

ENUGU STATE:

Findings

Public Access to budget documents

Enugu state scores 19 out of 100 on the State Budget Transparency Index. The State Budget Call Circular is publicly available on request. The State Draft Estimates, State Budget Appropriation Law, Mid-Year Review, Account General's Report and Auditor General's Report are only produced for internal use while the Citizen's Budget and Quarterly Reports are not produced.

Public participation in the budget

Citizens and CSOs in Enugu state have a limited space for to be involved in the budget process with a score of 36 out of 100. During the **budget formulation** stage, the Ministry of Rural Development has a Visit Every Community mandate to solicit inputs for the State Draft Estimates. The Enugu State House of Assembly committees hold public hearings on the **budget approval** process. Both the **budget execution** and **auditing** process have no open spaces for public scrutiny.

Public access to procurement information

With a score of 47 out of 100, citizens have minimal access to procurement information in Enugu state. The Enugu State Public Procurement Law of 2010 regulates the procurement process and established the Due Process Office, which regulates the procurement process.

Recommendations

CIRDDOC recommends the following to improve budget transparency, public participation in the budget process, and transparency in the procurement process:

Budget Transparency

The government can increase budget transparency in Enugu state by timely publishing online the following documents that are already produced:

- Enugu State Draft Budget Estimates along with Enugu State Medium Term Sector Strategy
- Enugu State Budget Appropriation Law
- Enugu State 2013 Mid-Term Budget Review
- Enugu State of Nigeria: Report of the Accountant-General Financial Statements
- Report of the Auditor-General on the Account of the Government of Enugu State of Nigeria

The Ministry of Budget & Planning of Enugu state should do the following:

- partner with CSOs in the state to develop a Citizen's Budget.
- produce and publish the Quarterly Reports.

Public Participation

To effectively take advantage of the experience of CSOs and citizens, the government of Enugu state should do the following:

- ensure that Visit Every Community is an effective mechanism to solicit the public's inputs on what should be included in the budget; and publish a report on how these inputs were used in the State Draft Estimates.
- publish a list of beneficiaries of projects, subsidies, social plans and other targeted spending from MDAs.
- establish practical mechanisms for the public to provide inputs on how the budget is being implemented along with reports on how these inputs are used.

Similarly, the Enugu State House of Assembly should do the following:

- open all committee hearings on the budget to the public where citizens and CSOs can testify and publish reports on these hearings.

Lastly, the Auditor-General should do the following:

- establish practical mechanisms for the public to submit inputs on what should be audited.

Procurement Process

To improve the entire procurement processes, the following should be done:

- the Due Process Office should establish procurement complaint board that manages an alternative dispute resolution mechanism.
- the Due Process Office should publish all procurement decisions along with their justifications for all community projects.

Access to Information

To improve access to information in the state, the government should do the following:

1. Domesticate the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act, 2011.

Establish Freedom of Information (FOI) Agency in the state