

# **Activity Report on the Jigawa State Open Government Partnership (OGP) Retreat**

*Date: 21st – 22nd August, 2025*

*Venue: Bafra International Hotel, Kaduna*

## **Background**

The Jigawa State Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee, comprising State and Non-State Actors, convened a two-day retreat in Kaduna to review progress, strengthen collaboration, and reposition Jigawa State within the OGP framework at national and global levels.

The retreat followed the reconstitution of the Steering Committee by His Excellency, Malam Umar A. Namadi, FCA, Governor of Jigawa State, and provided a platform for deliberations on the State Action Plan (SAP), capacity building, and strategic alignment of OGP commitments.

## **Objectives of the Retreat**

The retreat was designed to achieve the following:

1. Sensitize participants on the concept and principles of OGP.
2. Appraise the level of State Action Plan (SAP) implementation and develop strategies for effective execution.
3. Strengthen participants' capacity on the steps and requirements for global registration of Jigawa OGP.
4. Develop implementable workplans by thematic areas.

## **Attendance**

A total of 36 participants attended, comprising both State and Non-State Actors. These included:

- Three Honorable Commissioners.
- The State Auditor General.
- Statistician General, Jigawa State Bureau of Statistics.
- Director General, Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau.
- Permanent Secretaries and senior directors from key MDAs.
- Representatives of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including Executive Directors and Chairpersons of networks.
- OGP Secretariat representatives.

## **Opening Session**

The retreat opened with prayers and self-introductions.

- The Co-Chair (State Actors), Hon. Babangida Ibrahim Umar, Commissioner of Budget and Economic Planning, delivered the welcome address, acknowledging the commitment of His

Excellency, the Governor, and stressing the importance of synergy between State and Non-State Actors.

- He emphasized the need for active participation to reposition Jigawa within the OGP framework and apologized for previous delays in SAP implementation.
- The Co-Chair (Non-State Actors), Mustapha Umar, Chairman of the Network for Jigawa Civil Society, reaffirmed CSOs' commitment to ensuring effective OGP implementation.

### Technical Presentations

Several technical sessions were delivered to build participants' capacity and provide context:

- Overview and Principles of OGP – by Isah Mustapha.
- Jigawa OGP State Action Plan (SAP) – by Ayuba Muhammad.
- SAP Implementation: The Journey So Far – by Isah Mustapha.
- Steps and Actions to Register Jigawa with OGP Global – by Hadiza Umar (OGP Kaduna).

Key takeaways included:

- The importance of OGP as a global platform for transparency and accountability.
- Challenges of under-utilization of the State OGP Secretariat.
- The need for synergy, inclusiveness, and reporting of SAP progress.

### Key Discussions and Observations

The retreat highlighted the following:

- Jigawa has achieved over 70% of its SAP milestones, but progress is not reflected at national or global levels due to reporting gaps.
- The OGP Secretariat within the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning remains underutilized.
- Inactivity of the Steering Committee has slowed momentum and visibility.
- Inclusion of women, CSOs, and diverse stakeholders in thematic working groups is vital.
- There is need for stronger political will, citizen-driven engagement, and co-creation in action plan development.

### Communiqué Committee

A six-member Communiqué Committee was constituted, comprising representatives from both State and Non-State Actors, to draft and finalize the communiqué to be presented to the State Executive Council.

### Resolutions and Next Steps

The retreat resolved to:

- Revitalize the Steering Committee and sustain regular engagements.
- Fully utilize the OGP Secretariat as a coordination hub.
- Establish an official Jigawa OGP website and digital platforms for visibility.
- Submit inception assessment and required documentation for national and global registration.
- Conduct wider sensitization for MDAs, CSOs, and other stakeholders.

- Strengthen reporting mechanisms to reflect progress at national and global OGP dashboards.
- Develop SAP III with clear commitments, timelines, and co-financing opportunities from CSOs and development partners.

### **Closing Session**

The retreat closed with remarks by the Director General, Due Process and Project Monitoring Bureau, who emphasized sustaining the momentum and ensuring follow-through on commitments. Appreciation was extended to all participants for their active contributions.

### **Conclusion**

The retreat provided a timely opportunity for State and Non-State Actors to align strategies, build capacity, and recommit to advancing the OGP agenda in Jigawa State. With renewed commitment, Jigawa is now better positioned to secure national visibility and global registration under OGP.

Prepared by: OGP Secretariat, Jigawa State

Date: 23rd August, 2025