

Lagos State Women Economic Empowerment Funding 2018-2022

Synopsis

Women’s Economic Empowerment (WEE) has been recognised as a bridge to glaring gender disparity across the globe. It is recognized that investing in WEE through training and financial support boosts productivity, increases economic diversification and income equality in addition to other positive development outcomes. According to a 2011 FAO report, when a woman is given the same access to productive resources as men, on average they could increase yields on their farms by 20–30 percent. Raewyn & Diane (2014) have also argued that investment in Women Economic Empowerment helps to reduce gender issues relating to land acquisition by allowing women secure rights to land, reduce difficulties in securing labour and credit, and prevent inequitable access to herbicides, fertilizers, and extension service. According to the World Bank (2018), there is growing global evidence that shows that ensuring economic opportunities for women is an important entry point for ensuring better education, health, and nutrition outcomes for families. In this regard, this work reviewed the Lagos State’s government funding commitment to Women Economic Empowerment in annual appropriations between 2018 and 2021.

Table 1: WEE Statistics in Plateau State

State	Own Asset (House) Alone	Own Asset (Land) Alone
Lagos	0.8%	0.5%

Source: NDHS 2018

Lagos State WEE Budgetary Allocation

The state has no specific budget lines for women economic empowerment in the 2021 budget available at the Lagos States government website ¹ . However, the state allocated the sum of N48 million as subvention for the Women Development Centre (WDC). The state WDC provides an avenue for women to learn various vocational skills such as cosmetics, hair dressers/plaiting, computer training, tailoring among others. The total allocated to this centre is 0.006% of the total capital budget and 0.004% of the state’s 2021 budget size.

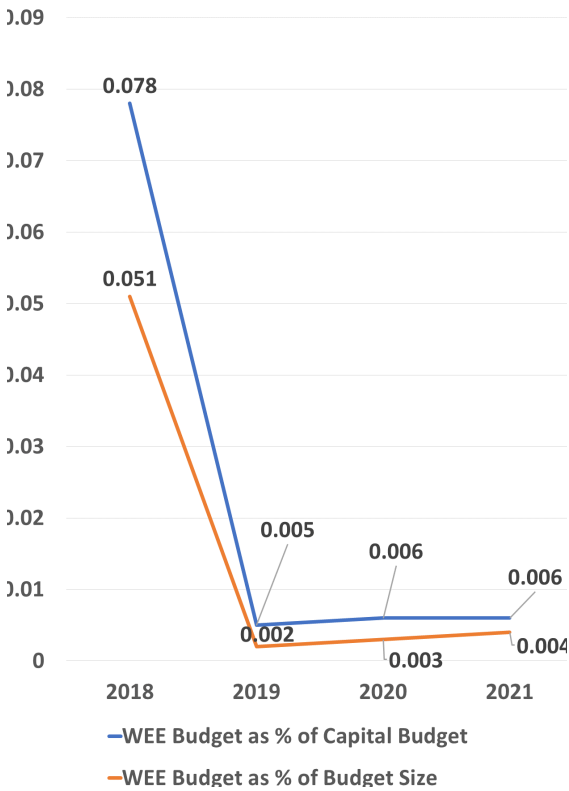
It could also be deduced that the last time the Lagos State government allocated any fund for women specific budget line was in 2018 where the sum of N500 million was allocated for Empowerment for Women.

Table 2: Lagos State’s 2021 WEE Budgetary Allocation

MDAs	WEE Budget Lines	2018	2019	2020	2021
Women's Affairs and Poverty Alleviation	Empowerment for Women (MEPB)	500,000,000	Nil	Nil	Nil
Women's Affairs and Poverty Alleviation	Women Development Centre	20,000,000	25,000,000	33,418,967	48,433,286
	TOTAL 2	520,000,000	25,000,000	33,418,967	48,433,286
	WEE Budget as % of Capital Budget	0.078	0.005	0.006	0.006
	WEE Budget as % of Budget Size	0.051	0.002	0.003	0.004

Source: Lagos State Approved 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 Budget

WEE Budget as % of the Total Capital and Budget Size 2018-2021



Note the state has about N7 billion on empowerment-related budget lines under the Ministry of agriculture and Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment targeting both sexes. However, it was not clear, the number of women that will benefit from the projects (see Table 2 below). Recalls that the state has earlier trained 575 women and youths, comprising 240 in aquaculture, 300 in poultry, and 35, under the Agro-Processing, Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Support (APPEALS) project in rice farming ³.

Table 3: 2021 Non-Sex Disaggregated Empowerment Related Budget

MDAs	Empowerment Related Budget Lines	Amount Allocated
Ministry of Agriculture	Agro-Processing, Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Support (APPEALS)	2,755,000,000
Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment	Graduate internship	1,060,000,000
Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment	Wealth creation	1,114,319,978
Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment	Employment trust fund	1,885,173,071
Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment	Cash transfer	150,000,000
Ministry of Wealth Creation & Employment	Grant employability project	362,000,000

Source: Lagos State Approved 2021 Budget

1 <https://lagosstate.gov.ng/?s=2021+budget+approved>

2 Note: The 2020 Subvention for Women Development Centre was reduced to N 33,418,967 in the Revised 2020 Budget from N48,433,286 in the Initially approved budget.

3 <https://lagosstate.gov.ng>

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Key Findings

- The State do not have any specific funding commitment in the budget focusing specifically on women economic empowerment between 2019 and 2021.
- The last time the Lagos State government as any specific budget line women economic empowerment was 2018, when the sum of N500 million was allocated specifically for women empowerment.
- There is no MDAs with specific budget line for the women economic empowerment or women economic collectives/cooperative.

Recommendations

- There is a need to ensure specific funding in the appropriation law targeting women economic empowerment.
- There is need for MDAs to prioritize women economic empowerment as part of their policy priority.
- The lump sum empowerment budget should always be sex-disaggregated to be able to know whether or not women will benefit.
- Lastly, there is need for adequate and timely releases of fund for women economic empowerment to ensure that more women in their individuals and groups are able to access necessary funding to improve their socioeconomic wellbeing and contribute effectively to the state’s economy.

References

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@drpc_nig



drpcnig kano



drpc



info@drpcngr.org



@drpcnigeria



DRPCNigeria

ABUJA OFFICE:

No 5. I. E. Madubuike Close, Off Ebitu Ukiwe Street, Jabi, FCT Abuja, Nigeria

KANO OFFICE:

No 63B Sultan Road, Nasarawa G.R.A Kano State, Nigeria