

Project Summary: Calabar-Abuja Highway

The Calabar-Abuja Highway is a significant infrastructure project in Nigeria, designed to enhance connectivity between the southeastern and central regions of the country. This superhighway spans 482 kilometers, linking Calabar in Cross River State to Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory.

Route and Coverage

The highway traverses several states, including Cross River, Ebonyi, Benue, Kogi, and Nasarawa, before terminating in Abuja. It is part of the broader Africa Trans-Sahara route, aiming to facilitate seamless movement of goods and services between southeastern and northern regions of Nigeria.

Project Phases and Construction

The project is divided into multiple sections. In November 2024, the Federal Ministry of Works signed a contract with Infioquest International Limited for the construction of Section I, which covers 118.85 kilometers from Ndibe Beach through various towns in Ebonyi State, terminating at Mbeke. This section will be constructed using Continuously Reinforced Concrete Pavement (CRCP) to ensure durability and longevity.

Strategic Importance

The Calabar-Abuja Highway is strategic for boosting Nigeria's transportation ecosystem along the economic corridors of the South-East and North-Central regions. It is expected to stimulate trade and agricultural development, foster inter-regional cohesion, and enhance economic competitiveness.

Historical Challenges:

Nigeria's road infrastructure projects have historically faced challenges such as delays, budget overruns, and substandard construction quality. These issues often stem from inadequate project management, insufficient oversight, and funding constraints. The Calabar-Abuja Highway project is not immune to these challenges, necessitating robust governance and monitoring mechanisms to ensure its successful completion.

Current Status

As of November 2024, construction has commenced on Section I of the highway. The Federal Government has expressed commitment to completing this and other legacy projects to improve the nation's infrastructure and stimulate economic growth.

Alignment with Project Health Control (PHC) Service:

The PHC Service, provided by Order Efficiency Ltd, can play a critical role in ensuring the effective implementation and sustainable operation of this project. Through systematic project monitoring, and the application of PHC methodologies, the service will oversee risk management, compliance, and the seamless execution of project phases to achieve timely and efficient results.

Conclusion:

The Calabar-Abuja Highway represents a critical investment in Nigeria's infrastructure, aiming to facilitate economic diversification and create a sustainable transportation network across the country.