

The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 2, Issue 13, 29th March, 2025



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the Newsletter



Yiaga Africa Inaugurates People's Assembly In Enugu

Yiaga Africa with support from the Open Society Foundations, has launched the Enugu North Local Government Peoples Assembly, an initiative designed to amplify local voices in governance. Speaking at a training workshop, Yiaga Africa Program Officer Olaniyan Sanusi highlighted the Assembly's goal of providing a non-partisan platform for community members to deliberate on local issues, prioritize concerns, and engage with local government officials.

Read more: <https://von.gov.ng/yiaga-africa-inaugurates-peoples-assembly-in-enugu/>

Senate: Bill seeking single-day general elections passes second reading

The Senate on Thursday passed for second reading a bill proposing the simultaneous conduct of general elections for the President, State Governors, National Assembly members, State Houses of Assembly members, and Local Government Area

Councillors on the same date. Sponsored by Senator Saliu Mustapha of Kwara Central, the bill, titled *A Bill for an Act to Amend the Electoral Act (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (SB. 701)*, also aims to address the exclusion of elected officeholders from participating in their political party's conventions, congresses, or meetings.



Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/senate-bill-seeking-single-day-general-elections-passes-second-reading/>



91 groups seek INEC registration as coalition talks gather steam

As the 2027 elections approach, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has confirmed receiving 91 applications for the registration of new political parties. The move has sparked reactions across Nigeria's political landscape, with the Peoples Democratic Party criticizing it as a sign of disunity among opposition leaders, while the New Nigeria Peoples Party called it evidence of the ruling All Progressives Congress' incompetence. The Labour Party welcomed the applications but urged INEC to thoroughly review each one before approval. Meanwhile, the All Progressives Congress dismissed the development, claiming that former Vice President Atiku Abubakar was behind the push, asserting that it would ultimately have no impact on their chances in the upcoming election.

Read more:

<https://punchng.com/91-groups-seek-inec-registration-as-coalition-talks-gather-steam/>

Northern youths reject bill seeking to convert Lagos 37 LCDAs to LGs

Read more:

<https://punchng.com/northern-youths-reject-bill-seeking-to-convert-lagos-37-lcdas-to-lgs/>

The Northern Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) has strongly opposed a bill seeking to convert 37 Local Council Development Areas in Lagos State into full-fledged Local Government Areas. In a statement issued Thursday in Kaduna, NYCN National President Isah Abubakar condemned the proposed bill as "unjust" and a threat to the principles of equity and fairness, warning that it could deepen fragmentation and division within Nigeria's national structure. Abubakar also called for a fair and comprehensive review of local governance structures across the country.

Bill seeking to introduce parliamentary system advances at house of reps

A bill proposing the introduction of a parliamentary system of

government in Nigeria has passed the second reading in the House of Representatives. Sponsored by Minority Leader Kingsley Chinda and 59 other lawmakers, the constitution amendment bill seeks to establish the office of the Prime Minister as head of government, while retaining the President as head of state.



Read more: <https://www.thecable.ng/bill-seeking-to-introduce-parliamentary-system-advances-at-house-of-reps/>



Group advocates voting rights for inmates, NYSC members, others

The Unemployed Youth Initiative (UYI) has criticized the exclusion of security personnel, prison inmates, National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members, and Independent National

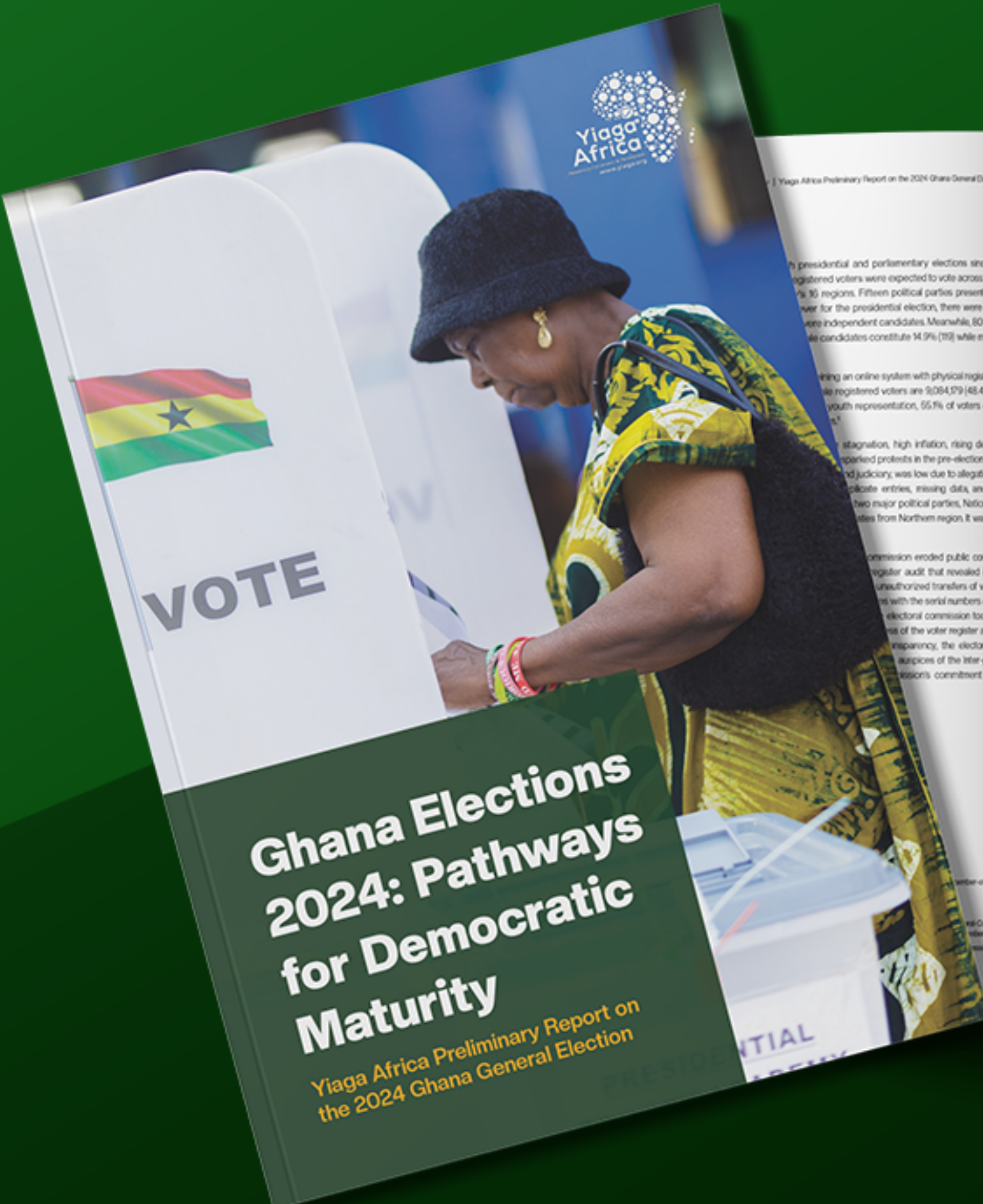
Electoral Commission (INEC) staff from voting on election day, calling it a violation of their fundamental rights. At a news conference in Abuja, UYI Convener Comrade Danesi Momoh highlighted that these groups, who are often deployed for election duties, are unjustly disenfranchised and urged for urgent action to address the issue.

Read more: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/group-advocates-voting-rights-for-inmates-nysc-members-others/>





“Ghana Elections 2024: Pathways for Democratic Maturity” offers a comprehensive analysis of key aspects of the 2024 Ghana Presidential and Parliamentary elections, including election administration, voting rights, and the role of electoral technology.



2024 Ghana Presidential and Parliamentary Elections:

Key Insights

	Total Registered Voters 18,772,795	New Voters 708,282
	Male Voters 9,084,179 48.4%	Female Voters 9,689,980 51.6%
	Youth (ages 18-35 years) 10,343,810 55.1%	Persons with Disabilities 55,492
	Total Polling stations: 40,976 <small>Special voting centers: 328 Voter threshold per polling station across the country: 749</small>	Presidential candidate lists: 13 <small>Political party candidates: 9 Independent candidates: 4</small>
	Seats: 1 Presidential seat 276 Parliamentary seats across Ghana's 16 regions	Parliamentary candidates: 801 <small>(682 males and 119 females) Independent candidates: 111</small>



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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. The tool is available in both English and Yoruba.

Electoral Integrity Index

The tool is a comprehensive and qualitative method. The tool is 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. The tool is available in both English and Yoruba.

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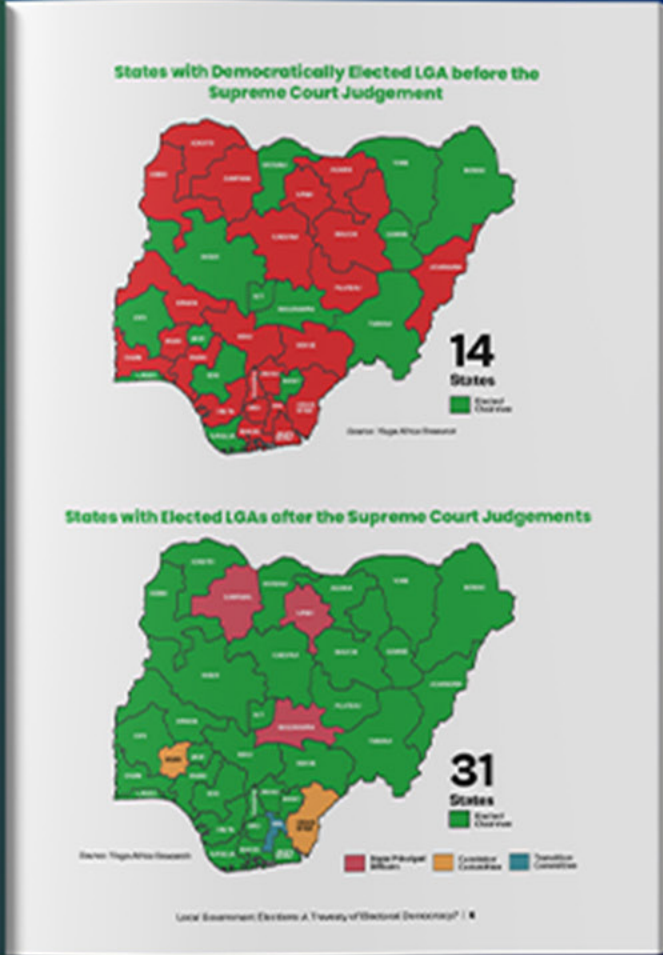
Local Government Election Assessment Index (LGEAI)

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.
		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.
1. Electoral Laws	1. Election guidelines complied with the provisions of the Electoral Act.	
	2. Electoral laws were fair to smaller parties and candidates.	
	3. Electoral laws did not only favour the governing party or parties.	
	4. Election laws did not restrict the rights of i.e., disenfranchised citizens.	
2. Electoral Procedures	5. Election procedures are consistent with the state electoral law.	
	6. Electoral rules and procedures are clearly spelt out.	
	7. Election regulations were accessible to all stakeholders.	
	8. 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.

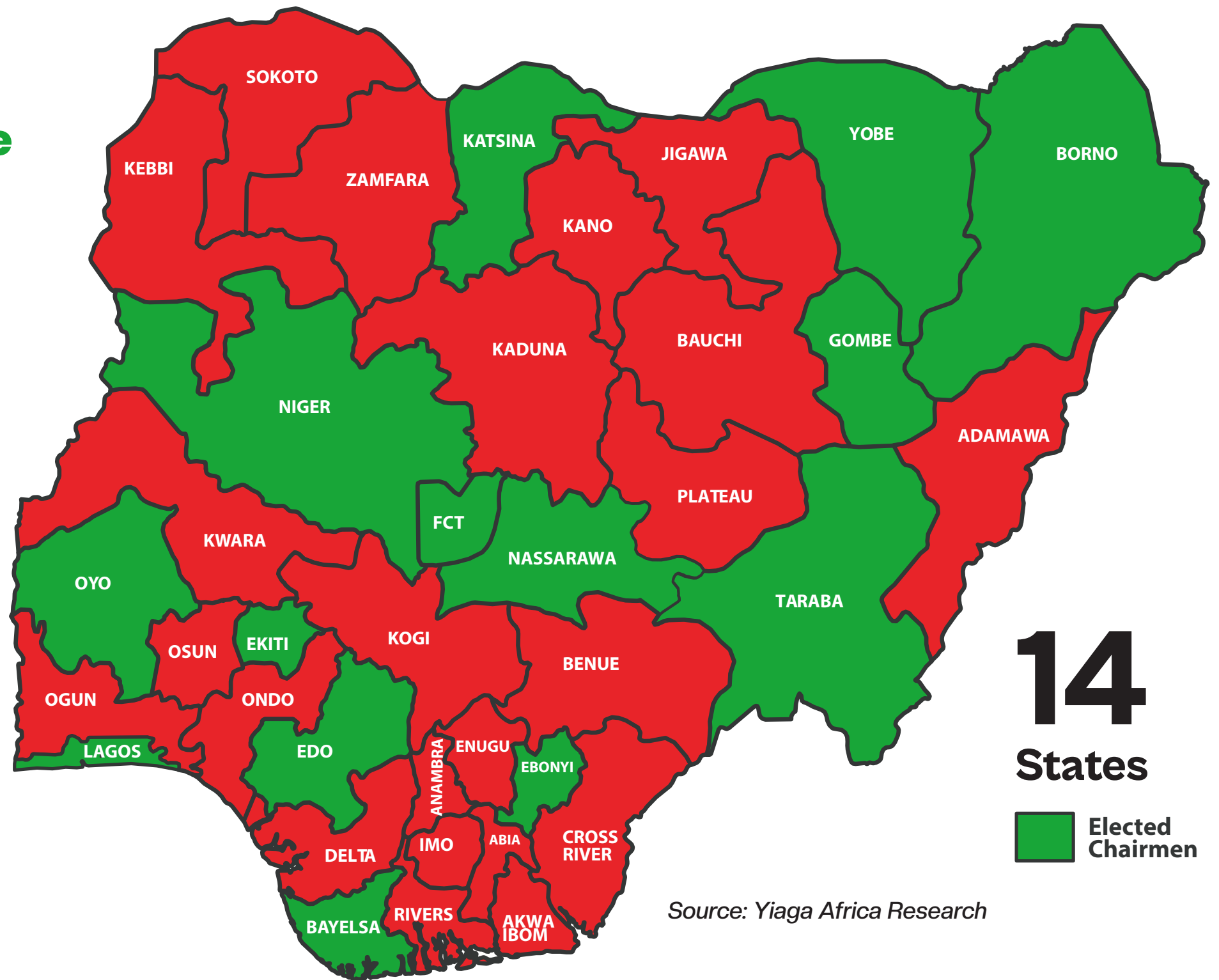


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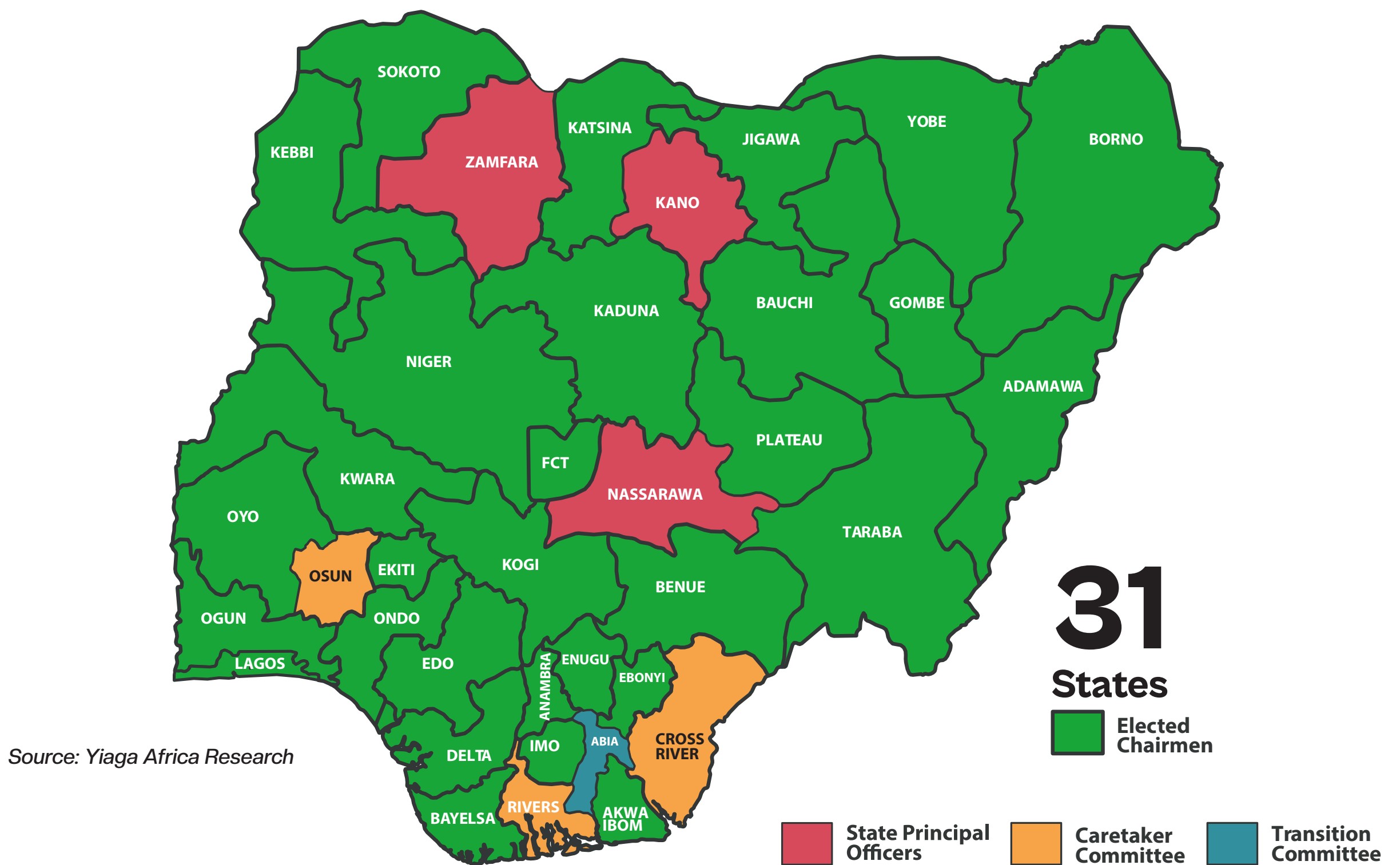


“Local Government Elections: A Travesty of Electoral Democracy?” is designed to explain the current debacle over local government elections in Nigeria and highlight major issues in the public and policy discourse around the problems. The aim is to provide ingredients for discourse on local government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

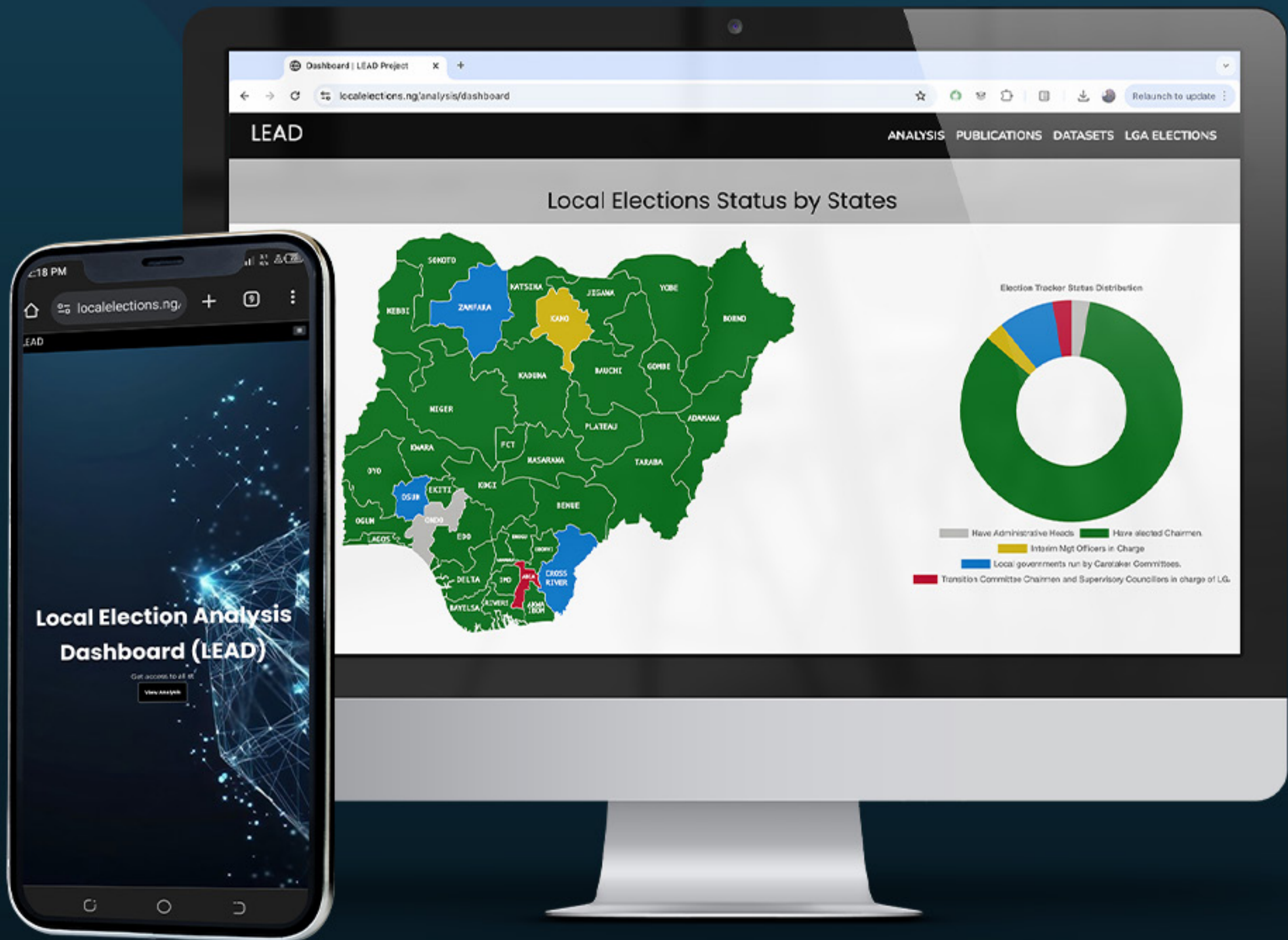
States with Democratically Elected LGA before the Supreme Court Judgement



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

1



TOTAL
NUMBER OF
LGAs

23



TOTAL
REGISTERED
VOTERS

3,537,190

Rivers
August 9,
2025



23

TOTAL
NUMBER OF
LGAs



As at 29th March, 2025

