

The Ballot

A WEEKLY UPDATE ON ELECTIONS

Series 2, Issue 15, 11th April, 2025



Subscribe to the Newsletter



EU advises Nigeria to elect leaders through ballot, not court

The European Union (EU) Ambassador to Nigeria and ECOWAS, Gautier Mignot, has emphasized the importance of electing Nigeria's leaders through the ballot, not court decisions, during the launch of a report on election petition litigation from Nigeria's 2023 general elections in Abuja on Wednesday. Speaking through Ruben Alba, Acting Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation, Mignot highlighted how such court interventions undermine the Independent National Electoral Commission's (INEC) ability to organize elections effectively, citing logistical challenges and the threat posed by contradictory court rulings to election administration.

Read more: <https://guardian.ng/news/eu-advises-nigeria-to-elect-leaders-through-ballot-not-court/>

2027: Edo Governor, Okpebholo, Kickstarts Campaign for Tinubu's Re-election in Benin

Edo State Governor, Monday Okpebholo, has announced the commencement of his campaign efforts for the re-election of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu in 2027. He made the disclosure while receiving a member of the Edo State House of Assembly who recently defected from the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC).



Read more: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2025/04/10/2027-edo-governor-okpebholo-kickstarts-campaign-for-tinubus-re-election-in-benin/?amp>

Rivers Administrator Under Fire Over LG, Electoral Chiefs' Removal

Rivers State Sole Administrator, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ibas (retd.), faced intense criticism on Wednesday after dismissing the 23 local government caretakers and the head of the Rivers State Independent Electoral Commission, replacing them with new administrators and a reconstituted electoral body. The move, which installed Dr. Michael Odey as the new RSIEC chairman alongside six members—four of whom are professors—came just hours after a Federal High Court in Port Harcourt summoned Ibas to justify why he should not be restrained from making such appointments.

Read more: <https://abntv.com.ng/news/rivers-administrator-under-fire-over-lg-electoral-chiefs-removal/>





INEC chairman urges collaboration among West Africa election bodies

The chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Professor Mahmood Yakubu, has called for enhanced collaboration among Election Management Bodies across West Africa to strengthen democratic governance in the region. Speaking at the opening of the Extraordinary General Assembly of the ECOWAS Network of Electoral Commissions in Banjul, Gambia, Yakubu stressed the need for shared learning and collective action to address common electoral challenges and build institutional resilience.

Read more:

<https://punchng.com/inec-chairman-urges-collaboration-among-west-africa-election-bodies/>

ACF slams politicians over early 2027 campaigns, urges focus on governance

Read more:

<https://punchng.com/acf-slams-politicians-over-early-2027-campaigns-urges-focus-on-governance/>

The Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) has criticized politicians for launching premature campaigns ahead of the 2027 general elections, calling instead for urgent attention to the nation's worsening economic and security challenges. Speaking during the ACF's National Executive Committee meeting in Kaduna on Thursday, Chairman Mamman Osuman urged leaders to prioritize governance that meets the needs of Nigerians. He also decried the spate of killings in parts of the North and ongoing land disputes, while lamenting the severe economic hardship gripping the country.

Abure's election as LP National Chairman illegitimate - NEC

The National Executive Council (NEC) of the Labour Party (LP) has declared that the process leading to the emergence of Julius Abure as National Chairman was flawed and did not follow due process. This was revealed during a stakeholders' interactive town hall meeting held in Abuja on Wednesday, attended by the party's 2023 presidential candidate, Peter Obi, and its only serving governor, Alex Otti. The NEC argued that the convention which produced Abure failed to adhere to the proper electoral process from the grassroots to the national level, rendering it illegitimate.

Read more: <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2025/04/09/abures-election-as-lp-national-chairman-illegitimate-nec/>



Anambra: APC affirms primaries, presents certificate of return to Ukachukwu

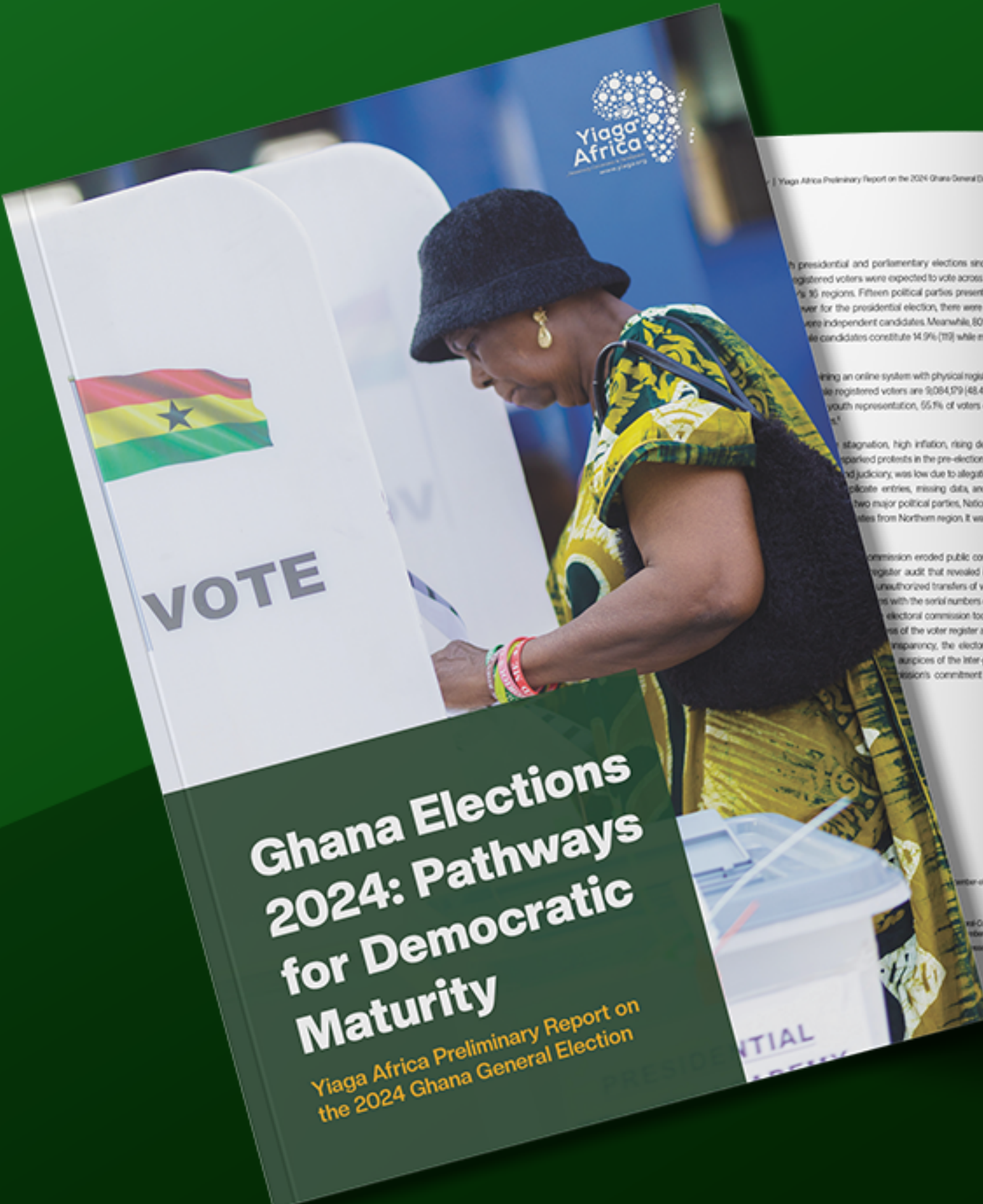
The All Progressives Congress (APC) has officially endorsed the outcome of its Anambra State governorship primary, confirming Nicholas Ukachukwu as its flagbearer for the November 8 election. Following a meeting of the party's National Working Committee on Wednesday, APC National Publicity Secretary Felix Morka described the primary as free, fair, and transparent, urging all stakeholders and aspirants to rally behind Ukachukwu to ensure victory at the polls.

Read more: <https://punchng.com/anambra-apc-affirms-primaries-presents-certificate-of-return-to-ukachukwu/>





“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

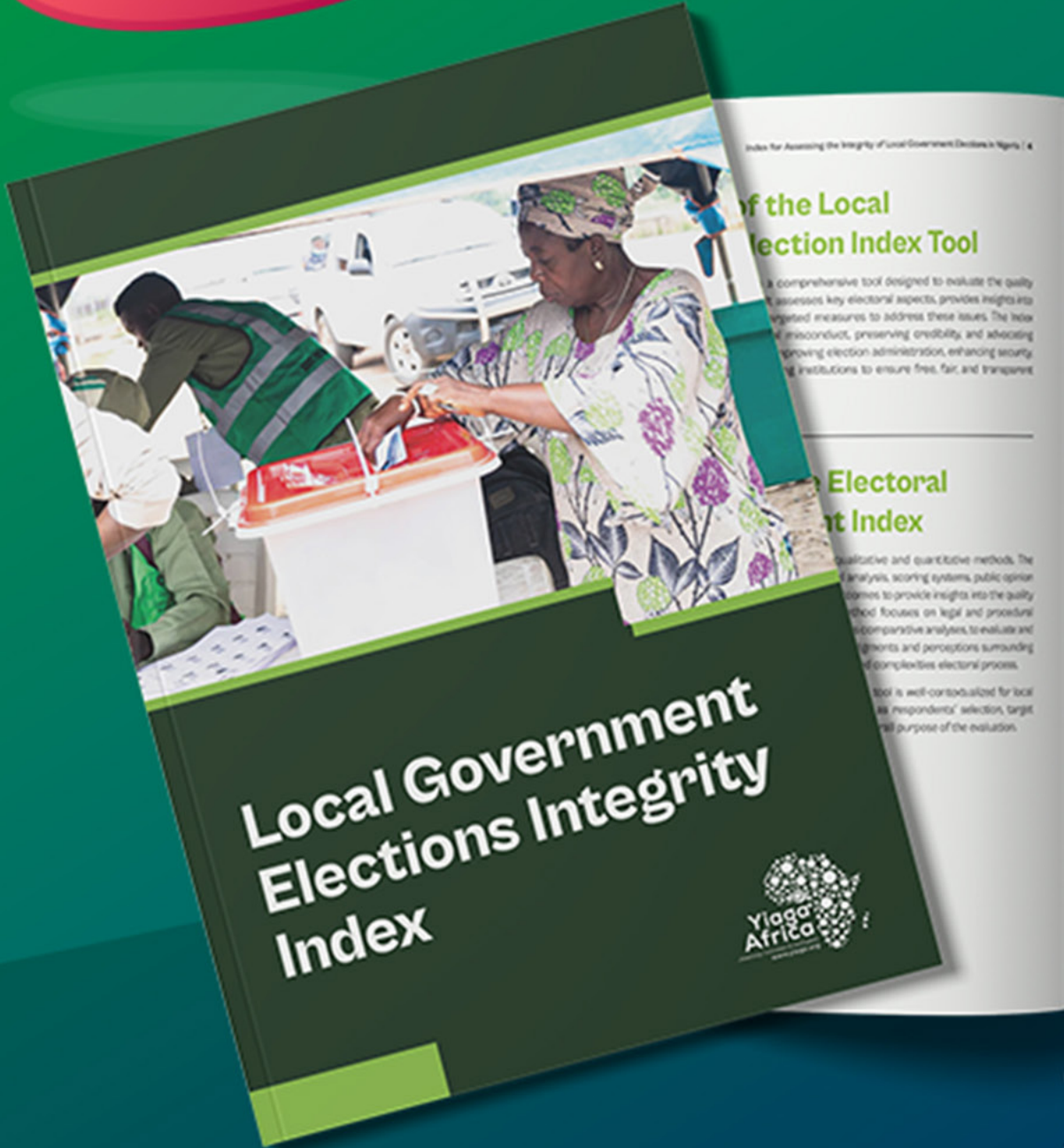
Total Registered Voters	18,772,795	New Voters	708,282
Male Voters	9,084,179 48.4%	Female Voters	9,689,980 51.6%
Youth (ages 18–35 years)	10,343,810 55.1%	Persons with Disabilities	55,492
Total Polling stations:	40,976	Presidential candidate lists:	13
<small>Special voting centers: 328 Voter threshold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



Scan QR to Download



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 in Nigeria. It assesses key electoral aspects, provides insights into existing measures to address these issues, the role of stakeholders, preserving credibility, and advocating for improving election administration, enhancing security, and strengthening institutions to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections.

Electoral Integrity Index

A qualitative and quantitative method. The tool uses a series of analysis, scoring systems, public opinion surveys to provide insights into the quality of local government elections. It focuses on legal and procedural aspects, comparative analysis, to evaluate and identify strengths and perceptions surrounding the complexities of electoral process. The tool is well-calibrated for local government elections, targeting the purpose of the evaluation.

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

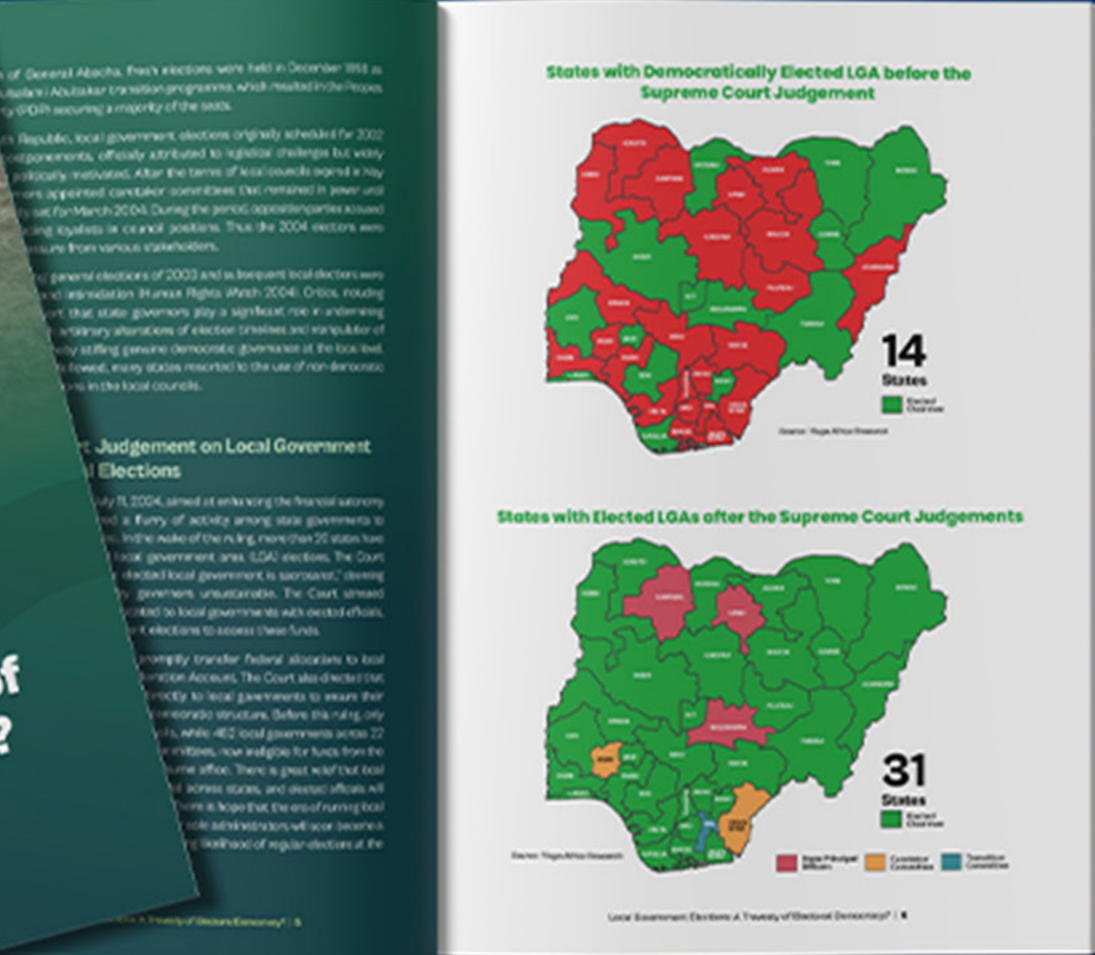
Local Government Election Assessment Index (LGEAI)

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.
		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 favoured 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.	

Scan QR to Download



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

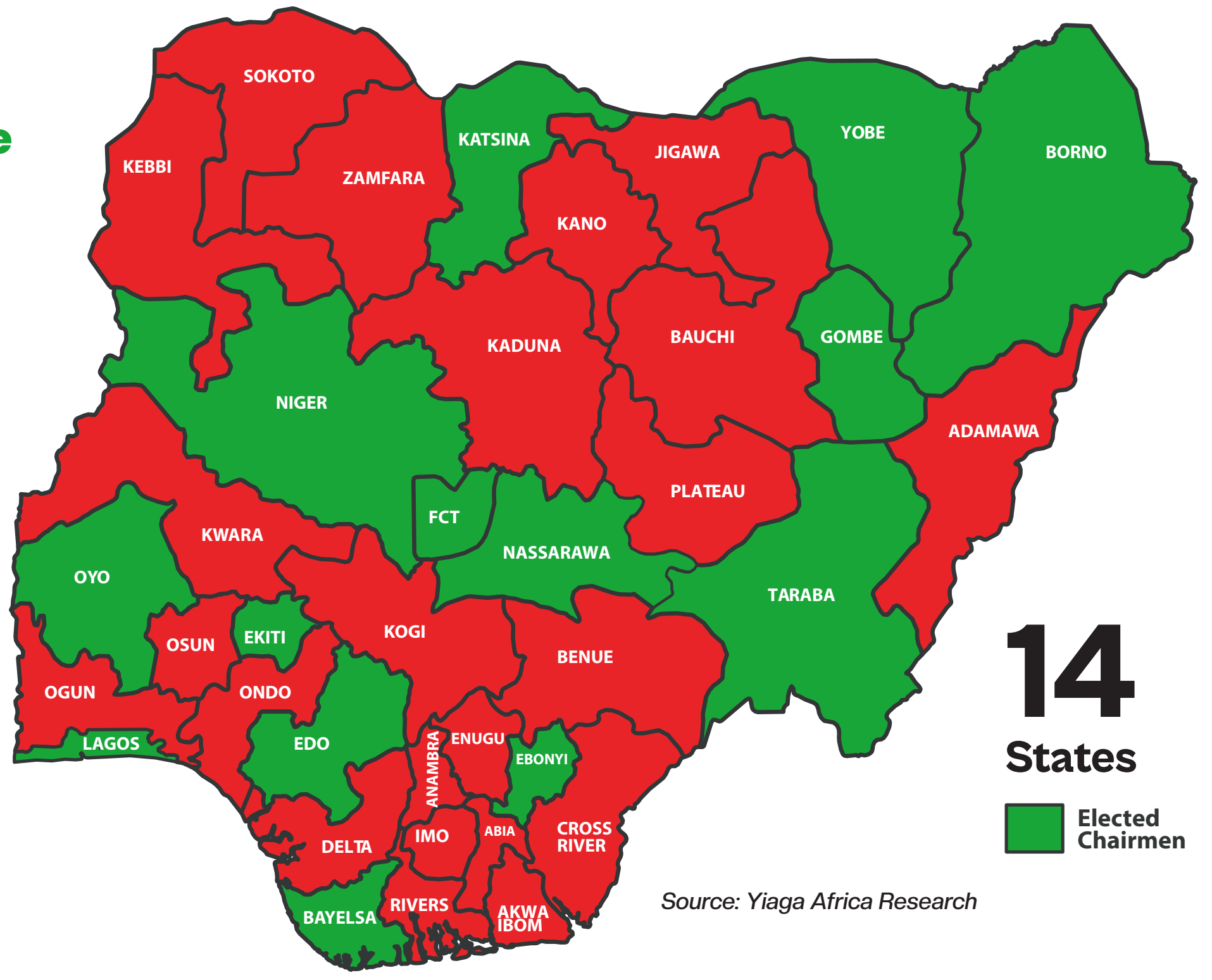


Scan QR to Download

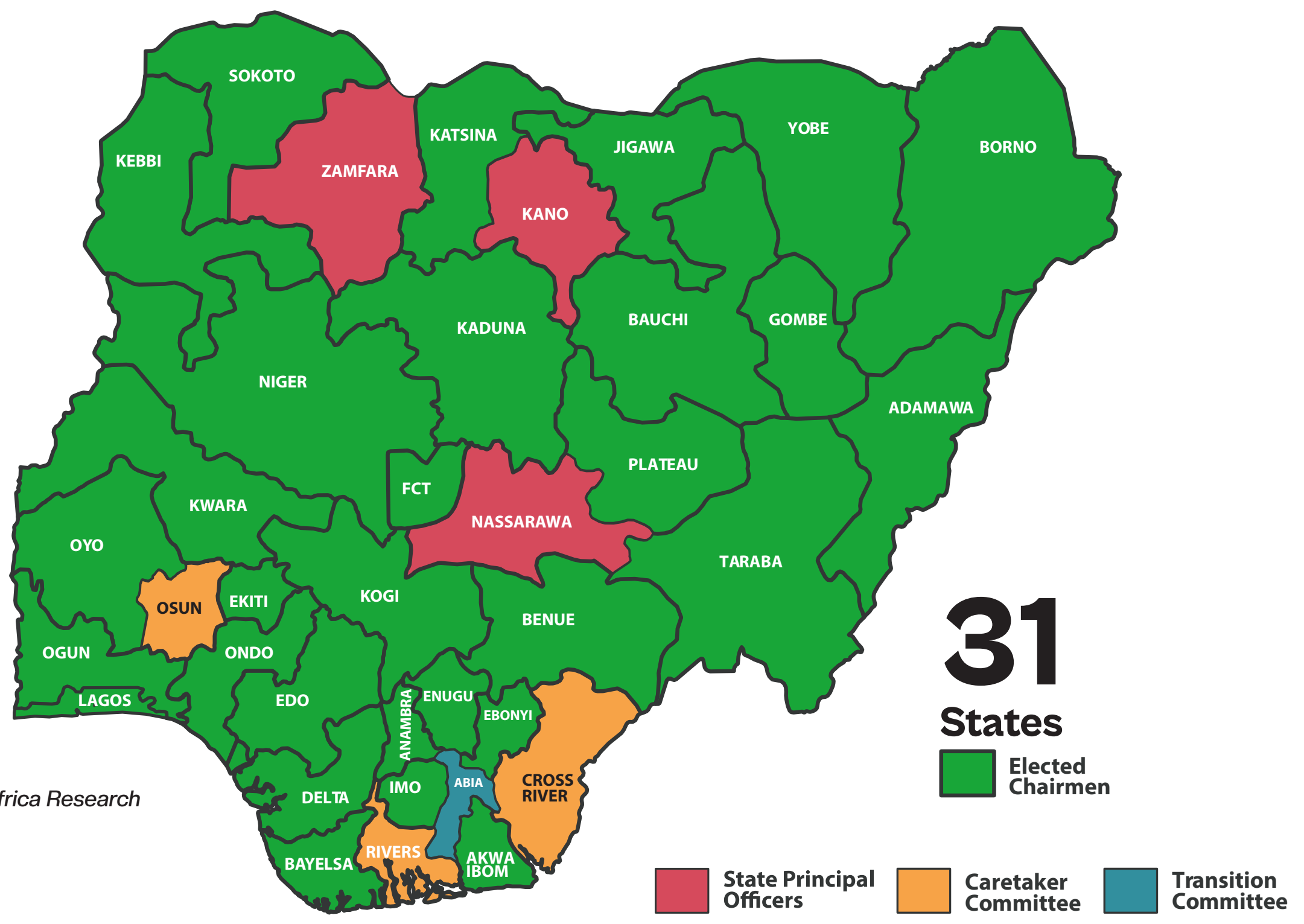


“Local Government Elections: A Travesty of Electoral Democracy?” is designed to explain the current debacle over local government elections in Nigeria and highlight major issues in the public and policy discourse around the problems. The aim is to provide ingredients for discourse on local government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

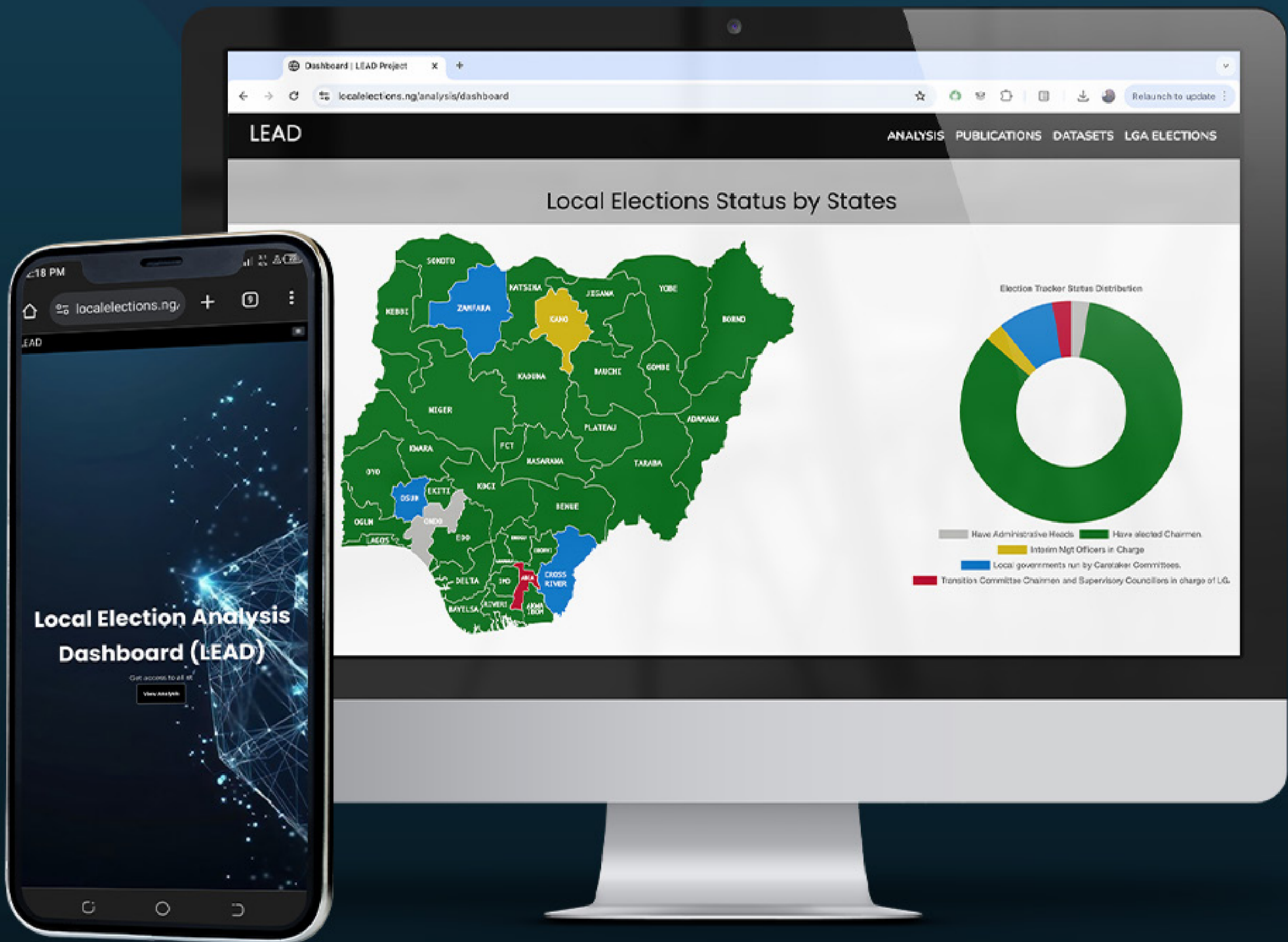
States with Democratically Elected LGA before the Supreme Court Judgement



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 11th April, 2025

