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ONE YEAR OF OKPEBHOLO

MEASURING PROGRESS



OKPEBHOLOMETER OKPEBHOLOMETER OKPEBHOLOMETER

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About AdvokC Foundation

AdvokC Foundation is a youth-led civic tech organization that aims to promote transparency, accountability, and citizen participation in governance. It uses technology, art, and entertainment, combined with data-driven research and policy analysis, to empower citizens to hold leaders accountable. As a non-partisan organization, AdvokC Foundation focuses on governance monitoring, public sector accountability, and civic education, using digital tools, investigative reporting, and community-driven advocacy to ensure that government policies and commitments benefit the people.

VISION

To be the catalyst for transparent governance and social justice.

MISSION

To build a more democratic and socially just community by improving governance commitment with citizens and empowering citizen education and engagement.

Read more about AdvokC Foundation and the work we do at www.advokc.ng

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ABOUT PROMISE TRACKER NG

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Promise Tracker NG is a governance accountability initiative designed to monitor and evaluate the fulfilment of campaign promises made by elected officials in Nigeria. By providing an independent and data-driven assessment of government commitments, the platform ensures that citizens have access to accurate, transparent, and up-to-date information on the progress of policy implementation.

The platform systematically tracks promises across various sectors, analysing their execution based on verifiable evidence such as government reports, budget allocations, media investigations, and citizen feedback. Each promise is assigned a rating based on its level of implementation:

Not yet Started (no sufficient information available).

Broken (promise was abandoned or reversed).

In the Works (active steps are being taken towards fulfilment).

Stalled (progress has been halted).

Compromised (partially fulfilled but not as originally intended).

Kept (fully implemented as promised).

Promise Tracker NG operates through four dedicated meters, each designed to monitor specific levels of governance.

The BAT-O-METER tracks the promises and policy commitments of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, providing a comprehensive analysis of his administration's progress at the national level.

The State Trackers serve as accountability tools for assessing the performance of state governors against their campaign promises. The Soludometer monitors Governor Charles Soludo of Anambra State, providing evidence-based insights into the progress and implementation of his policy commitments. In a similar vein, the Okpebholometer evaluates Governor Monday Okpebholo of Edo State, tracking the fulfilment of his administration's promises to the people.

The Legislative Agenda Meter is dedicated to monitoring the commitments and legislative activities of members of the Federal House of Representatives, assessing how well they align with their proposed agendas.

Lastly, the Promise Ring serves as a general tracking system for the promises of various state governors who do not yet have a dedicated meter, ensuring that governance at the sub national level remains transparent and accountable.

Promise Tracker NG is more than just a monitoring tool—it is a mechanism for strengthening democracy by promoting transparency and holding leaders accountable to the people. By bridging the gap between electoral commitments and governance realities, the platform empowers citizens to demand better service delivery while encouraging elected officials to remain committed to their mandates. Through research, advocacy, and public engagement, Promise Tracker NG continues to play a vital role in deepening democratic accountability in Nigeria. You can check the work we do on www.promisetracker.ng.

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PROMISE TRACKER



Loud campaigns, silent results? **Not on our watch.**

Visit www.promisetracker.ng to track promises

or Scan
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

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NYFF	Nigeria Youth Futures Fund
FOI	Freedom of Information
LGA	Local Government Area
PHC	Primary Healthcare Centre
EDSPHCDA	Edo State Primary Health Care Development Agency
NUJ	Nigerian Union of Journalists
EBS	Edo Broadcasting Service
AAU	Ambrose Alli University
ASUU	Academic Staff Union of Universities
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
OECD	Internally Generated Revenue
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
SHINE	Security, Health, Infrastructure, Natural Resources & Agriculture, and Education

This report provides an assessment of Governor Monday Okpebholo's first year in office. It adopts a comprehensive and transparent approach designed to ensure accuracy, openness, and accountability in tracking the Governor's campaign promises. The assessment framework is built around three key phases; data collection, verification, and a rating system, which together form the basis for evaluating progress on each promise.

Definition of a Promise

For this report, a promise is defined as a prospective, publicly stated commitment of action or outcome by an elected official, which is verifiable through credible and publicly accessible sources. The promises we track are sourced from either campaign manifestos, official government documents, press releases, public addresses, social media statements, or credible media coverage.

Selection and Categorisation Process

The initial pool of promises was drawn from a wide range of public commitments made by the elected official within the period under review. The promises selected were based on two primary criteria:

1. Timeline Relevance — promises whose proposed implementation timeline falls within the period of our reporting cycle, promises where we expect their implementation ought to be done within the four-year timeframe.

2. Socio-Economic Significance — promises with direct implications on critical socio-economic issues affecting citizens of Edo state, such as healthcare, economy and jobs, infrastructure, education, and governance and political reform.

Data Collection

The data for this report was collected from AdvoKC's Promise Tracker NG, which compiled information from various trustworthy sources, such as government publications, budget documents, policy statements, official press releases, legislative records, and reports from implementing agencies. The analysis also drew on independent media reports, investigative journalism, and civil society evaluations to ensure a balanced and impartial assessment. Furthermore, citizen feedback and personal testimonies were taken into account to gain a deeper understanding of the implementation's real-world impact.

Tracking

Our tracking methodology relies on continuous monitoring of the activities, communications, and policy initiatives of the elected officials and their administrations. We gather updates from multiple reliable and verifiable sources, including: Official government websites and portals, Verified social media accounts of the office holders and key government agencies, Freedom of Information (Foi) requests and disclosures Credible national and international news organizations, Official policy legislative records. We also track contextual factors such as political dynamics, legal challenges, budgetary allocations, and legislative support, all of which can influence the fulfillment or delay of a promise.

Verification

All collected data underwent a rigorous verification process to ensure reliability. This involved cross-referencing official government records with independent reports and stakeholder interviews. Where necessary, fact-checking mechanisms were applied to validate claims, and discrepancies were flagged for further investigation. The verification process aimed to eliminate bias and provide an evidence-based assessment of each promise

Rating and Scoring System

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KEPT



IN THE WORKS



COMPROMISED



STALLED

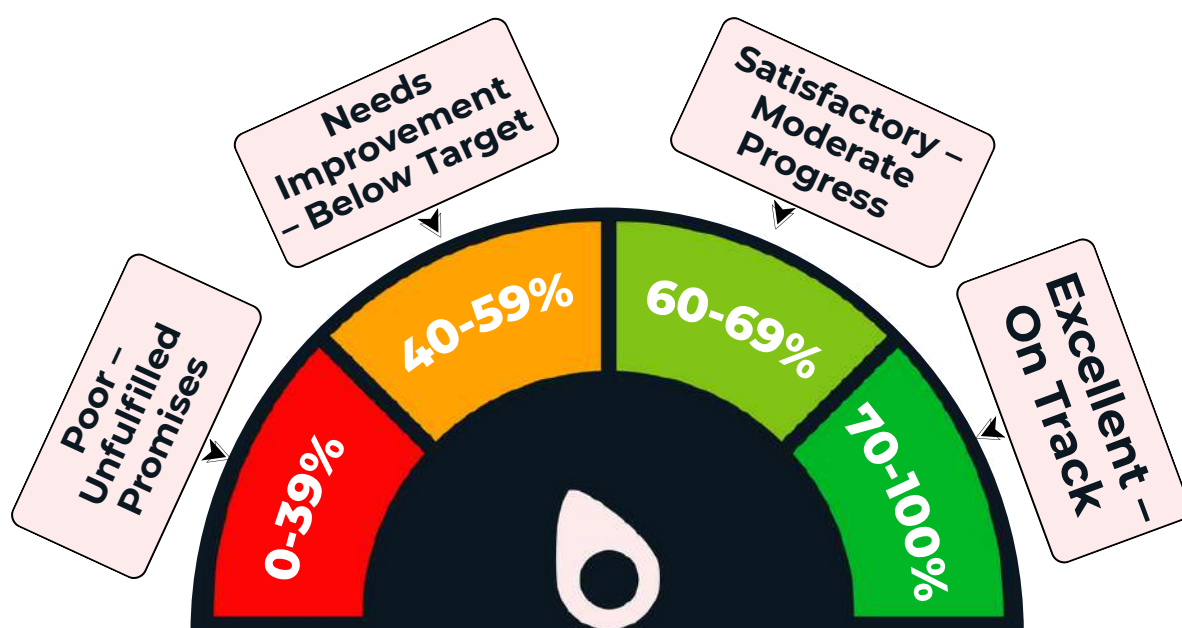


BROKEN



NOT YET RATED

PERFORMANCE SCORING SCALE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This report presents an independent, non-partisan assessment of Governor Monday Okpebholo's first year in office, tracking 27 specific campaign promises across six critical sectors: Economy and Jobs, Healthcare, Justice and Security, Infrastructure, Education, and Governance and Political Reform. Conducted by AdvokC Foundation's Okpebholometer Project under the Promise Tracker NG framework, the assessment employed a rigorous methodology combining data from government publications, budget documents, media reports, and field verification across all three senatorial districts.

Governor Okpebholo inherited a state grappling with decaying infrastructure, inadequate healthcare delivery, poor educational outcomes, and rising insecurity. His Five-Point SHINE Agenda (Security, Health, Infrastructure, Natural Resources & Agriculture, and Education) aims to address these systemic challenges. While Edo State possesses major assets; including a strategic commercial location, rich cultural heritage, agricultural potential, and an emerging tech ecosystem, the first year of implementation reflects mixed outcomes, with notable successes alongside significant implementation delays.

The administration recorded measurable progress in several key areas. The recruitment of 5,000 teachers, one of the largest in recent history, addressed both educational staffing shortages and youth unemployment. The revitalised Edo Line Transport Company resumed full operations on designated routes at affordable fares. The ₦1 billion women's soft loan programme empowered small-scale entrepreneurs, and school reconstruction projects such as Uyiosa and Eweka Primary Schools demonstrated visible improvement in learning infrastructure.

While no infrastructural project has yet reached full completion, there is visible momentum across multiple construction sites, including the Ramat Park Flyover (60% completion) and several key road and healthcare projects. However, critical gaps remain. Gender inclusion targets were missed, with only 11% female representation against the promised 35%. Industrial revival promises such as Bendel Breweries and Ehor Juice Factory remain inactive, and several infrastructure projects, including the Aduwawa Market, Ebomisi Secondary School (delayed beyond its two-month timeline), and business incubation centres, show limited progress.

Gov. Okpebholo

Overall Promises

2 Promises
Broken

4 Promises
Kept

10 Promises
In the Works

11 Promises
Not Yet Started



This first-year performance indicates moderate progress on campaign commitments but exposes gaps that demand accelerated action. The test for Year 2 will be whether the administration converts ongoing projects into tangible results and upholds public trust through timely completion. This assessment serves as both a governance report card and a roadmap for advancing accountability, inclusion, and citizen-responsive governance in Edo State.



INTRODUCTION

Democracy thrives on accountability. When citizens elect their leaders based on promises made, promise tracking serves as a critical mechanism to bridge the gap between campaign rhetoric and governance reality. By systematically monitoring whether elected officials fulfil their promises, it provides citizens with objective, evidence-based information to evaluate government performance.

Governor Monday Okpebholo assumed office on November 12, 2024, and made several promises to the people of Edo State. This report represents an independent, non-partisan assessment of the administration's first year, tracking 27 specific promises across six critical sectors. Our goal is not to praise or condemn, but to inform and empower citizens to engage constructively with their government and hold leaders accountable.

Promise tracking benefits both citizens and the government. For citizens, it transforms governance from abstract policy into measurable outcomes. For the government, it provides systematic feedback on implementation progress, helping identify bottlenecks and celebrate successes. As Edo State navigates democracy in the 21st century, transparent governance anchored in accountability is essential.

Edo State, home to over 4.7 million people across 18 Local Government Areas, faces a mix of economic, social, and infrastructural challenges. The Okpebholo administration, elected in September 2024, inherited issues including a largely informal economy with poor access to capital. The state also struggles with decaying infrastructure, especially roads, schools, and health systems, alongside teacher absenteeism and poor learning outcomes, particularly in rural areas where many lack formal education.

Rising insecurity, including kidnapping and armed robbery, further threatens livelihoods.

In health, limited access to quality care, inadequate primary healthcare centres, and the migration of medical professionals contribute to high maternal and child mortality rates. Additionally, low public trust in government, poor transparency, and weak citizen engagement have deepened the governance deficit.

Despite these challenges, Edo State possesses significant assets: a strategic location as a commercial gateway, rich cultural and tourism potential, agricultural productivity, a growing tech ecosystem, a relatively educated population, and a willing diaspora community.

Upon assuming office, Governor Okpebholo unveiled his Five-Point SHINE Agenda to address Edo State's most pressing challenges:

1. Security : Strengthening state security as the foundation for sustainable economic development, in order to ensure citizens can move freely and go about their businesses without fear.

2. Health : Ensuring every Edo citizen has access to affordable and accessible healthcare.

3. Infrastructure: Achieving seamless connectivity between communities by ensuring standard road networks, upgrading public utilities and other critical infrastructures.

4. Natural Resources & Agriculture : Boosting the agricultural value chains and sustainable resource use to create jobs and improve food security.

5. Education : Improving learning outcomes and literacy rates, renovating school infrastructure, recruiting qualified teachers, integrating technology in education, and restoring confidence in public education.

SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

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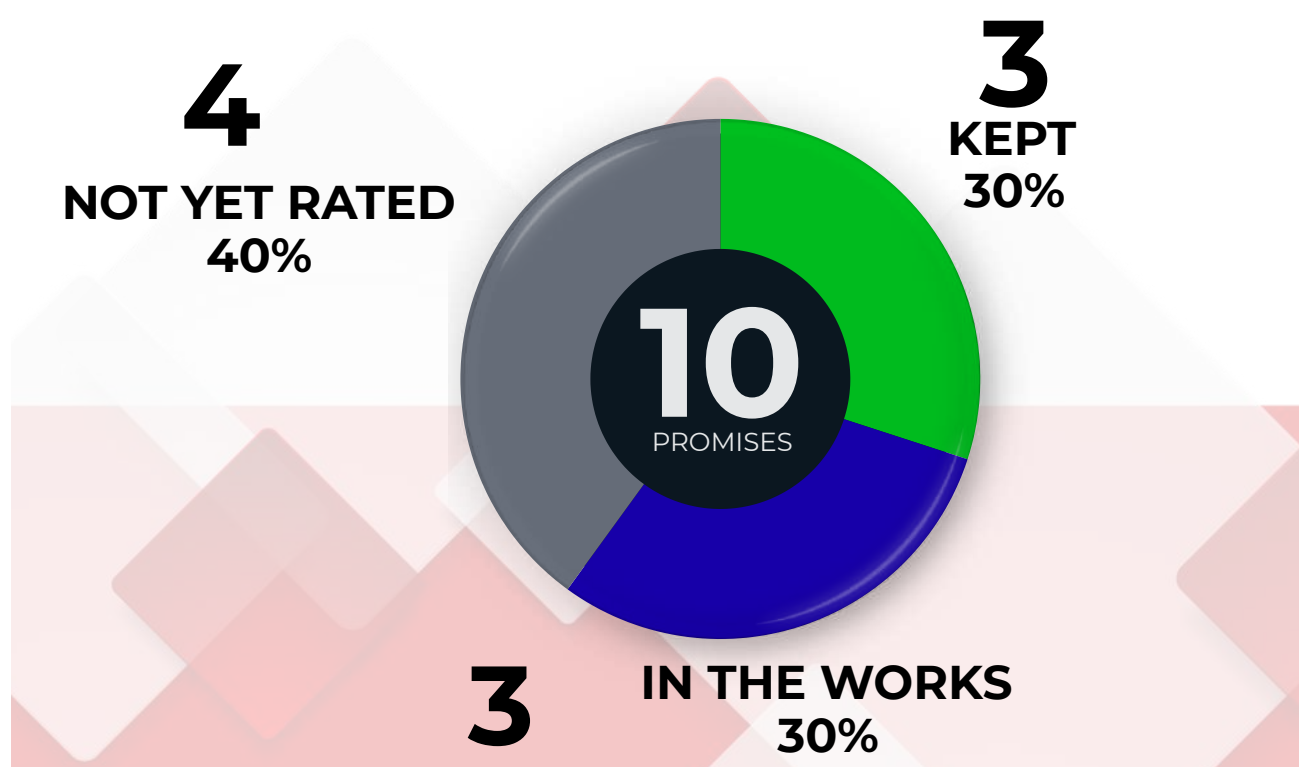


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For this report, **27 specific promises made by the Governor Okpebholo** administration during the campaign and upon assumption of office were tracked. These promises were selected based on public documentation, specificity, significance, sector balance, and first-year implementation targets. The sectoral distribution is as follows:

1. Economy and Jobs:

The economy and jobs sector represents a larger part of tracked promises, reflecting the administration's emphasis on economic revitalisation and employment creation. While two significant promises have been fulfilled, the majority remain either in early implementation stages or awaiting concrete action. The Governor committed to revitalising Edo State's economy and expanding employment opportunities through a multifaceted approach that includes the recruitment of teachers, establishment of business incubation centres, and the rejuvenation of key state-owned enterprises. Additional initiatives include the creation of Creative Arts Schools and Workshops and the financial empowerment of female entrepreneurs through loan facilities.



SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

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2. Healthcare

Healthcare promises focus on infrastructure expansion and service delivery improvements. All tracked promises show some level of progress, though none have achieved complete fulfilment within Year 1. The Governor pledged to strengthen Edo State's healthcare system by enhancing access to quality and affordable medical services. This commitment includes the construction of primary healthcare centres in all wards to bring essential health services closer to communities, particularly in underserved areas, and the establishment of the Udomi-Uwessa Teaching Hospital, designed to provide advanced medical care and serve as a hub for training healthcare professionals.



3. Justice and Security

The Governor emphasised the importance of security as the foundation for sustainable development and economic growth. To this end, the administration committed to establishing the Edo State Security Trust Fund, a strategic initiative aimed at strengthening the state's security architecture through sustainable financing.



SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

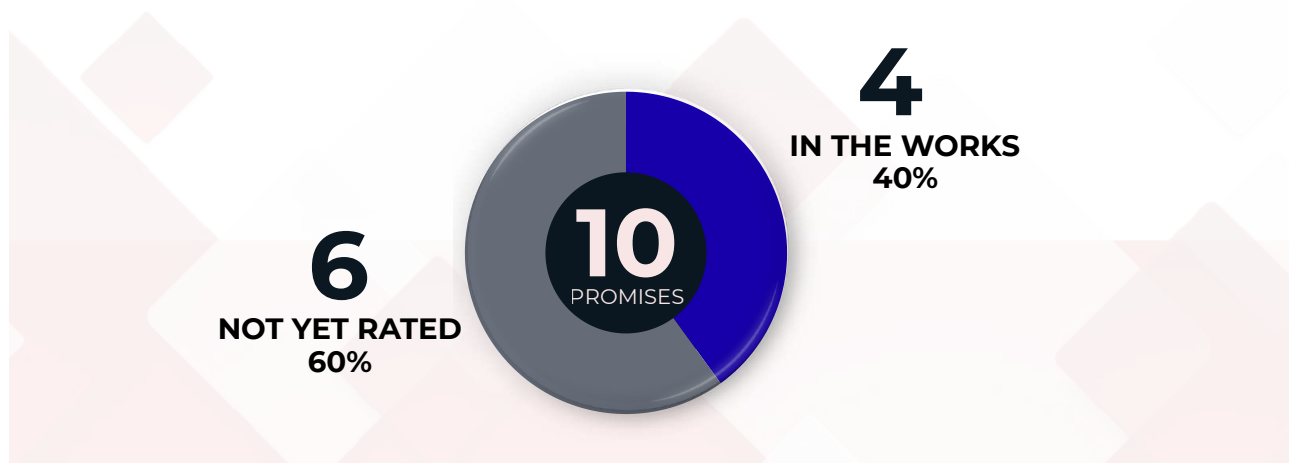
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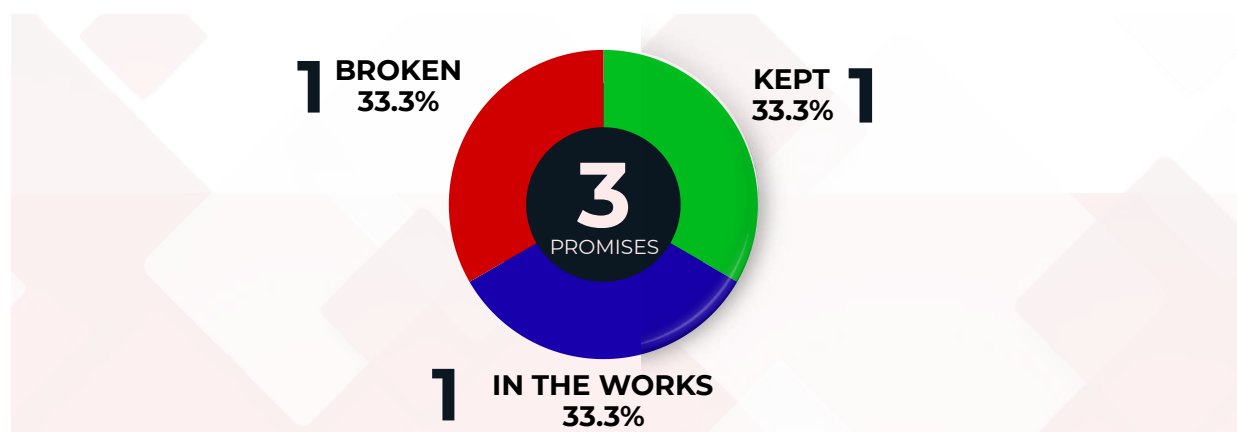
4. Infrastructure

Infrastructure represents a larger percentage of promises tracked for this report, reflecting citizen demand for improved roads, bridges, and public facilities. While no infrastructure projects have been fully completed within Year 1, significant progress is evident on several key promises. Road construction and rehabilitation, bridge building and repairs, and public building renovations. Infrastructure connects communities, enables commerce, and improves quality of life. Poor roads increase transport costs, limit market access, isolate communities, and increase security risks.



5. Education

Education promises address infrastructure, funding, and access challenges in Edo State's education system. Education breaks the cycle of poverty and creates human capital. When schools lack teachers or infrastructure, children's futures are compromised. Hence the Governor's promise to rebuild dilapidated schools to improve learning outcomes and the general literacy rate.



SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

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6. Governance and Political Reform

Collaborative governance with the legislature, transparent budget processes, and citizen feedback mechanisms. Good governance enables everything else. When government is accountable and transparent, resources are used efficiently and citizens trust their leaders.



**BROKEN
100%**



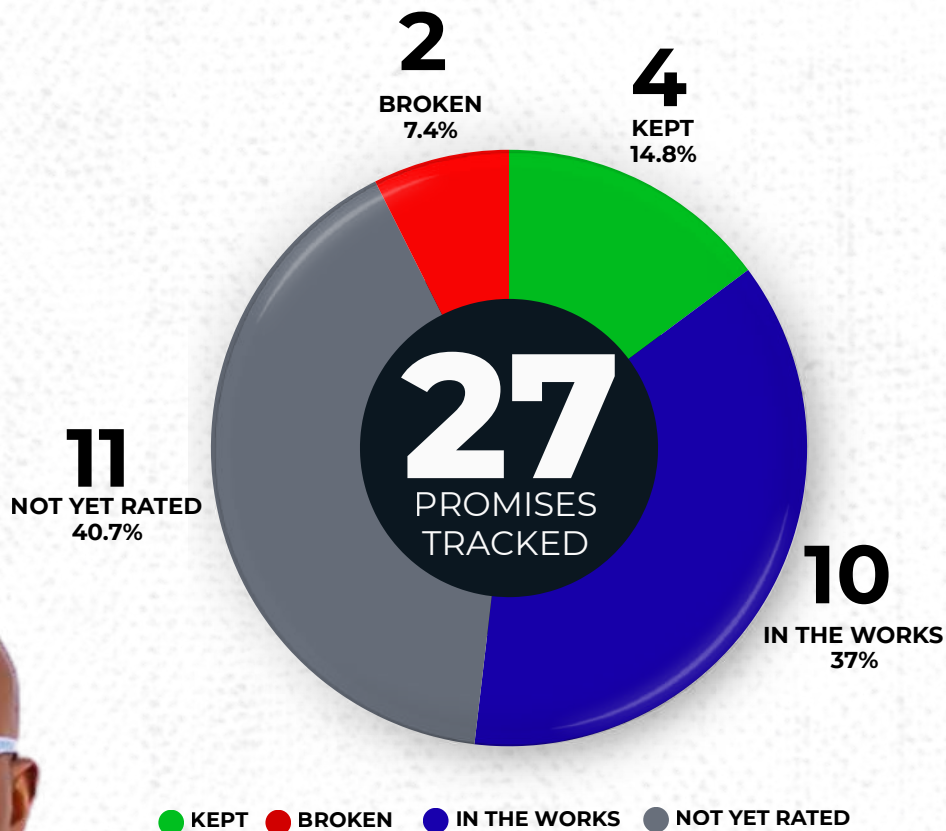
GOV. MONDAY OKPEBHOLO

FIRST YEAR SCORECARD

60/135

Needs Improvement

Within the range of 40-59% on the Performance Scoring Scale which shows that Improvement is needed.



PROMISE STATUS SUMMARY



PROMISES KEPT

1. Employ 5,000 Teachers

The Governor's bold electoral promise to employ 5,000 teachers represents one of the administration's most significant commitments to both education and job creation. While recruitment processes were initiated with the approval of the **recruitment of 500 teachers** by the State Basic Education Board in June, 2025.

Subsequently, on October 15, 2025, employment letters were handed out by the Governor to **5000 teachers.**

2. Revitalization of Edo Line Transport Company

During the campaign, Governor Okpebholo had committed to restoring the state-run public transportation service to ensure reliable mobility across Edo State. A visit to the Edo Line terminal located at Obakhavbaye Central Park, Benin City, in August, 2025, confirmed that the company is once again operational, with buses observed running on designated routes, signifying a visible restoration of state-managed public transport infrastructure.

During an interview with the IT Officer of the park, he noted that Edo Line currently offers some of the most affordable fares in the state. He also explained the park's operational structure and revealed plans for a second phase of terminal expansion, both within and beyond Edo State.

This revitalization provides citizens with accessible and cost-effective transportation options and also generates employment opportunities for drivers and support staff, which in turn boosts local economic activity.

In September, 2025, the Governor approved the procurement of an **additional 50 buses** for the Edo line Transport Company to complement the vehicles purchased earlier.

3. Provision of Soft Loans to Women

During the 2024 campaign, Governor Monday Okpebholo pledged to provide soft loans to market women across Edo State to boost their businesses and economic independence. This promise began materialising on March 8, 2025, when the Governor **announced the approval of ₦1 billion in soft loans** for market women during the International Women's Day celebration at Government House, Benin City.

A field visit to Oba Market in August 2025 confirmed that loans had been disbursed to beneficiaries in the market. The Iyeki (Head of Oba Market), Princess Oshodin, reported that traders received ₦200,000 each, repayable over 12 months with a one-month moratorium to allow time for business reinvestment. Several beneficiary confirmed receiving the funds and expressed gratitude to the government for supporting women's economic empowerment and small-scale businesses across the state.

4. Rebuild Uyiosa Primary School, Uzebu, Eweka Primary School, Obazagbon

The Uyiosa and Eweka Primary Schools, located in Uzebu Quarters and Obazagbon, Oredo Local Government Area (LGA), Benin City, were previously in deplorable condition, with dilapidated classrooms, caving roofs, and overgrown weeds. Several classes had to share a single classroom due to the poor state of the facilities. During inspection rounds in November 2024, Governor Monday Okpebholo, accompanied by his team, visited the schools and pledged to transform them into safe and conducive learning environments.

When we revisited the schools in August this year, both had taken on a new look. The classrooms had been renovated, and a new block of classrooms had been constructed. Community leaders in Obazagbon expressed their gratitude to the Governor, noting that the improved infrastructure would greatly enhance learning outcomes for the pupils.

5,000
Teachers Recruited



**Rebuild Uyiosa Primary
School, Uzebu, Eweka
Primary School,
Obazagbon**



50 
ADDITIONAL BUSES

**Revitalization of the Edo
Line Transport Company**

N1BN 

**Provision
of Soft
Loans to
Women**



PROMISE STATUS SUMMARY

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PROMISES IN THE WORKS

1. Create Creative Arts Schools and Workshops

The promise to establish creative art schools and workshops aims to support youth development in the creative industries and cultural preservation. Although we have not confirmed the building of any “Creative Arts School”, the administration has effectively met the spirit of this promise through the continuation of a strategic three-year partnership with the German Film Academy (Filmakademie Ludwigsburg). This collaboration, which began in 2023, focuses on delivering high-quality training, capacity building, and international exposure for local film-makers.

2. Upgrade of Edo Broadcasting Service (EBS) Station

In December 2024, during a visit to the facility, Governor Okpebholo promised to upgrade the Edo Broadcasting Service, addressing persistent challenges including poor power supply, lack of proper studio facilities, and deteriorating access roads. According to the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ), Edo State Council, reforms are currently ongoing at the state-owned media house under the current leadership. Our efforts to verify these reforms so far have been unsuccessful.

3. Reconstruct the Oba Market

The historic Oba Market in Benin City, was gutted by fire over a decade ago. During an inspection visit in August 2025, the Governor assured traders that the reconstruction would transform the ruins into a modern commercial hub equipped with a crèche, sick bay, restaurants, and a mini fire station, all aimed at improving safety and convenience. He emphasised that the rebuilding would not displace the original occupants but rather provide them with a better trading environment.

A field visit to the market in September 2025 confirmed that construction work is actively ongoing, with visible progress on rebuilding the affected sections. The reconstruction is scheduled for completion by June 2026, though the Governor expressed determination to deliver early.

4. Build Primary Healthcare Centres in All Wards

Governor Monday Okpebholo’s administration pledged to build primary healthcare centres (PHCs) in all 192 wards across Edo State to improve access to quality healthcare at the grassroots. According to the Executive Secretary of the Edo State Primary Health Care Development Agency (EDSPHCDA), about 18 wards still lack PHCs, while 61 existing centres are currently under revitalization, showing active efforts toward strengthening healthcare delivery in rural areas.

According to the Edo State Government 2025 Citizens’ Budget, a total of ₦5 billion was allocated for the construction and remodelling of 18 Primary Health Care Centres across the state.

A field visit to Ehor community in Umunmwonde Local Government Areas confirmed ongoing construction activities. In Ehor, a new PHC structure was under construction.

5. Build Udomi-Uwessa Teaching Hospital

The promise to build a teaching hospital in the Udomi-Uwessa area came because of the need to expand tertiary healthcare capacity and support medical education.

During a visit to the proposed site for the Udomi-Uwessan Teaching Hospital in August, 2025, men and equipment were actively at work, with foundation laying already underway, marking the early stages of this major healthcare project. The site also includes a proposed location for a Nursing Health College, which is expected to complement the hospital by training future healthcare professionals.

6. Build Flyover in Benin

A review of the 2025 Edo State Citizen's budget revealed that 20 billion was allocated for the construction of flyovers and associated roads in Ramat Park, Adesuwa, and Dawson Junction.

In March 2025, Monday Okpebholo flagged off the construction of the first flyover in Benin City, the Ramat Park Flyover, a milestone in his infrastructure agenda for Edo State. By October 2025, the government had commenced site-clearing for the second flyover at Adesuwa Junction.

Reports say that the Ramat Park Flyover has reached approximately 60% completion, with contractors working on abutments, beams, retaining walls and access drains. The project, initially scheduled for an 18-month completion period, is now targeting delivery in about 14 months. Our visit to the Ramat park in August confirmed ongoing construction.

7. Fix Auchi-Igarra-Ibillo Road

Auchi-Igarra-Ibillo Road is one of the most deplorable federal roads in Edo State. In August 2025, we conducted a follow-up visit to assess the condition of the Auchi-Igarra-Ibillo federal road, one month after Governor Monday Okpebholo flagged off its emergency rehabilitation on July 31. The site visit revealed that the road remained in urgent need of repair, though three excavators were stationed along the stretch, suggesting preliminary work preparations. A commuter we interviewed lamented the poor state of the road but expressed optimism that its rehabilitation, once fully completed, would help curb the recurring incidents of kidnapping and insecurity in the area.

8. Construction of 4.7 Kilometer Utteh Palace Road

Progress has been made towards fulfilling his campaign promise to improve road infrastructure with the flag-off of the 4.7km Utteh Palace Road located in Benin City. The project, which connects Ikpoba-Okha and Uhunmwonde Local Government Areas, is expected to enhance accessibility, boost local commerce, and stimulate economic growth in surrounding communities.

A follow-up visit to the construction site by our representative in Edo state in August 2025 revealed that a significant portion of the road had already been graded, with drainage gutters completed on both sides. A tricycle rider who regularly plies the route expressed optimism that, upon completion, the road would greatly reduce vehicle damage and curb the persistent erosion challenges that had long affected the area.

9. Carry Out Palliative Repairs on Onewa-Udomi-Ibhiolulu-Afada-Idumoza-Eko-Uwaya-Ewora Roads, Illushin Road and New Agbor Road

The Governor pledged during his campaign to carry out palliative repairs on multiple roads in the Uromi area of the Edo Central Senatorial District. During a recent inspection visit, we observed that construction and palliative repairs were actively underway on the Onewa-Udomi-Ewora road. A large part of the road had been completed and opened for vehicular use. Additionally, the Governor Okpebholo carried out a monitoring tour of the road in October 2025.

10. Properly Fund Ambrose Alli University

In 2021, reports revealed that following investigations by a Special Intervention Team set up by former Governor Godwin Obaseki, the governing council of Ambrose Alli University (AAU) was dissolved due to alleged mismanagement of funds and other administrative irregularities. Consequently, the university faced several challenges, including delayed subventions and salary payments, as alleged by members of the institution's Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU).

Recent developments indicate progress toward addressing these issues. In February 2025, media reports confirmed that Governor Okpebholo fulfilled his promise to the university by inaugurating a new governing council to replace the one previously dissolved. Additionally, the university's monthly subvention was significantly increased from ₦41 million to ₦500 million. According to the Edo State Citizens Budget for 2025, funds amounting to ₦323,600,000 have also been allocated for the renovation of one male and one female students' hostel at AAU, although this renovation has not yet been independently confirmed.

Create Creative Arts
Schools and Workshops



Upgrade of Edo Broadcasting
Service (EBS) Station



Build Flyover
in Benin



Properly Fund Ambrose
Alli University



Reconstruct the
Oba Market



Build Primary Healthcare
Centres in All Wards



Build Udomi-Uwessa
Teaching Hospital



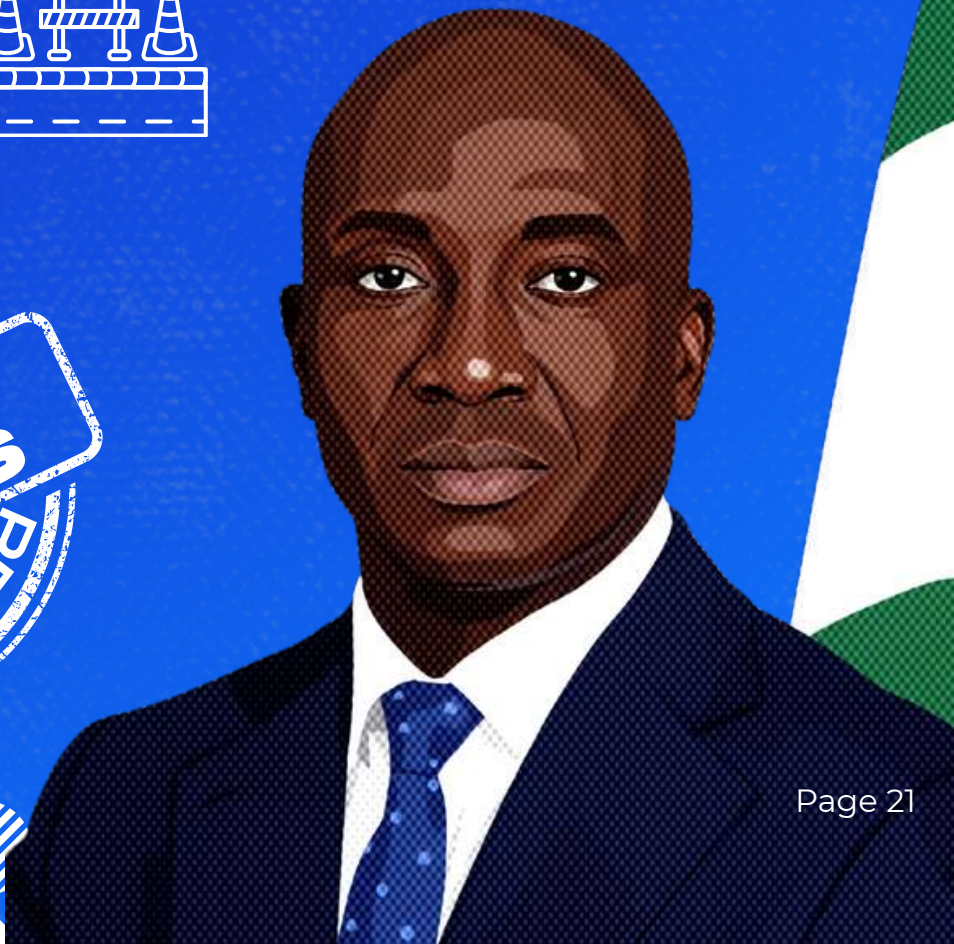
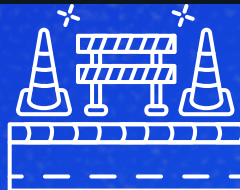
Fix Auchi-Igarra-
Ibillo Road



Construction of 4.7 Kilometer
Utteh Palace Road



Carry Out Palliative Repairs on
Onewa-Udomi-Ibhiolulu-Afada-
Idumoza-Eko-Uwaya-Ewora
Roads, Illushin Road and New
Agbor Road



PROMISE STATUS SUMMARY

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PROMISES NOT YET STARTED

1. Establish Business Incubation Centres Across Three Senatorial Zones

The Governor promised to build incubation centres to support innovation and youth entrepreneurship with office space and mentorship across Edo Central, North, and South senatorial districts. At the time of compiling this report, no public announcements or site preparations had been verified.

2. Revive Ehor Juice Factory

Campaign promise to revive the moribund Ehor Juice Factory to process local pineapple products and support farmers in Esan region.

Our visit to the site of the Edo State Juice Factory in Ehor Community, Uhunmwonde LGA, in August 2025, revealed no evidence of revival activities, equipment procurement, or engagement with farmers. Conversations with the security personnel on the site of the factory noted that the factory was built by a former Governor and was only operational for a short period of time before it became inactive.

3. Rebuild Aduwawa Market into Modern Facility

According to available reports, there is currently no visible construction effort underway at the Aduwawa Livestock and Kara Market located in Eyaen, along the Benin–Auchi Road in Ikpoba-Okha Local Government Area. During a recent visit, market leaders, including the market chairman, recounted that Governor Monday Okpebholo had promised to rebuild the market and construct the access road beside it. They emphasised that the road construction would significantly boost patronage and improve business activities within the area.

The traders further appealed for the provision of essential amenities such as security lights, stores, pipe-borne water, a public toilet, and the clearing of the refuse dump site to enhance the market's functionality and hygiene.

At this time, the promise to Rebuild Aduwawa Market into a Modern Facility remains unfulfilled.

4. Revive Bendel Breweries

Bendel Breweries Limited, located in Benin City, was among the facilities Governor Monday Okpebholo pledged to revive to create jobs and boost Edo State's economy. However, during our visit to the site in November 2025, the facility remained abandoned and in a state of disrepair

The brewery premises showed no visible signs of rehabilitation or ongoing construction activity. The buildings were visibly deteriorated, with overgrown vegetation and stagnant water collecting in front of the compound.

Although reports from the state government have reaffirmed ownership of the facility and warned against unauthorized activities on the premises, there has been no verifiable progress toward reconstruction, investor partnership, or operational restart of the brewery.

5. Establish Edo Security Trust Fund

Governor Okpebholo promised to establish the Edo Security Trust Fund to enhance law enforcement capabilities, support community policing, and provide vital training and equipment for local vigilante groups. This initiative was intended to create a sustainable and transparent funding structure for security operations beyond regular government budgets. Since assuming office, the administration has demonstrated a strong financial commitment to security. According to the 2025 Edo State budget, the State Security Office received an ₦8 billion allocation, making it one of the highest-funded ministries in the state. This significant investment underscores the Governor's prioritisation of security through enhanced funding for infrastructure, training, and operations. However, while the ₦8 billion allocation signals serious intent, the promised Security Trust Fund has not yet been formally established.

6. Pave Roads Around Spare Parts Market

In August 2025, we visited the Evbareke and Uwelu Spare Parts Markets in Egor Local Government Area to assess the state of the access roads. Our visit confirmed that the roads remain in a deplorable condition, with visible potholes and poor drainage.

7. Construct Link Road Between Ugboha and Anegbete

During a field visit to the Ugboha-Anegbete Road located in Uromi, Esan North East Local Government Area of Edo State, in August 2025, we observed that while most sections of the road remain motorable, the Anegbete portion is in poor condition. As of the time of this assessment, no visible construction or repair work had commenced on the affected section. The current state of the road continues to hinder smooth transportation and connectivity between the two communities.

8. Construct 12km Emu Road to Improve Transportation Access

A field visit was conducted in August, 2025, to Emu community in Ubiaja, Esan South-East LGA; we observed that the community has three major roads. Two of which are in good condition; of these, the third Emu Road is in a deplorable condition, making transportation difficult for residents.

According to a resident interviewed, the Third Emu Road has been in poor condition “since they were born,” and becomes almost impassable during the rainy season. They expressed hope that the government would prioritise the construction of this road to ease movement and improve access within the community.

9. Fix Roads in Aduwawa, Mission and Forestry Areas

A visit to the Aduwawa, Mission, and Forestry areas showed no visible construction or rehabilitation work had commenced. The inspection revealed that the affected roads remain in deplorable condition, with uneven surfaces and deteriorating sections that make daily commuting difficult for motorists and pedestrians alike.

The visit, which took place in November after a heavy downpour, further revealed that several parts of the roads were waterlogged, indicating poor or blocked drainage systems. Of particular concern was the state of Aduwawa Road by Upper Mission Junction, which was found to be in an advanced state of disrepair. Despite reports of occasional palliative repairs in the past, the junction remains rough and uneven, while a large, open ditch nearby had become filled with dirt and debris, further worsening the situation. These conditions continue to hinder movement and pose safety risks to residents and traders who rely on the route for their daily activities.

10. Revival of Musical Water Fountain

As at the time of the visit to the Musical Water Fountain located at Ring Road, Benin City, it was found to be non-operational. The once vibrant structure has fallen into disrepair, with the surrounding area littered with dirt and the fountain water covered in algae.

A nearby businessman recounted that before its current state, the water fountain served as a popular relaxation spot for residents and visitors alike, especially during festive seasons. He alleged that the previous administration failed to restore the fountain because it was not considered profitable enough to maintain.

11. Pave Roads in Ologbo Dukedom

A visit to the Ologbo community to ascertain the progress on this promise showed that no construction activity had begun and that the roads were not in deplorable states.

**Establish Business
Incubation Centres Across
Three Senatorial Zones**



**Revive Ehor
Juice Factory**



**Rebuild Aduwawa
Market into
Modern Facility**



Revive Bendel Breweries



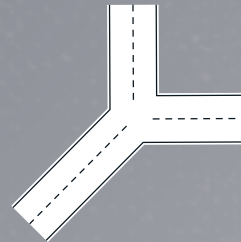
**Establish Edo
Security Trust Fund**



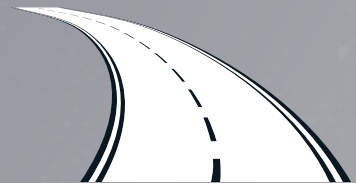
**Pave Roads Around
Spare Parts Market**



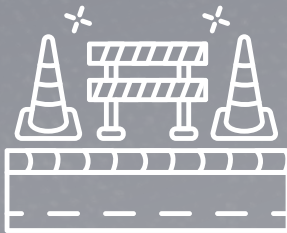
**Construct Link Road
Between Ugboha
and Anegbete**



**Construct 12km Emu
Road to Improve
Transportation Access**



**Fix Roads in Aduwawa,
Mission and Forestry Areas**



**Revival of Musical
Water Fountain**



**Pave Roads in
Ologbo Dukedom**



PROMISE STATUS SUMMARY

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BROKEN PROMISES

1. Complete Abandoned Ebomisi Secondary School Within 2 Months

Despite the governor's commitment in November 2024 to complete the abandoned Ebomisi Secondary School within two months, no visible progress was made for several months. When Advokc visited the school in late August 2025, the facility remained in a deplorable state. All classroom blocks were dilapidated, the compound was overgrown with weeds, and students had been relocated to the nearby primary school building due to the poor state of the secondary school facilities. A community leader lamented that the situation had persisted for years despite repeated appeals.

However, following Advokc's advocacy campaign calling attention to the school's condition, progress was observed during a subsequent visit on Thursday, September 18, 2025. Construction activities had begun on-site, including the erection of a perimeter fence and the reconstruction of one of the previously collapsed classroom buildings. This indicates that work on the project has now commenced, though completion is still pending nearly ten months after the governor's initial promise. Another site visit was conducted at Ebomisi School in October 2025, and we can confirm that construction work is still ongoing.

Given the significant delay between the governor's initial commitment and the eventual commencement of work, the status of this promise will shift from "Broken" to "Compromised" upon completion. Although the recent construction efforts demonstrate some level of responsiveness, the intervention came long after the governor's two-month deadline had elapsed.

2. Allocate 35% of Cabinet Positions to Women

Governor Monday Okpebholo's administration continues to fall short of its commitment to allocate 35% of cabinet positions to women. Since assuming office, the Governor has made multiple rounds of commissioner; however, female representation has remained below the promised threshold.

In January 2025, Barr. (Chief) Bisi Marie Idahomi was appointed as the Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, becoming the first woman in the cabinet. Later in August 2025, the Edo State House of Assembly confirmed eight new commissioner nominees, including Eugenia Abdallah, appointed as Commissioner for Women Affairs. This brought the total number of women in the cabinet to two out of 17 at the time. During the confirmation process, Speaker Blessing Agbebaku commended the competence of the nominees but raised concerns about the glaring gender imbalance.

By late September 2025, Governor Okpebholo appointed three additional commissioners, including Dr. Elizabeth Onome Ebosele as Commissioner for Budget and National Planning, raising the total number of women in the cabinet to three. In October, another commissioner-designate was confirmed and sworn in as Commissioner for Business, Trade, and Investment, though male, leaving the gender ratio largely unchanged.

As of Tuesday, October 14, 2025, when the Governor of Edo State, His Excellency Monday Okpebholo, swore in 19 new commissioners to join the existing 8, the total number of commissioners rose to 27. However, only 3 of the 27 commissioners are women, with the remaining 24 being men.

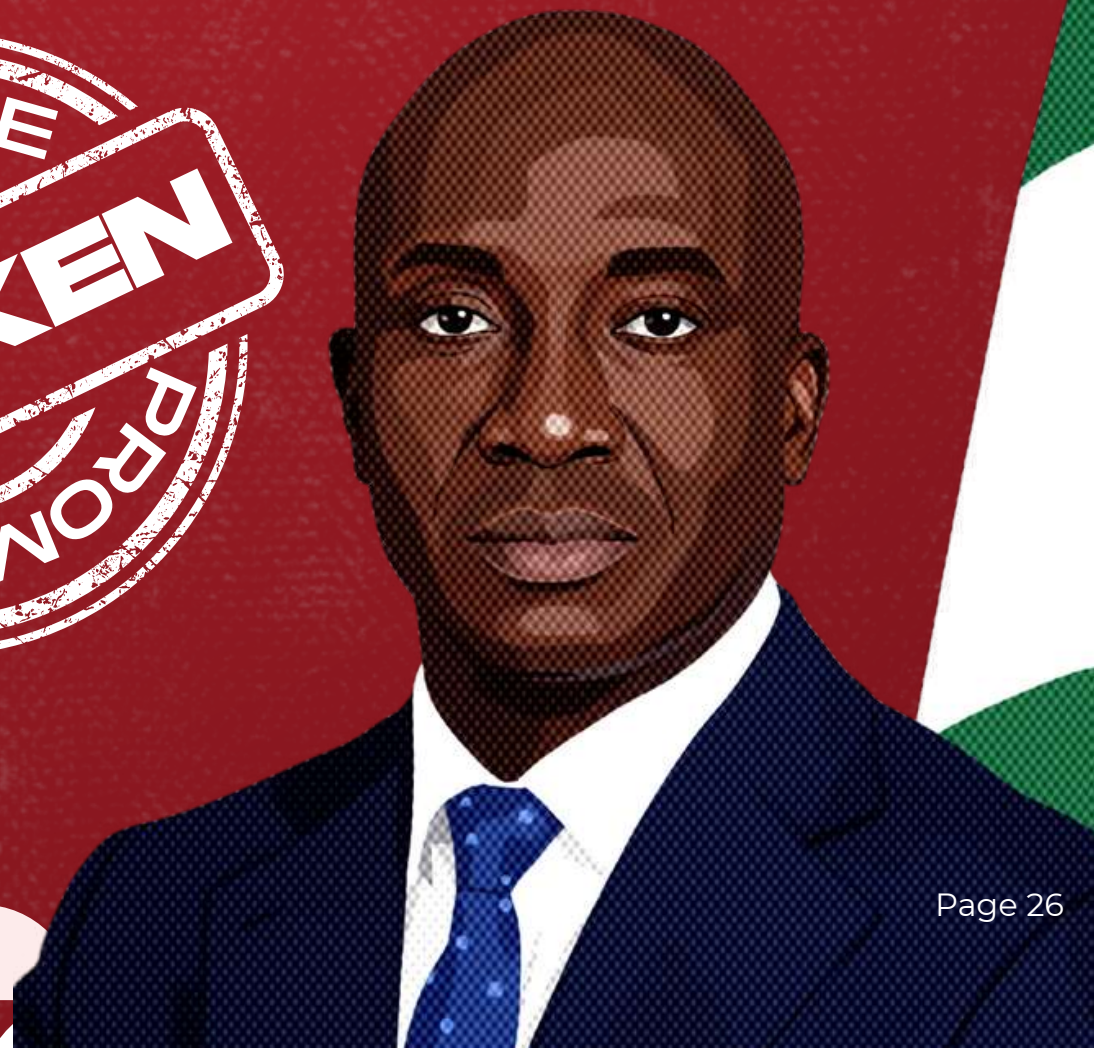
By November 2025, the Governor's cabinet therefore reflects just 11% female representation at the commissioner level. This figure falls significantly short of the Governor's commitment to allocate 35% of cabinet positions to women.

With only 3 female commissioners currently appointed, the administration still has a 24% gap to close in order to meet its gender inclusion pledge. Edo citizens—and particularly Edo women—remain hopeful that the Governor will take deliberate steps to address this shortfall and demonstrate greater commitment to women's representation in governance.

**Complete Abandoned
Ebomisi Secondary
School Within 2 Months**



**Allocate 35% of
Cabinet Positions
to Women**



RECOMMENDATIONS

Strategic Priorities for Year Two

Based on our comprehensive assessment of 27 campaign promises tracked over Governor Monday Okpebholo's first year in office, we present the following recommendations to strengthen promise delivery and accelerate progress toward the administration's stated goals.

1. Allocate 35% of Cabinet Positions to Women :

Governor Monday Okpebholo's administration has made modest progress toward gender inclusion, with three (3) women currently serving in various cabinet roles out of twenty-seven (27) members, approximately 11%. However, this figure still falls significantly short of the 35% benchmark promised during the campaign. To demonstrate commitment to equitable governance and inclusive leadership, it is imperative that the administration takes deliberate steps to bridge this gap in the months ahead.

Evidence from the UNDP and World Bank consistently shows that women's participation in decision-making enhances policy inclusiveness, social equity, and development outcomes. According to a report released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), disadvantaged groups with less real or perceived access to opportunity and voice have lower levels of trust in government, and women tend to trust government less than men. Appointing additional qualified women to reach the 35% threshold in the next appointment round isn't difficult; it requires only political will and acknowledgment that the promise matters.

We recommend that the Governor prioritises the fulfilment of this promise as it will strengthen public trust and project Edo State as a model for gender-responsive governance in Nigeria.

2. Complete Abandoned Ebomisi Secondary School Within 2 Months :

While the governor's eventual commencement of rehabilitation work at Ebomisi Secondary School is a welcome development, it is important to note that the project has significantly exceeded the original two-month completion timeline announced in November 2024.

The delay prolonged the hardship faced by students who continue to learn in inadequate facilities. The government should prioritise and expedite the ongoing construction work at the school. Adequate funding, strict supervision, and transparency in project execution should be ensured to prevent further delays.

3. Establish Business Incubation Centres Across Three Senatorial Zones :

Nigeria's unemployment rate, with youth unemployment put at 6.5% by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), experimentally observed to be much higher when underemployment is considered, demands entrepreneurship as a survival strategy when formal employment cannot absorb graduates. The World Bank's research on economic development demonstrates that small and medium enterprises create 60-70% of jobs in developing economies, yet these businesses fail at alarming rates, not because ideas lack merit but because founders lack support during vulnerable early stages. Business incubation centres, which provide subsidised office space, mentorship networks, access to capital, and peer learning communities, increase startup survival rates by 87% according to global studies of incubation effectiveness.

To deliver on this promise, we recommend beginning with a pilot incubation hub in an existing government building. This hub should accommodate 50-100 startups, providing subsidised workspaces, internet access, mentorship, and investor linkages. A virtual incubation program may be launched alongside to reach entrepreneurs in Edo Central and Edo North, offering online training, mentorship, and peer networking. Within a year, smaller satellite hubs in Ekpoma and Auchi can follow, equally functional but informed by lessons from the pilot phase.

Partnerships with organizations experienced in hub management will ensure professionalism and long-term sustainability. Delivering on this promise would demonstrate that Edo State invests not just in infrastructure, but in ideas, innovation, and the next generation of job creators.

4. Revive Ehor Juice Factory : The non-functional Ehor Juice Factory stands as a monument to unfulfilled industrial potential in Edo State. Once envisioned to process pineapples from local farmers and create jobs for the community, it now symbolises a failure to bridge agricultural production with industrial value addition. Reviving the factory offers a tangible path to inclusive growth, one that links farmers to processors, processors to markets, and markets to economic growth.

To fulfil this promise, the government may adopt a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, where it provides infrastructure and incentives while a private operator brings capital, expertise, and market access. This model has proven successful globally and ensures that revival efforts are commercially sustainable, not politically symbolic.

5. Rebuild Aduwawa Market into Modern Facility : Markets are economic engines for the people, providing livelihoods for traders who lack formal employment options and supplying affordable food and goods for urban consumers. The World Bank's work on urban development demonstrates that market modernization generates multiple development dividends: formalising informal economy activities, improving public health through better sanitation and food safety, empowering women traders through safer, more dignified working conditions, increasing local government revenue from market fees and property taxes, and creating construction jobs during building phase and permanent employment for market administration afterwards.

The government should begin with inclusive stakeholder consultation, engaging traders directly in the design and planning process. Adopting a co-creation model by having their voices shape decisions on stall layouts, sanitation, childcare facilities, drainage, and safety features will ensure that the Aduwawa Market redevelopment meets the real needs of traders and shoppers, fosters a sense of ownership among users, and promotes long-term maintenance and sustainability of the facility.

6. Revive Bendel Breweries : Bendel Breweries was once a source of pride and prosperity for Edo State, employing hundreds and anchoring Ikpoba-Okha's industrial base. Its closure mirrors Nigeria's broader industrialization failure story, where infrastructure decay, policy inconsistency, and weak management have crippled local manufacturing.

Reviving it now would demonstrate not just a promise fulfilled but a renewed vision for Edo's industrial future.

Reviving Bendel Breweries, either through a private partnership or holistic management by the government, would create significant economic and social gains for Edo State. It would stimulate job creation; both directly through factory operations and indirectly through supply chains involving farmers, transporters, and local distributors. By sourcing raw materials like sorghum and barley locally, the brewery could strengthen agricultural value chains and provide steady markets for farmers. Additionally, it would attract complementary industries such as packaging, logistics, and hospitality, generating new streams of internally generated revenue (IGR) for the state. Beyond economics, restoring Bendel Breweries would boost public confidence in government-led industrial revival efforts, and reduce youth unemployment pressures that fuel social unrest.

7. Establish Edo Security Trust Fund : When citizens rank their priorities, security consistently appears at the top alongside food, healthcare, and education. Without security, economic activity stalls, traders fear market attacks, farmers abandon land threatened by herders or bandits, and investors flee to safer regions. Kidnapping incidents on Edo roads, robbery at markets, cultist violence in communities, and general insecurity create fear that paralyzes development.

While the state government has taken commendable steps to strengthen security through closer collaboration with local vigilante networks and the allocation of ₦8 billion to the State Security Office; one of the largest spending ministries according to the 2025 Edo State Citizens Budget, budgetary allocations are often constrained by competing fiscal demands such as salaries, overheads, and capital projects. This leaves limited resources for equipment, training, and rapid response operations. Establishing a dedicated Security Trust Fund would provide a sustainable financing mechanism to support security agencies, attract private sector contributions, and ensure consistent investment in the safety of lives and property across Edo State. However, while funding is essential, ensuring that resources are appropriately channelled and transparently managed is even more critical.

8. Pave Roads Around Spare Parts Market : The Evbareke and Uwelu Spare Parts Markets serve as critical commercial hubs in Egor Local Government Area, supporting hundreds of small and medium-scale enterprises that drive Edo State's informal economy. However, the deplorable state of the access roads has continued to impede business operations and limit customer traffic. Prioritising the rehabilitation of these roads will not only fulfil a key campaign promise but also enhance economic productivity and improve the livelihoods of thousands of traders and artisans who depend on these markets for survival.

To deliver meaningful impact, the road construction should adopt a phased approach, beginning with the most critical access routes. The project should also integrate proper storm water drainage systems, reinforced pavements, and street lighting to guarantee durability and safety.

Completing this project would ease mobility, promote commerce, and stand as a visible demonstration of the administration's commitment to infrastructure renewal and inclusive economic growth in Edo State.

9. Construct Link Road Between Ugboha and Anegbete : The Ugboha-Anegbete Road serves as an important link between two agrarian communities, facilitating trade, social interaction, and access to essential services. To strengthen rural connectivity and boost economic activity in the area, it is recommended that the state government prioritise the rehabilitation of the deteriorated Anegbete section. Using durable materials and proper drainage designs will ensure the road's longevity, while timely completion will enhance transportation efficiency, reduce vehicle maintenance costs, and improve the overall quality of life for residents of both communities.

10. Construct 12km Emu Road to Improve Transportation Access: The deplorable condition of the road continues to hinder movement, limit access to essential services, and negatively impact economic activities in the area. Prioritizing the completion of this project will not only improve transportation and connectivity within the community but also demonstrate the administration's commitment to equitable infrastructural development across Edo State. Swift action on this project will enhance the quality of life for residents.

11. Fix Roads in Aduwawa, Mission and Forestry Areas : We recommend that the Governor prioritise the reconstruction of the damaged portions of the roads in the Aduwawa, Mission, and Forestry areas, with particular attention to the development of proper drainage systems. During field observations, sections of these roads were found to be in poor condition and prone to water logging after rainfall, making them difficult to navigate for motorists and pedestrians alike. Addressing these issues through quality road construction and effective drainage infrastructure will help prevent flooding and improve commercial activities.

12. Pave Roads in Ologbo Dukedom : It is recommended that the Governor expedite the commencement of road paving works in Ologbo Dukedom, as no visible construction activity has begun. The community's roads remain in poor condition, limiting ease of movement and affecting residents' daily activities. Swift action on this promise will improve transportation access, enhance economic activities, and improve the overall living conditions within the community.

ABOUT OKPEBHOLOMETER

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Origin and Objectives

The Okpebholometer was launched by AdvokC Foundation for the Promotion of Good Governance & Accountability to monitor and evaluate the campaign promises of Governor Monday Okpebholo during his tenure in Edo State. It builds on AdvokC's experience developing civic tech tools like *Buharimeter* and *Batometer*, which track political promises across Nigeria.

The first year of the Okpebholometer project is sponsored by the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund (NYFF) under its *Young Leaders Development Fund* initiative, supporting youth-led accountability and governance innovations.

Purpose of the Edo State Tracker

The tracker serves as a digital and civic accountability tool designed to:

- Assess the performance of Governor Okpebholo's administration across key sectors such as healthcare, education, infrastructure, economy, and governance.
- Provide citizens with verified, accessible data on the progress of campaign promises.
- Encourage transparency, dialogue, and collaboration between citizens and government actors for improved service delivery..

Alignment with the Promise Tracker Framework

Okpebholometer is part of AdvokC's national Promise Tracker Initiative, which standardises how political promises are documented, verified, and rated. It applies the same six-level rating system; Kept, In The Works, Compromised, Stalled, Broken, and Not yet Started, ensuring consistency and comparability across states. The promise tracker promotes evidence-based reporting and facilitates citizen participation through both online and offline engagements.

Impact and Significance

The Okpebholometer enhances democratic accountability in Edo State by providing citizens with reliable information on governance performance. It strengthens civic engagement, empowers young people to demand transparency, and supports data-driven advocacy for effective service delivery. It fosters a more open, responsive, and accountable government by bridging the gap between campaign promises and public outcomes



APPENDIX

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ECONOMY & JOBS

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Employ 5000 teachers	Kept
2	Provision of soft loans to women in Edo State	Kept
3	Revitalization of Edo Line	Kept
4	Upgrade of the Edo Broadcasting Service (EBS) Station	In the Works
5	Create Creative Arts Schools and Workshops	In the Works
6	Reconstruct the Oba Market	In the Works
7	Revive Ehor Juice Factory to process local pineapple products and support farmers.	Not yet Started
8	Rebuild Aduwawa Market into a modern facility for traders	Not yet Started
9	Establish business incubation centres across three senatorial zones to support entrepreneurs with office space and mentorship	Not yet Started
10	Revive Bendel Breweries to create jobs for youth.	Not yet Started

JUSTICE & SECURITY

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Establish the Edo Security TrustFund	Not yet Started

INFRASTRUCTURE

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Fix Auchi-Igarra-Ibillo Road	In the Works
2	Build a flyover in Benin	In the Works
3	Construction of 4.7 kilometer Utteh Palace Road	In the Works
4	Carry out palliative repairs on Onewa-Udomi-Ibhiolulu-Afada-Idumoza-Eko-Uwaya-Ewora Roads, Illushin Road and New Agbor Road.	In the Works
5	Construct link road between Ugboha and Anegbete	Not yet Started
6	Pave roads around the spare parts market	Not yet Started
7	Construct 12km Emu Road to improve transportation and access	Not yet Started
8	Fix roads in Aduwawa, Mission and Forestry Areas	Not yet Started
9	Revival of the Musical Water Fountain	Not yet Started
10	Pave roads in Ologbo Dukedom	Not yet Started



HEALTHCARE

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Build primary healthcare centres in all wards	In the Works
2	Build Udomi-Uwessa Teaching Hospital	In the Works

EDUCATION

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Rebuild Uyiosa Primary School, Uzebu, Eweka Primary School, Obazagbon	Kept
2	Properly fund Ambrose Alli University	In the Works
3	Completion of abandoned Ebomisi Secondary School within 2 month	Broken

GOVERNANCE & POLITICAL REFORM

S/N	Promise	Status
1	Allocation of 35% Cabinet Positions to women	Broken



REFERENCES

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S/N	Promise Description	References
1	Employ 5,000 teachers	https://punchng.com/edo-approves-recruitment-of-500-teachers/ https://www.channelstv.com/2025/10/15/gov-okpebholo-gives-employment-letters-to-5000-teachers/
2	Revitalization of Edo Line Transport Company	https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/12/gov-okpebholo-to-revive-edo-line/ https://nigerianobservernews.com/2025/06/the-rebirth-of-edo-line/ EDSG Approves Rebuilding of Tony Kabaka's Hotel, Purchase of 100 Petrol and CNG Buses for Edo Line
3	Provision of Soft Loans to Women	https://punchng.com/iwd-okpebholo-approves-nlbn-loan-for-market-women/
4	Rebuild Uyiosa Primary School, Uzebu, Eweka Primary School, Obazagbon	Physical Verification
5	Create Creative Arts Schools and Workshops	https://www.westernpost.ng/edo-partners-german-film-academy-to-boost-creative-industry/ Dennis Idahosa receives Delegates from the
6	Upgrade of Edo Broadcasting Service (EBS) Station	https://nigerianobservernews.com/2025/04/edo-nuj-lauds-okpebholos-achievements-demands-revamp-of-the-nigerian-observer-
7	Reconstruct the Oba Market	Physical Verification
8	Build Primary Healthcare Centres in All Wards	Physical Verification Edo State Government 2025 Citizens Budget
9	Build Udomi-Uwessa Teaching Hospital	Physical Verification
10	Build Flyover in Benin	https://punchng.com/edo-gov-begins-construction-of-first-flyover-in-benin/ https://nigerianobservernews.com/2025/09/ramat-park-flyover-hits-60-completion-gov-okpebholo/
11	Fix Auchi-Igarra-Ibillo Road	Physical Verification
12	Construction of 4.7 Kilometer Utteh Palace Road	Physical Verification
13	Carry Out Palliative Repairs on Onewa-Udomi-Ibhiolulu-Afada-Idumoza-Eko-Uwaya-Ewora Roads, Illushin Road and New Agbor Road	Physical Verification
14	Properly Fund Ambrose Alli University	https://punchng.com/restore-aaus-academic-excellence-okpebholo-charges-governing-council/
15	Establish Business Incubation Centres Across Three Senatorial Zones	—

16	Revive Ehor Juice Factory	Physical Verification
17	Rebuild Aduwawa Market into Modern Facility	Physical Verification
18	Revive Bendel Breweries	Physical Verification
19	Establish Edo Security Trust Fund	-
20	Pave Roads Around Spare Parts Market	Physical Verification
21	Construct Link Road Between Ugboha and Anegbete	Physical Verification
22	Construct 12km Emu Road to Improve Transportation Access	Physical Verification
23	Fix Roads in Aduwawa, Mission, and Forestry Areas	Physical Verification
24	Revival of Musical Water Fountain	Physical Verification
25	Pave Roads in Ologbo Dukedom	Physical Verification
26	Complete Abandoned Ebomisi Secondary School Within 2 Months	Physical Verification
27	Allocation of 35% Cabinet Positions to women	https://guardian.ng/politics/afegbua-seven-others-confirmed-as-commissioners-in-edo/ GOVERNOR OKPEBHOLO APPOINTS FOUR NEW COMMISSIONER DESIGNATE https://dailypost.ng/2025/09/26/okpebholo-nominates-three-more-commissioners/



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