



ASIWAJU ASIRU IDRIS

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**PROFESSIONAL
PROFILE**





ASIWAJU ASIRU IDRIS



Asiwaju Asiru Idris FCA is a Nigerian Government Official and Technocrat, currently serving as the Commissioner of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning in Kogi State. A seasoned professional and skilled public affairs manager, he has shown strong ability in financial management, political leadership and high-level State administration.



In his role as Commissioner of Finance, he has led major financial reforms that strengthened the State's financial framework and supported long-term stability, growth and inclusive development for more than ten years.



Following notable achievements over eight years under former Governor Yahaya Bello, he was reappointed in January 2024 by Governor Ahmed Usman Ododo, FCA, who entrusted him once again with this important position based on his strong record and experience.



Tasked with the enormous responsibility of navigating through the often challenging impact of reforms in the state civil service, tax brackets, IGR, coupled with dwindling national resources, Asiawaju Asiru Idris has consistently demonstrated sound prudential management, foresight and a deeply seated understanding of the nuances of financial management within government.



Early life and Education

Asiwaju Asiru Idris was born on December 22 1975, in Isanlu, Yagba East LGA, to Asiru Ijagbemi and Hajia Hawawu Ijagbemi. His late father was a practicing farmer, and his mother, the Iyalaje Bagido Isanlu is a trader. He attended AUD Primary School Bagidolsanlu, and St. Kizitos College, Isanlu where he had his Secondary School Certification.



He proceeded to College of Education, Oro in Kwara State where he obtained Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE) in Economics/Mathematics. He also attended Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, where he majored in Accounting and graduated as one of the best Students in his year group with a Second Class Upper Division. He is a Master's Degree Holder of Accounting from the Kogi State University, Ayingba and PhD (in view) in Leadership and Strategic Studies from the Federal University Lokoja, 2026.



In further pursuit of global best practices in governance and economic development, he completed an Executive Education programme at Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 2025, where he earned a certificate in Strategies for Inclusive Growth.



In March 2024, He successfully completed the advanced workshop on the "Implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) in Nigeria." This intensive in-person training, held in London, UK, was conducted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for State Commissioners of Finance and officials of the Federal Ministry of Finance.



He is a Professional Chartered Accountant, a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountant of Nigeria, fellow of the Chartered Institute of Taxation and a registered student member of Chartered Financial Analyst. He is student member of Chartered Institute of Stock Broker with over 10 years experience in Accounting, Financial Management and Administration.



Early Career



Asiwaju Asiru Idris started as an Executive Assistant, Head teller in Zenith bank where he ensured that customers enquiry are promptly and professionally attended to within the stipulated turnaround time. By 2006 he became the Senior Executive Assistant, Vault Administration/Cash Officer with the same bank where he handled liquidity management of the bank cash position and ensure adequate utilization of both material and human resources under his control. He was later promoted to become the Assistant Bank Officer, Head Administration, where he was responsible for the procurement of the branch needs, adopting best procurement policies and organize training for Human Capital Development of the staff.



Between 2007 and 2009 he was appointed as a banking officer, Head Retail and Commercial Banking Group where he managed pricing of various products particularly, Credit, Cash and Trade products in order to maximize profitability and earnings while remaining competitive in the market. He was also responsible for deal origination and development of new and innovative businesses. All of these was crowned by increased in the balance sheet size of the group by over \$35million in the financial year 2008/2009 as a result of his creativity.



Asiwaju was promoted to Assistant Manager, Head Corporate Banking Group where he managed the bank's relationship with assigned companies with turnover in excess of \$30million. He was also responsible for managing risk asset of about \$10million for major national companies. In 2015, he became the Manager, Branch Head, Zenith Bank Plc, Obajana branch, where he effectively managed the branch resources to achieve the organization goal.



Civil Career

The sterling performances of Asiwaju Asiru Idris in Zenith Bank attracted him to the likes of Governor Yahaya Bello who appointed him as the Special Adviser on Finance and Economic Management in 2016. His appointment was later upgraded to the Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development in the same year.

Serving as the Commissioner of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning, Asiwaju Asiru Idris was responsible for overseeing and managing the State's financial affairs. a role he played with skilled dedication, acheiving the following milestones;

The Economic and Investment Management Team was established and saddled with the responsibility to interact and brainstorm with investors in other to attract both investment for the State. He was able to attract quite a number of investment which are now physically functional in the State and has positively boosted the economy.

Based on his experience, he institutionalized a quality financial reporting system anchored on a standardized chart of accounts for Kogi State. This was achieved through the implementation of the Single Treasury Account (TSA), which has proven to be an effective tool in curbing fraud and ensuring transparency in the management of public funds. Under his leadership, the Ministry of Finance, in compliance with Federal Government policies and aligned with World Bank reform objectives, successfully established projects that entrenched accountability and strengthened financial governance across the state.

Asiwaju also engendered a financial re-engineering which has helped in plugging financial loopholes, aid prudency in the system and provide value for money at every instance of project and program execution. Under his stewardship as the Chairman, World Bank State Fiscal, Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability program (SFTAS), which its premium objective is to improve transparency, accountability, quality in public finance management, human resources management, achieve increase value for money, better service delivery to citizens. This made Kogi State 1st among the 36 States of the Federation for the 2019 fiscal year.

Sometimes in 2018 standing on the mandate of Governor Yahaya Bello championed the process of restructuring the State Government Bond to extend and spread the repayment process to a longer tenor in order to ease the burden on the State's monthly allocation.

He was appointed as Interim Chairman Kogi State Internal Revenue Service (KGIRS) in 2020, The management of the Agency was restructured into eleven 11 directorates for adequate control for effective and efficient service delivery. He also worked with the World Bank on the Public Governance Reform and Development Project (PSGRDP) to address weaknesses in Public Finance Management (PFM) systems and negotiated on behalf of the State Government Bond to extend and spread the repayment process to a longer tenor in order to ease the burden on the State's monthly allocation and was able to keep the debt indices of Kogi State, both foreign and local, drastically low despite constraints of global recession, Covid-19 plague, and high inflation.

Due to his diligence and result-driven agenda, he was appointed a member of the Ajaokuta Presidential Project Implementation Team (APPIT) (2020) by the recommendation of his principal, Governor Yahaya Bello. He served in the capacity of the alternate chairman of the Kogi State Economic Management Team and also chairman of the Forum of Commissioners of Finance of Nigeria and Kogi State Forum of Commissioners at different times.

Asiwaju Asiru Idris received a Commendation Award of Excellence in 2018 from the Kogi State Government, led by Governor Yahaya Bello. The award recognized his outstanding and often beyond-the-call-of-duty contributions to the State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) Programme (2018-2021)

As a way of a futuristic plan for the State's economic growth and development, He introduced the 32-year Kogi State Strategic Development Plan, which is to further build on the ongoing growth and economy of the state.

Asiwaju possesses leadership qualities that has made him outstanding , dependable in the discharge of his duties. He is a diplomatic leader committed, dedicated, and result-driven and who has shown absolute transparency, prudence, accountability, and leadership skills during his role as the Commissioner of Finance of Kogi State. He has spent the last 7 years in the public sector as a member of the cabinet to the Government of Kogi saddle with the responsibility to steer the Economic affairs of Kogi State, a very critical sector of the State.

During his time as the Commissioner, he was appointed to head several Boards and Committees including a number of World Bank Assisted Developmental Programs Committee. He was also appointed as the Chairman, Economic Management Team (2016-2022).

Milestones Recorded



-  Announced the 2026 draft budget of ₦820.49 billion, a 35.7% increase from 2025, focusing on:
 - ✓ Boosting internal revenue
 - ✓ Strengthening debt recovery
 - ✓ Deepening public-private partnerships
 - ✓ Ensuring project completion
-  Deployment of KPIT app: A digital tool that enables real-time monitoring of government performance
-  Deployment of the ERP: An essential tool for digital governance workflow and processes.
-  Establishment of clear policy frameworks: The Ease of Doing Business framework for creating an enabling business environment.
-  Establishment of Economic and Investment Management Team
-  Debt Reduction: Domestic Debt of Kogi State drastically reduced from ₦121.8bn (Q42023) to ₦20.38bn (Q12025)
-  Debt Clearance: State cleared ₦98.8bn in 2024 and achieved National ranking as the lowest debt profile as at January 2025
-  Institutionalization of Single Treasury Account (TSA) ensuring transparency and curbing fraud in public fund management
-  He also served as the chairperson for Kogi State in the World Bank-assisted SFTAS program and successfully coordinated the State Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER), driving initiatives that improved ease of doing business, strengthened fiscal transparency, and enhanced the investment climate in the state.
-  Steered Kogi State to 1st among the 36 states of the federation for the 2019 fiscal year in the State Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) program, where he coordinated coordinated reforms that enhanced budget transparency, citizen engagement, and debt sustainability
-  His stewardship helped Kogi State access performance-based grants from the World Bank, rewarding states that achieved fiscal discipline and transparency milestones.
-  Championed the process of restructuring the state government bond.
-  Passed into Law the State Fiscal Responsibility Bill.
-  Introduced 32-year Kogi State Strategic Development Plan
-  Worked with the World Bank on Public Governance Reform and Development Project (PforRDP)
-  Member, Ajaokuta Presidential Project Implementation Team (APPIT)



Committees Headed

- Appointment as chairman of the asset recovery committee.
- Chairman, Committee to Assess the Level of Destruction in Kogi State in the Aftermath of ENDSARS Protest in Nigeria.
- Chairman Steering Committee for the Coordination of all Local and Foreign funded Projects/Programmes in the State.
- Member, Implementation Committee of the Confluence University of Science and Technology (CUSTECH), Osara.
- Member of Adhoc Committee for the Successful Implementation of the Ohono Truck Transit Park Project.
- Chairman, Kogi State Internal Revenue Service (KGIRS) Interim Management Committee.
- Chairman Person, State Action on Business Enabling Reforms (SABER)
- Nomination as Co-Chair, State Steering Committee on Kogi State Open Government Partnership (OGP).
- Alternate Chairman, Kogi State Livestock Transformation Plan Steering Committee.
- Board of Directors, Bureau of Statistics.
- State Consultative Committee on Statistics.
- Governing Board, Climate Change Agency.
- Fiscal Responsibility Commission.
- Kogi State Oil Producing Area Development Commission.
- NG Care Committee, chaired by the Commissioner

Awards & Certificates



Proclamation

Awards & Certificates



Economic Drive Award



Commendation Certificate

ASSOCIATIONS HE IDENTIFIED WITH



President, Synergy Investment Club, Lokoja



President, Isanlu Professional Association of Nigeria



Chairman Zumratul Islamiyah Youth Association of Nigeria, Kaduna



Patron Tinubu Renaissance Group (Kogi State Chapter)



AWARDS AND PRIZES



01

Overall Best 100 Level Accounting Student,
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria 1996

02

Overall Best 200 Level Accounting Student,
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria 1997



03

MD/CEO letter of commendation for Team Player,
Zenith Bank Plc, 2002

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04

MD/CEO award for the best operational efficiency cash officer in the North,
Zenith Bank Plc, 2006.



Personal Life



He is married to Rukayat Asiru Idris and a proud father of three. Fluent in English, Yoruba and his native language Yagba, he enjoys tennis, football, and fitness. His curiosity shows in his interest in history, economics, and leadership reading. Travel gives him the chance to explore new cultures and broaden his view of the world. He also gives back through mentorship and development efforts, anchored by his faith as a practicing Muslim who values integrity and discipline. He is a great philanthropist and community developer.

A devoted family man, he values a strong and supportive home while maintaining balance across his responsibilities. His multilingual ability enhances his connection with people from diverse backgrounds, promoting unity and understanding.

His passion for sports and fitness reflects his commitment to discipline, resilience, and overall well-being. Alongside this, his interest in history, economics, and leadership continues to shape his thinking and decision-making.

Through travel, he gains broader perspectives and deeper cultural appreciation. He is also deeply committed to giving back, investing in people through mentorship and community development. Guided by his faith and strong values, he remains a respected figure dedicated to impact, philanthropy, and societal growth.





Contact



+234 803-289-9045,



+234 814-777-7159



Dollers4asiwaju@gmail.com



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