

The Productive Approaches to FIDUO & Ikun-Ekiti Socio-Economic Empowerment. Being the Paper Presented at the 2017 FIDUO Convention in Laurel, Maryland, USA, on July 29, 2017 by **Otunba Ayan Kolawole**

Dear All: All Protocol Formalities are observed.

The focus of this paper presentation is to identify, analyze and suggest the modalities for productive and widely beneficial approaches toward achieving rapid and sustainable economic empowerment both in FIDUO and Ikun-Ekiti Communities at large.

Ikun-Ekiti Community is naturally endowed with many economic development tools and factors, such as: Strategic Geographical Location, Ero River, Otu and Many Other Brooks, Ero Dam Facility, Expansive Arable Lands, Vast Rocky Mountains, Easy and Multiple Vehicular Accessible Routes, Proposed Federal Youth Program Center, Ikun Dairy Farm, Friendly Neighboring Communities, Moderately Educated and Productive Natives, Large Number of Internationally Domiciled and Exposed Natives, Law Abiding and Peaceful People, High Energetic Youth Population, Culturally Enriched, Religiously Inclusive and Tolerant Atmosphere, etc.

Pursuant to the aforementioned, the actualization of the envisioned prosperity in Ikun-Ekiti as being championed by FIDUO and other stakeholders would depend on the followings:

1. Both Ikun-Ekiti Indigenes at home and abroad should effectively and proactively work together in the formulation, implementation and management of developmental projects.
 2. Deployment of support systems and encouragement to our Kabiyesi and his Chiefs, aimed at them to relate intuitively, diplomatically, intellectually and traditionally with all Ikun Indigenes globally for inputs to the overall projects developmental in his domain.
 3. To conduct comprehensive feasibility studies and evaluation systems of both FIDUO and Ikun-Ekiti developmental prospects with **SWOT Analysis:** (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats).
 4. To strengthen active participation and effective representation of Ikun-Ekiti Indigenes in partisan politics at all levels of Nigeria political adventures.
 5. To effectively utilize the modern technological tools, particularly the Social Media Platforms for the deployment of socio-economic empowerment.
- However, the achievement of formidable, sustainable and mass beneficial opportunities to the stakeholders in FIDUO and Ikun-Ekiti communities could

be attained through formal packaging and effective deployment of the following programs:

1. Establishment of "**International Training & Orientation Exposure Schemes**" for Acquisition and Deployment of Employable & Entrepreneurial Skills, for Ikun-Ekiti Youths.
2. Networking the establishment of "**Set-Aside-Subcontracting-Business Program**" with reputable entities (Nigerian Government and Organized Private Sectors)
3. Establishment of "**Bilateral Business Products & Services Exchange Program**" between Ikun-Ekiti Indigenes in Nigeria and Abroad.
4. Establishment of "**Ikun-Ekiti Community Development Fund (IDF)**" for general socio-economic facilitation, development, management and oversight activities.

The information presented above is not mutually exclusive. It is just the basic outline for the envisioned socio-economic development proposals. The detail components are to be packaged subsequently for diligent but proactive implementation processes. Together, Everyone Achieves More (TEAM) Effort Is the Key!

Brief Profile of Otunba Ayan Kolawole

Johnson Ayanlola Kolawole was born on September 17, 1954 at Ikun-Ekiti. He migrated to the USA in 1982 after years of working with First Bank of Nigeria in Lagos. Ayan was the Convener and one of the four Pioneer Members of FIDUO formation in 1987 at South Carolina, USA.

Otunba Kolawole is a Corporate Accountant and Business Management Consultant. He is an International Business and Civic Community Leader both in the USA and Nigeria. Otunba is the President & CEO of Kolaris Services Group (KSG) International, LLC (New Jersey, USA) and Managing Director of EDAWA Global Services (Nig) Ltd (Ekiti State, Nigeria).

His professional working experiences in the USA span through many industries such as Government, Banking, Hospitality, Healthcare, Non-Profit, Taxation and Business Management Consulting Services for over twenty five years.

Otunba has been extensively involved in both local and international civic leadership adventures. He is the current President of Greater Willingboro Business Association, Treasurer of Willingboro Community Development Corporation; Former Chairman of Willingboro Community Human Relations Commission; President of Ekitikete International Forum; Treasurer of Oodua

International Foundation under the Patronship of Professor (Senator) Banji Akintoye; Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees, Ekiti WandA Organization, Former President of FIDUO etc. Otunba Kolawole is happily married to Ebun Kolawole and blessed with four Children. The Kolawole family is a member of Presbyterian Church of Willingboro, New Jersey, USA.