

A Journey of Hope and Resilience

#OpenNASS is a campaign that demands an open, transparent and accountable National Assembly. It started with the #OurNASS protest in Abuja, organized by EiE, Budgit and other partners.

The budget, remuneration and other affairs of the National Assembly (NASS) should not be shrouded in secrecy, especially since they consist of elected representatives of citizens and provide oversight functions over the executive arm of government.

2013 | September 23

#OurNASS protest in Abuja with great media coverage and engagements with NASS members.

2015 | May 14

BudgIT and PPDC filed a case against NASS and its Clerk at the Federal High Court, Abuja, to compel NASS to open its budget to the public.

2015 | June 29

A memo written to the RMAFC¹ for a review of the remuneration packages of political, public and judicial office holders was published in newspaper.

2015 | November 15

Senate President, Bukola Saraki, promises that NASS will make details of its budget public.

2016 | March 13

Saraki promises that the report on the breakdown of the NASS budget will be made available by the committee in charge.

2016 | June 30

#OpenNASS stakeholders hold planning workshops on shaping how the advocacy goals can be achieved.

2016 | July 25

Saraki promises that an effective budget process will be built by the 8th National Assembly.

2016 | December 20

SERAP² sues Saraki and Dogara over failure to give account of the spending of N500 billion as running cost between 2006 and 2016, and monthly income and allowances of each Senator and House of Representatives member.

2017 | March 2

Special Assistant on New Media to Senate President, Bamikole Omisore promises that the NASS budget breakdown will be published in the 'next couple of days'.

2017 | March 16

7,181 Nigerians had signed the petition demanding that the breakdown of the NASS's budget be made public with immediate effect.

2017 | May 11

NASS published a breakdown of its 2017 budget! This was a major milestone in the #OpenNASS campaign since the September 2013 protest.

2017 | May 19

Saraki promises Nigerians that they will use more of electronic voting as against voice voting.

2017 | May 20

BudgIT and EiE host a Citizens' Datathon to develop a lean budget for NASS as a standard for the Nigeria government to reduce the cost of governance. The final report was submitted to NASS and Acting President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo.

2017 | June 16

The 2nd petition to replace voice voting with e-voting and records of votes to be made public was enabled on Voto Mobile.

2017 | June 26 & 27

The Senate & the HOR³ voted on #ConstitutionReview bills. However, the records of how each member voted is yet to be made public.

2018 | March 29

Senator Shehu Sani (Kaduna Central) revealed that Nigerian senators receive N13.5 million running cost monthly.

2019 | July 3

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, said voting by members of the chamber on serious legislations will be casted electronically.

2020 | October 1

Simon Karu, HOR³ member representing Kaltungo/Shongom federal constituency of Gombe State stated that a member of the HOR³ receives N800,000 monthly salary and N8.5 million as running cost.

2022 | February 15

Femi Gbajabiamila announced that the House would start using e-voting instead of the normal voice vote.

2022 | February 16

The HOR³ conducted its legislative business using electronic voting, 31 months after it was announced. Electronic voting was used to decide on a bill for an Act to Establish Federal University of Agriculture, Umerum, Anambra State.

2022 | March 1

The National Assembly used electronic voting to vote on Constitution Amendment Bills, but the voting results were not made public.

2022 | April 21

Womanifesto made a request for the voting record of NASS members on the "5 Gender Bills". There has been no response.

2023 | June 13

Inauguration of the 10th Assembly.

2023 | August 7

In a viral video, the Senate President, Godswill Akpabio, said the NASS Clerk has disbursed N2 million to all senators to enable them to enjoy their holiday (recess).

2023 | August 13

SERAP² filed a lawsuit against the Senate President, Godswill Akpabio and Speaker of the HOR³, Mr Tajudeen Abbas over "the unlawful plan to spend N40bn on 465 exotic and bulletproof cars for members and principal officials, and N70bn as 'palliatives' for new members."



September 23, 2023

Let's continue to demand for an #OpenNASS!

- 1 Make details of the National Assembly's budget public.
- 2 Replace voice voting with electronic voting so citizens can engage their representatives.
- 3 Maintain a functional website and make public the attendance records at plenary.

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