



## South East Economic Summit

# The Story and Progress so far

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**Presented at the South East Economic Summit (SEES 5)  
2020**

*A virtual event, coordinated from Enugu*

*Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020*



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# Background



- The South East Governors' Forum (SEGF) and private sector partners led by SEREDEC, as significant regional platforms, have organised the annual South East Economic Summits (SEES).
- SEES is a multi-stakeholder event that provides an opportunity for the government, the private sector, and citizens to interact on issues relating to the development of the South East (SE). This is the 5th in the SEES series of annual events.
- The SEES Series has been highly successful in driving regional thinking and dialogue concerning both the general Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) issues and specific Regional Infrastructural Projects.
- The 5th SEES (17th December 2020) is being held virtually taking into consideration the effects that COVID-19 pandemic has had on physical gatherings. With lessons from the #ENDSARS peaceful protests and impact of COVID 19, the Summit will be focusing on the Youth as the engine for South-East entrepreneurship and industrialization while promoting gender balance and inclusivity.



# Objective of this virtual event – 'Actions for Success'



This virtual conference, unlike many current talk shops, is action plan based. There is a heavy focus on how the South East can benefit from the numerous Federal Government intervention funds (especially for young start-ups) and how the region can mobilise the required investments, especially from Igbo investors, businesses, entrepreneurs, and citizens both in Nigeria and in the diaspora.

Recent reports have shown that the SE as a region has not had any significant Foreign Direct Investment in the last two years.

**What actions can the SE actors take to address this?**



# A brief look back at previous SEES Summits

## SEES 1 - (2016)

### Theme: South East Economic and Security Summit

Key Outcomes:

- Launch of SEREDEC, and its Vision and Mission

*To serve as a robust platform to drive sustainable economic growth and social development as well as enhancement of security in the South-East region. It will serve to support think-tanks for development strategies, mobilization of resources and coordination of policies involving all the critical stakeholders (Federal, State, Local Government, Communities and the Private Sector) for collaboration. Additional role will include advising the South East governments on strategies for creating conducive environment to attract and retain needed investment and investors.*

- Kick start the mobilisation of stakeholders commitment to South East Social and Economic development under the aegis of the South East Governors Forum.



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# A brief look back at previous SEES Summits

## SEES 2 - (2017)

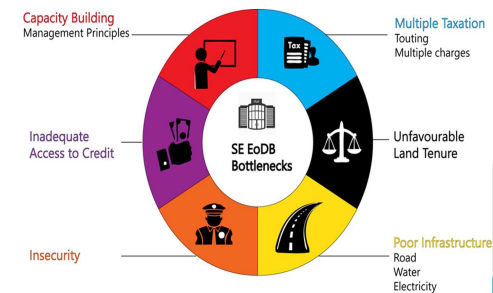
### *Theme: Repositioning the South East for Rapid Economic Development*

Key Outcomes:

- SEGF driven Geo –Productivity mapping with the BRENTHURST FOUNDATION.
- Extensive mapping of stakeholder interests and potential actions to address infrastructure gaps across – Agriculture; transport; finance; healthcare and industry
- An agreement of SE Over-arching projects for rapid south east development.
- Identified SE Ease of Doing Business bottlenecks and action plan to address



- **Capacity Building**
- **Multiple Taxation**
- **Access to credit**
- **Land Tenure**
- **Poor infrastructure**
- **Insecurity**



# A brief look back at previous SEES Summits

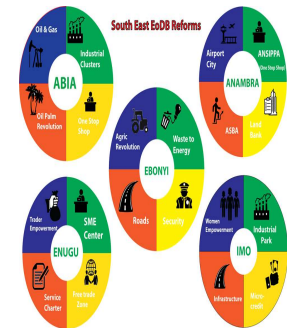
## SEES 3 - (2018)

**Theme: South East Nigeria; An Investment Destination**

Key Outcomes:

- Work with SE Government and Private Sector Stakeholders on the identified Ease of Doing Business bottlenecks contributed in no small way to the better Subnational EODB ranking of SE states in 2018 World Bank report.
- Worked with Development Partners on the design of a common regulatory framework for rapid facilitation of business and investment processes in all SE States.
- Exploration of investment Partnerships with foreign enterprises and signing of an MoU investment opportunities with the DUBAI Government, and others
- Conducted a practical review of how Traditional Igbo Human Capital and utilisation strategies and the Igbo Traditional Business model can be used to enhance SE modern business models and Tech Savvy/Ethical human capital development.

  
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# A brief look back at previous SEES Summits

## ***SEES 4 - (2019)***

### ***Theme: Financing South East Economic Development***

#### Key Outcomes:

- Updates on the various infrastructure projects including the Gas pipeline, the rail network, the hospital project and the adoption of Enyimba City by the Abia State Government
- SEREDEC to work closely with AFRIEXIM bank and the UK Trade Agency to secure financing for identified developmental projects.
- Getting SE volunteers and philanthropists to invest in a model school for STEM education
- Improving the traditional method of training and certifying the vocational training for youths in order to give them job opportunities



# A glance into the future SEES Summits

*SEES 5 (2020)*

*Theme: South East Post-COVID 19 Economic Growth Strategy*

*'Actions for Success'*

Desired outcomes:

- Actions to promote Economic Growth in the South East post COVID
- Actions that focus on special fundable and partnership/Mentorship driven projects for Youth and gender balanced employment with Technology input (start-ups) that can exponentially create jobs and foster security and peace in the South East.
- Actions to provide funding of Socio-economic projects for the most vulnerable segments of our population (Women and restless/restive unemployed young men and women) to capacitate them to take care of their basic human needs like food security, housing, healthcare and family obligations.
- Building and fostering all SE based groups with a focus on SE development so that together we can do more.
- **Actions that build synergy and symbiosis of all groups for greater impact.**



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# Thank You



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