

## SEUN FAKUADE BIOGRAPHY

*Visionary. Innovator. Policy Work. Transformational Leader.*



Seun Fakuade, appointed as the youngest executive council member (2022-2026), serves as Commissioner for Innovation, Science, and Digital Economy, a transformative leader propelling Ekiti State into the forefront of Nigeria's digital revolution. With a formidable blend of expertise in development economics, public policy, and strategic governance, Seun is redefining progress by positioning Ekiti as a global beacon of innovation-driven prosperity. His mission: is to craft an eternal blueprint for States where ideas ignite, opportunities abound, and every citizen shapes a vibrant future.

Seun's journey began with a Master of Public Administration from the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, the National University of Singapore, where he specialized in economic clusters and competitiveness as tools for shared prosperity. His academic rigor, coupled with two Ph.D.s in progress, informs his ability to translate complex ideas into actionable frameworks. Early in his career, Seun honed his skills in public communications and economic risk analysis as Managing Director of Bedazzle Media and Principal Partner at BRICE & QUADE in Abuja respectively. He also led digital strategies for high-profile political campaigns, including the Kayode Fayemi 2014 campaign in Ekiti, the ElRufai 2015 campaign in Kaduna, and the Fayemi 2018 campaign in Ekiti, showcasing his knack for strategic innovation.

Globally, Seun contributed to forward-thinking initiatives, including a 5-year Smart City Agenda for Chiang Mai, Thailand (2015–2016) and a reform-oriented policy to address Japan's Juku system. These experiences cemented his reputation as a policy wonk and governance specialist with a global perspective.

Seun's public service in Ekiti State has been marked by bold, impactful leadership. From 2019 to 2022, as Senior Special Assistant on Policy, Research & Documentation to Governor Kayode Fayemi, he authored the Ekiti State 30-Year Economic Strategy Development Masterplan, the JKF 2.0 Policy Document, The Digital Ekiti Document, and the Implementation Operational Manual for Executive Council Members. These foundational works served as supporting mechanisms, laying the groundwork for Ekiti's long-term prosperity.

Appointed Special Adviser on Governance, Reforms, and Innovation to Governor Biodun Oyebanji, and later Commissioner, Seun has driven Ekiti's ambitious digital agenda. His flagship initiatives include:

**Ekiti Knowledge Zone:** A thriving ecosystem uniting academia, industry, and government to foster research, entrepreneurship, and innovation, targeting a \$4 billion economy by 2050.

Ekiti StartUp Garage: Nigeria's first state-led startup maker space and incubator, empowering over 500 young innovators and mentoring talents like Team Savvy to victory at the GTB Squadco Hackathon.

GovLab Ekiti: A pioneering program revolutionizing public sector efficiency by training civil servants in citizen-centric, tech-driven governance.

GovTech Ekiti: A pioneering program providing technology solutions to the public sector through local private sector partnerships.

Seun's championing of the Triple Helix model has forged partnerships that amplify Ekiti's global appeal, attracting investors and diaspora talent through events like the Ekiti Innovation Summit. His e-governance solutions, including the Digital Ekiti Initiative, Citizen/Resident Innovation Management Project, and state file digitization, have modernized administration, enhancing transparency and efficiency.

Seun's thought leadership, articulated through incisive white papers and keynote addresses on big data, AI, governance, and public policy, reimagines Africa's economic trajectory. His writings emphasize economic resilience, inclusivity, sustainability, and youth empowerment, earning accolades from Governor Oyebanji and industry pioneers. Yet, Seun remains grounded in his commitment to Ekiti's youth and communities, mentoring the next generation to lead with purpose.

Seun Fakuade is not merely part of those shaping Ekiti's present — he is helping to architect a prosperous, equitable, and innovative future. His multifaceted contributions, from project management to policy innovation, reflect a relentless drive to uplift societies. With endorsements from Nigeria's foremost leaders and a vision that resonates globally, Seun invites you to join him in building an innovative state where every citizen is a stakeholder in the digital revolution.

Connect with Seun: Explore his vision, engage with his initiatives, or partner in Ekiti's transformation through this platform.