



ERGP Focus Labs Monthly Newsletter

MINISTRY OF BUDGET AND NATIONAL PLANNING
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Welcome to the 6th Edition of the ERGP Focus Labs Newsletter, a publication that features progress on investments unlocked and projects facilitated at the Focus Labs.

News

Nigeria joins African Network of Delivery Units to boost ERGP implementation

Nigeria's Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) Implementation Unit has joined other African countries to launch the African Network of Delivery Units (ANDU), to leverage innovative delivery methods in the implementation of its economic transformation programme. The ANDU is focused on rapidly implementing the sharing of successful practices of accelerating high-impact programmes towards industrialisation and socio-economic transformation.

Delivery units are small highly skilled teams working at the center of government to help line ministries accelerate delivery of top priority programs and initiatives.

The formal launch of the Regional Network held in Dakar, Senegal on January 19, 2019 during the International Conference on the Emergence of Africa, attended by several African Presidents and the Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations/Regional Director, UNDP Bureau for Africa.

Supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations (UN), the network would assist in mobilising private investments for strategic projects, and potentially creating a platform for linking large Nigerian project sponsors with regional hubs across the continent.

Agriculture and Transportation

Packinghouse for boosting Agriculture produce export ready for take-off

An agricultural export packinghouse with climate control facilities for storing yam and other food produce prior to shipment and distribution has been completed by Lange and Grant Commodities Limited.



The company was one of the participants in the ERGP Focus Lab hosted by the ERGP Implementation Unit last year. The objective of the packinghouse is to create the necessary infrastructure for food exports. The facility located in the Ikorodu Light Terminal is expected to reduce post-harvest losses for rural farmers and assist in maintaining the quality standards of agriculture produce.

During the Focus Lab, Lange and Grant had presented two projects: the establishment of a national export pack house with modern climate control facilities for agriculture produce at the Ikorodu light terminal; and a new factory for the expansion and production of insulated panels locally.

The Focus Lab assisted the company in refining their project plans to align with the requirements of government, in developing a detailed implementation plan for their project with commitment to timelines, as well as meeting with high level government officials to tap into the existing business enabling provisions of government for the projects.

Following from there, considerable progress has been made by the company to complete the packinghouse for initial temporary use. Over 3000 tons export of agriculture produce has already been achieved. The second project which targets completion of a new factory for the production of insulated panels and 40,000 prefab low cost housing units per annum is underway. Large and Grant with an annual turnover of approximately N2 billion employs 300 persons, with increased potential for employment in 2019.

Manufacturing and Processing

Cibi expands quarrying operation in North Central Nigeria

Cibi Nigeria Limited located in Mando area of Kaduna State was one of the 5-star projects brought to the ERGP Focus Lab. It started operations on granite quarrying and processing since 1992, and came to the Lab with the hope of expanding its current operations through optimization of its existing quarry operations, acquisition of new quarry equipment, and optimization/expansion of the existing granite processing capacity.

After the Lab, the company has been able to secure full approval of the amount it requested from the Bank of Industry (BOI) under the Artisanal and Small Scale Miners Intervention Fund, and has equally obtained significant amount of funds it applied from NEXIM Bank for the optimization and expansion of its factory and quarry.

The company is just awaiting the re-certification of the collateral for the loan application by the Kaduna State Government in order to access the loan. The ERGP implementation team is currently working with the relevant authorities to ensure the re-certification.



Draft National Cotton, Textile and Garment policy ready Q2 2019

As part of stakeholders' engagement on the National Policy on Cotton, Textile and Garment (CTG) sector, the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment held a two day retreat in December 2018, in Abuja, for validation of a draft policy to rejuvenate the value chain.

The retreat sought to finalise the review of the policy document for the full revitalization of the sector and to ensure sustainable growth and development of the industry in line with global best practices.

The retreat hosted stakeholders, MDAs, sector specialist, strategy consultants, development professionals, professors, investors and players across the CTG Sector value chain.

The retreat looked at the key challenges within the value chain such as insufficient cotton seeds for local farmers, poor quality of cotton seeds, poor access to funding, high cost of input materials and low prices of cotton produce amongst other issues.

The retreat reviewed challenges in policy articulation, identified gaps and prepared recommendations for government intervention strategies in line with Global best practices.

Some of the recommendations proposed include incentives for importation of high quality cotton seeds and other relevant inputs, and government support for the establishment of the required laboratories to undertake proper cotton grading exercises. Other recommendations include banning the use of polypropylene bags for the collection of harvested cotton and bale wrapping for cotton lint as well as advocating for the adoption of Made in Nigeria textiles products by MDAs and the Organized Private Sector.

It is expected that the effective enforcement of the Executive Order 003 on support for local content in public procurement by the Federal Government would further promote locally-made textiles for both civilian attire and uniforms for military and para-military personnel, among others.

Power and Gas



100 MW Solar Power Farm in Bauchi

Addenbrooke Integrated Solutions Limited is a renewable energy and energy infrastructure firm that came to the Focus Lab with a plan to construct a 100MW project on a 200 hectare solar farm in Duni, Bauchi State. On completion, the project is expected to be one of the largest utility scale solar photovoltaic projects in West Africa.

Following its participation in the Focus Lab, ERGP Implementation Unit facilitated a meeting between the company and the Bauchi State Government resulting in the signing of an MoU between the Company and the State Government in October 2018.

Currently, the project sponsor is working with the State's Ministry of Power, Science and Technology to complete the process of issuing title documents for the project site.

Related milestones on the project include listing of the project as part of redemption of Nigeria's commitment to global de-carbonization, as per Paris Agreement and Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), completion of site assessment and obtaining of provisional EIA from the Federal Ministry of Environment, and the grid and line route study which is currently on-going.

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