

REVIEW OF ANAMBRA STATE AGRICULTURE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2026

**Small Scale Women Farmers Organization in Nigeria
(SWOFON)**



And



Centre for Social Justice (CSJ)
(Mainstreaming Social Justice in Public Life)

**A Memorandum for Improving Agriculture Sector
Budgeting: December 2025**

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ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
ADP	Agricultural Development Programme
ATC	Agricultural Training Centre
CCBT	Community Commercial and Business Training (as used in project codes)
CCD	Climate Change Department (contextual use in project codes)
CSJ	Centre for Social Justice
FG	Federal Government
LGAs	Local Government Areas
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation

MDA	Ministry, Department and Agency
PRS	Planning, Research and Statistics
SP2	Special Projects Phase 2 (contextual project code)
USD	United States Dollar

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REVIEW OF ANAMBRA STATE 2026 AGRICULTURE BUDGET PROPOSAL

1. Introduction

The Anambra State Agricultural Sector comprises the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission and the Agricultural Development Programme. Votes to these institutions collectively make up the sector's budget.

2. The 2026 Allocation to Agriculture

The total vote to the sector in the 2026 budget proposal is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Allocation to Agriculture in the 2026 Budget Proposal

MDA	Amount
Ministry of Agriculture	2,594,914,466
Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission	42,799,011
Agricultural Development Programme	106,904,803
Total	2,744,618,280

Source: Anambra State 2026 Budget Proposal

Table 2 shows the allocation to Agriculture as a percentage of the overall budget in the context of the commitment in the Malabo 10% benchmark.

Table 2: Allocation to Agriculture in Comparison to the Malabo Benchmark

Overall State Budget Proposal	Total Agric Sector Proposal	Percentage of Agric Allocation of State Budget	10% Benchmark of the Malabo Declaration	Funding Gap using the Benchmark
N757,884,487,705	N2,744,618,280	0.36	N75,788,448,770.5	N73,043,830,490

Source: Anambra State 2026 Budget Proposal

A meagre N2,744,618,280 amounting to 0.36% of the Anambra State proposed budget of N757,884,487,705 was allocated to Agriculture for the 2026 fiscal year. The sum is a drop in the ocean compared to the 10% Malabo benchmark for agriculture budgeting. As a percentage of the benchmark, the allocation is a mere 2.08%

3. The Six Year Trend: 2021-2026

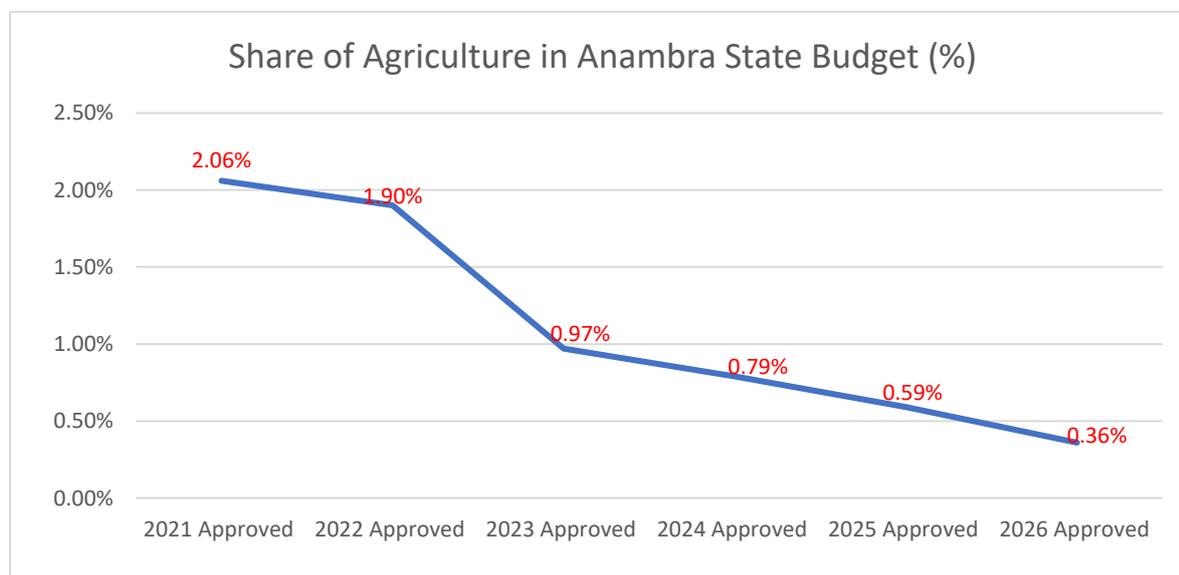
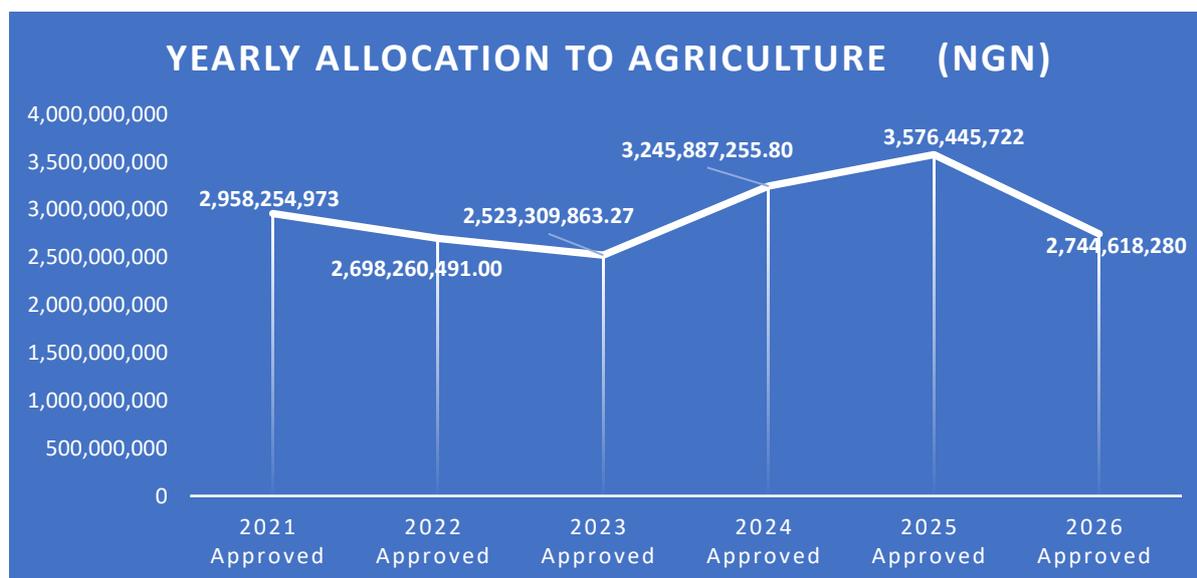
Reviewing the trend of agriculture budgeting over the past 5 years further reveals that agriculture is increasingly and consistently deprioritized. Agriculture's share of the state's resource has steadily dropped, an indication that agriculture does not rank high in the state government's agenda.

Table 3: Trend of Agriculture Allocation in Anambra State Budget 2022 – 2025

Year	Total State Budget (NGN)	Total Allocation to Agriculture (NGN)	Percentage of Agric Allocation (%)	Malabo (10%) Declaration Benchmark (NGN)	Variation Against 10% Benchmark (NGN)
2021	143,651,879,651	2,958,254,973	2.06%	14,365,187,965.10	11,406,932,992.1
2022	141,969,369,784.00	2,698,260,491.00	1.90%	14,196,936,978.40	11,498,676,487.4
2023	259,938,121,905.00	2,523,309,863.27	0.97%	25,993,812,190.50	23,470,502,327.23
2024	410,132,225,272.11	3,245,887,255.80	0.79%	41,013,222,527.21	37,767,335,271.41
2025	610,966,849,117	3,576,445,722	0.59	61,096,684,911.70	57,520,239,189.7
2026	757,884,487,705	2,744,618,280	0.36	75,788,448,770.5	73,043,830,490

Source: Anambra State Approved Budgets

The sector's share of the state's budget has been on a steady downward slide from 2.06% in 2021, 1.90% in 2022, 0.97% in 2023, 0.79% in 2024, 0.59% 2025 and to 0.36% in the 2026 budget proposal. Beyond reduction in the proportion (percentage) of the budget over the period, it experiences drops in the actual amount allocated consistently between 2021 and 2023. There was a modest 28.6% increase in the actual amount allocated in 2024. However, the share is way below the 57.8% increase in the state's budget size. Further, in 2025, a 10.18% increase in the sum allocated to Agriculture whereas the state budget increased by 48%. In 2026, the overall budget increased by 24% compared to the 2025 budget while the Agriculture vote shrunk by 23.25%.



The state legislature should consider increasing the allocation to agriculture given the high cost of food in markets over the past 2 years. Although food inflation seems to be reducing, food is generally not affordable for persons who earn the fairly low wages paid in the civil service and other sectors. Increased funding of agriculture is imperative; it is a domain where women are majorly engaged. Increased investment in agriculture will also facilitate employment creation and value addition. The recommendation is an increase in the Agriculture vote to not less than 50% of the 10% benchmark.

4. Measure of Value of the Allocation

Given the volatility of the Naira over the years; especially with the devaluation of the Naira and the unification of the exchange rate, it becomes necessary to value the allocation with a more stable currency to determine if the trend remains same. Table 4 below shows the allocation in USD.

Table 4: Conversion Agriculture Allocation to USD

Year	Exchange Rate* (USD to NGN)	Budgetary Allocation (NGN)	Budgetary Allocation (USD)
2021	379	2,958,254,973	7,805,422.09
2022	410.15	2,698,260,491.00	6,578,716.30
2023	435.57	2,523,309,863.27	5,793,121.34
2024	750	3,245,887,255.80	4,327,849.67
2025	1,500	3,576,445,722.35	2,384,297.15
2026	1,450	2,744,618,280	1,892,840.19

- Exchange rate are the official rates by the federal government for each of the years

Table 4 reveals an interesting result from converting the sector's allocation into a more stable USD. First, the 2026 allocation is the sector's least share of the state budget over the six year period in USD terms. The Agriculture vote has been reducing in USD terms since 2021 to the extent that the 2026 proposal is 24.25% of the 2021 vote. Overall, the 2021 vote is the highest, followed by 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and the least being the 2026 proposal. The Naira figures have stagnated at a time the currency has greatly depreciated.

5. Disaggregation of Sector's Vote

Table 5 shows the disaggregation of the allocation to Agriculture in the 2026 State budget.

Table 5: Disaggregation of the Allocation to Agriculture in the 2026 Budget Proposal

MDA	Recurrent N	Capital N	Total N	Percentage (%) of Total
Ministry of Agriculture	741,914,466	1,853,000,000	2,594,914,466	94.54
Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission	42,799,011	-	42,799,011	1.55
Agricultural Development Programme	11,904,803	95,000,000	106,904,803	3.89
Total	796,618,280	1,948,000,000	2,744,618,280	100

Source: 2026 Budget Proposal

The mother ministry gets the highest allocation of 94.54%; Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission gets 1.55% whilst Agriculture Development Programme got 3.89%. However, Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission had zero capital vote. The Commission simply got salaries and overheads and nothing more. Interestingly, the personnel expenses, for both agencies are still domiciled in the Ministry of Agriculture. There is need for decentralization of projects based on expertise and or mandate. The Ministry has a proposal of N50m for fisheries development which should be properly located in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission. Capital expenditure got 70.97% of the allocations while recurrent got 29.03%.

The overhead component of recurrent expenditure for the Ministry of Agriculture is just N20.62million. This is apparently insufficient to run a ministry with the nature of its mandate. The total overheads for the Agriculture Development Programme is N11.904m while the

Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Commission got N42.799m. Again, the overhead of the ADP will be insufficient to meet the demands of the Programme.

6. Capital Expenditure Analysis

The overall capital expenditure proposal of the state is **N595,281,685,500** while the proposal for Agriculture is N1,948,000,000 which is a paltry 0.32% of the overall capital proposal. Not up to 1%. This is grossly insufficient and needs to be increased.

Table 6 outlines the entire capital expenditure projects proposed for the 2026 fiscal year, amounting to the sum of N1,948,000,000 which is 100% of the sector's capital expenditure projection proposed for the period.

In the proposal, a total of 32 projects are outlined for the year, but interestingly, one project captured as **Coconut, Palm and other Seedlings Program** was allocated N1,000,000,000 being 51.33% out of a total capital expenditure vote in the sum of N1,948,000,000 while the remaining 31 projects share the remaining 49.77% in the sum of N948,000,000.

Table 6: Proposed Agriculture Capital Projects for 2026

Program/Project Code	Project Description	Proposed Estimates
15001001	Ministry of Agriculture	
15001001/23050105/01000001	Coconut, Palm and other Seedlings Program	1,000,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000003	Produce Storage and Fumigation Scheme	10,000,000
15001001/23050105/01000004	Field Crop Protection (CCBT)	8,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000008	Seed Multiplication and Horticultural Development Project (CCBT)	200,000,000
15001001/23010103/01000010	Agricultural Extension Information Services (CCBT)	25,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000011	Testing Laboratory Services	85,000,000
15001001/23050103/01000015	Planning Research Statistics (PRS) Capacity. Building Project. for Ministry of Agriculture & Agric Surveys/Study.	5,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000017	Standard Agricultural Engineering Workshop	15,000,000
15001001/23040101/01000020	Fertilizer/Pesticides Procurement and Distribution	50,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000023	Procurement of Agro inputs	50,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000032	Veterinary Field Services	10,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000033	Veterinary Pre. Ctrl.& Surveillance of Animal Diseases eg. Rabbits, TB &PPR	10,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000037	Veterinary Epizootic Surveillance	5,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000043	Agricultural Shows and Fairies	50,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000045	National Council Meetings	10,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000048	PRS Monitoring and Evaluation	5,000,000

15001001/23020113/01000052	Strategic Upgrading of Cattle Market & Vet. Clinics	40,000,000
15001001/23010127/01000061	Procurement of Farm Equipment (CCD)	50,000,000
15001001/23030112/01000062	Repair of Tractors	10,000,000
15001001/23010112/01000063	Purchase of Office Furniture & Fittings	8,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000064	Capacity Building	5,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000060	Fishery Development	50,000,000
15001001/23050101/01000071	Livestock Development Programme/Conflict Resolution and Compensation	100,000,000
15001001/23020118/01000075	ATCs/SP2s Development	10,000,000
15001001/23050103/04000003	Nutrition Activities	30,000,000
15001001/23030112/01000076	Refurbishment of Vehicles	10,000,000
15001001/23050101/13000075	Anti-Corruption Sustainability program	2,000,000
	Ministry of Agriculture Total	1,853,000,000
15102002	Agricultural Development Project	
15102001/23050101/01000011	Project on Promotion of Market Oriented Agriculture Extension System for Livelihood	30,000,000
15001001/23010127/01000014	Purchase of Powered Irrigation Pumps	40,000,000
15001001/23010127/01000015	Development of Rural Institutions Value Chain Program	10,000,000
15102001/23050103/01000017	ADP Monitoring & Evaluation	5,000,000
15001001/23020113/01000058	Women in Agriculture Value Addition & Nutrition	10,000,000
	Agricultural Development Project Total	95,000,000

Source: Anambra State 2026 Budget Estimates

The votes in the capital expenditure proposals did not cover the field; it did not cover the four components of agriculture vis, crop production, animal husbandry, fishery and forestry. Furthermore, there are several challenges and gaps in the provisions. These challenges and gaps include the following.

- With the exception of *Women in Agriculture Value Addition & Nutrition* in the sum of N10m, there is nothing in the votes specifically dedicated women farmers. The votes are not gender sensitive.
- The vote of the sum of N30m for Project on Promotion of Market Oriented Agriculture Extension System for Livelihood barely scratches the surface on the need for massive extension services to improve farming at the grassroots with knowledge and

innovations that will improve agriculture across several value chains. It is also silent on the link between research and practical agriculture.

- There is no proposal for investment in drudgery reducing appropriate locally available mechanisation to improve productivity in Agriculture.
- Soil and nutrient management is not provided for and there is no vote for the dissemination of the information in the national soil map to farmers.
- Inadequate storage and processing facilities means that huge amounts of the agricultural produce harvested will be lost.
- The provisions for extension Services is inadequate.
- There is nothing on Business Advisory Services.
- Support to farming cooperatives is also missing in the proposals.

7. Recommendations

The following recommendations are imperative for the improvement of Agricultural productivity across the value chains. They flow from this Review and seek the provision of the following.

- Increase the allocation to Agriculture to not less than 50% of the Malabo Declaration commitment vis, at least N37.894b.
- Gender friendly agriculture machineries for reduction of drudgery and increased productivity e.g. cost effective mini-tractors, tillers, mound makers, planters, weeders, multi crop threshers, ploughs, harvesters and the complete cassava processing machine from harvesting, peeling to frying, hatchery machine for poultry farming, etc. Mechanisation needs to be tied to local technology and the products of Nigerian Agriculture Research Institutions especially the innovations of National Centre for Agricultural Mechanisation (NCAM), which develops and standardises local farm technology.
- Specifically target small scale women farmers with some of the votes to improve gender responsiveness.
- Access to farm inputs and supplies such as organic fertilisers and herbicides, seeds, seedlings, stems, quality poultry feeds, etc.
- Processing centres for value addition and storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses. Investing in storage facilities means that there will be an increase in productivity and sustainability in supply. The state should seek collaboration with the innovations of the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI), a key Nigerian federal body focused on reducing post-harvest losses through research, developing storage technologies (like specialised silos/structures), training farmers, and creating solutions for handling crops like grains, legumes, and spices to ensure food security and better farmer income.

Headquartered in Ilorin, Nigeria, NSPRI has outstations and conducts research on improving post-harvest handling, processing, and storage for various.

- Extension services to farmers in their communities. The State should collaborate with National Roots Crops Research Institute in Umudike Umuahia (the coordinating research institute in the South East zone) with an outpost in Igbariam Anambra State. Provision should be made for vaccinations to reduce loss of animals in ruminant rearing.
- Increase the vote for fisheries and aquaculture to not less than N2b. The State should seek technical collaboration with the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR) - a multidisciplinary marine research institute and Nigeria's prime institute for Marine Sciences with extensive capacity in aquaculture and fisheries.
- Provide Business Advisory Services which unties and disseminates the business opportunities along the different animal and crops value chains and thereby make it possible for farmers to take advantage of investment opportunities.
- Invest in pilot value addition plants, activities, innovation and knowledge so that greater financial value can be derived from harvested farm products.
- Revolving credit facilities for increased productivity allocated to cooperatives and other similar women farmer groups.
- Capacity building in agroecological practices that increase productivity and improve soil and nutrients management.
- Provide support for cooperatives of small-scale processors, storage providers and other operatives on the value chain can is needed for improved productivity, ease of access to financial and technical support for inclusivity and agroecology.
- Access to Water for irrigation farming and construction of boreholes for poultry and piggery farmers.

There is therefore need to increase the allocation to capital expenditure and overheads to meet the demands of the Sector.