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## Accelerating Africa's Civic-tech Conglomerate

2023 ANNUAL REPORT







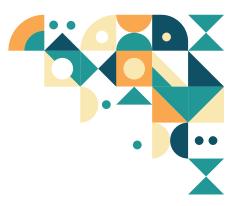
## Accelerating Africa's Civic-tech Conglomerate

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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# From the Global Director's Desk





We are not only thinking about international growth but also leveraging our capabilities in other spheres, such as elections. As the COVID-19 years roll away but the world remains vigilant, we also grapple with how the pandemic has changed our landscape. While we had previously worked in the health sector, developing budget analysis and strengthening stakeholder partnerships, we never realized that centering health accountability in our work was more critical. We have gone ahead to embed social sector accountability in our strategy document and have shown a firm commitment to elevating Strengthening Health Systems into a full unit. We have doubled down on the PHC portal and extended our work with performance data and community vigilance. This innovative platform (phctracka.org) serves as a springboard for empowering communities, stakeholders, and policymakers alike to drive accountability and transparency in primary healthcare delivery.

Despite our establishment in five West African countries, we have continued to grapple with difficulty in finding resources to scale them beyond the COVID-19-related programming in recent years. The invaluable COVID-19-related funds that facilitated our expansion have ceased, leaving a pressing need that's fast graying me. However, we have seen high interest from the Hewlett Foundation and have interest in other institutions invested in regional expansion.

We are not only thinking about international growth but also leveraging our capabilities in other spheres, such as elections. Building on its innovative capabilities, BudgIT/Civic Hive introduced the Elections Dashboard (elections.civichive.org), empowering citizens with real-time election results. Its success was remarkable, with high traffic indicating its impact. Today, the platform is a testament to civic-tech's power in driving meaningful engagement. Looking ahead, the Elections Dashboard is poised to provide invaluable resources, guiding citizens through future electoral landscapes with candidate profiles, interactive maps, and insightful analyses, setting a transformative precedent for civic-tech. We had over two million unique visits in a 48-hour period, cementing our place in electoral technology.



While elections, health, and AI are new areas for us, we are also interested in climate finance accountability. In 2023, BudgIT took a huge step in its commitment by delving into climate financing. We are also excited about the potential of AI and machine learning to make a bigger impact on our work. These technologies can help us analyze data and find important patterns faster and more accurately than ever before. This means we can understand government budgets and policies better and ultimately empower citizens to hold their leaders accountable. As we explore how AI and machine learning can support our mission, our goal is to use these tools to improve the way we work and participate in conversations around governance. By embracing innovation in this way, we are confident we can make greater strides toward a more transparent and accountable society where everyone's voice counts. We will be releasing our first AI product in 2024, and it promises to be exciting.

While elections, health, and Al are new areas for us, we are also interested in climate finance accountability. In 2023, BudgIT took a huge step in its commitment by delving into climate financing. A pivotal moment was our participation in COP28 in Dubai, where we hosted a session themed "Energy Transition: Exploring Climate Financing Models and Inclusive Voices." This engagement underscored our dedication to harnessing diverse perspectives and models for driving sustainable change in the realm of climate finance. Our presence at COP28 provided an invaluable opportunity to engage with global stakeholders, share insights, and foster partnerships for catalyzing effective climate financing mechanisms. Moving forward, we remain steadfast in our resolve to advocate for environmental sustainability and mobilize resources for impactful climate initiatives.

At the heart of it all are people and communities. As Tracka approaches its milestone of a decade in operation, we are proud to celebrate its journey and impact. From its inception to its upcoming 10th year in service, Tracka has been instrumental in fostering transparency and accountability in governance across Nigeria. As part of this milestone, we are excited to announce the launch of a new Tracka mobile application. With the new Tracka app, citizens will have greater access and convenience when monitoring government projects and driving positive change in their communities. We plan to have a big celebration in Q3 2024 for Tracka's Decade of Impact with an Active Citizens Festival, a testament to the glorious work of our biggest product to date.

We continue to foster new communities to drive our impact. In 2023, we held "Nigeria: Fiscal Options and Post-Election Governance," which marked a pivotal moment post-election, aiming to delve into the trajectory ahead. Attracting a diverse array of high-level policymakers, experts, and stakeholders, the gathering served as a platform for robust discussions on navigating the post-election landscape. Focused on exploring fiscal options and key elements crucial for effective governance in the new cycle, the event was a resounding success in fostering dialogue and strategic insights. While the event brought together representatives from governments, civil society, tech startups, and international development partners, the limited involvement of the private sector fell short of our expectations. Reflecting on this outcome, we recognize the imperative to recalibrate our approaches to encourage greater private-sector engagement in future initiatives.

However, we are thrilled to see a surge in interest from various state governments eager to collaborate with us. This growing recognition of our expertise and commitment to transparency and accountability is a testament to the impact we've made in driving positive change. With the Open States (openstates.ng) platform, we continue to expand our partnerships and engagements with state governments across Nigeria. We earnestly look forward to leveraging our collective efforts to foster greater fiscal responsibility and governance excellence at the grassroots level.

As a civic-tech conglomerate boasting a diverse array of products-BudgIT, Tracka, PHCTracka, GovSpend, Open States, and Civic Hive-we are on a mission to build Africa's most impact-driven organization. By leveraging our extensive product suite and harnessing strategic communication channels, we aim to elevate our presence in the civic-tech landscape. Through proactive engagement with stakeholders, targeted outreach campaigns, and the dissemination of compelling narratives, we aspire to catalyze a paradigm shift in how our efforts shape and dictate transformative outcomes. Together, let us embark on a journey of visibility and impact where every endeavor catalyzes positive societal change.

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Oluseun Onigbinde Co-founder / Global Director BudgIT

### **Executive Summary**



BudgIT launched three new civic-tech products to the public to advance social advocacy, transparency, and accountability. The year 2023 placed Nigeria on a global pedestal, and so did it place BudgIT Foundation on the global scale, largely because of the general elections. The run-up to the elections allowed BudgIT to lead several interventions on civic education, candidates' manifesto reviews, and the deployment of an interactive live election result map. BudgIT's live election results came to the limelight when Nigeria's Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) promises to give Nigeria live election results failed. BudgIT became the beacon of hope, deploying our technological prowess, using

https://liveresults.civichive.org to keep Nigerians and the world informed about the election results.

BudgIT launched three new civic-tech products to the public to advance social advocacy, transparency, and accountability. The first was the Federal Government Budget Dashboard, which was launched to make disaggregated federal government budget and expenditure data readily available to the public. We also launched the Primary Health Care (PHC) Accountability Tracka (PAT), a platform for citizens and communities to share their PHC service experiences and provide an overall service experience rating. This provides a unique opportunity for citizens' voices to be heard without any alterations and keeps government stakeholders, development partners, and other critical stakeholders abreast of the reality of PHC service delivery at the grassroots level.

Lastly, we launched the State Fiscal Transparency League, a BudgIT initiative to evaluate the fiscal transparency of Nigerian states, focusing on their adherence to minimum requirements and progress in providing essential fiscal documents to the public. The assessment covers indicators such as the presence of a Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), approved budgets, citizens' budgets, quarterly Budget Implementation Reports (BIR), accountant general's reports, audit reports, functional e-procurement portals, and accessible state websites with fiscal data repositories.

On our programs' end, we led strategic interventions with support from several donor-funding sources, including Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, MacArthur, Open Society Foundation, Oxfam Nigeria, Ford Foundation, and SCALE Palladium, among others, but with a clear focus on our strategic objectives.



While elections, health, and AI are new areas for us, we are also interested in climate finance accountability. In 2023, BudgIT took a huge step in its commitment by delving into climate financing. BudgIT retained its flagship project, the State of States Research, and executed the fiscal analysis of the 36 states in Nigeria through the State of States report with a sub-research theme on Subnational Healthcare Delivery for Economic Development.

The different sessions at the report launch created the opportunity to discuss issues affecting the effective delivery of primary health care services. This research facilitated access to data and evidence used to engage critical stakeholders during and after the report launch. The report allowed us to host stakeholders who are duty-bearers in primary health care accountability, most notably, the Nigerian Vice President (represented), the Chairman of the Nigeria Governors Forum, the Executive Governor of Kwara State, the Executive Chairman of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) (represented), and the Executive Secretaries of seven States' Primary Health Care Development Agencies (SPHCDA).

BudgIT has been instrumental in advancing efficient and innovative governance of natural resources through extensive research and advocacy efforts. Key research projects such as Energy Transition: Realities and Pathways for Nigeria, Economic Sensitivity of Petrol Subsidy Removal in 2023, and Climate Financing in Nigeria's Public Budgeting have yielded recommendations to enhance governance in critical natural resource sectors. Collaborative efforts with partners like the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) facilitated knowledge-building workshops in oil-producing states, emphasizing the implications of the energy transition on communities, particularly women and youth.

Tracka, BudgIT's service delivery promotion arm, stepped up its service delivery tracking in the year under review with 2,186 projects tracked, 213 town hall meetings, 881 community letters facilitated and delivered, 155 media engagements, 920 Fol requests, and reaching 28,464 people directly. The Open Government and Institutional Partnership unit led our effective collaboration with the National Assembly and other public institutions, facilitating access to budget data and upholding Nigeria's achievements in fiscal transparency at the subnational level.

BudgIT continues to be intentional about the growth of its people, investing in their professional development. Organizational learning remains a priority, with staff benefiting from training opportunities to enhance their skills. While our activities and programs were successful, we took a hit toward the end of 2023, which was an unprecedented feat that has never happened in the history of our organization as we lost one of our own, Alhassan Sessy, the Country Lead for BudgIT Sierra Leone. In 2024, we will continue to do more to ensure that our stakeholders and engagement efforts lead us to the point where we can effect and drive a change in policy before it is implemented. It has been a great pleasure to lead the dynamic BudgIT HQ team and manage our program interventions and stakeholders—board, trustees, staff, donors, consultants, contractors, and, importantly, our followers and the general public.

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Gabriel Okeowo Country Director BudgIT, Nigeria

### Programme Statistics & Impact Figures





#### Budget Access and Fiscal Governance





In December 2023. BudgIT, in collaboration with Invictus Africa. introduced the inaugural edition of the Womanity Index. This research initiative aims to evaluate and rank states' effectiveness in preventing and addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

The department started 2023 with a strategy meeting and drafted the 2023 activity plan and strategy measurement framework. We worked on numerous projects and activities funded by Publish What You Fund (WEE, WFI, WEF), Ford Foundation (Womanity Index), UNICEF (Impact Survey), International Budget Partnership (Budget Credibility), BMGF, OSIWA, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Paper, etc. To further the organization's aim of integrating gender and inclusion in its program framework, the department developed the Womanity Index Report. It spearheaded the development and launch of BudgIT's FG Budget and State of States Dashboards. For BudgIT's post-election strategy, the department developed a post-election research document, which was presented at BudgIT's post-election event with the private sector.

In 2023, BudgIT, in collaboration with international entities, conducted a thorough review of its methodology for the flagship project, the State of States. Following careful consideration, the decision was made to retain the existing methodology, which serves as a comprehensive assessment of the fiscal viability, performance, and, significantly, sustainability of the 36 states of the federation. The objective of maintaining the methodology was to ensure a robust evaluation of domestic resource mobilization and debt sustainability for each state. The findings of the State of States research, specifically focusing on Subnational Healthcare Delivery, were subjected to validation by a minimum of 20 states. The report was officially launched by the Executive Governor of Kwara State in October 2023, marking a significant milestone for BudgIT's research and policy advisory team during the year.

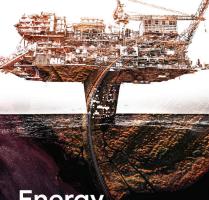
In December 2023, BudgIT, in collaboration with Invictus Africa, introduced the inaugural edition of the Womanity Index. This research initiative aims to evaluate and rank states' effectiveness in preventing and addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The Womanity Index (GBV), for its first edition, incorporated indicators distributed across five key areas: Laws and Policies, Access to Legal Justice, Support Services, Information and Awareness, and Budget and Spending. This comprehensive approach provides a thorough assessment of states' performance in combating GBV.

## Key achievements in the reporting period









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Energy Transition Realities & Pathways for Nigeria

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#### **Communications and Strategic Storytelling**

The department was featured as resource persons in **57 television programs**, 24 radio stations, two Twitter spaces, and three podcasts focused on

public financial management, natural resource governance, transparency and accountability, and public policy. The aforementioned events were used to educate and inform the public on government policy and its effects and to proffer policy recommendations to the government. The platforms were also used to mobilize the public with information to play their role as active citizens.











Live viewers, attendees, and YouTube views (on campaigns to reach citizens on civic education)

ement and ty Building Engage Capacit Norkshop











1 - Iniobong Usen at The UNICEF/IBP Budget Credibility meeting in Nairobi, Kenya

- 2 Iniobong Usen during an Interview on TVC News
- a A group photograph at the end of The UNICEF/IBP Budget Credibility meeting in Nairobi, Kenya
  4 Meeting with the World Bank on Public Policy Issues
  5 The BudgIT team Meeting with the World Bank on Public Policy Issues







Womanity Index Validation Meeting in Abuja
 Group photograph during the Womanity Index Validation Meeting in Abuja
 An Interactive Session during the Womanity Index Validation Meeting in Abuja
 Iniobong Usen, Head of Research and Policy Advisory dept, at a peer learning session on Budget credibility Hosted by the International Budget Partnership(IBP)

#### Natural Resource and Climate Governance





The potential for high profits and revenues from natural resources makes them appealing to enterprises. However, corruption in Nigeria's extractive industry is a resource curse or paradox of plenty where enormous resource wealth has failed to transfer into economic prosperity and sustainable development.

To contribute to improved efficiency and innovation in natural resource governance, BudgIT carried out key research and made recommendations that will improve the efficiency and governance of some critical areas in the natural resource sector. These include "Energy Transition: Realities and Pathways for Nigeria," "Economic Sensitivity of Petrol Subsidy Removal in 2023," and "Climate Financing in Nigeria's Public Budgeting."

We engaged CSOs, stakeholders, and the media at a one-day workshop on "Cost of Corruption in Benefits Transfer." The potential for high profits and revenues from natural resources makes them appealing to enterprises. However, corruption in Nigeria's extractive industry is a resource curse or paradox of plenty where enormous resource wealth has failed to transfer into economic prosperity and sustainable development.

We also embarked on a one-day intensive workshop for CSOs, CBOs, advocacy groups, investigative journalists, and the media to enlighten them on the Petroleum Industry Act specifications about the Host Communities Development Fund and its implementation so far, centered on two prominent areas of need, namely, "HCDT Regulations and Implementation Guidelines" and "Emerging Issues in HCDT Implementation and the Way Forward."

In partnership with the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), we facilitated two robust knowledge and technical capacity-building in Rivers and Akwa Ibom States to improve oil communities, women, and youth's understanding of the implications of energy transition on their lives and livelihoods, and its profound impact on women and youth in Nigeria, emphasizing a people-centered approach to Nigeria's energy transition process to inform their advocacy for inclusion in Nigeria's energy transition plan.

As part of our engagement in the advocacy for the adoption of Open Government Partnership and Open Contracting at the subnational level, we paid an advocacy visit to the Office of the Commissioner for Finance, the Office of the Clerk, the Cross River State House of Assembly, and the Cross River State Budget Office in Cross River State. We also visited the Office of the Accountant General and the Office of Budget and National Planning in Imo State. We emphasized the significance of the Open Government Partnership and the need for state governments to be acquainted with the Open Government Partnership reforms.

In a groundbreaking stride toward transparency and accountability within Nigeria's extractive industries, a collaborative effort between BudgIT and Directorio Legislativo emerged to tackle one of the most pressing challenges-the complex web of connections between Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) and companies holding mining, oil, or gas licenses. The two organizations launched the "Joining the Dots for Politically Exposed Persons in Nigeria" platform to shed light on hidden corruption risks and conflicts of interest that have long plagued the country's natural resource governance. The platform can be accessed here: https://peps.directoriolegislativo.org.

We had a four-week radio campaign to sensitize citizens on the gaps, impact, and strategies in good governance. To cover the scope of the objective, we carefully selected four topics to enable citizens to know their rights, reforms, and actions to ensure good governance in the extractive sector. Analytics presented at the end of the campaign showed that the radio campaign reached over eight million citizens in Port Harcourt, Calabar, and Uyo.

In November 2023, we took our advocacy for a just energy transition and effective climate financing to the global stage at COP28 in Dubai, UAE. We made connections and developed networks with stakeholders within and outside Nigeria. These links contribute to BudgIT's strategic engagements on natural resource and climate governance with local, international, government, and private actors.









Advocacy Visit to the Office of the Clerk, Cross River State House of Assembly
 Advocacy Visit to the Office of the Commissioner for Finance, Cross River State
 Stakeholders Engagement
 Advocacy Visit in Imo State
 Cost of Corruption in Workshop in Port Harcourt



- Cost of Corruption in Workshop in Port Harcourt
   Cost of Corruption in Workshop in Port Harcourt
   Launch of Joining the Dots for Politically Exposed Persons in Platform
   Launch of Joining the Dots for Politically Exposed Persons in Platform
   Launch of Joining the Dots for Politically Exposed Persons in Platform





1 - Energy Transition Event, Abuja 2 - COP28 Event in Dubai

- 3 COP28 Event in Dubai
  4 COP28 Event in Dubai

### Public Funds for Public Good





Our focus for the next ten years is to build communities that can trigger and accelerate development, communities that will use data to hold their democratic leaders accountable. Tracka is ten this year, and we have taken one lesson from the past decade of our work—the power of community action. In 2023, we held many activities ranging from project tracking, where a total of 2,186 projects were tracked, to civic education and advocacy, where 213 town hall meetings were held across different communities. We wrote a total of 1,801 Freedom of Information (FOI) and need-based request letters to different stakeholders in a bid to support communities, and we held 155 media engagements across the focus states. All these were done alongside stakeholder engagements and partnerships, but our most important achievement was recording 35 impact stories across 18 states.

These impact stories ensured our advocacy and community collaboration efforts yielded social amenities that are currently serving over two million Nigerians and will continue to serve them for at least the next ten years.

A health center in Katsina, a school in Osun, a skill acquisition center in Kwara, a road in Ebonyi, a mother and child clinic in Niger, a dam in Kebbi, a borehole in Ekiti, a school in Lagos, amongst others. Someone has access to healthcare because of our advocacy, a child will go back to school and learn in a conducive environment because of our efforts.

Our focus for the next ten years is to build communities that can trigger and accelerate development, communities that will use data to hold their democratic leaders accountable. Communities that will wake up and ask questions without being nudged and not stop asking until they are heard—until they get answers.

One of the small pockets of communities is our Community Champions Initiative, a resourceful, resilient group of 1,509 people across all the nooks and crannies of Nigeria. They wake up daily to pursue actions that will develop their immediate communities. Some organize town hall meetings, and some submit community needs to our Tracka Mobile App. Some go on the radio to ask questions about projects that should be executed, and some go to the offices of their federal reps to ask questions. All at no cost, only fueled by service to humanity and the nation.

In 2023, we dedicated resources to train and empower them in civic advocacy and other needed skills to improve their lives. In subsequent years, we will focus on not just growing the community but enriching the community champions to be model citizens anywhere in the world.

In a rapidly changing world, we have realized that communities go beyond the boundaries of geography. People identify with a community in churches, mosques, trade associations, cooperatives, WhatsApp groups, old student associations, office group chats, or sports fan clubs. We are devising strategies to penetrate and collaborate with as many communities as possible to ensure our 'gospel' travels beyond and out-lives us. We desire to see our work become redundant, which will happen in a world where every Nigerian is conscious about how governance works, how to demand transparency and accountability from public and civil servants, and how to act on it.

Happy 10th anniversary to Tracka. Join us to celebrate by downloading the Tracka Mobile App (available on App Store and Google Play Store) and asking your local government chairman how they spent the December 2023 federal allocation they received.







- Ahmadiyya Pry Sch Before Intervention
   Ahmadiyya Pry Sch After Intervention
   Gawu Babangida PHC Before Intervention
   Gawu Babangida PHC After Intervention
   GSS Sabon Tasha Before Intervention
   GSS Sabon Tasha After Intervention











1 - BudgIT State Officer addressing the Community Champions during the hangout in Niger State

- 2 Townhall Meeting at Ukawu Secondary School, Ukawu, Onicha LGA, Ebonyi State
- 3 BudgIT State Officer addressing the Community Champions during the Regional hangout
- 4 Group picture session during the Community Champion hangout at Niger State, North Central
  5 Town Hall Meeting in Ijan Ekiti, Ekiti State
  6 Townhall Meeting at Kuchiko, Niger state



Yushau Yahaya Bauchi

Dear Yushau,

Thank you for your exceptional service to the development of Ningi LGA and the construction of Agwarmaje Primary Health Centre in 2023! Your commitment to accountability, community advocacy, and engaging your political stakeholders was highly instrumental.

You are a shining embodiment of what it means to be an active citizen and how the actions of every Nigerian is the key to achieving the Nigeria we all desire. Cheers to an impactful 2024!

**BudgIT Management** 

Sector BudgITng TrackaNG

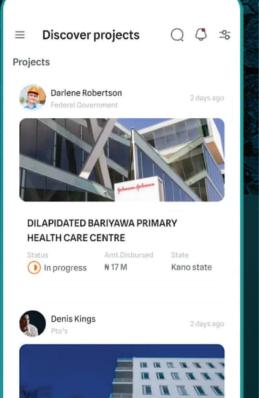


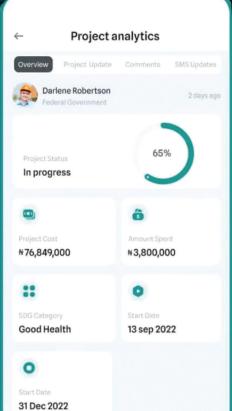
## Are you aware of the projects going on in your comunity?

Monitor the implementation of these projects on the Tracka Mobile app









### **Telling Our Stories**





Some prominent campaigns include our voter education campaign, 'SaveOneSaveAll.' States Fiscal Transparency League, GovSpend Media Fellowship, Strengthening Community Engagement and Accountability for Primary Healthcare (SCEAP) Project, and hosting Nigeria's first health summit. to mention a few.

Imagine a world where data isn't confined to dreary spreadsheets and mind-numbing statistics. Instead, picture yourself being swept into beautiful animated graphics that bring every data point to life. That's the thrilling journey we embarked on in 2023. We didn't just transform raw data into motion—we turned it into a captivating symphony where every flicker and flutter told a story of its own. From dissecting budget breakdowns to unraveling complex economic analyses, nothing escaped the compelling charm of motion graphics.

In 2023, we dove headfirst into the realm of motion graphics, infographics, and videos, making videos our arsenal. Bearing in mind that it was an election year, we were intentional with our strategy—to educate the public, reel them in with mind-blowing visuals, and inform them of their role in governance. But here's the catch: we didn't just inform through dynamic visuals—we educated, motivated, and left our audiences craving more. But why did we embark on this visual odyssey? Because we understand the power of storytelling. In a world overloaded with information and fleeting attention spans, the battle for engagement is fiercer than ever. We knew that to connect with our audience, we had to speak their language—the language of visuals.

Some prominent campaigns include our voter education campaign, 'SaveOneSaveAll,' States Fiscal Transparency League, GovSpend Media Fellowship, Strengthening Community Engagement and Accountability for Primary Healthcare (SCEAP) Project, and hosting Nigeria's first health summit, to mention a few. Significant accomplishments in the domain of civic-tech innovation include the launch of our FG Budget dashboard, Election website, Off-Cycle Election portal, and health accountability product-www.phctracka.org.

Our post-election campaign, "What's Next? After Elections," recorded a massive milestone, reaching over 140 million citizens offline and online. During the campaign, we engaged and educated citizens about their role in the democratic process and empowered them with civic-tech products to keep elected officials accountable. To do this, we used creative strategies to capture and retain citizens' interest through a series of compelling social media visuals, as well as television and radio commercials highlighting the importance of citizens' participation in governance accountability.

By harnessing the magic of motion graphics, infographics, and videos, we didn't just tell our story, but we brought it to life in a way that was impossible to ignore. We ensured our creations were accessible to all, breaking through language barriers with meticulous subtitling, vivid audio descriptions, and intuitive design. We empowered citizens to grasp complex information effortlessly, understand issues happening in and around their community—through interesting documentaries., and participate in governance with confidence.

So, what's next for us? One thing is certain—we are far from finished. With each innovation, we will continue to push the boundaries of visual storytelling, cementing our position as a creative beacon in the civic space. Get ready; this is just the beginning.



- CTAP town hall meeting with Osogbo Community on Agenda Setting for Healthcare in Southwest
   Ladipoe at the official signing as CTAP's Cultural Influencer
   The official signing of Mavin Records' Ladipoe as Cultural Influencer for CTAP's Health Accountability Project
   Team members at the final shoot day of Nunwa Bhui Bhui Documentary









- Road show
   BudgIT team at the shoot of Nunwa Bhui Bhui Documentary
   Nunwa Bhui Bhui Documentary Shoot
   Advocacy during the health sector accountability campaign

# Institutions and Partnerships



"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."

– Phil Jackson

#### **Key Achievements**

BudgIT continued its esteemed work with SCALE Palladium to strengthen cluster members and raise active Nigerian citizens who can use technology to seek better governance. The Tracka Mobile 2.0 developed as a result of this partnership became the center of conversation across Nigeria, where we engaged over 50,000 Nigerians through town hall meetings, online and stakeholder engagements, and via our community champions. The federal government has now adopted Tracka Mobile 2.0 as a critical needs assessment tool to meet constituents' needs. The app is now a go-to platform for budgetary information, analyzed budget documents, and local government allocations.

The department continued collaborating with states to ensure their openness and transparency, leading advocacy (via our platforms) on the need to keep the states open and not lose the achievements we've recorded over the years.

On Open Government Partnership, BudgIT co-chairs the Fiscal Transparency Thematic working group for the fulfillment of the National Action Plan III (NAP3). Last year, the Open Alliance opened more state coordinating chapters in Jigawa and Ibadan to ensure these states signed up for the Open Government Partnership platforms. We discovered that some of these states, which had earlier signed up for the OGP process, had relented, mostly due to the change of government.

The Open Alliance used a state visit engagement method to bring them back and make them active again in OGP. In addition, the Open Alliance, in collaboration with BudgIT Extractives, helped to review Imo and Uyo States' Open Contracting Process, encouraging them to embrace the Open Contracting Data Standards (OCDS) for all their procurement processes.

In 2023, the States Fiscal Transparency League (SFTL) Table continued to attract the attention of all state governments, as no state government wants to rank low on the table. In return, this deepened the level of openness on fiscal documents from the states. The rankings have been in tandem with the Disbursed Linked Indicators (DLIs) from the SAFTAS



The department continued collaborating with states to ensure their openness and transparency, leading advocacy (via our platforms) on the need to keep the states open and not lose the achievements we've recorded over the years.



BudgIT will sign a new MoU with at least two state governments (Ebonyi and Anambra) on public sector accounting standards (IPSAS) and will continue to support states on subnational transparency. (States Fiscal Transparency, Accountability, and Sustainability) World Bank project, which seeks to keep subnational transparency to a high standard. BudgIT has continued to rank each state based on the timeliness, comprehensiveness, and accessibility of these documents. In 2023, the SFTL successfully ranked all 36 states for three quarters, showing how they perform under the tenets of transparency and accountability.

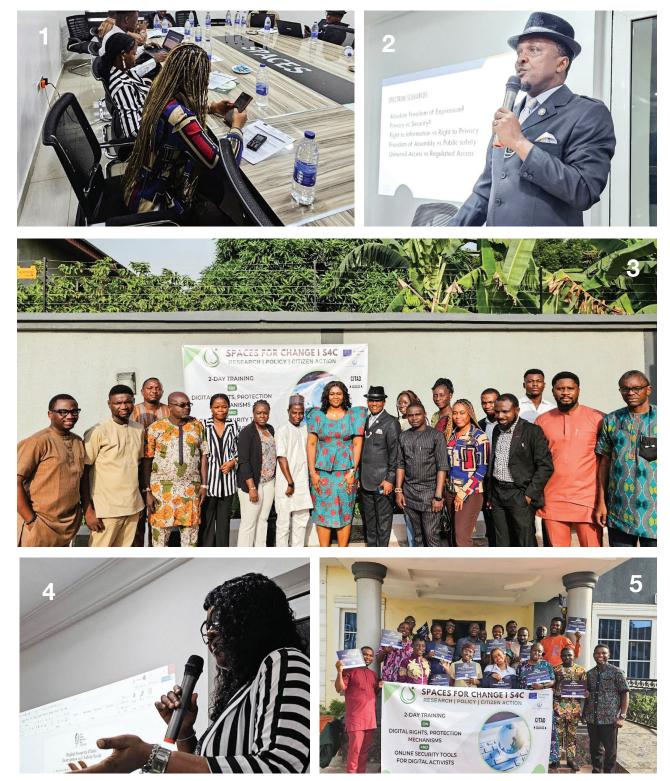
Also, we released an analysis of the federal government's disbursement from January to June via the GovSpend portal. This desk research was to increase CSOs, CBOs, and Journalists' awareness of on the possibility of the Govspend platform. In addition, we launched the first of its kind GovSpend Fellowship program, a 3-month investigative journalism program that hosted 12 journalists across the country who wrote powerful stories using the Govspend platform.

To encourage more citizen participation, we have kept the BudgIT personalized data platform current, released state budget implementation report analyses, and ensured the Open States portal is functional. All these platforms have become everyday tools for CSOs, CBOs, Stakeholders, and the general public to seek transparency and accountability from national and subnational governments. BudgIT launched the final OSIWA report, which focused on an in-depth analysis of strengthening partnerships for accountability and equity. This report showcased the compendium of work done by civil society partners to ensure equity in health and vaccine distribution and administration.

#### **The Next Phase**

BudgIT will sign a new MoU with at least two state governments (Ebonyi and Anambra) on public sector accounting standards (IPSAS) and will continue to support states on subnational transparency while integrating state governments into the OpenStates website so they can give feedback to citizens' concerns. We will also train them on how to upload all public finance documents for easy access while using the feedback portal to interact with citizens. In addition, we will start a State Budget Analysis to give a snapshot of the outlook of each state's budget.

BudgIT will build CSOs' capacities through Open Alliance to ensure accountability in their states through improved budget participation, gender budgeting, and adoption of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative.



1-5 - A 2 day Training on Digital rights, protection, mechanism and online digital security tools for digital activist coordinated by Open Alliance



govspend

Explore MDAs -> Beneficiaries Download Resources ->

#### Track and Analyze Federal Government Spending over time

Discover who is being paid, what they are getting paid for, and when they were paid

Learn More

Explore

× +

id.na/b

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See Who is Getting Paid by the Federal Governement

Discover who is being paid, what they are getting paid for, and when they were paid.

www.govspend.ng

### Community Engagement for Quality Primary Healthcare Delivery



#### The community is the bedrock of Primary Health Care.



The Strengthening Community Engagement and Accountability Project (SCEAP), which seeks to improve primary health care delivery in Nigeria, was also built on the principle of community ownership. Engaging community actors as drivers of change and catalysts for transparency and accountability in the change system is important to promote community ownership (inclusion and adherence to care) and equal participation at the health facility. These steps are vital for improving the quality of Primary Health Care (PHC) delivery.

The National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) has attempted to structurally embrace community engagement mechanisms to deliver primary health care services by establishing different community groups and committees to ensure community engagement becomes an integral part of primary health care service delivery in Nigeria.

Structurally, with the inclusion of the Ward Development Committee (WDC) and the Village Development Committee (VDC), community members and facility representatives at the PHC can identify problems/challenges at their facilities and channel them constructively through the WDC/VDC to the Local Government Health Authority (LGHA) and other health stakeholders and obtain responses to the identified problems. Other engagement modalities, such as advocacy and sensitization exercises through town hall meetings and focus group discussions, have been highly impactful in creating awareness and propelling communities toward civic action, institutional engagement, and health stakeholder accountability.

The Strengthening Community Engagement and Accountability Project (SCEAP), which seeks to improve primary health care delivery in Nigeria, was also built on the principle of community ownership by championing community-led advocacy and service delivery monitoring, financing, and tech infrastructure deployment to improve access and utilizing healthcare services by strengthening the government's commitment to fund and deliver quality healthcare.

Twenty community-based organizations were empowered as champions to drive and sustain this mandate by ensuring community members' voices are amplified and the various stakeholders are integrated into the change process. The result of this coordinated engagement is that the bottom-to-top approach improved the quality of care in primary healthcare facilities.



Visit with the Director of Nursing, Abdul Kadir Harbau, State Ministry of Health, Kano State
 Kano State PHC Facility and Workers Award Event
 Yobe State PHC Facility and Workers Award Event
 Gombe State PHC Facility and Workers Award Event
 Kaduna State PHC Facility and Workers Award Event

Strengthening Community Engagement and Accountability for Primary Healthcare Project (SCEAP)





# Quality healthcare is for every Nigerian.

Now you can demand PHC delivery and accountability in your community.

Visit **phctracka.org** to report your experience and share PHC needs in your community

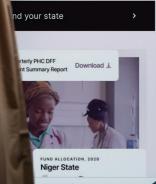
Only available for Kano, Kaduna, Gombe, Niger and Yobe States. **Other states coming soon.** 

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phctracka.org

PHC Accountability Tracka



# **Civic Hive:** Civic Innovation and Youth Leadership



Every day, our work seeks to expand the citizens' participation and interest in civic life while deepening our commitment to raising tech-driven solutions and creative approaches to making governance work for the people. Times are changing, yet political and democratic participation in Nigeria seems unaffected by this change, particularly among young people. Largely, the younger generation is perceived to have a very vague or disinterested attitude toward anything relating to governance, community development, and grassroots politics.

Every day, our work seeks to expand the citizens' participation and interest in civic life while deepening our commitment to raising tech-driven solutions and creative approaches to making governance work for the people.

### Creative ChangeMakers Fellowship

Given the growing influence of the creative sector in Nigeria, particularly among the Gen-Z population, and the increasing consumption of snackable content among young people, we launched the Creatives ChangeMakers Fellowship program to improve young creators' skills and introduce them to use their talents to increase civic participation and demand better governance. We graduated 16 outstanding fellows whose capstone projects have earned local and international recognition for their masterpieces.

### Student Union Leaders Fellowship

Burdened by the desire to build and empower transformational leaders among young people and given the role of student union leaders in shaping conversations and movements among tertiary students in Nigeria; we launched the Student Union Leaders Fellowship, where we trained student leaders in the Southwest and Southeast over two months.

The success of this pilot cohort reaffirms our commitment to investing in youth leadership development for a more hopeful, inclusive, and accountable society. We trained 52 student leaders and inducted 33 as fellows. During the fellowship, our fellows built 12 civic-tech solutions to improve justice and legal reforms in Nigeria. With the support of our partners, we awarded 2000 euros for implementing these ideas.

We know that for student leadership to advocate for students effectively, student leaders need structures and systems that give them a good chance to participate in decision-making processes.

### Live Result Platform and Election Project

In the last general election, our incredible landmark solution to election data visualization and transparency created a new approach for citizens to understand and become more involved in governance.

With our election project, we strategically communicated to different audiences, irrespective of literacy level, reasons to get involved in governance and provided them with the necessary tools. We held regional town hall meetings and roadshows and embarked on the Value of A Vote campaign. Our manifesto review of major presidential candidates became a tool for people to ask questions and focus on real issues. With our Live Result platform, we collated results at the LGA level, which gave users a platform to follow election results in real-time. Unlike in the past, when they had to wait 3-4 days to get a direction on polls, our platform became the go-to website, attracting over four million unique visitors daily.

#### The Resolve to Do More

Civic Hive remains committed to raising tech-driven solutions to social issues, building the capacities of existing NGOs and transformational leaders who champion local actions, and creating global changes.





1-4 - Creative ChangeMakers Fellowship



1-4 - Student Union Leaders Fellowship

# People and Talent Management



Our success story lies in our understanding that talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships. The year 2023 started on a good note with a staff retreat that consisted of indoor and outdoor learning and activities. The management and HumansofBudgIT planned and executed several celebrations, including childbirths, birthdays, weddings, and our signature Active Citizens Awards, which combined gave the year purpose. Our success story lies in our understanding that talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.

There was a down moment for the BudgIT team toward the end of the year when we lost a colleague, Alhassan Sesay, the country lead for Sierra Leone. It was a sad experience for all of BudgIT as it was the first of such experiences since the organization's inception over a decade ago. However, we were consoled by his exemplary life and pray he continues to rest in perfect peace.

#### **Retention and Recruitment**

BudgIT Foundation, like any other organization, fights the war against the loss of good talent, and we have continued to win despite the difficult economic situation and the loss of talent to the global market. We had a few exits in 2023, but thankfully, we had in-house talent who stepped in and made the most of the situation. we are proud of our abilities. As is customary, we recorded the entry of new personnel in all of our countries of operation and two staff promotion cycles following two appraisal periods (first and second half of the year).

### **Organizational Learning**

We continued to train our staff to help them develop their skills and better serve the organization. This year, 13 people benefited from the opportunity, while the entire BudgIT staff received in-house training regularly through our knowledge-sharing sessions.

#### **Total Rewards**

BudgIT responded to the high cost of living by reviewing salaries and introducing the housing scheme (NHF) to its employees to ensure a better work life and retirement.

#### **Annual Break**

The HumansofBudgIT went on its annual offsite vacation from December 15, 2023, and resumed fully onsite on January 16, 2023. The year 2024 is already off to a great start.



- The Humans of BudgIT at the Fiscal Options for Post-Election Governance event
   Ladies of Communications at BudgIT
   The Humans of BudgIT at the 2023 Active Citizens Award
   The Humans of BudgIT at the 2023 Active Citizens Award
   Team bonding to commemorate 2023 International Men's Day

# International Programs Updates



### Harnessing Citizens' Voices for Change, BudgIT's Global Impact in 2023



2023 Annual Report

Our budget access program reached over 500.000 citizens across Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, and Sierra Leone, and we launched the BudgIT Youth Clubs across universities. empowering 1,500+ young people with the knowledge and tools to demand government accountability and strengthen democracy in their respective countries.

BudgIT is committed to deepening civic engagement around the world. Through our international programs, we foster informed and engaged citizens in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Senegal, empowering them with simplified budget information and encouraging them to actively participate in governance to drive reforms in their communities. We believe building a stronger democracy and more equitable society demands raising active citizens who are informed about the public budget, who can participate, and who demand their community needs are prioritized in the budgets to ensure underserved citizens are considered as well.

Our budget access program reached over 500,000 citizens across Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, and Sierra Leone, and we launched the BudgIT Youth Clubs across universities, empowering 1,500+ young people with the knowledge and tools to demand government accountability and strengthen democracy in their respective countries. We created a simplified version of the national budgets for each of our focus countries, which we distributed in print at local community engagement meetings and in soft copy online to reach a wider audience and support our social media campaigns. Our biweekly radio programs continue to empower thousands of West African citizens by providing them with the necessary information to advocate for their rights and interests, challenge systemic injustices, and hold public officials accountable.

BudgIT Ghana's Health Sector Accountability Report was incorporated into Ghana's fifth National Action Plan of the Open Government Partnership, which is driving efforts to improve the country's healthcare systems. Our work in Liberia, supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), empowered six counties and reached at least 5,000 people with budget provisions for 2023, and we led advocacy efforts to promote peaceful elections among young people. With a proven record of grand milestones in West Africa, BudgIT expanded its efforts to the United States in 2023 to drive participatory budgets and strengthen democratic principles. Starting with the City of Chicago, we developed a simplified analysis of the city's 2023 budget to foster a deeper understanding of the new mayor's spending priorities for the year. We also continue to explore civic education and participatory programs for young people in Maryland. Our goal is to empower young scholars to participate in public fiscal discussions, gaining valuable insights into how they can reshape the future of their communities through the budget.

#### **Our Vision for 2024**

BudgIT plans to spend the next year researching the use of artificial intelligence to increase civic engagement. We will explore using new technologies to promote advocacy and discussions about public budgets and service delivery in our target countries. We also intend to expand our public project service delivery monitoring platform (Tracka) to promote development in Ghana, Senegal, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. We will continue to prioritize cultivating partnerships with community leaders, civil society organizations, the media, and government entities. We also want to explore new territories, expanding our efforts to East Africa and beyond. While promoting participatory budgeting processes in the United States to increase citizen participation in decision-making.

Our International Programs team is committed to fostering a world where every voice counts, a world where citizens use their collective voices to demand government accountability and excellence in service delivery. A world where national budgets translate into tangible community development projects and public funds work for the people.

Abut fo

Abiola Afolabi International Growth Manager BudgIT





CTAP Market Storm at Thiès Region for raising youth awareness about health service delivery, Vaccine equity and accountability.
 Youth budget club activity in Dakar with students and youth organisations
 Budget Access Town hall meeting with the local actors of Guediawaye
 CTAP meeting with health practitioners at the region of Kaolack about vaccine equity and accountability



Institution's engagement the Direction of Promotion of Good Governance of the Ministry of Justice
 Launch day of the vaccine equity and accountability report for Senegal

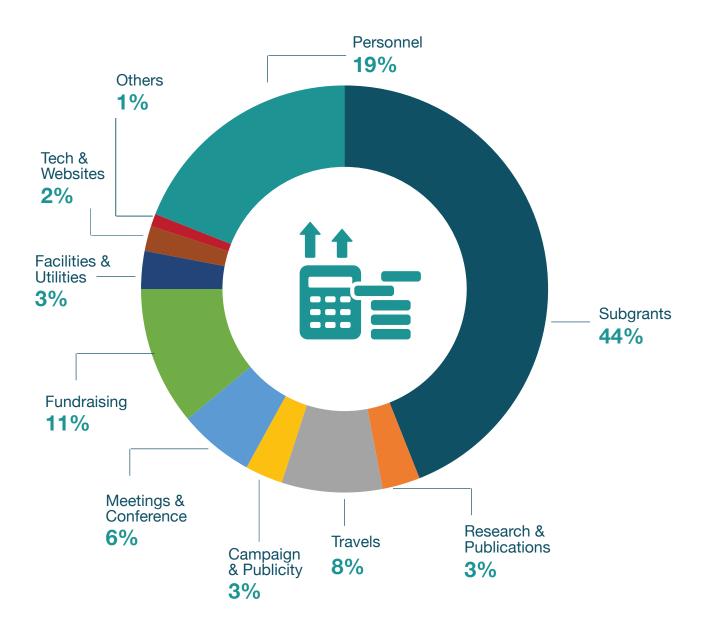
# Financials Management and Sustainability



In 2023, the organization was involved in five major projects — our main focus has been on strengthening community engagement in primary health care, empowering communities and emerging civic leaders, and accountability for energy sustainability in Nigeria. We received funding from our supportive donors, including the Macarthur Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, TIDES Center, Ford Foundation, Palladium International LLC, Publish What You Pay, and Oxfam Novib. Revenue earned in the reporting period amounted to USD\$2.2 million. The total operating expenses are categorized into programs and support expenses, 70% and 30%, respectively, and we successfully implemented additional programs. The Board of Trustees approves continuing programs into the next fiscal year, with periodic evaluations.

Operating Revenue (N'm)	2023	2022
Grants	2,057	2,586
Donations	7	9
Total Operating Revenue	2,065	2,595
Operating Expenses (N'm)	2023	2022
Programs	(1,431)	(1,723)
Support	(610)	(412)
Total Operating Expenses	(2,041)	(2,135)
Changes in Net Assets, from operations (N'm)	23	460
Non-operating income	13	379
Changes in Net Assets (N'm)	36	839
Net Assets, beginning of year	1,418	579
Net Assets, end of year (N'm)	1,454	1,418

The expenses chart below provides expenses incurred for the year ended. The total costs include subgrants (44%), personnel (19%), meetings and travel expenses (14%), fundraising expenses (11%), research and publication (3%), facility and utilities (3%), technology and website expenses (2%), and other expenses (1%).



### **Our Donors List**

The donor list and amounts received in the reporting period ended 31 December 2023 are presented in the table below:

Donors	Amount
Ford Foundation	USD 200,000
Open Society Initiative for West Africa	USD 80,200
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	USD 250,000
Tides Center	USD 243,750
Macarthur Foundation	USD 630,000
Luminate	USD 250,000
Oxfam	EUR 55,306
Palladium International, LLC	NGN 26,879,187
Publish What You Pay	USD 60,000
International Budget Partnership	USD 23,000

# **Our Partners**





In the reporting period that ended 31 December 2023, we engaged partners in implementing our programs in Africa. We made provisions for subgrants to them for specific project implementation, including TIDES project subgrants to Connected Development (CODE), Citizens Gavel, PLSI, Centre for Democracy & Development, Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC), and Enough is Enough (EiE) Nigeria. The subgrant on the TIDES project amounted to N78.9M.

Our partners on the Bill & Melinda Gates, collaborating on the SCEAP project, with total subgrants amounting to N31.8M, included Baye Child Foundation, WOWICAN, Nightingale Women Health Initiative, Initiative for Social Development in Africa (iSODAF), Family Health Advocates in Nigeria Initiatives, Roadmap for Women and Youth Development, Global Promoters for Community Initiatives, FOCEI, Rural Health Accountability Project (RAHP), Centre 4 Child Care & Human Development, El-Shaddai Rural Health and Development Foundation, Forum for the Promotion of Gender Equity and Moral Values, Association of Pos Youth Living with HIV/AIDS, Diocesan Health Initiative (DHI), TOFEDAM Care Initiative, Gaya Youth Awareness Association, and African Youths for Peace Development and Empowering Foundation.

The MacArthur Foundation (CTAP) project subgrants amounted to N754M. They included funds to Slum Information Development, Center for Collective Action, Order Paper, Action Pour Le Development, DEAN Initiative, Development of Educational Action Network, and Connected Development to foster programs implemented in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Senegal, and Liberia.

The FORD subgrant to our partner, Invictus Africa Initiative Ltd/GTE, for the Womanity Index project across three countries, including Nigeria, Ghana, and Senegal, amounted to N182.8M.

# Our Landmark Creativity in 2023





Collaboration became our mantra as we forged alliances, amplifying our reach and influence across Nigeria. At the dawn of 2023, we braced up for the 2023 general election but, deep down, knew mere excitement wouldn't suffice. Thus, we unveiled our master plan, "Roadmap to 2023 Election." Recognizing the pivotal role of informed citizens, we launched a campaign to arm Nigerians with knowledge for navigating the political landscape with confidence—accurate information about the electoral process, political candidates, and governance roles.

Following this launch, we commenced an extensive voter education campaign, blitzing social media, traditional channels, and local partnerships to create easy-to-understand visual and motion creatives and turn intricate political jargon into bite-sized, digestible nuggets for citizens. Yet, our mission did not end with the ballot box.

In the wake of the electoral proceedings, we launched a groundbreaking post-election campaign, "What's Next? After Elections," where we engaged and educated citizens about their role in the democratic process and empowered them with civic-tech products to keep elected officials accountable. We used creative strategies in our post-election campaign to capture and retain citizens' interest. First, we launched a series of compelling social media visuals and television and radio commercials highlighting the importance of citizens' participation in governance accountability, followed by engaging creative designs, storified series, and podcasts, reaching millions offline and online.

Collaboration became our mantra as we forged alliances, amplifying our reach and influence across Nigeria. The crescendo? The unveiling of the post-election strategy report, "Beyond Nigeria's 2023 Elections: An Economic Prognosis," a beacon guiding government and the private sector through the post-electoral macroeconomic, policy, and governance maze.

But our journey didn't halt at politics. With the 'SaveOneSaveAll' campaign, we harmonized the power of music and youth culture, catalyzing a revolution in Nigeria's healthcare accountability. Mavin Records' talented artist, Ladipoe, lent his voice to our cause, igniting a fervor among citizens for better healthcare management. Through his platform, Ladipoe amplified the importance of citizens' engagement in demanding improved healthcare services and the efficient management of healthcare funds while fostering greater engagement among young people to enable conversations around health-related issues.

The pinnacle of our health advocacy? "Citizens' Agenda for Healthcare Reform in Nigeria"—Nigeria's most prominent health summit—engaged citizens, health stakeholders, and policymakers in health sector accountability and on the state of access to healthcare, marking a significant milestone in improving healthcare delivery in Nigeria.

To increase community participation and engagement in healthcare sustainability, we pioneered www.phctracka.org, a civic-tech tool for tracking and reporting primary healthcare needs in communities. Premised on our findings, the 2023 "States of States" fiscal report focused on subnational healthcare delivery for improved economic development across Nigeria's 36 states.

To foster active citizenship, we unveiled "Trailblazers of Change" for the 2023 Active Citizens Awards, an unforgettable event spotlighting remarkable individuals and organizations enhancing democracy and governance in Nigerian society. As the curtain opens to a new chapter, our resolve remains unyielding. For in the canvas of our nation's progress, every citizen holds a brush, every action a stroke toward a more vibrant, accountable Nigeria.



1 - Speakers at the Fiscal Options for Post-Election Governance event

- 2 Taiwo Oyedele, Chairman, Presidential Fiscal Policy and Tax Reforms Committee, at the Fiscal Options for Post-Election Governance event
- Abubakar Suleiman, MD/CEO Sterling Bank PLC, at the Fiscal Options for Post-Election Governance event
   Cross section of speakers at the CTAP Health Summit 2023: Citizen's Agenda for Healthcare Reforms in Nigeria



Cross section of speakers at the CTAP Health Summit 2023: Citizen's Agenda for Healthcare Reforms in Nigeria
 The official signing of Mavin Records' Ladipoe as Cultural Influencer for CTAP's Health Accountability Project



