

Impact of Budgeting System on Management of Public Tertiary Institutions in Benue State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study focused on the Impact of Budgeting System on Management of Public Tertiary Institutions in Benue State, Nigeria. Specifically the study evaluated the extent adequate budgeting addresses the operational needs of Benue State Tertiary Institution, determine whether adequate budgeting ensures the provision facilities required to improve and sustain the effectiveness of Benue State Tertiary Institutions examines the relationship between adequate budgeting and the maintenance of essential tertiary institution infrastructure and resources in Benue State, analyzed the extent adequate budgeting facilitates the professional development and welfare of Tertiary institution staff in Benue State and investigated the challenges faced by the Benue State Tertiary Institution in achieving and maintaining adequate budgeting. The survey design was adopted for the study. The population size comprises staff in Benue State Tertiary Institutions. The findings revealed that the extent to which adequate budgeting addresses the operational needs of the Benue State Tertiary Institution is significantly high. However, the findings of the study reveal that there is a direct and positive relationship between adequate budgeting and the maintenance of essential tertiary institution infrastructure and resources in Benue State. Therefore, it is recommended that government should adopt modern financial management systems and practices to improve efficiency and transparency in budget processes. Also, government should engage stakeholders, including tertiary institution staff and the public, in the budgeting process to ensure that the needs and priorities of the tertiary institution are adequately reflected.

Keywords: Budgeting, Management, Public Tertiary Institutions,

Introduction

One of the most crucial strategies developed to facilitate the effective performance of management functions is budgeting. A budget is essentially a plan expressed in monetary terms, prepared and approved for a specific period, typically outlining the expected income to be generated or the expenditure to be incurred during that time, as well as the capital employed to achieve a particular objective (Ben-Caleb and Agbude, 2022). However, various definitions of a budget have been provided by different authorities; economists, for instance, define it as an official document that details the anticipated revenue and projected expenditure for a given fiscal year. The importance of a budget in any economy cannot be overstated. Beyond serving as a mechanism for resource mobilization and allocation, a budget is also a crucial tool for economic management (Olomola, 2019; Government Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS), 2011). This is because the budget document sets the direction for the entire economy, determining resource distribution and timing, and providing funds for new initiatives and policies through legal, rational, and acceptable means (Bengali, 2004). Indeed, it would be extremely challenging, if not impossible, for any government in a modern economy to achieve its vision for a fiscal year without the use of budgeting (Olomola, 2019). Consequently, the development of a national budget is often regarded as the government's most critical activity each year (Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), 1999; National Democratic Institute (NDI), 2003). However, for a budget to serve as an effective tool for fiscal and macroeconomic management, both the budgeting process and budget management must be robust.



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Objectives of the study

1. Evaluate the extent to which adequate budgeting can addresses the operational needs of Benue State Tertiary Institution.
2. Determine whether adequate budgeting ensures the provision facilities required to improve and sustain the effectiveness of Benue State Tertiary Institution.

Research Questions

1. To what extent does adequate budgeting address the operational needs of Benue State Tertiary Institution?
2. Does adequate budgeting ensure the provision of facilities required to improve and sustain the effectiveness of Benue State Tertiary Institutions?

Hypotheses

Ho: Adequate budgeting has no significant impact on the management of public institutions.

Methodology

A research methodology is a research process employed or adopted to scientifically and systematically present the results of a study to the research audience viz a vis the study beneficiary.

Population of the Study

According to Udoyen (2019), a study population is a group of elements or individuals as the case may be, who share similar characteristics. These similar features can include location, gender, age, sex or specific interest. The emphasis on study population is that it constitutes of individuals or elements that are homogeneous in description. This study was carried out to examine the impact of adequate budgeting in the management of public institutions using Benue State Tertiary Institutions as a case study. Staff of finance department in Benue State Tertiary Institutions form the population of the study.

Sample Size Determination

A study sample is simply a systematic selected part of a population that infers its result on the population. In essence, it is that part of a whole that represents the whole and its members share characteristics in like similitude (Udoyen, 2019). In this study, the researcher adopted the convenient sampling method to determine the sample size.

Sample Size Selection Technique and Procedure

According to Nwana (2005), sampling techniques are procedures adopted to systematically select the chosen sample in a specified away under controls. This research work adopted the convenience sampling technique in selecting the respondents from the total population.

Method of Data Collection

Two methods of data collection which are primary source and secondary source were used to collect data. The primary source was the use of questionnaires, while the secondary sources include textbooks, internet, journals, published and unpublished articles and government publications. The reason for using both primary and secondary source of data is, so that the researcher will have concrete and more valid answers to the research questions

Data Presentation and Analysis

Data Presentation

The table below shows the summary of the survey. A sample of 36 was calculated for this study. A total of 30 responses were received and validated. For this study a total of 30 were used for the analysis.

Distribution of Questionnaire Table 1

Questionnaire	Frequency	Percentage
Sample size	36	100
Received	30	83.3
Validated	30	83.3

Source: Field Survey, 2024



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Data Presentation

Demographic profile of the respondents Table 2

Demographic information	Frequency	percent
Gender		
Male	17	56.7%
Female	13	43.3%
Age		
25-30	9	30%
31-36	8	26.7%
37-42	6	20%
43+	7	23.3%
Marital Status		
Single	19	63.3%
Married	11	36.7%
Education Level		
BS.c	25	83.3%
MS.c	5	16.7%

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Descriptive Analysis

Question 1: To what extent does adequate budgeting address the operational needs of the Benue State Tertiary Institution?

Respondents on question 1 Table 1

Options	Frequency	Percentage
High	15	50.0
Low	4	13.3
Undecided	11	36.7
Total	30	100

Field Survey, 2024

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 50.0% of the respondents said high, 13.3% of the respondent said low, while the remaining 36.7% of the respondent were undecided

Question 2: Does adequate budgeting ensure the provision of facilities required to improve and sustain the effectiveness of the Benue State Tertiary Institution?

Respondents on question 2 Table 2

Options	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	17	56.6
No	4	13.3
Undecided	9	30
Total	30	100

Field Survey, 2024

From the responses obtained as expressed in the table above, 56.6% of the respondents said yes, 13.3% of the respondent said no, while the remaining 30% of the respondent were undecided

Discussion of Findings

Based on the analysis conducted and presented above, the study reveals several key findings. Sequel to the first research objective, the analysis reveals a profound impact of adequate budgeting on the operational efficiency of public institution. Furthermore, the provision of essential facilities through adequate budgeting is pivotal in enhancing and sustaining the court's effectiveness. When resources are allocated appropriately, the tertiary institution can invest in necessary infrastructure, such as modern lecture room technologies, adequate office spaces, and proper maintenance of existing facilities. Despite these benefits, the Benue State Tertiary Institution faces several challenges in achieving and maintaining adequate budgeting. Limited financial resources and competing demands from other sectors often strain the available budget, making it difficult to allocate sufficient funds to the tertiary institution. Additionally, political interference and corruption can further complicate the financial management process, leading to misallocation and mismanagement of funds. Economic fluctuations and fiscal deficits at the state level also pose significant risks to maintaining a stable budget.



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Conclusion

The findings of this study reveal that the extent to which adequate budgeting addresses the operational needs of the Benue State Tertiary Institution are significantly low. However, by ensuring that sufficient financial resources are allocated to cover essential activities. These activities include administrative functions, case management, and day-to-day operations. Additionally, the study findings shows that adequate budgeting ensures the provision of facilities required to improve and sustain the effectiveness of the Benue State Tertiary Institution. When the budget is sufficient, it allows for the construction, maintenance, and upgrading of court facilities, including courtrooms, offices, and technology infrastructure. Furthermore, the result shows that there is a direct and positive relationship between adequate budgeting and the maintenance of essential tertiary institution infrastructure and resources in Benue State. Moreover, adequate budgeting plays a crucial role in facilitating the professional development and welfare of tertiary institution staff in Benue State.

Recommendations

Based on the responses obtained, the researcher proffers the following recommendations to the government of Benue state:

1. Implement regular training programs for tertiary institution staff on budget preparation, execution, and financial management.
2. Adopt modern financial management systems and practices to improve efficiency and transparency in budget processes.
3. Engage stakeholders, including tertiary institution staff and the public, in the budgeting process to ensure that the needs and priorities of the tertiary institution are adequately reflected.

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