

# BNAGRO

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BENUE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING  
&  
ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION BUREAU

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## CORE MANDATE (ABRIDGED)

**Submitted by:**

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**Director-General**

**BNAGRO**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### ***Name of Bureau:***

*Benue Agro-Industrial Processing and Economic Transformation Bureau (BNAGRO)*

### ***Our Core Mandate:***

*To Execute, Drive, Carry Out & Promote:*

- *Agro-Industrial Processing(Food & Non-Food)*
- *Agricultural Modernization,*
- *Manufacturing/Industrialization &*
- *Overall Economic Transformation*

*...that deliver Inclusive Growth, Development and Grassroots Prosperity.*

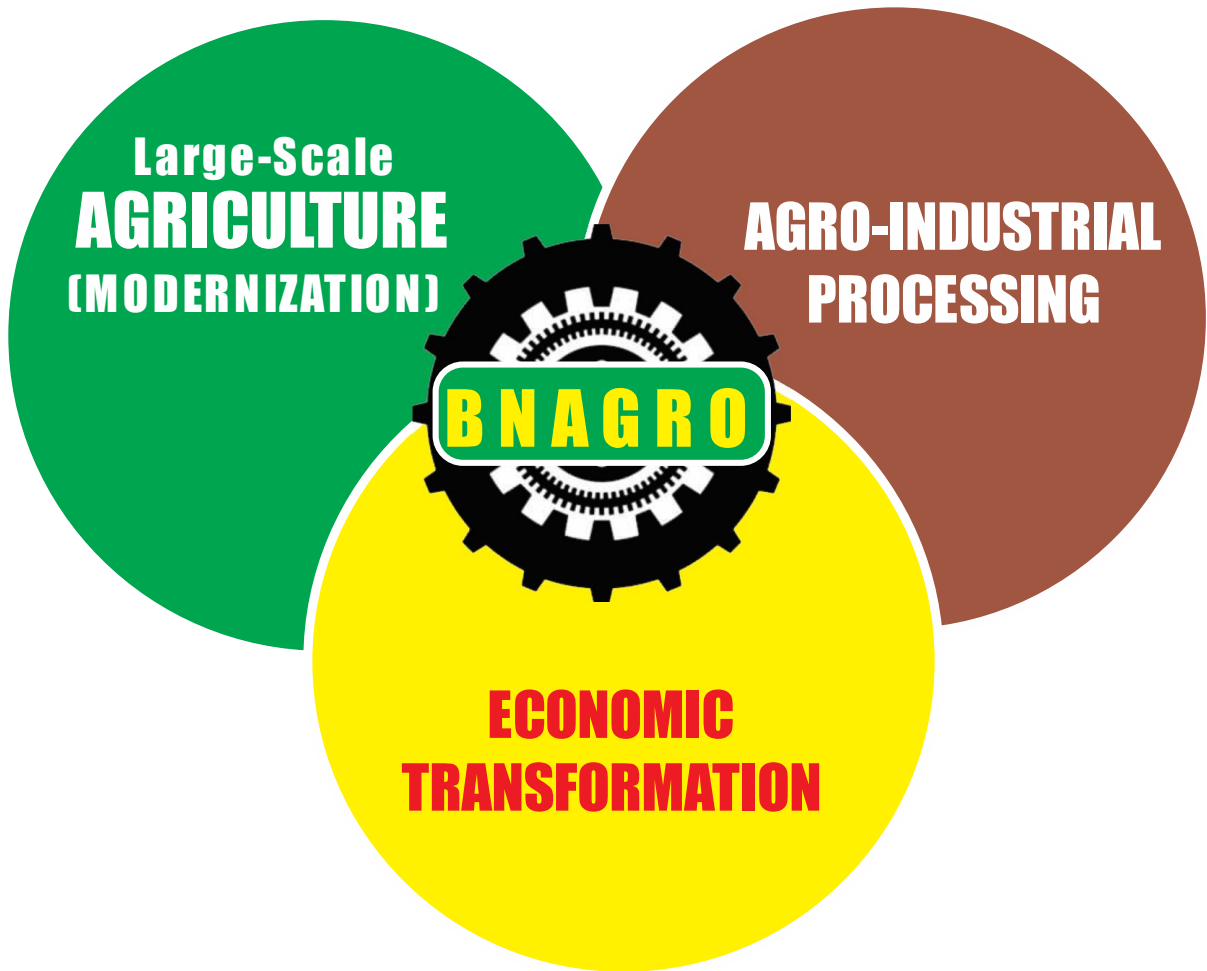
### ***Highlights:***

*The Mandate of Our Bureau Covers:*

- *Food & Non-Food Agro-industrial Processing (which is at the core of our Mandate).*
- *The Establishment and operation of Large-scale Mechanized BNAGRO Farms. This necessitates industrial-level agro processing combined with the establishment of large scale BNAGRO Farms under a backward Integration strategy that integrates thousands of youths and smallholder farmers into the various agricultural value chains.*
- *The Power/Authorization to initiate, design, execute, carry-out, mobilize funding and operate strategic agro-industrial investment projects (from farm to factory to market), and to act as the Government's Special Purpose Vehicle in such ventures or projects.*

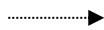
## Summary of BNAGRO's Mandate:

Pictorial Representation of Scope and Fields of Coverage.



**FROM FARM**

(Backward Integration)



**TO FACTORY**

(Industrial Processing)

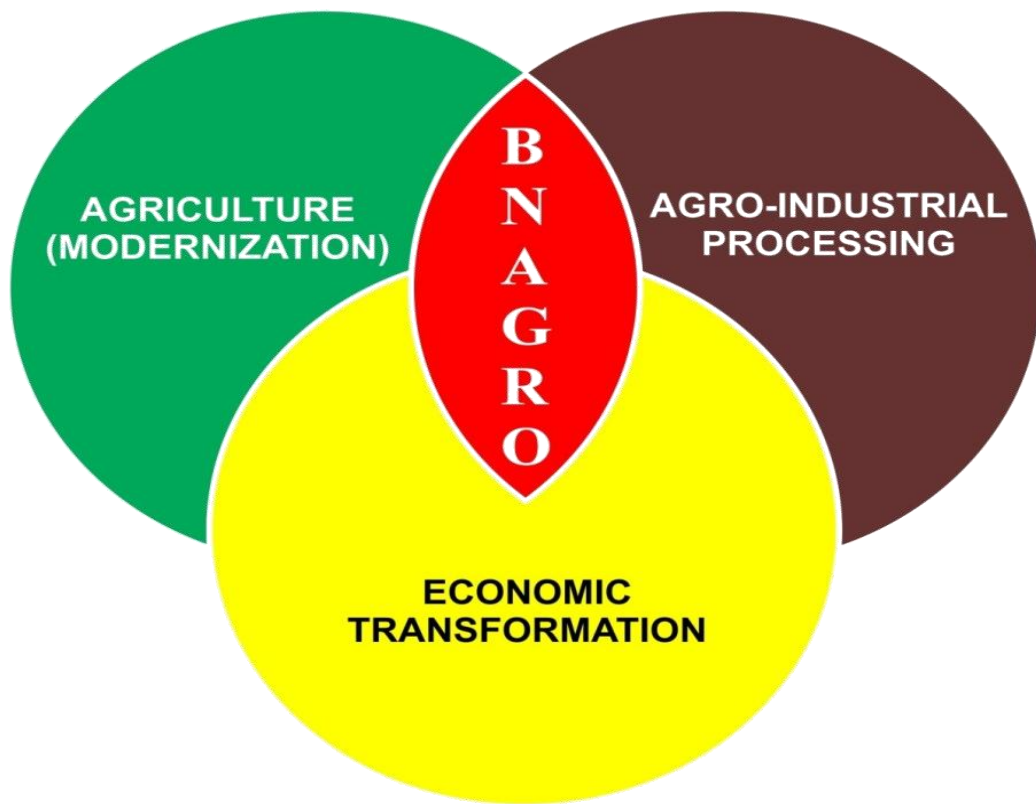


**TO MARKET**

(Export & Domestic Markets)

# Summary of BNAGRO's Mandate:

## Pictorial Representation of Scope and Fields of Coverage



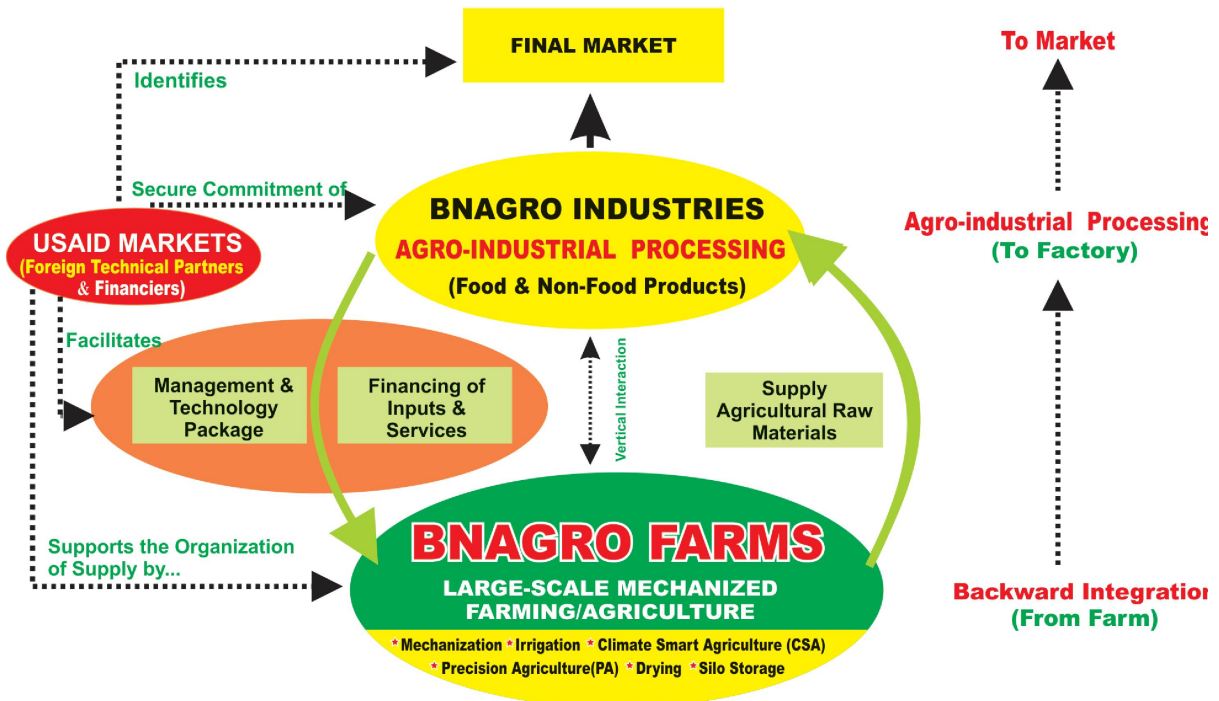
### ***Focus:***

- 1. Agro Industrial Processing (Food and Non-Food Products)***
- 2. Establishment of Large-scale BNAGRO Farms; Mechanization and Irrigation under a backward integration strategy.***
- 3. Design, Establish, Build and Operate Grains and Strategic Food Reserve Silos and Relevant Agro Industrial Infrastructure including special Agro Industrial Processing Facilities (Agro Industrial Parks).***

# BNAGRO



## BNAGRO Benue Agro-Industrial Processing & Economic Transformation Bureau

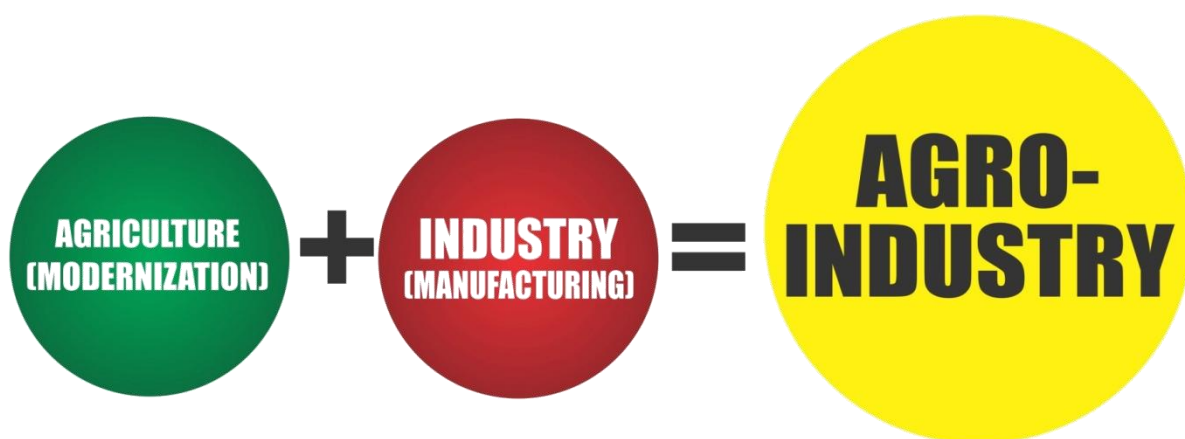


**Note:**

As a Backward Integration Strategy, our Mandate involves the establishment of Large-scale Mechanized and Irrigated nucleus farms (**BNAGRO Farms**), incorporating a smallholder scheme that integrates thousands of youths and smallholder farmers into the various agricultural value chains.

## Understanding the Scope and Fields of Our Mandate

*Our Mandate and scope covers the entire gamut of Agricultural mechanization and modernization in synergy with the Agro-industrial Manufacturing Sector - involving the diversified value chains of agriculture, food processing, agro-forestry, plantation agriculture, sustainable climate smart/precision agriculture and related fields.*



His Excellency, Revd. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia weds Agriculture & Industry!  
*- A Marriage To Birth Grassroots Prosperity!*



## **The Core Mandate & Implementation Strategy:**

- BNAGRO shall undertake, drive, promote and facilitate the establishment of a dynamic Agro-industrial base of the State by forging strategic Public Private Partnerships (PPP) with both local/indigenous and Foreign Investors of proven capacity and Industry Experience.
- BNAGRO through its backward integration strategy will establish large scale mechanized BNAGRO Farms; adopt Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices and Technologies including Precision Agriculture. And act as a catalyst for agricultural modernization and transformation. This will promote Agro-industrial Development, Manufacturing and Economic Transformation of Benue State leveraging the combine power of Agriculture and Industry.
- The establishment & Management of Special Agro-industrial Processing Zones/Estates (SAIPZs), Special Economic Zones (SEZs), and infrastructure.

### **1. CORE MANDATE OF THE BUREAU (ABRIDGED).**

- **Development of Benue State Agro-Industry: Food & Non-Food Processing Sectors of the Economy of Benue State.**

The Core Mandate of Benue Agro-Industrial Processing and Economic Transformation Bureau (BNAGRO), is to undertake, drive, develop and catalyze the emergence of a dynamic Agro-industrial processing sector, particularly the food and non-food processing sectors of the Benue economy.

- The Bureau shall be charged with the overall mandate to fast track the development of the agro-industrial sector, into a vehicle for economic transformation of Benue State.
- As a consequence, this mandate interweaves: agro-industrial processing (food and non-food products), agricultural modernization and the establishment of large-scale factory driven mechanized/commercial agriculture and overall economic transformation that creates: jobs, wealth, food security and poverty reduction. By this strategy, the Bureau shall deliver inclusive growth, development and grassroots prosperity to the people.

- By promoting, managing and driving investments in Benue States agro-industrial sector, the Bureau may achieve this objective by mobilizing funds and acting as a catalyst for growth and transformation.
- The Bureau shall be the Government’s vehicle and business arm established to drive, undertake, promote, facilitate, support and invest in the agro industrial sector of the Benue Economy. This mandate may be realised under strategic **Public Private Partnerships (PPP)** with Foreign and/or Local Investors with proven capacity and industry experience.

**The Bureau shall have the core mandate to undertake the following**

1. **Agro-Industrial Processing** (Food and Non-Food Products)
2. **Agricultural Modernization**, (through the establishment of Large-scale Mechanized, Factory-driven commercial farms and investments under a backward integration strategy).
3. **Manufacturing/Industrialization & Overall Economic Transformation** ...that delivers Inclusive Growth, Development and Grassroots Prosperity.

**Highlight:** Food & Agro-industrial Processing is at the Core of our Mandate. This necessitates industrial-level agro processing combined with the establishment of large scale BNAGRO Farms under a backward Integration strategy that integrates thousands of smallholder farmers into the agricultural value chains.

**2. KEY MANDATE & DEVELOPMENT FOCUS OF THE BUREAU**

1. To harness and leverage the power and potentials of a modernized Agriculture, Food Processing and Manufacturing (Agro Industry), to Promote the development of a dynamic, sustainable & virile Agro Industry and light manufacturing as a vehicle for wealth creation, Food Security, employment generation, improved IGR, poverty reduction, inclusive growth and prosperity.
2. Building a strong diversified Benue economy away from its present culture of subsistence agriculture & dependence on monthly allocations.

3. Attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and removing constraints to domestic manufacturing through the design, construction, and promotion of such infrastructural projects that support agro industrial manufacturing for prosperity. Such infrastructural Projects include Airports, Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAIPZs), Special Economic Zones (SEZs) etc.
4. Building Plug and Play industrial parks to jump start a robust agro industrial revolution by removing the binding constraints to Manufacturing.
5. Unlocking the Agro Industrial Potentials of Benue State for prosperity.
6. Promoting Agricultural Transformation and Agribusiness
7. Promoting local food processing and the manufacturing sectors of the economy
8. Promoting SMEs and facilitating the Building a Dynamic Indigenous Agro Industrial Private Sector
9. To make Benue State a regional manufacturing, logistics and investment hub.
10. To Tackle Food Insecurity.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1. To target and achieve Agricultural modernization; agro industrial processing/ manufacturing and economic transformation.
2. Building a dynamic economy away from the present culture of dependence on the monthly allocations from the federation account; with the BNAGRO serving as the Agro-Industrial Economic Powerhouse and Catalyst for inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development of Benue State.
3. To design, create, facilitate and catalyse the development of a dynamic agro-industrial sector of the state, so as to spur the economic activities and improve the state Internally Generated Revenue (IGR).
4. The Bureau is established to unlock the huge investment potentials in the agro industrial economy or sector of the State
5. To lead and drive the transformation from low productivity smallholder subsistence agriculture to high productivity commercial factory driven agriculture that lays the foundation for inclusive economic growth, development and grassroots prosperity.

6. To open up our rural areas, transforming them into new corridors of prosperity.
7. To target commercial production and agro processing of key high value cash crops for the domestic and export markets.
5. To lay the foundation for transformation from an agrarian, allocation dependent economy to an industrial economy.
6. **Possessing our Possessions:** Taking Possession of and Developing our fallowing lands to resolve challenges of food insecurity and corridors of prosperity
7. **Turning our vast lands into investment centers.**
8. To Transform Benue State's vast endowments of fertile swaths of irrigable lands along the banks of River Benue and its tributaries – into large scale commercial agriculture, and agro-industrial investments of Benue State on a sustainable basis under a strategic public private partnership that delivers grassroots prosperity. This ingenious strategy will see the transformation of these vast lands from killing zones into new corridors of rural and grassroots prosperity – that delivers food and physical security; jobs & poverty reduction.
9. To reposition Benue State as the true Food Basket State of the Nation
10. To transform the state from its present culture of low-productivity subsistence agriculture to modern commercial, factory-driven mechanized farming and agribusiness, that delivers prosperity.
11. Building a strong and diversified Benue economy by laying the foundations for structural transformation and agricultural modernization that will boost farm output and supply the necessary raw materials to the manufacturing industry.
12. To pursue structural transformation that lifts workers away from low paying, low productivity subsistence agriculture to higher paying, high productivity jobs in manufacturing and agro industrial processing.
13. To maximize the exploitation of our natural resource endowment to achieve value-addition that creates wealth, jobs and prosperity.
14. **To Adopt and Carry-out Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), and Precision Agriculture.** To study, customize, adopt, design and operate sustainable agricultural practices including **Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), and**

**Precision Agriculture** and other innovative technologies that boost farm output and operational efficiency. To adopt such integrated approaches to managing landscapes (crop land, livestock, forests and fisheries) that address the interconnected challenges of food security and climate change.

15. To Design, Finance, Construct, Operate and Manage Large Scale Irrigation Schemes along the Banks of River Benue and Its Tributaries.
16. To identify large swaths of fallowing Benue lands, design, construct, establish and operate large scale irrigation schemes for year round cultivation with multiple harvest per year (with particular focus on dry season/irrigation farming of targeted high yielding crops for both the domestic and export markets. Such irrigation schemes may include: Surface Irrigation, Centre Pivot Systems, Drip Irrigation and other precision technologies. Through Strategic Partnerships (PPP).
17. To Develop the State's Agro Industrial sector, modernize and transform agriculture, promote and boost the agricultural sector and usher in a new era of grassroots prosperity.
18. **Achieving Food Security.**
19. To boost food production so as to help resolve the challenges of food insecurity.
20. **Poverty Reduction**
21. **Employment Generation** (Job Creation for youth and women)
22. **Inclusive Growth and Prosperity:**
23. To achieve inclusive growth, development and grassroots prosperity by leveraging the combined potentials, power and synergy of agriculture and industry (Agro Industry) to deliver home-grown prosperity.
24. **To Diversify the Economy of Benue State**, and move it away from its present dependence on monthly allocation from the Federation Account.
25. To boost domestic food production, processing and supply so as to tackle the challenges of food shortages, rising food prices and economic hardships of the people.

26. ***BNAGRO: Reducing Post Harvest Losses.*** To design, adopt, establish, carry out and deploy strategies and technologies to reduce Post Harvest Losses of Farm Output.
27. **To Transform our vast, fertile, undeveloped agricultural lands** (into modern large-scale investment centers for modern commercial mechanized agriculture and food processing industries.
28. To help contribute to food security, wealth creation, employment generation (particularly for youth and women), poverty reduction, inclusive growth and development of the economy.

#### 4. **CRITICAL INVESTMENT PROFILES & PROJECTS.**

The Bureau is established to carry out such Critical Investment Profiles and Projects including but not limited to:

1. Establishment and Operation of Large-scale Modern Mechanized Farms under a Backward Integration Strategy to Boost Farm Output and Provide Raw Materials for the Industrial Sector.
2. Establishment and Operation of Food Processing and Diversified Agro-Industrial Projects.
3. Design, Build, Install and Manage Strategic Grains and Food Reserve Silos to assure Food Security.
4. To Design, Oversee, Coordinate, Facilitate, Manage and Operate such critical Agro-Industrial Projects like: Agro-Industrial Parks, Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAIPZs), Plug and Play Industrial Parks including such infrastructure that support the Mandate of the Bureau.
5. To Reduce Post Harvest Losses by Promoting affordable technologies that process and preserve farm output.
6. To Design, Establish , Manage and Operate Modern Irrigation Schemes by integrating Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)/Precision Agriculture in Boosting Farm Output, Food Security and Jobs for all Youths.
7. To Establish and Operate Large-scale Plantation Agriculture for: Oil Palm, Citrus, and Agro Forestry for commercial Timber and Paper Products.

8. To Support SMEs to adopt, use and operate very efficient, affordable, Small Capacity, Process Equipment and Technologies
9. To Establish Strategic Partnerships with Suppliers of Farm Machinery, Food Processing Technologies, Farm Input Suppliers (fertilizers, herbicides, certified seeds, crop protection chemicals), Processors and Off-takers.
10. Direct Processing of Cereals like Rice, Oil Seeds and Livestock Feeds etc.

### **PART III – FUNCTIONS, COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF THE BUREAU**

#### **5. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE BUREAU**

The Functions and Power of the Bureau shall be:

1. To act as the business arm of the Government in relation to the various sectors of **Agribusiness**, including: the establishment of large-scale cultivation and processing of targeted high yielding crops for the domestic and export markets – under strategic Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) as the Bureau may deem fit.
2. To act as the business arm of government in the agro industrial sector with the mandate to undertake, carryout, promote, and facilitate the growth and development of the entire gamut of the fields of agricultural modernization, Agro Industrial Processing and Manufacturing that covers the entire agric value chain and delivers overall economic transformation of Benue State.
3. To act as the dedicated **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)** for Food Processing and other Agro-industrial Projects covered by our mandate.
4. To act as an alternative vehicle for the implementation of state’s agricultural modernization program; agro-industrial processing and overall economic transformation agenda.
5. **To act as a catalyst** to amongst other things; drive, promote, undertake, facilitate and coordinate diversified investments in Agro-industry, manufacturing/ industrialization; economic transformation and related matters.
6. **To unlock the potentials of the Benue economy** including the entire agro industrial value chains and agricultural output.

7. **To leverage the combined power of agriculture and the manufacturing sector (Agro-industry) to fast track development and deliver home grown/grassroots prosperity to the Benue People.**
8. To act as a catalyst and driver of inclusive growth, economic development and grassroots prosperity for both the rural and urban areas.
9. To reposition Benue state as the agro industrial hub and food basket of the nation
10. To facilitate rapid agro-industrial transformation that opens up our vast arable lands in the rural areas into corridors of untold prosperity (rather than poverty) for the local population.
11. To key in, design, adopt, domesticate and implement key agricultural policy initiatives of the Federal Government in targeted sectors, crops and agro industry (including the initiatives and revitalization of cotton and textile industry), and promote the achievements of same objectives within the State.
12. To transform our rural areas into new corridors of economic prosperity via its mandate.
13. To design, establish, operate, and manage large scale mechanized farms of targeted crops and other sectors, under a backward integration strategy that integrates thousands of Benue's smallholder farmers into different agriculture value chains as the Bureau may deem fit.
14. To provide the requisite infrastructure including but not limited to rural feeder roads and basic amenities like boreholes, earth dams.
15. To design, construct operate/manage various irrigation schemes, for year round cultivation to boost food supply.
16. To Adopt, and implement prevision agriculture/sustainable agriculture and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) to attract local and foreign investors.
17. Adopt and promote the switch from fossil to renewable energy sources that mitigate against global warming and resistant climate change.
18. To prompt the growth and development of a dynamic strong agro-industrial sector of the state thereby building generational prosperity.
19. To do all things incidental to the realization of above objectives.

20. To undertake any other activity as may be decided/directed by the Governor.
21. The Bureau shall be located in the Office of the Governor and shall not be subject to the direction and control or supervision of any authority or person in the performance of its functions under this law other than the Governor.
22. To deliver on its mandate, the Bureau shall have powers to execute or carry out any aspects of its investment or business mandate under a distinct, registered juristic body or company as may be expedient and in conformity with business and commercial viability of such business portfolios.
23. Power to Create Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with reputable partners under a Strategic PPP
24. The Bureau shall have powers to realize any aspects of its mandate by forming strategic public private partnerships with reputable organizations or consortia to raise funding and operate such ventures through the creation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
25. Power to design, establish, raise necessary funding or capital requirements (CAPEX + OPEX) and operate diversified/integrated investment project under strategic public private partnership.
26. To undertake any other activity as may be decided/directed by the Governor

## SUMMARY OF OUR CORE MANDATE

**Benue Agro-Industrial Processing and Economic Transformation Bureau (BNAGRO)** was envisioned and established by His Excellency Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia:

- To carry out, drive, establish, execute, undertake and operate the agro industrial processing of various food and non-food products from raw agricultural commodities.
- In addition, BNAGRO was mandated to establish, operate and manage large-scale factory-driven mechanized farms (BNAGRO FARMS) under a backward integration strategy specifically designed to incorporate thousands of smallholder farmers into the various agricultural value chains. The Core Mandate of the Bureau covers the broad fields of Agro Industry; **from Farm, to Factory to Market/End Users.**
- The Bureau is envisioned to successfully execute, implement, and carry out practical business-like/commercial operations including: on-farm Mechanization/ Agricultural Modernization, Factory-level Agro-Industrial Processing and Economic Transformation Programs by carefully circumventing the official bureaucratic bottlenecks, red-tape and inefficiencies associated with the public service.
- BNAGRO was established to act as a Catalyst for Agricultural Modernization, Agro-Industrial Development, Manufacturing and Economic Transformation of Benue State leveraging the combined power of Agriculture and Manufacturing Industry.
- BNAGRO shall undertake, drive, promote and facilitate the establishment of a dynamic food processing & Agro-industrial base of the State by forging strategic Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), with both local/indigenous and Foreign Investors of Proven capacity and Industry Experience.
- BNAGRO shall design, establish, mobilize, attract and marshal project funds, manage and operate large-scale mechanized farms, irrigation schemes & agro-industrial ventures/investment projects, and shall act as a dedicated **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)** in such Agro-Industrial Investment Projects.

