

Manifesto

Of



THE TIME IS NOW

**SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL
PARTY**

Nigeria wake up!

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Preamble:

Great leadership inspires respect. Inspiring leadership ensures acceptance by the fellowship because a caring leadership can positively influence social reorientation within the nation. This is what Sustainable National Party is designed to achieve.

It is now certain that the people of Nigeria are united in their desire to be governed only by their democratically elected representatives. The party believes that only urgent restoration of participatory democracy, social justice and good governance by a government formed by a strong responsive political party led by patriotic men and women of the highest integrity and outstanding ability and knowledge can save Nigeria from the disaster into which it had been plunged.

The leadership of Sustainable National Party recalls the hopes and aspirations of our founding fathers and have therefore resolved to put aside their differences and work together within one strong political party to fulfill the yearnings of the people for the restoration of true democracy and the establishment of good governance devoid of vindictive mentality.

The Party would avoid mistakes of the past, such as politics of exclusion, vindictive tendencies, intimidation and harassment of opposition and cash and carry politics. All these must be replaced by a new approach and a new outlook to national politicking. No Nigerian group will be excluded from power and public office. We will strive to reconcile all the forces alienated by recent political events and try to heal divisions and destruction of our harmony caused by the ruthless competition for power in the recent past.

The Party shall strive through dialogue to ensure the entrenchment of true justice for all in our body polity and for the emergence of a credible leadership that will give purpose and direction to Nigeria.

To achieve this purpose the leadership and followership of like minded associations and groups have agreed to fuse into one formidable, national, broad-based, people-oriented and principled political party with the widest grassroots network to work for the restoration of democracy and good governance in Nigeria.

Vision of the Party:

Faced with the tragic consequences of high rate of unemployment, poverty and under-development, our vision is to qualitatively transform the Nigeria economy and society through the creation of a dynamic economy designed to serve the people's interest and in which market forces are combined with the forces of partnership, solidarity and cooperation to create and produce goods and services for all.

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The establishment of free and democratic society, in which the powers and actions of Government are lawful, and where those in authority are held accountable to the people at all times.

Aims and Objectives:

The Aims and Objectives of the party shall be but not limited to the followings:

- I. To facilitate a rapid and sustainable development process through sound Education, Basic Health Care; food Security, rapid Industrial Revolution, Affordable Housing, Employment Generation and Regular Power Supply
- II. To restructure Nigeria in the spirit of true federalism, so as achieve a just and equitable distribution of power; wealth, and opportunities.
- III. To fostering the spirit of oneness among our people by treating all Nigerians fairly and equitably, regardless of their social, political or economic status
- IV. To promote a system of good and effective governance, characterized by fair, open, competent, honest and highly responsive public administration
- V. To ensure a speedy restoration of genuine democracy and good governance to Nigeria
- VI. To build a qualitatively better Nigeria based on the principles of democracy, human rights and social justice, under the rule of law
- VII. To evolve a liberated, secure and developed Nigerian Nation with faith and confidence in itself, and distinguished by the sustained pursuit of a culture of excellence
- VIII. To establish a moral and ethical society guided by core values as honesty, integrity and justice
- IX. To rebuild the foundations of Civil Society so as to ensure protection and defence of the ideals of democracy and good governance
- X. To design an effective strategy for eradicating poverty while entrenching a prosperous Nigerian society with a diversified and integrated national economy
- XI. To the principles of public accountability in order to restore confidence in the institutions of government discipline and leadership by example as a basis of public life and personal integrity as an important moral value in the conduct of public affairs.

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The Concept of the Party:

The Time is Now!! Nigeria Wake-up

Successive Government in Nigeria since the advent of democracy in 1999 till date have clearly shown lack of vision and direction in governance. These shortcomings have further deepened and plunged the Country into political anarchy, economic degradation and morale decadence.

As it stands today our nation-Nigeria is at a crossroad. Quality of life is at its lowest ebb. Unemployment is at its highest zenith. Underpinning systems for sustaining the state and society have collapsed, including education, health care and even the judiciary. Our future and that of our children is at risk and jeopardy. And the outcome, whatever it may be, is up to us if we fail collectively to take our destiny in our hands. We must rise as a nation and herald a new Nigeria; together we must identify credible and capable Nigerians to stand for elective positions. We must evolve higher standards of governance, transparency and accountability at all levels. Nigeria must demand more from its leaders. Our leaders have failed us, but this nation of great, strong and hardworking people can find from among its children, men and women willing and able to deliver a better Nigeria.

Sustainable National Party is a political party and Grassroots Movement founded on the wheels of progress to lead the way to a new Nigeria. We seek political leadership, through peaceful and democratic means, for the purpose of providing the highest quality of social services to Nigerian citizens within our borders and beyond.

We pledge ourselves to rebuild Nigeria into a nation that works. This will not be an easy task, but we remain determined nonetheless. The Nigeria we envisage is one in which every Nigerian has access to food, clean water, quality education, good health care, good roads and can live in a safe, peaceful and stimulating environment where he or she is guaranteed opportunities for self sustenance and sufficiency.

We commit ourselves to building a secure, prosperous, orderly, just and compassionate society in which every citizen is enabled to freely participate in building a government that is responsive to the needs of all citizens. We are committed to advancing social democracy and our decisions and political actions are, and shall remain, driven by ideals, principles and beliefs that is derived from this basic philosophy.

While a sustained political engagement and the overall welfare of the individual Nigerian citizen form the ultimate focus of our political and grassroots movements, the organizing principle of our party is based on service, discipline, efficiency, accountability and the highest professional and ethical standards.

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Sustainable National Party is a party whose policy and principles are guided by its ideology and philosophy. The choice between parties and candidates is ideally a choice between ideals, philosophies, policies and programs. In order to communicate these party ideals and programs to the electorate and to provide yardsticks for performance and assessment, party manifestos are employed.

In the light of the above, we the People of Sustainable National Party have resolved to remain strongly committed to Sustainable Development through Qualitative Education; Basic Health Care; Agricultural Development garnished with abundant food production; rapid Industrial Revolution; Affordable Housing; Employment Generation; Wealth Creation; efficient Transportation systems; regular Power Supply, Democracy and Good Governance; Justice, Equity, Rule of Law; Integrity and Transparency in the conduct of public affairs;

The nation we live in today is a burlesque of our ideals, expectations and aspirations. We are faced with injustice, constant harassment and intimidation, violation of our fundamental human rights, bad governance and insecurity. These vices hinder our progress as a nation and thereby retrogressing our growth perpetually.

The time has come for us to take action to confront these vices and overcome them and then lay a very solid foundation for the much desired transformation in our nation. It is up to you and me, as concerned citizens and stakeholders, to ensure that the change we desire starts today. Sustainable National Party commits itself to finding the solutions to this menace. We shall come together to actualize our vision of a progressive Nigeria by facing out these giant vices for a better country with determined qualitative leadership.

The Immediate Needs:

Qualitative Education:

In a nation so vastly blessed with human talent, lack of knowledge is an expense that we cannot afford but which has held Nigeria back in many ways and deprived it of the opportunity to optimize the potential of its human resource to assume its rightful leadership role in the global community.

Over the years, the absence of a well thought out and properly implemented national education policy has led to the underdevelopment of a large proportion of the Nigerian populace. The limitations of our educational systems, especially its failure to accord the necessary attention to instruction on civics and the socio-political history of the nation, has diminished our respect for our own cultural identity as well

as for our languages and our original national values. The resulting effects have engendered a widespread lack of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Our Approach:

- Sustainable National Party believes in education as a fundamental human right crucial to the advancement of the nation. Our goal is to evolve a nation that educates and empowers its people to develop their personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential and to optimally harness their local, regional and national resources for production.
- Since education is an important social instrument for national unity amongst the diverse peoples of Nigeria, the Party shall promote compulsory education up to the senior secondary school for every Nigerian child and increase government investment with a view to broadening access to education for all,
- Ensure that the educational system is improved upon by encouraging private and voluntary organizations to establish schools subject to compliance and adherence to existing government policies.
- Expansion of the Unity School system as models and as instruments of fostering national unity amongst Nigerians
- Establishment of adult and continuing education centre to promote mass literacy among Nigerians while providing technical educational institutions with well-equipped workshop and adequate and well-trained-teachers to meet standards
- Adequate funding of university education and provision of Federal Government Scholarship to Students on merit
- Encouragement and promotion of the running of consultancy units in all universities with entrepreneurs to provide hostels accommodation affordable to university students
- Provision of special facilities for the schooling of the children of nomads and adequate educational facilities and manpower for the handicapped

Good Governance:

The crisis of development in Nigeria can be attributed to a history of bad governance characterized by poor public service delivery and inept leadership. The poverty situation is very severe and unemployment statistics are particularly staggering among the Nigerian Youth. This is largely because of the overdependence on oil revenues to the detriment of the non-oil private sector. Electric power supply is grossly insufficient resulting in very high operating costs for businesses.

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Nigerians live in almost perpetual darkness with resulting adverse effects on our productivity and consequently, on our development and well-being. Many of the electricity challenges Nigerians face today stem from a failing power infrastructure, non-service oriented government monopoly and poor energy policy planning and implementation.

There has been too little investment in the maintenance of the country's refineries and the consequent frequent scarcity and price instability of refined petroleum commodities result in loss of productivity and promote inflation within our economy. Nigeria's rich supplies of natural gas, tar sands, plenty of prospects for hydropower and of course, wind and sunlight have been under-explored to the disadvantage of the people.

Merit Based Leadership

Sustainable National Party believes that the key Leadership positions at all levels of governance should be filled by the most competent, credible and compassionate persons. The Party therefore affirms the civil and political rights of every Nigerian regardless of his or her background, religion or ethnicity, to aspire to any public or political post at any time whenever those positions become vacant, in any part of the country or at the federal level within, the express provisions of the subsisting constitution of the Federal Republic.

Wealth Creation

Sustainable National Party has a strong commitment to the creation of wealth as remedy poverty. This will be achieved through massive industrialization and commerce. We believe that there is needs to be a cycle of wealth distribution that encompasses the entire country with no one left behind. We are also committed to developing a Nigerian state that guarantees continuous improvement in the living standards of its people by providing food security, shelter, healthcare services and potable water for all Nigerians and equitable access to social amenities, facilities, services and utilities.

Industrialization

Sustainable National Party will develop and fully implement an Industrial Master Plan for Nigeria towards the realization of massive Youth employment. This will be complemented by an enhanced policy on Research, Science and Technology which align Nigeria's higher education system to the country's industrial development priorities. Our Nigeria will be committed to addressing the problem of credit access and the attendant cost.

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Stable Energy Supply

In government, Sustainable National Party will bring bold, ethical and dynamic leadership to the development and management of the energy sector. Our goal will be to better manage our Oil and Gas resources by obtaining global standard agreements, rents and environmental terms with multinationals and local companies operating in the sector and enforcing strict energy efficiency standards and regulations for all operators in the sector. By so doing, the Party will increase the capacity of our Nation to refine petroleum products. We will also ensure delivery of time-bound targets in Electricity Generation, Transmission, Distribution and strict performance management to ensure the timely completion of new power projects.

Empowering the Youth

Youths are one of the greatest assets that any nation can have because they are the future leaders and a precious investment for a country's development. Sustainable National Party's policies will not only envision positive Youth development, but will equally target Youth empowerment in order to address the issues at stake. The Party will work to create a conducive atmosphere where everyone can grow and become role models to the young and old alike.

Empowerment for Vulnerable Nigerians

Sustainable National Party will protect the rights of people with disabilities, ensuring funding to empower Nigerians with disabilities to participate in all spheres of life. The Party will provide social support for the aged and other vulnerable segments of the society to promote their wellbeing and avoid their abandonment or ill-treatment due to their inability to generate income for their upkeep.

True Federalism and the Devolution of Powers

Our post-colonial experience shows that the social and economic challenges that face Nigeria cannot be solved by the federal government alone. Powers and responsibilities of the state and government must be devolved as much as possible to the immediate communities which are, in the real sense, the primary federating units of our Republic. Our Nigeria will practice true, fiscal and political federalism under the Leadership of Sustainable National Party

Sustainable National Party's position is that the federal units should have greater control and management of the resources found or generated within their domain. The Federal government, on its part, must guarantee equity and peace in our communities and defend the constitutional rights and personal safety of the individual

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Nigerian citizen in any and every part of the country and also beyond her borders. It should impose standards that protect both the environment and vulnerable citizens. It should levy taxes and raise armed forces for these purposes.

Insecurity

One of the key issues faced by the Nigeria Police Force is poor information and communication capabilities. An average Nigerian Police lacks the technology, skill, and organization to effectively communicate on an operational level. Also, data management systems used by the Police are moribund, outdated and inadequate. As a result there is a dearth of accurate crime statistics, proper evidence documentation, storage and forensic technology.

Over the years the Police Force have acquired a reputation for holding prisoners without trial, arbitrary arrest, extortion, torture, use of excessive force and even murder. As a result of failed policing, vigilante groups have arisen in various regions with their own agendas and mission. In addition, the military is stretched thin in its efforts to enforce order nationally and regionally. The challenge of accessibility to proper healthcare is perhaps the greatest challenge facing our physical security against illness, with less than 35% of the population currently being served, despite the establishment of the community health scheme. Infant and maternal mortality are unacceptably high. Diseases that are extinct and forgotten in other countries of the world continue to take the lives of our brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers and children.

Agriculture:

Despite years of investment in agriculture development initiatives, Nigeria remains a country that cannot grow its own food and depends on massive importation of food items from less agriculturally endowed nations. Sustainable National Party have resolved to revitalize and modernize the farm settlement System to increase agricultural productivity, check rural-urban migration and make farming attractive as profitable and prestigious occupation, to farmers, young school leavers.

The Party will under the Agricultural scheme embark on massive irrigation schemes by emphasizing small scale dams to provide irrigation water as well as promote aqua culture while equally stimulating agricultural research through a package of incentives to the Universities Agriculture as well as other agricultural research institutions in Nigeria.

Protection of lives and properties:

Sustainable National Party will tackle crime and improve the security of lives and property through the consistent pursuit of economic and social policies that generate employment, foster cohesive communities and stabilize families. The Party will also ensure the strategic reformation of the criminal justice administration as well as upgrade and enhance law enforcement and security agencies including the judiciary.

National Health Care plan:

Sustainable National Party believes that a healthy nation is a wealthy nation primarily because it is only a healthy people that can truly contribute to the socio-economic development of a nation. Our Nigeria will be committed to the availability of constant access to health care services, especially to rural inhabitants and the urban poor. Funds will be made available to support research into the various health care challenges confronting our nation, to train and properly equip staff and to purchase state-of-the-art machinery and drugs for both preventative and curative care.

Food Security

Sustainable National Party understands that the current level of public spending on agriculture is far too low. Therefore, the Party will aim to increase the overall amount of budget on agriculture. This is of vital importance given the large role that agriculture plays in Nigeria. Our Nigeria will strive to reach its goal of food self-sufficiency. Less emphasis will be put on food imports and more on domestic supply to match the demand.

Securing National Integrity

Sustainable National Party will pursue a foreign policy, guided by our interests as a sovereign nation and a developing economy with a focus to protect our territorial integrity and the welfare of Nigerians throughout the world, while simultaneously promoting our national interests.

Our foreign policy undertakings will be routinely guided by the quest for concrete outcomes that are in the best interest of the overwhelming majority of our people. Sustainable National Party shall focus specially on the West Africa sub-region because of the closeness of Nigeria's historical and cultural ties to the peoples of the sub-region, the potentially easy-to-access large market for products and services of Nigerian firms that it represents, and the fact that instability in our immediate neighborhood could easily spill over into Nigeria. The Party will do more to engage the Diaspora to invest back into Nigeria. This the Party will do by restoring their

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hopes in our systems through the adoption of global best practices in the conduct of government business and by leveraging their already proven interest in contributing to Nigeria's development.

Government as a Service Provider

Ambitions for a new Nigeria hinges on a productive, better trained and adequately equipped civil service that responds promptly and effectively to public needs. As a corollary to these changes, a minimum standard of work infrastructure-cum-environment would be enabled for all agencies of government. Good leadership styles and adequate motivation would be employed to boost morale and productivity. Corruption must be fought systematically and with tact. This requires a strong judiciary and Police Force to ensure that this evil is finally laid to rest. Corruption thrives on the absence of a development agenda. Sustainable National Party will set clear-cut benchmarks against which the performance of governments at all levels will be evaluated.

Economy

At the root of Nigeria's political and social problems is poverty and low access to economic opportunities. The improvement in the well-being of Nigerians is the ultimate objective of Sustainable National Party's economic policy, and make accessible to every Nigerian the basic needs of life. The focus would be to create a market-based economy driven by small and medium scale businesses and regulated by a reformed public sector. At the very foundation of the above objective of the party is the pursuit of a strong, virile and diversified economy built to stem rural urban migration through investment in modern agricultural methods.

The indivisibility of the Nigerian polity

Sustainable National Party affirms her belief in the unity of Nigeria under the Federal System of Government. The Party shall, therefore, continuously promote political tolerance, accommodation and compromise, religious harmony, as well as inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic accommodation and co-operation. The Party shall also promote geopolitical balancing as a fundamental principle of power sharing in the country, in line with the principle of Federal character.

The foregoing are the main pledges of Sustainable National Party as we believe we can deliver them and in doing so, make Nigeria fulfill its great potential in our lifetime. Sustainable National Party is a Party for the future of Nigeria. We believe in democracy, transparent elections and the empowerment of the citizens to freely participate in civic and political matters.

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Conclusion:

Our country does need change in the way government relates to our people and in the delivery of services. The Party is committed to service delivery culture that will put every elected official and public servant to work for our people, and ensure accountability to our people. As a formidable Party, we will continue to develop social partnerships while managing our economy in a manner that ensures that Nigeria continues to grow. We will remain in touch with our people and listen to their needs at all times.



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