


MAIDEN ISSUE DECEMBER 2019

FMW&H Strides

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING



**WHAT DO
524,
80
&
₦225.6B
HAVE IN
COMMON?**

**Answer: Money needed to fix roads
and bridges prioritised from
ongoing projects**

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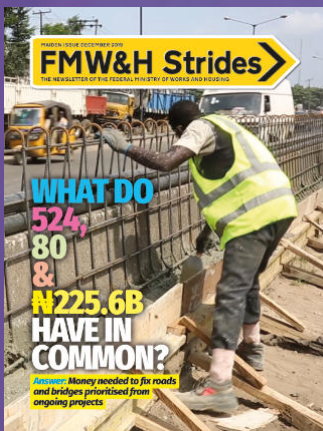
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COVER: Infrastructure yields jobs... An artisan working on the median barrier of Section III (Cele-Anthony Village) as part of ongoing reconstruction of Apapa-Oshodi-Oworonshoki-Old Toll Gate Expressway.

EDITOR'S NOTE

OUR PROGRESS REPORT



Nasarawa State Governor, Engr Abdullahi Sule, on 5 Nov, paid a courtesy visit to the Minister Babatunde Fashola, SAN. Both are flanked by Senator Adamu Abdullahi, representing Nasarawa West Senatorial District (left), the Minister of State Engr Abubakar Aliyu, and Member, House of Representatives representing Nasarawa/Toto Federal Constituency, AbdulMumin Muhammad Ari (right)

Sometimes, there is a need to go beyond the sound bites and nuggets on some social media platforms.

Sometimes, there is a need to present stories that may have been missed by the mainstream media.

Sometimes, there is a need to clarify certain misrepresentations.

Whichever the need is, documentation is simply a function of public accountability.

That is what this publication seeks to achieve, to place on record, in prose and pictures, and even in charts and tables, the activities of the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing.

We have named it *FMW&H Strides* because every step the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing takes leads us towards the delivery of infrastructure across the length and breadth of our great nation.

If you may, this is essentially our monthly Progress Report.

We hope that you will find it a treasure to keep in your library.

Welcome and, please, look forward to the next issue.

Yes, you can send us Comments, Questions and Notes: we are on this road together.

FMW&H Strides



FMWH Newsletter is published monthly by the **Federal Ministry of Works and Housing**, Mabushi, Abuja

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FRESH START - Fashola, flanked by Aliyu (left) and the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Mohammed Bukar

It's time to consolidate

Soon after being sworn-in at the State House, Aso Villa, Abuja, by President Muhammadu Buhari, on Wednesday, 21 August 2019, the Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola, SAN and the Minister of State, Engr. Abubakar D. Aliyu, FNSE reported at the Mabushi headquarters of the ministry to get the show on the road.

The President had charged his returning and new ministers to further grow and stabilise the economy.

This was the message Fashola shared with the ministry's senior management and staff when he met them, after an interaction he had with Engr. Aliyu and the Permanent Secretary, Mr Mohammed Bukar.

Expressing his delight that the staff had kept faith with the works left behind during his first term as the

minister in the ministry, Fashola said, "in the spirit of continuity and development which the nation needs, in line with the President's mandate, it is time to consolidate."

He set a two-week deadline to get the ministry's budget ready, noting that the 9th National Assembly had given a commitment to the Executive to conduct all the budget defences in October.

Fashola warmly welcomed the Minister of State to the ministry pointing out that both had not only worked together at the level of the Governors' Forum but also at the formative years of the ruling political party, the All

Progressives Congress. Engr. Aliyu had been deputy governor of Yobe State.

A civil engineer, he is a Fellow of the Nigerian Society of Engineers.

Fashola noted: "I heard a very rousing applause when he said (in his speech to the staff) that he is a civil engineer and included his water engineering background. And so, of course, he brings a lot of experience that is beneficial to the ministry."



Hon. Minister Babatunde Fashola, SAN being congratulated by President Buhari after his swearing-in



Infrastructure yields jobs... Workers at the median barrier Section III (Cele-Anthony Village) as part of ongoing reconstruction of Apapa-Oshodi-Oworonshoki-Old Toll Gate Expressway

524 ongoing roads, bridges

80 prioritised to ease doing business

₦255.6b needed to close funding gap

Five hundred and twenty-four roads and bridges are being handled nationwide by the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing.

Eighty of these projects have been prioritised to enhance the ease of doing business in the country and ultimately boost the country's economy.

However, to ensure their completion in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Federal Government would have to close the funding gap by ₦255.6 bil-

lion – the difference between the actual estimate for the projects' completion (₦412.64b) and the appropriation in the 2020 Budget (₦157.05b).

These are the highlights of a recent Update Memo on the activities of the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing presented by the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr. Babatunde Fashola, SAN, to the Federal Executive Council (FEC).

A further breakdown shows that out of the priority projects, 27 are being

financed with the Sovereign SUKUK Fund; four are bridges and two are roads leading to the ports.

The projects being funded through SUKUK include: Abuja-Abaji Road (Section 1, International Airport Link Road Junction-Sheda Village Junction); Abuja-Lokoja Road Section IV (Koton Karfi-Lokoja); dualisation of Obajana Junction-Benin Phase 2: Section 1 (Obajana Junction to Okene); construction of Oju/Loko-Oweto Bridge to link Loko and Oweto with approach roads;

reconstruction of Bida-Lambata Road in Niger State and dualisation of Suleja-Minna Road Phase II in Niger State.

Others are: Kano-Maiduguri Road (Sections II, III and IV); rehabilitation of outstanding sections of Onitsha-Enugu Expressway: Amansea-Enugu State Border; dualisation of Obajana Junction-Benin Phase 2: (Sections II, III and IV); rehabilitation of Enugu-Port Harcourt Road Section IV: Aba-Port Harcourt, and dualisation of Yenegwe Road Junction-Kolo-Otuoke-Bayelsa Palm (20km).

Dualisation of Ibadan-Ilorin (Section II) in Oyo State; reconstruction of the outstanding sections of Benin-Ofosu-Ore-Ajebandele-Shagamu Expressway Phase III; and the pavement strengthening and asphalt overlay of Ajebandele-Ijebu Ode-Shagamu Road in Ogun State are also on the Priority List.

Some of the projects scheduled for substantial completion in 2020/2021 and other priority projects include rehabilitation of Alesi-Ugep (Iyamoyung-Ugep) Section in Cross River State; construction of Yenegwe-Okaki-Kolo-Nembe-Brass Road and completion of rehabilitation of Ada-Okere-Ukoni-Amedokhiom Old Road, Uromi, Edo State.

Others are the rehabilitation of Odukpani-Itu-Ikot Ekpene Road (Section 1) and Odukpani-Itu Bridge Head in Cross River State; construction of Bodo-Bonny Road with a bridge across the Opobo Channel in Rivers State; rehabilitation of Odukpani Junction-Akpet Central Section of Calabar-Ikom-Ogoja Road in Cross River State; rehabilitation of Osogbo-Ilesha Road in Osun State; dualisation of Abeokuta-Ibadan Road, and reconstruction of Apapa-Wharf Road in Lagos State.

The four bridges under the priority

projects are construction of Ibi Bridge; completion of construction of Chanchangi Bridge along Takum-Wukari Road in Taraba State; construction of Ikom Bridge in Cross River State and the emergency rehabilitation/maintenance of Third Mainland Bridge in Lagos.

The two roads leading to ports are: the construction of Agaie-Katcha-Barro Road in Niger State and construction of Baro Port to Gulu Town in Niger State.

From A1 - A9

Federal roads and bridges (categorised from A1 to A9) are major arterial routes connecting all states in Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory.

- **The A1 Road is:** Lagos-Ibadan-Ilorin-Jebba-Kotangora-Jega-Sokoto-Niger Border.
- **A2:** Warri-Benin-Lokoja-Abuja-Kaduna-Kano-Daura-Niger Border.
- **A3:** Port-Harcourt-Aba-Umuahia-Okigwe-Oturkpo-Makurdi-Akwanga-Jos-Bauchi-Maiduguri-Gamboru.
- **A4:** Calabar-Ikom-Ogoja-Katsina Ala-Jalingo-Yola-Bama-Maiduguri.
- **A5:** Lagos-Otta-Abeokuta-Ibadan.
- **A6:** Onitsha-Ihiala-Owerri-Umu Uyo.
- **A7:** Chikanda, Kosubosu-Kaiama-Kishi-Ilorin.
- **A8:** Mayo Belwa-Ganye-Serti-Mayo Selbe-Gembu
- **A9:** Jibiya-Katsina-Kano.



Lambata - Lapai- Agaie- Bida- road



Personnel of CGC Nigeria Limited at work during the inspection of the rehabilitation of Ilorin-Omuaran-Kabba Road in Kwara/Kogi States by the Minister of Works & Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN on Tuesday 30 April 2019

IN PHOTOS

23 SEP



The Minister, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN received in audience at his office, the Group Managing Director, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, Mr Mele Kolo Kyari (right), on Monday, 23 September to discuss how to fix the roads leading to the nation's fuel depots to enhance fuel

3 OCT



The first interactive session of the ministry and the Senate Committee on Works was held at the Conference Room 231, New Senate Building, National Assembly Complex, Abuja, on Thursday, 3 October. Here, the Minister, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, shakes hands with the Chairman of the Committee, Senator Adamu Aliero, as Senator Abdullahi Adamu (2nd left) and Senator Kabiru Gaya (2nd right) make some interesting remarks.

15 OCT



The unveiling of Karmod Nigeria Limited's Pre-Fabricated Assembly and Installation Building facility in Abuja took place in October, with the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, as special guest. At the ceremony, Fashola, here, with the Managing Director of the company, Mr Hakeem Shagaya (2nd right) and others including Hajia Bola Shagaya, said the Federal Government planned to initiate a National Cooperative Housing Scheme for the Informal Sector. The inspiration is that cooperative societies had succeeded in the other sectors such as transportation and agriculture. The scheme will be driven by the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, which is supervised by the Ministry. Properly registered co-ops with approved lands would be able to get loans to develop real estates in any state of Nigeria and the Ministry will work with the State governments to ensure that access roads are constructed, while they contribute the matching funds. Congratulating the Chairman of Turkey-based Karmod International, Mr Mesut Canhaya, for bringing the investment to Nigeria, Fashola said: "Nigeria is ready to do business... to enable you plant your foot and expand your business." He challenged the business owners to engage in aggressive marketing to make their method of building acceptable in the country.

11 NOV



The 70th Session of the Trans-Saharan Road Liaison Committee (TRLCL) was hosted by the Federal Ministry of Works & Housing at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja, on Monday 11 November. Shortly after the ceremony, the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, and the Minister of Police Affairs, Alhaji Mohammed Dingyadi (4th right) who represented President Muhammadu Buhari, posed with other ministers, technical experts and delegates from member-countries. The Committee supports the 9,022-kilometre Lagos-Algiers highway, 80 per cent (7,171km) of which is asphalt and the rest (1,851km) is earth road. The road serves 37 regions, 74 urban centres with 60 million inhabitants in six countries. The Nigerian section of this highway covers 1,131 kilometres, from Lagos-Ibadan-Ilorin-Jebba-Kaduna-Kano-Kongolam (which borders Niger Republic).

21 NOV



The Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, on Thursday, 21 November, held a meeting to finetune the ministry's "Ember Months Operations" - aimed at better travel experience on the nation's roads during the festive period - with Federal Controllers of Works in all the 36 States, representatives of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency and contractors working on federal roads. Here, Fashola, flanked by the Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Dr Boboye Oyeyemi (right) and Director, Highways, Construction and Rehabilitation, Engr Oluwemi Oguntomimi, presides over the meeting.

19 NOV



Members of staff who distinguished themselves in their duties in 2018 were honoured at the 2018 Recognition and Reward Ceremony held at the Idris A Abdulhadi Auditorium of the National Universities Commission, Abuja. The Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN (6th right), joined the Federal Civil Service Commissioner for Osun and Oyo States, Engr. Fatai Adebayo Olapade (5th right), Executive Director (Loans & Mortgage Services), Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, Mrs Rahimatu Aminu Aliyu (5th left) and Ag. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Power, Engr. Ahmed Abu (6th left) to felicitate with some of the awardees. (See Page 8 for The Most Outstanding Director in 2018).

19 NOV



After a discussion on matters of mutual benefit to Nigeria and the Republic of Korea, particularly on infrastructure development, the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, presented a copy of the book, "Proof of Infrastructure Delivery Across Nigeria" edited by Mr Hakeem Bello, Special Adviser to the Minister on Communications, to the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Nigeria, Ambassador Lee In-Tae, who visited him in his office at the Ministry of Works and Housing Headquarters, Mabushi, Abuja on Tuesday, 19 November.

How housing delivery will lift millions of Nigerians out of poverty

On the first “Democracy Day” held on June 12, President Muhammadu Buhari, declared that the Federal Government would lift 100 Million Nigerians out of poverty.

Many dismissed the declaration as a mere political statement.

But, according to the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, the building blocks for achieving this vision are already in place.

At the Eighth Meeting of the National Council on Lands, Housing and Urban Development, held in Abuja on 4-8 November, with the theme, “Housing Development and Consumer Credit as Strategies for National Prosperity”, he showed the evidence; as found in the pilot National Housing Programme being undertaken in the 34 States (which provided land).

Hear him: “From the contractor/ construction company who wins the bid to the labourers on site who earn N3000 a day, (N18,000 a week for six days and approximately N72,000 a month); to the owner of the concrete mixer I met in Oyo state who charges N20,000 a day: to suppliers and vendors of building materials, and employees of companies that manufacture paint, tiles, roofing materials, the federal government, with state government collaboration provided a step up towards the ladder of prosperity. On each site, there were averagely at least 1000 people employed.”

Now imagine that there are “more sites per state and all states involved, clearly many more people will get an opportunity to work, to supply, to produce and to earn an income.”

“This,” he said confidently, “is a step on to the ladder of prosperity and a big contribution to the achievement of

the June 12 Charter of Prosperity (his code for President Buhari’s Declaration).”

It is against this backdrop that the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing has worked out an Action Plan whereby the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria, which it supervises, will provide construction and acquisition

loans to qualified Cooperatives across the federation to develop affordable housing which will attract employment as shown in the example of the pilot National Housing Programme.

“It is for all States and the Federal Government, with the private sector to commit to work on the road to prosperity, through housing delivery, and access to credit on a massive scale,” the minister said.

Even as provision of shelter is a social, developmental and economic objective of the Federal Government, by virtue of the Land Use Act, only the State Governors and the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory are authorised to sign off on all lands in the States and the FCT for whatever purpose.

Prompt issuance of Certificates of Occupancy and Consent to land transactions can drive poverty to the rear and propel people towards prosperity.

Thus, there must be maximum cooperation between the Federal and State Governments for this initiative to work.



Participants at the eighth meeting of the National Council on Lands, Housing and Urban Development

So, Fashola charged the representatives of State Governments who attended the meeting in Abuja to work stridently to ensure that the Cooperative Societies in their States participate in this scheme.

The States should also use Site and Service Schemes, where Governments provide roads and other infrastructure to improve the value of land by 30%-40%, to boost contribution to property.

Fashola added that Slum Upgrade Projects being undertaken through the Urban Development department of the Ministry are other ways by which we can improve quality of life and move people out of poverty. Every completed project not only renews the environment, replaces squalor with service, but it also improves the rental income to house owners and capital value of their property.

Still saying that millions of Nigerians cannot be lifted from poverty?

Think again.

NOTES

Culprits in building collapse should be prosecuted

Anyone found culpable in the collapse of any building across the nation must be prosecuted.

So said the Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN, on 3 October, when the Building Code Advisory Council visited him in his office at the headquarters of the Ministry of Works and Housing at Mabushi, Abuja.

Expressing regrets that there has been little or no prosecution of any person after an investigation has been concluded over a collapsed building, he said: "Somebody must have acted wrongly, either in the design stage, whether it is in the material supply, whether it is in the compliance stage, somebody did something that he or she should not have done...I think that we have come to a point where after each unfortunate collapse we go back to the investigations, let us find one person who has acted wrongly... Find that person and let us take him up for prosecution."

He advised professional builders to resist the temptation to shield their members during investigations. He recalled an incident in Lagos when he was Governor; that while investigation was getting close to the culprit of a building collapse, there was

"conspiratorial silence" in the industry which enabled the culprit to escape prosecution.

He expressed delight at the disclosure that the Committee's work on the Standards for Gas Piping was being concluded, saying that it was a matter of national priority then that the Committee, in collaboration with the then Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, should work to eliminate gas flaring by increasing demand for gas for domestic use.

The Minister also expressed delight that the Committee was researching into the earth movement in some parts of the country adding that he would love to see the results of whatever investigations that the body would arrive at and the recommendations that could affect the industry in terms of designs and quantity and quality of materials, among others.

Earlier, in his remarks, Chairman of the Committee, Architect Mohammed Faworaja, had given an update of the activities of the Committee since inauguration on 26 July 2018 to include conclusion of work on the guidelines for gas piping to buildings in the form of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) adding that a draft code was ready.

PERSONALITY

The Most Outstanding Director is ...



Engr Chukwunwike Ogbonna Uzo, Director Highways, Planning and Development.

He was declared the winner of the category at the 2018 Recognition & Reward Ceremony at the Idris A. Abdulkadir Auditorium of the National Universities Commission in Maitama, Abuja. (See page 6 for another picture of the ceremony).

Uzo was born on 29 December 1962 in Enugu. He hails from Amokwe, Udi Local Government Area of Enugu State.

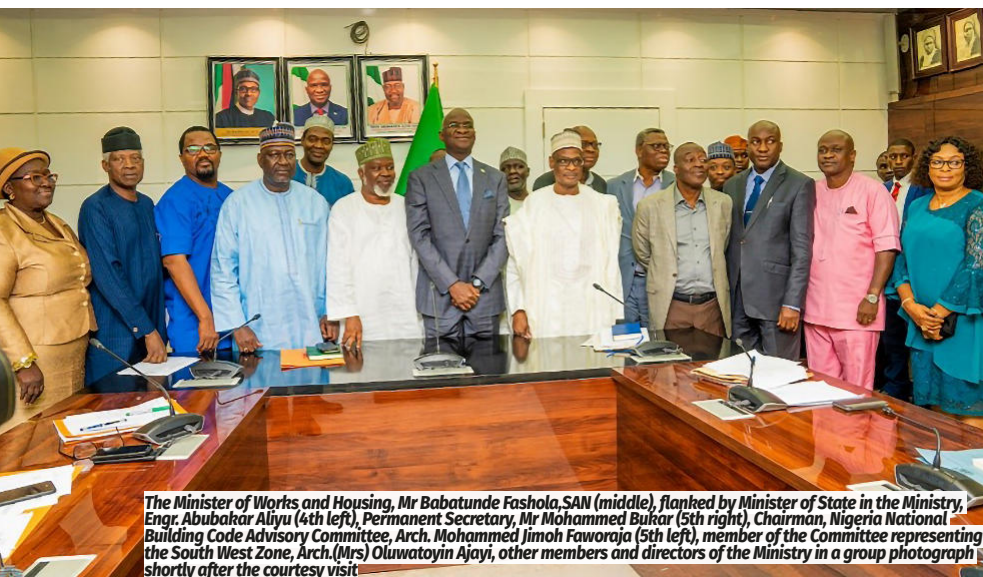
He attended University of Nigeria Primary School, Nsukka, St Theresa's College Nsukka and the University of Nigeria Nsukka, where, in 1983, he graduated In B. Engineering (Civil).

He joined the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing in 1988 as Senior Engineer. By dint of hard work, he progressed from this position to Director of Highways, Planning and Development Department in 2016.

He has been involved in various engineering works, including the design and construction of Tombia Bridge across the Nun River in Bayelsa State (post tensioned box girder bridge), rehabilitation of Obudu Cattle Ranch Road in Obudu, Cross Rivers State and dualization of Abuja-Abaji Road, Section II.

In December 1992, Uzo had also bagged the Ministerial Award for outstanding performance.

Uzo and his wife, Juliet, are blessed with children.



The Minister of Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Fashola, SAN (middle), flanked by Minister of State in the Ministry, Engr. Abubakar Aliyu (4th left), Permanent Secretary, Mr Mohammed Bukar (5th right), Chairman, Nigeria National Building Code Advisory Committee, Arch. Mohammed Jimoh Faworaja (5th left), member of the Committee representing the South West Zone, Arch.(Mrs) Oluwatoyin Ajayi, other members and directors of the Ministry in a group photograph shortly after the courtesy visit