

## On a Torturous Journey in Nigeria

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act seeks to make public records and information freely available. On May 28, 2011, after a long and torturous process, it was eventually signed by former President Goodluck Jonathan (12 years after it was introduced). Thirteen years after the law was enacted, the compliance level of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) is extremely low.

## 2024 FOIA Outlook

1,316 MDAs have budget entries

10 MDAs

have budgets entries for FOI activities

(0.8%)

1,306 MDAs

have NO BUDGET entries for FOI activities

**(99.2%)** 

## **FOI Activities Require Budgeting for:**

- Training and capacity building
- Proactive publication of information
- Record keeping and management
- Responding to a request for information
- Legal support and litigation, etc.

Section 29(6) of the FOIA gives oversight powers to the Attorney General of the Federation to ensure MDAs comply with the FOI Act.

## **LIST OF COMPLIANT MDAS**

- Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation
- Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment
- **Federal Ministry of Works**
- Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning
- Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- 6 National Library of Nigeriia
- **National Commission for College of Education Secretariat**
- 8 **National Directorate of Employment**
- 9 **Federal Ministry of Environment**
- **Nigerian Law Commission**



**Federal Ministry of Justice and** The Office of the Attorney General



for FOI-related activities for 2024

How can an institution responsible for oversight functions on compliance with the FOI Act fail to make budgetary provisions for FOI?

If you would like to send an FOI request to any public institution in Nigeria, use the template at bit.ly/foiA

Source: Media Rights Agenda (MRA)











