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Kaduna State captures 1.2 million People in Social Register - Gov. Uba Sani

Kaduna state has so far registered 1.2 million people under its Social Register scheme aimed at mainstreaming the underprivileged and underserved into the financial services sector, Governor Uba Sani has disclosed. He said that another 1.3 million citizens of the state of adult age would also be captured under the scheme in the next five months.

Governor Uba Sani said that there was no way government could successfully attack poverty if it did not reduce the level of people that were financially excluded from access to the bank. He said that it was a realization of the need to open up the financial services sector to the poor, the underprivileged and the unbanked segment of the population that he signed the Executive Order as his first act as Governor which aim was to capture and bring at least 2.5 million of the adult age in the state who were financially excluded from mainstream financial sector into the system.

Governor Sani said that as chairman of Senate Committee on Banking, Insurance and Financial Institutions of the 9th Senate, he was privileged to know that the national Social Register was not up to date therefore many states in the federation including Kaduna would not have access to financial interventions by the government that is why he undertook to update the Social Register in Kaduna that financial interventions should the right people for effect. SO go to The Governor who was speaking on a public affairs programme of Arise Television said that at the end of the registration process in the state, government would be equipped with data and statistics of the needy and vulnerable in the state. He said that it was imperative for the government to embark on the financial literacy campaign to convince people of the credibility of government measures. "You need to urge them to be captured", he added. Governor Sani who further explained that a lot of people in the rural areas were apprehensive over welfare programmes of the government because "they feel that they are not benefiting from most of these interventions" also stressed the need to ensure that those people were involved in all such programmes as a way of effectively raising their living standard.

Southern Kaduna goes agog as Governor Uba Sani flags-off 18km road

By Abdullahi Yahaya

Southern Kaduna was Agog recently as Governor Uba Sani flagged-off construction of 18km road to link Gwantu, the headquarters of Sanga Local Government Area with Kafanchan, Jemaa Local Government Area of the state. Flagging off the project, over the weekend, Governor Uba Sani said the new Sanga-Jema'a road, is one of the rural transformation projects his administration aimed at revitalizing the rural economy and bridging the developmental gap between the rural and urban areas of the state. The road which is linking two major local government areas in the Southern part of Kaduna, through Kiban to Godogodo, is entirely a new road designed to reduce travel time between the two LGAs, whose existing road through Fadan Karshi-Gidan

According to Uba Sani, his administration is committed to fulfilling its promise on rural development through massive infrastructural upgrade.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this road project, which is just one in the series of investments to be made in rural infrastructure in the State, is historic, such that it links two Local Government Areas of Sanga and Jemaa, "Upon completion, the road will not only facilitate movement of people, it will also enhance transportation of agricultural produce from farms to markets, reduce post-harvest losses often encountered by our farmers, increase agricultural production, facilitate access to education and health facilities, reduce poverty, revitalize the economies of these LGAs and permanently improve the standard of living of people and reduce travel time," he added. our also Governor Sani went ahead to assure people that, his administration will ensure even development of every section of Kaduna

In his welcome address, Commissioner Ministry of Public Works and Infrastructure, Arc Ibrahim Hamza said, the project is a prayer answered by Almighty God at this time in the lives of people of Sanga and Jemaa Local Government Areas, as the project has been yearned for, for decades. He said, "Historically, the people of Sanga are known for economic activities that affect communities spanning hundreds of kilometers from the north and southern flanks of Kaduna State, this road will therefore serve as a link to the Local Governments in

"I must emphasize that this project is a fulfillment of his excellency's promise of improving the life of people in the rural areas through massive infrastructural development."

Supreme Court upholds Uba Sani's election as Kaduna Governor

The Supreme Court verdict of 19th Friday 2024, upholding two earlier appeal court decisions on the governorship issues in Kaduna state has now put paid to contentions over who the electoral Senator Uba Sani, who has followed the event from the election tribunal to the apex court reports that the apex court was unpersuaded in its judgment upholding the previous Appeal Court ruling on the matter which validated Senator Uba Sani as Governor of Kaduna State. Read on:

The Supreme Court, led by a five member panel, on Friday January 19th upheld Senator Uba Sani's election as the governor of Kaduna

State.

The court dismissed the appeal by Mohammed Isah Ashiru of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), stating that it lacked merit. Justice Tijani Abubakar, in the lead decision, described the appellant's case as frivolous, vexatious, and irritating, and it was dismissed for lacking in merit. The Supreme Court's decision affirmed the judgment of the Court of Appeal, which had earlier dismissed the appeal filed by Isa Ashiru, PDP's candidate 2023 The appeal stemmed from the judgement of the Kaduna State Governorship Election Petition Tribunal, which had split two-toone conclusions on the merit of the petition and a technical aspect of

In delivering the judgement, the tribunal ruled that the petition brought by the PDP and Mr. Ashiru failed because the petitioners late apply for pre-hearing notice after filing their petition. were too The tribunal also split two-one on the merit of the case, indicating that it must have declared the election inconclusive had the passed the procedural Following the nature of the judgement, both parties headed to the Court of Appeal to challenge aspects of the verdict they found unfavourable.

The Court of Appeal resolved both the appeals and cross-appeals favour of the APC. As the recourse to the apex court's verdict, Governor Uba Sani called on the opposition to join hands with his administration to take the state to heights. greater He commended Isah Ashiru for embracing the legal process and ventilating his anger through the courts, acknowledging the democracy "If you remember, he was at the tribunal. After the tribunal, he ran to the Court of Appeal, after the court of appeal now the For me, what he did was commendable. That is the role of democracy." Meanwhile, Kaduna was agog on January 20, 2024, with wild celebrations following the Supreme Court's verdict affirming the victory of Governor Uba Sani. Those joyous gatherings of party supporters and other citizens held on the street and party offices across the state welcoming the court decision in their various ways. Some of the celebrants had manage to have audience with the governor informed him that they were pleased with his developmental initiatives, especially in rural transformation, and vowed to support him in actualizing his 7-point agenda.

Kaduna would be Model for peaceful coexistence

By Mock Samuel Kure

Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has declared that with the support and cooperation of the people of the southern part of the state, his administration shall make Kaduna model for development and peaceful coexistence in Nigeria. He therefore urged the people of Southern Kaduna to share their thoughts on developmental challenges facing the people and make further and better recommendations to the government for intervention. Governor Uba Sani who stated these at the opening ceremony of the maiden Southern Kaduna Festival (SKIFEST) in Kafanchan (December 30, 2023) declared: "We want to ensure that peace and security are our topmost priority. We have zero tolerance for discrimination, shall take development nook and of Kaduna State." we to every cranny He further reiterated: "That this festival is holding in the atmosphere of peace and success is a tribute to our collective resolve as people of Kaduna State to live in peace and work assiduously for the progress and development of our dear state."

Supreme Court Verdict: What the people say:

Verdict an act of God

PDP has in res	nonse to the si	inreme court ve	erdict said it had	accented the de	cision as a will of go	od and anneal to	o supporters of
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for the party's	candidates.	-			-		
Felix			I	Hassan			Hyat,
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Kaduna State							
"Let the land	mark achieve	ment continue	···				
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Supreme Cou	rt verdict cem	ients people's (confidence in th	ne Judiciary			
On behalf of r	ny family and	the good peop	ple of Southern	Kaduna, I celeb	orate with His Exce	ellency Senator	Uba Sani, the
Executive Gov	ernor of Kadu	ına State; on th	e confirmation	of his Excellenc	y, Senator Uba San	i as the Goverr	nor of our dear
Kaduna	State	by	the	Supreme	Court	of	Nigeria.

The Supreme Court ruling is a confirmation both of the perfect will of God and of the irrefutable choice of Kaduna State people. It also reinforces the confidence our people have in the judiciary. This is a good development for the advancement of democracy in our nation Nigeria and Africa at large as it goes a long way to pattern true democracy for other African nations. Transparent, accountable, Competent and Committed leadership, is the model Leadership people crave for world over Governor Uba Sani is a model of this kind of leadership and this Victory shows that In the March 2023 elections, Kaduna people overwhelmingly voted for him therefore no amount of opposition can contest that mandate. It is time for Kaduna State people from all political parties and all ethnic subgroups to rise up and support our God-ordained Governor. Let Us all rise to the faith of greatness and make Kaduna State great again.

Dr. Bulus Audu

(Counsellor Land Matters to Kaduna State Governor)

Supreme Court puts final seal on the people's mandate

With sincere gratitude to Almighty Allah, I heartily rejoice with the good people of kaduna state on Supreme Court ruling affirming H.E Sen. Uba Sani as duly elected governor of Kaduna state. With today's ruling by the Supreme Court affirming the initial ruling of the Tribunal, Federal High court is a testament that our leader H.E Sen. Uba Sani is indeed the people's choice. I would also like to call on the good people of kaduna state to continue to give H.E Sen. Uba Sani maximum support and I also extend this call to the opposition to join hands with our digital Governor of E Senator Uba Sani as he is committed to serving his people and improving their welfare.

Al Amin Murtala Daboh, MIIA, FCNA.

Permanent Secretary, Governor's Office.

Kaduna: Uba Sani erects a big tent

By Ibraheem Musa

Actually, supporters and opponents are a tiny, vocal but influential minority on both extremes of politics curve. Usually, contestants target swing voters and nonpartisans, without alienating their supporters, to win elections at the polls. Indeed, this balancing act, cold calculation and jockeying, require adroit skills to carry the day. Afterwards, some politicians scale down expectations, dump campaign rhetoric for the reality of governance upon assuming office.

However, Senator Uba Sani, the Kaduna State Governor, has been fulfilling promises, winning hearts and minds across the political aisle, ethno-religious divide and different demographics. Indeed, former opponents are embracing him and supporters, within and outside his party, are warming up to the Governor. Truly, the conversion started before the campaign and afterwards,

the numbers grew at the hustings. Thereafter, the mass defection commenced after election and in leaps and bounds, politicians are now trooping to the All Progressives Congress (APC) almost daily.

Specifically, the opening act began on November 13, 2022, before the Kaduna State APC Campaign, led by Prof Muhammad Sani Bello, officially flagged off rallies and outreaches. In Giwa, over 12,000 defectors, including a former Commissioner, a Youth Leader and Woman Leader, left the People's Democratic Party (PDP) for APC. Personally, Senator Uba Sani and other APC top hats, received the decampees, assuring them of equity and fairness.

Thereafter, the rate of defection spiked as PDP rank and file, in their numbers, trooped to hear Senator Uba Sani's homilies on the campaign trail. Afterwards, it was always a conversion on the road to Damascus as ardent PDP supporters transform to APC die-hards. In April, Professor Matoh Dogara, former Deputy Speaker, dumped PDP for APC, along with numerous supporters, citing Senator Uba Sani's suitability as Governor of Kaduna State.

After election, Senator Uba Sani reached out to the opposition, waved the olive branch, opened his arms and asked them to come on board. Politics, he had argued, is over but governance beckoned in the horizon. In fact, the SUSTAIN agenda requires all and sundry, he pointed out, irrespective of tribe and faith, to continue moving Kaduna State forward.

Indeed, spokesman of Kaduna PDP Campaign, Alhaji Yakubu Lere, hearkened to the call and in July, he quit the party via a letter to his ward. Lere, in that letter, said that Senator Uba Sani has been his friend for over 40 years and for this reason, he cannot be in the opposition. Likewise, the Chairman of Chikun Local Government, Mr. Salasi Musa and his Councillors have left PDP, a party on whose platform they were voted into office. Similarly, Kajuru Local Government Chairman, Hon Ibrahim Gajere, has voted with his feet, leaving the PDP for APC, so has Hon Mathias Siman, his counterpart at Kaura Area Council. Significantly, in seven months, the Governor has taken deliberate actions that encourage inclusion. In October, he hosted elders and senior citizens, comprising retired generals and civil servants, accomplished businessmen, seasoned politicians from all parties as well as elders statesmen across Kaduna State. In fact, Alhaji Abubakar Mustapha, former Head of Service, and retired General Zamani Lekwot, are Co-chairmen of the Kaduna Elders/Senior Citizens Forum, a peace building advisory body. Similarly, in his strategic engagement, Senator Uba Sani chaired the quarterly Inter-Religious Harmony Committee, where he solicited the support of religious leaders.

Specifically, Rev Joseph Hayab, the Chairman of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), commended the Governor for working to restore peace, trust and stability in Kaduna State. Thereafter, he pledged to partner with the government, especially to make the state "an oasis of peace." Similarly, Prof Shafiu Abdullahi, the Chairman of Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI), said he is proud of Senator Uba Sani's people-centered and pro-poor administration, particularly its rural transformation.

Indeed, Governor Uba Sani has erected, in the last seven months, a big tent in Kaduna State; large enough to accommodate disparate political actors, personalities from all parts of the state, circles of the two dominant religions, ideologues of opposing

creeds and just about anyone that has anything to offer, in his efforts to achieve inclusion and fulfil promises in his SUSTAIN manifesto.

Ibraheem Musa

is former Director, Media of the APC campaign organisation

2024 Kaduna Budget:

Fulfilling the Rural Transformation covenant

By Nasir Dambatta

The devotion of the 2024 Kaduna State budget to the rural communities by the State Governor, Senator Uba Sani, has elated everyone genuinely concerned with the ideal good governance required of a just and fair leader guided by foresight and strategic plans for sustainable prosperity.

The 1458.2 billion budget, tagged: "Budget of Rural Transformation for Inclusive Development", is an unprecedented masterpiece with regard to the gladdening promises esconced in its tag. What should be strikingly elating about the budget is that it, for the first time in the recent history of Kaduna State, expresses concrete determination to orchestrate equitable justice and fairness in the distribution of resources and development across the state.

Senator Uba Sani struck this covenant with the rural communities during his electioneering campaigns. The fact that it mines no words in glaringly expressing its focus on Rural Transformation for Inclusive Development deeply underscores the Uba Sani administration's determination to decisively address the decades-old lopsidedness in development projects and programmes between the rural and urban communities of the state.

Such protracted lopsidedness seems to have condemned majority of the state's rural communities to perpetual backwardness.

A cursory look at the state's physical and economic landscape, as is the case in most of the states of the federation, shows that development projects and programmes have unfortunately, and nauseatingly, been skewed in favour of the urban communities for decades.

This seeming injustice and unfairness committed to the Kaduna rural communities for decades have promoted exclusivity among the people and perpetuated the elusiveness of the state's rapid development and economic prosperity, considering the incontrovertible fact that the larger bulk of economic production takes place in the rural communities.

Let's not even talk of the fact that majority of the votes cast in elections gravitate from the rural communities. Most urban dwellers are mere merry-go-rounders.

Hurray! The 2024 Kaduna State budget may mark the most-significant and strategic turning point where every component move to produce a beautiful blend and showpiece of equitable development among the states of the federation.

While presenting the budget last Monday, Sani said it is aimed at inclusive development through the provision of critical infrastructure, especially in rural communities as well as delivering on social protection and human capital development.

He expressed his government's unrelenting posture in fashioning and implementing policies, programmes and projects to bring succour to the poor and the vulnerable, majority of whom dwell in rural areas.

"We are prioritizing women and youth empowerment. Our administration places high premium on human capital development. Consequently, education and health sectors are receiving priority attention," the governor said.

"We are determined to revitalize the agricultural sector in order to create jobs for our teeming youth population and ensure food security in our state."

"To ensure a safe environment for farming and business activities, we have made safety and security our topmost priority," he announced.

It behooves on the Kaduna rural communities to, therefore, help and support the government to achieve these lofty objectives. Governor Uba Sani stressed that the proposed budget also places emphasis on critical sectors like education, healthcare, agriculture, infrastructure, and security, adding that these sectors are crucial to improving the living standards of the majority of the state's populace, particularly in rural areas.

"Our emphasis on agriculture is deliberate, because we believe that agriculture is key to providing employment opportunities, ensuring food security, and boosting the state's economy," he said.

According to the governor, the administration is determined to revitalize the agricultural sector by creating an enabling environment for farmers through provision of necessary infrastructure, farm inputs, extension services, and security.

"We intend to reduce post-harvest losses by improving storage facilities and providing rural roads to link farming communities with markets," he emphasized.

Governor Sani also revealed that education would continue to receive priority attention in the 2024 budget, explaining that his government was committed to improving access to quality education across Kaduna State.

"We are focusing on the rehabilitation and construction of schools, provision of teaching and learning materials, and continuous teacher training to enhance the quality of education in our state," he explained.

In the healthcare sector, he said the government was prioritizing the renovation and equipping of primary health care centers across the state to ensure access to quality health care services, especially in the rural areas.

On infrastructure, the governor said the budget had made provision for construction and rehabilitation of rural roads, electrification projects, and provision of potable water to underserved communities.

He stated that security was a top priority for the administration, noting that the government would continue to support security agencies with logistics, equipment, and welfare to effectively tackle security challenges in the state.

Governor Uba Sani concluded by reiterating that the 2024 budget was a product of wide consultations with stakeholders, including traditional rulers, religious leaders, community leaders, civil society organizations, and the general public.

"This budget is truly the people's budget. It reflects the genuine needs and aspirations of our people. Together, we shall build a Kaduna State that works for everyone," he assured.

Governor Uba Sani, accompanied by the Minister of Environment, Mal. Balarabe Abbas Lawal and some members of the

Kaduna key stakeholders visit House of Reps Speaker

Kaduna State Executive Council, have paid a courtesy call on the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Dr. Taiudeen Receiving the delegation, the Speaker expressed his delight at the visit by the Kaduna Government delegation and thanked them and indeed the entire people of Kaduna State for giving him solid support which contributed to his emergence as the Speaker of the 10th House of Representatives. He reaffirmed the commitment of the Kaduna State Caucus of the House of Representatives towards the actualization of the **SUSTAIN** of Agenda the Governor Uba Sani had, on remarks, reiterated the importance of the National Assembly in the advancement and sustenance of Nigeria's democracy, and in particular its strategic role in ensuring that Nigeria remains He commended the Speaker for his deft handling of the affairs of the House. His purposeful and inclusive leadership has ensured peace and unity in He also thanked him for supporting the Kaduna State Government and embarking on people-centered projects in the state, as well ensuring unity amongst the Kaduna State House of Representatives Gov. Uba Sani urged members of the House to continue to give President Bola Ahmed Tinubu all the necessary support that he needed to move the nation forward.

Governor Uba Sani reaches out to Minister of Finance for support

Governor Uba Sani appears to leave no stone unturned in his quest for the development of the state.

During a recent trip to Abuja, the Governor visited the Minister of Finance, Mr. Wale Edun where he bared his mind on his resolve to court the federal government on among the recent government efforts to bring succour to the distressed people of Tudun Biri Community, which has been traumatized by the incidental drone bombing, to the problem of out-of-school children, poverty and unemployment, boost to agriculture, the revitalization of the rural economies and sustaining the battle against insecurity.

Governor Uba Sani told newsmen soon after emerging from his meeting with the minister that:

"Our discussions touched on our government's efforts in equipping Kaduna out-of-schools, especially youths with technical skills to make them employable,"

this he said was going to be achieved through the establishment of three Vocational and Technology Skills Acquisition Cities in Rigachikun, Saminaka, and Soba in the state which have been launched already.

This is in addition to the State Government's aggressive investment drive which is already yielding dividends, evident in the ongoing work on an economic city supported heavily by the Qatari charity organization Sanabil.

Governor Uba Sani also disclosed that Kaduna was currently finalizing an agreement with the Kuwait Fund for a 28 Million Dollar Grant to address the problem of Out-of-School Children in Kaduna State.

He was grateful to the Minister for his keen interest and support towards the rebuilding of the Tudun Biri Community.

The Governor's investment drive seen by many as the first of its kind in the country on rural economies revival and poverty eradication in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Finance, is believed would achieve alot and place the state on course to implement its seven point SUSTAIN Agenda, which seeks to peg development of the state on opening up to the rural areas.

Succour for Tudun Biri soon

The accidental dropping of a bomb on a crowd of unsuspecting Muslim celebrants of the Maulud Nabiyy in Tudun Biri by the Army which mistook the crowd for bandits gripped the nation for its tragic irony considering the innocence of the victims who least expected such catastrophe. Abdullah Abubakar revisits the incident and actions taken to assuage the trauma of the community since then.

The calm and serene community of Tudun Biri in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State, a predominantly farming and animal rearing people never envisaged experiencing the trauma that engulfed them on Sunday, 3rd December until the Nigerian Army, whose drone was reported to be stalking bandits, mistakenly dropped a bomb on a group of Muslims marking the Maulud Nabiyy, but who the Army took for bands of the bandits.

The resultant drone attack led to, from the last official figures, a total of 81 dead and 102 with serious injuries in its wake.

The response to the horror was spontaneous across the nation and beyond. Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani, who was out of the country then on official trip, was aghast at the news of the incident and while immediately condemning the error, immediately ordered urgent remedial measures for the wounded and the displaced.

The Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, Her Excellency Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, led a delegation alongside top senior government officials, religious leaders as well as traditional community leaders to Tudun Biri to condole and sympathize with the affected victims and their families.

As a remedial measure, a liaison committee was constituted by the Deputy Governor after the visitation to Tudun Biri, led by the amicable Director General Kaduna State Bureau of Interfaith Barr. Tahir Umar Tahir, and other members charged to gather authentic data of the number of the affected in terms of the death and the injured.

The Committee not only monitored those who sustained injuries and were immediately admitted to the hospitals for special intensive care, which included their feeding, medication and other necessary emergency needs that the victims needed at government expense.

The total number of the dead in the incident was 81, total number of those injured stood at 102, who were admitted at the Kaduna State University Teaching Hospital Barau Dikko, 44 Army General Hospital and 1 Division Army Headquarters Hospital

all

in

Kaduna.

Each of these aforementioned hospitals was monitored by the Bureau of Interfaith staff to see how the victims were being treated and ensure that all their needs were being provided.

The Vice-president, Senator Kashim Shettima at the instance of the President, Ahmed Bola Tinubu, jetted into Kaduna to condole with victims at Tudun Biri and Barau Dikko Specialist hospital.

Accompanied by Governor Uba Sani, who had then rushed back to the state, Senator Shettima not only assured of immediate investigation into the matter but assured the community also that the federal government would compensate the families of the victims and rebuild the Tudun Biri community through the POLAKU initiative under which it would provide access roads, houses, schools, and primary health care center in the community to enable the community resettle and overcome its trauma. In the aftermath of the strike, assistance in many forms were rendered to the community. Financially, the assistance announced by the various donors to the community totaled over N547m and projects worth N400m. These came from the Senate of the Federal Republic, Governors' Forum, Northern Caucus of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the Northern Governor's Forum among others.

Governor Uba Sani has since set up a committee to ensure the judicious utilization of all monies and other donations announced at the Sir Kashim Ibrahim House as each group, organizations, and individuals came to pay their condolences. The committee, chaired by the Deputy Governor, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, is charged among other things to develop a database of the injured and next of kin of the victims, take inventory of all donations made to the community and develop a framework for the disbursement of funds and ensure prompt distribution to the actual beneficiaries.

Considering the calibre of Chairman and members of the committee, one can say without fear of contradiction that succour is coming soon to the Tudun Biri community, more so that Governor Uba Sani had while inaugurating the committee on December 31st, 2023, disclosed that construction of a link road to the community had already started confirming his earlier resolve to restore normalcy to the Tudun Biri community as soon as possible so that the inhabitants can pick the pieces from the drone attack incident quickly.

In the meantime, the Interfaith Bureau, which is monitoring developments on the community, has said that a total of 90 persons have been discharged from hospitals, 53 released to Tudun Biri from the rehabilitation shelter with 45 still at the shelter.

This is enough evidence that work on restoring the Tudun Biri community is progressing positively.

Donations to Tudun Biri must reach actual beneficiaries

Being remark at the inauguration of the State Committee on the Tudun Biri incident.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to this short ceremony for the inauguration of the State Committee on the Tudun Biri Incident.

The unfortunate military drone attack took the lives of many of our citizens and injured others. The shocking incident elicited reactions from **Nigerians** and the international community. The Kaduna State Government moved swiftly to evacuate the injured to hospitals, took care of their medical bills, and provided relief materials families of the victims and the Tudun Biri Community. to the We have commenced the construction of access roads to Tudun Biri and other affected communities in the area. The Federal Government, National Assembly, Nigeria Governors Forum, corporate organizations, and well-meaning Nigerians have made donations and announced intervention programmes aimed at bringing succour to the distressed community, rebuilding the community, and giving the people renewed hope and sense of security.

As a responsive, responsible and accountable government, we must take keen interest in how donations and intervention for the Tudun Biri Community disbursed executed. programmes are and We the beneficiaries. that donations the actual want to ensure go to We want to monitor the implementation of the projects to ensure their speedy and effective implementation.

This Committee has therefore been constituted for the purpose of accountability, inclusivity and transparency. The Committee will serve as the Implementation and Monitoring Mechanism for Tudun Biri Projects and Funds.

Membership of the Committee are drawn from:

- Representatives of Victims of the Unfortunate Tudun Biri Incident (Next of Kin of the departed and injured)
- Community
- Religious and Political Leaders from Tudun Biri Community and Igabi Local Government
- The Kaduna State Government

The Terms of Reference for the Committee include:

- 1. Develop a database of the injured and next of kin of the victims of the unfortunate Tudun Biri military drone attack.
- 2. Take inventory of all the donations made by the Federal Government, National Assembly, Nigeria Governors Forum, Corporate Organizations and well-meaning Nigerians.
- 3. Develop a framework for disbursement of the funds and ensure prompt disbursement to actual beneficiaries.
- 4. Liaise with relevant Federal and State Government Agencies for the effective execution of intervention projects for the Tudun Biri Community.
- 5. Submit monthly reports on the work of the Committee.

I urge members of the Committee to approach their work with utmost commitment and dedication. May the Almighty God guide you in this very important assignment.

Kaduna mulls over security trust fund

(continued from page 11)

Eventually managed with dexterity by our esteemed traditional and religious leaders, supported by security forces.

"We are deeply grateful for all the positive steps taken in that regard and in several other key areas the Governor said stressing that, the purpose of the meeting was to brainstorm on the situations in certain areas of interest, notably Kaura, Kaju, Birnin Gwari, Kogi, Chikun, Kachia, Kagarko and the Kaduna-Abuja Road."

"There was security on the Kaduna-Abuja Road for about 18 months, until the sudden unfortunate and disturbing attack and kidnapping."

"The recent occurrences on that axis clearly indicate the re-opening of a front on that route, and this points us strongly to the need for renewed focus and coordination."

"On the side of security agencies, and in light of the challenges we are confronting, I must state that it has become vital for us to further close ranks, rub minds and revisit our collaborative structures," the Governor added, stating that:

"Deepening and strengthening of human intelligence networks in an obvious area requiring urgent review, towards restoring peace and security along these critical highways, and to the troubled communities."

NCFRMI condoles with Kaduna Govt. over Tudun Biri incident

The National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) led by the National Commissioner, Alhaji Aliyu Tijani Ahmed has paid a condolence visit to Governor Uba Sani where they commiserated with the government over the Tudun Biri incident.

In his remarks, the National Commissioner, Alhaji Aliyu Tijani Ahmed, described as unfortunate the Tudun Biri military drone attack.

He also commended the State Government for taking firm and decisive measures to calm the situation and bring relief to the injured and families of the victims of the unfortunate incident.

Governor Uba Sani thanked the National Commissioner and the management of the Commission for the assistance rendered to the people of Tudun Biri.

While commending the Commission for working assiduously to restore the dignity of vulnerable persons, rebuild the lives of internally displaced persons, and rekindle their hope in a brighter future, he reiterated the firm commitment of the Kaduna State Government towards restoring peace and security in troubled communities in the state so that displaced persons can return to their homes.

2024: A Year of Possibilities

Being a New Year message by Governor Uba Sani

		fel	low				compatriots,					
congratulate	e us	for		making	it	to	2024.					
past	year 202	3 wa	s	a	particularly	challenging	one.					
Though tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we persevered and marched on with determination and courage.												
We are indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the Almighty God.												
possess th	e attributes	of	nations	that	have ma	ade giant	progress.					
nations	were	honed	in	the	furnace	of	struggle.					
saw every	difficulty or	challenge	as	an opp	portunity to	better their	situation.					
	past tasked almost tasked aresilient possess the nations	past year 202 tasked almost to the limits on a indeed a resilient people with an abid possess the attributes nations were	congratulate us for past year 2023 wa tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the possess the attributes of nations were honed	past year 2023 was tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we perseve indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the Almigh possess the attributes of nations nations were honed in	congratulate us for making past year 2023 was a tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we persevered and number indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the Almighty God. possess the attributes of nations that nations were honed in the	congratulate us for making it past year 2023 was a particularly tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we persevered and marched on with indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the Almighty God. possess the attributes of nations that have may nations were honed in the furnace	congratulate us for making it to past year 2023 was a particularly challenging tasked almost to the limits on all fronts, we persevered and marched on with determination and indeed a resilient people with an abiding faith in the Almighty God. possess the attributes of nations that have made giant nations were honed in the furnace of					

They did indulge endlessly in lamentations. not They dragged their nations by the scruffs of the neck higher heights. to The progress and development their nations achieved have endured because they did not come by happenstance. They were products of vision, mission, focus, grit, determination and uncommon commitment.

this that the year 2024 shall be possibilities Nigeria. 2023 was of seed sowing and learning. a year lesson We sowed the seed of governance and development when we elected new leaders and representatives at national and subnational levels.

The year 2023 all taught that must times for the rainy day. us we at prepare It taught us that we must be prepared to take hard decisions in good time to avoid unpleasant consequences in the future. It also taught us that the people remain the centre of development and governance.

In the last six months, my administration has left no one in doubt as to our determination to carry everyone along; better the lots of Kaduna State our dear citizens and take higher oppressed, We are building а state where no one will feel marginalized or neglected. We are taking development closer to the people through the Rural Transformation and Nurturing of Citizens Engagement initiatives.

Consequently, we are closing the infrastructure and human capital gaps and promoting social inclusion. We are securing the state for the people and their investments. the people involved because we do. we get we are merely servants of We are conscious of the fact that if we alienate ourselves from the people we govern, we endanger this democracy we fought hard for.

The unfortunate Tudun Biri incident brought out the best in the people of Kaduna We grieved together, worked together to bring relief to the injured and families of the victims, and together warded off the machinations and advances of conflict entrepreneurs. We march forward ONE FAMILY. are one people and must The promises made by the Federal Government, National Assembly, Nigeria Governors Forum, Corporate Organizations and well-meaning **Nigerians** gradually fulfilled. being are We shall effectively monitor the execution of the intervention programmes for the Tudun Biri Community.

2024 heralds good tidings we join hands together turn things around. Focus, hard work and commitment will lead us to the path restoration and happiness. Let ourselves development of Nigeria. recommit to the progress and Let us join hands to make Kaduna State the model of development and peaceful coexistence in Nigeria.

Happy New Year!!!

Southern Kaduna goes agog as Governor Uba Sani flags-off 18km road

(continued from page 2)

Indeed, the entire people of Kaduna State unequivocally, that His Excellency's SUSTAIN AGENDA has made clear his administration's commitment to infrastructural development, hence this groundbreaking ceremony today.

Also speaking to New Nigerian Newspapers, the Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Hon Sadiq Mamman Lagos said the socio-economic transformation this road will bring to these communities can only improve their fortunes and well-being, and shall remain indelible in their memories, making it remarkably registered in the sands of time. Hon Mamman Lagos urged the good people of the zone to support Governor Uba Sani's SUSTAIN AGENDA to enable him move the zone forward.

Congratulations!!!

"On behalf of myself and my family, I wish to congratulate His Excellency Governor Uba Sani on the recent Supreme Court pronouncement which has put the matter of Governorship of Kaduna State finally to rest. May Allah SWT make it easy for you as you strive as always to live up to the people's expectations, Amin."

— Prof Bello Ayuba, PPS.

Kaduna education gets a boost

Kaduna State has trained 301 Evaluators for Whole School Improvement in a bid to boost the quality of education in the state and enhance the prospect of rapid development through highly trained and motivated manpower.

The Kaduna State Schools Quality Assurance Authority (KSSQAA), under the visionary leadership of its Director-General, Dr. Usman Abubakar Zaria and in collaboration with the Partnership for Learning for All in Nigeria (PLAIN), has successfully completed a comprehensive training programme aimed at revolutionizing school evaluation practices across the state. This transformative initiative, advanced by the Ministry of Education, under Prof. Muhammad Sani Bello, spearheaded by the Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani, is poised to significantly impact the learning landscape in Kaduna State. The success of this programme is a testament to Governor Uba Sani's unwavering commitment to quality education for all children Kaduna His prioritization of education is evident in the allocation of 25.19% of the 2024 state budget to the sector, making it one of the highest Nigeria. Education remains a key pillar of his SUSTAIN Agenda, highlighting its critical role in driving sustainable development. The first batch of the workshop programme, held from 13th to 23rd December, 2023, equipped 25 trainers with advanced skills and knowledge whole-school evaluation. These master trainers, along with experienced evaluators, then cascaded their expertise to 276 participants across 23 Local

Government Areas (LGAs), resulting in a total of 301 certified evaluators.

This formidable workforce will now be instrumental in conducting thorough and impactful assessments of schools throughout Kaduna.

The training focused on equipping participants with the necessary tools and methodologies to effectively evaluate various aspects of a school, including leadership, teaching practices, learning environment, and student outcomes. This holistic approach will ensure a comprehensive understanding of each school's strengths and weaknesses, paving the way for targeted interventions and improvement strategies.

The implementation of this programme is expected to yield numerous benefits for Kaduna's education system, including:

- Enhanced quality of education: The rigorous evaluation process will identify areas needing improvement and guide targeted interventions, leading to better learning outcomes for students.
- Strengthened KSSQAA: The newly trained evaluators will bolster KSSQAA's capacity to conduct comprehensive school evaluations, ensuring consistent quality standards across the state.
- **Increased accountability and transparency:** The objective evaluation process will foster trust and integrity within the education system, holding schools accountable for their performance.

With a competent pool of evaluators equipped with advanced skills, a supportive government prioritizing education, and a visionary leader like Dr. Usman Abubakar Zaria overseeing the KSSQAA, Kaduna is poised to witness a significant improvement in the quality of its education system.

This initiative would no doubt pave the way for a brighter future for students, teachers, and the entire education community in the state.

Kaduna mulls over security trust fund

(continued from page 9)

Governor of Kaduna State has said that there were plans to establish a security trust fund to confront all emerging and reoccurring security challenges in the state.

The governor stated this on Tuesday at the Kaduna core security council meeting with traditional rulers and local government

chairmen of frontline areas. He said his administration was committed to the security and safety of the whole of Kaduna.

"I am happy to inform you that very soon, there will be the establishment of some Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) in the State.

This move will greatly assist the expansion of our campaigns against terrorists and bandits in frontline locations," he said.

"The Kaduna State government is looking at the possibility of establishing the Kaduna State security trust fund as a means of collaborating with corporate organizations, the business community, industrialists, professional groups, individuals and all critical stakeholders towards enhancing material and logistic support to our security forces."

He commended the "brave efforts" of the security agencies in maintaining peace and containing threats, especially during the festive season and called for a renewed intensity and coordination in tackling emerging security challenges.

"I must thank the security agencies for helping to maintain the peace all through the festive period and into the beginning of the year," Sani said.

"Kaduna State enjoyed relative peace over this time, with the exception of the unfortunate incident at Tudun Biri, which was...

We must reverse the negative development indices of our State

Being an address by the Governor of Kaduna State, His Excellency Senator Uba Sani On the occasion of the presentation of the year 2024 Budget to the Kaduna State House of Assembly on Monday, 18th December 2023

Mr. Honourable Speaker, Members, fellow citizens of Kaduna State, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is with gratitude to God that I address you today on the occasion of the presentation of the Year 2024 Budget the House This is the first budget of our administration. It is through this budget that we shall move decisively to fulfill the promises we made to the good people of Kaduna State. As you are aware, our administration is anchored on 7 pillars (1) Safety and Security (2) Upgrade of Infrastructure (3) Strengthening Institutions (4) Trade and Investment (5) Agriculture (6) Investment in Human (7) Nurturing Citizens The central policy thrust of our administration is Rural Transformation. We are committed to revitalizing our rural economies massive infrastructural We assumed office at a most difficult and challenging time. Our people have been struggling to stay afloat in these harsh economic climates. As a government, we have been unrelenting in fashioning and implementing policies, programmes and projects to bring succour to the poor, underserved and the vulnerable. We are determined to reverse the negative development indices of Kaduna State. We are creatively and innovatively addressing the challenges of poverty and youth unemployment. We are prioritizing women and youth empowerment. Our administration places high premium on Human Capital Development. Consequently, Education Health Sectors receiving We are determined to revitalize the Agricultural Sector in order to create jobs for our teeming youth population and ensure food security in our state. To ensure a safe environment for farming and business activities, we have made safety and security our topmost priority. Our security agencies have made remarkable progress in securing our challenges. In line with our commitment to deepening citizens participation in governance, we held a Townhall Meeting on the 2024 - 2026 Multi-Year 12, 2023. Budget December on the meeting, citizens made observations into the 2024 Budget. At our and inputs We have incorporated most of the inputs into the budget that I am presenting to this Honourable House. We are determined to mainstream a process-led and participatory approach to budget making in Kaduna State. We are servants of the people and must at all times consult the people in matters that affect their welfare and security. Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, this budget has been prepared cognizant of the current economic

realities in the country.

Removal of subsidy on Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), high inflation, and unification of the exchange rate have made it

imperative for sub-national governments to make necessary adjustments in their policy, programme and project considerations.

States must also adopt fiscal discipline, transparency, and accountability through efficiency in allocation and utilization of

available resources.

The draft 2024 - 2026 estimates are based on the following:

1. Adjusting the size of the budget to conform with realizable revenues in view of current economic realities.

2. Providing funds for ongoing projects and inherited capital liabilities while embarking on new priority

projects within the multi-year time-frame of 2024-2026.

3. Improving the internal revenue generation and revenue collection capacity of the relevant State agencies.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, based on our vision and policy direction, the 2024 – 2026 Multiyear

Budget is tagged "Budget of Rural Transformation for Inclusive Development".

Summary of the 2024 Draft and **Expenditure Estimates** Revenue

The proposed 2024 "Budget of Rural Transformation for Inclusive Development" has a total budget size of

N458,271,299,477.66, of which N318,836,576,588.28 is Capital Expenditure and N139,434,722,889.38 is Recurrent

expenditure, representing a capital to recurrent ratio of 69.57% to 30.43%. Therefore, the draft Budget prioritizes capital

spending in accordance with our SUSTAIN Agenda, which not only aims to deliver inclusive development through the provision

of critical infrastructure, especially in our rural communities, but also delivering on social protection and human capital

development to reinvigorate the productivity of our people, create jobs and boost the economy.

To this end, we propose to spend N115,421,129,011.16 or 25.19% on Education, N71,647,821,975.33 or 15.63% on Health,

and the sum of N93,597,652,206.40 which is one-fifth of the budget or 20.42% is allocated to the Economic sector, including

Agriculture, Public Works and Infrastructure, and Housing.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, may I now present the detailed summary of the recurrent and capital allocations, and

highlight the proposed allocations to each sector in the proposed 2024 budget:

Consolidated Financial Statement

1. Opening Balance: N3,802,778,118.60

2. Internally Generated Revenue: N13,001,818,558.44

Statutory Allocation from Federation Account: N 34,886,659,966.04 3.

Others (Exchange Gains, Excess Bank Charges, Equalization Funds, & Ecological Funds): N7,150,000,000.00

Total Revenue: 1225,341,256,643.08

Recurrent Expenditure:

Personnel Cost: N74,967,939,528.47

• Overhead Cost: N9,066,783,360.91

• Public Debt Charges: N55,400,000,000.00

Total Recurrent Expenditure: №139,434,722,889.38

Net Recurrent Revenue: ₹85,906,533,753.71

Transfer to Capital Budget:

• Recurrent Revenue: N85,906,533,753.71

• Budget Surplus: N85,906,533,753.71

• Value Added Tax: N50,000,000,000.00

• Internal Loans and Credit-Termed Grants: N 19,762,221,047.97

• External Loans: N105,067,940,000.00

• External Grants: N1,978,022,357.41

• Sales of Government Assets: N1,500,000,000.00

Total Capital Budget: N 318,836,576,588.28

2.2 Capital Expenditure Estimates across Sectors

Sub-Sector: Economic

• Agriculture: N22,549,870,035.10

• Business, Innovation and Technology: ₹1,247,820,401.08

• Housing and Urban Development: ₹7,944,705,910.23

• Public Works and Infrastructure: N57,131,513,937.34

Total for Sub-Sector: Economic: ₹88,873,910,283.75

Sub-Sector: Social

• Education: N82,554,445,158.65

• Health: $\frac{1}{N}$ 53,137,528,133.91

• Social Development: N20,827,209,339.45

Total for Sub-Sector: Social: ₹156,519,182,632.01

Sub-Sector: Regional Metropolitan Authorities

• №11,966,747,709.30

Total for Sub-Sector: Regional Metropolitan Authorities: N11,966,747,709.30

Sub-Sector: General Administration

• General Administration: N61,476,735,963.22

Total for Sub-Sector: Gen. Admin: N61,476,735,963.22

Grand Total

• Capital Expenditure: N318,836,576,588.28

• Recurrent Expenditure: N139,434,722,889.38

Total Proposed Budget Size: N458,271,299,477.66

CONCLUSION

The budget I am about to lay before this Honourable House holds great promise for the good people of Kaduna State.

Through the effective implementation of this budget, we shall bridge the gap between the rural and urban areas, revitalize the rural economies, address poverty frontally, empower our people, address our infrastructure deficits, and renew the people's belief

in governance and democracy.

This is a budget like no other. It is a Life Transforming Budget.

confident that this respected House will give expeditious consideration to this Budget. Our relationship with this Honourable House has been cordial. very thank you for your services to the people of Kaduna State. We belong to the same government. Our people expect so much from us. We must not fail them.

It is now my honour and privilege to formally lay the 2024 Budget proposal for the consideration and approval of this Honourable

May God give you the wisdom and zeal to expeditiously consider the 2024 Budget proposal for the betterment of the good people of Kaduna State.

KASU partners University of Indonesia, AMA Foundation on Stem Cell Research

By Pieter Ibrahim

The Deputy Governor of Kaduna State, Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe, has said that the state will collaborate with the **University** of Indonesia and AMA Foundation on stem cell research.

The Deputy Governor commended the Indonesian Ambassador to Nigeria, HE Usman Ari Ogah, for facilitating the joint collaboration and for choosing Kaduna as the center for the program.

The Deputy Governor stated that the joint efforts will make Kaduna State the first in Nigeria to start using the new medical innovation in stem cells for **treatments and management of patients**, stating that this "will cut down the cost of medical tourism that Nigeria is grappling with."

"I am pleased with the areas of collaboration you listed, and I want to assure you that the Kaduna State Government believes in partnerships and collaborations, especially if such partnerships will be for the greater good of the generality of the people."

On behalf of His Excellency the Governor, Senator Uba Sani, she expressed very strong commitment to this initiative and assured that Kaduna State would maintain and keep an open door for further discussions and engagement with the partners.

Also speaking, the Chairman of AMA Foundation, Professor Nasid, said the objective of the partnership is **technology and knowledge transfer from Indonesia to Nigeria** through manpower development, explaining that the Faculty of Medicine of Kaduna State University has the technical and manpower capacity and will serve as the center for the research and development of stem cells.

Speaking on the significance of the collaboration, the Chief Medical Director of Barau Dikko Teaching Hospital, Professor Abdullahi Musa Tabari, said that in the future of medicine, stem cells can be used completely to treat both infectious and non-infectious diseases that are currently incurable.

Security is the cornerstone of the SUSTAIN Agenda

Being Opening Remarks by the Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani at the meeting of the Kaduna State core security council with Traditional Rulers and Local Government Chairmen of front-line areas on Tuesday 15th January 2024

I warmly welcome you all to this Kaduna State Security Council Meeting with Traditional Rulers and Local Government Chairmen of Frontline Areas. Traditional Rulers from areas of interest attending this meeting include Their Royal Highnesses, the Emir of Zazzau, Emir of Birnin Gwari, Etus Chikun, Agom Kachia, the Chief of Kufana, Emir of Kauru and Chief of Dnata. We also have here the Chairmen of Kauru, Kajuru, Birnin Gwari, Kajuri, Chikun and Kachia local government councils. Before delving into the purpose of this meeting, I must thank the security agencies for helping to maintain the peace all through the festive period and into the beginning of the year. The state enjoyed relative peace over this time, with the exception of the unfortunate incident at Tudun Biri, which was eventually managed with dexterity by our esteemed traditional and religious leaders, supported by security forces. We are deeply grateful for all the positive steps taken in that regard and in several other key areas. The purpose of this meeting is to brainstorm on the situations in certain areas of interest, notably Kauru, Kajuru, Birnin Gwari, Chikun, Kachia, Kaduna-Abuja Igabi, Kagarko and the Road. There was security on the Kaduna-Abuja Road for about 18 months, until the sudden unfortunate and disturbing attack and kidnapping. The recent occurrences on that axis clearly indicate the re-opening of a front on that route, and this points us strongly

to the need for renewed focus coordination. and You are also aware of the attacks on citizens and military personnel along the Kaduna-Birnin Gwari Road, and in the Birnin general Bandits and terrorists have exploited gaps particularly around Maganda, Kuyello and other villages surrounding Buruku, Udawa, Damba, Kuriga, Polewire and other flash points - to carry out ambushes on citizens, as well as security forces attempting distress Chikun, Giwa and Igabi have become areas of concern as well; from Maraban Rido and Kudendan axis in Chikun, Sauran Goma, Kerawa Dunki of have and areas Igabi also witnessed attacks and killings. also followed the developments in Giwa from Kidandan, Kaya, Sabon Lavi and Idasu. The Kauru general area has equally witnessed a resurgence of deadly attacks and kidnappings in recent weeks around Dokan Karji stretching Kajuru, and Kachia from the Bishini into also general I have equally followed the operations in Kachia, Giwa, Birnin Gwari, Chikun and other locations. We commend the military and all the security agencies for their commitment sacrifices. I must also commend Operation Safe Haven in Southern Kaduna for significantly stabilizing Zangon Kataf, Jema'a, and Kaura. The officers and men of Operation Safe Haven have helped immensely in containing recent threats to peace and safety. I will however appeal to the military and the police to step up their presence in the Tudun Biri general area in view of threats arising from efforts rebuild the community after unfortunate incident 10. Our administration is fully committed to the security and safety of the whole of Kaduna State, because security is the cornerstone for the realization of our SUSTAIN Agenda. I have been pursuing the deployment of more boots on the ground through more military formations. I am happy to inform you that very soon, there will be establishment of some Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) in the State. This move will greatly assist the expansion of our campaigns against terrorists and bandits in frontline locations. The Kaduna State Government is working with the Defence Headquarters towards actualizing these plans. I have directed the Overseering Commissioner of Internal Security and Home Affairs to follow this process closely and provide me with regular reports on the establishment of the FOBs and other relevant issues which we are vigorously pursuing. The Kaduna State Government is looking at the possibility of establishing the Kaduna State Security Trust Fund as a means of collaborating with corporate organizations, the business community, industrialists, professional groups, individuals and all critical stakeholders towards enhancing material logistic support security On the side of security agencies, and in light of the challenges we are confronting, I must state that it has become vital for us to further close ranks, rub minds and revisit our collaborative structures. Deepening and strengthening of human intelligence networks is an obvious area requiring urgent review, towards restoring peace and security along these critical highways, and to

the troubled communities.

It is my sincere hope that we will deliberate openly, extensively and productively, and proffer lasting solutions to these problems.

I look forward to receiving your valuable contributions.

Kaduna State, Germany deepen economic partnership

By Peter Ibrahim

Kaduna State and the German Government are set to deepen their economic partnership as they work together to foster sustainable growth and development in the state. Under the leadership of Governor Uba Sani, the administration is actively seeking support and partnerships to drive the state's progress.

In December 2023, Governor Uba Sani visited the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) to explore potential collaborations. The visit was successful, with GIZ expressing their readiness to support the state in achieving its development goals.

Recently, on January 16th, representatives from GIZ, led by Country Director Dr. Markus Wagner, visited Kaduna State on a two-day visit. The purpose of the visit was to discuss and solidify economic partnerships between the two parties. The GIZ team was warmly welcomed by Governor Uba Sani and other senior government officials, and a business dinner was later held to further strengthen the relationship. During the discussions, which continued the following day, the Deputy Governor Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe led senior government officials in talks on specific areas where the state requires support from the German government.

These include digital transformation, areas energy, investment promotion, and agriculture. Dr. Wagner expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality and reaffirmed GIZ's commitment to supporting Kaduna State in achieving sustainable development and creating job opportunities. The Deputy Governor, on behalf of the state government, thanked GIZ for their partnership and assured them of the state's dedication making the most out of the collaboration. to She also expressed her confidence that the discussions will result in impactful initiatives that will benefit the people of Kaduna

Furthermore, the Deputy Governor highlighted the progress made in the discussions, particularly in areas such as digital transformation, investment promotion, energy, and agriculture. She believes that GIZ's support in these sectors will have a positive impact on the state's development and the lives of its people. Overall, the visit by the GIZ team has strengthened the partnership between Germany and Kaduna State, and both parties are optimistic about the potential outcomes of their discussions. This collaboration has the potential to drive economic growth and improve the lives of the people of Kaduna State.

Sowing seed of citizens engagement

By: Clement Shekogaza Wasah

One of the pillars of SUSTAIN, the mantra of Kaduna State development agenda patented by Governor Uba Sani is 'Nurturing Citizens Engagement'. This obligates ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) and public officers to carry out activities that catalyse exchange of information between them and the public who hold inalienable right or stake in the development of the It is against this backdrop that the Governor, His Excellency, Sen Uba Sani appointed special advisers and assistants on stakeholders relation, peace and conflict resolution, community engagement/relations, public affairs, and chieftaincy affairs, among others. These aides have been mandated to sow the seed of and facilitate citizens engagement. Beginning from October last year, Dr Abdul Isiaq, Special Adviser on Stakeholders Relation led his colleagues on fact finding and education excursions to the State MDAs. The aim for the Chief Executive Officers to acquaint them with their mandates, activities and plans. Having been kept abreast with remits of the MDAs and activities of the Governor, the aides began engaging cohorts of citizens metropolitan Local Governments Thus, last December, two citizens engagement meetings were held with two cohorts of community based youths and women in the Governor's Office, at Sir Kashim Ibrahim House. A similar meeting was held this month with market women on Thursday, 16 January. The meetings provided congenial platform for information exchange between the Governor's aides and the citizens guests. The citizens were informed of the governments philosophy, plans, activities and results since assumption of office on May 29, 2023. Reeled out at the meeting were myriad of actions such as reduction of school fees state-owned tertiary and professional instructions, flag of high impact road projects, millennium economic city project, medical supplies to basic health centres, and the ongoing compilation of the social register for financial inclusion. Others included the Governor's shuttle selling the potentials State industrial, commercial and social to domestic and international investors. Participating citizens were also informed of the giant leap towards restoring cordial relations and peaceful coexistence between the residents across ethnic, religious, political geographic Not only has the Governor been meeting leaders and gatekeepers, but he has institutionalised the Kaduna Elders Forum co-Abubakar chaired by Alhaji Mustapha and General Zamani Lekwot. On enhancing the protection of lives and property, Dr Isiaq informed that Governor Uba Sani is working to ensure synergy across security agencies and increasing the boots on ground by 7000 youths drawn from the 23 local government areas. Equally significant is the Governor's engagement with the major religious groups, Muslims and Christians under the Interfaith dialogue initiatives. So was the Governors presence at Christmas Carol in ECWA church Sabon Tasha, Chikun Local Government and being guest Southern Kaduna Festival Kafanchan, Jamma'a Local. Participants were also educated on the guiding philosophy and principles of Governor Uba Sani which included hard work,

and

accountability.

transparency

inclusivity,

This is amply demonstrated in his economic shuttles, holding of Town Hall and other interactive engagements with individuals and groups across the state.

On their part, participants, one after the other, profusely commended Governor Uba Sani for the actions and initiatives so far taken for the development of the State and its residents, saying a breathe of fresh air has started blowing in Kaduna State. First time visitors to the Government House were so elated, saying they felt so honoured being participating in such level of interaction and at such elevated venue. They gave commitment to share the information received and to continually support the government. However they made the following demands:

KADSEMA soars under new leadership

By: Dahiru Mustapha

The Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency (KADSEMA), has been experiencing remarkable transformation under the leadership of Dr. Usman Hayatu Mazadu, the Executive Secretary. This was attested to during a recent official visit by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG) Dr. Abdulkadir Mu'azu Mayere, who expressed admiration for the outstanding achievements of Dr. Mazadu. The SSG commended the digital expertise of the ES describing it as the ideal fit for the demanding role he occupies". Dr. Mazadu's stewardship has been marked by the implementation of bold and innovative initiatives, including the **KADSEMA ICT** establishment of the Disaster Control Centre. The SSG, Dr Abdulkadir Mu'azu Mayere (left) being conducted around KADSEMA main facilities by the ES, Dr Mazadu designed to ensure swift response and effective coordination during emergencies. Also, the introduction of The Emergency Clinic has provided crucial medical care in disaster situations, further enhancing the agency's capacity to respond to crises. This is in addition to the revitalization of the Fire and Public Safety Unit which has yielded impressive results, with revenue higher than generation soaring previous months This introduction in service delivery has demonstrated Dr. Mazadu's unwavering commitment to realizing the agenda set out by Governor Senator Uba Sani. With this development, KADSEMA is poised to become one of the foremost revenue-generating agencies in the state just as it is well-positioned to safeguard the well-being of Kaduna citizens in times of crisis. KADSEMA's remarkable transformation and its steadfast dedication to serving the people of Kaduna, is a testament to the power of innovation, strong leadership, which has produced tangible results in emergency management and disaster response over the months with obvious indications that it will do more in years ahead.

Kaduna State Teachers Service Board engages stakeholders on visibility of Govt in Schools

In a bid to uplift further the standard of education in the state, an interactive session with Principals, Mentors and Desk Officers was organized by the Kaduna State Teachers Service Board, where issues pertaining to Promotions, Discipline and Data

Chairman of the Board Alh. Adamu Makadi in his opening remarks said that improving the visibilities of Government activities in schools would attract good will in the state, thus ensuring the success and progress of education. The Meeting had participants from all the Secondary Schools both senior and junior across the state. Alhaji Makadi said that the sensitization meeting was designed to encourage the Principals of Secondary Schools on how to improve in their schools to adequately project the effort of the current administration and the SUSTAIN agenda. The Chairman maintained that "we should be mindful of the enormous responsibilities placed on the Principals and therefore want to ensure all Principal's handling these tasks are well-equipped to effectively discharge their responsibilities". In their separate remarks, some members of the Board described the sensitization meeting as important to the Principals, because they have learned a lot and therefore enjoined them to discharge their duties with diligence, transparency and patriotism in their schools.

The members also maintained that the sensitization became necessary in view of the misguided information on some teachers and suggested that every Principal should carry out his responsibility based on their profession in order to achieve a positive result in their schools. During the sensitization, participants asked questions regarding: promotion, discipline and administration to which Directors in the various departments responded appropriately. Speaking on behalf of the participants, Mr. Adamu Mohammed Nurudeen lauded the board for organizing the sensitization session as it would provide opportunities for sharing experiences on how to improve in their schools in general.

Governor Uba Sani appoints new DCOs

Governor Uba Sani has appointed new Deputy Chief of Staff Alhaji Umar Hassan Waziri (Administration, Governor's office).

Until his appointment, Alhaji Hassan Waziri was a Special Adviser on Investment to the Governor. He is a former Accountant General of the State.

KASU Alumni honours Deputy Governor, others

By Peter Ibrahim

Deputy Governor Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe was recently a Special Guest of Honour at the inaugural reunion, lecture, and recognition award ceremony hosted by the Alumni Association of Kaduna State University (KASU), during which she was, along with others, honoured by the association. The event, held at the 1000 Capacity Hall of KASU, was graced by esteemed guests including the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of KASU Governing Board, Malam Hussaini Dikko, Vice Chancellor of KASU, Professor Abdullahi Ibrahim Musa, and other university management and senior academic staff.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of an award of recognition to the Deputy Governor, represented by Deputy Chief of Staff, Barrister James Atung Kanyip. Other notable individuals were also given awards of recognition in appreciation of their philanthropic and developmental contributions to the university, as well as their dedication to the growth and progress of KASU and Kaduna State.

In her address on the event's theme, "Empowering the Future Generations: The Role of Alumni Associations in Fostering Entrepreneurship and Turning Graduates into Job Creators," the Deputy Governor emphasized the importance of promoting entrepreneurship

among Nigerian youth.

She noted that given the country's growing population of young people and high unemployment rate, there was the need to harness the potential of our youth through entrepreneurship to drive economic growth and alleviate poverty.

The Deputy Governor also highlighted the efforts of the Kaduna State government, led by Governor Uba Sani, in addressing youth unemployment. She mentioned the establishment of three skills hubs in each of the state's three senatorial districts as a means of equipping young people with modern and relevant skills, making them employable and self-sufficient.

Deputy Governor urged the Kaduna State University Alumni Association to collaborate and work towards generating innovative ideas and initiatives that will contribute to the university's growth and development, as well as the state's progress. She encouraged them to utilize their collective knowledge, skills, and experiences to mentor and empower the next generation to drive positive change in society.

Professor Yusha'u Ibrahim Ango, Deputy Vice Chancellor Academics and a distinguished professor of Business Administration at KASU, delivered a lecture on the event's theme. Professor Ango proposed that higher education institutions in Nigeria should consider setting up student start-ups as a means of promoting entrepreneurship among undergraduates. He also called on alumni associations to play a pivotal role in driving change in the entrepreneurship landscape.

The ceremony provided a platform for alumni to reconnect, network, and contribute to their alma mater's development. It also highlighted the crucial role of alumni associations in fostering entrepreneurship and creating a brighter future for the youth.

Kaduna leads in integrating substance abuse, Mental Health Services into Primary Health Care

(continued from page 24)

Government Councils, Private Entities, and Governmental Organizations (NGOs). At the commissioning ceremony, Hon Mukhtar Baloni, Chairman of Kaduna North Local Government Council, highlighted the upcoming establishment of several more DICs within the Local Government. Additionally, the Local Government is renovating a facility to be used by KADUBSA as a secondary care facility accessible to residents. Tamer Randul, Managing Director of Kaduna Markets Development Company, emphasized the company's role as stakeholders in addressing drug use issues, given the daily challenges faced in Kaduna markets. Dr Aisha Sadiq, representing the Commissioner of Health, noted the significance of the DICs in providing tangible assistance to young people struggling with

The Kaduna State Primary Health Care Board expressed enthusiasm about their partnership with KADUBSA, recognising its potential to enhance the delivery of its core mandates for the benefit of Kaduna State residents.

CHANGE OF NAME:

We have transformed from *Kaduna Weekly* to *Kaduna Outlook* and will be published monthly henceforth. We assure our readers of improved service in the dissemination of news on government activities with renewed vigour and from a different perspective. Keep a date with the **Kaduna Outlook**. – *Editor*.

Primary Health Care Board Strategizes on health care delivery

Mariam Bukola Oyewo

In a proactive pursuit of Governor Uba Sani's ambitious SUSTAIN agenda to reduce Maternal and Child Morbidity and Mortality, a dedicated group of professionals from the State Primary Health Care Board recently convened for a two-day activity. The primary objective of this gathering was to meticulously allocate roles and responsibilities among relevant departments and devise a comprehensive six-month contingency plan for a way forward. Held at the Emergency Operations Centre, this strategic meeting brainstormed and formulated key strategies, crucial in achieving results aligned with the Governor's healthcare goals.

The meeting commenced with discussion on the assignment of roles and responsibilities among participating departments with due consideration for the unique strengths and capabilities of each department in a bid to ensure cohesive and effective collaboration, essential for the realization of the SUSTAIN agenda. Emphasis was placed on fostering teamwork and harnessing the collective expertise of the diverse staff members involved. Taking place at the Emergency Operations Centre, the venue provided an ideal environment for the participants to engage in extensive brainstorming sessions. The goal was to generate innovative ideas and solutions contributing to the development of a robust six-month contingency plan. This plan, designed to address potential challenges and obstacles, embodied a proactive approach to healthcare delivery and emergency response.

The core focus of the contingency plan aligns with the SUSTAIN agenda's broader vision, specifically emphasizing the reduction of Maternal and Child Morbidity and Mortality. Key results from the plan are expected to play pivotal role in realizing the overarching healthcare goals set by Governor Uba Sani. Crucially, the contingency plan is meticulously aligned with the existing three-year State Strategic Health Development Plan 2 (2023-2025). This strategic alignment ensures a seamless integration of efforts, creating synergy between the short-term plan and the broader SUSTAIN agenda.

Credit must be given to the Executive Secretary of the Board Dr. Bello Amanfor, for the success of the strategic plan. His guidance and direction have been pivotal in steering the team towards a unified and effective approach to healthcare planning

and implementation.

In effect, the strategic planning session is a reflection of the commitment and professionalism of the State Primary Health Care Board staff. By allocating roles, crafting contingency plan, and aligning the efforts with Governor Uba Sani's SUSTAIN agenda and the State Strategic Health Development Plan 2, these healthcare professionals are laying a solid foundation for transformative change in maternal and child health outcomes.

JIBWIS to produce 455 Medical Doctors in Kaduna in four years

By Usman Ya'u Yakusai

The Jama'atu Izalatul Bid'a wa Ikamatus sunnah (JIBWIS) has committed to supporting the production of 455 medical doctors Kaduna four years in State. JIBWIS said through its National Chairman Sheikh Abdullahi Bala Lau at the end of the Qur'anic recitation held in Yobe State that the group has plans to support the education of the underprivileged in the fields of medicine and engineering through donations from its mosque. In another gesture, Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani has announced his personal commitment to sponsor six citizens of Kaduna State who achieved victory in various categories of the Qur'anic Recitation Competition held in Yobe State to perform upcoming Haii He also revealed plans to organize a special reception in their honour, which is aimed to inspire others' to follow in their footsteps and give Kaduna the opportunity to excel in all competition categories when the State hosts the upcoming national Qur'anic competition.

Also, during the National preaching organized by the Jama'atu Izalatul Bida Wa Ikamatus Sunna (JIBWIS) at the Emir of Zazzau's palace, Governor Sani highlighted his long-standing friendship with the national chairman of JIBWIS, stating: "Sheikh Bala Lau has been my friend and confidant for over 25 years. Therefore, whenever he invites me to a meeting, I attend not as the governor but as his friend. For more than 25 years, we have discussed matters related to religion, supporting it, and the ways to honor the Qur'an."

Governor Sani assured JIBWIS of sending a high-level delegation to assess the status of JIBWIS vocational skills acquisition center in Kaduna and pledged to utilize his resources to restore the center to full operation.

The Governor promised to collaborate with the group to realize their plan of sponsoring the education of underprivileged individuals at Jumu'at Mosques owned by the group through funds donated in the mosque to sponsor children to university to study medicine and engineering.

On his part, Sheikh Abdullahi Bala Lau, the JIBWIS National Chairman, commended Governor Sani for his longstanding commitment to Islamic propagation, which predated his tenure as governor. He said that the group intended to support the education of underprivileged children in the fields of medicine and engineering, with plans to produce 455 medical doctors in Kaduna.

A Leadership Journey Beyond Authority

By Hadiza Ismail Oyiza

In a proactive pursuit of Governor Uba Sani's ambitious SUSTAIN agenda to reduce Maternal and Child Morbidity and Mortality, a dedicated group of professionals from the State Primary Health Care Board recently convened for a two-day activity. The primary objective of this gathering was to meticulously allocate roles and responsibilities among relevant departments and devise a comprehensive six-month contingency plan for a way forward. Held at the Emergency Operations Centre, this strategic meeting brainstormed and formulate key strategies, crucial in achieving results aligned with the Governor's healthcare

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DPPA, UNDP, Human Services Ministry brainstorm on peace building

A meeting of the Department of Political and Peace building Affairs (DPPA), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Ministry of Human Services and Social Development and other Stakeholders brainstormed in Kaduna over the need for peace building for development. The Honourable Commissioner, for Human services and social development Hajia Barki Saliusu at the opening spoke on the achievement of the Government so far in peace building processes and conflict prevention with optimism for more success with positive impact on the society. She however said that this can only be achieved through social intervention, transitional Justice, inclusion reconciliation. and Team leader of the session from Abuja narrated that they were on learning visit to Kaduna State because of the numerous achievements witnessed by Kaduna State which she is very commendable. She said that they were in the state to interface with UNDP, the ministry, and other critical Stakeholders on priority areas in terms of learning experiences, perspective on conflict dynamics, conflict prevention and management, challenges and the forward. The peace building meeting was briefed on the peace building fund projects which is an intervention that is one of the key project Kaduna state is participating fully in which put the Government in the driver's seat and has strengthened capacity and accountability system.

The meeting was also informed that the Kaduna State Peace Commission had developed a strategic plan to guide the implementation of the peace building processes, noting that the Kaduna state youth, peace and security document has been developed and is at draft state which will soon be validated by stakeholders. The CSOs whose perspective was presented by Mr Enric John who is the co-chair of the Kaduna State Youth Coalition Network on Peace and Security applauded Government's effort towards an inclusive system where the youth are carried along on youth, peace and security issues. He advocated for the use of ICT to strengthen more inclusion of youth in the peace building processes.

Kaduna Budget: The First & Foremost

By Shuaibu Gimi

The recent signing, by Governor Uba Sani, of the Kaduna State 2024 "Budget of Rural Transformation for Inclusive Governance" has evidently marked the beginning of the real implementation of the SUSTAIN (Safety and Security, Upgrade of Infrastructure, Strengthening Institutions, Trade and Investment, Agriculture, Investment in Human Capital, Nurturing Citizens Engagement) AGENDA of the State Government. The provisions and structure of the budget are obviously the basis of the fast-growing Kaduna hope for much better future In his remarks during the signing ceremony, the governor assured that the budget will serve as an effective instrument for the closure, in several ways, of the existing wide gap between the urban and the rural areas. He mentioned that the budget is meant to "revitalize rural economies, promote social inclusion, address the gaps in infrastructure and human capital, boost agriculture and food security and make Kaduna State safe and secure."

The total expenditure of N458,271,299,477.66k as provided in the budget of which N318,836,576,588.28k or 69.57 percent is for capital projects and N139,434,722,889.38k constituting 30.43 percent as recurrent expenses is a comprehensive package that contains specific provisions for various sectors. The allocation of, for example, the sum of N115,421,129,011.16k (25.19 percent and the highest) to the Education Sector N71,647,821,975.33k (15.64%) to the Health Sector and N93,597,652,206.40k (20.42%) for the development of the Economic Sector which comprises agriculture, public works, infrastructure and housing is a boldest testimony to the determination of Governor Uba Sani to the attainment of genuine development in Kaduna State.

Every bit of the budget is an absolute confirmation of the governor's resolve to translate his campaign promises into concrete realities, which means that all the estimates contained in the document are true provisions for the execution of projects and programmes of the government for the purpose of satisfying people's basic needs. The process of preparation of the budget which was fully characterized by the effective engagement of all stakeholders was quite thorough and therefore a reason for the continuous expression of confidence in the government by the people of the state.

Although 2024 Budget is Governor Uba Sani's first, it has already proven to be a foremost one as it is most likely to continue to clearly define his approach to basic issues of governance in the years ahead. It is evidently both a material to which a reference will be duly made whenever some more development plans will be designed and a foundation upon which all future activities of the State Government will be executed.

The sharp focus on the rural communities which are populated by the underprivileged people has made the strategy to look like the China's Great Leap Forward Policy, Russia's Collectivisation Programme and such other measures that were, at various times in the past, appropriately introduced by the various countries in their respective efforts towards the realization of inclusiveness, national integration and development. Everything about the rural transformation is a practical expression of the governor's concern for those he consistently describes as "vulnerable, poor and underserved people" for the benefit of whom he initially unveiled some welfare and empowerment packages. Quite noticeably, all the well-meaning people of Kaduna State have continued to show huge appreciation for the sincerity of purpose of the State Government as evident in their utmost readiness for a full participation in the governance process. The genuineness, wide scope and applicability of Governor Uba Sani's ideas are the reason for which optimism over the possibility of attainment of maximum success has thickened.

Sowing seed of citizens engagement

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- 1. That work be resumed on abandoned road projects or work be hastened on the ongoing ones because of health hazards associated with the dust that comes from excavated roads.
- 2. That Kaduna Environmental Protection Agency (KEPA) and relevant MDAs should step up refuse collection in the metropolis.
- 3. That Government should support parents by paying WAEC, NECO and JAMB fees for and provide free uniform to pupils to 2 school enrolment, transition and completion rates, adding that doing so creates jobs for tailors and income for fabric sellers.
- 4. Government should provide subsidized seeds, fertilizers, and herbicides to small holder farmers.
- 5. That work be resumed on suspended market development projects and work be completed before rainy season.
- 6. That the Governor should be magnanimous and reduce the price and rates for shops and stalls in the markets.
- 7. That financial support be given to the traders especially women some of whom are the bread winners of their families due to unemployment or death of spouses.
- 8. That other markets such as Mando market should be modernised.
- That KADBUSDA should step up awareness campaign and set up community based counselling and treatment centres.
- 10. That the meetings be institutionalised, being a platform for government-citizen communication.

Mr. Wasah is SSA Stakeholder Relation

KADUNA LEADS IN INTEGRATING SUBSTANCE ABUSE, MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES INTO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

By Zainab Aline Yusuf

Under the visionary leadership of Governor Uba Sani, Kaduna State continues to set the pace in adopting progressive approaches to address the critical issues of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. With the establishment of Drop-in Centres (DICs), Kaduna

becomes the first state in Nigeria to successfully integrate Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services into the primary health care level, aligning with the National Drug Control MasterPlan and the National MhGap Intervention Plan.

Last year, Governor Uba Sani shared his commitment to having 100 Primary Health Care (PHC) based Drop-In Centers as part of Kaduna State's comprehensive action plan during a meeting with the Country Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Speaking about this development, the Director General of The KADBUSSA, Joseph O. Ike, revealed that these Drop-In Centers are the result of close collaboration not only among various State Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) but also with Local (continued on page 20)

KADUNA GOVT, ASSURES PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

By Zainab Muhammad Bello

The Kaduna State Scholarship and Loans Board team, led by Executive Secretary Prof. Yahya Saleh Ibrahim has stepped in to safeguard the academic journey of one of its students, Shamsuddeen Abdullahi. The scholar studying MSc International Business and Entrepreneurship at De Montfort University UK, faced the threat of deportation due to delayed payment of his tuition and accommodation fees by previous leadership ofBoard. This delay in the payment of his tuition and accommodation was said to be due to the rise in rate of foreign exchange at the parallel markets, coupled with the fact that his visa is expiring on the 31st of January, 2024. In a swift action however, Governor Uba Sani instructed the immediate past leadership of the Board to promptly settle Shamshudeen's outstanding fees while the present leadership of the Board is to pay for his ticket and protect his rights and privileges as a De Montfort student, by ensuring his having access to academic resources, support services, and more.

The Board further facilitated his safe return to Nigeria and pledged their unwavering support to see him complete his studies. This timely intervention exemplifies the Board's unwavering commitment to providing equal access to educational opportunities for all qualified students, irrespective of their family status, physical disabilities and other challenges they may encounter.