

-Why the October 19th elections went APC's way

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The clean sweep of the 23 LGAs in Kaduna State by the APC during the October 19th, 2024 elections did not come as a surprise to close watchers of public affairs in the state.

People kept speculating about the reasons behind the pummeling the other parties were subjected to by APC; three reasons stand out as plausible in the landslide engineered in Kaduna by Uba Sani's party:

1. The rural transformation drive has "**driven**" infrastructure such as roads, health, and socio-economic deliverables into even remote areas, impacting the nearly forgotten people.
2. The spate of **cross-carpeting** across the state as a result of the above and the Governor's personal charm in reaching out to friends and foes alike that appreciate his inclusivity.
3. A workable campaign strategy launched by the Governor in Kaduna and carried to the nooks and crannies of the state by the Deputy Governor had caught on with the people, so much that the opposition didn't know what hit them at the last count of the votes.

The *Kaduna Outlook* staff was on the trail of the pre-election and post-election events in the state and shares his thoughts with us in this lucid LGA elections analysis which is leading the magazine:

Why APC swept all the LGAs

By Abdallah Yunus Abdallah

After a hectic campaign, the people of Kaduna State went to the polls on October 19, 2024, to elect councillors in the 255 wards and the Chairmen of the 23 local governments.

Predictably, the All Progressives Congress (APC) swept the polls and the opposition has been complaining of rigging, the usual wailing of losers in Nigeria. Even before voting, the election results were fairly predictable for obvious reasons.

First, the Executive Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani, flagged off the APC campaign at Murtala Square on September 30, which witnessed an unprecedented crowd of party faithful and other citizens.

At the event, His Excellency reiterated the importance of the local government election and what his administration has done for the grassroots:

"Since assumption of office last year, we have demonstrated, in words and actions, our unflinching commitment to the rapid transformation of our rural communities through massive infrastructural development," he said.

The Governor reminded that his administration has constructed many road projects, covering hundreds of kilometers, many completed and many others ongoing across the state:

"We have deliberately focused on constructing critical roads and rehabilitating infrastructure, primary healthcare, education, agriculture, poverty reduction and security," he added.

In addition, Senator Uba Sani highlighted the importance of the election, arguing that it:

"presents a crucial opportunity for us to consolidate the gains so far made in shaping the future of our communities."

According to him, the third tier of government is vital to driving change and:

"it behoves on us to elect persons of impeccable integrity, commitment and capacity to deliver on our promises to the people and leave lasting legacies in each of the 23 local government councils of the state."

Before unveiling the APC flagbearers, he urged the candidates to see themselves as:

"the CAPTAINS of our Rural Transformation Team."

Having set the tone, the Deputy Governor, Dr Hadiza Balarabe, led an inclusive campaign team comprising political appointees and grassroots politicians to all the 23 local governments of Kaduna State, soliciting votes from the electorates.

In Lere local government, Dr Balarabe expressed confidence in APC's victory, pleading that party supporters should shun violence even when provoked by the opposition.

At the Saminaka township stadium where the rally held, the Deputy Governor asked APC supporters not just to come out en masse to vote for the party's candidates but also mobilize others to vote for APC.

She expressed confidence that Jafaru Ahmed will be the next Chairman and the 11 councillors will all be APC members. In Soba...

LG Election: Uba Sani's Silver Bullet

In politics, elections are lost and won, in most cases, even before voting, counting, and announcement of results are made.

Next week, local government election, on October 19, will hold in Kaduna State and the outcome, from the optics, is pretty much obvious and self-evident.

Indeed, the result will celebrate focus, long-term planning and a well-thought-out strategy. Perhaps, a little context will connect the dots, paint the larger picture and put issues in bold relief.

Significantly, Senator Uba Sani, the Kaduna State Governor, had promised to be even-handed in his inaugural address. Politics, he had argued, was over and all citizens should join in the brass tacks of governance.

Truly, the Governor matched his preaching with action upon assuming office, as he reached out to the opposition, religious and socio-political organizations, waving an olive branch. Likewise, he built bridges, opened communication channels and pulled down walls of distrust within a short time.

Indeed, the efforts have yielded fruits as the political elite, across party lines, are either in the same boat or rowing in one direction.

Specifically, Senator Uba Sani and Alhaji Ahmed Makarfi, despite political differences, have a very cordial relationship. Similarly, Arch Mohammed Namadi Sambo, Makarfi's successor and former Vice President, is the Governor's political ally whose counsel he seeks regularly.

More so, Alhaji Mukhtar Ramalan Yero, Sambo's protégé, had crossed over to the ruling APC in September last year.

Likewise, the Governor has wooed opponents after the last general election. Last week, Senator Shehu Sani voted with his feet, left the PDP and pitched tent with APC, bringing his supporters along.

Similarly, Senator Suleiman Hunkuyi, the NNPP candidate, had returned to the APC, seven months after the gubernatorial election. Likewise, Alhaji Sani Shaaban, a former lawmaker and Action Democratic Party (ADP) candidate, has dumped the party and is eyeing the APC.

Indeed, the government, political and ethno-religious leaders, are now on the same page, strategizing for development.

Besides, a wave of defections in recent times has further depleted the opposition, especially the PDP.

Last July, Alhaji Abubakar Mustapha, ex-National Organizing Secretary, dumped PDP for the APC, citing personal reasons.

Essentially, the spokesman of PDP State Campaign Council, Alhaji Yakubu Lere, crossed over to APC based on a personal relationship with the Governor.

Likewise, the Chairman of Chikun Local Government, Salasi Musa, his entire councillors and their supporters, have left PDP for APC.

Also, Hon Ibrahim Gajere, the Kajuru local government chairman, has gone to APC, so has Hon Mathias Siman, his counterpart at Kaura area council.

In fact, over 200,000 PDP leaders and supporters, in the last four months, have defected to the APC, according to Senator Uba Sani.

Indeed, the coming local government election, for all intents and purposes, will be a walkover for APC candidates as the opposition, through political brinkmanship, have been depleted and weakened.

Besides, they will run on Senator Uba Sani's achievements and goodwill.

In fact, the Governor has built 62 roads across the 23 local governments, brought development to rural areas, built 60 secondary schools, furnished over 200 primary and secondary schools, distributed free fertilizers to farmers and slashed tuition fees of Kaduna State-owned tertiary institutions, as well as delivered sundry dividends of democracy, in the last 17 months.

However, in contrast, PDP's campaign sounds hollow as its candidates are running on promises.

Clearly, the electorate will rather vote for what is on the ground than what is on the horizon.

Ibraheem Musa was APC Campaign Director of Communication and Strategy.

How Gov Sani is driving the economy

"Where there is a will, there is a way"

By Emmanuel Ado

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Kaduna State has a population of about 10 million, of which 43 percent are under 14 years of age.

This explains the massive investment in education by the state government. Persons between 15 and 64 years, regarded as the most critical segment of the population, who need both education and employment make up about 54 percent of the state's population, while the 65 years and above bracket that have given their youth to the state and need access to medical services are 3 percent of the total population, according to the last census.

The present 10 million population would definitely change going by the fertility rate of 7.97 children per woman whenever the next population census is conducted.

The implication of having a youthful population for Kaduna State is not only that it makes it one of the top six cities in Nigeria where 20 percent of its estimated population are unemployed, but makes job creation urgent and critical, because like they say, an idle mind is the devil's workshop.

From the very outset, Governor Uba Sani's singular goal is to make Kaduna State, the Center of Learning, the business and tourism destination of choice for local and foreign investors.

It is gladdening that Governor Sani perspectively understands that he must be up and doing in attracting investments to the state which, before its balkanization by the military regime of General Yakubu Gowon, was not just the political capital of the old Northern Region, but also its economic base.

Governor Sani's vision is aggressively driven by the Kaduna State Development Plan 2021-2025, which emphasizes investment in agriculture and processing, as key to the creation of millions of jobs for its teeming youth population.

Clearly, job creation is an imperative for Governor Sani and not a choice, which explains why he has also been very aggressive about it.

Industries based in Kaduna State, like the rest of the country, had virtually collapsed due to many factors.

These include the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) of the General Ibrahim Babangida administration, the petroleum-dollar that fueled consumption of foreign products by an elite that is not well-enlightened about its own interests, the unresolved energy crisis that has made production unattractive, and trade more attractive, policy summersaults and the dumping of cheaper products from China.

All these factors contributed significantly to the collapse of the textiles industry that Kaduna State was renowned for.

Even the federal government-owned Kaduna Refining and Petrochemical Company (KRPC), one of the nation's four petroleum refineries and the Peugeot Automobiles Nigeria (PAN) all collapsed and are shadows of their former self.

The effects of the collapse of these industries are many. It stretches from the loss of thousands of jobs to the widespread unemployment, the severe poverty which has also adversely affected the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) collections, and the unprecedented increase in security threats which, studies have shown, have a direct connection with the unemployment crisis facing not just the state, but Nigeria as a whole, and the reaction of restive youths that believe that the windows of opportunity have been shut against them, which also partly explains their embracement of criminality.

The administration of Governor Uba Sani has certainly gotten it right because it rightly predicated its economic development strategy on agriculture and agro-allied processing, areas in which it has comparative advantage, and on other labour-intensive industries with capacity to employ more people.

It is also cashing in on the availability of a highly productive workforce, and on its location as a gateway to several states.

So far, the incumbent administration has attracted investments worth over 250 million dollars, expected to create over 50,000 jobs directly and more than 20,000 in indirect jobs.

The 50 million dollars Lithium processing plant, a joint venture between the state and Ming Xin Mineral Separation Nigeria Ltd, with an impressive capacity of 1,500 metric tons per day, is already running.

Lithium is one of the key components in the manufacture of electric cars.

The company has also concluded plans to establish a ceramic tile-producing plant in its second phase, which would not only provide more jobs, but would save Nigeria huge foreign exchange.

Presently, Nigeria spends about 2.1 billion dollars in the importation of tiles mostly from Italy and China.

Governor Sani has smartly built his investment strategy around agriculture and the mining sectors that the state has comparative advantages, especially agriculture which contributes 36.69 percent of the state's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and is the largest employer of labour, with over 1.3 families (9.6 percent) actively engaged in agricultural production.

This explains why Kaduna State is and has remained the undisputed Number One in the production of ginger, maize, tomatoes and ranks second in the production of soybeans, beans, and guinea corn.

Indicative of the premium placed on agriculture, Governor Sani, in the 2024 budget, allocated N22.549 billion to Agriculture and has empowered 5,091 small holder farmers with input

mechanisms like Rice Harvester, Rice Huller, Hammer Mill, Groundnut Oil Extractor, Power Tiller, Multi-crop Thresher, Planter, Vegetable Grinder and Sprayer.

The government equally supported another 10,000 small holder farmers with subsidized inputs comprising bags of fertilizers (7 NPK, 3 UREA), and wheat seeds.

More critical is the establishment of Farmers' Information Management System...

Governor Uba Sani injects new hands into the system, appoints Chief Press Secretary, 12 others

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Governor Uba Sani has appointed Ibraheem Musa Chief Press Secretary. He takes over from Muhammad Lawal Shehu, now the Chairman-elect of Soba LGA.

Until his appointment, Malam Ibraheem Musa was a Media Consultant to Governor Uba Sani. He served as a Senior Special Assistant on Media and Publicity in the previous administration.

Malam Ibraheem Musa has over 30 years of post-graduation experience in various news organizations, culminating in his appointment as the pioneer Editor of *Blueprint Weekend* Newspaper in 2017.

The new Chief Press Secretary started his working career as a Press Review Officer in Government House, Bauchi in 1991. Thereafter, he joined *Hotline News Magazine* in 1993 and rose to the position of Deputy Editor.

He had a short stint with *The Sentinel Magazine*, before joining *The New Nigerian Newspapers*, where he spent 10 years serving variously as the Political Editor and a member of the Editorial Board.

Malam Ibraheem Musa had also served in the National Assembly as a Legislative Aide, in 2007, Political Editor of *Trust Newspaper*, Kaduna Bureau Chief of the Newspaper, and as the *Blueprint Newspaper* Kaduna Bureau Chief where in 2017, he was appointed the Editor of the *Blueprint Weekend*.

Malam Ibraheem Musa was the Deputy Director of Strategic Communication of the Kaduna State APC campaign team in 2019. In the 2023 campaign, he was the Director of Strategic Communication and Spokesman of the APC Campaign Team.

Other appointments approved by the governor include:

- **Engr. Shuaibu Kabir Bello**, Managing Director, Kaduna Mining Development Company (KMDC);
- **Iliya Timbuak**, Managing Director, Kaduna State Enterprise Development Agency (KADEDA);

- **Dr. John Danfulani**, Executive Secretary, Kaduna State Residents Identity Management Agency (KADRIMA);
- **Mohammed Mubarak**, Acting Executive Secretary, Kaduna State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB);
- **Aliyu Saeed**, Executive Director (Finance and Administration), Kaduna Mining Development Company (KMDC);
- **Muhammad Salisu**, Executive Director (Operations), Kaduna Markets Development and Management Company (KMDMC);
- **Hon. Shehu Usman Ibrahim**, Special Assistant, Local Government and Chieftaincy Matters;
- **Falmata U. Abacha**, Senior Special Assistant - Social Investment;
- **Abdullahi Abdullahi Makarfi**, Executive Director (Operations), Kaduna State Enterprise Development Agency (KADEDA);
- **Iyal Auwal Yahaya**, Executive Director (Finance and Administration), Kaduna State Enterprise Development Agency (KADEDA);
- **Bashir Tijjani Babajo**, Special Assistant, Special Duties; and
- **Ruth Popoola**, Senior Special Assistant on Financial Inclusion.

All the appointments are with immediate effect.

About Engr. Shuaibu Kabir Bello:

The Managing Director of the Kaduna Mining Development Company (KMDC) is a highly accomplished professional with a unique blend of technical expertise and strategic leadership. His career spans multiple sectors, including engineering, governance, ICT, and policy development. He is known for his forward-thinking approach to solving complex challenges.

His educational background and diverse global training reflect a deep commitment to continuous learning and innovation, equipping him with the skills to navigate and influence the evolving landscape of public service and infrastructure development.

Throughout his professional journey, he has held notable positions such as Senior Special Assistant on ICT to the Governor of Kaduna State and Senior Corrosion Engineer at the Nigerian Ports Authority. His involvement in high-level committees and certifications — including Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) and Project Management Professional (PMP) — along with membership in key engineering societies, underscores his versatility and leadership within Nigeria's public and professional sectors.

He is a member of the **Nigeria Institution of Metallurgical, Mining & Materials Engineers (NIMMME)**.

KDSG prioritizing education: KSSQAA hosts Summit on Education Quality Assurance

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By Halima Sadiya Abubakar

The Kaduna State Schools Quality Assurance Authority (KSSQAA) has hosted a transformative event titled **Quality Assurance in Education: A summit for best practices**, held at Independence Hall, Government College Premises, Abakpa, Kaduna.

The event brought together key stakeholders from the education sector, policymakers, and development partners to explore innovative strategies for improving the quality of education in Kaduna State.

The event was graced by the Commissioner of Education, **Professor Muhammad Sani Bello**, and hosted by the Director-General of KSSQAA, **Professor Usman Abubakar Zaria**.

Prof. Muhammad Sani Bello commended the Director-General of the Authority for the laudable step taken to ensure the hosting of the summit and urged other agencies of the Education sector to emulate the same.

The summit provided an engaging platform to discuss system strengthening, education quality enhancement, and the role of technology in transforming educational standards.

In his welcome address, Prof. Abubakar Zaria emphasized the critical role of **quality assurance** in ensuring sustainable educational reforms.

He also expressed deep appreciation to Gov. Uba Sani for prioritizing education in Kaduna State by dedicating 25% of the 2024 budget to the sector:

"The Governor's commitment to education is evident in his provision of ICT facilities and the sponsorship of over 120,000 public school candidates for the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE)," Prof. Abubakar Zaria stated.

"This is a significant step toward building an informed and educated populace, which will drive development in the state."

The Director-General also took the opportunity to acknowledge the invaluable support of the Deputy Governor, **Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe**, who continued to offer passionate and professional guidance to the Authority.

He also extended gratitude to KSSQAA's development partners such as **The CodeUnit, AGILE, and PLAN** for their collaborative efforts in advancing the quality of education in the state.

Prof. Abubakar Zaria highlighted the significant advancements made by Kaduna State in the performance of its candidates in the Senior Secondary Certificate Examination (SSCE). He noted that the percentage of candidates **securing five credits**, including Mathematics and English, in NECO SSCE increased from **54% in 2022 to 67% in 2023**.

Notably, Kaduna State has risen in the national rankings, occupying the **7th position** based on NECO results in 2023, surpassing its previous ranking of 12th.

The event featured presentations from various departments of KSSQAA, including:

- the unveiling of **15 new operational templates and guidelines**,
- the **flag-off of BECE certificate distribution for 2024**, and
- the **distribution of school curricula**.

A significant highlight was the unveiling of new computer systems, marking a **significant milestone** in KSSQAA's digitization efforts.

At the event, the atmosphere was charged with optimism for the future of education in Kaduna State, with stakeholders reaffirming their commitment to enhancing the quality of education for all.

Staff of the Month Award at KADPPA

Engr. Ahmad Rabilu

- Received the **Best Character Award** for the Month of September.
- He expressed gratitude for the recognition.
- The DG congratulated him and mentioned that the aim of the monthly award is to encourage **hard work and dedication**.

Kaduna health sector reforms paying off - Commissioner

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Being extract from a press briefing by Haj. Umma K. Ahmed, Commissioner of Health, Kaduna State, on the achievements of the administration of Governor Uba Sani in the health sector:

Hajiya Umma K. Ahmed, at an interaction with the media described as “outstanding advancements” records of the health sector in Kaduna State under Gov. Uba Sani, since taking office on 29th May, 2023. She listed major achievements that emphasize the importance of investing in human capital development. Some recorded strides include:

1. Big Budget:

- The 2024 budget allocated **₦71.65 billion** (15.6% of the state budget) to health.
- Health became the **4th highest** sector in budget allocation in the State.
- The SUSTAIN Agenda further provided a platform for judicious utilization of these funds.

2. Infrastructure Development:

- Upgrading **9 secondary facilities**, 3 per senatorial district:

- GH Maigana — 72% completion
- GH Rigasa — 69% completion
- GH Gwantu — 65% completion
- GH Ikara — 47% completion
- Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa Memorial Hospital Kafanchan — 43% completion
- General Hospital Giwa — 45% completion
- Newly awarded hospitals:
 - Dabo Lere Memorial Hospital, Lere
 - GH Sabon Tasha
 - RH Kachia (currently mobilizing contractors for work)
- Upgrading **30 high-volume healthcare facilities** into "centers of excellence," focusing on rural access to modern healthcare.

3. Enhancing Service Delivery:

- Governor Uba Sani approved the **distribution of modern medical equipment worth ₦3 billion** to 290 upgraded PHCs.

4. Training and Capacity Building of Healthcare Workers:

- Over **2,000 healthcare workers** received training in vital areas like nutrition, health promotion, etc.

5. Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding with Pharmaceutical Group of Manufacturing Association of Nigeria:

- Ensures quality medicines are consistently available, affordable, and equitably distributed.

6. The State Medical Stores at KADHSMA is being upgraded to Pharmagrade Standard:

- Improves storage, warehousing, and inventory management of medicines and commodities.

7. Establishment of Medical Oxygen Plants:

- In collaboration with UNICEF, additional oxygen plants were established at:
 - **Yusuf Dantsoho Memorial Hospital, Tudun Wada**
 - **Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa Memorial Hospital, Kafanchan**

8. Resumption of Aerial Drone Delivery:

- Partnering with **Fly Zipline International Nigeria Limited** to deliver medicines and supplies via drones to hard-to-reach locations.

9. Electronic Medical Record (EMR):

- The EMR initiative is piloting in **nine (9) secondary health facilities**, including:

- Gambo Sawaba General Hospital Kofan Gayan Zaria
- General Hospital Rigasa
- Dr. Gwamna Awan General Hospital Kakuri
- Sir Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa Memorial Hospital Kafanchan
- Yusuf Dantsoho Memorial Hospital Tudun Wada
- General Hospital Sabon Tasha
- Dabo Lere Memorial Hospital
- Saminaka
- Ibrin Mai Gwari Memorial Hospital
- Birnin Gwari and Rural Hospital Kachia

Uba Sani repositions the agricultural sector

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By Ruth Yakubu

Senator Uba Sani has made **significant strides** in repositioning the agricultural sector in Kaduna State since taking office.

His leadership emphasizes **empowerment of farmers** and transforming agriculture into a **sustainable and robust sector**.

Funding for Agriculture:

- ₦22.54 billion allocated to agriculture in the **2024 budget**.
- Demonstrates Governor Sani's commitment to enhancing agricultural productivity.

Innovative Initiatives:

- **Tallafin Noma and Get Back to Farm Program** revitalizing farming communities.
- Provides essential resources and support to farmers.
- Focus on addressing agricultural threats like **ginger blight** and **Fall Armyworm outbreaks**.
- Support for farmers through the **largest free fertilizer distribution initiative**.

Livestock Productivity and Health:

- **Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support (L-PRES)** project:
 - Modern hay-making equipment provided to Ladduga Grazing Reserve.
 - Vaccinations for 450,000 cattle, sheep, and goats against Anthrax.

Infrastructure and Support:

- Improving **rural access roads** for market connectivity.

- Emphasis on **health and veterinary initiatives**.
- Focus on **nutrition and food security**:
 - Kaduna Agricultural Sector Nutrition Strategy aims to boost agricultural productivity.

Strategic Collaborations:

- Collaborating with organizations like the **Africa Quality Assurance Centre (AQAC)**.
- Facility supported by **AFREXIM** bank to enhance agricultural quality assurance.

Top level government officials, KADSWAC meet over poor water supply services

Governor Uba Sani met with the management of the **Kaduna State Water Corporation (KADSWAC)**.

- The meeting critically reviewed challenges hindering KADSWAC from functioning efficiently.
- Focused on ensuring **uninterrupted water supply** to Kaduna citizens.
- Discussed the **Zaria Water Project**.
- Attendees included:
 - Deputy Governor Dr. Hadiza Sabuwa Balarabe,
 - Secretary to the State Government,
 - Dr. AbdulKadir Meyere (Chief of Staff),
 - Sam Liman Kila (Commissioner of Works),
 - Arch. Ibrahim Hamza (and other senior government officials).

Govt takes proactive steps to eliminate malaria

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By Afiiong Edim

The Commissioner of Health, Hajiya Umma K. Ahmed, has commended the commitment and support of the Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani, for driving forward the health agenda and specifically in the fight against malaria.

She highlighted that his strong leadership role and dedication are essential in making **progress in the healthcare infrastructure**, expanding access to services, and fostering partnerships for the **betterment of communities** in the State.

Hajiya Ahmed further noted that Kaduna State Government has demonstrated in numerous ways its commitment to secure the health and well-being of the people of the State.

This is demonstrated in the proactive measure being taken by the State Ministry of Health to address the significant threat of malaria in the State.

Multi-sectorial Approach:

- The government is adopting a **multi-sectorial approach** to tackle malaria, recognizing the complexity of the issue, which spans both health and socio-economic aspects.
- The Commissioner emphasized reflecting on past strategies to refine approaches for better outcomes.

Strengthening Interventions:

- Focus on operationalizing the malaria intervention sub-committee.
- Strengthening collaboration, aligning long-term objectives, and enhancing coordination across sectors.

Workshop at Bafra Hotel:

- Revitalized the malaria sub-committee.
- Reviewed the **2024 Annual Operational Plan (AOP)** and developed activities for 2025.
- The AOP is crucial for **effective malaria program implementation** and for **monitoring and evaluating** programs.

Participants:

- Drawn from:
 - State Ministry of Health
 - State Primary Health Care Board
 - Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Human Services, and Social Development
 - Private sector
 - Civil Society Organizations
 - Local Governments
 - Development Partners

Hajiya Ahmed expressed appreciation to all partners supporting the State's fight against malaria, highlighting the importance of collaboration.

Proactive Mass Distribution of SMC:

- Kaduna State Ministry of Health completed **successful mass distribution of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SMC)**.
- Vital for protecting children under five years old.
- **SMC impact:**
 - Reduces severe malaria and anemia.
 - Saves lives by reducing malaria mortality by 75%.

- Endorsed by WHO.
- **SMC Regimen:**
 - Administers Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine (SP) and Amodiaquine (AQ) to children aged 3 to 59 months.
 - Doses given monthly during the rainy season.

Remarkable Progress:

- Malaria prevalence dropped:
 - From **33%** in 2018 (Demographic Health Survey)
 - To **16%** in 2021 (Malaria Indicator Survey).
- Reflects the effectiveness of SMC in malaria elimination efforts.

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She said that his strong leadership role and dedication are essential in making **progress in the health care** infrastructure, expanding access to services, and fostering partnership to **services for the betterment of** communities in the State.

Hajiya Ahmed further noted that Kaduna State Government has demonstrated in numerous ways its commitment to secure the health and well-being of the people of the State.

This is demonstrated in the proactive measure being taken by the State Ministry of health to address the significant threat of malaria in the State.

One of the measures is a multi-sectorial approach which is being adopted as a crucial step in tackling such a complex issue that impacts not just on the health but also on social and economic aspects.

The Commissioner stated this commendation while declaring open the theory of change meeting for State **Malaria Elimination**.

The Commissioner emphasized that the focus on reflecting on the past strategies through a retrospective analysis of the theory of change is a commendable effort which will aid in identifying what has worked well, areas that need improvement and how to **refine approaches for better outcomes** in malaria elimination.

The Commissioner added that the operationalization of the sub-committee on malaria intervention is a positive step towards strengthening efforts, enhancing collaboration, and ensuring alignment with long-term objectives and immediate needs as collaboration and coordination is key in achieving success in public health initiatives.

The workshop which took place at Bafra Hotel was to revitalize the malaria sub-committee, review the 2024 Annual Operational Plan (AOP) and develop activities for the 2025.

AOP is a crucial step in planning and implementing effective malaria program.

The comprehensive theory of change for malaria activities will provide a solid framework for guiding efforts and ensuring effective monitoring and evaluation of programs.

Participants were drawn from the State Ministry of Health, State Primary Health Care Board, Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Human Service and Social Development, Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations, Local Government and Development Partners.

Hajiya Ahmed expressed appreciation to all development partners who are supporting the State in the fight against malaria noting that it is important as collaboration and support from various stakeholders are vital in achieving the goal of malaria elimination.

According to her, working together towards a common objective will undoubtedly lead to positive outcomes in improving health and wellbeing of the people of Kaduna State.

In another development, the Kaduna State Ministry of health has completed its proactive approach with the successful mass distribution of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SMC).

This initiative is particularly vital as children under five years old are most vulnerable to malaria facing a high risk of infection and potential mortality, for infants under three months, maternal immunity through breastfeeding offers some protection.

The SMC initiative has significantly reduced the incidence of severe malaria and anemia, contributing to lower mortality rates.

It also prevents approximately 75% of severe malaria episode.

Endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO), the SMC is cost effective, safe and efficient strategy for malaria prevention in children under five.

The SMC regimen involves the administering of Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine (SP) and Amodiaquine (AQ) to children aged 3 to 59 months once a month during the rainy season for four months.

Additionally, AQ is administered twice daily for two days over the same period.

Significantly, the SMC has played a crucial role in reducing malaria prevalence in Kaduna State from 33% in the 2018 (Demographic Health Survey) to 16% as reported in 2021 by Malaria Indicator Survey.

This noteworthy progress reflects the effectiveness of the SMC initiative in the ongoing fight against malaria.

Speaker Abbas, Kaduna APC, congratulate Gov Sani for party's success in LG polls

Gov Uba Sani

The Speaker of the House of Representatives Rt. Hon. Abbas Tajudeen, Ph.D, has congratulated the All Progressives Congress (APC) for winning the 23 local government chairmanship and 255 councillorship seats in the elections held in the state on Saturday.

Speaker Abbas also extended his warm congratulations to the Kaduna State Governor, Senator Uba Sani, for the victory of the party.

The Chairman of the Kaduna State Independent Electoral Commission (KAD-SIECOM), Hajara Mohammed, had announced that the APC won all the **23 chairmanship 255** councillorship seats at the polls.

She said during a press conference that, "The electoral officers and returning officers have filed their reports, and at the end of the exercise, the APC won the 23 chairmanship positions and 255 councillorship seats in the state".

Among the newly elected 23 LG chairmen is Engr. Jamil Ahmad Muhammad, who was elected as the Chairman of Zaria Local Government.

He was the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Speaker on Administration.

The Speaker, who wished them a successful tenure, challenged them to bring development to the grassroots.

In a similar message, the Kaduna State Chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) has extended its heartfelt congratulations to all Chairmen and Councillors-elect in the recently concluded Kaduna State 2024 Local Government Council Elections.

A statement by the party described the occasion as significant in many respects.

"It is a vote of confidence by the good people of Kaduna State in our great party and the transformative leadership of Governor Uba Sani.

It is also a clear mandate from the people to **expand and deepen the Rural Transformation Agenda** of our trailblazing administration in Kaduna State", the Party said in a statement.

The statement signed by the Publicity Secretary Salisu Tanko Wusono said as the closest tier of government to the people, "we urge our newly elected representatives to remember that their primary responsibility is to serve the interests of their people.

They must become good ambassadors for the APC, embodying our party's core values of **service, accountability,** and development.

The people of Kaduna have placed their trust in us, and we must live up to their expectations.

"Our newly elected local government chairmen and councillors must seize the moment and effect changes in their communities.

You must get to work **immediately and address key challenges in areas of healthcare, education, infrastructure, and security.**

We encourage you to engage actively with your constituents, listen to their concerns, and work diligently to meet their needs.

Remember, leadership is not about power, but service", the statement further said.

The statement expressed profound gratitude to the electorate in Kaduna State for their unwavering support and confidence in the All-Progressives Congress.

"Your votes are testaments to your belief in our vision for a prosperous and united Kaduna State.

We assure you that our commitment to meeting your aspirations remains resolute.

Together, we can achieve **remarkable progress for our communities**, ensuring that the benefits of governance are felt by all," it added.

The APC called on the People's Democratic Party (PDP) to accept the outcome of the local government's election in good faith, adding that the Kaduna State Government created a conducive atmosphere for the conduct of free, fair, credible and transparent elections.

Unfortunately, some forces within and without were determined to create commotion and anarchy in Kaduna State.

"People who claim to be democrats mobilized thugs to stop the distribution of election materials.

The Kaduna State Independent Electoral Commission (KAD-SIECOM) and security agencies however rose to the challenge, surmounted all odds, and ensured the conduct of free and credible elections across Kaduna State," the statement said.

Northwest group lauds Uba Sani's initiatives

The Northwest Democrats Assembly (NDA) has commended Governor Uba Sani for his transformative leadership, citing six key initiatives that have transformed Kaduna State.

The group, at a Press Conference in Kaduna in September hailed Governor Sani's strategic vision, which has attracted significant investments, empowered youth, **promoted gender equality**, addressed climate change, ensured food security, and championed disability inclusion.

"Governor Sani's Smart City Project, valued at \$150 million, is set to create 10,000 direct jobs and 500,000 indirect jobs, bolstering the state's economy. Additionally, the State Skills Development Council has been established to equip youth with vital skills for **employability and entrepreneurship**", the group explained.

The group said in order to promote gender equality, Governor Sani signed the Gender-Responsive Procurement Policy, ensuring women-owned businesses have equitable access to government contracts. It said the move strengthens Kaduna's economic fabric and empowers female entrepreneurs.

They went on to say that Kaduna State has also taken a leading role in climate action, ranking second nationwide for its comprehensive environmental policies. It said the initiative, focuses on reducing carbon emissions and promoting renewable energy.

"Furthermore, Governor Sani's administration distributed 15,000 metric tons of fertilizer to farmers, significantly boosting agricultural productivity and ensuring food security for the state's citizens.

"We are also excited that in another groundbreaking move, Governor Sani has championed disability inclusion, collaborating with **NGOs to ensure equal** opportunities and integration for persons with disabilities."

Khadija Mohammed Bello, Coordinator of the Northwest Democrats Assembly, said, "Governor Uba Sani's multifaceted approach to governance reflects his dedication to creating an inclusive, **prosperous, and sustainable Kaduna State**. We urge all stakeholders to support and build on these initiatives."

The assembly's endorsement is the latest in a series of accolades for Governor Sani's developmental strides, solidifying his reputation as a visionary leader.

Kaduna prepares civil service for efficient governance

By Justina Habila

The Kaduna State Government has taken a significant step forward in its effort to reposition its Public Service for optimum results.

Head of the State Civil Service Hajiya Habiba Shekarau, Chairman and Permanent Commissioner of the service who was represented by the permanent secretary Civil Service Commission Shehu Umar Shuaibu as well as the Permanent Secretary Establishment, Management and Training, were among other Permanent Secretaries from all the Ministries, Departments and Agencies, that convened at General Hassan Usman Katsina House Kaduna State to work on the proposed Authorized Document meant to ensure a comprehensive and accurate review of the public service structure for effective service delivery.

During the meeting, a Committee which comprised all Ministries, Departments and Agencies' representatives tackled the challenges in the service which included over-staffing and under-staffing, gaps in the nomenclatures or structure discrepancies in all the Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

On the card was a review of the current public service structure leading to identified areas for improvement and the need to agree on the methodology and time line for the exercise. The session also assigned responsibilities to committee members and stakeholders for establishing a framework for data collection, analysis and reporting within time frame. The meeting also outlined the following:

Addressing discrepancies.

- Identify specific areas of discrepancy and propose corrective actions to ensure accuracy and compliance.
- Discuss the impact of these discrepancies on operations and service delivery.

Proposed solutions and adjustments.

- Recommend corrective actions to address discrepancies.
- And suggest changes to organizational structure, work load managers and resource allocation.

The chairman of the committee reiterated that the development will achieve a goal which was in line with the Seven-Point Agenda of Governor of Kaduna State Senator Uba Sani. The aim is to produce a well structured and efficient Authorized Establishment that will support the effective delivery of public service in Kaduna State, he said.

The Permanent Secretary Establishment, Management and Training, Mrs Jummai G. Bako said that it was only through the collaborative effort of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies that concrete measures will be taken to proffer solutions by Ministries, Departments and Agencies through sharing their expertise and experiences. She maintained that collaboration is key to any meaningful development to service delivery as well as to driving progression.

Why APC swept all the LGAs

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grassroots governance." She pointed out that the "election is our chance to strengthen democratic institutions," reaffirming the administration's commitment to a free and credible electoral process.

The Deputy Governor also highlighted the achievements of the Senator Uba Sani administration. Dr. Balarabe pleaded with voters to consider their party's proven track record in enhancing local infrastructure, healthcare, and agriculture. "A vote for APC candidates is a vote for progress and unity. Together, we can secure a brighter future for our communities," she pointed out. In conclusion, Dr. Balarabe called for collective and massive support for the APC candidates in the eight local government areas of Southern Kaduna.

Indeed, the people of Southern Kaduna heeded the call of their most prominent daughter in Kaduna State as they voted massively for APC. Before October 19, some of the political big shots in the area had left PDP. For example, on October 10, APC received thousands of decampees ahead of the election in her Sanga local government, at a campaign rally. Former House of Representatives member, Hon Nuhu Audu Dogo and a two-time commissioner Hon Usman Baba in the PDP administration, crossed over to APC, along with their numerous supporters. The influx of new members strengthened APC's position in the local government elections, as the party capitalized on the growing dissatisfaction within the opposition.

Also, the State Chairman of Labour Party, Alhaji Isah Chiroma, defected to APC at a rally in Kafanchan, headquarters of Jemaa local government, three days to the election, with his teeming supporters. In addition, Mahmood Abdullah, the PDP Councillorship candidate for Kafanchan Ward B, cross carpeted to the ruling party, along with numerous PDP members.

Earlier, over 700 PDP and LP supporters, members of the All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) and People's Redemption Party (PRP) in Makera Constituency of Kaduna-South local government crossed over to APC on July 22, 2024. The defectors, which included a former State House of Assembly candidate for Makera Constituency, women and youth leaders in Kaduna-South Local Government, were received at Kakuri Gwari. The Chairman of the Kaduna South chapter of APC, Alhaji Ibrahim Soso, assured the

defectors of equal opportunities in their new party. He advised them to work for APC and ensure that all its candidates win the local government election. Mr. Ayok Danboyi, a former candidate for Makera State House of Assembly Constituency, and Yunana Bala, a chieftain of the PDP, who spoke on behalf of the defectors, said their defection was necessitated by Governor Uba Sani's leadership style whose focus is uniting the people of the state.

So, the victory of APC in the last local government in Kaduna State, is a combination of massive developmental projects by the Senator Uba Sani administration, coupled with the campaign team led by the Deputy Governor, in addition to the mass defection of PDP members to APC since Governor Uba Sani assumed office.

How Gov Sani is driving the economy

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(KADA-FIMS) to ease access to financing and to ensure that all initiatives get to the right beneficiaries in the agriculture value chain which would consolidate its position in the sector.

No doubt, economic opportunities abound, but a sizable portion of Kaduna State population has been unfortunately excluded from the established financial system, which is essential and in fact a prerequisite for economic development. This explains why financial inclusion is so important and key to Governor Sani's economic programme. His target is the inclusion of 2.1 million poor, vulnerable people presently excluded from the financial system. So far an impressive over one million people have been included.

The governor, apart from attracting investment, has also continued to implement in a very holistic manner, other policies that promote economic and social development like access to financial services, credit facilities, insurance coverage, and investment opportunities, areas which had equally inhibited economic growth and efforts to create employment.

In the words of Governor Sani: "It makes socio-economic sense to fundamentally tackle poverty because the society stands to positively reap the benefits in more ways than one, both in the short and long run; in improved income, better healthcare and in overall security of the society, and more".

In June, 2024, Governor Sani paid a return visit to Shijiazhuang, the capital of Hebei Province in China following the initial visit by the province's Vice Governor to Kaduna State towards forging a stronger and sustainable partnership between the two states. One of the gains is the tripartite agreement for the development of Hebei Industrial Park in Kaduna, in addition to the tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Kaduna State, Hebei Province and CCECF for cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology, energy, agriculture and infrastructure to promote common prosperity and development.

During the visit, the first ever Kaduna State Investment Summit in China which brought together over 70 industrialists and investors held, with Governor Sani making more than a persuasive case to the Hebei

Province industrialists to make the state their investment destination of choice, because the state is ready for business. Thankfully for Governor Sani, the Sub-national "Doing Business Report 2018," published by the World Bank, which ranked Kaduna state as the most improved place for doing business in Nigeria, and number one for registering titles; eloquently spoke for him.

COEASU praises Uba Sani for disbursing funds to College of Education Gidan Waya, calls for further reforms

The Colleges of Education Academic Staff Union (COEASU), Gidan Waya Chapter, has expressed its profound appreciation to the Governor of Kaduna State, Senator Uba Sani, for his recent approval and disbursement of ₦45 million for the accreditation of both the National Certificate in Education (NCE) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed) programs at the Kaduna State College of Education, Gidan Waya.

Addressing members of the press at the Kafanchan Campus earlier in October, the union hailed the governor's decision as a testament to his commitment to prioritizing the education sector in Kaduna State.

COEASU emphasized that the funds will significantly aid in addressing the long-standing facility and infrastructure deficits at the college, thereby enhancing the prospects of a favorable outcome in the upcoming accreditation exercise.

The union, while applauding the disbursement, urged the college management to ensure the judicious use of the funds. COEASU warned that it would closely monitor the disbursement, procurement, and overall expenditure to prevent any mismanagement.

"We will not hesitate to 'blow the whistle' on any shady deals," the union stated, stressing that any misuse of funds could jeopardize the institution's accreditation prospects.

COEASU also lauded the governor for establishing a committee to implement the ₦70,000 minimum wage, including representatives from the state's tertiary institutions. The union called on the governor to ensure that staff from tertiary institutions are not excluded from this benefit, as they were during the implementation of the ₦30,000 minimum wage under the pretext that they were on a special salary scale.

Furthermore, COEASU urged the governor to adopt the recently revised Polytechnic and Colleges of Education salary structure, issued by the Federal Government in September 2024, to improve the welfare of academic and non-academic staff.

The union highlighted other pressing issues affecting the institution to include:

- poor remuneration,
- conditions attached to the 65-year retirement age policy,
- and funding challenges where it said the institution had not received its statutory subvention since February 2023.

A lack of funding which has severely affected the college's operations, with management struggling to purchase essential supplies, pay bills, and fund examinations.

COEASU appealed to Governor Uba Sani to address these challenges, including ensuring the timely release of subventions, exempting tertiary institutions from the Single Treasury Account (TSA) policy, and implementing the revised salary structure and while expressing confidence in the governor's ability to take prompt action, wished him continued success in his leadership.

Finance Ministry reiterates fiscal discipline, sustainability

The Kaduna State Ministry of Finance has held a Strategy Meeting with the theme *"Soaring to Higher Heights with the SUSTAIN Agenda,"* with emphasis on financial discipline.

The event, anchored by Deloitte, brought together Staff and Management of the Ministry to strategize on accelerating growth and development, aligning with the SUSTAIN agenda of Gov. Uba Sani.

In her presentation, the Commissioner of Finance, Hon. Shizzer Nasara Bada, emphasized the Ministry's commitment to fiscal sustainability and economic development.

She outlined the Growth and Development Strategy, highlighting four key pillars: **Goals, People, Product, and Tactics**, as essential to driving progress.

Hon. Bada stressed that a clear roadmap for financial management, **resource optimization**, and technology adoption would be pivotal in achieving the state's long-term prosperity.

The meeting reaffirmed Kaduna State's dedication to transparency, innovation, and collaboration as it seeks to strengthen its economy and enhance the well-being of its citizens.

The insights from the strategy session will guide the state in its continued journey toward sustainable development, the organizers stressed.

KDSG to offer free screening on non communicable diseases

Kaduna State Government will offer free screening services for half a million citizens across the entire state, for Non-Communicable Diseases like hypertension and diabetes.

A statement issued by the Commissioner of Health, Hajiya Umma K Ahmed, said that the screening, which will be done in two phases across the three senatorial zones, will be tagged "Project 10 Million - Know Your Number, Control Your Number."

According to the commissioner, the free screening is in line with the Nigeria Health Commissioners Forum's (NHCF) national initiative aimed at combating the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), particularly hypertension and diabetes, in Nigeria.

Hajiya Umma said that the would-be beneficiaries of the free screening are adults from 18 years and above, adding that **"NCDs such as hypertension and diabetes pose a serious health challenge,"** contributing to approximately 27% of all annual deaths in Nigeria totaling around 447,800.

Hajiya Umma promised that the first phase will be done in Zaria, Sabon Gari, Makarfi, Soba local governments in Zone I, adding that the exercise will take place in Kaduna North, Kaduna South, Chikun, Igabi local governments in Zone II.

The statement further said that in Zone III, the free screening will take place in Jema'a, Kachia, Zangon Kataf, Kaura local governments.

"The designated locations include; PHCs, General Hospitals, Markets, Motor parks, Higher institutions of learning in the selected LGAs as well as State and Federal Secretariat, Government house, State house, Ministry of Health and the Primary Health Care Board."

"This campaign will focus on both urban and rural populations, with a special emphasis on underserved communities to ensure equitable access to free screening and treatment services."

"The initiative seeks to enhance public awareness, improve data collection, and foster collaboration among various healthcare stakeholders to improve overall health outcomes," she added.

According to Umma, the screening exercise will provide immediate counseling and referrals for individuals with abnormal results, increase public awareness about hypertension and diabetes.

The Commissioner of Health pointed out that **"the likelihood of dying from these conditions between the ages of 30 and 70 is estimated at 17%,** underscoring the urgent need for intervention."

"Cardiovascular diseases account for most NCD deaths (17.9 million people) annually, followed by cancers (9.3 million), chronic respiratory diseases (4.1 million), and diabetes (2.0 million including kidney disease deaths caused by diabetes)."

"These four groups of diseases account for over 80% of all premature NCD deaths. Tobacco use, physical inactivity, the harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diets and air pollution all increase the risk of dying from an NCD," she added.

The exercise will also "improve data collection on the prevalence of NCDs to inform health policies and planning, prioritize underserved communities to ensure health care equity," the statement added.

Igbo community in Kaduna honours Gov Uba Sani

The Igbo Community, Kaduna honoured Gov Uba Sani with a chieftaincy title "**Ezi Enyi Ndi Igbo**" (*True Friend of the Igbos*).

The conferment was in recognition of his administration's efforts in rebuilding trust, strengthening security, forging unity and creating conducive atmosphere for businesses to thrive.

The conferment was performed by the Eze Igbo Kaduna, His Royal Highness Igwe Engr. Sylvanus Aneke.

The 2024 Igbo Cultural Day Celebration, which took place at Nigerian Correctional Service Staff College, Barnawa, attracted eminent personalities and a large crowd of cultural enthusiasts.

In his remarks at the occasion, the Gov thanked the Igbo Community for finding him worthy of the special title. "**I have had long standing relationship with Ndi Igbo. Igbos are a unique people: industrious, hardworking, resilient, resourceful and accommodating,**" the Gov said.

KDSG denies taking N36bn loan, says report diversionary

The Kaduna State Government has **dismissed** a report by Sahara Reporters alleging that the state borrowed **N36 billion** in the past six months, describing it as false and misleading.

The government clarified that it is actually paying nearly three times the size of loans taken by the past administration due to the massive devaluation of the Naira.

This was revealed in an official rebuttal issued by **Mukhtar Ahmed**, the Commissioner of Planning and Budget, who noted that exchange rate fluctuations would definitely affect the ongoing repayment of the inherited loan burden.

The government stated that the inherited debt burden from the previous administration consists of long-term loans.

"These loan commitments, including World Bank programs such as AGILE, SURWASH, and ACRE SAL, were all agreed upon during the previous regime," the Commissioner further explained.

While emphasizing that no new loans have been taken under Governor Uba Sani's leadership, he said the surge in borrowing receipts, by the second quarter of 2024, is attributable to the dramatic devaluation of the Naira.

Previous administration's loan agreements, based on exchange rates of ~~₦415~~—~~₦480~~ to the dollar, have now seen the Naira plunge to over ₦1,600 to the dollar, effectively tripling the value of these debts in local currency.

The Kaduna State Government, according to the Commissioner, has also expressed disappointment with Sahara Reporters for failing to seek clarification before publishing the report. It accused the platform of spreading falsehoods in the manner of "**digital terrorism**" and serving external interests by attempting to distract from ongoing investigations into financial mismanagement under the former administration.

He said that despite the inaccurate reporting, the government remains steadfast in its commitment to debt transparency and financial discipline, **focusing on improving the state's economy without adding new financial burdens.**

"The state government reaffirmed its resolve to hold accountable those responsible for mismanaging the state's resources, vowing to reposition Kaduna for the benefit of its citizens," Mukhtar Ahmed explained.

Makarfi sugarcane farmers appreciate KADA GM for free fertilizer

A **delegation of Makarfi Sugarcane Farmers**, led by Chairman Yusuf Magaji, visited the General Manager of **Kaduna Agricultural Development Agency (KADA)** at the agency's headquarters.

There they expressed heartfelt gratitude for the consideration shown to their members in the ongoing free fertilizer distribution initiative launched by the Uba Sani-led administration.

During the visit, the sugarcane farmers also solicited additional support from KADA, specifically requesting:

1. Training programs to enhance their farming skills
2. Research collaborations to improve seed quality and crop yields
3. Mechanization support to boost efficiency and productivity

Chairman Yusuf Magaji praised KADA's efforts, stating:

"The free fertilizer distribution has significantly impacted our farming activities. We look forward to continued partnership and support to further develop our sugarcane farming operations."

KADA General Manager, Muhammad Rili, assured the delegation of the agency's commitment to empowering farmers and promoting agricultural growth in Kaduna State.

LG Service Commissions in Nigeria honor Uba Sani

By Aliyu Ladan

The **Association of Local Government Service Commissions in Nigeria** has honored **Gov Uba Sani** for his contribution towards **rural infrastructure development and peace through dialogue**.

The event at which the Gov was honoured was held at the **Maryam Babangida Center for Women Development, Abuja**.

The **Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs**, Alh. Sadiq Mamman Lagos, alongside the Chairman of the Kaduna State Local Government Service Board, Professor Aminu Ladan Sharehu, OON, and other Chairmen of Local Government Councils in Kaduna State received the award on behalf of Gov. Uba Sani.

KSDPC updates titles on properties

The **Kaduna State Development and Property Company (KSDPC)** has **embarked on verification, normalization, certification and update exercise** for all its Sub-Leases, Deed of Assignment, Offer Letters, Application of Transfer of Ownership, Certificate of Occupancy, and other property transactions in the State.

In a statement, the company said that the exercise has become imperative in view of KSDPC's ongoing deed digitization and automation process.

It said under the exercise, KSDPC was trying to accurately capture, authenticate, and register the titles of its beneficiaries in line with extant State land laws and regulations and make their records easily accessible to its numerous clients and stakeholders.

The Management of KSDPC is aware that some of its beneficiaries have applied and some have obtained Certificates of Occupancies over their sites and services plots. These beneficiaries would be required to provide KSDPC with such to enable it **update and preserve** those transactions in its records, the statement added.

The management statement explained that the exercise will be carried out in phases, starting with KSDPC's three Layouts in Zaria, adding that for an effective and efficient exercise, KSDPC has partnered with **Arch-Rands Associate Nigeria Limited**.

Individuals affected are asked to give maximum cooperation to the said partners.

While emphasizing that the exercise was **free of charge**, the statement announced the deadline for the exercise from **Monday 14th October, 2024 to Monday 13th January, 2025**.

Those affected are enjoined to visit KSDPC's head office between the hours of **9 am to 5 pm every workday** of the week within the duration of the exercise with their title documents, offers, deeds, etc. to have them certified and updated.

The statement however warned that those affected for the purpose of this exercise and all other transactions involving KSDPC are advised not to transact with **“unscrupulous persons” disguised as agents of KSDPC** so as to avoid falling victim to fraudsters.

"Management advises that before transacting business over any of KSDPC's properties, beneficiaries should first conduct a legal search at KSDPC's head office," it cautioned.

Uba Sani, FCDO Director, British High Commissioner assess partnership

Governor **Uba Sani**, the Development Director, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) **Cynthia Rowe**, and the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, **Mr. Richard Montgomery**, have during discussions stressed the need to **strengthen partnerships** between the two countries.

The discussions centered around strengthening the existing partnership between the FCDO and the Kaduna State Government, especially in the areas of:

- Education
- Agriculture
- Health
- Human Capital Development
- Social Protection

The British High Commissioner and the Development Director, FCDO acknowledged **Kaduna State Government's unwavering commitment** towards actualizing the Kaduna State Development Plan.

They hailed Kaduna for being the best in the Eyes and Ears Monitoring System using the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and always being the first in Reforms Initiative and management — having both federal and other state governments taking cues from Kaduna.

The meeting highlighted that many British investors had expressed interest in investing in Kaduna State.

Governor Uba Sani, while thanking the British High Commission and the FCDO for prioritizing Kaduna State, expressed delight at the **huge impact** so far made by the FCDO Programs in improving the lives of the **poor, vulnerable, and underserved**.

A key outcome of the meeting was the setting up of a **Joint KDSG/FCDO Team** to engage with investors and furnish them with information on **investment-friendly policies and incentives** in Kaduna State.

Team Kaduna hauls 12 medals at national youth games

By Hassan Tanko

Team Kaduna has set a new benchmark with its stellar performance at the **2024 National Youth Games (NYG)** in Asaba, Delta State, clinching an impressive total of **12 medals** and asserting its dominance in sports.

The contingent won **5 Gold, 4 Silver, and 3 Bronze** medals, finishing:

- 11th overall in the national rankings
- 2nd in the Northern region
- 1st in the North West

This historic feat is largely attributed to the **support and commitment of the current administration of Governor Uba Sani**, whose dedication to youth and sports development has provided the platform for Kaduna's athletes to thrive.

Governor Sani's vision for empowering young talents through sports has clearly borne fruit, as Team Kaduna continues to shine on the national stage.

The athletes delivered **strong performances across multiple disciplines**, bringing pride to the state:

Gold Medals:

1. **Taekwondo** – *Abdallah Lawal Namanu* won Gold in the boys' -37kg category, marking the first medal for Kaduna at the Games.
2. **Beach Volleyball (Girls)** – The team claimed a commanding victory to secure the Gold medal.
3. **Cricket T20 (Boys)** – In a tightly contested final, Kaduna's boys triumphed, adding another Gold to the tally.
4. **Cricket T20 (Girls)** – The girls' team also claimed Gold, demonstrating their supremacy in the sport.
5. **Hockey (Boys)** – The boys' hockey team capped off their campaign with a Gold medal after a thrilling final against Nasarawa.

Silver Medals:

1. **Indoor Volleyball (Girls)** – Team Kaduna fought hard but finished with Silver in the final match.
2. **Beach Volleyball (Girls)** – In another competitive showing, the girls secured Silver after a remarkable run.
3. **Hockey (Girls)** – The girls' hockey team earned Silver in their final match.
4. **Badminton (Mixed Doubles)** – Team Kaduna also grabbed Silver in the mixed doubles event, showcasing versatility in sports.

Bronze Medals:

1. **Swimming (Boys)** – Two Bronze medals were secured in the 100m Freestyle and 100m Backstroke events.
2. **Cricket (Girls, ODI)** – The girls' team took Bronze in the ODI format, rounding off their strong performance.

This impressive haul reflects not just the **skill and dedication** of the athletes, but also the **robust sports development programs** that have been implemented in Kaduna State.

With more youth being engaged in sports under Governor Uba Sani's administration, Kaduna's future in national and international sports **looks brighter than ever**.

Governor Uba Sani welcomes new NSC Chairman

Governor **Uba Sani** has received on a courtesy visit the newly appointed **Chairman of the National Sports Commission (NSC), Alhaji Shehu Dikko**, an illustrious son of Kaduna State.

While congratulating the Chairman, Governor Uba Sani extended his sincere appreciation to President **Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR** for finding Alh. Dikko worthy of this strategic national assignment.

The Governor described Alh. Shehu Dikko as a **sports enthusiast** who has the requisite skills and competences to **add value to Mr. President's administration** and meet the expectations of **sports lovers and the Nigerian people**.