

ZAMFARA STATE ACTION ON BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS (SABER)

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT ON 2024 BUSINESS ENABLING REFORMS ACTION PLAN (BERAP)

S/N	Business Enabling Reform Areas	Reform Objectives	Action Steps	Description and Key Targets	Responsible MDA	Contributing MDAs	Planned Start Date	Planned End Date	Status	Description of Status	Next Steps
1	Improved Land Administration and Land Investment Process	Digitalise processes to reduce inefficiencies, opacity and fraud while ensuring that land transactions are carried out fairly and effectively.	1. Prequalify vendors and obtain approval for procurement of GIS infrastructure. 2. Review, update, and publish the process, relevant organizations, fees, and timelines for obtaining a CofO and construction permits.	1. Digitalize existing CofOs registered from 1st Jan. 2012 to 31st Dec., 2023. 2. Continuous improvement in land registration processes for transparency, efficiency and accountability.	ZAGIS, ZUREPB, BIR	SABER Secretariat	30/1/2024	31/10/2024	Completed	All existing CofOs were fully digitized and archived.	Digitization of workflow for the process of obtaining CofOs, including digitalised payment of fees and form submission.
	Increase inclusivity and investments in land administration for agricultural (and non-agricultural) purposes.	1. Understudy the experience of implementation in Kaduna and Gombe States. 2. Adopt the FRILIA as contained in the State Executive Order	1. Establish a transparent foundation for the procedures, processes, and organizational arrangements to govern large-scale and inclusive agribusiness investments in Zamfara State	ZAGIS, ZUREPB, Ministry of Agriculture	SABER Secretariat	30/1/2024	27/9/2024	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved knowledge transfer and institutional learning. Acceleration of GIS Modernization in ZAGIS operations. Enhanced implementation of FRILIA and social inclusion. Improved land governance, inclusivity, and service delivery. 	ZAGIS Technical staff pays a courtesy visit to Gombe & Kaduna GIS offices and FRILIA toolkits were also domesticated including GRM establishment	Training and retraining of staff on land investment in agriculture. Digitization of GRM for dispute resolution.

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2	Increased fiber optic network deployment and access to broadband	Increased transparency in the process of obtaining Right of Way (ROW) to attract investments and the ease of doing business with operators.	Add the list of approved ROW-related requests by operators to the information published on the website, including the process for obtaining ROW including all relevant MDAs, timeframes, and costs.	Review, update and publish guideline entailing the procedures involved, the timelines and the requirements for obtaining ROW, as well as, approvals granted to operators.	ZUREPB, ZITDA	SABER Secretariat	30/1/2024	27/9/2024	Completed	Both guidelines for obtaining RoW and list of approved RoW were duly published in the state government official website(s)	Continue to publish list of approved RoW online every year and subsequent review of the procedure with a view of simplifying it and to reduce timeline. Provide investment incentives for fibre optics investors.
3	Increased Sustainable Large-Scale Investments	To expand the state's capacity for sustainable large-scale investments by strengthening the public-private partnerships (PPP) framework and ensuring transparency for investor confidence.	1. Develop and publish all statutory frameworks. 2. Publish PPP project pipeline.	Publish PPP fiscal commitment and contingent liability management framework, PPP Legal and institutional framework and PPP disclosure framework	ZIPA, SABER Secretariat	Zamfara Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP), State Assembly, Ministry of Justice, Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Finance	30/1/2024	27/9/2024	Completed	PPP Manual, FCCL, PPP Disclosure list and PPP Pipelines for 2024 were developed and published on the government website	Continue to publish PPP pipeline every year. Make PPP manual and policies accessible to the public by maintaining a user friendly web portal.

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		Improve investment promotion and business sustainability.	1. Structure IPA to strengthen investor relations and provide investor aftercare services. 2. Organize training to boost staff capacity and continuous learning. 4. Review incentives.	The state will have an effective and dedicated agency to coordinate and facilitate investment promotion services, update investor incentives, organize information sessions for investors on access to credit and assist investors in linking them to credit institutions.	ZIPA, Zamfara Investment Company, SABER Secretariat	State Assembly, Ministry of Justice, Chamber of Commerce	30/1/2024	27/9/24	Completed •Enhanced investment facilitation and promotion. •Strengthened access to finance for MSMES and investors. •Improved Public-Private Dialogue (PPD). •Strengthened institutional capacity of ZIPA	ZIPA has been activated in the state. Sessions were conducted with the investors on access to credit	Continue engagement with the investors regularly. Organise Investment Summits and Workshops to facilitate investment in the state.
4	Enabling Firm Operations and Regulatory Reforms	Improve MDAs' service delivery efficiency, transparency, accountability and openness to support growth of businesses and increased investments.	5 business-enabling environment MDAs (BEEs) will institute and adopt Grievance Redress Mechanisms that will ensure fulfilment of obligations. These are: IRS, Water Corporation, ZUREPB, BPP and ZAGIS	Continued transparency of processes and functioning grievance resolution systems of at least two of the business enabling MDAs.	BIR, Water Corporation, ZUREPB, BPP, ZAGIS.	SABER Secretariat, Ministry of Commerce	01/08/2024	28/6/2024	Completed •Improved Public Service Delivery through SLAs. •Enhanced complaint handling and investor confidence through GRM. •Strengthened transparency and accountability. •Enhanced investor experience and private sector engagement	SLAs were developed for all BEE MDAs. Central GRM office established at the SABER Secretariat and Desk Officers were also dedicated at each BEE MDA.	Establish digitized GRM services for the BEE MDAs

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		Encourage easy inter-state trading and promote export businesses from the state	1. Update and evaluate trade grievances and resolutions records based on service level agreements (SLAs). 2. Promote exports in collaboration with the SCEP and NEPC.	1. An effective feedback and grievance resolution mechanism that supports trade activities. 2. At least 10% increase in number of export-certified firms in the state.	Ministry of Commerce, SABER Secretariat	Ministry of Agriculture, ZIPA, Zamfara Investment Company, Internal Revenue Service	01/08/2024	27/9/2024	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved trade facilitation and dispute resolution.Increased exporter confidence and market access.Strengthened Public-Private Dialogue (PPD).Enhances dispute resolution, promotes smoother export processes, empowers local businesses.	<p>GRM for trade related grievance has been established. Technical session conducted with the exporters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Insecurity and political instability.Weak Institutional Capacity.Limited Private Sector Engagement.Inadequate Data and M&E Systems at BEE MDAs.Resistance to Change and Bureaucratic Bottlenecks.Delays in policy	<p>Coordinate and actively facilitate the process for firms/businesses to acquire export licenses from the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC). This will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Organizing sensitization sessions or workshops for resident firms to guide them through the application process.Providing hands-on technical assistance to firms in preparing and submitting complete and compliant applications.
5	Quick determination of commercial disputes	Strengthen access to an efficient commercial justice system.	Regularly publish and evaluate performance reports.	Efficiency in case disposition (within 60 days) and judgment execution (within 30 days).	State High Court	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Commerce, SABER Secretariat	01/08/2024	25/3/2024	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased transparency and public trust.Improved contract enforcement and investor confidence.Efficient Enforcement of Judgments.Reduced Case Backlogs and Judicial EfficiencyInstitutional capacity of the judiciary strengthened	<p>Monthly publication of reports on the Judiciary web sites. Adherence to case disposition with 60 days and execution within 30 days</p>	<p>Add more Small Claims Courts at least one in each senatorial district. Conduct Capacity building for Judges and staff of the small claims courts.</p>