

The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 1, Issue 29, 6th December, 2024



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Ghana 2024 General Elections: Things to Know



Total Registered Voters

18,772,795

New Voters

708,282



Male

9,690,173

(51.6%)

Female

9,082,622

(48.4%)



Main Polling Stations

40,647

Special Voting Centers

328



Key Dates

General Election Day

7 December, 2024

Special Voting Day

2 December, 2024



Yiaga Africa deploys 12-member mission to observe Ghana's presidential election

Yiaga Africa has deployed a 12-member election study mission to observe Ghana's presidential and parliamentary elections slated for December 7. Led by Aisha Abdullahi, a former African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, the mission comprises legislators, academics, civil society leaders, legal experts, and media practitioners from across Africa. According to a statement signed by Yiaga Africa's Executive Director, Samson Itodo, the team aims to study and document best practices in election result management, voting rights, electoral technology, artificial intelligence, and issue-based politics.

Read more: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/759180-yiaga-africa-deploys-12-member-mission-to-observe-ghanas-presidential-election.html>

Ondo LG Elections now moved to January 18, 2025

The Ondo State Independent Electoral Commission (ODIEC) has set January 18, 2025, as the new date for local government elections across the state's 18 local government areas and 203 wards. The announcement was made by the commission's chairman, Dr. Joseph Aremo, during a stakeholders' meeting at ODIEC's headquarters in Akure. The elections, initially slated for July 13, 2024, had been postponed indefinitely.

Read more: <https://championnews.com.ng/2024/12/04/ondo-lg-elections-now-moved-to-january-18-2025/>





Fire Destroys Election Materials At INEC Office In Delta

A fire has razed the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) office in Owa-Oyibu, Ika North Local Government Area of Delta State, destroying critical election materials, including ballot boxes and electric generators. INEC's National Commissioner and Chairman of the Information and Voter Education Committee, Sam Olumekun, disclosed in a statement that the blaze, reported by the state Resident Electoral Commissioner, Etekamba Umoren, gutted the stores section housing petrol generators and other supplies. Other items lost in the fire include election bags, apron vests, stamps, ballot box seals, and various forms and booklets.

Read more:

<https://independent.ng/fire-destroys-election-materials-at-inec-office-in-delta/>

ElectHER Launches Website to Champion Public Advocacy on Independent Candidacy Bill

Read more:

https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2024/12/05/electher-launches-website-to-champion-public-advocacy-on-independent-candidacy-bill/#google_vignette

Ruling parties winning all LG election seats unacceptable — PLAC

The Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) has criticized the dominance of ruling party candidates in local government elections, calling it “unacceptable.”

Speaking at a Constitution Review session organized by the House of Representatives in collaboration with PLAC and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), PLAC Executive Director, Clement Nwankwo, emphasized the need for reforms to ensure fair representation. He commended the Constitution Review Committee's efforts toward local government reforms and reaffirmed PLAC's commitment to supporting policies that strengthen Nigeria's democracy.

Read more: https://guardian.ng/politics/ruling-parties-winning-all-lg-election-seats-unacceptable-plac-2/#google_vignette



Lagos LGA polls: LASIEC screening delay sparks democracy concerns

A civil society group, the Secure World and Liberty Initiative, has called on the Lagos State House of Assembly to expedite the screening of members of the Lagos State Independent Electoral Commission (LASIEC), warning that the prolonged delay in conducting council polls threatens grassroots democracy. Speaking at a press conference, Barrister Kayode Mogbojuri, representing the group, criticized the delay as a violation of constitutional governance and a hindrance to participatory democracy.



Read more: <https://guardian.ng/news/nigeria/metro/lagos-lga-polls-lasiec-screening-delay-sparks-democracy-concerns/>



ElectHER, a prominent advocate for inclusive governance, has launched a dedicated website, to boost public awareness and garner support for the Independent Candidacy Bill. Announced in a statement by ElectHER's Head of Programmes, Olarotimi Olaitan, the bill, sponsored by Akin Rotimi, seeks to amend key sections of Nigeria's 1999 Constitution to allow qualified individuals to contest elections without party affiliation. The proposed changes aim to expand leadership opportunities for underrepresented groups and foster a more inclusive democracy.

**NEW
PUBLICATION**



Index for Assessing the Integrity of Local Government Elections in Nigeria | 4

**of the Local
Election Index Tool**

A comprehensive tool designed to evaluate the quality of local government elections, assesses key electoral aspects, provides insights into key areas for improvement, and offers targeted measures to address these issues. The tool covers various aspects of the electoral process, including voter registration, campaigning, polling, and the administration of elections. It is designed to be user-friendly and accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including government officials, civil society organizations, and the general public.

**Electoral
Integrity Index**

A comprehensive and qualitative method, the index assesses key electoral aspects, provides insights into key areas for improvement, and offers targeted measures to address these issues. The tool covers various aspects of the electoral process, including voter registration, campaigning, polling, and the administration of elections. It is designed to be user-friendly and accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including government officials, civil society organizations, and the general public.

**Local Government
Elections Integrity
Index**



Index for Assessing the Integrity of Local Government Elections in Nigeria | 5

**Local Government Election
Assessment Index (LGEAI)**

Period	Sections	Questions
Pre-election	A. Electoral Context	1. The previous election that brought in the incumbent administration was credible and transparent.
		2. Incumbent administration performed well in governance.
1. Electoral Laws	1. Election guidelines complied with the provisions of the Electoral Act.	3. Citizens experienced freedom under the incumbent administration.
		4. The tenure of the incumbent was characterised by relative peace and security.
		5. The opposition party was not suppressed by the incumbent administration.
		6. The Opposition party did not boycott the last LGA elections in the state.
		7. There were few riggings during the last LGA elections.
		8. There was a high voter turnout in the last election.
		9. Citizens expressed satisfaction with the last election.
		10. Citizens expressed confidence in the incumbent administration.
2. Electoral Procedures	1. Election procedures are consistent with the state electoral law.	2. Electoral laws were fair to smaller parties and candidates.
		3. Electoral laws did not favour the governing party or parties.
		4. Election laws did not restrict the rights of, i.e., disenfranchised citizens.
		5. Election procedures are consistent with the state electoral law.
		6. Electoral rules and procedures are clearly spelled out.
		7. Election regulations were accessible to all stakeholders.
		8. Election regulations and voting procedures were widely publicised.
		9. Election procedures were accessible to all stakeholders.
10. Election regulations and voting procedures were widely publicised.		

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“The Local Government Elections Integrity Index” is developed as a tool to systematically assess key aspects of local government elections in Nigeria.



...of General Abacha. Fresh elections were held in December 2003 as part of the Abacha transition programme. Arafat retained his position as President of the State, securing a majority of the votes.

...Republic, local government elections originally scheduled for 2002 were postponed, officially attributed to legislative challenges but widely believed to be politically motivated. After the terms of local councils expired in May 2003, candidates for the 2003 local government elections were not registered. After the terms of local councils expired in May 2003, candidates for the 2003 local government elections were not registered. After the terms of local councils expired in May 2003, candidates for the 2003 local government elections were not registered.

**Judgement on Local Government
Elections**

...July 18, 2004, aimed at ending the financial autonomy of local governments. A flurry of activity among state governments to challenge the ruling, resulted in 20 states filing suits with the Federal High Court in Lagos. The Court also directed the state governments to ensure that local government elections were held in a free and fair manner. The Court also directed the state governments to ensure that local government elections were held in a free and fair manner.

**Local Government
Elections: A travesty of
Electoral Democracy?**

October 2024



**States with Democratically Elected LGA before the
Supreme Court Judgement**



States with Elected LGAs after the Supreme Court Judgements

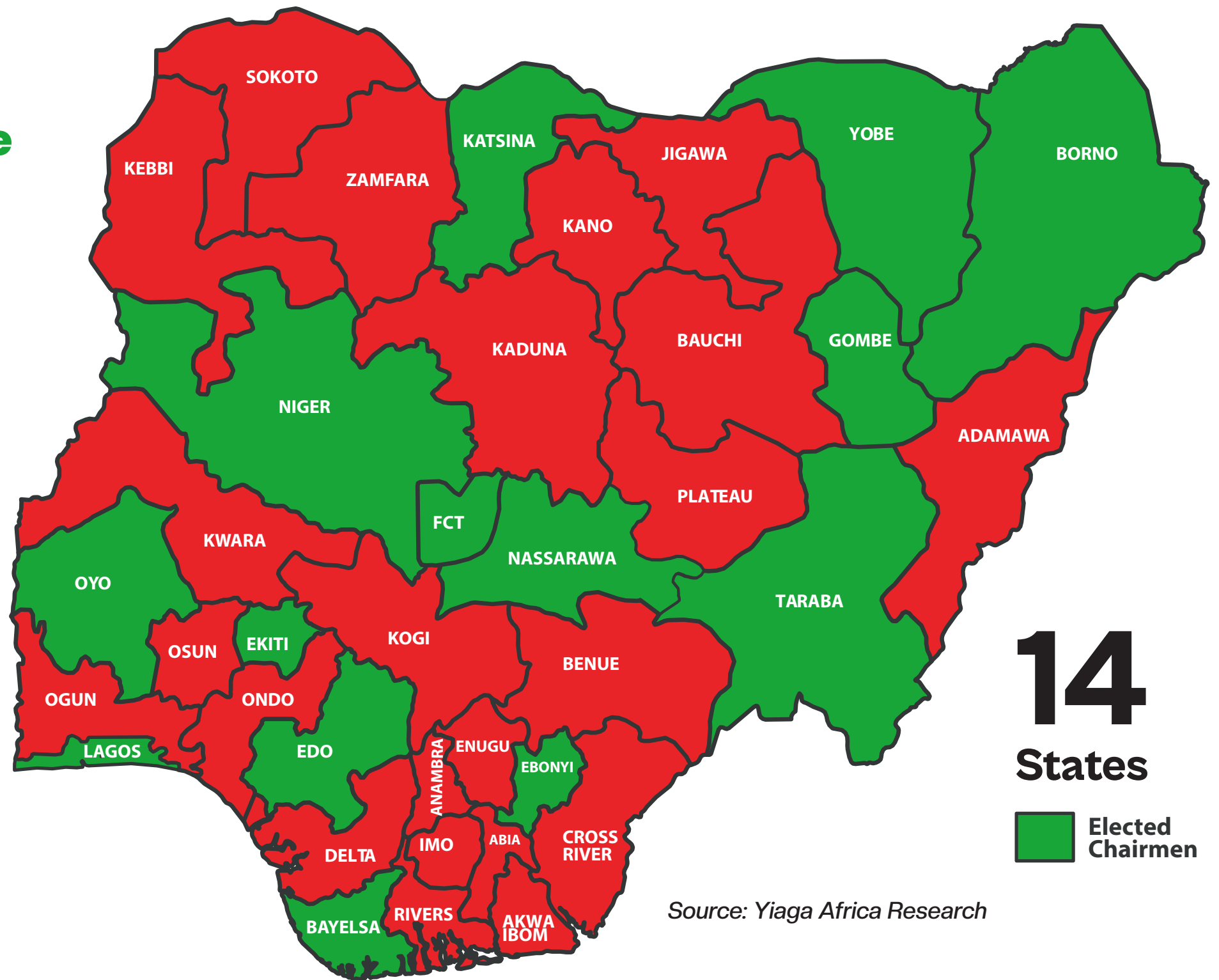


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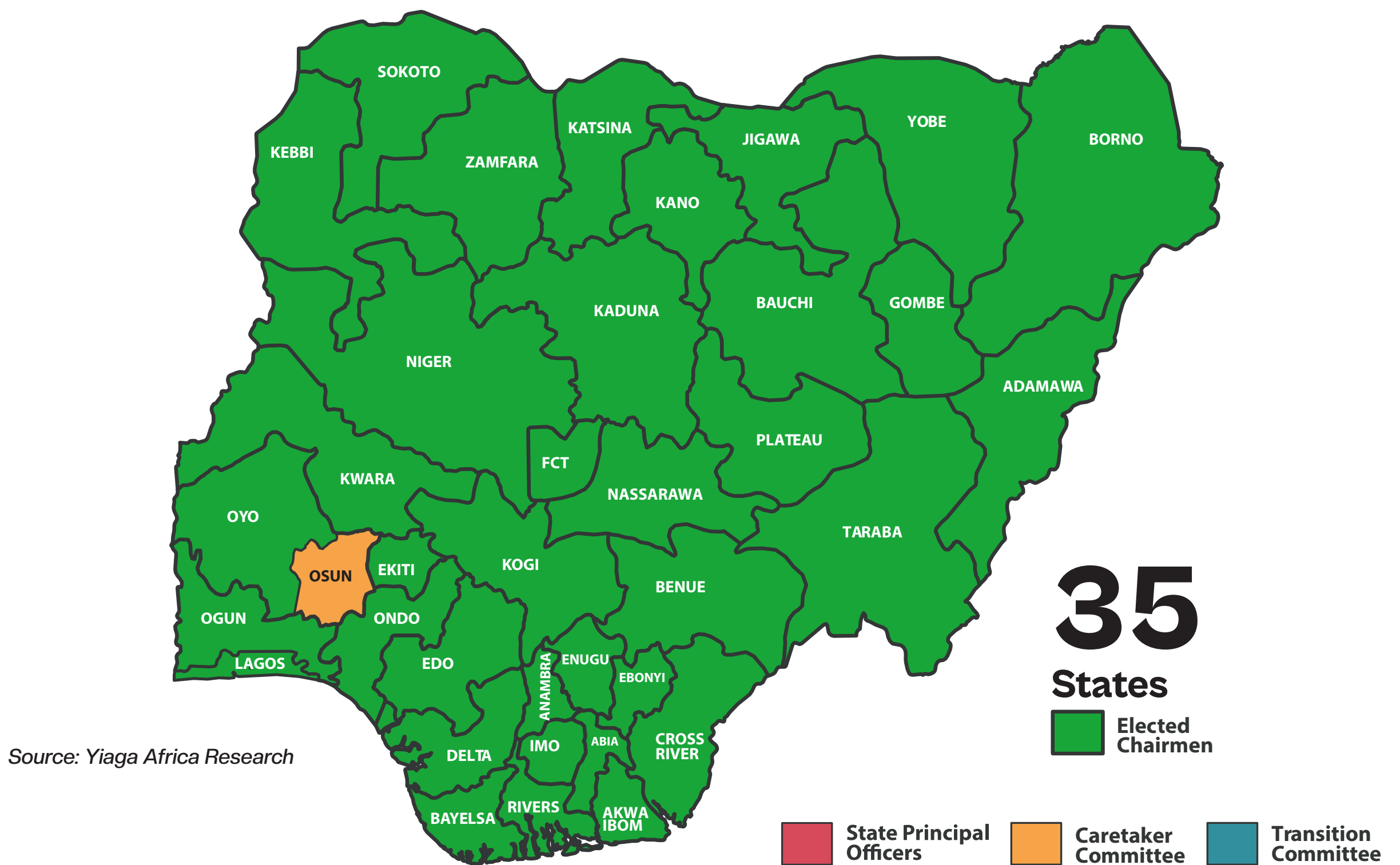


“Local Government Elections: A Travesty of Electoral Democracy?” is designed to explain the current debacle over local government elections in Nigeria and highlight major issues in the public and policy discourse around the problems. The aim is to provide ingredients for discourse on local government elections in Nigeria.

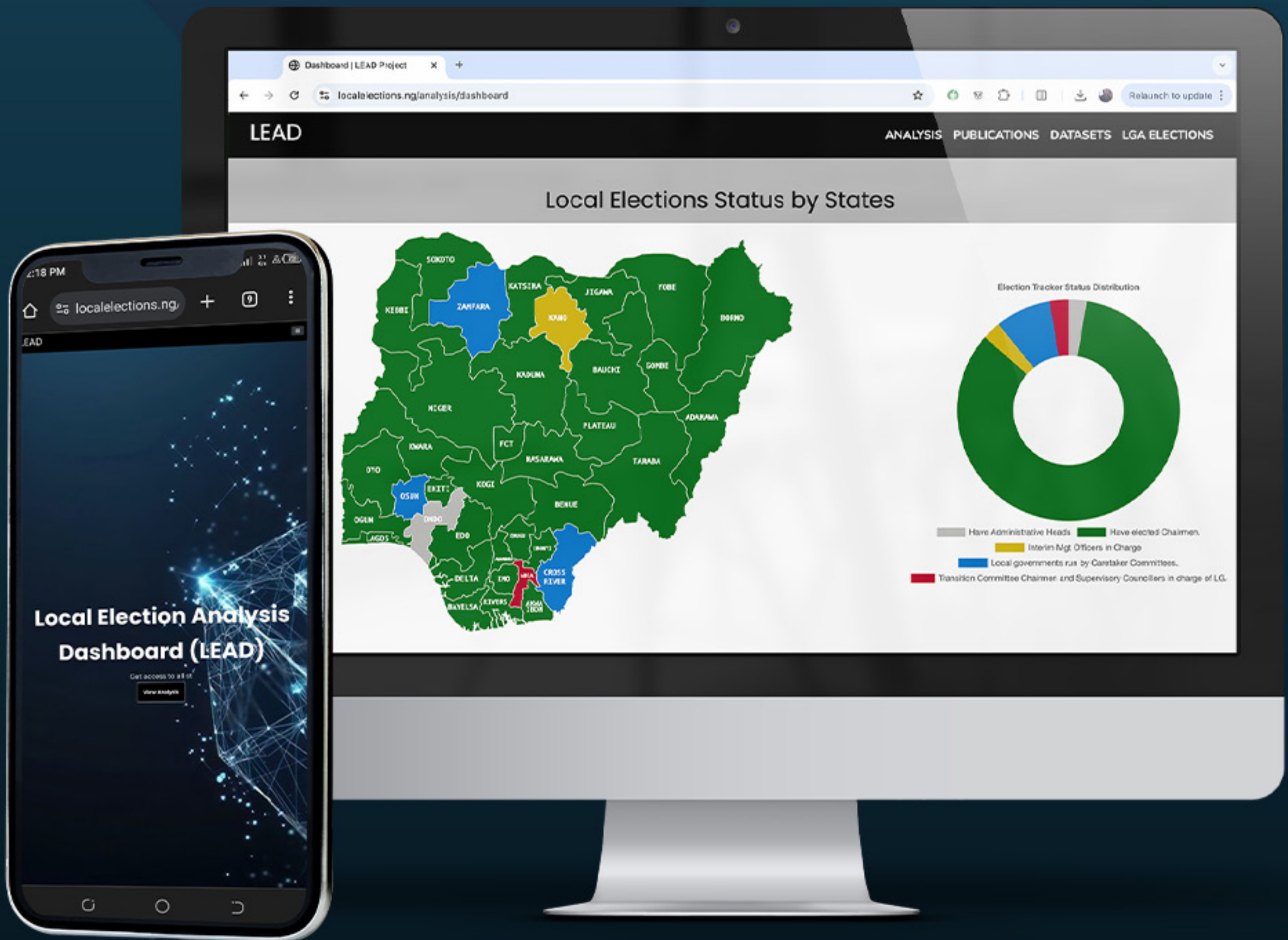
States with Democratically Elected LGA before the Supreme Court Judgement



States with Elected LGAs after the Supreme Court Judgements



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION ANALYSIS DASHBOARD



www.localelections.ng

COMING SOON

Upcoming Local Government Elections



 **TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES**

2

 **TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs**

48

 **TOTAL REGISTERED VOTERS**

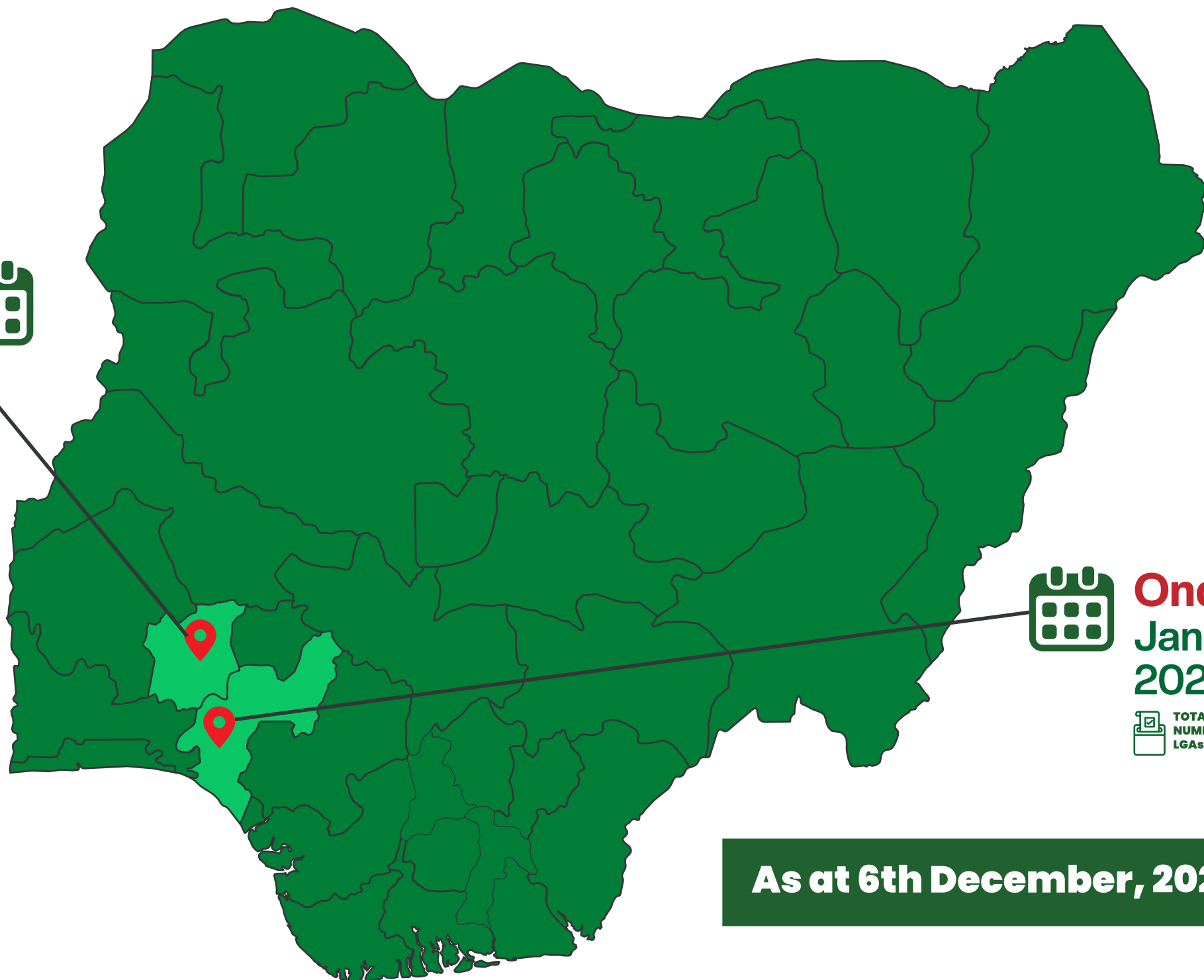
3,946,144

Osun
February 22,
2025



30

TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs



Ondo
January 18,
2025

TOTAL NUMBER OF LGAs

18

As at 6th December, 2024