

**NES # 15: SCORECARD OF NIGERIA'S
ECONOMIC PROGRESS:
Bridging the Implementation Gaps**

**INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND
COMPETITIVENESS POLICY
COMMISSION**

IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES

- Multiple taxation and double taxation of retained earnings
- Lack of tax holidays for small and new investors.
- Cumbersome process and requirements for Visa and expatriate quota
- Difficulty in accessing to fiscal incentives by investors
- SERVICOM not performing as required
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- Weak regulatory institutions(Police, , NSE, CBN, etc.)
- Lack of respect for the sanctity of contracts and investment agreements/MOU's
- Inadequate use of ICT
- Ineffective Chambers of Commercies
- Several clauses in relevant laws(CAMA, Tax, etc) are disincentives to investment
- Lack of uniform standards in accounting practice
- Huge domestic debt profile

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reform tax regimes and laws to eliminate multiple taxation and double taxation of retained earnings
- Introduce tax holidays for small and new investors.
- Review process and requirements for Visa and expatriate quota, and substitute with work permits. Issue visas to investors and tourists in Nigeria.
- Access to fiscal incentives should be simplified.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTD.

- Reinvigorate SERVICOM by strengthening process outcome measurement and monitoring.
- Continue reforms in the capital market and invigorate the commodity exchange, and spell out roles of stakeholders.
- Reform the electoral system and institutionalize the rule of law.
- Strengthen the judiciary and encourage States to set up commercial courts.
- Review and update anti-investment laws and policies.
- Benchmark States on best practices and encourage peer review.
- Improve security of lives and property
- Strengthen innovation by using ICT and sustain the dialogue through the creation of blogs.
- Governments and OPS should respect the sanctity of contracts and investment agreements/MOU's.
- Continue with the reforms in the financial sector and revitalize the educational sector for improved outputs.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTD.

- Chambers of Commerce and Industries should upscale their internal competencies.
- Review and repeal anti-investment clauses in the CAMA.
- Adopt international financial reporting standards (IFRS) and adopt accounting accrual concept.
- Ensure transparency of the capital market to restore investor confidence and allow the forces of demand and supply to reign.
- Pay outstanding domestic debt to inject capital into the economy.