



JIGAWA STATE

2019 Planning and Budget Process

**[Report of Town Hall Meeting Conducted on
Thursday, 6th September, 2018 Jointly Organized
by Budget & Economic Planning Directorate and
Project Monitoring Partners]**

Compiled by
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REPORT OF THE TOWN HALL MEETING ON 2019 BUDGET INPUTS

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Introduction

Budget process comprises of series of activities from planning down to monitoring & evaluation / reporting. Budget preparation as one of the main component of the



process considers public participation as an essential ingredient in coming up with sound budget document that contain felt-need of the citizens. In a bid to increase openness, inclusiveness and citizens' engagement in budget process, a Town hall meeting on 2019 Budget input gathering was organized by

Budget & Economic Planning Directorate in collaboration with Project Monitoring Partnership (PMP), a Civil Society Organization working on Policies, Programs and Budget Process in the State, which has been coordinating the gathering of citizen inputs for some years. The meeting was conducted on Thursday 6th September, 2018, at Ahmadu Bello Hall, New Secretariat Complex, Dutse. This activity, in no small measure, assisted the Directorate in gathering Citizens' inputs from formal public consultations. This considered as a good progress compared to previous initiatives limited to CSO participation on MTSS Sector Strategy Sessions and during bilateral discussions with Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

Objectives of the Town Hall Meeting

The objective of this meeting was to help in creating effective opportunities for public participation as disclosure and participation are mutually reinforcing drivers

of accountability, improved budget process and decision making. Other objectives and benefits derivable from such crucial meeting include:

- i. To sensitize citizens and others stakeholders on the annual planning and budget processes especially how efforts



- are being to achieve a policy-based budget based on linkages between the State Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF II), Medium Term Sector Strategies by key Sectors and the Annual Budget;
- ii. To provide opportunity for the Citizens and other Stakeholders to make inputs into the planning and budget process particularly with regards to the 2019 budget;
- iii. To serve as an avenue to Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) / Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other invited participants to review and discuss citizens' demand into budget harnessed from grassroots consultations.
- iv. To sensitize citizens on the policy thrust of the 2019 budget, objectives and priorities as well as other basic information and rudiments of 2019 budget.

Participants

The participants were drawn from various Government Agencies, Civil Society Organizations, Community-Based Organizations, Organized private sector, Youths organizations, Organized women groups, Development partners and the Academia. In all, a total number of about 150 participants attended the meeting from both the Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as from various civil society groups. (refer to appendix).

Opening Protocols

After climate settings, opening prayers and self-introduction by participants, Opening remarks was then made by Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Finance



& Economic Planning, who was ably represented by the Permanent Secretary Budget and Economic Planning Directorate, Adamu Muhammad GarunGabas, oon. He started by welcoming all participants who were drawn from various Government Agencies, Civil Society Organizations, Community-

Based Organizations, Organized private sector, Youths organizations, Organized women groups and Academia. He also urged them, as major stakeholders, to make constructive inputs that would feed the 2019 budget which would ultimately make meaningful contributions towards human development in the State. He finally thanked all the participants for sparing their valuable time to attend this important meeting, which was the first of its kind to be organized formally for the purpose of gathering Citizens' inputs from formal public consultations, though CSOs have been providing documented budget inputs for over 4 years. He then formally declared the meeting opened.

Proceedings of the Town Hall Meeting

Having concluded the opening protocol, the following activities were conducted in sequence:

4. **Objectives of the meeting:** This was briefly presented by Director Budget, Aminu S/Hatsi Kudai. Highlight of these objectives were given on page, paragraph 2 (item I – iii).

4. **Overview on Citizens Participation in Budgetary Process:** The Permanent Secretary, Budget & Economic Planning Directorate made a presentation titled ***The 2019 Budget Process – Town Hall***



Meeting with the Citizens and Other Major Stakeholders: Setting the Stage for Citizens' Inputs” attached as an appendix to this report. He gave complete picture of budget process in order to sensitize the participants. He started with the constitutional premise and pointed out that, the main primary objective of the Government is provision of security and welfare of the people and that, the state shall harness the resources of the nation and promote national prosperity which will leads to secure the maximum welfare, freedom and happiness of every citizen in the State. He added that all the revenues or other moneys raised or received by the State shall be paid into Consolidated Revenue Fund of the State. He reminded the participants that the State has a Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF), which is the overall policy document that contains the policies and programmes, targets and strategies to be pursued by all sectors. It serves as socio-economic development and reform agenda of the State Government and was developed with participation of the citizens inputs gathered through several focal group discussions at the grassroots level and several meetings and consultations with stakeholders.

He also tried to sensitize the participants on how the Directorate arrived with 2019 - 2021 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the indices used to come up with the Medium-Term Projections, ultimately translated

into MTSS and budget ceiling. This was done to disabuse the mind of the participants that resources are limited while the demand of the citizens are



unlimited which call for prioritization of what to be admitted into the budget. He further reminded them of different concepts and nature of the projects such as capital-intensive projects like construction of roads, all that was done to guide the participants in

presenting the citizens inputs.

- iii. **Presentation of 2019 Citizens' Inputs:** As earlier stated, the Town Hall has provided an opportunity for a presentation and discussions on 2019 budget citizens' inputs collected by the PMP from all the nooks and corners of the State. The document containing report of the consultations was officially presented to the Permanent Secretary by State Coordinator of PMP, Isa Mustapha – that is the official presentation of the documented copy of 2019 Budget Citizens' Inputs. This document serves as additional citizens' inputs to the wider discussions and further inputs by participants during the session.



- iv. **Presentation of Content of 2019 Citizens Inputs:** After formal presentation of the citizens' inputs (earlier submitted to BPEL), the State Coordinator PMP briefly presented the

content of the report and the process followed to come up with same. He

stated that the report was structured to give complete picture – it contained the methodology, objectives and major findings by sectors, by projects, analysis by Local Government and concluded with proffered recommendations. As coordinating body and facilitator of collection of citizens demand, with the support from about 100 CBOs across 30 constituencies, where 538 communities were covered, reaching 24,870 respondents (comprising 11,060 Adult (Men and Women), 11,060 youth (Male and Female) and 2,770 People with Disabilities) to come up with compiled citizens’ inputs expected to feed into 2019 budget. The inputs were generated and collated through Vox-pop in the selected communities.

He concluded his presentation by extending appreciation to the government for the show of concern and commitment over citizens’ centered budget; as



indicated in the previous year’s budget, where over 21% of the capital expenditure budget, amounting to N19.003 billion was reflected in the budget document. It was also hoped that

the inputs for 2019 budget will also follow suite.

- v. General discussions and observations by the participants - synopsis of issues raised and recommendations made include among others:
 - Special intervention to address the dearth for qualified teachers in primary and secondary schools. Teacher attrition in the last few years without commensurate replacement through mass recruitment was observed to be partly responsible for poor learning achievements in the State;

- Need for adequate budgetary provisions to address dilapidation of school structures due to storm damage. An example of a Science School in Gumel was cited;
- Need for recruitment of more nurses and midwives and other health personnel particularly at the primary healthcare level;
- Need for farm clusters under the agricultural transformation agenda to include staple crops like millets not just rice and sesame. In addition, the cluster farming should also include more women farmers as there is even a group call Women in Agriculture;
- There is need for specific programmes or intervention addressing the need of People Living with Disabilities (PWDs);
- A representative of Women Journalists express concern with effective budget implementation and timely release of funds to MDAs;
- More women-focus empowerment programmes required including cash grants in addition to the goat-rearing program for women;
- Need to objectively reexamine deployment of teachers in secondary schools. It was observed that schools in urban centers are excessively overstaffed while those in the rural areas are grossly under-served;
- Need for additional effort on the ongoing school decongestion involving establishment of more boarding senior secondary and day junior secondary schools, provision of school furniture and other facilities;
- An issue was raised with regards to farm encroachment by cattle herdsmen. In the same vein, it was observed that camel rearing is also becoming a serious threat to peace and security for farmers of horticultural crops. Need for urban intervention by the State Government strongly advocated;
- Need for increased support to Fadama Farmers particularly with respect drilling of wash-bores and inputs supply and soft agricultural loan to farmers by the Government considering high interest rate of commercial bank;
- Another important observation is on Nutrition programme. It was observed some agencies like Ministry of Agriculture, have budget line

on nutrition but more often they face problem getting adequate and time release of funds for the implementation of nutrition programmes. Therefore while recommending for specific budget line all relevant agencies, timely release of budgeted funds should also be ensured ;

- It was observed the nutrition indices of Jigawa State are very poor and there is an urgent need for additional Community Centres for Management of Acute Nutrition (CMAM). The budget should also indicate the contribution of Local Government Councils in the operations and management of these centers;
- The State target of one Primary health clinic per ward should be vigorously pursued;
- The need was observed for continued conversion of motorized water schemes to solar to cut down on operations and maintenance. In the vein, the State Small Town Supply Agency was called upon to set-up and trained water consumers associations to ensure community ownership of water schemes in the communities;
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- Need for rehabilitation and establishment of irrigation schemes in upland / non-fadama areas;
- Need for new policies and reforms to boost internal revenue, attract private sector investments locally and abroad;
- Other recommendations made include the need to organize the Town Hall meeting even before the MTSS Strategy session notwithstanding the fact CSOs are always invited to the sessions; advise on the citizens' budget to be in the local vernacular, and for the more rigorous implementation of the budget.

The session was followed by responses from Officials of the Budget and Economic Planning Directorate and other representatives of MDAs present. These general were focused on current efforts to address some of the issues and a fledge to ensure that the Budget and Economic Planning Directorate in collaboration with the MDAs will as much as possible to incorporate the issues into the 2019 – 2021 MTSS

and the 2019 Proposed Budget to be submitted to the House of Assembly. Participants were also enjoined to follow-up the proposed budget with the House of Assembly before its passage into Law as well as with MDAs during the implementation stage of the budget

Closing Remarks were made by Hon. Ishaq Sani, Member of State House of Assembly representing Auyo Constituency. He commended the Directorate of Budget and Economic Planning for organizing the event. He equally appreciated the contributions of the Civil Society for their efforts in mobilizing a lot of their members to the event. Despite resource constraints, he urged the Directorate to ensure that most of the contributions are reflected in the budget. On recommendations made on budget implementation and early passage of Appropriation Bills by the House, he promised to convey the message to the leadership of the House.

Rapporteurs' Report

Rapporteurs' Report on the One-Day Meeting Held on 2019 Budget Citizen's' Inputs, 6TH September, 2019.

A one day meeting was conducted at Ahmadu Bello Hall New Secretariat, Dutse on 6th September, 2019 on Budget citizen's inputs 2019 organized by Directorate of Budget and Economic Planning, Opening prayer was conducted by Alhaji M. Garba to declare the meeting opened and Opening remarks was followed by Hon. Commissioner Ministry of finance who was represented by Permanent Secretary Budget and Economic Planning Directorate, were He welcomed all participants who are drawn from various Government Agencies, CSOS and CBOS from different organizations which consists of high dignitaries from service delivery agencies (Major stakeholders) and urged them to make good inputs which will make meaningful contributions towards human development in the State at large. Presentation were made on the objective of the meeting by M. Aminu Kudai Director Budget who stated that, the main objective of the meeting was to gather inputs from citizens to feed 2019 Budget. Over view on Citizens' participation in Budgetary processes were presented by Permanent Secretary Budget and Economic Planning Directorate were he discussed on constitutional premise and made mentioned that, the main primary assignment of the Government is the security and welfare of the people and that, the state shall harness the resources of the nation and promote national prosperity which will leads to secure the maximum welfare, freedom and happiness of every citizen in the state and also talked on the revenue which he said that all revenues or other moneys raised or received by the state shall be paid in to and from one consolidated revenue fund of the state. He also make presentation on the State Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF) which served as the overall policy document containing the socioeconomic Development and reform agenda of the State Government also provides concise and logical exposition of the state development strategy which also served as a medium term development policy blue prints and it was developed with participation of the citizens including several focal group discussion with stakeholders. He also made presentations on 2019 – 2012 MTEF and 2019 Budget and nature of the citizen inputs. Official Presentation of 2019 Citizens Inputs and Presentation of content of 2019 citizens' inputs were made the State Project Monitoring Partnership Coordinator who made presentation on the methodology, objectives and major findings by sectors, by projects, analysis by Local Govt. and recommendations, also described Project Monitoring Partnership (PMP) as a Coalition of Civil Society Organizations Working on Policies, Programmes and budgetary processes in Jigawa state coordinate and facilitates the collection of citizens demand in all the 30 constituencies of the state, covering 538 communities reaching out 24870 respondents comprising 11,060 Adult (Men and Women) , 11,060 youth (Male and Female) and 2,770 People with Disabilities and compiled citizens' inputs for 2019 budget preparation and implementation.

He equally appreciate the government toward tilting to citizens' centered budget; this can be ascertained in the previous year's budget, were 21% of the capital budget amounting to 19,003,000,000 was reflected. He letter on presented the compiled citizens input to the Permanent Secretary Budget and Economic Planning Directorate. At the end of the meeting a floor was opened for the comments, recommendations and responses from various CSOS and CBOS across organizations and Government MDA`s.

Meeting was closed with a prayer by volunteer.

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