

## **OYO STATE:**

### **Findings**

#### **Public Access to budget documents**

Oyo state scores 8 out of 100 on the State Budget Transparency Index. While the majority of documents are produced, not a single document is publicly available. Only the Citizen's Budget is not produced.

#### **Public participation in the budget**

Citizens and CSOs in Oyo state have no space to be involved in the budget process with a score of 0 out of 100.

#### **Public access to procurement information**

With a score of 10 out of 100, citizens have very limited access to procurement information in Oyo state. The Oyo State Public Procurement Law of 2010 regulates the procurement process and established the Oyo State Due Process Office.

### **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 easily increase budget transparency in Oyo state by timely publishing online the following documents that are already produced:

- State Budget Call Circular
- State Draft Budget Estimates along with State Medium Term Sector Strategy
- State Budget Appropriation Law
- State Quarterly Budget Review
- State Mid-Year Review
- State Accountant-General's Report
- State Auditor-General's Report

The Oyo State Ministry of Economic Planning And Budget should partner with CSOs in the state to develop a Citizen's Budget.

#### **Public Participation**

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

- open the budget formulation process to all constituencies; establish effective mechanisms to solicit the public's inputs on what should be included in the State Draft Estimates; and clearly articulate what the government expects to do with these inputs.
- 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 Oyo 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.
- open the hearings on the Auditor-General's Report to the public.

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 government should give the Oyo State Due Process Office the authority to regulate the procurement process in the state and the necessary resources to fulfill its duty and establish a procurement complaint board that manages an alternative dispute resolution mechanism.
- this Oyo State Due Process Office should open bidding documents in public immediately after the bidding process is closed.
- the Oyo State Due Process Office should publish all procurement decisions along with their justifications and 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