

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF KOGI STATE
REPRESENTED BY THE HON. COMMISSIONER FOR FINANCE, BUDGET
AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, KOGI STATE.

AND

THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF NIGERIA (ALGON),
KOGI STATE CHAPTER.

1. Commencement Clause

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is dated the _____ day of _____ 2025.

BETWEEN

KOGI STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA, a sovereign entity being one of the 36 States of the Federal Republic of Nigeria represented by the Hon. Commissioner for Finance, Budget and Economic Planning of Kogi State of the ONE PART;

AND

THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF NIGERIA, (ALGON) KOGI STATE CHAPTER represented by its Chairman of the OTHER PART;

2. Background

Nigeria faces some of the lowest human capital outcomes globally, with life expectancy at 54 years, maternal mortality at 1,000 per 100,000 live births, and over 15 million out-of-school children aged 5–14. Regional disparities are stark: while the best-performing regions approach upper-middle-income averages, the worst-performing regions fall below low-income country benchmarks. These challenges are compounded by wide income inequalities, poor governance of intervention funds, and severe shortages of qualified teachers and health workers.

To address these systemic constraints, the World Bank Group **in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Finance** has launched a suite of interlinked programs under the Human Capital Opportunities for Prosperity and Equity (**HOPE**) initiative:

- **HOPE-GOV:** **With a financing of US\$500m**, tackles upstream governance and financing challenges in basic education and primary health care, focusing on transparency, accountability, and workforce planning.
- **HOPE-EDU:** Aims to improve foundational learning outcomes, increase access to basic education, and strengthen education systems. It is supported by a **commitment fund of US\$552.18m made up of** US\$500 million IDA credit and a US\$52.18 million grant from the Global Partnership for Education. The program emphasizes structured pedagogy, improved teacher deployment, and enhanced education management information systems.
- **HOPE-HEALTH:** **With a Program cost of US\$525m**, seeks to improve service readiness and utilization of primary and secondary health care facilities, with DLIs (Disbursement Linked Indicators) tied to climate-resilient infrastructure, essential commodities availability, maternal and child health services, and emergency medical transport. Verification protocols ensure rigorous monitoring by Independent Verification Agencies (IVAs).

The three programs are mutually reinforcing:

- **HOPE-GOV** strengthens governance and financing systems, enabling states and local governments to access and manage resources more effectively.
- **HOPE-EDU** ensures children benefit from improved teaching, learning materials, and school infrastructure.
- **HOPE-HEALTH** ensures healthier children and mothers, thereby improving school attendance and learning outcomes.

Within this framework, Local Governments in Kogi State play a pivotal role. Their responsibilities include:

- Preparing and publishing budgets under the **National Chart of Accounts (NCOA)**.
- Supporting biometric exercises for teachers and PHC workers to ensure payroll integrity.
- Participating in DLIs related to education (HOPE-EDU) and health (HOPE-HEALTH), such as school census, teacher recruitment, PHC facility readiness, and maternal health service delivery, as well as other emerging activities that are geared towards achieving the incentives across the DLIs.

Recognizing this role, the Kogi State Government and ALGON agree to formalize cooperation through this MoU. ALGON, representing all Local Governments, will also serve as a member of the **Kogi State HOPE-GOV Steering Committee**, ensuring that local perspectives are integrated into state-level planning and oversight.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into by and between the Government of Kogi State (“the State Government”) and the Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON), Kogi State Chapter (“ALGON”), in recognition of the collaborative role of Local Governments in implementing the **HOPE-GOV Project** and its related initiatives in **Basic Education (HOPE-EDU)** and **Primary Health Care (HOPE-PHC)**.

The purpose of this MoU is to establish a framework for cooperation, define responsibilities, and ensure effective participation of Local Governments in achieving the Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) under the HOPE-GOV program.

3. Objectives

- To formalize the commitment of Local Governments in Kogi State to support all Local Government-related DLIs under HOPE-GOV, HOPE-EDU, and HOPE-PHC.
- To ensure transparent and accountable participation in the preparation of National Chart of Accounts (NCOA) Local Government Budgets.
- To guarantee full cooperation in the biometric exercise for Primary Health Care (PHC) workers and teachers.

- To establish the role of ALGON as a member of the Kogi State HOPE-GOV Steering Committee.
- To provide for equitable benefit-sharing, including the allocation of 5% of earnings from Local Government-related DLIs to Local Governments in Kogi State.

4. Commitments of the Parties

3.1 Kogi State Government

- Provide overall leadership and coordination of the HOPE-GOV, HOPE-EDU, and HOPE-PHC programs.
- Ensure timely disbursement of funds and transparent reporting of DLI-related earnings.
- Recognize ALGON as a full member of the **Kogi State HOPE-GOV Steering Committee**, with rights to participate in decision-making and oversight.

3.2 ALGON (Kogi State Chapter)

- Ensure that all Local Governments in Kogi State prepare and publish budgets under the **National Chart of Accounts (NCOA)** in line with HOPE-GOV requirements.
- Oversee and support the biometric capture of PHC workers and teachers across Local Governments to strengthen payroll integrity.
- Mobilize Local Government Councils to actively participate in HOPE-EDU and HOPE-PHC DLIs, including planning, reporting, and monitoring.
- Uphold transparency and accountability in the utilization of funds and resources allocated under the program.

5. Benefit Sharing

- Local Governments in Kogi State shall receive **5% of the earnings accrued from Local Government-related DLIs** under HOPE-GOV, HOPE-EDU, and HOPE-PHC.
- Disbursement of this share shall be subject to demonstrated compliance with commitments outlined in Section 3.2 of this MoU.

6. Governance Structure

- ALGON shall serve as a **member of the Kogi State HOPE-GOV Steering Committee**, contributing to policy guidance, oversight, and monitoring of program implementation.
- The Steering Committee shall meet quarterly to review progress on DLIs and ensure alignment with program objectives.

7. Confidentiality

- This MoU and all related deliberations, financial arrangements, and program data shall be treated as **confidential information**.
- Neither party shall disclose the contents of this MoU or related program details to third parties without prior written consent, except as required by law or program guidelines.

8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- a. Should any dispute or difference arise from the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, such dispute or difference shall first be subjected to mutual resolution of both parties.
- b. If amicable settlement cannot be reached, either of the Party shall be entitled to refer the dispute or difference to the Chief Judge of Kogi State who shall appoint a sole arbitrator and each party shall bear cost of the arbitration.
- c. The arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in English language and the hearing shall take place in Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria.
- d. Any information whether verbal or documented, divulged during the Arbitration shall be held in strict confidence and shall not be reproduced or published without the prior written consent of the Parties.

9. Termination Clause

This Memorandum of Understanding shall lapse upon the expiration of the HOPE-GOV tenure being 2025 – 2028 save and except, the program is extended by the World Bank which will require both parties to revalidate their mutual understanding.

10. Duration and Review


This MoU shall take effect from the date of its execution and shall remain valid for the duration of the HOPE-GOV program Year 0 (2025) and Year 1 (2026), unless terminated or renewed by mutual agreement.

The MoU may be reviewed annually to reflect evolving program requirements and commitments.


11. Signatures

IN WITNESS OF WHICH the Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding in the manner below, day and year first above written:


SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF KOGI STATE:


19th March, 2025
Hon. Asiwaju Asiru Idris, FCA
Commissioner of Finance, Budget & Economic
Planning Kogi State.


In the presence of (The Accountant General, Kogi State)

Full Name: Hon. Harcourt O. Tijani FCA
Signature/ Date:  19th March, 2025

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF NIGERIA, KOGI STATE CHAPTER IS HEREBY AFFIXED

 19th March, 2025
Hon. Tosi Olokun
Chairman, ALGON, Kogi State Chapter

In the presence of the Secretary

Full Name: Hon. John Ujah Ikani
Designation: Executive Chairman - DEKINA LGA
Signature/ Date:  19th March, 2025
Phone Number: 08135811017