



EKITI STATE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS



Welcome Address

It is my pleasure to invite you to read about our Climate Action plans for Ekiti State, which have been the subject of our deliberations and preparation.

Ekiti is a state in the South-Western part of Nigeria. It is blessed with a hilly landscape which spans the tropical rainforest and savannah zones, and has a fertile landscape which over the last 100 years has brought prosperity from its forest and cocoa sector.

However Ekiti is even richer in human terms – although we are not the largest or the most well-known State in Nigeria, we have very high human development and educational outcomes, and a tradition of academic excellence and progressive values in public life which are a reason why we are known as the ‘fountain of knowledge’.

My administration has a six-point agenda, focussing on youth development and job creation, human capital development, agriculture and rural development and infrastructure, industrialisation, arts, culture and tourism as well as good governance.

All of the first five issues have to be considered in light of the risks of climate change and the opportunities we have to creatively respond to it, not only to strengthen our resilience but also to engage positively and build newer and greener economies.

Meanwhile good governance has to include responding in a timely fashion to climate challenges, to adapt, to build resilience and to do our share to mitigate its effects and add to Nigeria’s Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We have already witnessed the effects – in windstorms, fire outbreaks, changing agricultural seasons, and in disastrous floods. We are aware there is no do-nothing option.

We have therefore reviewed the ways in which climate change is predicted to affect our State, how we respond to this, and how we mobilise the collective effort of government, private sector and communities.

We need external support to achieve greater resilience and hit our mitigation goals while also delivering development, but we have not been doing nothing while we wait for it to arrive. In this report you will read about some creative responses we have already made – for instance to control erosion, to lower emissions from the energy sector, and to support changing and lower-impact forms of farming.

But we can still do more, so I invite you read the report, think about what we are trying to do, and come and join us in our journey – whether as a private investor in green economies, a development partner supporting adaptation or mitigation goals, or a peer State or jurisdiction with whom we can share our knowledge and experiences.

On behalf of Ekiti State and my team, you are very welcome.

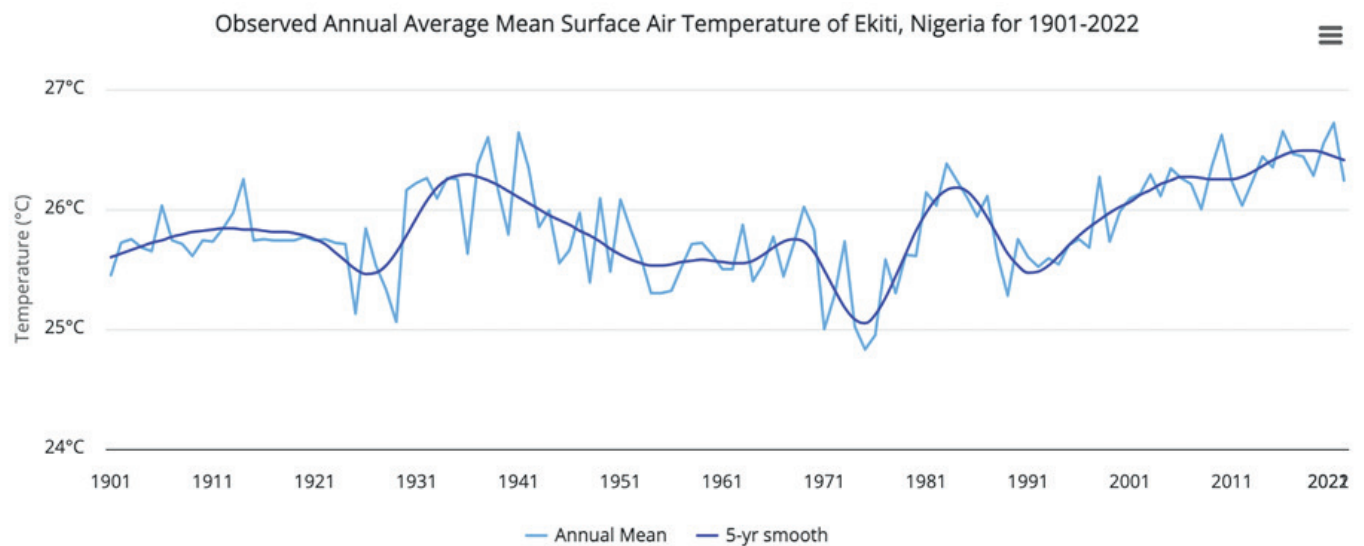
***His Excellency
Biodun Abayomi Oyebanji,
Governor of Ekiti State.***



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Rising Temperature



Average Yearly Temperature since 1901

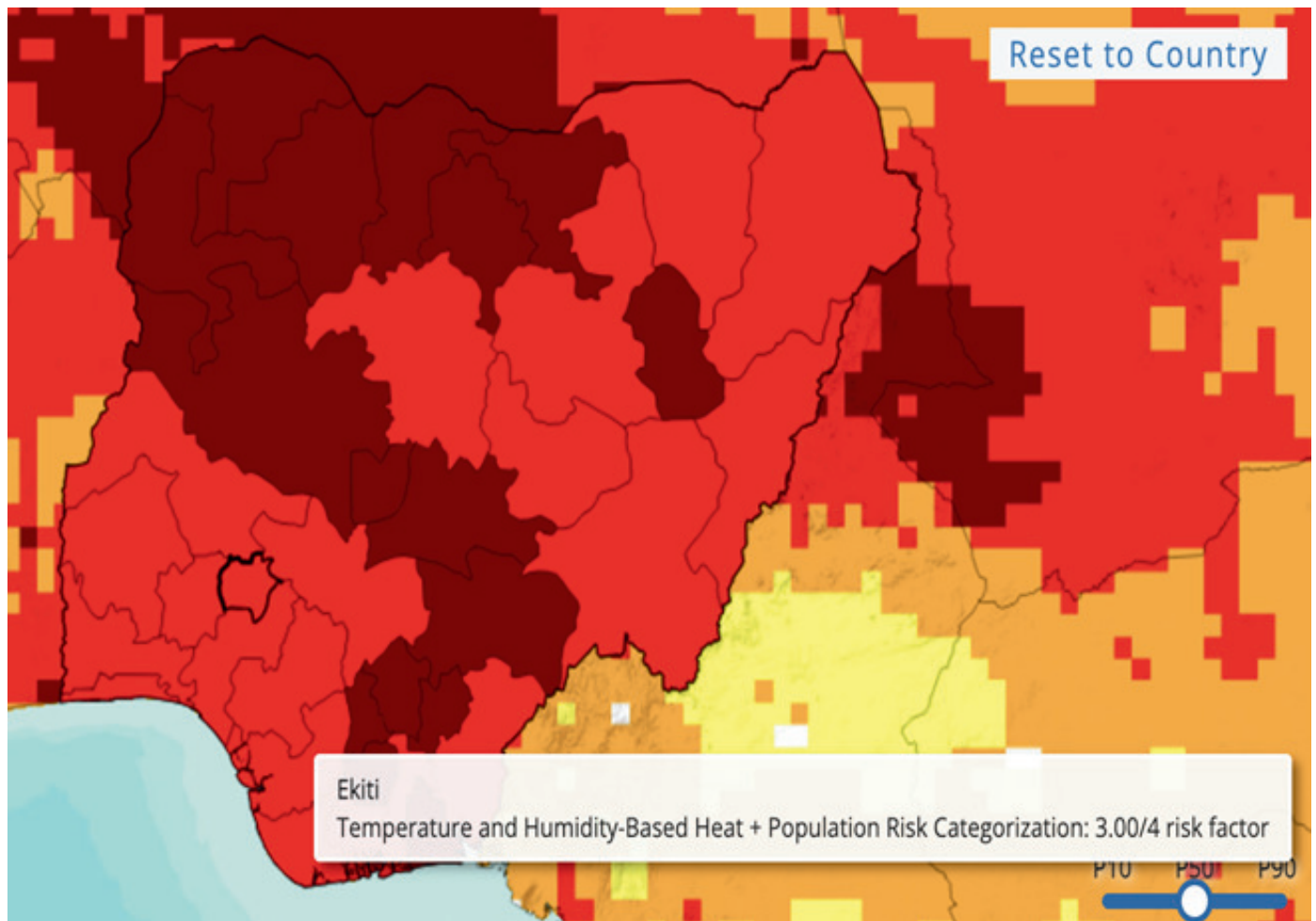
What does this mean for our future?

Ekiti State's average maximum temperature is expected to increase over 1°C by 2050

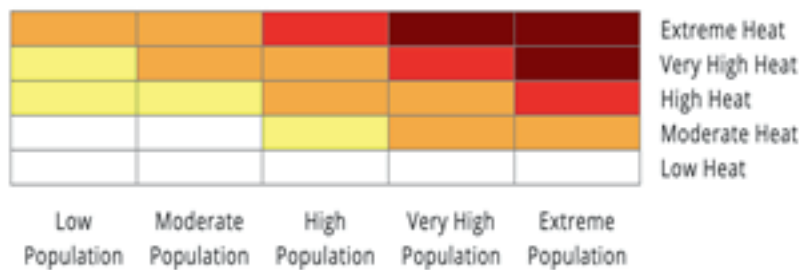
- Average mean temperature in Ekiti State from 1991 to 2020 ranged from 24-28°C
- Over the 20th Century average temperature in Ekiti State have increased about 1°C
- Changes are calculated as increases compared to a base period from 1995 to 2014
- If nothing is done, the average maximum temperature is expected to increase over 1°C by 2050
- Minimum temperature is also expected to increase 1.46°C from 21°C in the medium/high scenario
- 154 nights >23°C per year are expected by 2050, historically there are 50 nights >23°C
- 60 more days of extended periods of heat are expected by 2050, currently about 15 days¹

¹ the number of days that are part of a sequence of 6 or more days in which the daily maximum temperature exceeds 90% of the average temperatures from 1995 to 2014

Heat Risk will Hit High



RISK FACTOR CATEGORIZATION



Compound heat risk measures the combined threat posed by extreme temperatures and population factors (such as density or vulnerability).

By the middle of the century, the World Bank projects a high 3 out of 4 compound heat risk for Ekiti State.

Heat Risk Index: Ekiti State will experience High Heat Risk

These increases in temperature will have effects on people in many parts of daily life from health to agriculture. Temperature and humidity increases have been tied to increases in malaria and concern about medication stability and difficulty in storing medication as temperature increases.

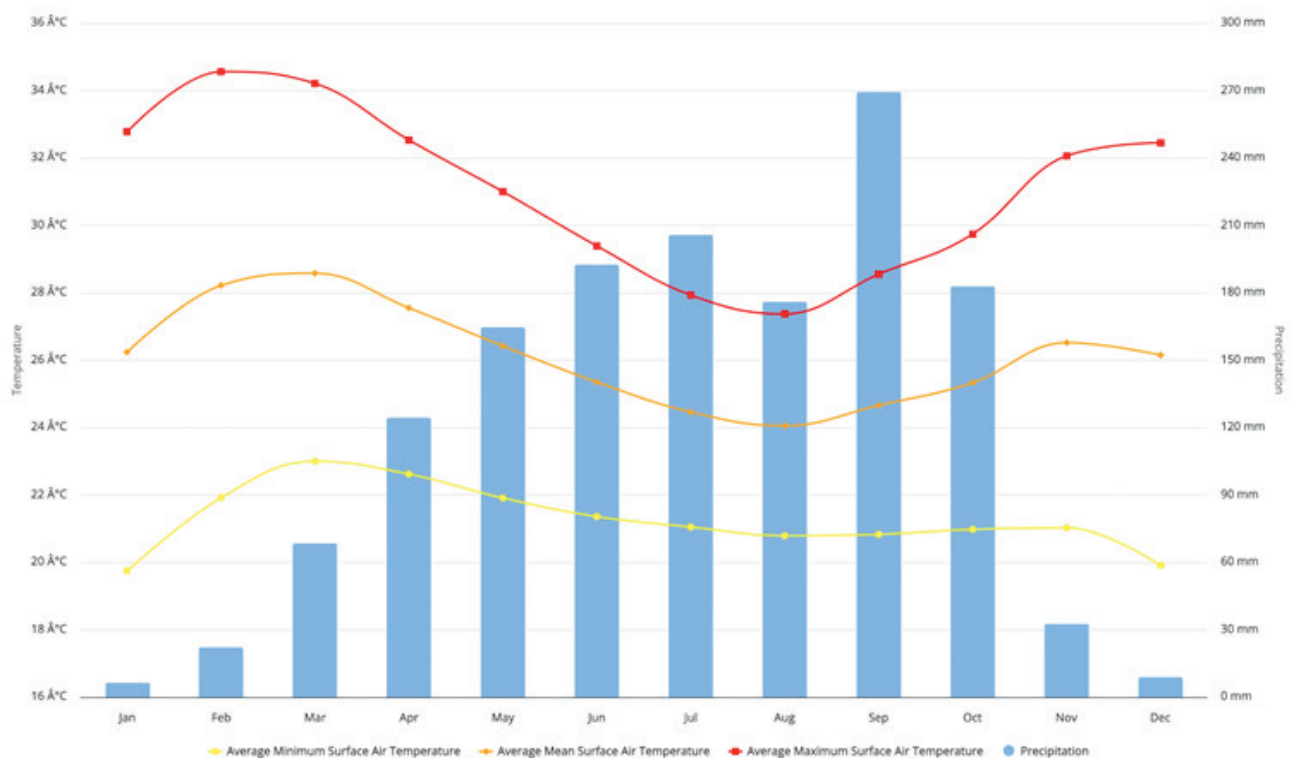
Rainfall Change

Changes in Rainfall are projected in the state.

Wet periods will be even wetter and dry periods will be even drier.

- Changes are calculated as increases compared to a base period from 1995 to 2014
- Under the medium scenario, the average annual rainfall is expected to increase 51.38 mm by 2050, currently 505 mm
 - Increase of 8.5 mm is expected in August
 - Decrease of 8 mm is expected in March
- Increase is likely to increase flooding
- However groundwater levels are likely to be depleted.

This flooding would affect soil erosion making many parts of agriculture more difficult. Flood water often also contains water points and can cause water-borne and vector-borne diseases like cholera, diarrhoea, malaria, and dengue fever. Flooding also affects access to the state as well as other transport issues.



Average Monthly Temperature and Rainfall Values from 1991-2020

Impacts



Chicken & Egg Problem

A spotlight on the poultry sector shows us how the climate crisis provides cross-cutting challenges to our development, highlighting impact, adaptation, mitigation – and also some opportunities to position for the future.

Nigeria is prioritising domestic food security and nutrition in order to respond to the changing price of imports and the challenges of 31 million food-insecure citizens. As part of that effort, Ekiti State has been setting up large-scale poultry farms.

In February and March of 2024, day and night-time temperatures spiked, just as predicted in our data on climate change expectations for Ekiti State. The broiler chickens began to suffer heat stress and die.

Emergency Intervention

160 birds were lost to heat stress in the first few nights. To save the birds, the farm managers had to give each two ice cubes on a regular basis. This meant bringing fridges into the farms – and petrol generators to power them.



Short-term Adaptation

Ekiti State Ministry of Agriculture circulated advice to farmers to under-stock the farms, allowing each chicken more space and thus cooling the barns, lowering the heat stress and raising the survival rate.

Long-term Adaptation

Ekiti State now risk-profiles the hot March period and considers not stocking broilers for growing-on during that period at all.

Health & Nutrition

Since chicken meat and especially eggs are key to getting sufficient protein, the climate stresses are lowering our ability to meet domestic production targets and thus lower prices to the public to make them more accessible as dietary components.

Opportunity: Circular Economy & Waste

Nigeria is trying to expand access to fertilisers and move away from over-reliance on inorganic fertilisers. Chicken farming offers opportunities to process poultry waste (droppings) into pelletised dry fertilisers for farmers

Opportunity: Decarbonising Agricultural Production

Provide power to farms by off-grid solar and modular renewables solutions, allowing cooling such as fans, and cold storage.

Infrastructure & Public Utilities

Nigeria in general has a big infrastructure gap and we need to develop our infrastructure to keep up with population growth. Water, electricity, fire service, oil and gas and telecommunications are all areas under Ekiti State Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities.

- Fire is a key concern: When it is drier, the tendency of fires increases. This will place even more strain on the fire services in the state
- Disaster management in the state needs to be enhanced to address the extremes of weather.
- Water and flood management: Regular dredging of urban drainage infrastructure is done at the onset of each rainy season and the Ministry of Environment checks on rubbish and waste blocking drainage.
- Ekiti needs to develop a good flood map of the state so we understand where water impacts areas most. We need to understand the risks to the presence of water and the ability to supply water, e.g. from the 5 major dams in the state.
- We need to increase our water reservoirs – when there is water, storing them in cases of emergency in particular.
- Temperature rise also affects the efficacy of water treatment chemicals. So treated water will have to be distributed faster to consumers
- The Ekiti NEWMAP project to control erosion, supported by the World Bank, massively widened key drainage channels in the State to cope with increased water flow.
- Green infrastructure is also important. We have planted 260ha of erosion-control tree buffers, and newly designated 800 ha of vulnerable environments, including peri-urban locations, as Community Protected Forests.
- To deal holistically with the water cycle from rainfall to waste water, Ekiti State has an Integrated Water Resources Management committee, which involves bodies ranging from the Ministry of Health and Human Services to the Benin Owena River Basin Development Authority

Adaptation

Our rural roads are being rehabilitated under the Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP), which aims to improve livelihoods by enhancing rural access for smallholding farmers and micro agro-processors. Ekiti's RAAMP is already designing rural roads for increased rainfall events and flash flooding, with designs incorporating more drainage to quickly evacuate water off the road surface, and adjacent barriers to stop water in adjacent areas washing in debris and eroding surfaces.



Mitigation

Uncontrolled forest and bush fires are not only a result of climate change, but also contribute to it. In 2024 for the first time, to combat the new menace of increased bush fires the Ekiti State Fire Service gave training on firefighting to newly-recruited Forest Guards at the Forestry Commission.

Agriculture

Ekiti spans the savannah and forest rainfall zones and we raise a wide variety of crops in both. The challenges range from temperature rise which affects cocoa crops, to changing rainfall periods which affect maize harvests.

- We are minimising deforestation in agriculture by using mechanisms such as EUDR and The Africa Sustainable Commodities Initiative (ASCI) which is a single set of principles for the responsible production of agricultural commodities in Africa.
- We have developed a policy framework around biodiversity and agroforestry practices for large-scale and SME actors.
- Teaching farmers and providing guidance using the model of extension workers based in the community, allied with technology-based information-sharing. We take informed steps based on estimates and projections. They will then implement what is relevant for them.
- It is very important to carry information such as weather patterns at the right time to the farmers – when they have access to timely information, they can prevent loss to yields.
- We provided solar-powered machinery to some farmers providing green energy which has reduced GHG emissions, and we are also using solar power cooling systems, solar power irrigation systems and green electric vehicles that farmers can use to shepherd materials and resources from one location to another.
- We are also using animal waste to repurpose and collect waste and use it. Ekiti State has an active Organic Farmers group raising arable and tree crops.
- We are setting up an innovation centre – where farmers can test and go back and replicate practices – we need funding to activate it

Adaptation

We have suffered a lot this year due to unpredictable weather. Many farmers have had issues with difficult conditions to plant corn; farmers are now looking at using new maize varieties with shorter maturity periods (under 75 days) to adapt to this.



Mitigation

We are aiming at a 30% reduction in Greenhouse Gases, mainly by trying to utilise our capacity to get the best from limited resources. For example, we know that we need to get better at precision farming. It allows farmers to increase yields and profits by using the same amount of inputs more efficiently or achieving equivalent yields with fewer inputs. It helps reduce the environmental impact of agriculture by minimizing waste and optimizing input usage.

Quote

Climate-smart agriculture where we work basically comes down to the three “Fs” – fuel, feed and fertiliser. How can we decarbonise and get more renewable energy into the value-chain; how can we find more sustainable and reliable sources of animal feed without bringing more land into use, and how can we make better use of organic and locally-produced fertilisers?

Health & Social Welfare

The effect of climate on health is not always immediately obvious but is deep and multi-faceted. For instance, climate-related agricultural challenges can affect food supply and thus nutrition; the prevalence of communicable diseases can rise in a warmer, wetter world, and heat stress can affect mood, behaviour and metabolism.

- Warmer environments generally lead to higher rates of infectious diseases.
- Public health – as the temperature rises, there are genuine concerns of an outbreak of serious disease, and other challenges that have implications – for instance flooding risks contaminating water sources, which also has a disease risk.
- Non-communicable diseases. Climate change also leads to some increased risks of lifestyle diseases in our fast-urbanising state – if the heat is deterring people from physical exercise, issues such as obesity and heart disease rise. This also shows how health interacts with urban planning and the provision of green space in cities.
- Climate conditions can influence mental health and wellbeing -- for instance lost sleep due to hotter nights and hotter days in urban 'heat islands'.
- There are gendered health and wellbeing aspects of climate change – for instance the additional problems from heat stress faced by pregnant women and nursing mothers.
- We adopt a promotive and curative component in the health sector – promotive as in awareness campaigns in conjunction with other Ministries; curative is to be mindful of the early implications of increase of temperatures on people's health seeking behaviour.
- We are taking note of changing patterns, using this to inform diagnostic and health management approaches and to take informed decisions across board. Our state is focused on the evidence. When we are able to get good data and evidence, those who are able to take an initiative, do.
- Health perspectives on climate change are developed by looking at global trends, how global players are addressing climate change, taking best practices. What interventions are being suggested? We are aligned with the Federal Ministry of Health – using the national view and adopting measures accordingly to support our state.
- Across 177 primary health care facilities, solar lighting and solar-powered refrigerator replacement for storing vaccine medicines have already been done. We are reminding our sector of the basics to conserve power – like switching off the light if you are not in the building.
- Infection control is being achieved through better practice in incineration/waste disposal – so it is consistent with global good practice

Adaptation

We can ensure the habits of the people can change but it's a slow process – there needs to be consistency in the message and continuity is critical. We can communicate climate risk and need for action using emotive ways to contextualise within people's current realities, and apply 'stick' deterrents if needed further down the line – we can model on the national seatbelt campaign as an example of a successful dissemination of public safety communicatio

Mitigation

Through our healthcare facilities, we are already contributing to reducing fossil fuel reliance in the power sector e.g. from refrigerators. By this time next year, a big portion of our facilities will be using some form of renewable energy – if not 100% at least a part of the mix.

Quote

In a 'do-nothing scenario', climate change has implications on health, on economic development down the line and food security in the state. In a 'do something' scenario, we can address many of these issues and mitigate the negative impacts

Forests & Landscapes

Ekiti State is relatively small at 6,353 square kilometres - so we need to use our land carefully and look after it well. Ekiti State has historically been endowed with rich forests which comprise our natural wealth – but has been degraded significantly. Forests are one of the major factors which can both protect us from climate shocks and also contribute to carbon sequestration.

Adaptation

In 2023 the Forestry Commission and Ministry of Agriculture joined up to investigate the reasons behind increased fire outbreaks which were damaging new plantations of trees and farm crops. We discovered that the problem also involves the human factor. The increasing age of the agricultural labour force coupled with the limited use of mechanisation means that older farmers were increasingly using fire to clear weeds from the land for cultivation. Then the decreased forest cover meant that land was drier and fire spread more easily. The solution was three-pronged – awareness-raising campaigns with local radio and local leaders; patrols to try to apprehend those setting damaging fires; but most significantly, Government offered heavily subsidised use of government-owned tractors to small farmers who wanted to clear land.

Mitigation

Ekiti State is developing the nature-based solutions sector for carbon credits, and collaborating with Federal Government's efforts in developing Nigeria's carbon markets system. In 2022 we became the first state to develop state-level guidelines on benefit-sharing. Currently, we plan to reforest around 5,500ha of our degraded land with indigenous tree species which are specialised for this environment, offering homes for biodiversity as well as non-timber forest products for local livelihoods.

Quote

Ekiti State has Nigeria's only private Tree Growers Association, whose members between them have planted over 500,000 trees for commercial and landscape restoration purposes.

- Ekiti is a hilly environment, meaning our rainfall quickly runs off. Without tree cover to slow it down, we will get faster water erosion, more flooding, and less soaking in of groundwater, leading to a lower water table.
- We are mapping erosion sites in the State in order to put in green infrastructure and slow the rate of run-off erosion, while also allowing rain to soak in more and become groundwater.
- We are looking at how to develop our large-scale Special Agricultural Processing Zone which is under development in the northern part of the state as a low-carbon agro-processing hub.
- We need to carefully manage our soils and water resources, including use of inorganic fertilisers.
- Ekiti State wrote a new Forestry Law in 2016 embedding principles of stakeholder involvement, private sector and community partnership, and sustainable development for timber, biodiversity and afforestation.
- Ekiti Forestry Commission manages ten Forest Reserves which have been in various states of over-exploitation. We are currently revising management plans for all ten Reserves, which zone areas for reforestation, conservation, timber production, large-scale agroforestry and smallholder (Taungya) agroforestry
- Governor Oyebanji has joined Ekiti State to the Africa Sustainable Commodities Initiative – with support from UK FCDO we are using this to conduct a Land Use / Land Cover survey to determine forest cover across the state and plan its effective management.
- We are exploring how to further develop high-biodiversity, high carbon stock cocoa landscapes with public-private-community partnerships across the southern part of the State, leveraging the US-backed TRACE initiative.



Urban Planning

Reformed urban planning is at the crux of our aspiration to be the destination of choice for people to live and work. Hence, re-imagining and developing our urban spaces in a climate-resilient fashion ensures that we maintain our competitive edge.

- Following its declaration as a state in 1996, Ekiti State evolved from a network of republican, rural communities into a mosaic of rapidly growing big towns and cities.
- Its urban settlements grew as a spreading network of lined developments distributed along the hilly topography in the central and southern areas and flat grounds in the Northern guinea savannah.
- Since it did not have the benefit of an integrated planning approach, there has been significant developmental problems including inefficient use of land resources, improperly planned drainage system, shortage of leisure and recreational spaces, erosion and flood control challenges etc.
- Our policy experts have had stimulating internal debates on re-imagining land management and urban planning as well as reached out to other cities and states across the world on how to develop working models for nature-positive urban planning with added social impact.
- Institutionally, we have undertaken a number of reforms including the establishment of a Bureau of Land Services, Urban Renewal Agency and a geospatial data centre, to develop a systematic geo-information management system that will enhance planning, budgeting and development of physical and green infrastructure in a coherent and orderly manner. However, more still needs to be done to consolidate on these frameworks, systems and institutions to deliver on their objectives.
- There are other complementary programs which, though targeted at other sectors e.g. Agriculture and Food Security, has cross-implication on urban planning, in view of rapid urbanisation of rural settlements in Ekiti State. One of such programs is the Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land-Intensive Agricultural Investments (FRILIA), supported by the World Bank.

Adaptation

Ekiti is currently collaborating with the UN-Habitat to develop the Sustainable Urban Development Programme (SUDP), which aims to comprehensively address urbanisation challenges confronting the State. The Ekiti SUDP is expected to strengthen institutional and strategic frameworks at the state level to solve rapid urbanisation issues and deliver improved urban planning & management beginning from the capital city. The Sustainable Urban Development Programme is fast becoming a test case for multi-sectoral coordination and cooperation. The coordination meetings have brought together all Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government towards forging a common vision for how our cities are to be organised for a climate-proof future.

Mitigation

Urban transport with its short journeys and closeness to charging points is a natural place to start decarbonising. We are planning how to phase in electric and hybrid motorbikes and light passenger vehicles for transport operators within Ado-Ekiti and environs. .

Quote

First, we shape the cities;
then, they shape us.

– Jan Gehl

Energy

Ekiti State like much of Nigeria already has a significant energy provision shortfall, accentuated by the fact that we are at the extreme end of national grid infrastructure. Thus we need to work at a number of levels, taking advantage of opportunities to boost grid supply to replace petrol and diesel generators and get new households connected, also using mini-grids and renewables, and assisting the rapid uptake of household solar.

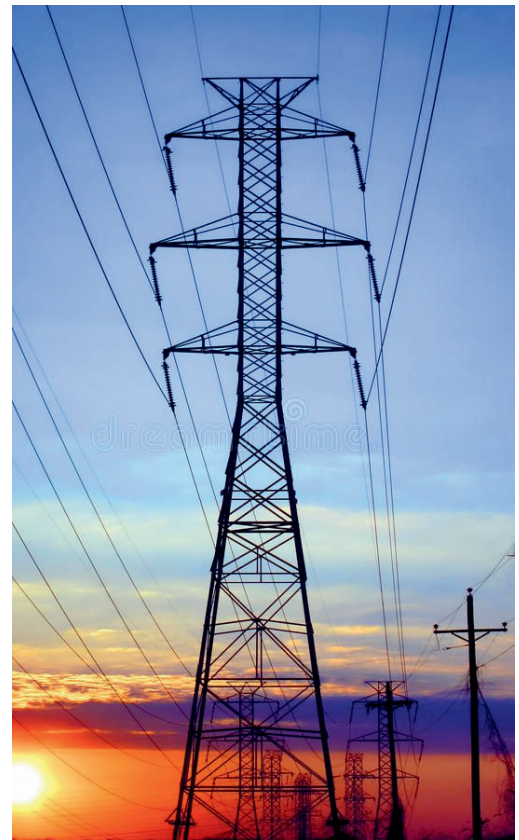
- Ekiti State is helping to deliver on Nigeria's NDCs by reducing our emissions through the provision of cleaner energy - which also increases energy access and reduces its cost to users.
- Electricity transmission: Many electric lines pass through forests and where fires occur, wooden poles get burnt in the process if the fires are intense. The cables, the connectors or transformers get burnt which has impact on electricity. This is also impacted by flooding.
- Oil and gas storage and retailing infrastructure is vulnerable and needs to be protected.
- Cooking fuels: Gas for cooking has risen in price stimulating a return to use of wood and charcoal. While charcoal producers are registered and regulated, consumption elsewhere stimulates unsustainable levels of production. To combat this, we need to invest in mass adoption of efficient cookstoves to lower the amount of fuel consumed.
- Renewables – there are pilot mini-grids in some smaller communities in the state, and household-level micro-solar is becoming popular as prices for small panels drop. However we also seek for larger-scale renewables projects which can address the huge energy provision shortfall.

Adaptation

With energy inputs not only environmentally but economically unsustainable, we need to promote principles of ambient cooling and cross-ventilation in building design and estate planning. Meanwhile to respond to the continued preference for wood and charcoal cooking fuel, we are working with charcoal producers in the north of the state to develop renewable (coppiced) plantations of charcoal-suitable tree species.

Mitigation

Ekiti State Government has implemented two projects which have already resulted in an emissions mitigation outcome. One is our 5MW IPP supplying core commercial and governmental areas of the State Capital with better, cheaper, round-the-clock reliable power; the other is the solarization of street lighting. The 5MW IPP has resulted in an emissions reduction of 1.07 million Kg CO₂ since inception in 7,122 hours of operation, replacing installed diesel generation. Solar street lighting has resulted in an emissions reduction of 2.25 million kg of CO₂ saved in the first year of operation (replacing 11 x 100KVA diesel generators running for 8 hours per day).



Quote

Total emissions reduction from our IPP coming on-stream has been 3.32 million Kg/CO₂ by September 2024

Waste Management

Waste is a critical contributor to GHG emissions globally, with dumpsites and landfills considered the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions. Nigeria included waste sector in its updated NDCs submitted in 2021, demonstrating country-level strategic focus towards improving the sector for fulfilling its commitments. Ekiti State aligns with these aspirations and seeks low-cost, adaptable technologies for managing waste.

- Municipal waste management sector is still largely ineffective in Ekiti State. Currently, there is a low collection coverage of solid waste in Ekiti State (estimated to be less than 5% across the state). Consequently, municipal wastes are either:
 - (i) burnt in people's compound backyard
 - (ii) disposed in open dumps, where they are regularly burnt
 - (iii) disposed in canals and channels.
- Poor solid management practices have significant negative impacts on lives and livelihoods in Ekiti State as the waste
 - (i) clogs drains and increases flood risks
 - (ii) destroys critical infrastructure (e.g. culverts and roads) due to clogging
 - (iii) pollutes aquatic habitats
 - (iv) increases health risks of the general public
 - (v) leads to loss of lives and assets arising from spill over from flooded channels into the community.
- Ekiti State Government has taken some steps towards improving the governance of the solid waste management sector. To address these problems, the State Government passed the Ekiti State Waste Management Law (2020), to govern the administration of waste management sector in Ekiti State.
- The Government has also formed strategic partnerships to conduct research and generate the needed data to better understand the problem. We have commenced the Waste Wise Cities Survey with the UN-Habitat, to understand the total MSW generated, characteristics of waste, understanding the waste material and value chain (formal and informal sectors) as well as conducting an operational, cost and investment analysis of the waste management sector.
- More still needs to be done to make the sector resilient and effectively deliver on its mandate to the people of the state.

Mitigation

The State Government has invested in procurement of waste collection and transport infrastructure, including provision of dino bins and dino trucks in strategic parts of the cities. This has significantly improved the cleanliness and aesthetics of the major streets. However, major investments need to be undertaken to increase the level of control of MSW in the dumpsite and converting it into a semi-aerobic landfill at the minimum.

Adaptation

Waste disposal and management has strong behavioural elements, with sociological evolutions connected to how societies are organised and developed. Consequently, the effectiveness of the waste management sector is intricately connected to how urban settlements are planned and organised. Further, attention is being increasingly paid to intentional investments in awareness and advocacy campaigns on waste recycling, with emphasis being paid on reducing generation and prolonging the life cycle of materials (through recycling or reusing). Most of the development-financed projects in Ekiti State has a waste management component, to lengthen and deepen this intervention. We are open to partnership to support these interventions for sustainable outcomes.

Innovation

Ekiti State has a special emphasis on innovation, and especially driving job creation through technological development and entrepreneurship. This gives us multiple openings for developing the green economy. One central element is our flagship Ekiti Knowledge Zone, a climate-smart campus for science, tech and services business. Another area is the opportunities to develop new skilled jobs in sectors such as remote sensing and monitoring of carbon sequestration projects.

- Energy (Solar Energy Solutions, Wind Turbine Technology, Hydrogen Fuel Cells, Geothermal Energy Systems, Smart Grid Infrastructure)
- Transportation (Electric Vehicles (EVs), Autonomous Vehicles, Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles, Advanced Public Transit Systems, Sustainable Aviation Fuels)
- Innovation Agriculture (Vertical Farming, Regenerative Agriculture, Precision Farming, Climate-Resilient Crops, Livestock Feed Optimization)
- Water Management (Water Harvesting Systems, Efficient Irrigation Systems, Water Recycling Technologies, Desalination Innovations, Flood Protection Solutions)
- Waste Management Plan (Circular Economy Solutions, Recycling Technologies, Composting Innovations, Biogas Energy Generation, Zero-Waste Cities)
- Climate Resilience Action Plan including Data Analytics and Modelling (Climate Modeling and Prediction, Early Warning Systems, Disaster Response Technologies, Climate-Resilient Infrastructure, Ecosystem-Based Adaptation)
- Infrass - Ocean and Coastal Protection, Carbon Capture and Utilization, Sustainable Materials, Green Building Materials, Energy-Efficient Buildings, etc



Futures



Policies & Structures

Internally, Government needs to review its own approaches to see how to climate-proof existing plans and how to position better for the challenges of the future.

- Ekiti State has a medium-term development plan, which needs to be reviewed in terms of the threats and opportunities posed by climate change, and with the scope for 'wins' in sustainability and climate-smart development highlighted.
- We may need new legislation for processes to review our progress, such as has happened at a national level with Nigeria's landmark Climate Change Act.
- Even processes such as budgeting will be affected, as we may need to consider more contingency provision for issues such as extreme weather events.
- Gendered impacts of climate change need to be thought through, at both whole-of-society and household level.
- Both resilience and mitigation need to be reviewed on an annual basis, to provide early indications of need, and to feed better-quality information into Nigeria's national processes of monitoring Nationally Determined Contributions.
- Carbon footprinting capacity needs to be enhanced, and awareness and reporting capability needs to extend beyond the focal points in the Ministry of Environment.

- Work together with the Bureau of Community Communications and Bureau of Civic Orientation to coordinate and reach out effectively.
- We need capacity training from organisations in the country, in other countries and international organisations. What lessons can be learned from them? How can we prepare ahead of all of this?
- We have one of the smallest budgets in the country so we have obvious constraints financially. We need support in this area from our national government and the international community.

Quote

"First believing it is real, and that it is a problem. Then understanding the problem and acting on the trouble - averting the problem. Intentionality is important."

"Gov must lead by example – with good habits starting here first. People need to believe in their leaders first."

"Going into 2025, we have agreed to do more in terms of food security, general well-being, lower unemployment, managing climate change and ameliorate the effects on the people."

The approach has to be cross-cutting. Our Climate Action review is overseen by a high-level steering group of Ministries, Departments and Agencies in Ekiti State, including the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning and Performance Monitoring, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Infrastructure and Utilities, Ministry of Health, Office of The Governor, and the Office of Transformation, Strategy & Delivery.

Publics

Government cannot do it alone – this is a whole-of-society effort. How do we mobilise the public around climate threats and goals – and how do we work with the strengths of African societies and communities in collective action and decision-making to build resilience?

- **Community mobilisation and engagement** can leverage the strong organisation structure of our communities, the structures of traditional leadership and even political mobilisation structures.
- **Schools and education** are a key way to get the message out – especially the over 200 secondary schools in Ekiti; and the issues are curriculum-relevant in science, agriculture and citizenship / values education.
- **Social media public conversations** engage a huge number of people in a younger demographic, and there is a strong local network of mobilisers and influencers ready to discuss significant issues of public concern.
- **Work with consumers** and consumption patterns – as a response to fuel-price rises, small-scale domestic solar, sufficient to light a couple of small bulbs and recharge a phone, has become popular overnight. What can we learn and how can we work with retailers and consumer finance providers to plug appropriate and affordable solutions into demand?
- **Private sector and occupational organisations** are the backbone of society and we will engage them through seminars to identify issues of concern to their members and participatory diagnosis of appropriate solutions.
- **Farmers** can be supported to be drivers of change through extension support to spread new techniques, and provision of climate-smart seed varieties, as well as subsidised access to tree seedlings for farms.
- **Local, family and individual action** – distributing clean and fuel-efficient cookstoves, or shade and fruit-bearing trees for micro-forestation allows people to make small but impactful changes in their own lives
- **Green entrepreneurship promotion** can mobilise youth and emergent industries, emphasising the value that can be added in sustainable and circular enterprises.
- **Faith leaders and organisations** have a huge role to play both in sensitisation and in amplifying the concerns and voices of their congregations.
- **Innovation** is one of the pillars of this administration and can pilot new technologies and designs in impact assessment and measurement, climate-smart agriculture, engineering, architecture and construction.
- **The transition economy** also holds the promise of new kinds of jobs, including skilled technical and graduate jobs in sectors such as carbon footprinting and monitoring, recording and verification (MRV).



Quote

“Anytime you want to do something – speak with the traditional rulers, the local party chairman, trade groups like market women or commercial associations - once you communicate with these groups they can disseminate to their communities.”

From Climate Crisis to Sustainable Green Growth

We know the challenges, and we are ready to work on adaptation, resilience and mitigation priorities. But we also want to go beyond that and turn the opportunities for sustainable and climate-smart green growth to our advantage. Ekiti State is seeking partnerships with development partners, private investors, consortiums of peer jurisdictions, NGOs and international organisations for priorities including the following:

- Capacity-building in baselining and measuring the nature of our climate-related threats and mitigation achievements within specific sub-sectors.
- Developing urban planning, design and green space as envisioned in the Sustainable Urban Development Programme
- Developing our Special Agricultural Processing Zone plans as a climate-positive value chain hub
- Co-developing landscape restoration and afforestation projects, including nature-based carbon projects, using indigenous species and in cocoa landscapes
- Power sector investments in extending our Independent Power Project and in modular and household renewables
- Agroforestry in accordance with sustainability-certified market schemes
- Decarbonising agriculture and funding adoption of climate-smart seeds and techniques
- Climate-smart sustainability-based innovation, enterprise, job creation
- Weather prediction and sensitisation of farmers
- Training and building capacity on bush fire and fire hazard planning
- Co-management of our conservation, biodiversity and ecotourism
- Public sensitisation on climate threats, health and human welfare
- Scenario planning and risk assessment
- Job-related training for green economy specialisms for our technical school and university graduates
- Efficiency interventions in household energy and cooking fuels
- Climate-smart buildings and construction techniques, smart building and urban design.
- Waste management, circular processing and composting

Ekiti is a progressive State with an educated population, enlightened leadership, political and policy stability, attractive landscape, good security, and is a manageable scale to pilot projects that can have wider impact and spread to the rest of Nigeria and the West African sub-region.

