

**REPORT ON A ONE DAY SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME ON IMO STATE PARTICIPATORY BUDGET
STAKEHOLDER'S**

REPORT ON A ONE DAY SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME ON IMO STATE PARTICIPATORY BUDGET STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM HELD ON 22ND AUGUST, 2019, AT THE AHIAJOKU CENTRE, OWERRI BY 11:00AM.

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.
- ❖ Directors of Planning, Research & Statistics and Directors of Accounts, of all Ministries, Departments & Agencies (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 Disabled 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 of the Voice to the People (V2P) Programme 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 and members of the State

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Executive council 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 lack of interest attitude on the part of stakeholders. And so the aim of the forum is mainly to help/guide the communities in Imo State on how to prepare Community Charter of Demand which is an all inclusive budget process and make it part of the budgetary process as it is practiced in other South Eastern States.

OPENING PRAYER/OPENING REMARKS:

The opening prayer was said by the Ag Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning, Rev Udeh R.O. This was followed with a brief opening remark by Rev. Udeh R. O. who represented the Hon Commissioner who 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, Right Hon. Emeka Ihedioha, the Executive Governor of Imo State for giving his approval on the open budget system.

DISCUSSION:

Leading the discussion, the Coordinator of the Programme, Mrs. Onyeka Udegbulam emphasized on the needs of the Community Charter of Demand, which dwelt 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 said 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;

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- ❖ 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.

DRAMA:

The whole lessons learnt were dramatized by the three senatorial zones of the state (Owerri, Orlu and Okigwe) present at the forum, and the organizers were happy with the level of understanding of the whole process. The drama session was coordinated by Mrs. Uzoh of Christian Aid.

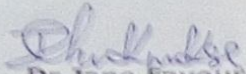
Contributing to the discussion, the Director of Recurrent Budget Mr. Victor Okereke thanked the organizers for coming to the state. He then asked the participants whether what they dramatized is practiced in Imo Budgeting template and they chorused no. He then advised them to go home and put what they have learnt into practice.

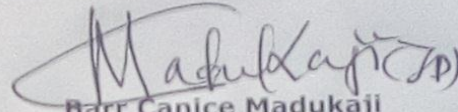
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CONCLUSION:

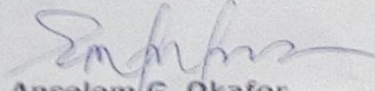
The Ag Permanent of the Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning thanked everybody present for their patience to the end of the end programme. He prayed that the good Lord will take everybody back home safely. And this brought the forum to an end at 4:03pm.

Signed:


Dr Jane Favour Chukwukere
Exec. Dir. SOWIPHANS.


Barr Canice Madukaji
Imo State PG Coordinator

In Attendance:


Anselem G. Okafor
Fig. Offr. (NBEP)

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ATTENDANCE LIST AT THE 2019 REPORT ON IMO STATE BUDGET STAKEHOLDERS OPEN/PARTICIATORY
TOWN HALL MEETING HELD ON 22ND AUGUST, 2019 AT AHIAJOKU CENTRE, OWERRI, IMO STATE.

S/NO	NAME	DESIGNATION/OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGN
1	Rw Udela R.O	Ag Perm Sec	09025445748	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Okafke V. U.	2RB	0840506676	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Okafke Azeleem G.	HOD (MAR)	08060037153	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	Agwabini, Magnus E.	HED (G) Gen. Sec.	08064748608	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Nkadiukwu M.N.	ALCO (Admin)	08064160727	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Amucha Jane O.	P.R.O.	0803883655	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Oghamalam Nelson	ACCOUNTS	08037158465	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	OJIBE CONLARE	ACCOUNTS	08068620800	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Ihenye Judith	Accounts	07065082008	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Opara Jennifer	PDPO II	07064613448	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	Udenma Obinidhuu	Admin	08067553542	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	Ihejirakor S.K.	Recurrent Budget	0706564558	<i>[Signature]</i>
13	Okemko Maureen	Higher Statistical Offic.	0806077226	<i>[Signature]</i>
14	Uzuegbu Chinyere	Accountant II	08038168535	<i>[Signature]</i>
15	Nwudigbo Justina C.	BO II	08033713807	<i>[Signature]</i>
16	Amakihe G. C.N	Ag. Director (DAS)	08064043291	<i>[Signature]</i>

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S/NO	NAME	DESIGNATION/OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGN
1	Opara Sandra	CEYFAD, Program Officer	08145806536	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Osondu Israel	forward Africa	0813431614	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Ifearny Nkwocha	PG	08033323670	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	Mrs. Chibwoku Nneke	DDAF	09095885692	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	AMANZE UGOCHI	PG	08036167414	A.U
6	Chigozu Uzogiki	NGO	07037723666	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	NWOSU BETHEL	PG - UMUOKANNE	08034904713	C.B
8	Uwaoma M.C.	P.G	08034455474	M.C
9	Barr Canice Madubayi	PG IMO STATE	08034726956	Madubayi
10	Okonkwo Morgan	Next Generation Nig	07036724137	<i>[Signature]</i>
11	Enyinyechi Ojadenwa	Soroso Nigeria	08166078637	<i>[Signature]</i>
12	OSUAGWU CHISOM	AFRI HEALTH	08146999546	<i>[Signature]</i>
13	Julian Amaeli	Geodora Samarchan	07030937184	<i>[Signature]</i>
14	Nwofeji M.	MDA	08035034911	—
15	ANWUO A.C	<i>[Signature]</i>	08063424814	<i>[Signature]</i>

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S/NO	NAME	DESIGNATION/OFFICE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGN
16	Madubane Reginald	PG	08068204117	
17	Mbacha Mercy	NGO	08065966775	
18	AZUBUIKE CYNTHIA C	PROGRAM OFFICER	07058348116	
19	Udoka Eguh	CODEC Youth Officer	08160907620	
20	AGWABIRI MARGARET	MIDA	08064748168	
21	TORIKUWA MYNENE	HEALTH CHAT	08057042174	
22	HEJIRIWA HEJIRIWA	PROGRAM DIRECTOR	07067640986	
23	Chief Iken Desmond	PL. Orlu Zone	08037211079	
24	Nzewuru Chima P	CSO	09028400689	
25	Joseph Anke	Local Health Foundation	08030792010	
26	Uwagbo Jecinta	NGO	0806663911	
27	Ekele Emmanuel C	Program Officer	07030605814	
28	Aripinda Adango	Development Projects	08039344779	
29	ONYINRUKA HOPE	ED	08066059014	
30	Unde Pema	NGO	08057042174	
31	Dr. Jane Chukwura Society for W (don't f Orphans (NGO)		0813334835	

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