

## GOVERNOR UMAHI SIGNS INTO LAW 2022 APPROPRIATION LAW

His Excellency, Governor David Nweze Umahi has signed into Law the Ebonyi State 2022 Budget of One Hundred and Forty-Five Billion, Four Hundred and Ten Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Seven Thousand, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Three Naira, and Forty-Nine Kobo (\*145,410,597,723.49) only as passed into Law by the Ebonyi State House of Assembly.

The Governor assented to the 2022 Budget of Latter Rain at the Executive Council Chambers, Ochoudo Centenary City, Abakaliki on Thursday, December 23, 2021.

The budget is made up of a total Recurrent Expenditure of Fifty-Five Billion, Six Hundred Forty-Six Million, Eight Hundred Eighty Thousand, Five Hundred Seventeen Naira and Sixty-Nine kobo (¥55,646,880,517.69) only, inclusive of a Recurrent Contingency of Five Hundred Million Naira (N500,000,000.00).

The Recurrent Expenditure is composed of a total OVERHEAD cost is Thirty-Eight Billion Six Hundred Two Million Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Two and Forty-Seven Kobo (N38,602,850,182.47), and total PERSONNEL cost is Seventeen Billion, Forty-Four Million, Thirty Thousand, Three Hundred Thirty-Five and Twenty-Three kobo (N17,044,030,335.23).

While the total Capital Expenditure of Eighty-Nine Billion, Seven Hundred Sixty-Three Million, Seven Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Two Hundred Five Naira, and Eighty Kobo (#89,763,717,205.80) only, this includes a Capital Contingency fund of One Billion Five Hundred Million Naira (#1,500,000,000.00).

In his speech, His Excellency thanked the Speaker of the House, Right Honourable Francis Nwifuru, and other members of the House for their good working relationship with his administration and for the rapid consideration of the Budget assuring that his administration would consolidate on its achievements in the coming year.

Some of the highlights of the 2022 budget are the completion of ongoing projects and programs, including the Civil Service recruitment and empowerment of the people of Ebonyi State and, of course, the introduction of **Cash Transfer** and **tradaMONEY** like the Federal Government.

Governor Umahi assured the Speaker and members of the State House of Assembly of prudence in the management of funds allocated for development in the 2022 Budget.

The Governor also said the two new Universities of Aeronautic Engineering and ICT, Science and Technology would take off in the first quarter of next year.

The Speaker of the Ebonyi State House of Assembly, the Right Honourable Francis Nwifuru assured that the House was thorough in its scrutiny of the Budget proposal.

The Speaker commended the Governor for his tireless efforts at placing the State on the global map of development, assuring that the Legislature would continue to partner with the State Government in the overall development of the State.

The recent **Budgit 2021 State of the States report** has shown that the Governor has been very dedicated to planning and prudent in the management of resources. In continuation of these outstanding performances, the 2022 budget was planned to consolidate on the legacies of His Excellency. This fiscal policy will enable the completion of numerous infrastructural strides in the state. This is also in keeping with the Governor's vow to manage Ebonyi State in a transparent and accountable manner.

Mr. Orlando Okechukwu Nweze Hon Commissioner, Ebonyi State Ministry of Finance.