



JIGAWA STATE

Open Government Partnership State Commitments and Plan of Action

State and Non-State Actors Working together to promote
inclusive and responsive government, justice, accountability
and transparency

Compiled by

OGP Secretariate

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List of Acronyms

BSS	-	Basic Social Services
CBOS	-	Community Based Organizations
CDF		Comprehensive Development Framework
CPS	-	Contributory Pension Scheme
FCDO	-	Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office
DPPMB	-	Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau
IFMIS	-	Integrated Financial Management Information System
IGR	-	Internally Generated Revenue
JSG	-	Jigawa State Government
LGA	-	Local Government Area
M & E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	-	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
PPP	-	Public Private Partnership
MTEF	-	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MTSS	-	Medium Term Sector Strategy
NGOS	-	Non-governmental Organizations
PEM	-	Public Expenditure Management
PSR	-	Public Service Reform
SEEDS	-	State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
PERL	-	Partnership to Engaged, Reform and Learn
ARC	-	Accountability, Responsiveness and Capability
SRM	-	Societal Reorientation and Mobilization
ECP	-	Engaged Citizens Pillar

Foreword

One of the cardinal principles of our government which we have doggedly pursued by Jigawa State has been the quest for governance reforms focused on the entrenchment of transparency, accountability, value for money, prudent financial management and inclusive/participatory governance. Indeed, it is our firm belief that unless accompanied by institutional and governance reforms, the success of our efforts to achieve sustainable socio-economic transformations would be limited. Signing-up to pursue the Open Government Partnership initiatives is therefore in consonance with our philosophy and governance ideals.

As already signed into OGP, the State is committed to the development and implementation of this Action Plan covering the various thematic areas of the OGP Framework. This was done after an internal review of our socioeconomic and governance reform programmes based on which feasible and sustainable priority commitments were carefully identified. These would be pursued and implemented over the medium term with the shared efforts of the various non-state actors in the process. In line with Constitutional responsibilities vested on the State, Government would lead the OGP process and will remain resolute to the critical requirement of ensuring symbiotic relationship with shared responsibilities between all actors so as to work in accordance with OGP principles. It is our belief that this shared commitment would further support and reinforce our constitutional mandate and authority to superintend over the affairs of the state in delivering the primary constitutional duty of guaranteeing “the security and welfare of the people”.

To this end, we intend to pursue five commitments across the five thematic areas of the OGP including; Fiscal Transparency and Accountability, Service Delivery and Citizens Engagements, Anti-corruption, and Access to Information and Digital Economy, finally, Economic Empowerment. Even though, over the years, the State Government has pursued various initiatives in each of these areas, specific commitments have now been carefully and jointly identified to fast-track the attainment of the stated objectives within each of the thematic area.

While reiterating our administration commitments to the implementation of the State OGP Action Plan, let me finally express our profound gratitude to all stakeholders involved in the process particularly the Non-State Actors and Development Partners for their various support to the development of Jigawa State.

His Excellency, Mallam Umar Namadi fca
Executive Governor, Jigawa State

Acknowledgement

The journey to the development of The Jigawa State OGP Action Plan – owes its success to various contributions and supports of individuals, organizations and institutions. Though, it will be difficult to mention and acknowledge them all here, however, it would be appropriate to recognize a few among them.

The achievements of OGP so far is significantly attributed to the mutual collaboration between the key players among the State- and Non-State actors facilitated by the spirit of development partnerships. The principles of the “co-creation” started to manifest right from the onset through the inter-dependent collaboration and contributions of the coalition of civil societies in Jigawa State for OGP on the one hand, and the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning as the Reform and Development Partnership Facilitator, on the other. The two sides have done incredibly well in achieving the progress so far recorded – particularly the development of the State OGP Action Plan. The CSO kick-started the process through reconstituting the NSA steering committee and subsequent advocacy and engagement to the Ministry of Budget and other key players. The Ministry with support from PERL took the necessary critical step of getting the buy-in of the State Government, hence resulted in the review of the SAP.

It is worthy to note, the subsequent formal sign-up of this SAP by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Jigawa State, Mallam Umar Namadi fca will validate and authenticate the document for implementation. The sign up will serve as the state statement of intent to the OGP principles – transparency, accountability, inclusive and responsive governance and the overall social and economic wellbeing of the citizens. Special appreciation goes to the Jigawa State Government for that singular act of sign-up the State OGP.

It is also worthy to mention a few names from both the State and Non-State Actors. On the former, these would include, His Excellency, the Governor of Jigawa State, Alhaji Umar Namadi, who was the first Government appointed Co-Chair of the State OGP in his former position as the Honorable Commissioner for Finance and Economic Planning. Others are the Principal Personnel Secretary to the Executive Adamu Muhammad Garun Gabas, OON; and the Director of Planning in the Directorate, Umar Idris. On the latter, would include Isah Mustapha of ELIP-Initiative; Musa Muazu of JCHOP; and Alhaji Aminu Danmalam (Dan Malam of Dutse) the OGP Co-chair on the non-State actor’s side. The Secretariat collating inputs for the development of the State OGP Action Plan led by Muhd Wadau Jahun, and Muhd Sani Uzairu – also did a good job up to the final version of the document. These are also duly recognized and highly appreciated.

We also remain indebted to various Development Partners most especially PERL- FCDO for their support in facilitating OGP activities in the state. While expressing our profound appreciation for the contributions received so far, it is believed the State would continue to enjoy more support from them and other Development Partners as we move into the implementation phase of the State OGP Action Plan.

Finally, the contribution of all members of the various thematic groups of the State OGP Action Plan development process is also duly recognized. Most of whom are members of the State OGP Steering Committee, the OGP Technical Working Group or the Thematic Area Implementation Teams. It is believed that the continued commitment of these actors would make the State OGP initiative a success story.

So help Us Allah.

Co-Chair

Co-Chair

SECTION 1

1.1 - Introduction

Jigawa State is located in the Northwest geopolitical zone of Nigeria. It was created in August, 1991 out of the then Kano State. It is bordered by Kano and Katsina States to the west, Bauchi State to the east and Yobe State to the northeast and shares an international border with the Republic of Niger to the North. The State has a total landmass of 24,742 square kilometres largely certified to be arable. With a tropical type of climate, the State enjoys a fair share of all the major natural climatic conditions for agricultural development including land, vegetation, water and sunshine. Jigawa State ranked as the 8th most populous states in Nigeria with a total population of 2,198,076 based on the 2006 Population Census. Recent (2015) projections by the National Population Commission put the State's population at about 5,562,000 with similar distribution pattern and composition with that of the 2006 census.

The phrase used to describe Jigawa State, the 'New World' suggest a new virgin land full of opportunities. For a number of years since the State was created out of the old Kano state in august 1991, there was no framework that will enable stakeholders to take advantage of the numerous opportunities to achieve its full potentials. In the same vein, also missing was a framework designed to proactively pursue the entrenchments of the key principles of good governance such as accountability, transparency as well as responsiveness to commitment for effective service delivery. However, the process began to positively change with the gradual entrenchment of governance reforms in the state especially around public expenditure and financial management the culture of conscious socioeconomic planning and development also gradually began to take root around the same time.

The maiden development policy document, SEEDS, published in 2005 noted that for over a decade since the creation of the State, "the quest for socioeconomic development in the State was devoid of any coherent blueprint or roadmap. The development process was therefore piecemeal and opportunistic, like probing in the dark." Since then, the situation only gets better. Through the extant policy document – Jigawa State Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF), the State Government has continued to pursue governance reforms. Chapter 14 of the Second and Third Editions of the documents were entirely devoted to Governance and Institutional reforms with focus on Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms, Fiscal Responsibility, Public Service Reforms, Societal Reorientation for inclusive and participatory governance and administration of justice.

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is an International Multilateral Initiative formally launched in 20thSeptember, 2011 to promote commitments by National and Sub-national Governments to the principles of good governance. While its founding members consists of eight (8) countries including the UK, USA, S/Africa, Brazil, Indonesia, Philippines, Norway and Mexico, the Initiative now consists of over 70 countries with Nigeria being the 70th Nation to sign-up in July 2016.

Jigawa State signed-up to the OGP via a letter signed by the Governor referenced dated addressed to the National OGP Secretariat. This follows the approval of the State Executive Council based on a memo presented to it by the Commissioner for Finance and Economic Planning facilitated by the then Budget and Economic Planning Directorate, now Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning Directorate. Jigawa State is still among the few Subnational Governments to sign-up in the whole Federation and the 3rd in the Northwest Zone – after Kaduna and Kano States, However, the developed SAPs implementations does not see the light of day following non-sign up by the then Governor of Jigawa State, thus necessitate the need to reconstitute the Steering committee and the subsequent development of this SAP. Thus, the OGP Initiative brings together state and non-state actors who recognized that governments are likely to be more effective and credible when they pursue an open and all-inclusive governance with more effective public participation, inputs and oversight. The initiative provides credible and permanent collaborative platforms for State

and Non-State Actors to connect, empower and support each other in their commitment to transform governance and social and economic wellbeing of the citizens.

1.2 – The State OGP Sign-up

Signing-up to the OGP by the Jigawa State Government is a reinforcement of its commitment to more proactively and systematically pursue reforms that promote all the core values and principles that engender good governance as characterised by accountability, transparency, responsiveness, innovation and reforms. Being systematic will now require deliberate focus on the standard OGP Commitments including Fiscal Transparency, Anti-Corruption, Access to Information, and Citizens’ Engagement.

1.3 - Preparation of Jigawa State Action Plan

Subsequent to the OGP sign-up letter by the State Government, two high-level meetings were convened in collaboration with the National OGP Secretariat and FCDO-Funded PERL Programme. First was a sensitization meeting for State Government Officials and Non-State Actors, largely focused on sensitizing participants on the OGP process. The second meeting focused on identifying state priorities across the various thematic areas with a view to identifying commitments that would go into the State Action Plan. Consequently, members of the State Steering Committee (SSC) and Technical Working Group (TWG) for both the State and Non-State Actors were identified and endorsed while the then Directorate of Budget and Economic Planning Directorate, now Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning was designated as the Coordinating Ministry and Secretariat of the State OGP. In the spirit of the principles of “co-creation”, the OGP process requires extensive, equitable and fair collaboration between the State and Non-State Actors with two Co-chairs for both the SSC and TWGs with their membership nominated by the government and civil society in Jigawa State respectively. The SSC and TWG are made up of representatives of government actors as well as civil society organizations (CSOs), organized private sectors and professional associations who work together to implement the Jigawa State Action Plan for two years. Since its inception, the OGP has developed two SAP and none was signed by the state Executive Government. This resulted into the review of the SAP with a renewed hope and commitment of facilitating and ensuring its sign-up by the Executive Governor.

1.4 – Overview of OGP Thematic Areas of Priority Commitments

The OGP Action Plan for 2024 and 2025 would aim to focus on identified State Priorities, 12-point Agenda and Actions within the Five OGP Thematic Areas. It would deepen and mainstream transparency, accountability, and citizens’ engagement in the management of public resources across all sectors. It will also seek to consolidate existing and new reforms within Fiscal Transparency and Accountability, Service Delivery and Citizens Engagement and Access to Information and Digital Economy, Economic Empowerment and Anti-Corruption, as well as Economic Empowerment. As agreed during the preliminary meetings, there would be five commitments to be pursued across these five thematic areas as reflected in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of Jigawa Action plan by Commitments	
Thematic Area 1 - Fiscal transparency and Accountability	
Commitments	Description of Commitments
1	Ensure more effective and wider citizens’ participation across the entire budget cycle
Thematic Area 2 – Service Delivery and Citizens Engagement	
1	Improve Human resource in relevant MDAs related to service delivery (Education, Health, Agriculture and Water Sectors)
2	Strengthen dialogue mechanism between Government and the Citizens
Thematic Area 3 – Access to Information and Digital Economy	
1	Facilitate wider spread of information between citizens and government, through Various means of technology.

2	Facilitate for the Establishment of ICT (Digital Economy) Agency
Thematic Area 4 – Economic Empowerment	
1	To establish a legal and institutional framework for Youth Empowerment and Employment Agency
Thematic Area 5 – Anti-Corruption	
1	Establishment of institutional framework for Public Complain and Anti-Corruption Commission

The Jigawa Action Plan aims to promote fiscal transparency and accountability through more citizens participation in the entire budget process, Under the service delivery and citizens engagement the plan is to improve human resource in relevant MDAs related to service delivery (Education, Health, Agriculture and Water Sectors) and strengthen dialogue mechanism between Government and the Citizens

Similarly, Access to information and Digital Economy thematic area; will facilitate wider spread of information between citizens and government, through Various means of technology and facilitate for the Establishment of ICT (Digital Economy) Agency. Likewise, the Economic Empowerment thematic area; is expected to facilitate the establishment of a legal and institutional framework for Youth Empowerment and Employment Agency. The anti-corruption thematic area; will work towards the establishment of institutional framework for Public Complain and Anti-Corruption Commission

SECTION 2

2.1 –Progress on Open Governance Reform Initiatives

Since the return of democratic governance to Nigeria in 1999, Jigawa State has pursued several reform initiatives most of which have dimensions bordering on the various themes of the OGP initiatives. The process started with the publication of the First Edition of the State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDS I) in 2005. The Document served as the Blueprint Plan for the socio-economic development of the State. Since then the State has developed and published more versions of such documents with the latest being the Second Edition of the Jigawa State CDF II. Each of the publications came with a number of Governance reform initiatives. In 2007, the State undertook a Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) assessment to appraise the strength and weakness of the State Public Expenditure and Financial Management Status, following which a long-term PFM Reform Plan was developed. Principally, the reform plan aimed at promoting and strengthening fiscal governance in terms of budget realism, fiscal discipline and sustainability, as well as financial transparency and accountability. Chapter 14 of CDF II is on “Governance and Institutional Reforms” where several strategies were outlined to widen and deepen reforms around Public Expenditure and Financial Management; Public Service Management; Judicial & Justice Administration; Local Government Reforms and Societal Reorientation

Inclusion of Governance reforms in the State Development Policy Documents provides Plat forms for conscious and deliberate pursuit of programmes to achieve the desired reform objectives. These cover various aspects of governance such as fiscal transparency, ease of doing business, service delivery, government integrity, access to information, citizens’ engagement, and many other forms of reform. Consequently, the decision of the Jigawa State Executive Council in July 2018 to subscribe to the OGP concept and the subsequent sign-up by the Governor are positive decisions towards the systematic entrenchment of OGP principles in the State’s governance reforms processes. The State- and Non-State Actors joint partnership in the implementation of the OGP Initiatives provides solid platform to further strengthen reforms that would ultimately deliver the State’s development objectives of sustainable improvement in the socioeconomic wellbeing of the citizens.

2.2 –Extant OGP Compliance Initiatives

Over the years, successive Governments have pursued various governance and institutional reforms largely in the areas of Public Expenditure and Financial Management; Public Service Management; Judicial & Justice Administration; Local Government Reforms and Societal Reorientation. Reviews of the success stories of the reform initiatives are already captured in Box 1 above. Also, as captured in the introduction of chapter 14 of the Second Edition of the State CDF II, focused on Governance Reforms, most of the extant OGP compliant reform initiatives were focused on the following areas:

- i. **Fiscal Transparency and Accountability**-Generally, all the Public Expenditure and Financial Management reforms were aimed at achieving continuous improvement in access to more effective, qualitative and efficient public services. Reforms in this area covers the entire PFM Cycle including Policy & Strategy, Budget Preparation & Execution; and Accounting & Reporting. Specific initiatives development of State Development Blueprints starting with SEEDS to the current Second Edition of the Jigawa State CDF, adoption participatory annual planning and budgeting process, development of Medium Term Sector Strategies in key sectors; Preparation of Annual Sector Performance Evaluation Reports and Scorecards; Enactment of Fiscal Responsibility and Public Procurement Laws; Other fiscal transparency and sustainability initiatives include conduct of Town Hall Meetings as part of the annual budget process, publication of citizen’s budget, establishment of taxpayers’ data bank, introduction of Treasury Single Account, Development of an IPSAS-Compliant Integrated Financial Management Information System software budget and accounts; Timely publication of Annual Reports of the State Auditor General, Institutionalization of a

comprehensive centralized payroll system across all MDAs and Local Government and a Contributory Pension Scheme. Other reform initiatives have been in the area of

- ii. **Citizens' engagement and Service Delivery and Service delivery**--Various interventions and structures were put in place in pursuit of societal reorientation initiatives including empowering the Civil Society, pursuit of inclusive and participatory governance, support to community-based organizations, etc. Through these interventions, the Jigawa Citizens were sensitized and given a platform from which enabled them to contribute inputs that assisted the government in setting up institutions and pursuit of sound policies for the development of the state. Examples are Jigawa People's Congress, Polling Unit Funds, Development Areas initiative, Talakawa Summit, Conflict Resolution Mechanism/initiative, Establishment of Jigawa Development Forum, and the Jigawa Elders Forum. Other recent initiative includes Jigawa Maternal and Child Health Accountability Forum (JIMAF) and Jigawa Civil Society Forum (JSCF) among others. **Public Service Management Reforms** including the piloting of Corporate Planning in some MDAs, Establishment of Public Service Reform Unit in-charge of Public Service Reform and SERVICOM. Furthermore, State & Local Governments Development plans Documents (SEEDS and LEEDS), Comprehensive Development Framework Document (CDF), Service Charter, Gunduma Health System, Safe motherhood initiative, Masaki Nutrition Project, *Jakadan-Lafiya*, Cluster Farming, Home grown feeding, Free Girl-Child Education, Social Security Allowance for Disables, Primary Health Care under one roof, Polling Unit Funds and Community Development Funds.
- iii. **Access to information and Digital Economy**- In order to facilitate and improved transparency in governance and access to information by the general public, Government has over the years reformed its governance process and provided enabling environment for information dissemination. These include establishment of state AM & FM radio stations, eleven (11) community FM stations and a state television station as well as supports private media organizations operating in the state. Government has also leverage on information technology and existing institutions to promote access to information such as establishment of website- www.jigawastate.gov.ng by the state Government and its MDAs, use of social media handles, radio phone-in programs by public officials, periodic town hall meetings and summits by sectors, existence of dedicated SMS and phone-lines by the Governor for public access.
- iv. **Anti-corruption** - In order to strengthen the fight against corruption and in addition to the existing legislations and legal institutions of the State, the Government is working on a Bill seeking to establish a legal framework for the creation of an Anti-corruption and Public Complaints Unit for the State in the State Ministry of Justice. Related to anti-corruption, also includes pursuit of reform in the area of **Administration of Justice** involving Security, Justice and Social Cohesion, establishment of Justice Sector & Reform Commissions, Community Law Centers and other Alternative means of Dispute Resolutions mechanisms. Inconclusive.
- v. **Economic Empowerment- Jigawa** State is the eight (8th) most populous state in Nigeria with 87.02% poverty index (National living standard survey LSS 2022) and 41.29% unemployment rate (2020) states statistics notable programs and interventions were roll out aimed at empowering citizens. Successive administration come up with different policy and programs managed by different administrative unit, it started with ministry of empowerment, its was changed to directorate. The need for holistic approaches toward addressing the high rate of employment. The present administration ion create agency responsible for employment and empowerment.

Section 3 - Methodology

Subsequent to the Government sign-up to the OGP on Wednesday 9th of August, 2018, series of meetings and other activities continued to take place in preparation for the development of the State OGP Action Plan to facilitate and fast-track the attainment of the State OGP objectives.

The first of a series of meetings between the Government and the Non-state Actors on the OGP process was held at Chilla Luxury Suite Kano, from 26th – 27th of November, 2018 where a sensitization and capacity building training was given, and the co-creation process was introduced to the participants. In addition, a stock taking of previous government initiatives from 1999 to date was made to give a highlight of the state efforts in open governance prior to the emergence of the present OGP initiative

The second stakeholders meeting was held from the 10th – 11th December, 2018 at Tahir Guest Palace Kano where the process for the development of a State Action Plan was introduced. The OGP Framework was also introduced and five thematic areas namely; fiscal transparency, service delivery, access to information, citizens' engagement and anti-corruption were also adopted for the state and commitments to be addressed by the State OGP were outlined. The number and size of the various OGP committees to be set up were also agreed at the meeting.

The third meeting was a three-day session held at Three Star Hotel, Dutse, from 28th – 30th January, 2019 to begin the drafting of this Action Plan as captured in Section 4. The process adopted during the session includes:

- i. Presentation and agreements on the contents of the State OGP Action Plan;
- ii. Establishment of six (6) working groups for the drafting of the document. These comprise of one group for each of the five (5) thematic areas and the sixth for drafting of the other chapters
- iii. Collation of the working draft by the secretariat.
- iv. Harmonization and editing by an ad-hoc sub-committee of the Technical Working Group;
- v. Presentation and validation by stakeholders drawn from the State and Non-State actors;
- vi. Presentation to the State OGP Steering Committee for further validation and endorsement
- vii. Presentation and approval by the State Executive Council

Following the aforementioned meetings, two SAP were developed. However, none of them was signed by the Executive governor. This called for the restructuring of Steering committee to responds to these challenges. A meeting was held on 19th – 20th October, 2023 at Three start hotel, Dutse. The sessions have over 100 State and Non-state actors and a new steering committee were elected. The fifth meeting was held at Bafra Hotel Kaduna between 9th – 11th November, 2023 where this SAP was developed with following thematic areas; fiscal transparency, service delivery and Citizens Engagement, access to information and Digital Economy, Economic Empowerment and anti-corruption

SECTION 4 – The State OGP Action Plan

4.1 – Introduction –

Following the adopted methodology and in line with the identified commitments under each Thematic area and taking into consideration the State development objectives and priorities as agreed by both the State- and Non-State Actors, the State OGP Action Plan was developed and presented below:

Thematic Area: 1		Fiscal transparency and Accountability
Commitment	Ensure more effective and wider citizens' participation across the entire budget cycle	
Lead MDA	Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning	
Responsible person (Steering Committee Member)	Hon Commissioner, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning	
Other actors involved in the implementation (Technical Working Group)	MDAs	Ministry of Finance, Ministry for Local Government and Community Development, Office of the State Accountant General, Due Process & Project Monitoring Bureau, Jigawa State Internal Revenue Service, Office of the State Auditor General, Salary & Pension Administration, State Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Information and State House of Assembly.
	CSOs /Media, Private Sectors	ELIP-Initiative, Prime Initiative, JISCAP, Jigawa Network of Civil Society, Chamber of Commerce, Jigawa State Marketers, NUJ, ICAN, Correspondent Chapel, Cohorts CSOs, Jigawa Women Marketers and Development Partners
General Problems/Challenges addressed by the commitment	The overarching challenge to be addressed through more effective and wider citizens' engagement and participation in the planning, formulation, implementation, monitoring and reporting of budget processes is the limited capacity of stakeholders to make inputs and effectively monitor plans and budgets preparation, implementation and monitoring. With deeper and wider citizens' engagement and participation, the citizens would have adequate information which empowers them to make critical and constructive inputs at all stages of the budget cycle. While engendering transparency and accountability in fiscal governance, this would also enrich the process leading to more effective and responsive public service delivery.	
Main objective	The main objective of the commitment is to ensure timely inclusiveness of the citizens in the entire planning and budget processes right from the level of policy review, the MTEF/MTSS Processes, Budget Preparation and Implementation, Accounting and Reporting. This will empower the citizens to effectively make inputs as well as monitor and contribute to the state development process.	
Brief description of commitment	The commitment is to “ensure more effective and wider citizens' participation across the entire budget cycle”. This would require formal engagement and participation of relevant stakeholders at key stages of the annual budget planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting. This would involve active participation in meetings, workshops, town hall	

	meetings, formal submission of solicited and unsolicited written inputs, monitoring and reporting of revenue, projects and services, others are annual procurement and audit forums. This will ensure that the involvement of citizens will result in inclusiveness, transparency and accountability for effective and efficient service delivery.		
Specific OGP Challenge addressed by the Commitment	Making the budget cycle inclusive and participatory will ensure transparency and credibility of the process thereby promoting effective and timely utilization of public resources		
Rationale for commitment	The justification for the commitment is that, it will ensure that the entire budget preparation and implementation processes are inclusive, transparent, value for money and credible leading to a more responsive governance process.		
Expected Outcome/Impacts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved transparency of the budget process 2. Improved effectiveness and efficiency in the allocation and utilization of public resources 3. Increased participation of citizens, value for money and ownership 4. Improved timely publication and dissemination of reports (Citizens' Budget, Quarterly Budget Implementation report, Accountant General Report, Auditor General Report, Citizens' Accountability Report, Monthly, Quarterly and Annual Project Progress Report) 		
Performance Indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of non-state actors participating at each stage of the budget cycle 2. Number of citizens' Inputs reflected and Implemented in the annual budget 3. Number of non-state actors participating at budget defense by State House of Assembly 4. Number of non-state actors participated in Audit and Procurement Forums 5. Number of non-state actors participating in Project Monitoring 6. Number of non-state actors participated in bid openings. 7. Number of MDAs achieving quarterly revenue targets. 8. Accessibility and timely publication of the budget documents (including citizens budget, Citizens' accountability reports etc) 9. Number of taxpayers engagement sessions conducted 10. Monitoring App launched 		
Specific Milestones	Start Date	End Date	
i. Implementation of the planning and budget processes as per the annual budget calendar	June, 2024	December, 2025	
ii. Conduct town hall meetings on Annual Budget			
iii. Compilation of citizens' inputs into the Annual Budget			
iv. Budget defense by the State House of Assembly			
v. Publish print version of State Budget Documents, Citizens' budgets,	February, 2024	March, 2025	
vi. Due process annual report	March 2024	March 2025	
vii. Audit Report	June 2024	June 2025	
viii. Citizens' Accountability Reports,	July 2024	September, 2025	
ix. Access to BQs for Project Monitoring	January 2024	December 2025	

x. Conduct of Audit Forum	January 2025	December, 2025
xi. Conduct of Procurement Forum	August 2024	September 2025
xii. Conduct of bid Openings with non-state actors	March, 2024	December, 2025
xiii. Conduct quarterly Appraisal of Revenue Collections	April, 2024	December, 2025
xiv. Develop and launch Mobile App for project and service monitoring	January 2024	December, 2025
xv. Conduct weekly taxpayers' enlightenment and engagement campaign.	January 2024	December, 2025

Thematic Area: 2	Service Delivery and citizens engagement	
Commitment 1	Improve Human resource in relevant MDAs related to service delivery (Education, Health, Agriculture and Water Sectors)	
Lead MDA	Office of the Head of Civil Service	
Responsible person (Steering Committee Member)	Head of Civil Service	
Other actors involved in the implementation (Technical working Group)	MDAs	SSGs Office, Office of the Head of Civil Service (Directorates of establishment and Manpower), Ministries of Education (Higher and Basic), Health, Water Resources, Agriculture, Commerce, Finance, and Local Government. Others include Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning, MDI, CSC.
	CSOs /Media, Private Sectors	NETjIC, JCSF, AAG, JEAF, NAWOJ, NUT, NUJ, State SBMC, WASHCOMs, JiMAF, Jigawa Forum, NBA, JONAPWD, JEP, JHP, AWC, WiA, ICP, WDC, JISOP.
General problems/challenges addressed by the commitment	The key challenge is dealing with issues that affect government's commitments in ensuring that public service delivery is sustainably accessible everywhere, qualitative, timely and responsive. These include among other shortages in human and material resources as well as commitment and attitude.	
Main objective	To improve the quality-of-service delivery in relevant MDAs in accordance with the relevant Service Charters.	
Brief description of commitment	Improve human resources of the relevant MDAs to enhance service delivery.	
Specific OGP Challenge addressed by the Commitment	Specific basic challenges in the selected MDAs include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate human resources across MDAs. - Poor distribution of existing workforce. - Sub optimal service delivery. - Inadequate training and re-training of existing manpower. 	
Rationale for commitment	Effective service delivery requires capable and adequate human resources across MDAs. This is predicated on the belief that it would improve effective service delivery.	

Expected Outcome/Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase human resources and positive rationalization of personnel across the selected MDAs. • Improved socio-economic status of the citizens. • Strengthen in-service training. 		
Performance Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of personnels recruited in the selected MDAs. • Number of capacity building trainings conducted. 		
Specific Milestones		Start Date	End Date
a) Conduct desk review across all MDAs to establish base line data on all performance indicators		Jan 2024	Feb 2024
b) Conduct Needs Assessments on human resources gap across the selected MDAs.		Feb 2024	March 2024
c) Develop strategies to address the identified human resources gap.		March 2024	May 2024
d) Implementation framework for the Human resources gap.		June 2024	Sept. 2024
e) Monitoring and evaluation for the human resources implementation framework		March 2024	Dec. 2025
f) Develop service charters for all relevant ministries.		June 2024	Dec 2024

Thematic Area: 2	Citizens Engagement	
Commitment 2	Strengthen dialogue mechanism between Government and the Citizens	
Lead MDA	Ministry of Information, Youth, Sports and Culture.	
Responsible person (Steering Committee Member)	Permanent Secretary.	
Other actors involved in the implementation (Technical working Group)	MDAs	Ministries of Information, Budget and Economic Planning, Local Government, Health, Education, Agriculture, Environment, Water Resources, Commerce, Justice, Lands and Regional Planning and Women Affairs. Office Of The Head Of Civil Service Other agencies include Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau, Chieftaincy Affairs, and State House of Assembly.
	CSOs /Media, Private Sectors.	JCSF, JIMEF, JMA, JONAPWD, FOMWAN, NUJ, NLC, NBA, NEtJIC, JIGAWA DEV. FORUM, JiMAF, NAWOJ, RATTAWU.
General problems/challenges addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal opportunities for citizen's participation in policies and decision-making process. • Weak capacity to access, analysis and apply existing information on Government programs and policies in policy dialogue, advocacies and constructive engagement; 	
Main objective	To strengthen platforms that will enhance dialogue mechanism between citizens and Government.	

Brief description of commitment	Due to low citizen's participation, there is information gap and skepticism between Government and citizens hence the commitment aimed at bridging that gap to strengthen the platform for information sharing and dialogue.		
Specific OGP Challenge addressed by the Commitment	<div>1. Low Citizen's participation in governance.</div> <div>2. Low civic education and awareness on citizen's right and responsibilities.</div>		
Rationale for commitment	To allow citizens participation in governance and monitor government projects to enhance service delivery.		
Expected Outcomes/Impacts	<div>1. Improved citizen's participation in governance</div> <div>2. Increased transparency and accountability in governance</div> <div>3. Improved effective service delivery in all sectors.</div>		
Performance Indicators	<div>1. Number of policies and plans developed in collaboration with CSOs.</div> <div>2. Number of MDAs engaging citizens in their activities.</div> <div>3. Number of service charters implemented by MDAs.</div>		
Specific Milestones		Start Date	End Date
i. Conduct desk review for all performance indicators.		JAN 2024	MAR 2024
ii. Strengthen technology-based citizens feedback on projects and programmes using radio, television and social media.		APRIL 2024	DEC 2024
iii. Citizens to engage Jigawa State House of Assembly to conduct public hearing on legislative matters that are of public importance.		To be concurrently pursued as appropriate during the period of JAN 2024 – July 2025	
iv. Conduct sectoral quarterly town hall meeting as a means of mobilizing the citizens' engagement and feedback.			
v. Sources of funding: Government, Development partners and non-state actors.			

Thematic Area: 4	ECONOMIC EMPWERMMENT	
Commitment 1	To establish a legal and institutional framework for Youth Empowerment and Employment Agency	
Lead MDA	Ministry of Justice	
Responsible person (Steering Committee Member)	Attorney General/Hon. Commissioner of Justice	
Other actors involved in the implementation (Technical working Group)	MDAs	Jigawa State House of Assembly, State Judiciary, Justice Sector and Law Reform Commission; Office of the Secretary to the State Government, Office of the Head of the State Civil service, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Jigawa, State Operations Coordinating Office (SOCU), Ministry of Budget and Planning, Ministry of Commerce, State Bureau of Statistics and Governor's office

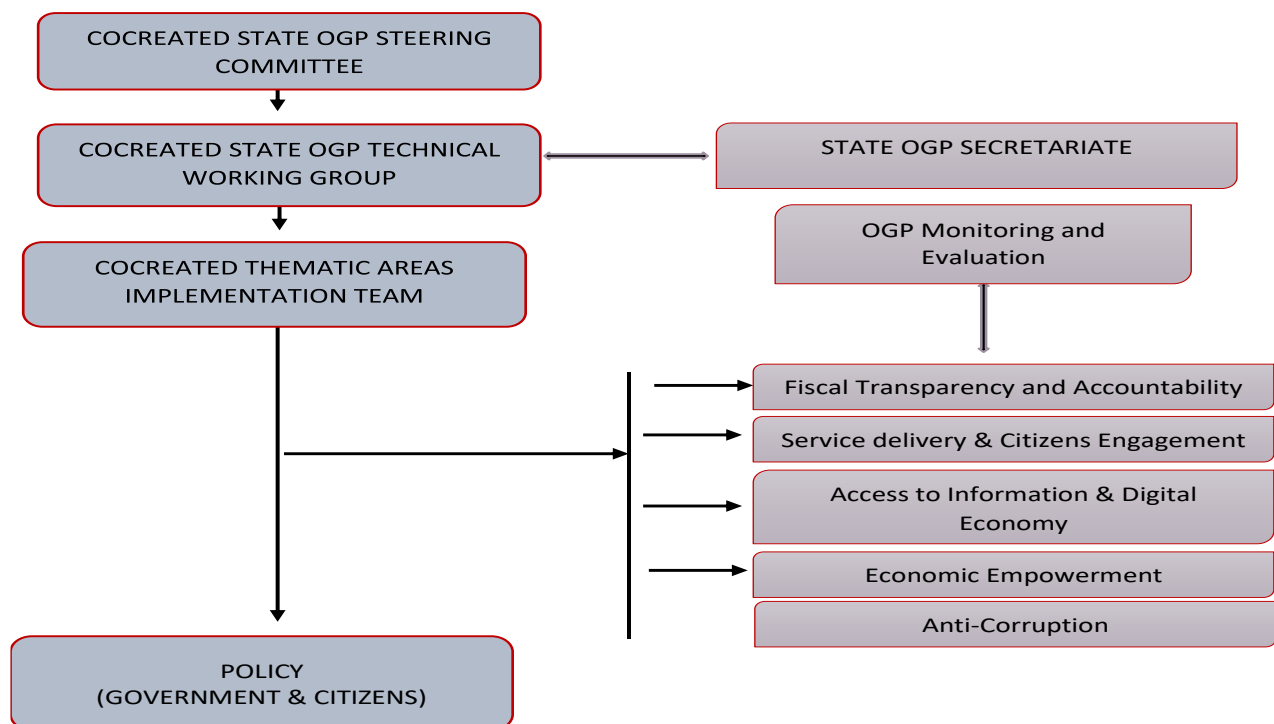
	CSOs /Media, Private Sectors	State Branch of NBA, other relevant CSOs/NGOs such as (Network of Jigawa Civil Society Organizations (NetJic), Jigawa Civil Socceity Forum, Jigawa Forum, Village Community Development Initiative (VILDEV), Jigawa State Social Protection Coalition (JISOP), JONAPWD, JICODEV and the Media (Radio Jigawa, Freedom Radio, Horizon FM, JTV, NTA and correspondent chapel.	
General problems/challenges addressed by the commitment	Jigawa State is the eight (8 th) most populous state in Nigeria with 87.02% poverty index (National living standard survey LSS 2022) and 41.29% unemployment rate (2020) states statistics. It has been observed that there is misplacement of priorities in targeting beneficiaries, types of skills acquisition, trades and programmes. Therefore, there is need to have an effective institution with the sole statutory mandate of propelling the youth, women and persons with disabilities towards equipping them with essential skills, opportunities and providing the resources needed to fostering meaningful empowerment and employment for sustainable development.		
Main objectives	To have an Agency that will promote transparency, equity in empowering youth, women and PwDs with essential skills, opportunities and resources for sustainable empowerment programme.		
Brief description of commitment	Establishment of an Agency with legal framework that will provides citizens to access empowerment packages, employment opportunities for citizens to select priority on the trades and skills needed. The Agency to be provided with a dedicated budget line and strengthen database for unemployed youth, women and PwDs that will help in planning, implementation strategies and development of tracking tools for monitoring Agency's activities.		
Specific OGP Challenge addressed by the Commitment	Agency's institutional framework with legal backing to enhance transparency, accountability and citizens participation in reducing the rate of poverty and unemployment by 2% and established database for planning and decisions making in designing sustainable economic empowerment and employment programmes.		
Rationale for commitment	The high rate of poverty and unemployment in the state is the rationale behind to have an established Agency with legal framework to empower citizens and create employment opportunities among youth, women and PwDs.		
Expected Outcome/Impacts	1. A law on Jigawa State Youth Empowerment and Employment Agency passed, accented by His Excellency, Governor of Jigawa State and gazetted. 2. Agency to develop database for unemployment in the state.		
Performance Indicators	Bill developed and passed into law Law Assented and gazzeted Functional Agency established with adequate staffing and designed economic empowerment programmes for implementation		
Specific Milestones		Start Date	End Date
1. The Agency Bill developed and passed into law		Jan 2024	March 2024

2.	Law Assented and gazette	March 2024	March 2024
3.	Agency established take up	April 2024	April 2026
Source of Funding		Government and Development Partners	

Thematic Area: 5		Anti-Corruption
Commitment 1		Establishment of institutional framework for Public Complain and Anti-Corruption Commission
Lead MDA		Ministry of Justice
Responsible person (Steering Committee Member)		Attorney General/Hon. Commissioner of Justice
Other actors involved in the implementation (Technical working Group)	MDAs	Jigawa State House of Assembly, State Judiciary, Justice Sector and Law Reform Commission; Office of the Secretary to the State Government, Office of the Head of the State Civil service, Ministry for Local Government, Ministry of Information, Youth, Sports and Culture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning and Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau
	CSOs/Media, Private Sectors	Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Dutse Branch, Development Partners, CSOs/NGOs and the Media.
General problems/challenges addressed by the commitment		Lack of an effective state institution with the sole statutory mandate of being an “ombudsman” on anti-corruption crusade with direct linkage to the statutorily established and empowered Federal Anti-corruption Agencies such as EFCC, ICPC, CCB and NFIU.
Main objective		To establish an institution with specific mandate on the fight against corruption and other related offences.
Brief description of commitment		Provide necessary platform for prevention of corrupt practices and avenue for aggrieved citizens to lodge their complaints and to report corrupt practices for monitoring, investigation and prosecution.
Specific OGP Challenges addressed by the Commitment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Problem of corruption in public sector ii. Lack of public awareness on corrupt practices iii. Challenges associated with investigation and prosecution of corruption related offences iv. Other challenges associated with transparency and accountability.
Rationale for commitment		Bringing and taming the scourge of corruption in public sector down to the barest minimum.
Expected Outcome/Impacts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Having a functional and robust Agency for Public complaints and anti-corruption ii. Reducing the menace of corruption in public sector down to the barest minimum. iii. Eliminating corruption from public sector as well elimination of corrupt elements from the sectors. iv. Secure conviction of persons alleged of corrupt practices.

		v. To deter public from engaging in corrupt practices. vi. Improvement in good governance and service delivery. vii. Developing codes of behavioral values in public administration.	
Performance Indicators	Pursue the appointment of the Chairman and members of the Commission, drive for the inauguration of the Commission, provision of office accommodation and other working materials and facilitate for the funding of the Commission.		
Specific Milestones	i. Establishment of Public Complaints and Anti-Corruption Commission ii. Sensitize the general public about the Commission, its functions, powers and process of lodging a complaint for action. iii. Enlisting public support for the fight against corruption. iv. Educating the citizens on the menace of corruption and acts that amount to corrupt practices. v. Facilitate for the establishment of SERVICOM and Anti-corruption Unit at MDA's.	Start Date January, 2024 January, 2024 January, 2024 January, 2024	End Date April, 2024 December, 2024 December, 2025 December, 2025 December, 2025
Source of Funding	Government and Development Partners		

JIGAWA STATE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY STRUCTURE



Section 5 – State OGP Action Plan Implementation and Coordination Framework

5.1 - Context

By default, Open Governance Partnership entails shared understanding between the collaborating partners to achieve a common good that benefits the society in general. Even though, by virtue of its constitutional powers as prescribed in section 5(2) among others, the State Government would be seen as “first among equals”, the principles of “co-creation” would guide the OGP operations in the State. In line with the National OGP governance frame-work fashioned out from its international commitments, the parties involved in the State OGP Initiative would commit to the development of Jigawa State OGP Action Plan and its implementation. This is based on the belief that active and constructive engagement and participation of all stakeholders in the governance process engender the conceptualization and implementation of lasting and transformative reforms that are responsive to the yearnings of the socioeconomic developmental aspirations of the citizens.

Against this background, the State OGP Steering Committee was established consisting of forty members with twenty each drawn from State and Non-State Actors. While the former largely consist of Commissioners and Permanent Secretaries, the composition of the later was drawn from Civil Society Groups, Organized Private Sector, Professional Bodies and the Media. In addition to the State Steering Committee, the State OGP Structure also consists of the Technical Working Group membership of which is drawn from the same multi-stakeholder groups. Both the SSC and TWGs are designed to be under the stewardship of co-chairs independently appointed by the State Government and the coalition of Non-State Actors.

In line with the spirit of OGP basic standards of co-creation, the two multi-stakeholder forums will meet periodically to superintend on the affairs of the State OGP in line with their respective mandates. These principles will continue to apply throughout the OGP cycle as it was used during the determination of state priorities, development of commitments and the State OGP action plan.

5.2 - OGP Community Structure

The OGP Community Structure as depicted in the Organogram, is headed by the State Steering Committee co-chaired by the Commissioner of Budget and Economic Planning who reports direct to the Governor and a second co-chair elected by the coalition of Non-State Actors (Civil Society, Organized Private Sector, the Media and other Stakeholder Interest Groups]. Members include Commissioner, Permanent Secretaries and a broad elected representation from the Non-State Actors. All issues and recommendations go to the Steering Committee for ratification and implementation with necessary formal endorsement by the Government. The Technical Working Group are responsible for the implementation of SAP. A few members of the Steering and Technical Committees overlaps to ensure effective feed-back between the two. Other components of the structure include the OGP Secretariat housed in the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, which is responsible for the OGP M & E working directly with five Thematic Area Implementation Teams, linked to the Technical Working Groups. At the base of the structure is the Jigawa State polity comprising of government and the governed.

5.3 - State Steering Committee

The roles of the SSC include among others:

- a) Set and or ratify high-level strategy, policies, and procedures;
- b) Endorse the OGP Action Plan for approval by State Executive Council
- c) Review the performance of the annual Action Plan
- d) Provide targeted outreach and support to encourage members, government institutions, and non-state actors to meet their OGP commitments
- e) Set a strong example by upholding OGP values and principles and make pragmatic commitments

- f) Connect the OGP Secretariat to key potential partners
- g) Recommend for approval of OGP Action Plan to the State Government as the ultimate implementer;
- h) Review the performance of the action plan.
- i) Conduct periodic coordination and collaboration meetings with major stakeholders
- j) They are to serve for 2 (two) years

5.4 - Technical Working Group

The roles of the TWG are to:

- a) Set commitment areas strategy and procedures
- b) Source for potential partners, their commitment areas and recommend to the SSC
- c) Develop commitment area action plan
- d) Review the performance of the Annual Action Plan
- e) Responsible for the implementation of SAP
- f) Conduct periodic review on SAP implementation as relate to their thematic area.
- g) Embedded use of ICT in SAP implementation

5.5 - OGP Secretariat Management

The OGP Secretariat will be co-managed by the representatives of state and non-state actors. The secretariat will be responsible for the overall record keeping. The role of the secretariat includes:

- a) Track and monitor the implementation of SAP by thematic areas.
- b) Support members to constructively engage the OGP process
- c) Build partnership between the private sector, businesses and the OGP Platform
- d) Maintain communication with MDAs responsible for implementing specific commitments during the implementation period
- e) Liaise with appropriate MDAs responsible for implementation of specific commitments to get information on progress for inclusion in the self-assessment report
- f) Provide necessary inputs and guidance to implement the communication strategy in line with management decision
- g) Build partnerships between all forms of media and the OGP performance;
- h) Maintain records of proceedings and activities of the SSC and the TWG;

5.6 - Funding

In the spirit of Co-creation, funding will be borne by all actors. Government on its part will draw funding from its annual budgets for public sector driven initiatives. Funding by the Government may be through a central budget line for the OGP operations or through the relevant agencies driving specific initiatives and or interventions across all the thematic areas. While Government may provide funding even for commitments driven by CSOs, Development Partners and Non-State Actors shall also proactively mobilize for funding for such commitments from their respective budgets.

Section 6 – Crosscutting Areas

Beyond the identified commitments across all five thematic areas, it is recognized that there are other range of cross-cutting issues considered vital to the success of the entire OGP initiatives. Few of such areas are stated here with specific required actions. These include; Local Governance; Legal Matters and Monitoring & Evaluation.

6.1 –Information, Communication &Technology and Innovation

6.1.1 –Local Governance

Local Governance and Decentralization goes together to engender a more inclusive, responsive and participatory governance and service delivery. With effective decentralization, and empowered local government system, it is believed there would be greater chances for the

empowerment of the citizens and stakeholder groups. Section 14.5.3 of the State CDF II, has recognized the need to pursue a Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach to achieve some of the State development objectives. It recognizes that CDD provides a framework for engendering local development initiatives in a cost effective, participatory and sustainable manner. However, to be successful, the approach would be expected to operate based on the principles of popular participation, demand-responsiveness and transparency with enhanced local capacity.

In the high-level citizens participation in the OGP initiatives, effective grassroots involvement and empowered Local Governance institutions are considered as key crosscutting issues that would engender the success of the initiative as a whole, all the thematic areas of the State OGP Commitments, community engagement and carrying the Local Governments would go a long way in facilitating the attainment of the State OGP objectives.

Thematic Area 1 - Fiscal transparency and Accountability		Required Actions
1	Ensure more effective and wider citizens' participation across the entire budget cycle	All PFM should scale down to Local government through capacity building, of SA and NSA
Thematic Area 2 - Service Delivery and Citizens Engagement		
1	Improve Human resource in relevant MDAs related to service delivery (Education, Health, Agriculture and Water Sectors)	Support LGAs to bridged human resource gap
2	Strengthen dialogue mechanism between Government and the Citizens	Promote grassroot mobilization and community engagement in local governance
Thematic Area 3 - Access to Information and Digital Economy		
1	Facilitate wider spread of information between citizens and government, through Various means of technology.	
2	Facilitate for the Establishment of ICT (Digital Economy) Agency	
Thematic Area 4 - Economic Empowerment		
1	To establish a legal and institutional framework for Youth Empowerment and Employment Agency	
Thematic Area 5 - Anti-Corruption		
1	Establishment of institutional framework for Public Complain and Anti-Corruption Commission	

Legal Matters

Following the sign-up to the OGP initiative by the Jigawa State Government, it is recognized that all activities across all thematic areas shall be consistent with laws of Jigawa state. Where issues come up which require legal attention, the thematic working group should refer the matter to the TWG for appropriate action.

1.3 – Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E)

In order to periodically appraise the implementation of the State OGP Action Plan, it would be imperative to provide an M & E Framework so as to track progress as well as identify and deal with implementation challenges. While monitoring would involve continuous and systematic collection of data on the various performance indicators and other aspects of OGP Commitments (prior to implementation to establish baseline and during implementation), Evaluation would involve periodic performance assessment to assess the extent to which:

- set objectives of the Commitment Areas are being achieved;
- implementation is on track to resolve general and specific OGP challenges sought to be addressed by the commitment;
- predetermined milestones, outputs and outcomes are being attained.

Essentially, the primary purpose of the M & E Framework is to help determine the continued relevance, effectiveness and efficiency as well as assess impact and sustainability of the various actions, initiatives or interventions associated with each OGP Commitment. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the State Action Plan (SAP) implementation is thus considered to be an important component of the OGP Action Plan to be concurrently pursued with its implementation.

While serving the common purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of the State OGP Action Plan in achieving the overall OGP objectives, the M & E framework also serves specific purpose for all actors in the implementation process. For the MDAs and implementing Partners, it helps ensure that they are on track to fulfilling their obligations under each commitment; it assist the SSC to oversee the implementation process and identify potential gaps and problems as to determine where support and resources are needed to be directed; for citizens, the private sector, civil society organizations and the media, it provide tools and information with which to hold government to account with respect to delivering on its OGP commitments.

Given that each Commitment Area comes with specific Key Performance Indicator, expected outputs and outcomes, the State OGP Action Plan will adopt Result Based Management (RBM) Framework to monitor and evaluate performance over time. This would make possible to objectively track achievements and indicate action areas to continuously remain on track.

The M&E framework would adopt uniform template across Commitment Areas as to provide an uniform and objective standards for performance appraisal by the various parties – State and Non-State Actors and Independent Evaluators alike. Through consultation with stakeholders additional M&E tools would also be deployed to provide further qualitative assessment of delivered outputs and outcomes as provided across all the Commitment Areas. This include, for instance, focus group discussion with public service providers and beneficiaries. Each of these results will be reviewed with respect to how they link to citizens’ needs and there will be agreed indicators for these results.

As a management strategy, Result-Based Management seeks to ensure that processes, products and services achieve or contribute to the achievement of desired results. RBM measures performance at the level of outcomes or results which must be aligned to the strategic goals and objectives of initiatives and interventions being assessed such as the specific OGP commitments. RBM requires monitoring and self-assessment of progress; as well as reporting on performance. Applying RBM to the State OGP Action Plan is intended to give a clear and objectives view of the performance status of each of the commitments at a glance.

It will be sequentially presented, linking commitments to outcomes/impacts and indicators to ensure that implementation of activities is purposeful and result oriented. The OGP focus areas of Transparency & Accountability, Public Participation and Technology/Innovation provide direction to specific commitments captured in the SAP. This M&E strategy therefore recognizes that the performance of each of the commitments in the SAP will be measured against the five

focus areas to determine the overall level of change that has been achieved. A yearly qualitative assessment will also be conducted across the commitments to ascertain the level of openness with regard to each of the eight (8) areas. Prior to the qualitative assessment, a set of questions and checklist in addition to the KPIs contained in the result framework shall be prepared to ensure consistency in assessment.

Finally, adopting from CDF II M & E Framework, additional to be leveraged upon would include:

- Periodic (monthly and quarterly) MDA implementation reports;
- Preparation of Annual Score Cards for each Commitment Area;
- Conduct of sector-specific surveys such as for data collection and service-user satisfaction / feedbacks;
- Public Expenditure Review and Budget Tracking Surveys to assess the delivery of public services;
- Use of administrative data and other data from National Surveys and Reports

M & E Template specimen (to be developed)							
S/N	Commitment Area	Prior Set KPIs	Applicable Output / Outcome Data Elements				Remarks
			1	2	3		

Section 7 – Conclusion

Continuing to have open and purposeful government that listen to and act towards fulfilling the wishes and desires of its citizens is one the key objectives of the Open Government Partnership. By this Action Plan, Jigawa State Government commits to will work hand in hand with all the Non-State Actors to achieve this objective through the effective implementation of the Action Plan.

The partnership that the Civil Society and the Government provided had ensured that the contents of this Action Plan was co-created from the beginning. Such a robust participatory process inspired a communication strategy that will enable the citizens take complete ownership of the plan and what it intends to achieve. It is expected that all parties will monitor government and insist that implementation partners discharge their roles and responsibilities consistent with all aspects of the commitments contained herein. Even as Government is accountable to the citizens, Government will also expect the citizens – particularly the Non-State Actors party to the implementation of the Action Plan - accountable in ensuring the proper discharge of their roles and responsibilities. Partners at all levels of Governance, within and without the public sector - are expected to remain open to receive constructive feedback and suggestions on ways to improve the implementation of the SAP and maximize impact.

As the state proceeds in this direction, the OGP community in Jigawa State will continue to work harder to ensure a more open and transparent government that delivers on its promise and listen to the yearnings and aspirations of the citizens as to achieve the constitutional purpose of Government being the “security and welfare of the citizens”.