

BUDGET ANALYSIS OF THE 2024 ALLOCATION TO SAFE SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION



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Synopsis

Nigeria launched the Safe School initiative in 2014 as part of the need to create secure and protective environments within educational institutions, ensuring the safety and well-being of students, staff, and the overall school community. These initiatives typically encompass strategies such as emergency preparedness, crisis response planning, physical security enhancements, and educational efforts to promote a culture of safety and resilience in schools. Seven years later, the National Policy on Safety, Security, and Violence-Free Schools 2021 was approved and launched. In 2023, an Investment Plan of N144.77 billion was approved in the National Plan on Financing Safe Schools (2023 – 2026).

Of the total investment plan, the federal government is expected to contribute N119.83 billion (83%), and the 36 states are expected to contribute N24.93 billion (17%) over a four-year period, respectively.

Safe School Budget

A cursory look at the education capital budget in the 2024 proposed budget reveals that the federal government has allocated the sum of N5.01 billion for safe school activities in 2024. This means that there has effectively been a 67.83% reduction in safe school expenditure when compared to the N15.58 billion allocated in the 2023 fiscal year.

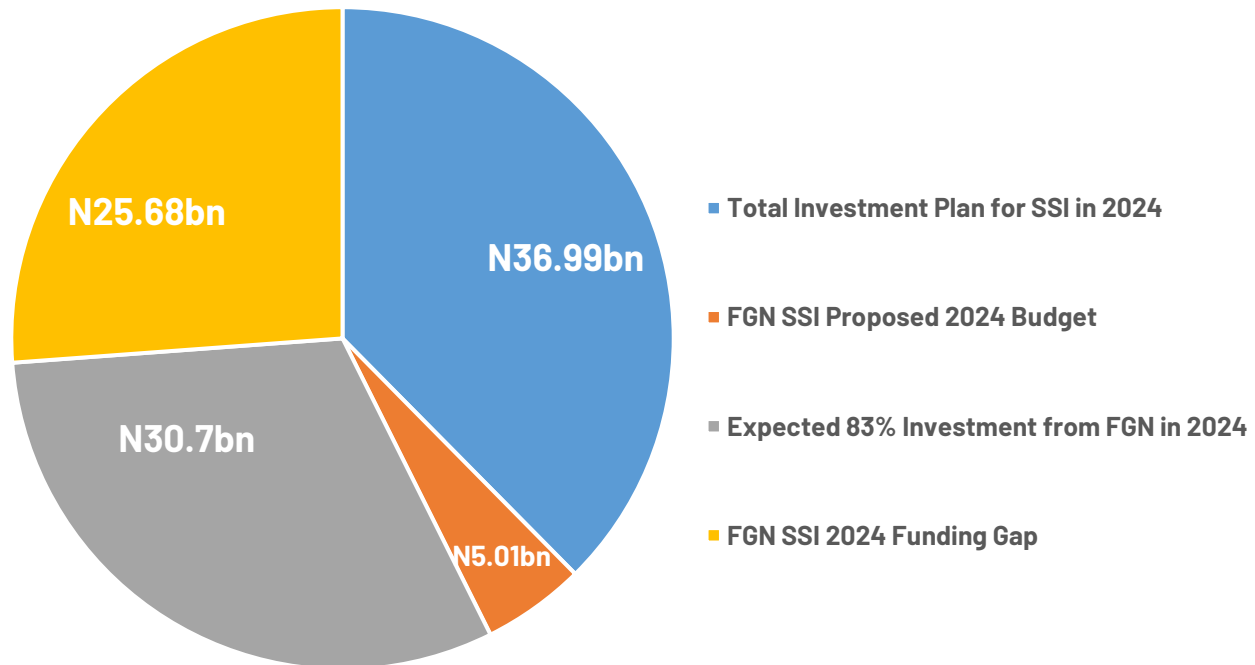
Table 1: FGN SSI Investment Gap 2023-2024 (N)

DESCRIPTIONS	2023	2024	% INCREASE
Total investment Plan for SSI	32,588,153,000	36,988,863,050	13.50%
FGN SSI Budget	15,588,501,704	5,013,734,846	-67.83%
Share of FGN SSI allocation from SSI total Investment Plan	47.83%	13.39%	-
Expected 83% funding contribution from FGN	27,048,166,990	30,700,756,331	13.50%
Share of FGN SSI allocation from expected 83% total Investment Plan	57.63%	16.33%	-
FGN SSI Investment Gap	11,459,665,286	25,687,021,485	124.15%

Source: National Plan on Financing Safe Schools (2023 - 2026), FGN approved 2023 and proposed 2024 Budgets

Furthermore, it is observed that the proposed budget of N5.01 billion for the SSI is 13.39% of the N36.98 billion total SSI investment plan for 2024 and 16.11% of the N30.7 billion expected FGN contribution to the funding commitment from the federal government. This funding indicates a funding gap of N25.75 billion naira.

Fig 1: FGN SSI 2024 Funding Gap (Nbn)



Interestingly, the total of N5.01 billion for the proposed Safe School Initiative (SSI)-related capital funding constitutes 0.06% of the total proposed 2024 Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) capital budget. The SSI's identified in the proposed government's capital budget include interventions focusing on the implementation of the Global Safe Schools Declaration in Armed Forces Schools, support programs for the nationwide implementation of the Safe Schools Initiative policy in senior secondary schools, establishment, and implementation of School-Based Management Committees, and addressing security challenges in polytechnics with a blueprint on campus safety and security. These projects are to be implemented by four key MDAs: Federal Ministry of Education – HQTRS; Federal Ministry of Finance – HQTR; Police Formations and Commands Ministry of Defence – HQTR; National Senior Secondary Education Commission (NSSEC), and National Institute for Education Planning & Administration.

The budget also allocates funds for the procurement of vehicles and ongoing initiatives aimed at ensuring safe, and secure schools in Nigeria. Fifteen schools, including FGC Ikurin, FGC Kano, FGC Kwali, FGC Ugwolawo, FGGC Akure, FGGC Ezzamgbo Abakaliki, FGGC Ibusa, FGGC Kazaur, FSTC Jubu-Imushin, FSTC Usi-Ekiti, FTC Ikare FTC Kafanchan, FTC Uyo, and Queen's College Lagos, are designed to benefit from patrol vehicles in 2024.

Table 2: Proposed 2024 Budget for SSI-Related Interventions (N)

PROJECT CODE	PROJECT NAME	TYPE	AMOUNT	MDAS
ERGP7204959	SAFE SCHOOL PROJECT	Ongoing	100,000,000	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE - HQTRS
ERGP23195363	SAFE SCHOOL INTERVENTION	Ongoing	4,542,651,610	POLICE FORMATIONS AND COMMANDS
ERGP14193195	IMPLEMENTATION OF GLOBAL SAFE SCHOOLS DECLARATION (SSD) IN THE ARMED FORCES SCHOOLS	Ongoing	7,883,236	MINISTRY OF DEFENCE - MOD HQTRS
ERGP23202334	SUPPORT PROGRAMMES TO THE 36 STATES AND FCT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAVE SCHOOLS INITIATIVE POLICY IN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE	New	35,000,000	NATIONAL SENIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION (NSSEC)
ERGP23202281	SUPPORT PROGRAMMES ON THE ESTABLISHMENT/IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOLBASED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN THE 36 STATES AND FCT	New	35,000,000	
ERGP30204078	MONITORING OF THE ACTIVITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF SCHOOL-BASED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES (SBMC) IN PUBLIC BASIC AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE 36 STATES; REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL SBM POLICY AND EMPOWERMENT OF SBMC DESK OFFICERS IN THE 36 STATES, IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF SBMCS AND MONITORING OF THE OPERATIONAL PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF THE REGULATORY AGENCIES	New	6,200,000	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - HQTRS
ERGP30203518	SECURITY CHALLENGES IN POLYTECHNICS AND DEVELOPMENT OF BLUEPRINT ON CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY. PREPARATION AND FORWARDING OF LEGISLATIVE BILL FOR THE	New	40,000,000	

	ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF INNOVATION ENTERPRISE INSTITUTION (IEIS)			
ERGP22201956	PROCUREMENT OF HILUX VAN (BALANCE OF SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE PROJECT)	NEW	15,000,000	FGC IKURIN
ERGP23202214	BEING BALANCE OF PROCUREMENT OF 4X4 PATROL VEHICLE UNDER SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE PROGRAMME	New	15,000,000	FGC KANO
ERGP23202215	SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE PROJECT BALANCE	New	15,000,000	FGC KWALI
ERGP23201771	PROCUREMENT OF HILUX PICKUP VAN (BALANCE OF SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE)	New	15,000,000	FGC UGWOLAWO
ERGP23201760	PROCUREMENT OF HILUX VAN (BALANCE FOR SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE)	New	15,000,000	FGGC AKURE
ERGP23201324	BALANCE PAYMENT OF VEHICLE UNDER SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE	New	15,000,000	FGGC EZZAMGBO ABAKALIKI
ERGP23201930	BALANCE PAYMENT FOR SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE COLLEGE VEHICLE	New	27,000,000	FGGC IBUSA
ERGP22202415	BALANCE OF PROCUREMENT OF 4X4 PATROL VEHICLE UNDER SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE PROGRAMME	New	15,000,000	FGGC KAZAUR
ERGP23202217	BALANCE OF SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE FOR PURCHASE OF HILUX VAN	New	15,000,000	FSTC JUBU-IMUSHIN
ERGP23202025	BALANCE OF SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE FOR PURCHASE OF VAN	New	15,000,000	FSTC USI-EKITI
ERGP23202129	BALANCE FOR SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF 1 NO. 4x4 PATROL VEHICLE	New	15,000,000	FTC IKARE
ERGP22202160	BALANCE FOR PROCUREMENT OF UTILITY VEHICLE FOR SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE	New	15,000,000	FTC KAFANCHAN
ERGP23201724	BEING BALANCE OF PROCUREMENT OF 4X4 1(N0) PATROL VEHICLE UNDER SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE	New	15,000,000	FTC UYO
RGP22202028	BALANCE FOR PROCUREMENT OF UTILITY VEHICLE FOR SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE	New	15,000,000	QUEEN'S COLLEGE LAGOS
ERGP18158926	ENSURING SAFE, SECURE AND VIOLENCE FREE SCHOOLS IN NIGERIA.	New	25,000,000	NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION
Total			5,013,734,846	
Total FGN proposed capital budget			7,720,450,988,366	
SSI allocation as a % of the total FGN proposed capital budget			0.06%	

Source: FGN 2024 Proposed Budget

Recommendation

- 1. Address Funding Gaps in Safe School Initiatives:** The identified funding gap of N25.75 billion for the Safe School Initiatives (SSI) in the proposed 2024 budget should be addressed promptly. Adequate funding is vital for the successful implementation of strategies ensuring secure and protective environments within educational institutions.
- 2. Enhance Transparency and Accountability:** To foster greater accountability and transparency in the utilization of education funds, there should be a concerted effort to provide detailed breakdowns of budgetary allocations and expenditures. The question is that N4.5 billion for “SAFE SCHOOL INTERVENTION” under the Police Formation and Command are for what activities. Transparent reporting mechanisms will allow for better tracking of funds, ensuring they are efficiently and effectively utilized for the benefit of the education sector.

