



---

# KEBBI STATE OF NIGERIA

---

DRAFT KEBBI STATE PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP POLICY



OCTOBER 1, 2010  
KEBBI STATE GOVERNMENT  
GWADANGAJI SECRETARIAT COMPLEX

## **HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND**

### **1.0 BRIEF HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

Kebbi State has a very rich historical background both in relation to the Hausa State and the Sokoto Caliphate. Both the emergence of Sokoto Caliphate, most of the area comprising Kebbi State was dominated by the powerful Kingdom of Kebbi carved out of the old Songhai Empire by the legendary warrior Muhammadu Kotal Kanta. Other areas are the Yauri Kingdom and the Zuru confederation.

Following, the Fulani jihad and the establishment of Sokoto Caliphate in the early part of 19 century, the area became the south-western part of the caliphate under the famous scholar and warrior, Sheik Abdullhi Danfodio, the brother of leader of the caliphate, Sheik Usmanu Danfodio. As a result of the colonial conquest of the Sokoto Caliphate in 1893, the area became part of the protectorate of northern Nigeria. After Nigeria's independence in 1960 and following the state creation, the area was first, part of the North-western state (1967-1976), Sokoto state (1976-1991) and with Birnin Kebbi as the State, created on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1991 with Birnin Kebbi as the state capital. It currently has twenty-one local Government Areas.

### **1.2 GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND.**

Kebbi State is located on the north western part of Nigeria between latitudes 10<sup>o</sup> and 13<sup>o</sup>N and longitudes 3<sup>o</sup>30' and 6<sup>o</sup>E. It has a total landmass of about 37,699 square kilometers out of which 36.46% is made up of farmland. However, about one third of the state is situated in desert prone environment thus making it one of the front-line states for the menace of drought and desertification. The state shares an extensive border with Niger Republic to the North and Benin Republic to the west with many inter-cultural and ethnic linkages. It is internally bordered to the North-East by Sokoto State to the East by Zafara State and to the south by Niger State.

The landscape of Kebbi State is dominated by extensive flood plains (Fadama) of the inland river valley systems. The Niger River flows southwest across part of the state and the Rima River flows southerly

through the center of the state to join the Niger. Both rivers have broad flood plains. The flow of River Rima is, however, perennial which reaches its peak during the short wet season that last between June and September. The largest sources of surface water, however, is in Yauri and Ngaski Local Government Areas where the River Niger forms large body of water several square kilometers in size known as Kainji Lake; which is 80% located in Kebbi State.

The geology of Kebbi State is characterized by thick and vast sequences of sedimentary deposits of the Sokoto Rima-basin, which underline about 50% of the area. The rest being underlain by Precambrian Basement complex rocks. The predominant soil type in Kebbi State, however, is the ferruginous tropical soils. Their main features include a sandy surface horizon underlain by weakly developed clayey, mottled and sometimes concreting subsoil. Although, they are generally considered to be high in natural quality, they are very sensitive to erosion because once the vegetation cover is removed, the sandy topsoil are easily washed away by rain water and wind. The soil show low water holding capacity and are therefore susceptible to drought.

Another type of soil that occurs in the state is the alluvial or fadama soil mostly found in Rima and Niger River Valleys. This soil is suitable for crop production. Farming in Kebbi State indeed depends to some extent on the fadama land that are sometimes several kilometers in width.

In terms of rainfall, however, the mean annual in the state varies significantly from the northern part (733mm) to the southern area (1045mm). Total number of rain days also varies from the north to the south (50 days to 80 days respectively). The wet season starts from June to September in the northern parts and April to October in the southern parts, with a characteristic intense local thunderstorm with a short period.

## 2.0 SOCIO-CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Kebbi State with a total population of 3,238,628 as per 2006 National census comprises of 21 Local Government Areas and 4 Emirates Councils each under a first class Emir. They are Gwandu (with headquarters at Birnin Kebbi), Argungu, Yauri and Zuru. Emir of Gwandu is the Chairman of Kebbi State Council of Chiefs. Of the total population, however, males account for 1,617, 498 or 49.9% while the females are 1,621,130 or 50%.

Like all other State in the country, Kebbi State has diverse ethnic composition with the following as the major tribes and the Local Governments they are mostly domiciled. These are Hausa All over the state but dominant in areas like Birnin Kebbi, Argungu, Jega, koko, Gwandu, Maiyama, Arewa and Augie Local Government Areas; Dakarkari (Lalna) Zuru, Danko-Wasagu and Sakaba Local Government Areas; Kambari Yauri, Ngaski, Danko-Wasagu and Sakaba Local Government Areas; **Zabarmawa** Dandi, Argungu, Bagudo and Birnin Kebbi Local Government Areas.

In terms of Cultural Festivals and Artifacts, the state is famous in the Argungu international Fishing and the Zuru annual Uholo Cultural Festivals. In addition, Kanta Museum Argungu, the tomb of Sheik Abdullahi Dan Fodio (Hubbare) at Gwandu; the first ruler of Gwandu Emirate and Girmache Shrine at Zuru provide important tourist attraction sites.

## 3.0 ECONOMIC SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Prior to independence and during the period immediately after independence, the economy of the North-West; which Kebbi State belongs, was largely dependent on production and trading in primary agricultural crops and commerce. Production of large quantities of agricultural cash crops such as ground nut, cotton, Gum Arabia, tobacco leaves ad cowpeas, along with huge quantities of grains ensures a booming economy within the area. In addition to the agricultural produce, there was a booming trade in hides and skins with Nigeria once being famous for the Moroccan red leather.

With the discovery of oil, and subsequent easy money there from, there was a gradual shift in focus leading to eventual neglect of the entire economy and focus on oil to the detriment of virtually everything else. With money from oil, food importation became the vogue to the detriment of Local agriculture production, thus fuelling the disincentive further depress production Globalization further worsened the situation, resulting in cheaper substitutes from abroad (which enjoy high level of subsidy), coupled with increasing cost of inputs and lack of steady power supply combine to ensure that the Local farmer and local industries cannot compete.

This situation has now manifested in the North-West having the highest poverty incidence in the country. Poverty rose from 37.7% in 1980 to 77.2% by 1996. Even with increased agricultural production between 2003 and 2006 by farmers, this did in no way significantly affect the level of income and thus poverty in the state. The following is a brief sartorial analysis of the economy in the state.

### **3.1 AGRICULTURE**

Despite concerted effort by the State Government to boost and modernize agriculture, it has largely remained at the rudimentary level with most of the farming communities producing at subsistence level. The problems of agriculture are aggravated by factors such as low level of technology and lack of access to credit on reasonable terms, increasing low level and duration of rainfall, fragmentation of farmland resulting from inheritance and population growth, which has continuously reduced and individual household farm size, inability to secure farm inputs at the right time and non-availability of improved which combined with low level of soil fertility which in turn in low yield per hectare, at about 40% of the optimum.

The situation is particularly aggravated by the absence of processing industries which are capable of taking up surpluses produced. In addition, while the production of staple foods such as rice, millet, sorghum and others increasing over the years, the production of cash crops decreased. Most families tend to consume what they produce as a

result of expanding family size and other economic factors thereby reducing their sources of income.

### **3.2 COMMERCE**

After agriculture, commerce is the largest employer of able bodies' workforce in the state. Commerce is however, mostly dominated by distributive trade in manufactured goods and textiles although there is some level of activity in primary products. With an estimated poverty level of 72% the purchasing power of the citizenry is low. Consequently there is absence of large scale distributors and most of the supermarkets buy finished goods in Sokoto from major distributors for resale in the State.

### **3.3 MANUFACTURING**

There is very little manufacturing; most of it is dominated by small and cottage level industries engaged in processing semi-finished products. Attempt to boost this sector by the State Government seem to be hindered by low level of entrepreneurship skills and culture among the people. Consequently, most of the few manufacturing industries had to be spearheaded by the State despite the many incentives promise by the State Government to investors. Kebbi State is thus seriously lagging behind in the establishment and operation of industries despite abundant agricultural and mineral resources. Some of the industries that have been started with huge government support include:

- a. Transformer Assembly Plant, Bulasa
- b. Starch Abstraction Plant, Kalgo
- c. Melamin Ceramic House Wares Industries
- d. Neem Oil Processing Plant.

In order to take advantage of abundant limestone and gypsum in Maiyama Local Government Area, the State Government is processing a cement factory to be cited at Katanga through a public private partnership arrangement.

### **3.4 Mineral Resources**

In terms of mineral resources, the state is blessed with the following deposits:

- i. Clay (kaolin) in Giro and Dakingari areas
- ii. Iron ore in Birnin Kebbi and Dakingari areas
- iii. Gold in Laka {Ngaski LGA} and Gidan Auwal {Fakkai LGA}
- iv. Salt in Bunza area
- v. Limestone in Katanga and Giwa Tazo areas
- vi. Mica and phosphate in Sakaba LGA.

### **3.5 Organized Private Sector**

The Private Sector as it exists elsewhere is not well organized in Kebbi State. With poor entrepreneurship, it is not surprising to note that the State Chamber of commerce is dominated by people who are mostly Government contractors with very little entrepreneurship orientation. Consequently it does not seem to be in a position to attract serious interest into the state.

## **4.0 INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Educational and Health Facilities**

Kebbi State has a total of 1,768 primary schools, 150 Junior Secondary Schools and 88 Senior Secondary Schools. There are in addition, a considerable number of private owned nurseries primary and secondary schools spread across the state. At tertiary levels, the state has:

- Schools of Health Technology, Jega
- School of Nursing & Midwifery, Birnin Kebbi
- College of Preliminary Studies, Yauri
- College of Agriculture, Zuru
- Adamu Augie College of Education, Argungu
- Kebbi State University of Science & Technology, Aliero.

The only Federal-owned tertiary institution in the state is the Waziri Umaru Federal Polytechnic Birnin Kebbi.

There is a total of 15 General Hospitals and a Specialist Hospital in the state with numerous Primary Health Centers located in the state capital. In addition, there are a number of private hospital is currently under construction at Kalgo.

#### **4.2 Water supply**

Kebbi State has urban and semi-urban water schemes in Birnin Kebbi, Argungu, YAuri, Zuru, Jega and Aliero. In additon to the existing water supply facilities, the state has over the years awarded contract for the provision of several motorized boreholes, hand pump and earth dams across the state. For instance, in 2009 alone the state awarded contract for the provision of 751 motorized boreholes, 3,931 hand pumps and 5 earth dams.

#### **4.3 Road.**

As a deliberate policy, the state Government has ensured that all roads leading to the state capital are asphalted and properly maintained. Equally, all the 21 Local Government Areas headquarters are easily accessible all year round. Township roads with side drains are being constructed not only within the state capital but all the LGA headquarters and other major towns in the state.

#### **4.3 Electricity**

Electricity the rural settlement is also of priority to the state Government and consequently numerous settlements in all the Emirates have been connected with the national grid.

#### **4.4 Housing.**

The State Government has so far constructed and provided about 1,337 houses to its workers on owner-occupier basis located in Gesse phase1, Gesse phase 11 and Adamu Aliero Housing Estate all in Birnin Kebbi. About 500 more houses are being constructed on public private partnership basis also at Adamu Aliero Housing Estate.



#### **4.5 Airport.**

In order to boost economic activities in the state through businesses and tourism, a befitting airport for the state capital is being constructed at Ambursa: 14 kilometres away from Birnin Kebbi. Flights are being provided in order to meet the Federal Ministry of Aviation's requirements for certification.