

# OKOWANOMICS FACT SHEET SERIES (2015 TO DATE)

- ✓ Job & Wealth Creation & Social Investments
- ✓ Transformation of Education & Health Systems
- ✓ Support for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- ✓ Peace and Security
- ✓ Transformation of the Agricultural Value Chain
- ✓ Development of Roads & Urban Renewal
- ✓ Development of Sports & Entertainment Industry

Driven by critical thinking, clear foresight, sound planning, effective execution, smart coordination, political wisdom and executive intelligence.

*Okowanomics Fact Sheet Series is prepared by  
Delta State Job & Wealth Creation Bureau*



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Governor of Delta State**

## THE POWER OF RIGHT LEADERSHIP: EVIDENCE FROM OKOWANOMICS

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Okowanomics Fact Sheet Series is a semi-monthly [twice-a-month] bulletin of evidence-based “Fact Sheets” showing Governor Okowa’s spectacular achievements of job and wealth creation, development of infrastructure, urban renewal, transformation of education and health systems, peace and security, social harmony and overall economic development. The Series is a journal of Governor Okowa’s legacies and footprints in the geopolitical entity of Delta State. It is a tracker dashboard that mirrors the unique developmental strides in Delta State under the leadership of Governor Okowa.

The Fact Sheets are developed and published by Delta State Job & Wealth Creation Bureau, using verified information and data from the relevant state government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

### 2.0 THE CONCEPT OF OKOWANOMICS

Okowanomics is the brand identity representing the gamut of Governor Okowa’s political shrewdness, developmental philosophy and governance ideology defined by his people-centred policies, mission-oriented approach, economic prudence and social intelligence. Underlying Okowanomics is Governor Okowa’s exceptional assortment of personality and character virtues notably critical thinking, clear foresight, strategic planning, clever coordination, effective execution, humility, self-discipline, people skills and executive intelligence. These sterling qualities and attributes are manifest in the excellent leadership and exemplary governance of Delta State from 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 to date.

### 3.0 TOPIC OF 13<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

This edition of Okowanomics focuses on Governor Okowa’s leadership brand defined by sound planning, effective implementation, excellent management of people and resources, proper supervision and authentic feedback. By this edition, evidence is provided to demonstrate the leadership prowess of Governor Okowa across various spheres of political and economic governance of Delta State. The evidence is given as ten (10) indelible footprints of Governor Okowa’s leadership model.

### 4.0 POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Leadership is pivotal to good governance of a society. One universal truth which is repeatedly emphasized by John C. Maxwell in his several leadership literatures is that “everything falls and rises on leadership”. This axiom underscores the crucial importance of leadership and that nothing works without good leadership. In fact, a leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. These defining ingredients of authentic leadership are borne out by the leadership model of Governor Okowa in the political and economic governance of Delta State.

### 5.0 TEN (10) INDELIBLE FOOTPRINTS OF GOVERNOR OKOWA’S LEADERSHIP MODEL

1. **Deep personal involvement in the design and planning of government policies, programmes and projects:**
  - Several policies, programmes and projects benefitted directly from Governor Okowa’s great

wealth of personal experience spanning his public service track record as Secretary, of Local Government Council, Chairman, Local Government Council, Commissioner, Secretary to State Government, Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Some of the policies, programmes and projects are Job Creation and Youth Empowerment Programmes, Contributory Health Insurance Scheme, Delta State Capital Territory Development Agency Law, Central Secretariat Project in Asaba, Storm Water Drainage Projects in Asaba and Warri, as well as the Establishment of Three New State-Owned Universities.

**2. Close and regular supervision of the implementation and management of policies, programmes and projects:**

- From inception of his tenure to date, Governor Okowa has continued to undertake regular physical inspection of projects under construction to gain first-hand assessment of progress and milestones according to schedule.
- Another tool for regular supervision is regular and case-by-case working sessions with the Economic Management Team (EMT) to discuss and elicit inputs on ongoing and planned policies, programmes and projects.

**3. Invention of mutually complementary policy and programme feedback channels to ensure balanced and complete field information:**

- This is evidenced by the co-existence of monitoring, tracking and evaluation processes for feedback on policies, programmes and projects. The agencies are Directorate of Youth Monitoring and Mentoring, Directorate of Project Monitoring (ministry status), Department of Monitoring and Evaluation in the Ministry of Economic Planning.
- The use of town hall meetings, stakeholder consultation fora and targeted conclaves with select groups to obtain direct feedback on state government policies, programmes, projects and service delivery. One vivid example of this feedback strategy is the town hall meeting held in the headquarters of each of the 25 local government areas by Governor Okowa during the period from May 2017 to August 2018.

**4. Streamlining of duties and functions among ministries, departments and agencies to eliminate role ambiguity and sharpen the lines of accountability:**

- Example is the creation of the following institutions - Ministry of Girl Child Entrepreneurship and Development, Ministry of Works (Highways & Urban Roads), Ministry of Works (Rural & Riverine Roads), Ministry of Youth Development, Ministry of Urban Renewal, Ministry of Primary Education, Ministry of Secondary Education, Ministry of Technical Education, Ministry of Humanitarian & Community Support Services and Ministry of Urban Renewal and Development.

**5. Fairness, equity and inclusiveness in political governance, government bureaucracy and distribution of infrastructure projects:**

- Appointment into political offices is equitably spread across the 25 local government areas of the state and reflects socio-economic structure of the state's population, such as gender, persons with disabilities, youths and non-indigenes. While not compromising merit and competence, appointment into government bureaucracy is also reflective of the diversity of the state in terms of spread across the 25 local government areas and ethnic nationalities.

**6. Allowing ample space for professional inputs and competing views in the process of making policy choices or carrying out policy reviews:**

- Meetings and deliberations of the State Executive Council (the highest policymaking body of the executive arm) are characterized by robust debates, informed conversations, expert professional presentations and well-reasoned resolutions.
- Setting up of Economic Management Team (EMT) charged with the functions and duties to examine project proposals, investment partnerships with the private sector, undertake policy analysis and economic reviews to feed into decision-making by the Governor and the State Executive Council.
- Setting up of special task teams and committees to examine thematic policy and programme questions and issues towards reaching informed decisions.

**7. Synergy and confidence-building with the State House of Assembly regarding state government policies, programmes and projects:**

- The result of this synergy is an array of laws which provide legal frameworks for policy and institutional reforms of the Okowa administration. From inception in 2015 to date, ninety (90) Bills comprising 44 Bills during 2015-2019 and 46 Bills during 2019-2023 have been passed by the State House of Assembly and assented to by the Governor. These Bills cut across several sectors of social and economic life including health, education, security, justice, social welfare, environment, governance, business, commerce and investment, public financial management, community development, job creation and youth empowerment, urban renewal and physical development, agriculture, rural development and water resources.
- A spectacular feature is that three (3) Executive Bills were passed by the State House of Assembly and assented to by Governor Okowa in the first 3 months of his administration, that is, June-August 2015.



**8. Proper alignment between policy-programme priorities and resource allocation coupled with proactive foresighted planning and inter-temporal resource allocation:**

- Governor Okowa demonstrates foresighted planning by ensuring that annual budgets are prepared and submitted to the State House of Assembly timely enough to be considered, passed and signed into law for resources to be available to carry out road infrastructure construction early in the year before the onset of the rains, among other time-bound projects.
- As evidence, many projects have been initiated, planned, executed, completed and commissioned under the Okowa administration. One example is that the administration has started and completed the construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of more than 1,900 kilometres of roads and more than 1,200 kilometres of drains since its inception. Likewise, key projects including Asaba Storm Water Drainage, Central Government Secretariat, Leisure Park and Film Village, Koka Flyover and Interchange were started, completed and commissioned by the Okowa administration.

**9. Adherence to statutory due process and rules of transparency and accountability in planning, budgeting and management of the state's finances:**

- The fiscal planning, budgeting and public expenditure process involves (i) Ministry of Economic Planning which prepares the preparation of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) & Fiscal Strategy Paper (FSP) and submits to State Executive Council for consideration and approval (ii) submission of EXCO-approved MTEF & FSP to State House of Assembly for consideration and approval (iii) Ministry of Economic Planning prepares Annual Budget Estimates and submits to State Executive Council for consideration and approval, and (iv) submission of EXCO-approved Annual Budget Estimates to State House of Assembly for consideration and passing of Appropriation Bill (v) the Governor signs the Appropriation Bill into Law.
- Design and implementation of public financial management reforms in budgeting, auditing, accounting and procurement under the World Bank-assisted States' Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) Programme for Results. The policy and institutional reforms include Delta State Public Procurement Law 2020, Delta State Internal Revenue Service Law 2020, Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Law 2020, Delta State Audit Law 2021, Delta State Debt Management Law 2021, Delta State House of Assembly Fund Management (Financial Autonomy) Law 2021, Delta State Judiciary Fund Management (Financial Autonomy)

Law 2021 and Delta State Public Finance Management Law 2022, Publication of Approved Annual Budgets and Quarterly Budget Performance/Implementation Reports, Annual Audit of Public Accounts & Publication of Audited Accounts and citizens' engagement in the budget process.

- Consistent timeliness in the preparation and submission of annual budget to the State House of Assembly for appropriation and signing of the Appropriation Bill into Law before the start of the ensuing fiscal year. The following facts show proof of timeliness and diligence in the budgeting process.

- The 2018 Budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and signed into Law on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017; the 2019 Budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and signed into law on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2018; the 2020 budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and signed into law on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019; the 2021 Budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and signed into law on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020; the 2022 Budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and signed into law on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and the 2023 Budget was presented and laid before the State House of Assembly on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and signed into law on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

- Except in the years 2016 & 2017 when economic recession happened globally and nationally and in year 2020 when COVID-19 lockdown brought about global economic meltdown, the state government under Governor Okowa's leadership has operated annual budgets with more than 50% allocation for capital expenditure compared to recurrent expenditure.

**10. Attitude of meticulous reading and detailed study of documents, memoranda, reports and proposals to gain robust personal knowledge, good understanding and insightful appraisal of any given subject matter:**

- Governor Okowa is widely acknowledged and duly appreciated for his tremendous capacity to rigorously review and analyse memoranda, technical proposals, committee reports and correspondences, regardless of the huge work pressure and tight schedule. In fact, his reading capacity and analytical power are as abiding as his listening ability.