



**KATSINA STATE POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF SOLID MINERAL RESOURCES**





Table of Contents

Page No.

1. Introduction	4
2. Policy Objectives	5
3. Mission Statement	6
4. Vision Statement	6
5. Strategies and Functional Roles of Key Policy Stakeholders	7
5.1 Role of Government Agencies	7 - 15
5.1.1 Katsina State Exploration and Mining Company (KEMCO).	
5.1.2 Ministry of Environment.	
5.1.3 Ministry of Resource Development.	
5.1.4 Katsina State Economic Council (KTSEC) and Katsina Investment Promotion Agency (KIPA).	
5.2 Collaboration with Stakeholders	15 - 17
5.2.1 Private Investors.	
5.2.2 Community Leaders.	
5.2.3 Civil Organisations.	
6. Policy Statements Across Sectors	17 - 22
6.1 Governance and Regulation.	
6.2 Environmental Protection.	
6.3 Community Development and Collaboration.	
6.4 Exploration, Resource Development, and Quantification:	
6.5 Institutional Strengthening and Reforms, Technology Transfer, and Capacity Building	
6.6 Wealth Creation and Economic Empowerment.	
7. Implementation Plans and Timelines.	22 - 23
• Phase 1: Policy Adoption and Institutional Setup.	
• Phase 2: Capacity Building and Infrastructure Development.	
• Phase 3: Stakeholder Engagement and Regulatory Framework Establishment.	
• Phase 4: Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms Implementation.	
8. Monitoring and Evaluation	23 - 24
• Mechanisms for Monitoring Policy Implementation.	
• Evaluation Criteria for Assessing Progress and Impact.	
• Periodic Review and Revision of the Policy Document.	
Challenges and Solutions	24 - 25
Conclusion	26



List of Acronyms:

ASM - Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining.

CDPs - Community Development Projects.

ESG - Environment, Social, and Governance.

HND - Higher National Diploma.

JVA - Joint Venture Agreement.

JVCs - Joint Venture Companies.

KEMCO - Katsina State Exploration and Mining Company.

KIPA - Katsina Investment Promotion Agency.

KTSEC - Katsina State Economic Council.

LSM - Large Scale Miners.

MDAs - Ministries, Departments, and Agencies.

MIREMCO - Mineral Resources and Environmental Management Committee.

MEMP - Mining Environmental Management Plan.

PPP - Public-Private Partnership

UMYUK - Umaru Musa Yar'adua University Katsina.



1. Introduction:

Katsina State is endowed with a diverse array of mineral resources, including metals, gemstones, energy sources, and industrial minerals such as Lithium, Gold, Cobalt, Nickel, Chromate, Copper, Columbite, Glass-Sand, Kaolin, Iron Ore, Diamond, and Granite, among others. These resources present a significant opportunity for catalysing economic growth and development across the state, given their widespread distribution across the Local Government Areas (LGAs). Nearly every LGA among the 34 in the state boasts commercial occurrences or deposits of various solid minerals. Investment in these resources will transform the economic landscape of the state and stimulate economic activities in multiple sectors.

As the global economy transitions towards a future increasingly reliant on solid minerals, the Nigerian government is taking essential steps to maximise economic benefits from its solid mineral sector. In line with this national effort, the Government of Katsina State must proactively develop and exploit its untapped mineral potential to position the state for economic viability, financial autonomy, and sustainable development. Despite ownership and development of solid mineral resources in Nigeria being on the Exclusive Legislative List of the Nigerian constitution, the Katsina State Economic Council has prepared a strategy document, Roadmap for Institutional Reforms and Development Strategies for Katsina State Exploration and Mining Company (KEMCO), to assist the state in tapping into the national solid mineral sector through KEMCO for both its economic growth and national development.

However, the large-scale exploitation of solid minerals globally poses profound social and environmental challenges. These include acute degradation, pollution, community displacement, and conflicts. Efforts to remediate and mitigate these impacts often fall short, particularly in cases of open-cast mining that can displace communities and leave lasting scars on the environment.

Likewise, the prevalence of unregulated artisanal and industrial-scale mining activities in Katsina State exacerbates environmental degradation, posing risks to human health and biodiversity. Pollution from mining operations, including acid mine drainage and waste products, threatens subsurface freshwater reservoirs, agricultural activities, and community well-being. Additionally, mining activities expose workers and communities to health risks from toxic chemicals used in mining processes.



Moreover, mining activities disrupt agricultural activities and local livelihoods, leading to conflicts and poverty in vulnerable communities. Illegalities and conflicts often accompany mining operations, underscoring the need for sustainable and responsible practices in the sector.

In response to these challenges and opportunities, this policy document outlines guidelines established by the Katsina State Government in accordance with the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act, its regulations, and international environmental laws. Through a multi-faceted approach encompassing regulatory requirements, environmental safeguards, community engagement strategies, and capacity-building initiatives, this policy aims to maximise the socio-economic benefits of solid mineral activities while mitigating adverse environmental and social impacts.

The State Government is committed to addressing the complex interplay between mining activities, environmental sustainability, public health, and socio-economic development. To achieve this, the policy document is designed to foster more inclusive and resilient business activities in the solid mineral sector that will contribute positively to the overall well-being and prosperity of Katsina State and Nigeria at large.

2. Policy Objectives:

1. **Enhance Economic Contribution:** The primary objective of this policy is to leverage the increasing demand and prices of solid minerals in the global market to significantly boost their contribution to Katsina State's economy and Nigeria as a whole.
2. **Promote Geoscience Data Generation:** Deploy advanced technologies and data management systems and generate high-quality geoscience data to provide essential information for effective decision-making, exploration, and sustainable management of solid mineral resources.
3. **Combat Illegal Mining:** Implement measures to combat illegal mining activities while integrating artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) operators into the operations of the Katsina State Exploration and Mining Company (KEMCO), ensuring regulatory compliance, formalisation of their activities, and capacity-building initiatives for ASM operators.
4. **Poverty Alleviation:** Alleviate poverty through the promotion of ASM operations and the implementation of Community Development Projects (CDPs) aimed at enhancing socio-economic conditions in mining communities, with a focus on monitoring and evaluating the impact on poverty alleviation.



5. Youth Employment: Create employment opportunities for Katsina State's burgeoning youth population by promoting skill development and entrepreneurship linked to industry demands within the solid mineral sector.
6. Establish Value Addition Industries: Establish value addition and processing industries to enhance the value chain of solid minerals, fostering wealth creation, generating employment opportunities, and promoting local entrepreneurship and innovation.
7. Attract Private Investment: Attract continuous private investment capital to Katsina State by providing a conducive business environment, transparent regulatory frameworks, and investment incentives within the solid mineral sector.
8. Environmental Protection: Ensure environmental protection through the implementation of sustainable mining practices, environmental impact assessments, and adherence to national and international environmental standards.
9. Foster Community-Mining Operator Relationships: Foster peaceful and symbiotic relationships between host communities and mining operators by promoting mutual benefit, community engagement, shared prosperity, and strategies for enhancing community participation in decision-making processes related to mining activities and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms.

These objectives are designed to guide the formulation and implementation of policies and programs aimed at harnessing the full potential of Katsina State's mineral resources while ensuring sustainable development, environmental sustainability, and harmonious community-mining operator relationships.

3. Mission Statement:

To unlock the economic potential of Katsina State's mineral resources through collaborative policies and strategies that promote responsible operations, value addition, job creation, poverty alleviation, inclusive development, and peaceful community-mining operator relationships.

4. Vision Statement:

To establish Katsina State as a leading hub for sustainable mineral resource development, fostering economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, and social well-being for all.



5. Strategies and Functional Roles of Key Policy Stakeholders.

Achieving the objectives outlined in this policy depends on the state government's pursuit of various strategies for effective implementation, as detailed below. Equally crucial is the active participation and cooperation of diverse key stakeholders, each entrusted with distinct roles and responsibilities while recognising the necessity for collaboration where these roles overlap:

5.1 Role of Government Agencies:

5.1.1 Katsina State Exploration and Mining Company (KEMCO):

KEMCO, as a state-owned company, will:

1. Actively seek collaboration and support from various levels of governance, private investors, and development partners to effectively implement the proposed Roadmap for Institutional Reforms and Development Strategies prepared and endorsed by the Katsina State Economic Council (KTSEC).
2. Have the overall responsibility for exploration, development, and management of all its solid mineral concessions in compliance with national and state laws and regulations communicated by the State Government or any other legally recognised authority by the State Government.
3. Have the responsibility to receive and process or dispose applications for the transfer, renewal, modification, or relinquishment of its concessions, but with strict adherence to transparency and legally defined regulations and procedures set by the State Government.
4. He mandated with the responsibility to transfer its acquired titles/concessions and permits to interested investor(s) upon receiving a Notice of Readiness from the investor(s) who have been vetted for capacity, reputation including environmental and community development compliance, and readiness by KEMCO.
5. Have the authority to approve, reject, or suspend the incorporation of private operators as Joint Venture Companies to conduct exploration, development, and



exploitation activities on its concessions in alignment with stipulated procedures and regulations agreed upon by both parties.

6. Ensure that operations by the JVCs are at the level of commitment and ensures that their operations comply with agreed-upon procedures to enhance safe mining practices, mineral production, and revenue generation.
7. Provide support to JVC in their interactions with the Federal Ministry of Mines and Steel Development to facilitate any operational agreements and processes between KEMCO and the JVC,
8. Assist in the provision of security to safeguard the operations of the JVC and its assets, including personnel,
9. Engage with critical stakeholders, including local communities, landowners, traditional institutions, artisanal and small-scale miners (ASM), youth groups, and trade organisations, to ensure acceptance and smooth operation of mining activities by JVCs
10. Facilitate the provision of Land Titles and necessary infrastructure to support the operations and success of Joint Venture Projects as agreed upon by all involved parties,
11. Ensure that JVCs operate in accordance with best practices and international standards to promote sustainable mining practices,
12. Collaborate with Katsina State Ministry of Environment, the host communities, and other critical stakeholders to tracks and audits all operations of JVCs to maintain transparency and accuracy across its entire chain of mining business (from exploration to production, processing and value addition),
13. Have the authority to suspend or revoke agreements with JVC operators found to be in breach of operational agreements,



14. Be responsible for collecting, processing, archiving, and disseminating geoscience data to stakeholders and potential investors while ensuring strict compliance with confidentiality protocols,
15. Collaborate with academic and research institutions from across the world, development partners, and global corporations to facilitate the continuous development of expertise necessary for the sustainable development of Katsina State's solid mineral resources. This includes:
 - (a) Implementing comprehensive training programs for KEMCO's staff to enhance their competencies in areas such as mining regulations, environmental protection, community engagement, and project management. Thus, ensuring that the team is well-equipped to effectively carry out their responsibilities.
 - (b) Facilitating or contributing to the establishment of research centres, faculties, and degree programs such as Exploration Geosciences, Economic Geology, Mineralogy, and Mining Engineering across state-owned academic institutions like Umaru Musa Yar'adua University and Hassan Usman Polytechnic.
 - (c) Providing youth training programs in value addition and manufacturing to empower the local population with skills that align with the state's mineral resources development goals.
 - (d) Showcasing the state's potential in critical energy transition minerals to attract investments for battery and solar cell manufacturing, thereby positioning Katsina State as a key player in the renewable energy sector and contributing to economic growth and sustainability.



5.1.2 Katsina State Ministry of Environment:

The Ministry of Environment will play a crucial role in providing technical expertise and guidance on environmental sustainability and management concerning mining operations. It is tasked with developing and enforcing policies to safeguard the environment and promote sustainable mining practices.

All mining operations and business activities within the state's mining sector must strictly adhere to environmental regulations. The State Government, through the Ministry of Environment, will collaborate with (1) KEMCO's Department of Environmental Regulations & Compliance, and Community Development, and (2) Katsina State Mineral Resources and Environmental Management Committee (MIREMCO) to:

1. Establish environmental procedures and requirements that will govern all mining activities in the state in alignment with the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act, its regulations, and the Katsina State Environmental Regulations.
2. Ensure that no mining operation is permitted in Katsina State without Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) issued by the Katsina State Ministry of Environment.
 - (a) The issuance of ECA to any operator is contingent upon the submission and approval of a Mining Environmental Management Plan (MEMP) containing Environmental Evaluation Studies, Technology deployment details, Inherent and Potential Environmental Risks, comprehensive plans for risk mitigation and remediation with clear implementation schedules.
 - (b) Any changes in the proposed operation require the submission of an updated MEMP reflecting such modifications.
 - (c) The Ministry of Environment reserves the right to approve or reject any operator's MEMP, but the ministry must adhere to transparency, integrity, and legally approved procedures.



3. Monitor and enforce environmental compliance in all mining operations within the state as mandated by State environmental law.
4. Collaborate with host community stakeholders and professionals to address and resolve socio-environmental issues arising from mining activities, including water contamination, air pollution, deforestation, habitat destruction, land degradation, community displacement, social conflicts, and health and safety risks for operators and host communities.
5. Stipulate and rigorously enforce procedures for mine closure, land reclamation, and restoration.
6. Ensure compliance with Community Development Agreements by all title holders and mining operators statewide.
7. Collaborate with all key stakeholders to regularly audit the specified requirements and regulations to uphold continuous environmentally and socially responsible practices in all mining operations throughout the state.

5.1.3 Katsina State Ministry of Resource Development:

The Katsina State Ministry of Resource Development will play a central role in policy formulation, and a supportive role in collaboration with KEMCO, KIPA, and other relevant agencies to streamline regulatory processes for investors, and engage in promoting investment opportunities in the solid mineral sector. To achieve these objectives effectively, the ministry will undertake the following strategies and functional roles:

1. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- (a) Conduct regular assessments to monitor the implementation of policies across various sectors impacting mining businesses in the state.
- (b) Evaluate the effectiveness of regulatory reforms and periodically assess the impact on the mining sector.
- (c) Identify areas for improvement and recommend reforms to enhance the ease of doing business in the solid mineral sector.

2. Investment Incentives:

- (a) Develop a comprehensive framework for tax breaks, subsidies, and incentives to attract investments in the solid minerals sector.
- (b) Facilitate relevant authority to offer reduced royalty rates for new projects to encourage investment and exploration activities.

3. Collaboration for Capacity Building and Information Dissemination:

- (a) Support KEMCO in enhancing the capabilities of its Exploration and Resource Assessment Department.
- (b) Collaborate closely with KEMCO and KIPA to effectively market the state's solid mineral potential to both domestic and international investors.
- (c) Invest in advanced technologies and training to enable detailed mapping of mineral resources, identification of priority exploration areas, and provision of accurate data to potential investors.
- (d) Provide detailed information on investment opportunities, regulatory requirements, and support services to facilitate investor decision-making.

4. Infrastructure Development:

- (a) Prioritise critical infrastructure projects essential for supporting mining operations and business activities.
- (b) Invest in road networks, power supply, water resources, and other essential facilities to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of mining operations.

5. Transparency and Anti-Corruption Measures:

- (a) Implement robust measures to ensure transparency in all regulatory processes and agreements between investors and the government.
- (b) Establish mechanisms to prevent corruption and enhance investor confidence in the sector.



6. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Development:

- (a) Engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities, industry players, and environmental groups.
- (b) Address concerns, facilitate dialogue, and foster collaboration to promote sustainable development in the mining sector.
- (c) Implement community development initiatives in areas affected by mining activities and facilitate fair benefit-sharing agreements to ensure local communities benefit from mining operations.

7. Support Compliance and Enforcement:

- (a) Supporting the Environmental Authorities in ensuring strict compliance with mining regulations and environmental standards will be a critical role.
- (b) Support regular inspections of mining sites by environmental authorities to monitor adherence to regulations and impose penalties for any violations to deter non-compliance.

5.1.4 Katsina Investment Promotion Agency (KIPA):

KIPA will collaborate closely with the Katsina State Economic Council, KEMCO, Ministry of Resource Development, and all other relevant agencies and stakeholders to identify investment opportunities and priorities, eliminate bottlenecks, and maximise the socio-economic benefits of mineral resource development for Katsina State.

KIPA will:

1. Serve as a comprehensive resource hub for investors interested in Katsina State's solid mineral resources, offering detailed information on investment opportunities, and regulatory requirements, and guiding investors through the application process.
2. Conduct in-depth market research and analysis to identify emerging trends, market demands, and competitive landscapes in the global solid minerals sector. This information will enable KIPA to tailor its marketing strategies effectively and attract the right investors.



3. Actively promote Katsina State's solid minerals potential through targeted marketing campaigns, such as organising investment summits, mineral shows, and participating in industry events to engage with potential investors both domestically and internationally.
4. Provide a diverse range of services to investors, including support with site selection, facilitating meetings with key government officials, and assisting in navigating the legal and regulatory frameworks governing mineral resource development.
5. Advocate for policy reforms and incentives that foster investment in the solid minerals sector, aligning with sustainable development goals and promoting responsible mining practices for long-term socio-economic growth.
6. Develop training programs and workshops for KIPA staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in investment promotion, negotiation techniques, and project management. This will empower the agency to provide high-quality support and guidance to investors throughout investment lifecycles.

5.1.5 Katsina State Economic Council (KTSEC):

The Katsina State Economic Council, along with its Sub-committee on Solid Minerals, will provide strategic guidance and policy direction concerning the development of the state's solid mineral sector. It will act as a unifying platform to align all key stakeholders in the state's mining industry, fostering collaboration to leverage their collective strengths in realising Katsina State's aspirations in the solid mineral sector.

The State Economic Council is tasked with coordinating all stakeholders and processes essential for positioning Katsina State as a premier destination for solid minerals business in Nigeria. To achieve this, the Council will:

1. Function as the primary policymaking body overseeing all mining activities in the state to ensure alignment with the state's economic goals and objectives.
2. Strengthen collaboration with KIPA, KEMCO, Ministry of Resource Development, and other stakeholders by establishing formal mechanisms for regular meetings,



joint planning sessions, and information sharing to ensure alignment of goals and strategies.

3. Harmonise efforts with all investment-relevant MDAs and stakeholders to create an investor-friendly business environment through well-defined fiscal, legal, and regulatory frameworks.
4. Coordinate the activities of various government agencies, private investors, and stakeholders operating within the state's solid minerals ecosystem, fostering synergy to advance the state's economic development agenda.
5. Initiate or influence reforms and provide recommendations where necessary to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the solid minerals sector.
6. Offer specialised interventions to facilitate prompt and efficient operations of all stakeholders involved in the sector.
7. In response to the new Federal policy on mining that emphasises local processing and value addition of solid mineral resources before export by investors as a prerequisite for obtaining licenses, KTSEC will collaborate with KEMCO, KIPA, and the State Ministry of Resource Development to promote investment in mineral beneficiation activities and capacity-building in Katsina State. This collaboration will involve providing incentives and benefits for projects supporting local downstream beneficiation, thereby enhancing the value chain and economic impact of the state's solid mineral resources.

5.2 Collaboration with Stakeholders:

5.2.1 Private Investors:

Both Large Scale Miners (LSM) and Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (ASM) will receive robust support from the government to stimulate private investment, foster innovation, and encourage entrepreneurial activities within Katsina State's solid mineral sector.



1. ASM will leverage the expertise, resources and capacity of LSM to enhance their operations and maximise their income.
2. ASM will formalise their operations by establishing organised associations as platforms for legitimising their activities, distinguishing themselves from illegal miners, fostering cohesion and unity within the ASM community to effectively advocate for their interests and address common challenges, and facilitate their access to governmental support schemes and incentives.
3. LSM and the Katsina State government will engage in capacity-building programs for ASM (who are mostly host-communities) tailored to their specific needs and challenges, equipping them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and tools to operate safely, responsibly, and in compliance with relevant mining laws and regulations, as well as enhance their productivity and contribute to the sustainable growth of the mining sector in Katsina State.

5.2.2 Community Leaders and Civil Organisations:

Community leaders from traditional and religious institutions, youth groups, civil organisations including Human Rights and Environmental NGOs, and other stakeholders are integral to the successful implementation of sustainable mining practices in Katsina State. Their roles as outlined below is paramount to ensuring inclusive and responsible development across the entire mining value chain.

1. Participation in decision-making processes, environmental management, and conflict resolution.
2. Fostering a harmonious relationship between investors or operators and host communities.
3. Observing mining operations and solid minerals business activities in their communities to ensure strict compliance with the laws and regulations of the State, and reporting any illegality to the nearest authority.



4. Ensuring strict compliance with the Community Development Projects to be executed by investors/operators and fair sharing of benefits by the community leaders.
5. Reporting any corruption, nepotism, or any other undemocratic practices to the Government.

6. Policy Statements Across Sectors:

6.1 Governance and Regulation.

Katsina State government will:

1. Domesticate and strictly enforce the implementation of relevant legislation: the latest Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act, Nigerian Minerals and Mining Regulations, and any other pertinent laws sanctioned by the State Government as guiding principles for all mining activities within the state to ensure compliance and adherence to national standards.
2. Enforce the adoption of safe mining practices by all operators in Katsina State, including the provision of training, resources, and support to workers to enhance workplace safety and mitigate risks associated with mining operations.
3. Facilitate the registration of ASM Cooperatives and establish linkages with KEMCO to provide ASM operators with access to markets and ensure fair and competitive returns in accordance with Nigerian Mining Regulations.
4. Enforce transparency and accountability between government MDAs, operators, host communities and the general public to foster trust, integrity, and responsible stewardship.
5. Establish mechanisms for robust oversight of Joint Venture Companies (JVCs) including regular monitoring, performance evaluations, and compliance audits to



uphold contractual agreements, protect public interest, and optimise the socio-economic benefits derived from joint ventures.

6. Carefully select Katsina State Strategic Solid Minerals in line with the state's economic targets and global demand by re-evaluating the list of National Strategic Minerals to include battery minerals and minerals of the future such as lithium, nickel, cobalt, tin and other minerals that have high global economic values and increasing demand.

6.2 Environmental Protection:

1. Collaborate with federal agencies to identify and protect fragile ecosystems from mining activities.
2. Embed environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in the mining sector by enforcing commitment to addressing ESG issues in all aspects of solid minerals business cycle so as to deliver long-term benefits to government, shareholders, workers, and host communities.
3. Strictly enforce compliance to environmental, health and safety standards, including the adoption of environmentally sound technologies and practices by both ASM and Large Scale Miners (LSM) in compliance to the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act and its regulations.
4. Develop implementable, transparent, and sustainable environmental monitoring schemes for all mine sites.
5. Develop or evaluate environmental protection and rehabilitation programs to be funded by the operators.
6. Establish an environmental protection and rehabilitation fund to guarantee the environmental obligations of operators including those that are in JVA with KEMCO.



7. Provide adequate resources to strengthen all stakeholders involved in protecting the environment from unhealthy mining operations.

6.3 Community Development and Collaboration:

1. Collaborate with security agencies, community leaders from traditional and religious institutions, youth and civil organisations, and all other critical stakeholders to ensure that all illegal mining is eliminated and prevent further loss of economic value.
2. Government and investors will involve community leaders in all decision-making processes to ensure transparency, inclusiveness, and sustainable mining ecosystem that balances economic prosperity with environmental stewardship and social well-being.
3. Establish Zonal Environmental Compliance and Community Development Committees in each of the three senatorial zones with representatives from (1) the Nigerian Police Force (1) the Ministry of Environment, (2) a legal adviser, (3) the Katsina State Emirate Council, and (4) religious leaders, and tasked the committees with the following:
 - (a) Monitor and enforce compliance to environmental regulations and community development projects within their respective zones.
 - (b) Proactively address any potential socio-environmental issues arising from mining activities.
 - (c) In cases of non-compliance by any license holders or mining operators, the committees will collaborate with the affected host communities to seek legal redress and persuade the Federal Government to revoke the investors' licenses.

6.4 Exploration, Resource Development, and Quantification:

1. Provide funds to carry out exploration activities and generate baseline data to encourage further private investment for detailed exploration, development, and exploitation of solid minerals.



2. Intensify exploration and targeted development of critical energy transition minerals such as battery minerals within the state to position the state's mining industry well aligned with the global energy of the future.
3. Establish a digital database of all mining activities in the state and prepare the first Katsina State minerals map for easy delineation of minerals' locations across the state.
4. Quantify and prepare geologic models of the most promising minerals concessions to aid competition amongst investors and encourage prompt investment decisions.
5. Ensure solid mineral resources are produced in high quantity, and quality while ensuring environmental sustainability.
6. Provide valuable geoscience data to ASM who are in a business agreement with KEMCO to develop and procure mineral resources for KEMCO.

6.5 Institutional Strengthening and Reforms, Technology Transfer, and Capacity Building:

Katsina State Government will:

1. Collaborate with research and academic institutions across the world to establish research centres, faculties, and degree programs in priority fields such as Exploration Geosciences, Economic Geology, Mineralogy, and Mining Engineering, among others, at Umaru Musa Yar'adua University and other state-owned tertiary institutions to produce the continuous supply of adequate manpower and expertise required to handle the state's solid mineral sector.
2. Enforce and provide all the necessary resources and support for KEMCO to implement the proposed Roadmap for Institutional reforms and Development Strategies as prepared and endorsed by the Katsina State Economic Council.



3. Provision of extension services such as entrepreneurial training, and environmental, health, and safety training to to ASM to minimise risks and disasters in their operations.
4. Facilitate access to environmentally sound technologies for ASM for their mining operations.
5. Collaborate with development partners such as the World Bank and provide support on training, access to equipment and funding, and implementing safe mining practices.
6. Train, recruit, and incorporate illegal miners who prove to have extensive knowledge of geology and the state's mineral endowment into KEMCO's activities to assist in its various operations. targeted support by the Government on training, access to equipment and funding, and implementing safe mining practices. T

6.6 Wealth Creation and Economic Empowerment:

Katsina State government will

1. Facilitate access to funding for ASM.
2. Foster symbiotic mining activities between LSM and ASM to maximise the economic value of the state's solid mineral resources.
3. Making the state business atmosphere investor-friendly through fiscal, legal, and regulatory frameworks and policies that will attract continuous investment capital.
4. Make the solid minerals business more responsive to the needs of Katsina State people.
5. Promote investment in mineral beneficiation activities through incentives and benefits for projects that support further local downstream beneficiation.



6. Enhance professionalism, stimulate capacity building, and enhance revenue generation through the provision of input materials and resources for local processing and lapidary companies before export.
7. Promote environmentally friendly and economically viable practices for wealth creation and poverty reduction.
8. Support the establishment of joint-venture research and training programs, processing, and lapidary companies for jewellery manufacturing and value addition.
9. Organising, formalising, and supporting ASM operations to develop the local economy and create job opportunities for youth.

7. Implementation Plans and Timelines

Phases	Action	Timeline (2024-2027)	Proposed Key Outcomes
Phase I	Policy Adoption and Institutional Setup.	2024 – 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy approval before the fourth quarter of 2024.
Phase II	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity Building, 2. Licencing, 3. Exploration, Resource Assessment and Development Activities 	Continuously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence degree programs in exploration geosciences, economic geology, environmental geosciences, and mineralogy at UMYUK by 2025. • Launch a HND program in Mining Engineering and Geophysical Engineering at Hassan Usman Polytechnic Katsina by 2025. • Design a timetable for step-by-step full implementation of the KTSEC's proposed Roadmap for Institutional Reforms and Development Strategy for KEMCO before the end of 2025.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select strategy minerals for Katsina State before 2025 and acquire licences for all promising prospects across the State as soon as possible. • Begin exploration activities and Resource Assessment by 2025.
Phase III	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholder Engagement & Regulatory Framework Establishment. 2. Bringing private investments 	2025-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a well-defined bottom-up community structure to engage in all decision-making regarding mining business activities in their respective localities by the fourth quarter of 2024. • Successfully position Katsina among the top 10 states in Nigeria for ease of doing business by the second quarter of 2025. • Attract at least 2-3 major investors and establish at least one Joint Venture Company, preferably in the energy transition sector, by the second quarter of 2026. • Elevate the solid minerals sector of the state economy/GDP above all other revenue-generating sectors in the State and position the State as the leading player in the Nigerian solid minerals sector by the first quarter of 2027.
Phase IV	Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms	Continuously	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start measuring results and achieving significant milestones by the second quarter of 2025, while continuously identifying and addressing challenges.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation:

KTSEC will be committed to establishing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress of MDAs as well as community leaders engaged in the implementation of policies and strategies aimed at advancing the sustainable development of solid mineral resources in Katsina State. Regular quarterly ministerial briefings and bi-annual reviews will

be conducted to assess the progress made, evaluate the impact of initiatives, and proactively identify and address any challenges that may impede advancement of the sector.

The Council will:

1. **Development of Evaluation Criteria for Assessing Progress and Impact:** KTSEC will spearhead the development of comprehensive evaluation criteria to assess the progress and impact of initiatives related to solid mineral resource development. These criteria will serve as benchmarks for measuring the effectiveness of policies and strategies, ensuring alignment with state economic objectives and global best practices.
2. **Policy Document Review and Revision:** The Council will undertake periodic reviews of the policy document to incorporate updated regulations and policies that align with the evolving economic landscape, industry trends, and international standards in the solid mineral sector.
3. **Monitoring and Reform of Policies:** Through continuous assessment and reform, the Council will actively monitor existing policies and regulations to identify any barriers that may deter the participation of local and foreign investors in the solid minerals sector.

9. Challenges and Solutions:

S/N	Challenges	Solutions
1.	Insecurity: Persistent security threats in mining areas hinder operations and deter investment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance security measures through collaboration with security agencies, community engagement, and the establishment of dedicated security task forces to safeguard mining sites and workers.
2.	Illegal Mining: The proliferation of illegal mining activities leads to environmental degradation, safety hazards, and revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution: Enforce stringent regulations, conduct regular inspections, and collaborate with local communities to combat illegal mining practices effectively.

	loss, and creates avenues for smuggling of illegally mined minerals.	
3.	Smuggling: Rampant smuggling of mineral resources deprives the state of revenue and undermines regulatory efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the Federal Government to strengthen the Nigeria-Niger border controls. • Collaborate with community leaders and vigilante groups to implement strict monitoring mechanisms, and impose severe penalties for smuggling activities to deter illegal trade.
4.	Bribery and Double Taxation: Double taxation or illegal demand of some monetary incentives from investors by community leaders and government staff create financial burdens for mining companies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonise tax policies between state and federal authorities, establish clear guidelines on tax obligations, and streamline tax collection processes to eliminate double taxation and corruption or bribery.
5.	Low-level of Technology Use in the Mining Sector: Limited adoption of modern technologies, especially in ASM operations, hinders efficiency, productivity, and environmental sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote technology transfer initiatives and training of ASM by LSM operators. • Provide incentives for technology investments. • Offer training programs to enhance technological capabilities within the sector.
6.	Lack of Funding and Access to Finance: Insufficient access to finance, both by ASM and LSM operators, impedes the growth and development of the mining industry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate partnerships with financial institutions to invest in the mining sector through KEMCO. • Establish a dedicated mining fund to support local ASM operators. • Attract big investments through tax incentive for investors. • Promote public-private partnerships to address funding gaps and support sectoral expansion.



10. Conclusion:

The Katsina State Policy for Sustainable Development of Solid Mineral Resources provides a comprehensive framework and strategies to unlock the economic potential of the State's solid mineral sector while ensuring environmental and social sustainability. To ensure the successful implementation of this policy, it is imperative for all relevant stakeholders and government agencies to actively engage and collaborate in its implementation. A call to action is therefore needed from stakeholders such as mining companies, artisanal miners, local communities, academic institutions, development partners, KEMCO, and government bodies such as the Katsina State Economic Council (KTSEC), Katsina Investment Promotion Agency (KIPA), Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Resource Development. Each MDA, company, or stakeholder must play a proactive role in adhering to the policy guidelines, fostering transparency, promoting responsible mining practices, and supporting capacity-building initiatives for the successful implementation of the policies and strategies outline in this document.

The successful implementation of this policy has the potential to propel Katsina State to a new level of economic prosperity by attracting huge private investment, creating employment opportunities, fostering innovation and technology transfer, and enhancing the value chain of solid minerals. In line with this, all stakeholders must commit to the principles outlined in the policy to realise the vision of a prosperous and sustainable mineral sector for economic growth, improved infrastructure, increased revenue generation, and overall socio-economic development in Katsina State and Nigeria at large.