

## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Benue Guber pre-election poll puts Ortom in early lead over Tarzoor**

In the race to the Benue State Governorship, a recent opinion poll conducted by NOIPolls Limited has put Dr. Samuel Ioraer Ortom, governorship candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in an early lead over the People's Democratic Party (PDP) candidate, Prince Terhemem Tarzoor; with a ten percent point gap between the two. It's worth noting that the poll was conducted before the postponement of the elections.

When asked who respondents will be voting for in the coming 2015 governorship elections in Benue State, Dr. Ortom led the list of candidates with 28 percent, while Prince Tarzoor had 18 percent. However, 51 percent of those polled are either undecided (33 percent) or sought confidentiality (18 percent) as to their choice of candidate. This proportion is very significant and it is believed that these groups of voters would be critical in deciding who eventually wins the governorship seat.

The poll results also showed that Samuel Ortom seems to enjoy decent support from male voters (36 percent); as well as voters across all age groups, particularly from first-time voters aged between 18-21 years (55 percent). Interestingly, significant proportions of undecided voters were identified in Benue Central (39 percent) and Benue North-West (34 percent) senatorial zones; as well as senior citizens aged above 60 years (44 percent).

Finally, the poll also showed that about 9 in 10 eligible voters are registered to vote in the coming elections; with almost 8 in 10 (81 percent) absolutely certain that they were going to vote, if elections have held in February 2015.

NOIPolls Limited, *No.1 for country-specific polling services in West Africa*, in technical partnership with the Gallup Organisation (USA), conducts periodic opinion polls and studies on various socio-economic and political issues in Nigeria. More information is available at [www.noi-polls.com](http://www.noi-polls.com)