



# MONTHLY TRANSPARENCY WATCH

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**2024 UNITED NATIONS  
CIVIL SOCIETY  
CONFERENCE**

MAY 9 - 10 | NAIROBI, KENYA

## 2024 UN Civil Society Conference and the Summit of the Future (SOTF)

In May, the Center joined civil society actors from across the globe at the United Nations Civil Society Conference (UNCSC) held in Nairobi between 9-10th May 2024. Remarkably, the event saw the participation of over 2,000 individuals representing 1,424 organizations, featuring four plenary and interactive sessions, 62 off-site and online events, 38 onsite workshops, 64 exhibits, and the formation of 20 ImPACT coalitions.

The focus of this year's conference was to aggregate the contributions of civil society players on the Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact, and the Declaration for Future Generations ahead of the SOTF in September 2024. The SOTF is a concise, action-oriented document that will be agreed upon in advance through intergovernmental negotiations. One of its aims is to establish a fresh global consensus on the vision for the future and the actions that should be taken today to safeguard the future.

As we look ahead to the SOTF in September, we implore leaders, and indeed, all of humanity, to renew their commitments to a "rejuvenated multilateralism" that is inclusive and caters for the needs of the NOW and future generations.

African leaders, especially, must be awake to their responsibilities ahead of the Summit, by agreeing and presenting a compelling position at the Summit that will bring greater prosperity for the people of the continent. We believe that the "Abuja Declaration," a fallout of an African Regional Dialogue on the SOTF conveyed by the Savannah Center, is a good starting point ahead of the Summit, and should be taken more seriously by stakeholders in the African project.

While we all look forward to the SOTF, we must all seize the opportunities of today by leveraging technology to improve transparency and accountability to promote access to information, citizens engagement and bridge digital divides. The Center's Transparency and Integrity Index (TII) is a viable solution that promotes compliance with access to information laws and policies; we invite partners and civil society bodies to adopt the TII solution to promote transparency and enhance digital governance.

Welcome to the month of June and do have a good read!



## Center Receives MacArthur Foundation Team

The Center was pleased to receive the Co-Directors of the “On Nigeria Project” of the MacArthur Foundation, Dr. Kole Shetimma and Erin Sines at our office yesterday. It was a pleasure to share our efforts with the co-leads working to reduce corruption and ensure accountability of systems in Nigeria.

The Center is further motivated by the commendation and recognition by the Foundation, and we remain committed to our efforts to promote fiscal transparency, strengthen accountability, and reduce corruption in Nigeria.





Photos Speak from UNCSO 2024





# CENTER, FRC TO PARTNER IN STRENGTHENING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY IN PUBLIC SECTOR

In a strategic move to support the fight against public sector corruption, the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity (CeFTPI) and the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria have agreed to work together towards strengthening the nation's corporate governance and transparency of systems to meet the demands of the 21st century.

As an agency of government, the FRC is saddled with the responsibility of overseeing and ensuring quality in “accounting auditing, actuarial, valuation and corporate governance standards and non-financial reporting issues,” hence the collaboration seeks to promote compliance and enhance public sector transparency and accountability.

Speaking during the courtesy visit, the Center's Executive Director, Umar Yakubu said that openness and transparency are essential ingredients for good governance, and the fight against corruption; and called on the FRC to support the Center's advocacy for proactive disclosure of information by public institutions as required by enabling laws.

Umar said that the Center Transparency and Integrity Index (TII) is a corruption preventive mechanism developed to deepen the nation's corporate governance and ensure that public institutions comply with principles of transparency and accountability at the federal and subnational levels.

Welcoming and reacting to the purpose of the visit, the Executive Secretary/CEO of the FRC, Dr. Rabi'u Olowo commended the Center's efforts and vision which he noted align with the Council's objective as a regulatory entity promoting transparency and entrenching of best corporate governance standards across the country.

The ES agreed to collaborate with the Center in promoting transparency and accountability in public; and equally invited the Center to review and support the mainstreaming of the Nigerian Public Sector Governance Code (NPSGC) which was recently developed by the Council.





# MR. GOVERNORS, FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME, HOW HAS FAAC IMPACTED LIVES IN YOUR STATES?

By Victor Agi

Every other month, for those of us who have keenly followed the activities of the Federation Account Allocation Committee's (FAAC), not less than a trillion is being announced to have been generated and disbursed among the three tiers of government, at least since the removal of subsidy, which has significantly improved revenue for the government. In fact, the Punch had reported that statutory federal allocations to the coffers of the state governments alone is expected to increase by 69 per cent, from N3.3 trillion in 2023 to N5.54tn in 2024 based on the approved budget and revenue projection.

So far in the year, states have received N379.41 billion, N366.950 billion, N398.689 billion and N403 billion as statutory allocations from the FAAC for January, February, March and April respectively, amounting to a total of N1.548 trillion disbursement to state governors alone in first four months of the year. Similarly, the local government areas (LGAs), which operate more like states appendixes, have received N278.04 billion, 267.153 billion, N288.688 billion and N293 billion, amounting to N1.126 trillion as allocation for the preceding four months of the year respectively. With the lack of fiscal federalism, especially at the subnational level, which has seen the state governments assuming near absolute control of local government resources and expenditures in most of the states, one would not get into any trouble to claim that the state governors have had access to over N2.6 trillion as statutory allocation alone in the last four months.

This is besides internally generated revenue, 13 percent derivation revenue (for benefitting states) and others. For instance, it's unclear what has happened to the \$299.99 million of the \$800 World Banks' loan released for the National Social Safety Net Program scale up? One cannot determine the number of citizens who have directly or indirectly benefited from this intervention and other federal government palliatives to states to cushion the impact of the removal of subsidy.

Despite increased allocation to the state and local government areas year-on-year, the last four months are arguably the most biting for Nigerians across the societal spectrum. From increased cost of living (with inflation figure at 33.69% as of April 2024) to high cost of transportation and the recent hike in electricity tariff, the rich and the poor alike have had their taste of hardship as a result of government policies.

Mr. Governors, the last time we checked, fifteen (15) states are yet to domesticate the N30,000 minimum wage that was signed in 2019, with only Edo state known to have made public announcements in recent time about increment in staff wages to cushion the impact of the current hardship. Yet, we have not seen any move to cut down the cost of governance in your respective states, rather, with more cash from FAAC, the cost of governance continues to shoot up, while ordinary citizens are left to fend for themselves. It is no longer news that prices of basic commodities are beyond reach for the ordinary people in your respective states. Food inflation figure for April 2024 reached 40.53%, signifying a whopping 15.92% increase year-on-year from 24.61% in April 2023. For instance, a bag of local rice staples which cost between N30-35 thousand twelve months ago now costs between N60-67 thousand naira. Prices of some commodities have more than doubled within the period, yet citizens income streams have either vanished, diminished, or remain the same due to unfavourable economic conditions.



You can access full article here: <https://www.fiscaltransparency.org/mr-governors-for-the-umpteenth-time-how-has-faac-impacted-lives-in-your-states/>



# INFOGRAPHICS CORNER



## SKEPTICS



### 2024 BUDGET

**N82 Billion** has been earmarked for the construction of 427 boreholes.



Surprisingly, this allocation translates to approximately **192 Million** per borehole!

Meanwhile, **The Abubakar Widi-Jalo Foundation**



has, in the last few years, drilled and operationalised **443 boreholes** with approximately **NGN 332 Million**.

With their efficiency, given **N82 Billion**, they will drill **109,300 boreholes**, instead of the 427 that has been proposed in the budget.

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## SKEPTICS



### 2024 BUDGET

#### Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria

Office Stationeries / Computer Consumables  
**N707.4 Million**

Honorarium & Sitting Allowance  
**N699.99 Million**

Uniforms & Other Clothing  
**N355 Million**

Drugs & Medical Supplies  
**N500 Million**

Magazines & Periodicals  
**N632.5 Million**

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## SKEPTICS



### 2024 BUDGET

Budget of the office of the Chief of staff in the last 5 Years

#### Chief of Staff to The President

2023  
**N517.95 Million**

2024  
**N21.22 Billion**

2020  
**N24.35 Million**

2021  
**N76.55 Million**

2022  
**N526.47 Million**

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## TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY INDEX

### VARIABLES FOR 2024

FINANCIALS

PROCUREMENT

HUMAN RESOURCES

CONTROL OF CORRUPTION

CITIZENS ENGAGEMENT



## SKEPTICS



### 2024 BUDGET

#### National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control

Honorarium & Sitting Allowance  
**N58 Million**

Materials And Supplies  
**N615 Million**

Travel & Transport - General  
**N1.1 Billion**

Cleaning & Fumigation Services  
**N156 Million**

Refreshment & Meals  
**N81 Million**

Publicity & Advertisements  
**N588 Million**

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## SKEPTICS



### 2024 BUDGET

#### Nigeria Customs Services

Special Operation Fund  
**N114.4 Billion**

Capital Expenditure  
**N185.4 Billion**

Revenue (Approved For Usage)  
**N459.3 Billion**

Personnel Cost  
**N151.5 Billion**

Other Recurrent Costs (Overhead)  
**N114.4 Billion**

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# DEEPENING FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AT SUBNATIONAL

As part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen fiscal transparency and accountability measures at the subnational level, we discussed ways to enhance the performance of Kaduna state local government areas (LGAs) in the Transparency and Integrity Index (TII) during our conversation with the Commissioner of the Planning and Budget Commission, Kaduna, Hon. Mukhtar Ahmed.





**THE \$75M TRAINING FOR DUMMIES:  
ABUJA METRO RAIL EDITION**

**EMEFIELE: THE NIGERIA'S PICASSO OF  
PAPER MONEY**



As usual, here comes another story of Nigerian leaders' dubious extravagance. We are talking about the noble endeavor of training personnel for the Abuja Light Rail project at only \$75 million, a mere pittance compared to the original \$128 million.

Surely, training Nigerian personnel to oversee railway signals at 12 stations must be akin to teaching rocket science. Perhaps, it's because they need to master the ancient art of turning trains into spaceships.

Minister Wike's Herculean effort to cut down the cost to \$75 million is nothing short of legendary. One can only marvel at the complexity of the additional work required. After all, cleaning up 12 stations must be as arduous as scrubbing the Great Wall of China with a toothbrush.

Meanwhile, the military's reluctance to share land in Maitama 2 District is the plot twist we didn't see coming. Their steadfast grip on barracks ensures civilians remain at bay, thus keeping the budget a cool N1.15 trillion.

And so Wike's promise to negotiate with the military, because, of course, diplomacy is always easier than simply building elsewhere - adds another layer to this epic saga. A true testament to the complexities of urban development in Nigeria, especially when politics denies transparency a chance!

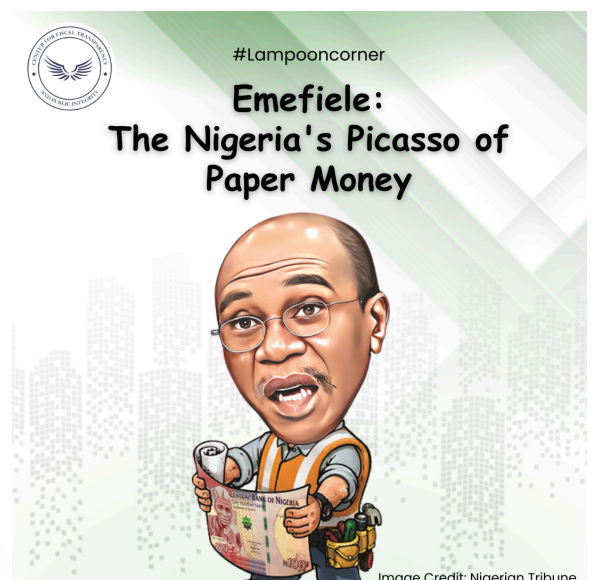
One of the most popular symphonies of corruption recently played out in Nigeria's apex bank, CBN, where after a series of allegations that trailed its immediate former Governor, Godwin Emefiele, Nigerians woke up to another dizzying shock. With a flourish of his pen, Emefiele allegedly orchestrated the printing of N684.5 million fresh naira notes using N18.96 billion. You heard it right. It means using N18.96 million to print cash that's of 27000% less value.

But, well, justice has prevailed as the honorable court granted our fiscal hero bail to the tune of a mere N300 million. A small price to pay for a man of such distinguished pedigree, wouldn't you agree?

The allegation, whether true or false, isn't surprising as Emefiele is not merely a one-hit wonder. He has a repertoire of charges against him that would make even the most audacious embezzler blush with envy. From breaching court orders to disobeying the sacred directives of the Central Bank Act, Emefiele's portfolio of alleged offenses reads like the greatest compilation of corruption.

And let us not forget the pièce de résistance: the naira swap policy, a stroke of genius that transformed the nation's currency into a political pawn in the game of electoral chess. You know, the lengths one would go to in order to combat vote buying.

Yet amidst the chaos and controversy, one thing remains certain: in the theatre of Nigeria's public management where honesty is a foreign concept and integrity is as elusive as a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow, Emefiele's legacy as the Picasso of Paper Money will surely endure for generations to come.







In December, 2022, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) began an investigation into over N200 billion contract approved during Abdul'aziz Abubakar Yari's Administration as Zamfara State Governor, it is **1542 days** and counting, the probe is ongoing with no outcome in sight

In January, 2020, an Ad hoc Committee of the House of Representatives chaired by Hon. Francis Uduyok commenced a probe into the actual fund released by President Muhammadu Buhari and his predecessor, Goodluck Jonathan for constituency projects; it's **1504 days** and counting, the outcome of the probe is unknown



In June 2020, House of Representatives Public Account Committee chaired by Hon. Wole Oke frowned at the failure of the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRMIDP) to properly account for the utilization of N25 billion appropriated between 2015 and 2019 fiscal years; it's **1353 days** after the investigative hearing, actions taken are not known.



In May 2020, a Senate Ad hoc Committee chaired by Sen. Olubunmi Ayodeji Adetumbi commenced a probe into alleged N40 billion act of corruption by the Interim Management Committee (IMC) of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC), it's **1400 days** and counting after the investigative hearing, not much is known about the alleged misappropriation.







# EXCITING NEWS!

We are thrilled to announce that the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Integrity Watch is evolving!

We are now the Center for Fiscal Transparency and Public Integrity, reflecting our expanded focus on promoting integrity and accountability in the public sector.

Our commitment to transparency remains unwavering as we continue our mission to foster a culture of fiscal responsibility and ethical governance

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