



**REPORT OF A ONE DAY SENSITIZATION
PROGRAMME ON IMO STATE PARTICIPATORY
BUDGET STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2020, AT THE
AHIAJOKU CENTRE, OWERRI**

**A KEYNOTE ADDRESS PRESENTED BY HON. C.C. OSULA (PH.D),
HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF BUDGET, ECONOMIC
PLANNING AND STATISTICS DURING THE ONE-DAY PARTICIPATORY
OPEN BUDGET FORUM WITH STAKEHOLDERS HELD AT AHIAJOKU
CONVENTION CENTRE, NEW OWERRI ON THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST,
2020.**

Protocol:

I am delighted to welcome you all to this important participatory open budget stakeholders forum being organized by the Imo state Ministry of budget, economic Planning and statistics for major stakeholders comprising of president-Generals of Town unions, Traditions Rulers (Ndi Eze) of Autonomous Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Ministries, Departments and agencies (MDAs) and their Parastatals, as well as the Organized Private Sector in Imo State.

As you may recall, a similar Stake holder's Forum Was held at this same venue about one (1) year ago. It was a successful good beginning in the shifting of our budget pattern from Ministerial to Participatory. This time around, I am happy to inform you that the Ministry restructured by putting all machinery in motion to ensure that for the first time in the history of Imo State, the Citizens Budget was published in both English and Igbo Versions.

The purpose of this Budget Stakeholders Forum is to intimate the Citizens about the plans, projects and Programmes of the State Government under the able leadership of **His Excellency, Distinguished Senator Hope Uzodimma, the Executive Governor of Imo state** and get their input for the preparation of the 2021 Budget.

The state Government has emphasized the need for active participation/engagement of imo state Citizens in the preparation of annual Budgets and Implementation of projects and Programmes in line with World Bank directives on Open Budget System (OBS) and other international best practices.

The major aim of having a Citizen's Budget is to encourage the Citizens to participate actively in the assessment of their needs and contributing in the decision making of sitting projects in their various Communities. By so doing, the Citizens take full ownership, responsibility, usage and sustainability of such projects located within their Communities.

It is also important to note that the Citizens Budget is equally an appropriation instrument supported by the World Bank to encourage the enforcement of State Financial Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) programme.

I have the pleasure to also inform you that within the short period of the present administration, the Ministry had recorded concrete achievements in the following areas:

- I. Publication of the Citizen's Budget both in English and Igbo Versions (The first of its kind since the creation of Imo state).

- II. Preparation of the Revised 2020 Budget which was passed into law by the State House of assembly and signed as appropriation Law by his Excellency, the Executive Governor of Imo state on the 29th of July, 2020.
- III. Preparation of 1st quarter, 2020 performance Appraisal Report.
- IV. Online publication of the Citizen's Budget and the Revised 2020 Budget.
- V. Printing of the 2019 approved Budget and Authorized Establishment.
- VI. Attracted the sum \$300 USD and \$1M USD respectively, to the State Government by meeting targets/datelines set by the World Bank.
- VII. Issued Call Circulars for submission of proposals for the 2021 Budget to MDAs, president-Generals of town Unions and CSOs; among others.

As Government Officials or representatives of the people in your various Communities, I urge you to consciously engage the people at the grass root who either are not aware or do not know the procedure(s) to access the benefits of several Policies and programme of the State Government to articulate their needs and prioritize them considering the limited financial resources available to the State Government.

The importance of this programme is to inform, advocate and engage Citizens to be part of Governance and be able to hold Governments at all levels accountable for all its policies and programme targeted towards enhancing Economic Sustainability and overall well-being of the people.

I urge you to feel and make positive contributions during the deliberations that will lead to a paradigm shift in the old ways of budgeting and embrace Open Budget System which is participatory and inclusive. Permit me to once again use this opportunity to thank **His Excellency, Distinguished Senator Hope Uzodimma, the Executive Governor of Imo State** for the numerous achievements recorded in the state and also allowing the Ministry hold this

participatory Open Budget stakeholders Forum today. Let us all play our roles to help the Government move our dear State forward by supporting all the Policies and programme of His Excellency, the Governor under the “3R” (Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Recovery) Mantra of the Imo prosperity Agenda.

On that note, I hereby declare this Citizens participatory Open Budget Stakeholders forum “Open”.

I wish you fruitful deliberations and safe journey to your destinations after your meeting.

Thank you and God bless.

Hon. C.C. Osuala (Ph.D.)
Hon. Commissioner
Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning
and Statistics (MBEPS).

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The forum was organized by Imo State Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning in collaboration with Hope Givers Initiative.

Participants at the forum were drawn from both key government implementing agencies and non-governmental institutions.

Key government officials and agencies that attended include;

- ❖ State Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning & Statistics
- ❖ Directors of Planning, Research & Statistics of all Ministries, Departments & Agencies (MDAs) in the State.
- ❖ Directors of Account of all MDAs in the State.
- ❖ Interim Management Committee Chairman of Njaba Local Government.
- ❖ Interim Management Committee Chairman of Isu Local Government.
- ❖ Commissioner for Commerce & Industry.
- ❖ Commissioner for Science & Technology.
- ❖ Imo State House of Assembly Chairman on Budget & Appropriation, Chief Uche Ogbuagu.
- ❖ Imo State House of Assembly member from Nkwerre.
- ❖ Permanent Secretary from Ministry of Information, Mrs. Uwandu and her counterpart from the Office of the Secretary to the Government of Imo State, Lady Ibeagi.
- ❖ Ag. Permanent Secretary from Ministry of Finance, Mr. Chucks Okoro.

Participants from non-governmental institutions include President Generals of Town unions, Women Leaders, Youth Leaders, Leaders of the Association of Persons with Disability (PWD) in the 27 Local Government of the State, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Leaders from Owerri Municipal, Orlu and Okigwe Senatorial Zones were fully represented.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM:

The Executive Director of Hope Givers Initiative, Mrs. Onyeka Udegbulam said that the main objectives of the forum was to inform the community leaders, members of the Traditional council, town union leaders, women leaders, youth leaders, members of the State Executive council and Legislatures on the need for an all inclusive budget that will be people oriented. She said that budget preparation process over the years have been criticized by stakeholders because those saddled with the responsibility of preparing the budget do not consult widely and this has created a gap in the ownership of government projects by the communities where they are sited. Hence, the aim of the forum is mainly to help and guide the communities in Imo State on how to prepare Community Charter of Demand which is an all inclusive budget process.

OPENING PRAYER/OPENING REMARK

The opening prayer was said by the Ag Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget , Economic Planning and Statistics **Rev Udeh R.O.** This was followed with a brief opening remark by Rev. Udeh R. O. who represented the Hon Commissioner that was unavoidably absent. He enumerated the importance of the forum and called on the people to take this year's budget very seriously as there is a paradigm shift from the old order to the new order. He went on to say that Anambra, Kaduna and some other states have keyed into the open budget system and the citizens can now hold their government accountable. He then thanked His **Excellency, Distinguish Senator Hope Uzodimma** , the Executive Governor of Imo State for giving his approval on the open budget system.

DISCUSSION:

1. The discussion was led by the Coordinator of the Programme, Mrs. Onyeka Udegbulam. She emphasized the need of the Community Charter of Demand that deals on the different needs of a community at a particular time. She said that the Demand Charter which is a written document containing the developmental needs of a community listed in order of communal priority, is an important tool for citizen-state engagement and participation as it contains the representative needs of a community, gathered and compiled in an inclusive

and participatory manner. She stated that through this process, the people can hold their government accountable. She went further to say that what gave rise to Community Charter of Demand was the fact that citizen's engagement and participation in governance process is critical for sustaining the development of any society. It ensures that;

- ❖ The voices of the people are heard.
- ❖ They are able to take part in decisions about issues that affect them.
- ❖ Their needs drive their development rather than the thoughts of their leaders.
- ❖ Bottom-up approach and people centered development are upheld.
- ❖ It enhances sustainable development and ownership.

She stressed that the Demand Charter can be used to;

- Generate Community needs and demands.
- Support advocacy and citizen's engagement with State and other duty bearers for improved service delivery.
- Increase the roles and opportunities of non-governmental actors especially the community leaders and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to actively engage in development and governance agenda.
- Bring the government closer to the people.

She then enumerated the steps involved in producing the Demand Charter to include;

- Community mobilization and needs assessment.
- Community Mapping.
- Prioritization of Needs.
- Harmonization and documentation of Needs.
- Presentation of Needs to relevant authorities and agencies.

2. The leader of the term Elder Kenneth Amogu thanked the Ag. Permanent secretary for granting them audience and use the opportunity to congratulate him for his appointment by the Executive Governor of Imo State as Ag. Permanent secretary of the ministry.

He said since the permanent secretary, Ministry of Budget, Economic planning and statistics is the chairman of the state committee on food and nutrition, members of CS- SUNN deemed it necessary to visit him and to let the Ministry

ensure that Nutrition has increased Budgetary provision in the 2021 Imo state Budget which will soon be produced. He reminded the Ag. Permanent secretary that the Draft Imo State food and Nutrition Policy had been validated and the final Nutrition policy document produced and ready for signature by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Imo state. He however said that the lockdown caused by the COVID 19 pandemic delayed the presentation of the state nutrition policy document for signing, and therefore requested that the Minister should take up the matter and ensure that the document is signed by the Governor.

He further requested for an Audience with the Hon. Commissioner, (MBEPS), enable members of CS-SUNN interact and brief him adequately and emphasized that CS-SUNN will continue to cooperate with the Ministry to ensure that adequate attention and funding is given to issues concerning Nutrition in Imo State.

3. In her own remarks, Dr. (Mrs.) Jane Chukwukkere, of the society for the widows & orphans (SOWIPHANS) also thanked the permanent secretary and the Hon. Commissioner, as well as the directors/staff of the Ministry for working hard to achieve results that helped the state to attract funds from the world Bank and other sources within this short period of assumption of office by His Excellency, the Executive Governor. She said that the Ministry has been partnering with CSO's in the past and even presently, and stressed the need for the Ministry to make adequate funds available in the 2021 State Budget for scaling up Nutrition in the State. She reiterated that the celebration of the 2020 world Food Day is around the corner (ie. 16th October, 2020), stressing that CS_SUNN will seek support and collaborate with Ministry of Health which is responsible for implementation of Nutrition activities in the state to celebrate the Day.

4. In her contribution, Dr. (Mrs.) Rose Adiukwu, Deputy Coordination, CS-SNN also thanked the permanent secretary for granting them audience as she supported the earlier request by her colleagues in CS-SUNN for increase Budgetary fund provision in the 2021 Budget for scaling-up Nutrition in the state. She stressed the need for the team to meet with the Hon. Commissioner concerning the issues earlier mentioned by CS_SUNN. She also commended the team spirit which the Ministry adopted to achieve result within a short space of time.

5. Mr. Patrick Ogbonna, a member of SCFN also emphasized the need to sign the final copy of the State Nutrition Policy which is a multi-sectoral plan of Action of about 300 pages produced by CS-SUNN. He said both the Hon.

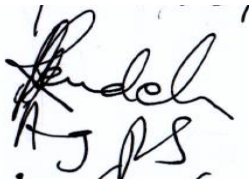
Commissioner, MBEPS and His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Imo State are required to sign the document.

Response by the permanent secretary:

Responding to the issues raised by the CS-SUNN Team, Rev. R.O. Udeh, the Ag. Permanent Secretary thanked them for coming and expressed happiness that the present Administration under **His Excellency, Distinguish Senator Hope Uzodimma, the Executive Governor of Imo State** is already taking Imo state to greater heights under the 3R Mantra of Imo Shared prosperity Agenda; and that the Hon. Commissioner is working hard to ensure that the Ministry continues to perform her assigned duties and achieve results. He assured the CS-SUNN Team that the Ministry will continue to collaborate with CSO's by engaging them in activities such as the 2020 citizen's participatory stake Holders forum and the fourth-coming 2021 Budget Bi-lateral Discussions by MDAs. He urged the CS-SUNN Team to write Executive Summary of the Imo State Nutrition Policy Action Plan and package the document very well before meeting the Hon. Commissioner next week, after which next steps will follow.

CONCLUSION:

The Ag Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning, Rev. Udeh R.O thanked everybody present for their patience to the end of programme. He prayed that the good Lord will take everybody back home safely. And this brought the forum to an end at 4:03pm.



Rev. Udeh R.O
Ag Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Budget, Economic Planning & Statistics
NB: Attached are the photocopies of Attendance lists.

2021 BUDGET PRESENTATION

The crash in global oil prices since January, 2020 coupled with the emergence of the novel covid-19 pandemic, has ravaged the entire global economy into jeopardy.

Imo state did not relent in its effort to meet the yearnings and aspirations of citizens by way of boosting the state economic base and improve the macroeconomic outlook.

2021 BUDGET PROJECTIONS

2021 recurrent revenue projections.....	N136, 087,301,347.58
2021 capital receipt.....	N210, 089,420,737.00
2021 Recurrent Expenditure Estimates.....	N74, 643,881,943.30
2021 Capital Expenditure Estimates.....	N 271,532,840,141.28

SECTORAL CAPITAL ALLOCATION

General Administration Sector:	₦ 50,622,958,252.00
Economic Sector:	₦ 165,436,000,252.00
Social Sector:	₦ 48,733,889,350.00
Law and justice sector:-	₦ 6,739,992,174.00

PAYMENT LIST OF 2021 OPEN BUDGET STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATORY FORUM

S/NO	NAME	DESIGNATION/OFFICE	PHONE NO.	SIGN
1	Ifeanyi Nwuche	PG	0803332369	[Signature]
2	Dr Rose Adinwa	ED, CEYFAD	08065005607	[Signature]
3	Eld Kenneth Amogu	Prog Dev Forward Africa	08035608255	[Signature]
4	Okonk Ogburn	CODEC	0803710899	[Signature]
5	Amanze Ugwu	PG	0803616744	[Signature]
6	Emmanuel Rex U.	PG	08032661074	[Signature]
7	Gustaf Okonk	PG	08033170466	[Signature]
8	Elmond Anyasodo	PG	08098711778	[Signature]
9	Chief Ugoigwe Ike	P.S.	07084553158	[Signature]
10	Emerebe Ifeom	Executive Director	08035832421	[Signature]
11	Bar Camille Madubuike	PG	08034726856	[Signature]
12	Chibokwu Nneka	ED	08164178719	[Signature]
13	Dr. James C	ED NGO	0803384830	[Signature]
14	ORJI BETHEL I.	P.M. Goodness Samuels Nio	07030537784	[Signature]
15	Okaka Amaechi	project coord	08037307840	[Signature]
16	Chidera Roseemilla Anake	Deputy FM	08064181543	[Signature]
17	Endurance Udegbumam	P/O HQ-1	08147461918	[Signature]
18	Mmadubere Christain	M&E HQ-1	08064630026	[Signature]

PAYMENT LIST OF 2021 OPEN BUDGET STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATORY FORUM

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ATTENDANCE SHEET

[illegible]

ATTENDANCE SHEET

[illegible]

ATTENDANCE: MEETINGS WITH CS-SUNN

30/05

NO	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	NAME OF ORGANIZATION	SIGNATURE
1.	Rev Udel Reginald. O	08113502206	Min. of Budget, Eco Plg & Stat.	<i>Udel</i>
2	Eid Kenneth Amogu	08035608255	CS-SUNN, State Coord	<i>Eid</i>
3.	Patrick - C. Offor	08030857411	SCFN, NSN	<i>Patrick</i>
4	Elizabeth Ojyemaechi	08064074636	Honourbirth Foundation	<i>Elizabeth</i>
5	Dr Mrs Rose Adiele	08065505607	member CS-SUNN Centre for the Elderly, Youth & Family Devt (CEYFD) Deputy State Coordinator CS-SUNN	<i>Rose</i>
6.	Dr. Jane Favour Chukwura	0803334835	Society for the Widows & Orphans (SOWIPHANS)	<i>Jane</i>
7.	Amakihl George C.N	08064043291	georgy amakihl @ yahoo. com	<i>Amakihl</i>

CROSS SECTION OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE BUDGET CONSULTATIVE



















IMO STATE GOVERNMENT

CITIZEN'S BUDGET FEEDBACK

Identification

1	Name		
2	Email		
3	Location	LGA <input type="text"/>	TOWN <input type="text"/>

Feedback Details

1	Focus	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports <input type="checkbox"/> Youths <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> IGR <input type="checkbox"/> Security <input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment <input type="checkbox"/> Tax <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Service <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Budget <input type="checkbox"/> Recurrent Budget <input type="checkbox"/> Others
2	Theme	<input type="checkbox"/> Suggestion <input type="checkbox"/> Complaint <input type="checkbox"/> Information		
3	Comment			