



REPORT OF ONE DAY SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME ON IMO STATE PARTICIPATORY REVISED BUDGET STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM HELD TUESDAY, 28TH JULY 2020, AT THE AHIAJOKU CENTRE, OWERRI

The Forum was organized by the Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning & Statistics. In attendance were representatives of Community Based Organizations, Town Union Executives, Religious bodies, and Management of key MDAs.

OBJECTIVES

The Objective of the forum according to Dr Jane Chukwukere, Executive Director Society for the Widows & Orphans, was to inform and sensitive the relevant Stakeholders about the need to amend the budget to reflect the effects of COVID 19 Pandemic, and for the making of the citizens' budget based on COVID 19 budget. She said that it was imperative for the 2020 Budget to be amended as most projections in the original budget were not realizable given the worsening economic situation in the country. Dr Jane added that the World Bank had asked States to review their budgets in order to qualify for the SFTAS grants.

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Udeh, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning & Statistics said the opening prayer.

OPENING REMARKS:

The Hon Commissioner, Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning & Statistics told the audience that the meeting was called to inform them of the need for a citizens Budget based on the Amended Budget. He emphasized that the Budget was in fulfilment of the SFTAS requirements on the citizen's budget based on the Amended Budget. He reiterated that the amendment became necessary because of the effect of the COVID 19 Pandemic.

He called for the co-operation and participation of all and sundry for effective deliberations.

Responding, Chief Ifeanyi Nkwocha the President General of Amato Community appreciated the Ministry of Budget for deeming fit to seek their inputs into the making of a new citizens' budget. He advised the government of Imo State to ensure that the budget reflected the wishes and aspirations of the people of Imo State. He decried a situation where government would have budgets that are not implementable. In the same vein, Dr Rose Adiukwu, E.D, C.E.Y.F.A.D, and Deputy Coordinator, CS-SSN asked the government officials to make community projects priority projects.

On the other hand, the Permanent Secretary, Rev Udeh said that a similar Stakeholder's Forum Was held at the same venue about one (1) year ago, and that produced the citizens' Budget based on the Original Budget. Concluding, he said that the meeting would deliberate on the Citizens budget based on the Amended Budget.

He expressed the readiness of the government to pursue programs and policies that will impact positively on the lives of the people. Rev Udeh thanked the various groups in attendance for coming out enmass for the Stakeholders Forum.

Contributing, Mr. Amakeihe encouraged the civil society organizations in the State to be alive to their responsibilities by ensuring that government achieved a good budget performance implementation. He

added that the 2020 citizens budget based on the amended budget became necessary in order carry everybody along.

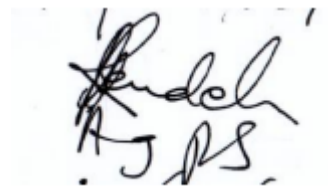
CONCLUSION:

Dr Jane Chukwukere read out the Community Charter of Demands, which ensure that:

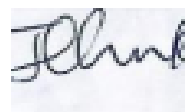
- The People participate in decisions that affect them;
- Their needs drive development projects rather than the thoughts of their Leader;
- The voices of the people are heard;
- Bottom approach to development is upheld;
- The People take ownership of Government Projects etc.

She stressed the need for community mobilization and needs assessment; Periodization of needs; Community mapping and Harmonization and Documentation on needs.

CLOSING PRAYER: Mr. Chijioke Akojuru said the closing prayer, and the meeting ended about 4.30pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Udeh Reginald' with 'RJS' below it.

Rev. Udeh Reginald
Ag, Per Sec, Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning
& Statistics

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Chukwukere'.

Dr. Jane Chukwukere
ED, (SOWIPHANS)

ATTENDANCE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE EVENT

ATTENDANCE FOR THE STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATORY FORUM			
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	PHONE
1	Francis Nkomo	President-General	08033325010
2	Francis Nkomo	President-General	08033325010
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50	Francis Nkomo	President-General	08033325010

CROSS SECTION OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE REVISED BUDGET STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIVE FORUM









