainstream a developmental state that is driven by transformation agenda. Every kobo of Anambra's money will be devoted to working for Ndi Anambra. I sincerely believe in integrity and due process, which means that I will not steal nor waste state resources and will always allow the machinery of government to follow due process.

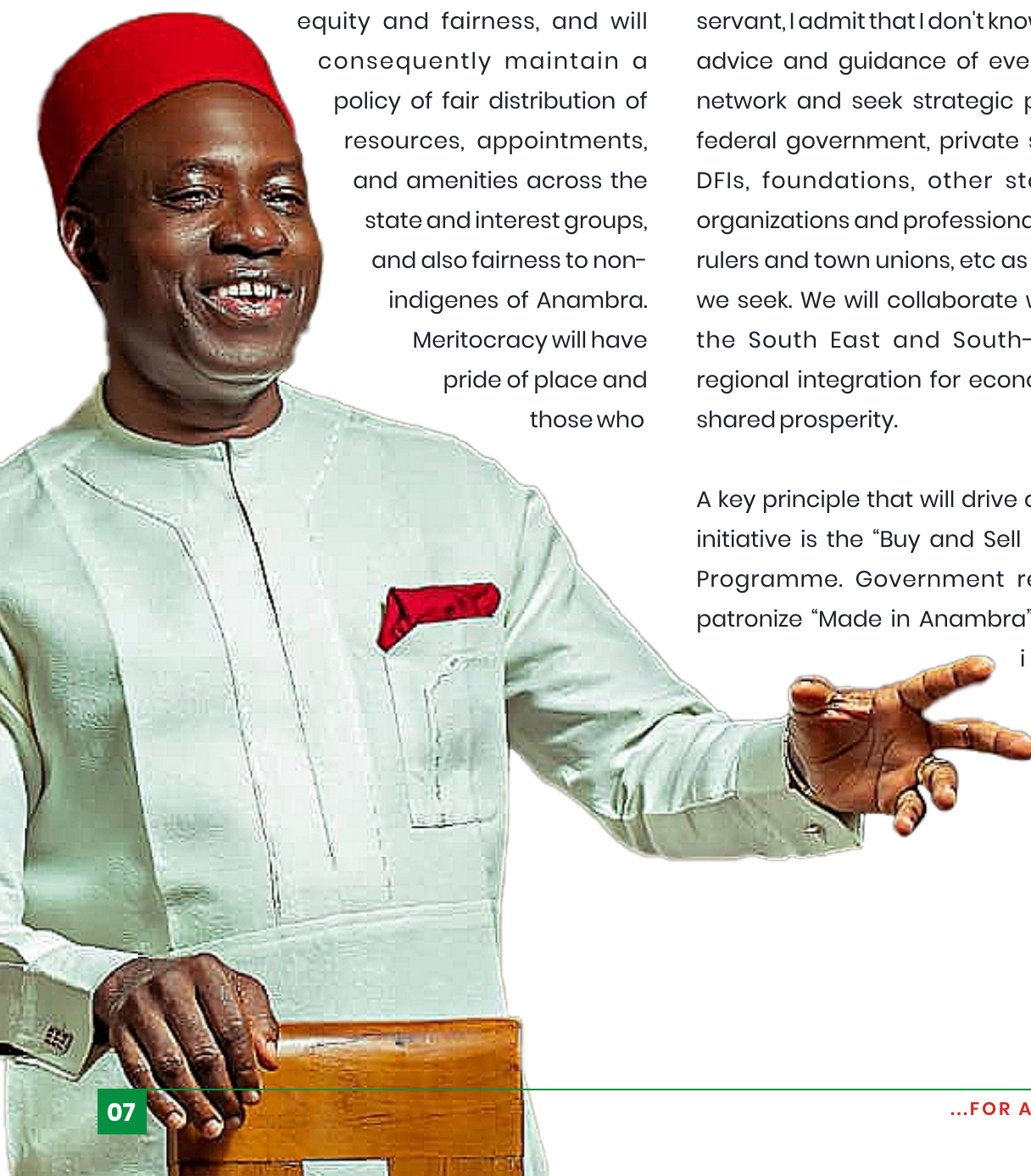
I believe in One Anambra, One people, One Agenda. There will be a comprehensive and simultaneous development of all parts of the state. The principles of personal responsibility and community shared ownership and responsibility

will be mainstreamed. I believe in equity and fairness, and will consequently maintain a policy of fair distribution of resources, appointments, and amenities across the state and interest groups, and also fairness to non-indigenes of Anambra. Meritocracy will have pride of place and those who

demonstrate that they can add value to Ndi Anambra will be given the opportunity to serve. I also believe in the interdependence of all arms of government (Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary). Importantly, I believe in Ndi Anambra and their ability to work together with me to create the future we all dream about for ourselves and future generations.

Above all, I believe in open, accountable, and collaborative leadership. We will hold periodic Town Hall meetings with critical stakeholders, and there will be the Citizens' Hotlines (phone numbers, E-mail addresses, and Facebook account) to interact with me. As your chief servant, I admit that I don't know it all. I will need the advice and guidance of everyone. We will also network and seek strategic partnerships of the federal government, private sector, the Church, DFIs, foundations, other states, civil society organizations and professional bodies, traditional rulers and town unions, etc as we chart the future we seek. We will collaborate with other states in the South East and South-South to deepen regional integration for economies of scale and shared prosperity.

A key principle that will drive our wealth creation initiative is the "Buy and Sell Made in Anambra" Programme. Government resources will only patronize "Made in Anambra" except where it is impossible to produce such or no close alternatives.





For example, all vehicles to be purchased with government resources must be “Made in Anambra” brand. We will ensure extra certification of all goods produced in Anambra such that “Made in Anambra Standard” will be synonymous with international best practice. I will be the chief marketing officer for anything and everything produced in Anambra. Our goal is to take Anambra to the world and bring the world to Anambra as a frontier Export Processing Zone.

Finally, I commit to a first rate execution of the Plan. Change and challenge of the status quo are in my DNA, and my records as a public intellectual and in public service bear these out: from the revolutionary ideas/proposals in my consultancies to over 20 international development and financial institutions, to the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) of the Obasanjo regime that created over 12.8 million jobs; to ideas for founding of Transcorp Plc; the founding of the African Finance Corporation; the revamping of a bankrupt Nigerian Security Printing and Minting Plc to world class company; the revolution in the banking/financial sector under Financial System Strategy 2020; revolutionary management of Nigeria's foreign reserves that grew it from \$10 billion to all time \$62 billion as well as exchange rate and inflation rate management; vigorous implementation of Project EAGLES that transformed CBN for efficiency and effectiveness, etc,

I am always in a haste to effect fundamental positive change and I will work 24/7 to make Ndi Anambra proud. What we present here is a synopsis, designed to give Ndi Anambra a feel for the future we envision. The full Agenda, costed with timelines and delivery mechanisms will be published within the first 30 days on assumption of office, if you give me the mandate. Our Plan is a

people's plan and is entirely about the prosperity and happiness of the people. It covers the interests of critical stakeholders: children and students, youths, women, teachers, civil servants, pensioners, traders especially apprentices (umuboy), organized private sector and captains of industry, farmers, transporters (motocyclists, keke, taxi, buses, etc), non-indigenes, vulnerable groups, persons with disability, the unemployed and the poor, professionals, industrialists, traditional rulers as well as key partners such as town unions, the church, FGN and the international community.





## CONTEXT OF THE MANIFESTO:

### OVERVIEW OF key challenges and strengths/opportunities IN ANAMBRA STATE

**A** good plan starts with a sound analysis of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). We must understand what challenges we need to overcome and the opportunities for doing so. In this synopsis, we highlight just a few, to provide context to the Manifesto.

#### Some Key Challenges We Need to Overcome

##### one

The environment constitutes Anambra's major existential threat. Its landmass and population density are second only to Lagos, with its 4,844 square kilometers of land threatened by over 900 active erosion sites.

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## Some Key Challenges We Need to Overcome

### two

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The annual flooding of riverine communities and inland roads/communities is a serious menace. Much of the land space is rapidly being built up without proper planning of the cities, communities, and markets. For example, there are very few streets with pedestrian walkways; open markets sprawling unto the roads/streets; communities without recreation grounds/facilities or planned road networks, etc.

### three

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Despite having one of the most developed road networks in the country, many of the roads are in disrepair; many communities are still without tarred roads, and long traffic jams at critical junctions especially during festive periods.

### four

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There is a massive influx of non-skilled population from all over Nigeria in search of opportunities. On the other hand, it is estimated that over 60 percent of Ndi Anambra's non-land assets and productive human capital reside outside of Anambra.

### five

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Its economy is dominated by informal commercial activities. A fundamental structural weakness is the low fiscal capacity of the state government. Although the state IGR has more than tripled over the past seven years, its size is still a minuscule 0.7% of the State GDP in 2020, and the government's total actual expenditure per person was N11,990 in 2020. This is to highlight the severe fiscal constraint which must be overcome in order for the State to make the required investment for the future.

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## Some Key Challenges We Need to Overcome

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About 2.75% of the residents have access to health insurance. There is not yet a universal access to clean pipe borne water or sustainable waste and sewage management. Education curricula and infrastructure are yet to be fully aligned to the problem solving orientation required in the digital age and there are still some thousands of children out of school; etc. Access to cheap, uninterrupted power supply is limited. Although it has poverty incidence of 14.78 (compared to national average of 40%, and many states ranging between 50- 85%) and lowest unemployment rate of 13% and underemployment rate of 17%, the goal is to drive these numbers to lower single digits.

seven

The per capita income of Anambra is certainly higher than the national average and higher than many African countries. However, the goal is to leapfrog from a lower middle income status into the upper middle income status in the medium term.



## Key Strengths and Opportunities

Yet, we see critical levers and opportunities to build upon such as:

- ☞ The “Can Do”, or “Never Say Die” attitude as well as “homeland group consciousness” of Ndi Anambra are potent weapons to be fully exploited to mobilize our people to contribute maximally to the transformation of Anambra.
- ☞ Anambra State is a hub with boundaries with the North, South-South, and three other states in the South East. The completion of the Second Niger Bridge which merges Onitsha and Asaba as twin cities as well as the potential of an Onitsha River port provides immense opportunities. The recent award of contract to the MTN to rapidly rehabilitate the Onitsha- Enugu Expressway under the Infrastructure Tax credit scheme of the FGN is an important milestone.
- ☞ There are many initiatives of the FGN especially its programmes on and investments in items under the concurrent legislative list as well as the development banks that Anambra must position to fully exploit. There are also enormous funding opportunities by the DFIs.
- ☞ Its domestic and external Diaspora population is second to none, remitting more than US\$1 billion per annum to Anambra. It is also the state estimated to have the highest concentration of entrepreneurs per square kilometre in Africa.
- ☞ The dynamics of the global economy offer opportunities to exploit, especially the AfCFTA. Furthermore, as effective unit labour cost rises in China and India, their firms (manufacturers) will continue to seek lower cost locations, and Anambra can opportunistically position to harness these flying geese.

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According to NBS, the poverty rate dropped from 53% in 2010 to 14.78% in 2020, while it has the lowest rate of unemployment and underemployment at 13% and 17% respectively.



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## Key Strengths and Opportunities

- Digitization and the consequent Fourth Industrial Revolution present both threats to the existing production structures and employment but also enormous opportunities to leapfrog and create new wealth. From artificial intelligence, robotics to augmented reality and block chain technology, there are opportunities to immerse our youths into the stream and redefine their future.
- Previous governors especially since 1999 (Dr. Chinwoke Mbadinuju, Dr. Nwabueze Ngige, and Mr. Peter Obi) did their best. The current governor, Chief Willie M. Obiano, has certainly advanced the state much higher than he met it. Anecdotal evidence points to Anambra as the 4th largest state economy. According to the NBS, the poverty rate dropped from 53% in 2010 to 14.78% in 2020, while it has the lowest rate of unemployment and underemployment at 13.1% and 17% respectively.
- Anambra is still rated one of the safest states in Nigeria, with a comparatively fair road network, and about 850 kilometres of fibre optic broadband cable with opportunities for last mile connectivity. A new international airport has been completed and an international conference/convention centre will soon be completed. The state has consistently been one of the top three performers in the Senior Secondary Certificate examinations throughout the country.
- Anambra State is listed as one of the most improved on the World Bank Ease of Doing Business ranking in Nigeria. Anambra was mentioned as one of the five states that showed the largest advance towards the global best frontier on the World Bank Subnational Doing Business in Nigeria Index of 2018.
- The Light Up Anambra project provides street lighting to over 1,800 Km of roads in Anambra, thereby promoting the “night economy” and improving security. The security architecture of the state is a strong foundation to build upon in securing life and property in the state.
- The Anambra State Small Business Agency (ASBA) and the Anambra State Investment Promotion and Protection Agency (ANSIPPA) are key institutions to deliver structured business development; attract, promote and protect investments, etc.
- Continuing and strengthening the Public Private Partnership (PPP) between the Anambra State Housing Corporation and the private sector is a framework for developing new model and livable estates.

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- Continuing support to, and collaboration with, strategic private investments such as the Enugu Electricity Distribution Company (EEDC), Ibeto, Nestoil, and Seplat gas to power plants, as well as other private investors provide an opportunity to resolve the electricity challenge.
- Anambra is now officially a petroleum-bearing state. Although the new status may not dramatically improve its revenue from the Federation Account, there are opportunities which such a status confers on the state. For example, there are opportunities for energy independence as well as fertilizer and petrochemical industries.
- The list of our strengths is long and there are several low-hanging fruits to harness.





# our plan

**O**ur plan, with smart goals, is based on a deep knowledge of the challenges and a realistic assessment of what we can achieve in Anambra state especially in the context of the current and emerging national opportunities and threats. They are not the usual political promises. The Plan is carefully thought through and costed, and we will aggressively work to mobilize the required resources. Our word is our bond: we expect to exceed the targets in the Plan.

To keep it simple, the various initiatives in our plan are grouped into four major pillars as follows:



**Economic Transformation** as  
Nigeria's next axis industrial-tech hub  
and Leisure



**Social Agenda:** Education, Health,  
Youths, Women and Vulnerable  
groups



**Governance, Rule of Law, and Value**



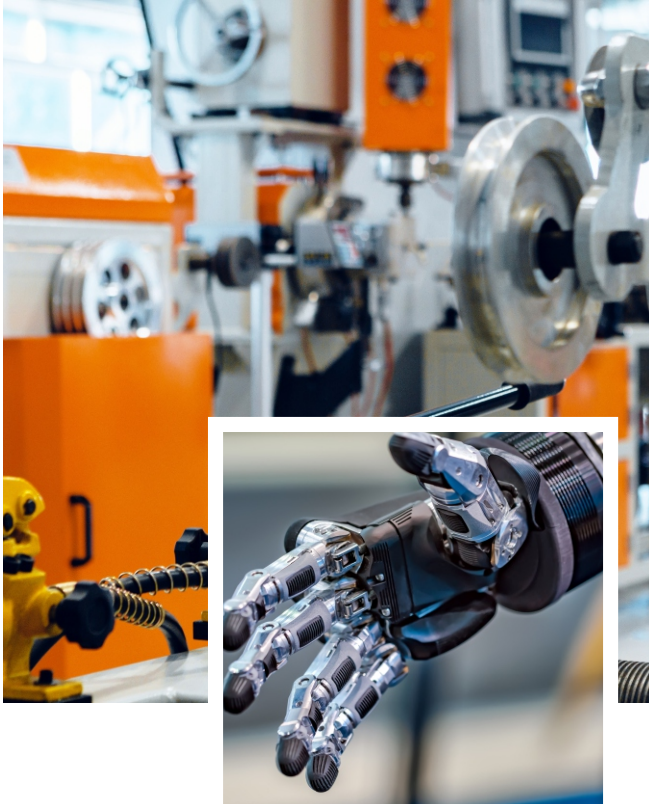
**Environment:** Clean, Green,  
Planned and Sustainable Cities,  
Communities, and Markets



# Economic Transformation

...towards the next Industrial, entertainment/leisure and creative industry, and technology hubs.

We aim to transform Anambra State from a dominantly informal commercial state to a formal, productive, and competitive economy underpinned by rapid industrialization, agriculture, commerce, entertainment/leisure and the creative industry, technology and innovation, solid minerals, and oil and gas.



## Leapfrogging Anambra as an Industrial Hub

Anambra has the second highest population density after Lagos and is nearly fully urbanized. Jobs for the urban population will come mostly from industries and the service sector, including borderless ICT-enabled jobs. Our number

one priority is job creation. With a depreciating naira against major currencies, there are opportunities for exports and hence export-oriented industrialization. Anambra State will be positioned to attract industries to take the first mover advantages while also exploiting the scale economies of a relatively big domestic market (over 210 million people and \$400 billion economy). Anambra should be the base to serve Africa and the world.

We will leverage the entrepreneurial and community spirit of Ndi Anambra to create a more industrialized economy. This will be enabled by constant power supply, guaranteed security, efficient transport infrastructure, aggressive investment drive, technology, and funded through innovative partnerships.

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We plan to attract 2,000 small, medium and large industries across the various industrial parks/clusters we will set up in the state. Medium and small businesses typically employ up to 80% of Nigeria's workforce and account for 50% of national GDP. Our economic plan for Anambra specifically targets growing these compa-

nies to accelerate job creation, including mobilizing public and private capital to develop Industrial Parks catering to various categories of industries. The specifics of the plan are as follows:

#### State Industrial Parks and Clusters

The Anambra Industrial clusters and parks will serve as

"Centres of Excellence", resulting in a clustering of shared ideas, modern infrastructure (roads, uninterrupted power supply, water, etc), services, personnel, etc., to expedite our economic growth. Our vision is that over time, such parks will ensure that more than 80% of value added occurs within the borders of Anambra State (i.e. our "Made in Anambra" initiative).

- ☞ We will designate new locations as Industrial / Technology Parks (Akwaiheddi, Awka environs including parts of Orumba, Ozubulu, Anaku, Awka, etc), in addition to the existing clusters in Nnewi, Onitsha/Ogbaru; etc. The Government will set aside at least 2,000 hectares of land for said parks in the first instance, and provide key infrastructure (roads, water, electricity, etc.), or facilitate the provision of such infrastructure via Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), where applicable.
- ☞ We will actively seek out and encourage innovative companies to make our Industrial Clusters their home while bringing down their production costs and measurably improving on the ease of doing business (EoDB).
- ☞ We estimate over 2,000 new medium to large businesses will be incubated within these Industrial Areas within the lifetime of the administration.
- ☞ We will continue to harmonise tax and levy demands, and seek tax-free/export free zone status for our designated industrial clusters, and reduce any red tape that hampers business efficiency.
- ☞ We will also deepen our engagement with enterprises within our industrial clusters to expedite production of export goods and services, and pioneer new trade routes and trade partners.
- ☞ Facilitate Public-private partnerships for large and strategic industries such as textile, iron and steel, aluminium, etc, for investment in the State.



**ANSIPPA will have a specially designated unit that will focus on the development of the industrial parks with the mandate to drive the development and marketing of the zones within three years of resumption in office.**

# Technology and Creative Economy

The goal is to make Anambra the digital and creative capital of Nigeria. This will be achieved by investing in relevant infrastructure, facilitating programmes for digital skill development to boost innovation, create jobs, encourage entrepreneurship, enhance social development, and achieve economic transformation by

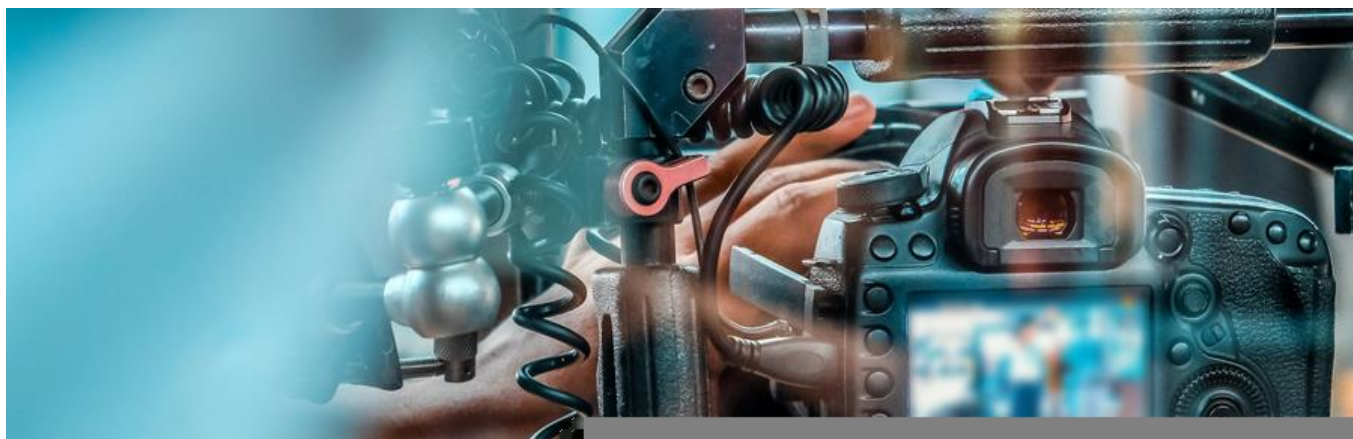
fostering growth in the technology and creative ecosystem.

The digital skills development will harness the pool of talent of Anambra's youth and equip them with technology and creative skills to increase their employability, foster innovation in both ecosystems, and support the emergence of more entrepreneurs.

Our major goal here is to redefine youth empowerment and philanthropy beyond immediate consumption to a more productive and impactful programme. The focus is multi-varied skill

acquisition (especially digital), investments and grants to start-ups focused on disruptive new business models. In the multi-tasking world, our target is one youth to 2-3 scalable skills.

Government, working with the private sector and development partners, will invest mainly in digital, entrepreneurship, vocational, and management training programs and innovative tech-enabled ideas in the "new economy" with a view to providing wealth creating opportunities for youths and boosting economic activity in the State.





## We will:

- ✎ Embark on an ambitious digital skills acquisition and empowerment program that will train and support up to 10,000 youths annually. With high intensive short term training, thousands of Ndi Anambra youths can start working and earning income across borders from the comfort of their homes in Anambra.
- ✎ Establish a business incubation hub and a N5 billion Venture Capital Fund to incubate and provide additional growth capital for the most promising start-ups and ventures, either by way of grants or direct investments.
- ✎ Funding shall be focused (mainly but not exclusively) on youths with technology and innovation driven enterprises, mentoring and coaching. The target is to create a DIGITAL TRIBE of Problem Solvers, Innovators, Inventors and Job creators whilst facilitating early-stage entrepreneurship.

Access to infrastructure plays a crucial part in providing youths with digital learning – both online and onsite learning.

## As a result, we will:

- ✎ work with telecommunication companies and internet service providers to ensure total last-mile connectivity to enable digital learning in Anambra State, and to
- ✎ provide cheap (and ultimately free) Wi-Fi hotspots in public places for the takeoff of the State emersion into the digital age.

## Creative Industry

The creative industry will play a major role in mediating the digital transformation planned for the State. Anambra has a pool of creative thinkers, innovators and problem-solvers but scattered all over the world. Government will take deliberate steps to encourage a critical mass development of this sector within the state especially in the areas of fashion, film and video, design, music, visual and performing arts, crafts, etc. Government will resuscitate and empower the Creative Economy Council to drive innovation and partnerships to grow the industry in the state.

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Government will resuscitate and empower the Creative Economy Council to drive innovation and partnerships to grow the industry in the state.

## In addition, our government will:

- ☞ Partner with private sector cinema and multi-use facility developers to develop entertainment centres in key cities in the state to drive the creative economy.
- ☞ Drive partnerships and access to DFIs and intervention programs such as the Nigeria Innovation Program (NIP) to drive skills development in the creative economy and ensure an even development of creative talent in the state
- ☞ Train at least 3,000 youths yearly under a skills development program in the creative industry value chain to give them exportable skills that can be harnessed for their personal development in the state.

## Entertainment and Leisure

Our goal is to develop Africa's largest, safe and accessible entertainment-leisure resort—the African equivalent of the Disney World. We envision a 1,000- 2000 hectares world that will showcase a blend of rich Anambra- Nigerian-

African and international culture, entertainment, and leisure. This will metamorphose into the dream Anambra Dubai leisure. People will be able to come to Anambra for their family holidays and leisure from all over Africa and beyond.

It will also turn Anambra into the Hollywood of Nigeria. This is expected to attract millions of visitors per annum to Anambra, with the huge linkages to the local economy as well as government revenue.

In addition, our administration will give considerable emphasis to culture as Anambra has a rich cultural heritage. We will work with our traditional rulers to come up with a schedule of events of major cultural and tourist events at various periods in the year. We will identify and promote major heritage sites across the state.


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## We will also:

- ☞ Reactivate all inactive tourist sites and work with other independent travel tours to ensure they meet the international standards for travel destinations. For example, tourist attractions such as the Ogbunike Cave, Odinani Museum at Nri, Ogba Ukwu Cave and Waterfall, Owerre Ezukala and other similar sites will be fully developed in collaboration with the private sector to serve the business and leisure needs of our people and national and international tourists.
- ☞ Organize special Cultural/Historical Festivals/Canivals to bring the world to Anambra, and which could also motivate the Diaspora community to visit home on such occasions.

# Trade and Commerce

Anambra's economy is dominated by trade and commerce especially informal trading activities. Indeed, Onitsha was once reputed as the largest market in West Africa. Times have changed. The future of trade and commerce will be largely driven by aggregation, warehousing, and e-commerce (Internet of things). We won't let our people be left behind, and therefore must proactively prepare them for that future.



We will partner with reputable business schools and consultants to develop structured training / mentorship programmes on the business models/opportunities of the future, and deploy

multi-media, including mobile ICT, to give our traders (especially the apprentices—"Umuboy") scalable skills and keep them ahead of the changing times.



## In addition, our government will:

- ☞ Actively and continuously engage with the Federal Agencies (security and customs) to end the extortion and harassment of our traders as they transport their goods along the roads, especially between Lagos and Anambra. Customs and security agencies should do their job at the ports and not along the highways.
- ☞ Work with the Federal Government to find alternative and faster mechanisms to complete critical federal highways that currently impede inter-state commerce with Anambra. For example, urgently complete the rehabilitation of Onitsha-Enugu road; dualize the Anambra West- Kogi road; build and dualize the Ogbaru- Rivers state road; rehabilitate the Onitsha -Owerri road, etc. These will re-establish easy access to Anambra as a trading hub.
- ☞ A new department of ANSIPPA (**Import –to- Export Department**) will specifically assist our traders to forge durable and profitable partnerships with their overseas partners. For example, ANSIPPA will assist with legal services, advice, structuring of deals, and facilitating partnership with their foreign partners to come and set up local manufacturing plants with government support. Our job is to help our traders especially the importers to grow big and ultimately transit into manufacturing and exporting.
- ☞ Complete the Awka and Nnewi shopping malls.
- ☞ Upgrade and modernize existing markets for the future by ensuring minimum standards such as parking spaces, conveniences, firefighting facilities, waste disposal and hygiene, access to Wi-Fi (internet), health centres, etc.
- ☞ Re-invent and strengthen the Igbo apprentice system, consistent with the evolving business models of the future by offering mobile education system on business management skills and global business opportunities and models to the traders. Furthermore, we will work with the legislature and key stakeholders to provide a legal framework for the system in order to safeguard the rights and obligations of both the apprentice (“nwaboy”) and the boss (“oga”);
- ☞ Standardize and control the quality of made in Anambra State products (Best-in-class) through extra product certification. In addition to certification by the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON), Anambra will give extra quality assurance such that any product with the signature of “Made in Anambra” will carry the imprimatur of best-in- its class;

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- ☞ Facilitate investment in warehousing and logistics to enable trade and commerce in the State;
- ☞ Encourage and support the private sector to develop and implement online trading and one-stop-shop e-commerce and shopping sites to complement and enhance the operations of the traditional brick and mortar markets; and
- ☞ Ban the illegal collection of taxes and levies in the markets.

## Agriculture and Agro- Processing

The Agriculture sector will continue to be a major growth sector for the economy of Anambra state. We will implement the following initiatives to aid in transforming the economy.

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The Government will strongly support agro-processing in Anambra State.

**Thus, when elected to office, we will:**

- ☞ Continue to support cluster farming operations across the three senatorial zones on a comparative crop advantage basis, through the empowerment of women and youth under the Commercial Agricultural Credit Scheme (CACS) and Accelerated Agricultural Development Scheme (AADS) programmes

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- ✎ Sustain the collaboration with development partners (Central Bank of Nigeria, the World Bank, the European Union, NAIRSAL, etc.) to support increased farming activities, land development, and improved access to financing.
- ✎ Continue the out-grower arrangements to support smallholder farmers through the supply of subsidized inputs
- ✎ Continue to provide support to the farmers in terms of educating them on improved production techniques, the use of technology where applicable, and general business knowledge and advisory to help them grow their farming businesses.
- ✎ In addition, there will be a disruptive change which will engineer a return to the glorious past through a revolution in palm produce. Palm produce and the associated agro processing industries will create jobs and prosperity for hundreds of thousands of farmers/households. The government will procure and distribute one million high yielding palm seedlings to 100,000 farmers/households per annum (10 seedlings each per annum), and over a four-year period, each will have at least 40 seedlings of high-yielding varieties which start fruiting in 2-4 years. It is estimated that a poor household with 30-40 seedlings of such high-yielding palm trees will escape poverty. This will be a major empowerment program for at least 100,000 farmers/households, plus the thousands of jobs in the palm processing industries that will emerge as at least 10 million new palm trees are added to the wealth stock over a 10-year period.
- ✎ Investments will be made in research to invent improved varieties and accelerate the mass production of endangered Igbo -specific products such as ukwa, efi Igbo, okuko Igbo, okpa, ogili, uda, uziza, utazi, etc.
- ✎ In addition to rice, yam, cassava, potatoes, tomatoes, onions, etc, the Government will encourage the cultivation and consumption of fruits and vegetables to support healthy lifestyle change as well as for exports.
- ✎ The Government will also strongly support agro-processing in Anambra State.



# Solid Minerals

The solid minerals sector is both an opportunity and a threat in Anambra state. Anambra state has large deposits of bauxite, ceramic, kaoline, clay, bentoline, white sharp sand, etc. Properly harnessed, these can create jobs, earn revenues for

both the state and federal government as well as foreign exchange. But the indiscriminate illegal and artisanal mining activities around the state create massive erosion and other environmental threats.

The Nigerian Minerals Mining Act provides for partnership between the federal and state government on exploration of

solid minerals. Our government will actively work with the Federal Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Mines and Steels Development to bring order to the sector in Anambra State. The target is to structure and formalize mining activities in the state to maximize job creation, revenues to FGN and state government as well as preserve the environment. In addition, government will:

- ☞ Deploy a Centralised e-GIS Web portal with supporting ICT Infrastructure, a portal for real-time information on mining activities, and electronic submission of licenses, permits, and certificates; and
- ☞ Actively promote value-adding, mineral processing industries in the state for additional job creation.



# Petroleum

The petroleum industry estimates, currently puts the hydrocarbon potential of the Anambra basin at 1 billion barrels of crude oil and 30 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. While it is true that crude oil is declining as a strategic resource to the world economy due to the increasing availability of alternative sources of clean energy, gas is however regarded as a source of clean energy.

## Government will:

- ✎ Continue to work with Federal agencies and private investors to rapidly develop the oil and gas resources of the State, especially now that Anambra has been officially listed as an oil-producing state. We expect considerable business and employment opportunities from this development.
- ✎ Our administration will work closely with our people to harness the opportunities under the Petroleum Industry Act that has created a frontier and host communities' fund.



## Key Enablers for Economic Transformation

There are several critical enablers to power the economic transformation agenda, including: healthy and educated human capital, a developmental-entrepreneurial state, guaranteed rule of law and property rights as well as timely dispensation of justice, a clean, liveable and sustainable environment, effective development partnerships, etc and we elaborate on them later on in other Sections. We briefly elaborate on three critical ones as follows: security of life and property, efficient transportation system, and delivery of cheap and reliable electricity.

## Security

The security of life and property will continue to be the number one priority of our government.

- Continue and strengthen the current security architecture of the State and deepen dialogue and collaborate with critical stakeholders in the security space to ensure that Anambra continues to remain the safest state in Nigeria.
- Have a zero-tolerance for cultism, harassment, and extortion of citizens in the market and roads of Anambra.
- Support law enforcement agencies in the state with infrastructure, surveillance, and communications tools to enhance their capacity to safeguard lives and property.
- Reinforce the capability of the existing security system through employment and equipment of more personnel, training and retraining of vigilante officers to improve their effectiveness.
- Partner with security agencies towards the eradication of violence, crimes, drug usage, fraud, and all deviant behaviours
- Amend and implement Anambra State Security Trust Fund Law, 2010 and amendment Law, 2018 to mobilize and deploy funds towards the procurement of necessary equipment and training of personnel involved in providing security in the state.
- Work with the Federal Government on state security and provision of adequate logistics and material support to security agencies in the state.
- Build on and expand the efforts of the 'Light Up Anambra' program through solar power, gas to power, and other environment-friendly sources.
- Formulate and implement policies to promote harmonious coexistence to ensure that residents are free to live and work as they wish in any part of the state irrespective of state of origin or religion.
- Provide support to traditional rulers and presidents-general to give them enhanced roles in maintaining peace and security in their communities



## Road and Transportation

Anambra state has made commendable progress in road construction from about 375 tarred roads in 2006 to about 3,360 tarred roads by 2017, for which we commend past administrations. We will expand upon these efforts by modernizing/maintaining existing roads, connecting more communities with new roads, flyovers and spurs, and bridges. In particular, we shall insist on very durable roads and explore alternative business models, including concessioning, to deliver more and better roads. Road congestion and long hours on traffic jams are debilitating and a huge cost on productivity. Our target is to ultimately reduce the maximum waiting time at any of the terrible locations from hours to a maximum of 20 minutes.

### Thus, if elected to office, we will

- Deploy alternative models/technology of building durable roads in collaboration with the Private Sector.
- Have zero tolerance for waste and poor quality in infrastructure delivery. Consequently, where any road/ infrastructure fails before the expected lifespan as designed, both the contractor and the public official that certified the project will be held accountable and sanctioned.
- Construct overhead bridges (flyovers) in strategic locations such as Onitsha, Nnewi, Awka, Ekwulobia, Nkpor, Nnobi, etc. that will decongest traffic and provide a better transport experience.
- Explore options of a light rail and cable transport system taking into consideration the transport master plan to be developed by the state.
- Partner with companies under the Road Infrastructure tax credit to build roads in Anambra under a PPP structure.
- Invest in social transport schemes for urban mass transport for the poor and vulnerable/subsidized transport.
- Invest in transportation targeting those living in the riverine areas.
- Improve the inter and intra community road networks.
- Carry out enlightenment campaigns for drivers and certify them periodically as well as strictly enforce the road usage regulations.



## Electric Power

We will crack the nuts on power to achieve a **20-24 hour uninterrupted power supply** in Anambra State.

Thus, if elected to office, we will

- Constantly work with the relevant agencies of govt and the Enugu Electricity Distribution Company (EEDC) to improve electricity supply through increased investment in electricity infrastructure in the state. A few billions of Naira investment to modernize a few strategic transmission lines, realign connections and transformers, etc will give fast quick wins to provide up to 18 hours of electricity in key locations.
- Work with the Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) and private sector investors to provide electricity generation through a combination of captive, embedded, and off-grid generation for the use of businesses in Anambra state.
- Encourage private investors to explore renewable energy sources such as solar in expanding our energy mix.
- Invest in gas infrastructure such as piping to designated locations to provide power to the state.



## Gas Infrastructure

Gas is critical to industrial development. Anambra has been identified as one of the pilot states.

Most industries in the Southeast, however, are not supplied with natural gas from government-owned natural gas pipelines. They are supplied with gas via compressed gas trucks from western Nigeria, while we have abundant gas deposits in the Southeast. This is not a sustainable way of supplying energy for industrial development.

Therefore, we will:

- Collaborate with other governors of the Southeast to ensure that the Federal Government extends natural gas pipeline to the area.
- Support the gas to power plants such as the Ibeto and Nestoil plants to provide gas powered electricity.

# Social Agenda



As a government of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA), we will live out the true essence of APGA's motto: "Be Your Brother's and Sister's keeper" (Onye aghana nwanneya). Our goal is to systematically develop a skilled, healthy, and compassionate society. Inclusiveness is important to us, and all residents of the state will contribute to, and benefit from, the social agenda.

The broad pillars under which we will be driving this agenda are - **education, health, youth and women empowerment, social protection, and investment for persons living with disabilities, the vulnerable widows, and the aged.**

## Education

Education and strong human capital constituted the foundation for Anambra and former Eastern Region's economic and social transformation in the first republic, as well as the basis for its current

performance despite having some of the smallest government expenditure in Nigeria. Human capital is the only renewable resource. The book entitled "Pass the Book, Hold the Oil" on how Taiwan mined its human capital to great success despite not having natural resources provides a template on how robust education (especially STEM—science, technology,

engineering and maths) is foundation to society's sustainable prosperity. Education is Anambra's present and its future. Our Plan has a huge, detailed chapter on the functional education required for transition to a post oil Nigeria and the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution. We only summarize our focus here while the detailed activities/interventions are in the Implementation Plan.

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## In a nutshell, our Plan aims to:

- ☞ Develop the competence of Teachers in the State and restore teaching as a profession of pride. As the saying goes, “if you want to predict the future of any society, examine the quality of teachers and the quality of teaching”. The teaching profession is the most important profession as everyone was once taught by a teacher. As a teacher myself, we understand what it means when teachers are empowered to work. Our Plan will work towards professionalism, and unique Anambra teachers with special Anambra certification based upon quality, capacity building and competences. Lifelong learning tools will be provided and teachers will be motivated and rewarded appropriately.
- ☞ Develop rigorous quality assurance in both private and public schools. The unique feature of the Anambra educational system is that about 60% of pupils and students in primary and secondary schools are in private schools. We will collaborate with the Church, CSOs, DFIs and other stakeholders to set up an independent accreditation and continuous supervisory agency to augment the Ministry of Education in quality assurance.
- ☞ Provide most competitive Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) for all children under 5 years and achieve 100% enrolment.

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The teaching profession is the most important profession as everyone was once taught by a teacher. As a teacher myself, we understand what it means when teachers are empowered to work.



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- ✎ Attain the highest Enrolment and literacy rates in the country while providing affordable and competitive Basic Education for all.
- ✎ Improve access and enrolment into Mass Literacy, Adult and Non-Formal Education Programme (name to be changed to State Functional Literacy and Education Programme – SFLEP).
- ✎ Provide education inclusion, improve enrolment and retention of special needs students in schools.
- ✎ Increase enrolment of all categories of learners in technical and vocational education and training.
- ✎ Provide quality and equitable Higher Education to all students including physically challenged and socio-economically disadvantaged people.
- ✎ Review curricula at all levels to provide functional education for the digital age to develop graduates that are problem solvers especially ICT and coding skills, AI, Robotics, etc.

## A few other specific initiatives will include:

- ✎ Deepen the partnership between the Church, private sector and the State in the provision of education in the state.
- ✎ Continue and strengthen the free education initiatives (Primary 1 – Junior Secondary 3) in public schools. We will work to extend the free education to the Senior Secondary School.
- ✎ Work with development partners to deploy broadband access to schools across all levels and public libraries to improve access to the internet for all and continue to build the digital tribe. Specifically, the Government Technical Schools will receive special attention, and more of such will be established.
- ✎ Special attention will be paid to the Anambra state tertiary institutions, to ensure that the curricula and programmes train graduates with the requisite knowledge and skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Government will work actively with the Management of the

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institutions to seek and institutionalize linkage and exchange programmes with universities and polytechnics abroad. We want to see our tertiary institutions play the role that Stanford University plays in the development of the Silicon Valley in California, USA, and Anambra would want to see them rated among the best in the world.

- ✎ Prioritize Nigerian history, and Ethics in the curriculum;
- ✎ Develop some model schools and public libraries in the state and mainstream the “adopt a school programme”;
- ✎ Upgrade infrastructure in government-owned schools; and continue to provide subvention to schools returned to the Church by government.
- ✎ Assess schools to identify teacher gaps in the state and fill the gap.

## Healthcare

Our goal is to provide access to quality and affordable healthcare for all residents of Anambra. Furthermore, with advances in technology, opportunities for global networks/collaboration and the huge stock of Anambra Diaspora in frontier medical practice, Anambra has the potential to build international centres of excellence in healthcare.





Among other things, our healthcare plan will include:

## PRIMARY Healthcare

### GOAL

To ensure the highest possible level of health and well-being and their equitable distribution by focusing on people's needs and as early as possible to improve prevention.

The initiatives include:

- ✎ Conduct a gap analysis to ascertain the level of intervention required to meet minimum global standards across all health care facilities in the state;
- ✎ Upgrade infrastructure, equipment and hire requisite qualified personnel to achieve optimal service delivery in Anambra Primary Healthcare System;
- ✎ Implement the minimum service Packages and Standards for Primary Health Centres (PHCs) operating in the State;
- ✎ Establish a referral system that originates from the PHC to the secondary and then to tertiary levels of care across the state;
- ✎ Incorporate community structures and members into the governance, ownership, and management of primary health care facilities;
- ✎ Expand all Primary Health facilities to have resident medical officers providing primary services; and
- ✎ Leverage modern, trustless, secure, and transparent technology (blockchain) to maintain health data.

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Our goal is to provide access to quality and affordable healthcare for all residents of Anambra.

## SECONDARY AND TERTIARY Healthcare

### GOAL

To provide specialist treatment and support that is accessible and affordable to Ndi Anambra

The initiatives include:

- ✎ Establish the Health Facilities Monitoring and Accreditation Agency (HEFAMAA), charged with monitoring public and private health facilities to ensure registration, accreditation, and standardization of all health facilities, and
- ✎ Re-establish and strengthen the State Hospitals Management Board (SHMB), review the policy to become autonomous and able to enforce discipline.

## REGULATORY Framework

### GOAL

To provide a world-class healthcare management system through the adoption of globally proven community-driven strategies

We will develop a strategic policy framework and implementation plan for health which provides effective oversight, coalition building, appropriate legislation, regulations, incentives, and accountability. We will:

- ✎ Set up healthcare policy framework as state-wide guidance, adjusted in line with peculiarities of each level of healthcare facility; and
- ✎ Strengthen coordination and regulatory functions of the Ministry of Health and all relevant departments in the Ministry saddled with regulatory functions (Medical, Pharmaceutical, Nursing, and Medical Support Services Departments).

# HUMAN Resources

## GOAL

To attract, retain, and motivate skilled medical personnel in Anambra State.

### We will:

- ✎ Review incentives and motivate healthcare professionals across the state to attract and retain top talent;
- ✎ Recruit and equitably distribute competent, localized health professionals & other non-health actors across State's health facilities;
- ✎ Commence the Community Nursing and Midwifery Programme, an initiative to improve the availability of needed skilled human resources (HR) at PHC level in rural and hard-to-reach communities, which also involves training and retention of trainees in their communities as government workers; and
- ✎ Substantially improve healthcare practitioner to population ratio by creating a framework to attract Diaspora healthcare practitioners to return and make Anambra their base.

## Improve Infrastructure and Access to Quality Healthcare:

- ✎ Equip all healthcare institutions with effective user-friendly software for electronic data collection and e-medicine
- ✎ Urgently raise the quality of all general hospitals in the state to world-class standards through investments in infrastructure, diagnostic equipment, continuous professional development, and public-private partnerships;
- ✎ Establish a digitized and effective world-class Drug Revolving Fund (DRF) Scheme;
- ✎ Build the capacity of health workers on DRF and Logistics Management Information System (LMIS);

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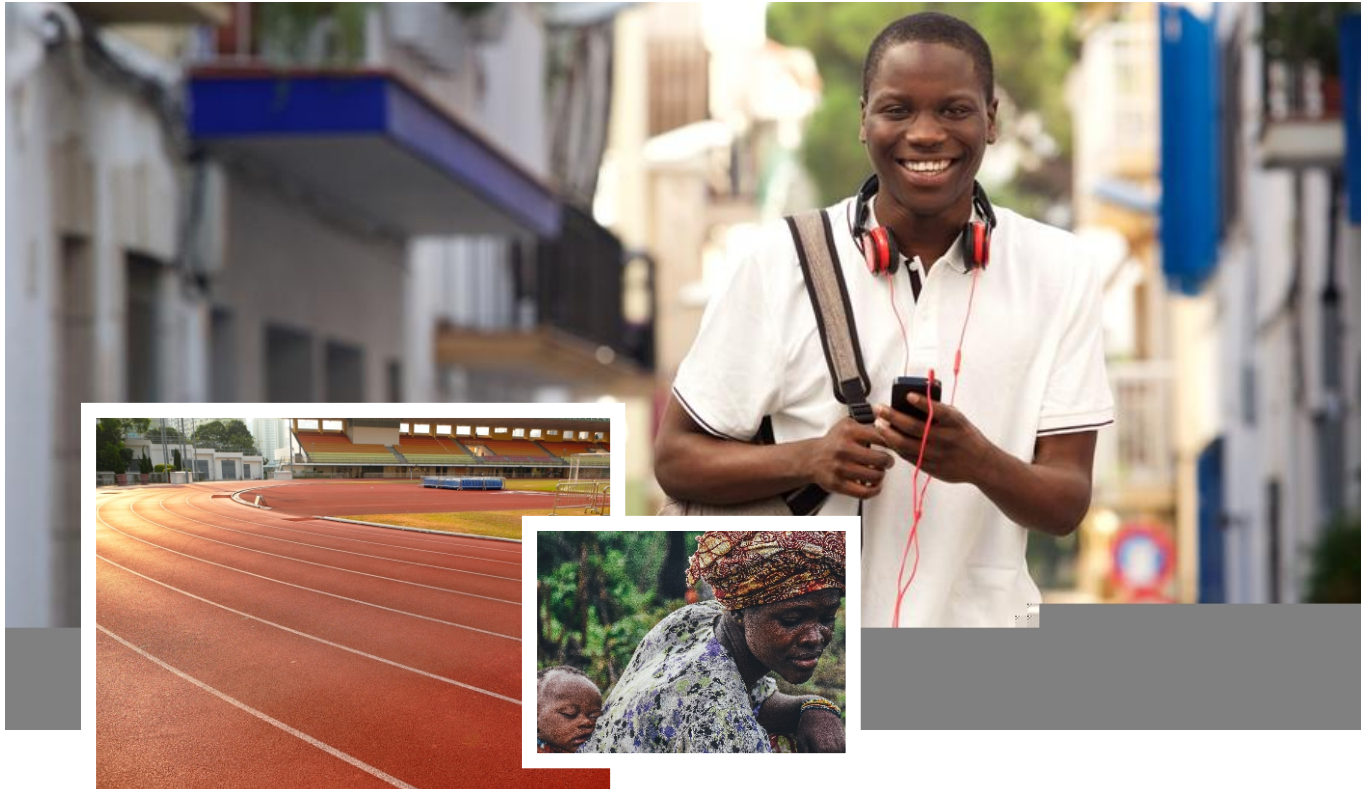
- ☞ Expand programmes for vulnerable groups like the elderly and people living with disabilities.
- ☞ In addition, we will reinforce and support the Anambra Health Insurance Scheme to ensure wider enrollment so that no resident of Anambra dies on account of an inability to afford medical services.

## Other general interventions

- ☞ Educate, and initiate lifestyle change campaigns to address the epidemic of diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, heart related illnesses;
- ☞ Explore mobile clinics in major markets as the first point of medical contact;
- ☞ Explore telemedicine to improve healthcare access (Uber, Taxify, etc, for healthcare);
- ☞ Upgrade infrastructure and personnel at teaching hospitals, and primary health centres and actively seek collaboration with international health institutions;
- ☞ Leverage technology to manage public healthcare records;
- ☞ Digitize and unify medical data for all Anambra State people.



# Youth and Women Empowerment, Social Protection



## Youth Empowerment & Sports

The youth are the bridge to the future. The youth constitute the future of Anambra; therefore, our transformation agenda is fundamentally focused on creating a prosperous expected future for the youth, empowering them to function and be productive. The primary need of the youth is Jobs! Jobs! and quality Jobs! Our target is to create at least 130,000 private sector jobs per annum, and target at least 1,000 youth millionaires per year. Our government will also take deliberate steps to ensure that the youth are adequately represented at all levels of governance.

All Sections of this Manifesto are about the youths. This Section only highlights a few more initiatives. For example, the entire Section on Technology and Creative Economy, the Section on Trade and Commerce, Agriculture, Education, etc above are all about the youths.

## In addition to the foregoing, we will:

- ✎ Continue and expand the appointment and involvement of young men and women in governance;
- ✎ Establish business incubation hubs equipped with high-level technology expertise in partnership with relevant parties (academia, domestic and international development organizations, and big tech companies) to transform ideas into burgeoning start-ups;
- ✎ Working with the organized private sector and international venture capital firms, we will set up an annual N5 billion early-stage/venture capital fund to provide multi-stage funding for tech start-ups and other innovative businesses;
- ✎ Deliberatively create a digital tribe. We plan to train 10,000 youth per year on digital skills. This will be done by launching a state-wide technology-focused training programme in partnership with the private sector to develop digital skills (web & app development, search engine optimization, graphic design, UX design, etc.) among the Anambra youth population; and
- ✎ Continue ASBA's interventions focused on youth-owned SMEs.
- ✎ In addition to upskilling from a technology standpoint, we will also focus on developing and upskilling the youth in other areas to ensure that each youth has a minimum of two to three skills that will enhance their productive opportunities--- skill acquisition schemes (digital, entrepreneurship, management, vocation, etc).
- ✎ Design and implement digital adoption policies, such as *"All businesses, institutions, and government agencies in the State MUST have an online presence over a period of time (website, social media handles, etc)"* – such a policy will create thousands of jobs for youths with requisite digital skills;
- ✎ Provide a legal and regulatory framework to formalize the apprenticeship system and safeguard their rights as well as creative training programme to enhance the competitive skills of the apprentice (see Section on Trade and Commerce above);
- ✎ Create programs aimed at encouraging existing businesses (especially traders) to understand and leverage technology & e-commerce as tools for business expansion and growth;





- ☞ Put in place measures to identify talents early and ensure their participation in domestic and international games/sports to enable them to become professionals;
- ☞ Provide qualitative education for the youth to secure high-paying jobs in the private and public sectors or become effective entrepreneurs;
- ☞ In partnership with the private sector in the State, design and implement a secondary school internship programme aimed at providing pupils with the requisite experience as they transition into tertiary education.

#### Under sports development in Anambra State, we will:

- ☞ Facilitate grassroots sports development for all youth and students for recreation, health, and livelihood. The inter-house and inter-school sports competitions will be mainstreamed.
- ☞ Create Anambra male and female football teams to play in the professional league in Nigeria;
- ☞ Create private-sector partnerships to drive sports development and infrastructural development;

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The primary need of the youth is Jobs! Jobs! and quality Jobs!

Our target is to create at least **130,000** private sector jobs per annum, and target at least 1,000 youth millionaires per year.

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- ✎ Develop modern sports facilities (football, basketball, track & field) across all local governments to harness talent and develop future Olympic champions and global sports champions; and
- ✎ Mandate schools, communities, and local governments to create playgrounds/sports centres with needed equipment to develop skills and provide matching grants to facilitate these infrastructures.

## Women Empowerment

Anambra's future is in the hands of women. Women constitute 87% of secondary school teachers and 92% of primary school teachers in Anambra's public schools. Our civil service is dominated by women. Thus women empowerment is not a token: it should be the mainstream at all levels of society. Women are more than equal partners in development, and must be recognized and treated as such. Our government will take deliberate steps to eliminate all forms of discrimination based on gender.

As a first step, our government will strengthen the Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Children Affairs to give its four programme departments (Child, Women Affairs, Social Welfare and Rehabilitation) the required boost to do their job effectively.

In addition, our Plan will target the strengthening of the family as the foundation of society. Building upon the successes of the Ministry and



CAFE, we will develop a framework for government to partner with the Church and NGOs with demonstrable capacity and track record to mainstream caring for, and strengthening the family. The family is threatened by several challenges: divorce and single parenthood cases are on the rise, children out of school, rising domestic

violence against women and children, cultism and criminality, child slavery and trafficking, etc. In all of these developments, the women bear a disproportionate burden. Our Family First Bureau (FFB) will strengthen the work of the Ministry and the independent NGOs to deliver services to the thousands that need help.

## In addition, our government will:

- ✎ Ensure a more active participation of women at all levels of decision making and governance at the community, local government, and state government levels.
- ✎ Continue and strengthen MSME funding programs through the Anambra State Small Business Agency (ASBA) aimed at providing funding and capacity building assistance for vulnerable groups and women;
- ✎ Create specific programs to empower women-owned businesses and enterprises and also seek partnerships and funding from DFIs to support these businesses;
- ✎ Make deliberate efforts in all government programmes to ensure gender balance;
- ✎ Make upskilling women digitally a priority for our government;
- ✎ Our administration will sustain and improve upon the 30 per cent minimum representation to a gender-balanced representation across all programmes and projects implemented by my administration; and
- ✎ Zero tolerance to all harmful practices against women and the girl child, including gender-based violence





## Vulnerable Groups

A system is as strong as its weakest link. The welfare of the most vulnerable members of our society constitutes the barometer for measuring the extent to which we live out APGA's motto and its progressivism.

### Specifically, we will:

- ✧ Put in place measures to identify talents early and ensure their participation in domestic and international games/sports to enable them to become professionals;
- ✧ Develop policies (or laws) protecting widows and domestic workers and other vulnerable groups from maltreatment and unjust treatment;
- ✧ Review cultural and traditional institutions that promote such negative treatments of women, especially widows;
- ✧ Approve special education for Persons with Disability (PWD) to ensure completion of education up to at least secondary school level, and take deliberate steps to ensure their participation at all levels of decision making/governance and economic activities;
- ✧ Sustain timely payment of benefits for all pensioned senior citizens and design a sustainable safety net targeting the needs of all aged citizens above the age of 70;
- ✧ Work with the House of Assembly to review and ultimately pass the draft Social Protection bill into law which aims to provide social safety nets to the poor, unemployed, and vulnerable population;
- ✧ Expand the social investments database of poor and vulnerable households (currently 50,000 households) in the state;
- ✧ Continue and strengthen MSME funding programs through the Anambra State Small Business Agency (ASBA) aimed at providing funding and capacity building assistance for vulnerable groups and women.



# Governance, Rule of Law, and Value System



## Governance

As your chief servant, we will lead by personal example, and mainstream the essence of government as servant of the people. The Government will be entrepreneurial in its decision making, seeking the most efficient and effective means to mobilize and deploy the resources of Ndi Anambra for the greatest outcomes, and always benchmarking the efficiency of its service delivery to international best practices.

We will deploy a Service Delivery Charter as a contract between citizens and public servants. Such a Charter will, among other things, clearly define what services citizens can expect and within what time frame. For example, with technology and responsive public service, there is no reason requests/inquiries by citizens should not be responded to/concluded within 48 hours.

## If elected into office, we will:

- 
- ✧ Reform processes, improve skills, re-orientation, motivate and leverage technology to optimize the efficiency of service delivery; eliminate waste, capture and corruption. Our target is to transit from manual operations to complete E-government in the medium term;

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  - ✧ Deploy a digitally enabled land administration process with a view of achieving land transfer of title within 72 hours;

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  - ✧ Complete and operationalize the State integrated financial management system;

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  - ✧ Review, amend, and operationalize the fiscal responsibility law for greater transparency and sustainability of State finance;

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  - ✧ Continue and strengthen accountability initiatives such as publishing state accounts regularly;

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  - ✧ As part of our agenda for transparency and probity, we will subject the State to periodic assessment by international credit rating agencies and multi-lateral agencies;

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  - ✧ Continue and strengthen institutions for investment promotions and business administration such as ASBA and ANSIPPA;

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  - ✧ Complete the Governor's Lodge and the Secretariat to facilitate seamless and efficient government operations;

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  - ✧ End illegal internally generated revenue (IGR) collections in the State;

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  - ✧ Strengthen existing partnerships with communities to formalize the town administration as the de facto local administration. The community governments are the closest to the people in Anambra. Our government will empower the community governments to deliver services to the people, including through matching grants scheme; and

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  - ✧ Review and reform the framework for succession plan for community leaderships such as Igwes, Presidents- General of town unions etc to ensure sustainability and continuity in a seamless manner.

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## Rule of Law and Property Rights

We will make Anambra State number one in areas of rule of law, property rights, and ease of doing business.

### Therefore, if elected into office, we will:

- ☞ Actively collaborate with legislators and judiciary in the promulgation of appropriate legislations and speedy administration of justice;
- ☞ Strongly support infrastructural development of the judiciary and deployment of technology as well as investment in continuous human capital development in the sector;
- ☞ Collaborate with the Judiciary to upscale the efficiency of the judicial process to set up a specialized commercial court as well as mainstream the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanism to ensure that timelines for commercial dispute resolution are reduced to 30 days from the average of 307days;
- ☞ Provide adequate publicity and use of the Anambra Multi-door courthouse and small claims court for speedy dispensation of justice and decongestion of the judiciary's docket.



## Value System

The ethics and values of a society constitute its fabric and its collective conscience and humanity. Most people agree that our private and public lives are drifting dangerously without the fabric that made us who we were. While a majority of our youths work very hard, the new trend where the motto for some of the youths is: “get rich young or die trying”, or “making money without working for it” with thousands of our youths languishing in prisons abroad cannot define us. The growing culture of entitlement mentality of wanting something for nothing, cannot be the foundation for sustainable prosperity. Our future lies squarely in reinventing our past.

Our goal is to mobilize Ndi Anambra using all government and civil society institutions to mainstream the true values of Ndi Anambra such as integrity, hard work, competition with compassion, and morals.

### Therefore, if elected into office, we will:

- ✎ Design and embark upon effective social evangelism, using all possible media—the church, schools, town unions, markets, etc. The Anambra “10 shared values” currently being recited by pupils and students in all schools will be mainstreamed for all residents;
- ✎ Establish an Anambra State Hall of Fame and annual celebration of great achievers in all fields of endeavour, including teachers, entrepreneurs/job creators, community workers, public servants with demonstrable integrity and efficiency, etc.
- ✎ Bring back the teaching of Ethics and Civics as part of social curriculum in schools;
- ✎ Design and execute a reward system and public celebration of integrity, hard work, philanthropy, and personal responsibility;
- ✎ Design and implement deliberate programmes to institutionalize the APGA motto - Onye Aghana Nwanne ya. For example, government will collaborate with the Church organs (such as the women, men, and youth organizations) and other civil society organizations to institutionalize cooperative movements for wider empowerment of the weak and vulnerable; and
- ✎ Mainstream the Igbo language as an official language along with the English language.

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For example, with technology and responsive public service, there is no reason requests/inquiries by citizens should not be responded to/concluded within 48 hours.

## Social Harmony in the State

Anambra's motto is: “Light of the Nation”. Consequently, our government will strive to ensure that Anambra is truly Nigeria's melting pot, where no one irrespective of gender, state of origin, ethnicity or religion is discriminated against, and everyone feels absolutely at home. In particular, the Government will take proactive steps to ensure harmonious relationships among the various faith groups as well as the indigenes and non-indigenes.



# Environment

Towards clean, green, planned and sustainable cities, communities, and markets



## The Environment

The environment is the number one existential threat to Anambra State. Therefore, our government will declare a state of emergency on the environment and every citizen will play an active role in protecting the environment. Urgent environmental challenges around the cities include erosion menace and waste management. In addition, there's low-level planning of communities, markets, and cities and enforcement of environmental controls.

The number and size of erosion sites in Anambra are certainly beyond the financial capacity of the State to completely solve. Our government will continue to work with the Federal Government and DFIs to find lasting solutions. However, in addition to interventions in urgent and threatening erosions, government will mobilize all stakeholders to take proactive steps to prevent existing ones from worsening, and prevent new ones from developing.



Better planning and channeling of drainage and flood will help. Personal responsibility of every citizen in controlling flood from each building/household, massive planting of bamboo and other trees, creating structured messages and mainstreaming public enlightenment campaigns as well as compulsory school education

on sustainable environmental management, smart environmental management laws and regulations and effective enforcement, etc will be part of the comprehensive agenda to rescue the environment. The agenda is long and will be expensive.

## If elected to office, we will, among other things:

- ✎ Embark on the opening and clearing of drainages and flood channels regularly to eliminate the annual flooding of roads, streets, and communities;
- ✎ Ensure zero tolerance for waste on the street, with the government reviewing and strengthening existing legal and regulatory frameworks and collaborating with capable private operators, local governments, and communities for the efficient and timely disposal of waste across the entire state;
- ✎ Exploit waste as an alternative source of power in the State by recycling waste for power generation;
- ✎ Work with private sector players to build recycling plants for waste and channel the waste to more value adding uses;
- ✎ Improve the existing waste management and sanitation systems by reviewing the number and location of dump sites across the state to ensure that the dump sites are sufficient and maintained for proper waste disposal and management;
- ✎ Work with the Federal Government to streamline licenses of operators of laterites and sharp sand operators to arrest the menace of erosions caused by these indiscriminate activities;
- ✎ Closely monitor and supervise road builders to ensure proper termination of flood water on the roads which contribute significantly to the creation and expansion of soil erosion in the State;
- ✎ Continue work with the Federal Government and development partners to expand intervention in erosion and other climate change-related challenges such as floods etc; and
- ✎ Actively collaborate with Governors of the affected states, the Federal Government, and development partners to bring a lasting solution to the annual overflow of the River Niger which on an annual basis causes displacement and destruction of communities, farms, businesses and lives.



## Clean, Green and Planned Cities, Communities, and Markets

Our goal is to become the most liveable smart megacity in Nigeria. This requires planning, and enforcement of minimum best practices and standards for the ease of transport, communication, recreational facilities, and public conveniences, etc.

### If elected to office, we will:

- ↻ Continue and complete the design of the State master plan. Among others, the government will complete the masterplan of the state drainage system to ensure the systematic discharge and collection points;
- ↻ Design and enforce a template of minimum standards for infrastructure and other facilities in cities, markets, and communities;
- ↻ Embark upon an expansive but phased modernization cum urban renewal of our major urban areas, especially starting in the first phase in Awka, Onitsha, Nnewi, and Ekwulobia urban areas. Special attention will be given to Okpoko in Ogbaru LGA which is home to the largest urban slum in Anambra State, as it will be provided with modern basic amenities; and

from previous

- Implement robust clean and green initiatives to fulfill the aim of having Anambra as the cleanest and most environmentally friendly state. In addition, the government will encourage and incentivize households to plant a minimum number of trees per annum (we are targeting at least one million, preferably economic, trees per annum).

## Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

**GOAL** To boost industrial production and improve the living standards of the people, easy access to drinking water is critical.

We will:

- Develop a water supply master plan, which will entail a state-wide hydrogeological survey;
- Complete the concession of water schemes in the State to ensure that the first four major urban areas-- Awka, Nnewi, and Ekwulobia have access to pipe-borne water within three years in office and to complete the Onitsha, and Otuocha water schemes within 12 months in office. Our target is to make access to clean (pipe-borne) water a right of every resident of Anambra, and
- Develop and execute a plan for the improvement of sanitation and hygiene practices among the people to reduce morbidity and mortality rates. There will be zero tolerance for open defecation.







# FUNDING AND implementation

## Financing

**F**unding the audacious agenda outlined above can be very challenging, especially in these economic times. Here is where my core competence as a development/monetary/macro economist and a central banker will be critical. I will leverage my professional experience and my extensive national and international networks and contacts in the development community to ensure that we mobilize the required funding.

The Plan has been fully costed. It will be funded through a mix of direct state government funding, private sector investments and concessions, project financing, PPP, grants from DFIs, counterpart funding from FGN and DFIs, and exploiting innovative financing mechanisms offered by the FGN such as the Infrastructure Tax Credit scheme, Infrastructure Fund, etc. Maximizing Anambra's access to the various FGN's investments under the concurrent list will provide supplementary investment financing. With sound credit rating for the State government, there will be easier access to the capital market. Our government will only borrow for bankable projects that will pay back and contribute to the state's economic transformation.



The state government direct spending/investment on the Plan is estimated at N200- N250 billion per annum.

## In addition, we will seek to:

- ☞ Significantly improve Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by deploying technology to implement a comprehensive revenue improvement strategy which will expand the tax base and also increase ease of paying taxes in the state;
- ☞ Block revenue leakages by improving transparency;
- ☞ Create bankable projects that will attract project financing from DFIs etc;
- ☞ Structure Private Public Partnership arrangements to finance projects; and
- ☞ Partner with international development agencies and NGOs to attract their technical support and funding to improve the implementation of projects and programmes.



As a further illustration, we intend to create a special fund, The Anambra State Development Fund (ANSDF) – *an investment fund for today's opportunities, and wealth creation for future generations of Ndi Anambra.*

Our Government will create a N100 billion (approximately US\$200 million) fund (in the first instance), and a target to scale up to US\$ 1 billion over time to invest mainly in a diversified portfolio of bankable infrastructure projects and high growth, return-yielding assets relevant to the economy of Anambra.

- ☞ ANSDF, with an investment committee comprising of world class industry experts, will raise it's own discretionary infrastructure financing and private equity fund in a formal fund structure, attracting external investment capital from both domestic (Ndi Anambra, domestic DFIs, etc) and international investors (private equity funds, DFIs, Anambra diaspora, etc.).

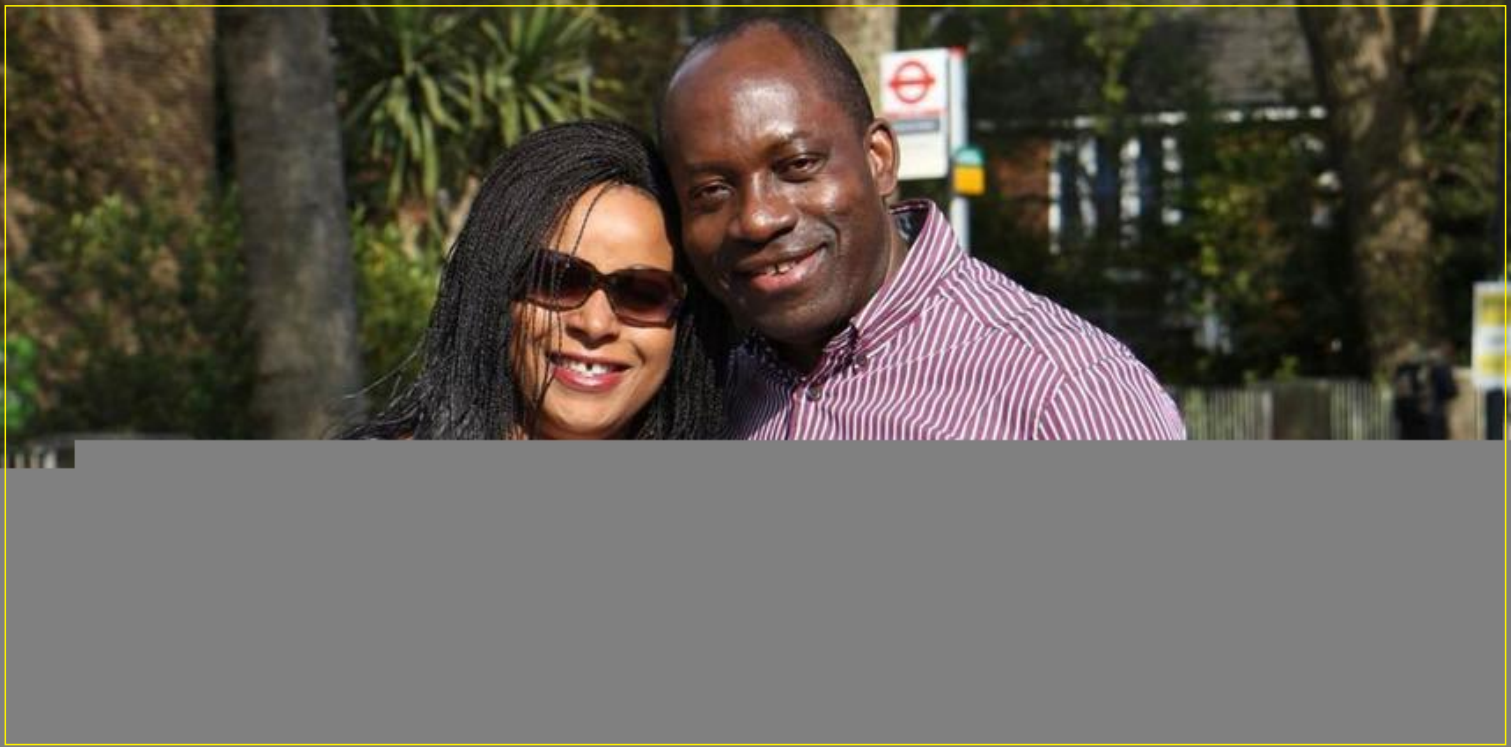
- ☞ ANSDF will actively prioritize the provision of equity and quasi-equity to finance eligible projects and companies within the Anambra State economy with a view to accelerating economic growth, creating jobs and derive dividends or other revenues from such investments.
- ☞ ANSDF will have a medium to long term investment time horizon, effectively spanning multiple economic, market and political cycles.
- ☞ The objective will be to provide an income-generating asset base for future generations of Ndi Anambra, boost economic growth and create jobs. Government will target to provide initial seed capital for the fund.

## Implementation: Partnerships



As indicated earlier, within 30 days of swearing-in, we will publish the detailed implementation plan derived from this Manifesto, clearly spelling out deliverables and timelines. We will Institute a good **Governance framework** that will define a structure for allocating resources to the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) and ensure strategic imperatives, planning, and operations are aligned. This will ensure equitable resource management in the state, thus encouraging investment (both local and international). An effective Delivery Unit will be created to drive implementation. We will also strengthen the State Statistical Agency for measuring progress. Transparency, especially of public finance, will be key in building the kind of public confidence required for resource mobilization.

Our government will provide leadership in mobilizing critical stakeholders – public service, faith groups, communities, market leaders, civil society, private sector, DFIs, the Federal Government, neighbouring states, the Diaspora, and other stakeholders – to deliver on the agenda.



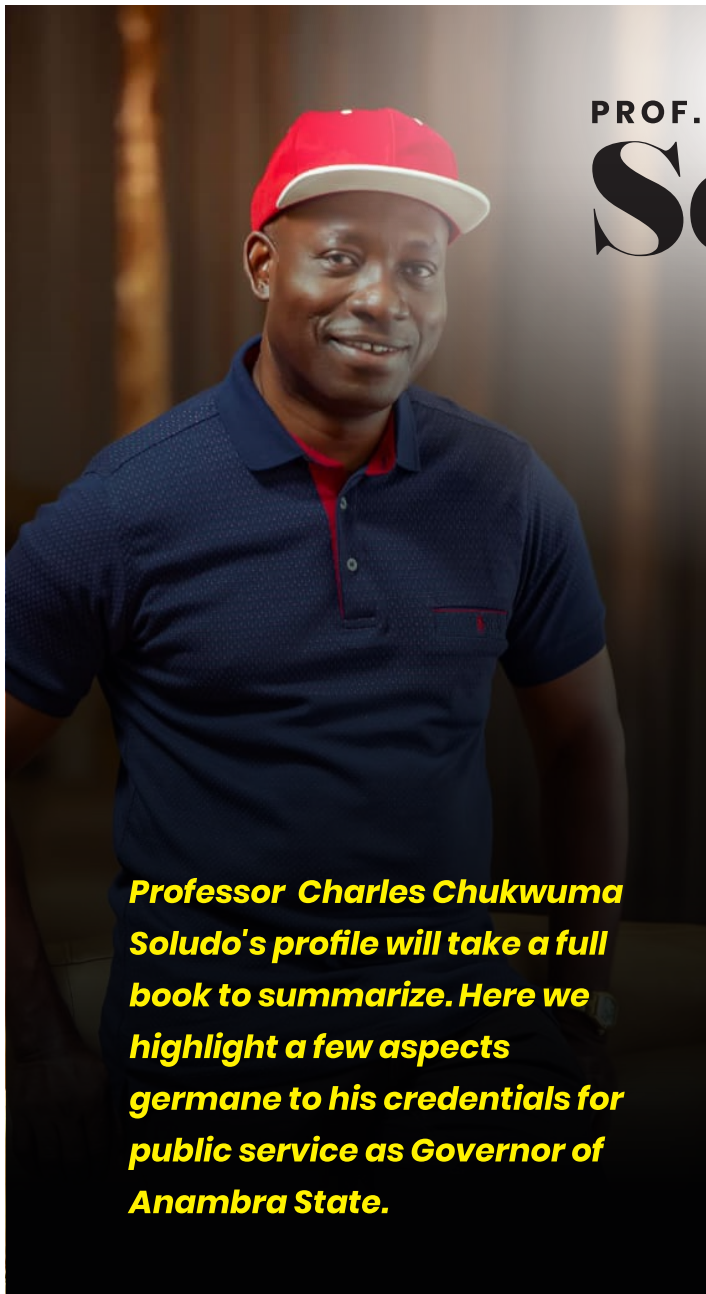
# conclusion

**I**n conclusion, let me reiterate that Anambra is our collective destiny and responsibility. Everyone has something to contribute. The Government alone cannot develop the state. Indeed, government resources currently account for barely 2% of state GDP. God did not make a mistake by making us Ndi Anambra. Every Anambra person should wake up each day asking: “What will I contribute to the peace and prosperity of my homeland today?” “What will I do differently today to leave my beloved Anambra better than I met it?” If everyone does his or her bit, surely but steadily, Anambra will attain our collective dream, which is the preferred destination in Africa in which to live, invest, learn, work and relax and enjoy. I don’t know it all, and will need the advice, guidance and participation of all Ndi Anambra. Together, there is no limit to our collective triumphs. Let’s work together, please!



# ANNEX: short profile

CHARLES CHUKWUMA SOLUDO, CFR



PROF. CHARLES CHUKWUMA

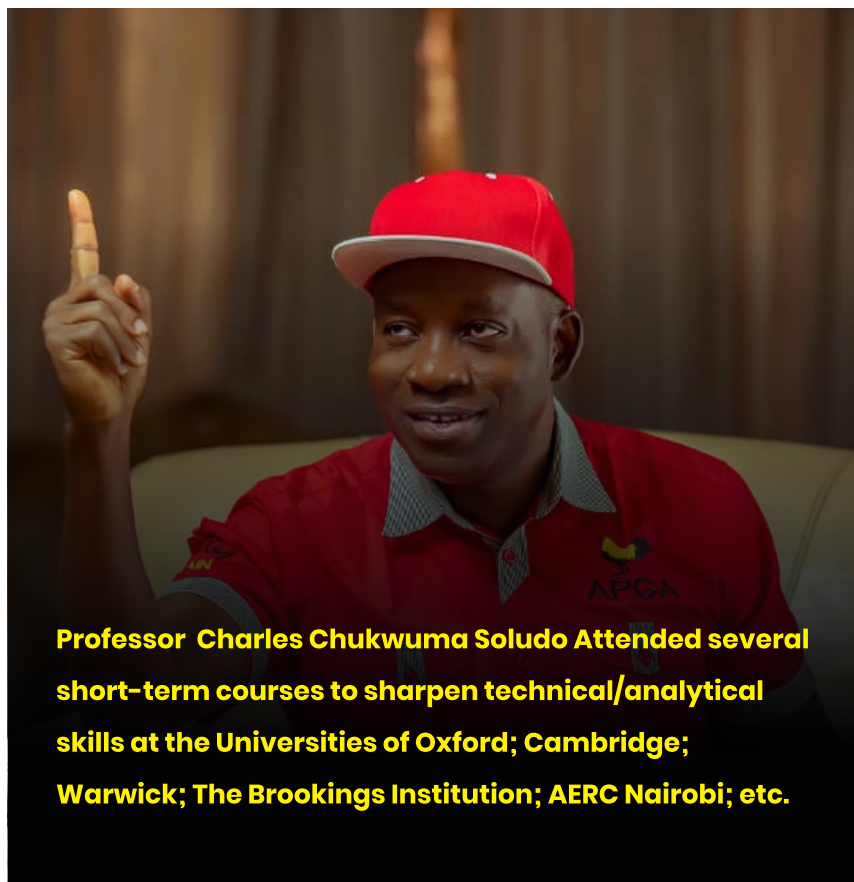
## Soludo

***Professor Charles Chukwuma Soludo's profile will take a full book to summarize. Here we highlight a few aspects germane to his credentials for public service as Governor of Anambra State.***

was born on July 28, 1960 to late Mrs Mgbafor Soludo and Nze Nwankwo Simeon Soludo of Umueze village, Isuofia, Aguata LGA. He is happily married to Nonye Queen Frances Soludo, and they are blessed with children. He holds the traditional title of “ODENIGBO Aguata na Orumba”—conferred upon him by the 45 communities in Aguata, Orumba North and Orumba South Local governments in 2004, ODENJINJI Aguleri, and DIKEUDO Isuofia. Chukwuma has had an exemplary career as an international scholar and consultant/adviser to 20 international financial/development organizations and governments; distinguished public servant; philanthropist and a devotee to Christian life/duties. In government, the Soludo brand became synonymous with excellence in grand visioning with precision in execution.

## EDUCATION

WASC 1980 (Distinction Grade): Uga Boys' Secondary School, Aguata; B.Sc (1984) Economics (First Class Hons): University of Nigeria, Nsukka (Winning Departmental and Faculty prizes as best graduating student); NYSC (1984/85): Department of Economics, University of Ife, Ile-Ife (Now Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife); M.Sc (1987) Economics, University of Nigeria, Nsukka; Ph.D (1989) Econometrics/Monetary Economics, University of Nigeria, Nsukka (Winning Vice-Chancellor's prize).



**Professor Charles Chukwuma Soludo Attended several short-term courses to sharpen technical/analytical skills at the Universities of Oxford; Cambridge; Warwick; The Brookings Institution; AERC Nairobi; etc.**

## POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Visiting Fellow: The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC (January 1991- July 1992); Research Fellow: UN-Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa (September 1992- October 1993); Visiting Scholar: IMF Research Department, Washington, DC (January - April 1994); Visiting Scholar: Institute of Statistics and Economics and Centre for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford (April - July 1994); and August 1997; Smuts Research Scholar: University of Cambridge, U.K (September 1996 - June 1997); Visiting Fellow: University of Warwick, U.K (July 1997)

Attended several short-term courses to sharpen technical/analytical skills including courses on: Understanding the Operations of the U.S Federal Government; Open Economy macroeconomics and multi-country macroeconometric modeling; Time-Series Econometrics; trade policy; public and corporate finance; monetary policy; etc at the Universities of Oxford; Cambridge; Warwick; The Brookings Institution; AERC Nairobi; etc.

## FELLOWSHIPS/HONORARY DEGREES

D.Sc (Honoris Causa), University of Agriculture, Markurdi; D.Sc (Honoris Causa) University of Calabar; and D.Sc (Honoris Causa) University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

Fellow, Chartered Institute of Bankers (FCIB); Fellow, and life member, Nigerian Economic Society (FNES); Fellow of the Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, UK; and Member, Institute of Directors.



## SPECIALIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Research and consultancy career covered several areas of applied economics, including: open economy macroeconomics; econometrics and multi-country macroeconomic modelling; monetary and fiscal policy; international trade and finance; development economics; and corporate finance. With over 300 including scholarly publications, conference papers, technical reports and monographs, and authored, co-authored or edited many books some of which include:

Economic Policy Options for a Prosperous Nigeria (2008); New York, Palgrave Macmillan; The Political Economy of Economic Growth in Africa, 1960–2000 Volumes 1 & 2 (2008); Cambridge, Cambridge University Press; The Politics of Trade and Industrial Policy in Africa: Forced Consensus? (2004); New Jersey, USA: Africa World Press; African Voices on Structural Adjustment (2003); Canada: IDRC; Can Africa Claim the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? (2000); Washington, DC: World Bank; Our Continent, Our Future: African Perspectives on Structural Adjustment (1999); New Jersey, USA: Africa World Press; Macroeconomic Policy Modelling of African Economies (1998); Los Angeles, USA: Acena Publishers; Macroeconomic Adjustment, Trade and Growth: Policy Analysis Using a Macroeconomic Model of Nigeria (1995); Nairobi: AERC; The Debt Trap in Nigeria: Towards a Sustainable Debt Strategy (2003); New Jersey: Africa World Press; Nigeria: National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), 2004: Abuja: FGN; Nigeria: Financial System Strategy 2020; etc



## PROFESSIONAL CAREER WORK EXPERIENCE

Audit Trainee (August- December, 1985), Coopers and Lybrand (International firm of Auditors/chartered accountants), Lagos; Lecturer, Anambra State College of Education, Nsugbe (November 1986- Dec 1987); Lecturer (February 1988- September 2009), University of Nigeria, Nsukka (Promoted Professor of Economics 1998 but met requirements at age 34); Visiting Fellow: The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC: January 1991- July 1992; Research Fellow: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Ethiopia; September 1992- October 1993; Visiting Scholar, International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC: January- April 1994; Smuts Research Scholar, University of Cambridge, UK: September 1996- June 1997; Visiting Scholar, IMF Research Department, July-September 1998; Visiting Professor, Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, USA, January-July 1999; Long Term Consultant, Africa Division, The World Bank, Washington DC: July 1999 - December 2000 ( Among other deliverables was a seminal book: "Can Africa Claim the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?" published by The World Bank, 2000); Founder/Founding Executive Director: African Institute for Applied Economics, Enugu: 2001- 2003; As consultant to IMF, taught course on "Financial Programming and Policy" to senior staff of central banks and ministries of finance in Washington, DC and Anglophone West Africa for several years- 1998 -2003; Member, UK-DFID International Advisory Group, 2005- 07; Member, Chief Economist Advisory Council, The World Bank, 2005- 2012; African Member on 10 -Member United Nations Commission of Experts for Reforming the Global Monetary and Financial System (the Stiglitz Commission) 2008- 2009; Member (and chairman of Finance committee), The South Centre, Geneva, Switzerland-(International inter-governmental organization of 54 developing countries including Nigeria, China, India, Brazil, etc and currently chaired by President Thabo Mbeki) 2011 - 2020; Member, IMF External Advisory Group for the Triennial Surveillance Review in 2011; Member, Technical Advisory Group, Natural Resource Charter, Oxford University; 2009-2012; Chairman, African Heritage Institution, since 2009; Member, Finance Council, Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria, 2011- 2018; Director on the Board of the Peter University, Catholic Diocese of Awka and Ekwulobia 2014-date; Member of Advisory Board, Natural Resource Charter, University of Oxford, 2009- 2012; Currently, member of board of 8 corporations, including Chairman, Paragon Mining Group.



## INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCIES AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Lived in the U.S; Ethiopia; UK; and travelled to 45 other countries as itinerant scholar and consultant to over 20 international development and financial institutions including: African Development Bank (AfDB), Abidjan; UN-Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; The World Bank, Washington DC; International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris; The European Union, Brussels; Organization of African Unity (OAU), and later African Union (AU); United States Agency for International Development (USAID); UK- Department for International Development (DFID); IBM Consulting, Washington, DC; International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Canada; Chemonics International, Washington, DC; United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Austria; United Nations, New York; Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar, Senegal; African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya; Common Market for East and Southern Africa, COMESA; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD; United Nations Development Programme, UNDP; etc.

## WORK EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNMENT

Chief Economic Adviser to President Obasanjo, July 2003– May 2004; Deputy Chairman/Chief Executive, National Planning Commission, August 2003– May 2004 (restructured the old Federal Office of Statistics into modern National Bureau of Statistics; blueprint for professionalizing the National Planning Commission and its six parastatals, Chairman/Coordinator of Drafting Committee for the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) whose implementation led to unprecedented economic prosperity, created estimated 12.8 million jobs and was basis for securing \$18 billion debt relief from the Paris Club, and Financial System Strategy 2020 (FSS 2020) which had the vision to establish an International Financial Centre and turn Nigeria as Africa's financial hub; Governor/Chairman of Board, Central Bank of Nigeria, May 31, 2004– June 1, 2009 (In addition to consolidation of Nigerian banks such that the history of Nigeria's banking system is now divided into “before” and “after” Soludo, grew external reserves from \$10 billion to all time high US\$62 billion; inflation down from 23% to single digit for 24 consecutive months; stable and converged exchange rate regime that appreciated steadily to N112 to \$1 before unprecedented global crisis; special funding for commercial agriculture; implemented a transformational programme named “Project EAGLES” which repositioned CBN as an efficient and effective institution, etc); Chairman, Nigerian Security Printing and Minting (NSPM) Plc: 2005– 2009 (transformed a bankrupt company to world class status that for the first time met 100% of Nigeria's currency printing needs, etc), introduced the polymer notes for lower denominations as well as the N1000 note; Founder/Founding Chairman, Africa Finance Corporation (AFC): 2006– 2009; Served in over 25 technical committees of the Federal Government, covering reforms in various sectors/ministries; Alternate Governor at IMF/World Bank's Board of Governors—2004– 2009. Currently, serves as Member of President Buhari's Presidential Economic Advisory Council; and Chairman of Anambra Vision 2070—A 50 Year Development Plan.

**Professor Charles Chukwuma Soludo, grew external reserves from \$10 billion to all time high US\$62 billion; inflation down from 23% to single digit for 24 consecutive months; stable and converged exchange rate regime that appreciated steadily to N112 to \$1**

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

Received over 200 distinguished merit/service Awards and Honours around the world, including: Global and African Central Bank Governor of the Year, 2005, 2006, and 2007 (by Financial Times--Banker; Euromoney; and Annual Meetings Daily); The Financial Times of London has described him as **"a great reformer"**; African Bank Regulator of the Year, 2007 by African Investor; Nigeria's third highest National Honour, Commander of the Order of the Federal Republic (CFR) conferred in 2006; Alma Mata, University of Nigeria, Nsukka award as **"Most Distinguished Alumnus"** of the University, in 2005; Kwame Nkrumah African Leadership Award, 2004; Three Universities have conferred Honorary Doctorate degrees—Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa); Distinguished service award by Red Cross International; Service Award by Rotary International; Six Nigerian newspapers and magazines have variously conferred award on him as **"Nigeria's Man of the Year"** on account of the transformation of the financial system as well as sound regulatory/ monetary/exchange rate policies; New African Magazine, London, in 2012 featured him as one of the 100 most influential Africans; After years of meritorious service as a member of its Finance Council, the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria honoured him with Excellent Service Award; etc, etc. Anambra State Government has, in the last ten years, honoured him with two awards: 2011 with Distinguished Service Award, and in 2021 with Pillar of Education award as one of the few private persons supporting government by providing quality education to Ndi Anambra.

Professor Soludo served the Government of Nigeria under two Presidents (2003 – 2009) and both of them, in writing, gave him uncommon excellent testimonials:

According to President Obasanjo;

"Charles Soludo is a true Nigerian. He is the sort of Nigerian that we all know we can rely on. Among his numerous virtues is COURAGE. I have found in him a man who can take tough and realistic decisions, stand his ground, educate others on the salience of his decision, and work very hard to ensure that the decision is efficiently and effectively implemented. His dedication to duty is first rate. His leadership qualities are admirable and his willingness to listen and learn is simply infectious.

Professor Soludo has within a short time emerged as one of the leading lights of our nation. Not because he has a godfather but by sheer hard work, loyalty, dedication to duty, commitment to the nation, creativity, and undiluted association with the reform agenda..." **President Olusegun Obasanjo, GCFR (December, 2004)**





## AWARDS AND HONOURS

President Yar'Adua had the following to say about the Central Bank of Nigeria under Soludo's leadership:

“... the CBN has performed creditably well in delivering on its core mandates. This is especially even more so in the last five years. Most people would agree that without the successful banking consolidation and effective management of our foreign reserves, the current global crisis would have shaken the financial system and our national economy to their foundations with calamitous consequences”; **President Yar'Adua (May 2009).**

In the President's special letter of commendation after completion of his tenure of office, **President Yar'Adua** had the following to say to Soludo:

“As your tenure as Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria comes to a glorious end, I write on behalf of the Government and people of Nigeria to place on record our debt of gratitude to you for your dedicated service and uncommon sense of duty over the past five years. I am confident that your worthy antecedents in the CBN and in prior appointments in the service of our nation remain sources of inspiration to an entire generation. As I wish you even more astounding successes in the years ahead, it is my fervent hope that you will readily avail us of your distinguished service when the need arises in the future” **(June 01, 2009).**

# LEADERSHIP AND PHILANTHROPIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Chukwuma Soludo has played leadership roles from childhood, and been active player in society and organizations. He was an Alter boy. In his primary school, Azuzuru State School, Nigercem Nkalagu, he was a Head boy, and played football for his school. In secondary school (UBSS), he was the Pioneer Senior Prefect for two consecutive academic sessions and Editor of the School Magazine; footballer, a hockey and volley ball player; and table tennis champion in Old Aguata Division and Awka senatorial zone.

As an undergraduate, Chukwuma Soludo was member of the Students' Union Parliament representing Alvan Ikoku Hall and received award as Distinguished Elderstatesman of UNN Students' union; Editor of Economics Departmental magazine; Co-founder, Ekwueme Movement; Secretary and later Chairman, UNN Students' wing of the National Party of Nigeria (NPN); Chairman, Students' Wing of NPN (Old Aguata Division); Member, Shagari Presidential Campaign Committee and Coordinator, Students (old Anambra and Imo States--- current 5 South East States).

At various times, he served as Chairman of Bazaar at his various parishes at Nsukka, Enugu, and Isuofia.

The foregoing summary profile is self-evident about the global, national and local impacts of his professional services and public service. However, in the season of partisan politics, there is pressure to explicitly mention one's philanthropic activities/impacts. Chukwuma Soludo does not like talking about his charitable acts. He insists that they are his own way of thanking God for His blessings and therefore does not want anyone to thank or praise him. But under pressure, just a few are mentioned here to check the box.

At the global level, how does one measure the impacts of a teacher with thousands of former students all over the world as professionals, businessmen and women, and some even professors? Or the impacts of his advice on millions of lives all over the world? Or the over 12.8 million jobs created during his tenure in government or the impact of the fact that since his revolution, no one has lost his/her deposits in the banks and thousands of investors borrowing billions of Naira to fund their businesses or the impacts of the over 1000 Bureau de Change and over 1000 Microfinance Banks he licensed, etc.

## LEADERSHIP AND PHILANTHROPIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

In his community, Chukwuma Soludo is a true home boy, deeply rooted among his age grade, village and town. He served as Secretary of the Isuofia Students Union and as an undergraduate at 20, helped to organize free Extramural studies for secondary school students in Isuofia during long vacations. From age 26 (even as a student himself), he started training not only his siblings but also others in secondary schools and university. In 2000, he instituted a scholarship scheme for his Umunna (kindred) that no person should fail to go to University because of financial constraints, and in 2001 he became the pioneer Chairman of his village Education Trust Fund—to which he was the highest donor, and which granted scholarships and bursaries to indigent students from the village.

For about 12 years, Chukwuma Soludo “adopted” the government primary school in his village (Amoji Primary School) where he provides about 900 pupils every year with free and qualitative education by providing everything they need including uniforms, footwear, games wear, all writing materials, all textbooks, furnished classrooms, solar powered computer lab with 40 computers; as well as employing over ten additional graduate teachers. He also provides facilities in other public schools in Isuofia and currently pays the salaries of about 25 PTA teachers in those other schools. Or do we need to mention that he sponsors annual football competition among primary schools in Isuofia? Every year, Chukwuma Soludo pays the fees for JAMB and SSCE for hundreds of secondary school students and certainly for all students at the Holy Child Secondary School, Isuofia. Also hundreds of graduates have benefitted from his scholarships and bursaries.

For over 14 years, he instituted revolving interest-free micro credit fund with women organizations in the church parishes in Isuofia as well as others such as Umuada, etc amounting to tens of millions of Naira. We do not mention his various short-term palliatives to indigent people.

Aside from facilitating the Federal Government reconstruction of the Ekwulobia-Isuofia- Nnobi road in 2007/08 with two spurs planned for Isuofia, Chukwuma Soludo has personally tarred or facilitated government road project of over 6 kilometres in Isuofia. We need not mention his contribution in attracting street lights from His Excellency, Gov Willie Obiano as well as the Isuofia- Ekwulobia Hospital Road.



## LEADERSHIP AND PHILANTHROPIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

The ongoing construction of gigantic multi-billion Naira Diagnostic Hospital in Isuofia by him is well known. We do not also mention his contributions to church projects and other community development initiatives, etc.

Chukwuma Soludo provided the decisive leadership that mobilized the critical stakeholders and the entire community to resolve a 20 year old crisis and re-united Isuofia into one peaceful and united town. In appreciation, his community has bestowed him with the unique title of “Dike Udo Isuofia” (Hero of Peace of Isuofia).



**The ongoing construction of gigantic multi-billion Naira Diagnostic Hospital in Isuofia by Professor Charles Chukwuma Soludo, is well known.**

CHARLES CHUKWUMA

**SOLUDO** CFR.



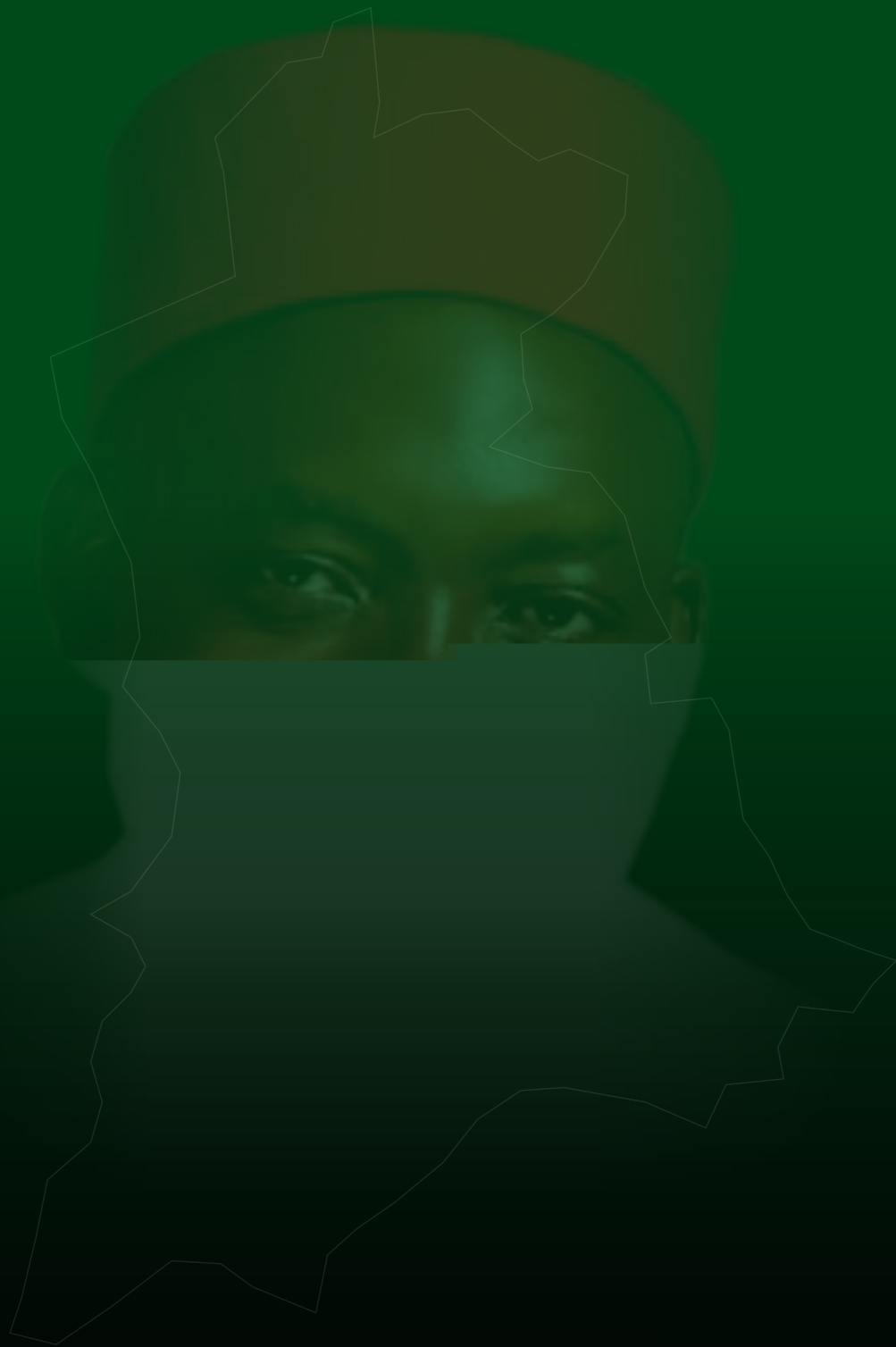


# THE SOLUDO SOLUTION

A PEOPLE'S MANIFESTO FOR A GREATER ANAMBRA







# **THE SOLUDO** **SOLUTION**

A PEOPLE'S MANIFESTO FOR A GREATER ANAMBRA