



**GOVERNMENT OF EBONYI STATE**

**EBONYI STATE EXPORT STRATEGY AND GUIDELINES DOCUMENT  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

## **MEMBERS OF EBONYI STATE COMMITTEE ON EXPORT (SCEP)**

1. The permanent secretary Ministry of Commerce & Industry -Chairman
2. Director of cooperative
3. Director of Industry
4. Director of Commerce

### **Representatives of the under listed organisations:**

5. Farmers Association(AFAN)
6. National association of small scale Industry(NASSI)
7. City chamber of Commerce, Industry and Mines
8. Association of Nigerian Exporters(ANE)
9. Manufacturers Association of Nigeria
10. Federal ministry of commerce and Investments
11. State Ministry of information
12. State Bankers committee
13. State Ministry of Agriculture
14. State ministry of Environment
15. Nigerian investment promotion Council (NIPC)
16. Nigerian customs
17. Raw material Research and Development Council
18. Nigerian Export Promotion Council
19. National Agency for Food And Drugs Agency (NAFDAC)
20. Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)
21. National Youth Council (NYCN)
22. Ministry of solid Mineral
23. Ministry of women Affairs
24. Standard Organization of Nigeria (S.O.N)
25. National Association of Women Entrepreneur (NAWE)
26. Ministry of Culture and Tourism
27. Governor's Representative
28. Ebonyi Export Club (EBEC).

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EXPORT STRATEGY IN EBONYI STATE**

Ebonyi state has comparable advantage in food and cash crops such as cassava, rice, yams, potatoes, amongst others. It is also richly blessed with abundant natural solid minerals such as iron ore, zinc ore (sphalerite) ands, lead ore (galena), granites, limestone oxide, salt sands marcasites and many more (see Appendices),

The state Government is ready for strategic partnership that will help maximize the potential in both the agricultural and solid mineral sector. With the present drive by the Nigerian Export Promotion council (NEPC) for a zero oil-product economy, aimed at diversifying the Nigerian Export capacity, each state is to select a single crop that it has the highest comparative advantage. Ebonyi state selected Cassava in the agriculture produce and also a range of its vast solid mineral endowment.

It is no gainsaying that the necessary precondition for investments and export is the securing of an enabling environment which the state Government has done a lot in the area of ease of doing business, enabling Tax incentives, Agricultural funding , strong collaboration with Raw material Research council, standard Organization of Nigeria , NEPC and many others.

## **SECTORAL ANALYSIS**

In 2022, agriculture contributed around 36 percent to the state GDP. The State Committee on Export Promotion committee (SCEP) is embedded within the Economic Sector which comprising of Commerce and Industry, Agriculture, Mines, Trade and Investment.

## **HARNESSING OF AGRO- MINERAL AND INDUSTRIAL/ INVESTMENT POTENTIALS OF EBONYI STATE**

A close study of the Trade and Investment map of Nigeria discloses glaring opportunities and possibilities and today Ebonyi stands out as the Treasure Island and choice destination for genuine Investors who must have to imbibe the tenets of the people's charter of needs policy of the State Government so as to be able to comfortably invest in the state. From a simple character of largely rural and crude production activities in agriculture, mining and quarrying in the prestatehood era, the economic landscape of Ebonyi has evolved gradually into a melting pot of a very modern and upcoming Trade and investment Bus Stop.

### **A. Trade and Investment Ventures in Ebonyi State.**

(i). The Ultra-modern International Market at Abakaliki Capital City

(ii) The state of art microcosm copy of Dubai Shopping mall replicated in the state known as Ebonyi shopping mall located at the heart of the capital city.

(iii). The revamped Nkaliki Poultry Farm with a capacity to produce 9000 broilers/week and 4 2 million eggs year.

(v) The Industrial estates located at Uburu, Ohaozarar LGA and Ntsurakpa/Ishieke axis of Ebonyi state.

(vi). The Ultra-modern SATAKE Rice Miling Plants at the three Senatorial zones of the state (Iboko for Ebonyi North; Ikwo for Ebonyi Central and Osso Edda for Ebonyi South)

(vii), The Ultra-modern MEGA Water Industries at Oferekpe of Ikwo L.GA, Ezillo in Ishielu LGA and Ukawu of Oncha LGA.

(viii) Ebonyi Pipes Production Company LTD etc

There is also a preponderance of commercial retailing and general wholesale of mainly consumer items like foods and beverages, and other commodities of trading, haulage, transportation of both Stone minerals, Industrial and domestic products has soared in Ebonyi and its environs. This transport business in turn generates auxiliary businesses of spare parts and maintenance services in the state.

Crops yield of yam, rice, maize, cassava, groundnuts, cocoyam and sweet potatoes are very reasonable. Fruit farming for oranges and mangoes are also high yielding in the state. Their yields can sustain very Viable processing industries in these regards.

Mining, Quarrying and allied industries dependent on solid minerals have great potential in Ebonyi State.

NIGERCEM cement factory situated at Nkalagu, Ebonyi State was the premier cement factory in Nigeria because of the abundance of quality limestone in the area. Government is currently addressing †the preliminaries towards actualizing the establishment of new cement plants in the shortest, possible time. Solid minerals which are in commercial quantities include Lead, Zinc, Copper, Aluminum, Coal, Lignite, Gypsum, Salt (largely locally produced), Granites, Kaolin, Clay, Barite, Sand, Laterite etc.

## **B. Ebonyi State and ~~their~~-its agro-industrial derivatives.**

It is not yet determined in which area of Ebonyi state is more endowed agricultural resources. The land in Ebonyi is lush, abundant, fertile and productive. Ebonyi soil is indeed reputed to be the richest and highest yielding for rice, yam and cassava cultivation and about 30 other cash and food crops in West Africa. Ishielu LGA is predominantly known for the production of potatoes, yam, cassava and rice. There is therefore Vast potentials and opportunities for large scale farming and agro – industrial ventures of any size in the state. Ebonyi being an agrarian state has an added advantage in terms of any kind of agro-business and industries. The fertilized land and massive road network make it easier for agriculture to thrive in the state. The

availability of gigantic rice processing plants in the 3 zones of the state and Ezillo Farm/storage plants are contributing factors to enormous agricultural development in the area. Ebonyi has added advantage on major cereal crops such as (Rice, maize etc), all tuber crops (Yam, Cassava, Wateryam etc), sesame seeds, fruits of all kind etc and value chains associated with them.

### C. Commerce and Industry

In area of Commerce & Industry, Ebonyi International Market, Ebonyi Shopping mall, industrial estates, newly constructed international airport and other gigantic edifices are begging for investors use in the state.

Ebonyi is ripe for any kind of industrial project owing to the availability of raw materials, labor and security in the state.

Ebonyi Shopping mall located in the heart of the capital city is a gigantic edifice that has thousands of spaces for allocation to investors for banking services, production companies of all kind, media houses, restaurants, eateries, etc.

In area of Commerce, the rural areas need to be opened up for commercial purposes. The state government has linked all the 13 LGAs with durable ring roads that will beat the taste of time. Construction of markets in those areas will be germane and viable projects that calls for investors' attention.

### INVESTMENT POTENTIALS OF EBONYI STATE.

#### (Solid Mineral Resources and Industrial Locations and uses)

S/N	NAME OF MINERALS	LOCATIONS	EXPLOITATION /DORMANCY	UTILIZATIONNN
1	Brine (Salt)	1.Uburu – Ohaozara LGA 2.Okposi – Ohaozara LGA 3.Ameri – Ikwo LGA 4. Amasiri – Afikpo North LGA 5. Ochege – Onicha LGA 6. Idembia – Ezza South	Locally Exploited	Refining yields edible salt, caustic soda, soda ash, sodium hypochloride, chlorine etc
2	Granite	1.Ishiagu – Ivo LGA 2.Ezillo – Ishielu LGA 3.Otam – Izzi LGA 4.iyimagu -Izzi LGA 5. Ngbo – Ohaukwu LGA 6. Akpoha – Afikpo LGA	Mostly being exploited by certified both local and foreign firms while in some areas are yet to be mined	Chippings for road constructions, bridges, building etc
3.	Lead-Zinc-Copper	1. Ameka – Ezza S. 2.Enyigba – Abakaliki LGA	High Grade exploitation by RSL while in	Pencils, solders, beraings, alloys, ammunition, batteries,

		3.Ameri- Ikwo LGA 4.Ishagu – Ivo 5. Nkpumaakpatakapa -Izzi	some areas are locally mined	bronze, brass, lithographic plates, galvanizing cables, conductors etc
4	Sands	Afikpo North Ishielu Ikwo Uburu	Highly exploited locally	Building bridges, road construction, houses etc
5	Limestone, dolomite, Dolerite	Ishielu (Okpoto, Ezillo & Nkalagu) Ohaukwu (Ngbo& Effium) Ebonyi (Isheke)	Not exploited. NIGERCEM not working.	Cement, animal feeds, fertilizers, glass, water treatment, tanning, chalk etc
6	Barites	Nwezenyi – Igbeagu Izzi, Ivo	Dormant	Drilling Mud for oil companies
7	Kaolin	Oziza/Ndibe beach (Afikpo North) Afikpo South Ishagu (Ivo)	Locally exploited	Ceramics, Pharmaceuticals, paints, detergent, robber etc
8	Fillers Earth/ Laterites	All parts of Ebonyi state	Partly exploited	Brewery, Civil Constructions of all kind etc
9	Charcopyrite, False Gold, Uranium	Enygba (Izzi) Ishagu (Ivo) Enyigba (Izzi)	Dormant	Ornaments, Gold Plating, Power generation
10	Coal/lignite	Ubeyi (Afikpo)	Dormant	Power Generation, battery tc
11	Pyrites	Enyigba Ameri	Dormant	Motor Brushing, Vehicle parts
12	Copper ore, iron ore and quartz	Enyigba Abakaliki	Locally exploited	Wire and alloy, metal fabrication, diode, scientific equipment, wrist watch etc
13.	Tar /Share	Ishiagu	Partially exploited	Asphalt tar for road construction

### **Deliberate Policies towards Rapid Promotion of Trade and investments In Ebonyi State.**

- A cocktail of incentives and deliberate policy that genuine investors who apply for plots get their allocation within three days of application.
- State laws on business and investment, incorporate incentives such as annual capital allowance and tax holidays.

- Regimen aimed at creating and promoting an enabling environment for the private sector to thrive and drive the business and economy.
- Industrial estates and layouts have been developed at Abakaliki, Onueke (Airport axis) and Afikpo areas of the state to encourage investments.
- There is an open-door policy on investment; land is available and manpower is enthusiastically made available to investors
- Provision of a secure environment which has the nation's best climate for social peace, low crime rate, friendly and hospitable people who are industrious, simple and open minded
- An aggressive investment promotion programme complemented with an open-door policy and invitation to investors literally from around the world.
- National and International training of skilled manpower arising from a massive and sustained investment in education and human capital development by the government.
- Creating an investor/host community **peaceful negotiation table** in line with the overflowing basket mineral deposits with energy production values.
- Ebonyi tourist sites also present enormous investment opportunities. Government development policy initiatives are highly in favor of this area (**eco-tourism**) as a strategy for diversifying the state revenue base and fast tracking the development of rural areas.
- Complementing the the tourism potentials of the state, there are battery of luxury hotels which help to provide a balanced mix of business and pleasure in the state.

## **EBONYI STATE EXPORT SUPPORT STRATEGIES (RELATED TO PRODUCT AND MARKET EXPANSION)**

The state export interest in non-oil is focused on optimization of local content and the empowerment of local **agricultural produce and solid minerals** in the state.

The objective is to sustain inclusive and diversified economic growth in non oil products thereby creating an enabling environment for economic activities to flourish in the state.

### **STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING EXPORT ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE**

1. Enabling business environment for registration of businesses.
2. Tax incentives.
3. Access to funds-loans and grant to SMEs, MSMEs,
4. Cluster production and farming to increase volume of production and market expansion.
5. Off-takers investors to support farmers for cassava and solid mineral in providing pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest ancillary services such as inputs, storage, haulage, etc.

6. Export incentives – such as Export support incentive:-Export Expansion Grant scheme (EEG), Tax Relief on Interest Income (TRIP), Export Development Fund Scheme (EDF), Export Credit loan scheme.
7. Gender inclusiveness
8. Sensitization and training for stakeholders on Export opportunities and support.
9. Partnership with Nigerian Export Promotion Council
10. Budget inclusion or funding SCEP to improve the efficiency of the committee, empower the committee to take up more export led activities and to provide funds to support the state export strategy.

## **EXPORT GUIDELINES:**

### **1. REGISTRATION**

- a. Registration as an Exporter with NEPC
- b. The Registration process is solely through E- registration platform of NEPC. ([www.nepc.gov.ng](http://www.nepc.gov.ng))
- c. The Exporter must be dealing on made-in-Ebonyi products as indicated above.

### **2. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR NEPC REGISTRATION**

#### **a) Limited Liability Company**

- Certificate of incorporation'
- Form CAC 1.1(Particulars of Directors)
- Memorandum and Articles of Association

#### **b) Cooperative society**

- Certificate of Registration
- Bye Laws

#### **c) Government or Non-Government Organisation**

- Certificate of Registration
- Constitution of the Government or Non-Government Organization

## **SERVICES FEES**

1. New Registration	N 13,500
2. Renewal of old certificates	N 13,500
3. Late Renewal of late certificates	N13,500
4. Mutilated old certificate	N13 500
5. Lost old Certificates	N 13,500

N.B -All certificates issued before 3/4/2017 on expiry will be required to migrate to the online platform by registering for new certificates on the platform



## Prices after Migration

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Renewal of certificate                                 | N7,500   |
| 2. Late renewal of certificate ( after 3months of expiry) | N12,500  |
| 3. Lost or mutilated certificate                          | N 12,500 |

Time line is 24 working hours after confirmation of payment. Delivery is within 72working hours.

## **Institutional mechanisms and Activities:-**

- a. CBN Anchor Borrowers Fund
- b. Tax exemption certificate
- c. Export processing zones facilities
- d. CAC free registration for MSMEs
- e. Inter-institutional collaboration between Federal and State regulatory agencies involved in Export processing and packaging (e.g. SON, NAFDAC, RMRADC, State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ministry of Trade and Investment, etc.)

## **APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS SUCH AS CAPACITY BUILDING AND SENSITIZATION ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASING THE EXPORT CAPACITY OF FIRMS IN THE STATE.**

1. The Local Government sensitization on Export
2. Capacity building training on market strategy for women-owned businesses (Dec 2021).
3. Sensitization programme on active Youth Inclusiveness in Non-oil export(march,2021)
4. Workshop on inclusive and sustainable digital presence of MSMEs in Nigeria (Ebonyi state)

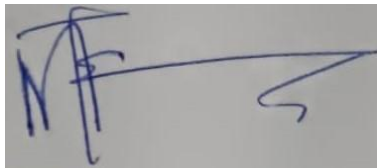
APPENDIX 1

**LIST OF NON- OIL EXPORTABLE PRODUCTS IN EBONYI STATE FROM 13 LGAs as at December 2023**

S/N	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	AGRO COMMODITIES	SOLID MINERALS	MANUFACTURE (SEMI PROCESSED AND FULLY MAN)
1.	Onicha local government area	Rice, yam, palm oil, bitter cola, ogbono, charcoal, garri, mat, salt groundnuts, log of woods, okro, cashew nuts, castor seed maize	Iron ore, zinc ore (sphalerite) ands, lead one (galena)	
2.	Abakaliki local government area	Rice, melon ogbono	Zinc ore, quartz umenite, lead, limestone, dolerite (pyroclastirics)	
3.	Afikpo north local government area	Rice, cassava (garri) palm oil, sweet potatoes, groundnut, maize	Sands, quartz, kaolin, fulters earth, coal/lignite	
4.	Ebonyi local government area	Cassava, rice, potatoes maize, yam	Iron sand, lead iron ore, zinc ore	
5.	Ezza south local government area	Rice, yam patotoes, cocoyam, ogbono watermelon, cucumber, melon, seed cassava, maize, gunea corn vegetables	Lead, zinc, granites, limestone oxide, salt sands marcaite	
6.	Afikpo south local governmnt area	Yam, rice, red oil, vegetable leafs, water leafs, water yam and cassava	Zinc, kaoliri, laterites, crude oil, natural gas, phosphate.	
7.	Ivo local government area	Yam, cocoyam, beans, rice, maize, cassava, plantain, dawa, pumpkin leave, watermelon, potatoes, okro plantain varieties in abundance	Granite, barites, marble stone, chalcopyrite (fool's gold), fluorite	

9	Ikwo local government area	cassava, sweet potatoes, rice	sands, brines (salt) pyrites	
10	Ezza north local government area	yam, cassava, palm-oil	marble stone sands	
11	Ohaozara local government area	honey, tanjuna, salt, rice, yam, palmoil, mazie, coco yam, garri	phosphates, cnjpsum, sands	
12	Ishielu local government area	yam, cassava, palm-oil, palm-nut, sweet potatoes, rice, water yam, plantain	phosphates, cnjpsum, sands	
13	Izzi local government area	cassava, mellon, ogbono rice, dried okro, palm-oil, sesame, coconut	chalcopyrite (fools gold), iron one, pyrites, copper ore, zinc	

**SIGNED:**



**Mrs. Mojibade Ekuma  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry/  
State Committee Chairman of Export Promotion**