



ONEBLOC

**Organising for Regional Competitiveness in
Western Nigeria**

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Competitiveness

- Competitiveness relates to the productive capacity of a nation, region or state to effectively utilise its human, capital and natural resources
- It is the new forte of nations and the measure of their level of social progress and economic sophistication
- Indeed, in the age of globalisation, the performance of nations are better assessed by their level of competitive abilities and capabilities
- Within the context of the current national challenges, competitiveness is the only way for jobs, growth, revenue, prosperity
- Of course, there is a direct correlation between competitiveness and the creation of peace and social harmony

The ills of low competitiveness

**Weak
Industrial
Base**

**Economic
Stagnation**

**Revenue
Insufficiency**

Unemployment

Poverty

Insecurity

**Increased
Social Tension**

The indicators of competitiveness

- Governance and institutions - economic and political, including justice administration
- Human capital and innovativeness
- Quality of the business environment vis-à-vis ease of doing business
- Cluster specialisation and organisation
- The collaborative process – state-level, regional national and global

The Key Drivers

**National political
and economic
governance model**

**Effective and
efficient governance
institutions**

**Supporting economic
agencies**

**High quality
educational
institutions**

**Affordable and
universal healthcare**

**Modern and enabling
infrastructure**

**Result-oriented
collaborative frameworks**

Rethinking Nigeria's competitiveness



FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES – Lack of enabling political/economic governance structure

Abandonment of Regional approach to development in 1966 after the military takeover

Monolithic export/ Revenue base

Entitlement mentality of States.

Revenue sharing in the country is not pro-productive but pro-consuming...

No incentives for Competitiveness at all levels of government...

Neo-Unitary Form of Government



"It was a matter of time for Western Nigeria to fulfill her billings for greatness among nations. But alas! Gradually, we got dismounted from various commanding heights. Rather than consolidating on the progress that we had made, we fell easily into difficult times. Military rule, lack of consensus on our development imperatives as well as circumstantial abandonment of what binds us together - the Yoruba heritage, but rather focusing on our differences, among other factors, have ponderously torpedoed what used to be the brightest and most promising sub-national entity in Nigeria. One of the visible manifestations of that malady is the current situation where many of our States are battling for survival.

Nostalgic feelings particularly on the growth pattern of the then Western Region, relative to States' growth and development in Southwest Nigeria and country, raises doubts and feeble convictions about the possibility of bequeathing a prideful heritage to coming generations. As many have agreed, the last time our Region grew in any substantial sense was over five (5) decades ago"

DAWN Commission, 2015



A case for Regional Integration

According to Professor Michael Porter of the Harvard Business School, Regions are the most important economic unit for development and competitiveness in large countries such as Nigeria.

Within most of our States, there is limited capacity for radical transformation

The competitiveness of Nigeria lies within the Regions – the essential drivers of Nigeria's competitiveness reside in the Regions.

Nigeria's new growth model should be predicated on organizing for regional development.

Making the Case

Organising for regional actions, mobilisation of regional endowments and assets, and optimising the space for development through the Regions constitute the key to achieving sustainable growth in Nigeria.

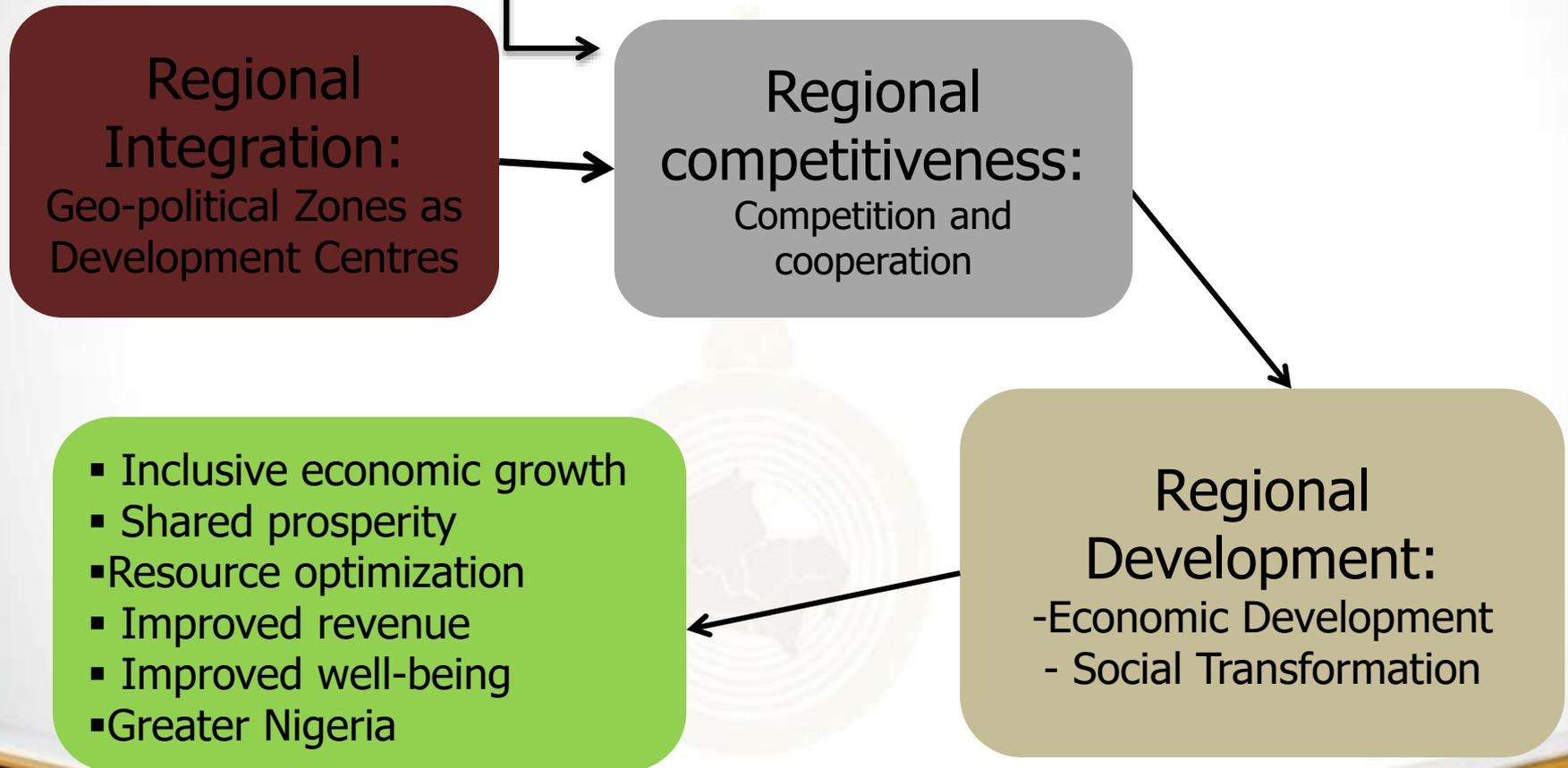
The Regions should become the strategic anchors for development and empowering them as centre of development activities, economic development and social engineering is the way to go

Scale is where the traction, the big results and sustainability lie.



Regional integration guarantees competitiveness

The Results Flow...



ONEBLOC



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Southwest Nigeria

IGR for States in Southwest Nigeria (2010 – 2013) in Billions

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Ekiti	1.55	2.49	3.79	2.34
Lagos	149.97	202.76	219.20	384.26
Ogun	7.92	10.84	12.44	13.78
Ondo	6.48	8.02	10.15	10.50
Osun	3.38	7.40	5.02	7.28
Oyo	10.49	8.92	14.60	15.25
Total	179.78	240.42	265.20	433.41

- Of the N433bn revenue generated in the Region in 2013, Lagos State alone contributed 89% up from its 83% and 84% in 2012 and 2014 respectively. Other States managed to contribute a trifling amount of N49bn (one-ninth) of the amount generated by Lagos State.

- Percentage contributed by Lagos State is shown to increase by 5% from 83% in 2012, implying that revenue generation in States other than Lagos is gravely low.

How we look

GDP in the Region

The Region contributes about 35% of the country's GDP estimated at \$180bn, out of which Lagos State contributes 72% at \$129bn and other States sharing the remaining \$51bn.

States	GDP (\$)
Ekiti	3.5bn
Lagos	127bn
Ogun	5.3bn
Ondo	28.32bn
Osun	3.54bn
Oyo	8.85bn

Source: NBS



Organising for Regional Competitiveness

– Leveraging **ONEBLOC**

- The DAWN Roadmap is an articulation of the necessity for the Southwest to organise for regional competitiveness. It recognizes the **geographical necessity** for a sustainable development strategy.
- By **ONE BLOC**, we stress the imperative of a strategy that recognises the **entire Western part of Nigeria as a bloc**.
- **ONE BLOC** recognises development as an **organic process**, which stipulates the necessity for acting together in a manner that collective actions will translate into bigger results, more rapidly.
- And in the light of current circumstances, organising for competitiveness simply underscores the need to understand and define our collective aspirations, create an agenda for progress, map the space for action, cobble together the required internal and external coalition, keep our eyes on the ball, and create a sustainable institutional framework for ensuring results.

ONEBLOC is Optimisation

- The DAWN Strategy is hinged upon the implementation of a **Regional Optimisation Plan** that would unlock potential and mobilise the Region's social assets, as well as leverage her latent capacity and endowments for development.
- The **Optimisation Plan** is focused on the following:
 - ✓ Optimise the **convergence of desire** for a new Western Nigeria built on stable foundations
 - ✓ Optimise the **internal growth potential** of the Region as a bloc of economic and development opportunities
 - ✓ Optimise the **space for collaboration** spanning the Region, the Federal Government, the civil society, global development partners and the citizens.



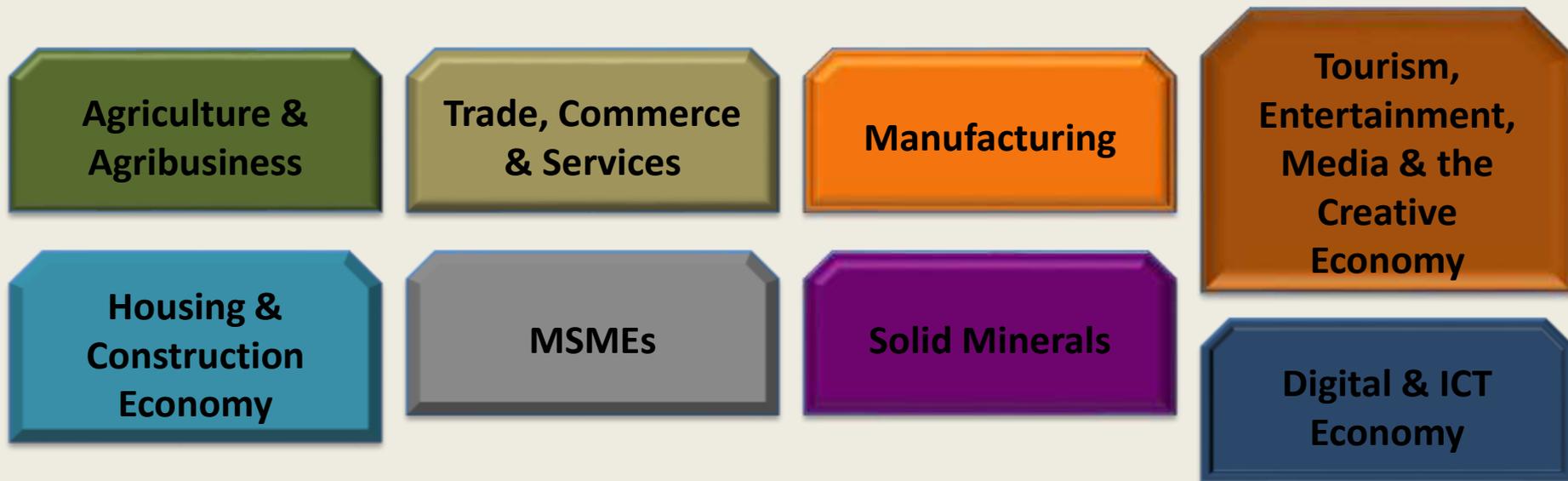
- ✓ Bridge excessive **developmental disproportions** among our States
- ✓ Optimise regional **assets and endowments**, as well as the **collective enterprise** of all the people living, working and investing in the Region for development
- ✓ Optimise the **utilisation of common templates**, and pursuance of joint programmes, joint ventures and joint projects as a deliberate development strategy
- ✓ Optimise the space for **shared learning** and implementation of **best practices**
- ✓ Optimise **State-level developmental activities** especially in line with their respective comparative/competitive advantages



Components of ***ONE BLOC***

1. The Southwest Economy:

- ◆ Build a Southwest regional economy along its areas of clear and **distinct competitive advantages**
- ◆ Unlock potentials and create opportunities for investments, jobs, growth and prosperity with the following as **anchor sectors**:



2. Human Development:

- Completely overhaul and build a **peculiar education system** (*Southwest Education*), in recognition of and alignment with the socio-cultural orientation and collective ambitions of the Region
- Create a sustainable framework for **investing in knowledge** as a competitive leverage
- Guarantee **universal healthcare coverage** where no one dies because he/she cannot access or afford healthcare services
- Promote an inclusive and supporting space for **women and youth** to excel

3. Modern, Supportive & Enabling Infrastructure:

- Launch an ambitious integrated mobility and energy infrastructure development programme covering railways, highways, waterways, power and (fuel) energy, as well as ICT, to support economic and leisure activities across the length and breadth of the Region
- Promote joint ventures on infrastructure projects, leveraging scale in the following areas

**Integrated
Transportation
Infrastructure**

**Sustainable
Power & Energy
Infrastructure**

**Digital &
Telecoms**

**Leisure &
Entertainment**

4. Good Governance:

- Establish a regional framework for governance that ensures improvement in the quality, character and behaviour of **leadership**
- Foster the emergence of a political culture that enables **accountable and transparent governance**
- Develop a regional framework for creating **capable institutions**, especially the Civil Service, for the delivery of excellent public services
- Put the issue of **leadership formation and succession pipeline** squarely on the front-burners



5. **Homeland *Resilience***

- Create a regional framework for ***resilience***, through, and by way of effective actions on security, law and order, environment and bio-diversity management, disaster risk management, optimal cities and resourceful communities.
- Rebuild our fast-eroding **social, cultural and ethical orientation**
- Strategically harness the **Diaspora** community
- Remain consistent on the advocacy for a truly **Federal Nigeria** as a development imperative rather than a political slogan

Global Corollary

- Poland established the **Operational programme for the Development of Eastern Poland**
- The **Southwest Australia Regional Blueprint** is the major strategy for the development of Southwest Australia
- **Nepal** has a Regional Development Framework
- There is also an example of **Chile Regional Productive Development Agencies** created in 2006-07
- The concept of **Local Development Agencies** advanced by OECD fits the new Regional integration campaign

Pursuing *OneBloc*

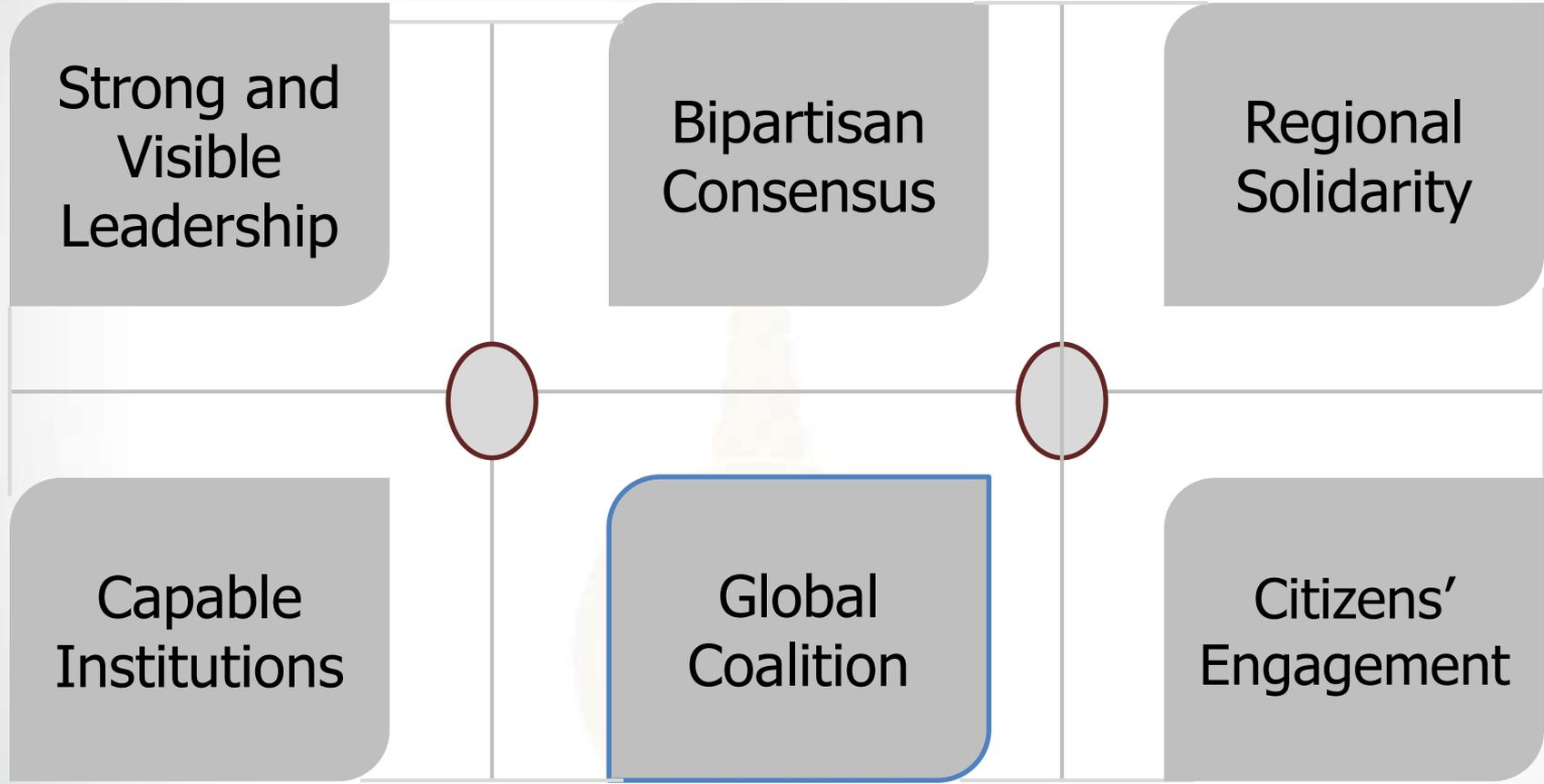
- ◆ Strengthening the institutional capability of DAWN Commission
- ◆ Building stronger internal consensus – Convene the Western Nigeria Development Conference
- ◆ Proceeding with a precise competitiveness programme for irreversible gains
- ◆ Cobbling together the Regional contingent for optimisation the space
- ◆ Strategic engagement with Abuja for optimisation

GLOBAL COALITION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WESTERN NIGERIA

(Beyond Government)

- ✓ The People/Citizens
 - ✓ Government
 - ✓ The Private Sector
- ✓ Development Partners
- ✓ Champions, Teleguides and Arrowheads
 - ✓ Civil Society

Critical Success Factors



This is our best chance

Let's do it



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Thank You



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