

Public Debt

The recent report on Nigeria's Public Debt Stock for the first quarter of 2018 indicates a 4.5 percent Quarter-over-Quarter increase, from N21.7 trillion in Q4 2017 to N22.7 trillion¹, and a Year-on-Year increase of 18.5 percent from N19.2 trillion². The ratio of domestic debt to external debt is put at 70:30, a reduction in domestic debt from previous share of 73 percent, and an increase of external debt share from 27 percent – a reflection of the need for caution in external borrowings. Further, the ratio of debt service to the budget continues to rise even as about 24 percent of the 2018 budget (N2.2 trillion) will be used to service debts. Consequently, it is critical to ensure that the debt is deployed to capital projects that will generate sufficient returns to service the rising debt. In addition, other innovative financing options such as tax, remittances and public-private partnerships should be tapped into.



Gender Statistics

The recently released NBS 2016 survey on Gender statistics estimates that Nigeria's population constitutes 50.8 percent men and 48.2 percent women³. The report shows differences in longevity as Nigerian male life expectancy of 47 years is shorter relative to the female life expectancy of 51 years. A closer review of the statistics show a disparity in economic opportunity for men and women. Specifically, the percentage of women employees at all levels of the federal civil service was recorded at 42 percent (2014-2016), while it was 58 percent for men. To promote a more just, equitable, democratic and peaceful nation going forward, there is need to invest in paving the way for more women in the political, business, and civic arena. Particularly, there is need to invest in eliminating structural and legal obstacles that hinder women's participation at all levels.



Foreign Reserve

Nigeria's foreign reserves reached \$47.61 billion as at the end of May, 2018; compared to \$47.49 billion as at April, 2018- a rather marginal Month-on-Month increase of \$120 million⁴. The reserve's increase in recent times have been attributed to a number of factors: the rise in external borrowing, steady inflows from oil exports occasioned by the rise in oil price and production, and non-oil revenue receipts among others. Under the assumption that oil price continues to rise, the rise in the available reserve of the nation will prove useful in defending the exchange rate against the rapid outflow of foreign capital associated with the periods surrounding election.



Monetary Focus

The CBN depository money survey shows increases in monetary aggregates. Money supply (M2) grew to 25.2 trillion in May, from 24.5 trillion in April, a 2.6 percent⁵. However, there was a marginal 1.4 percent fall in currency in circulation, from 1.96 trillion in April 2018 to 1.93 trillion in May 2018. Going forward, there may be need for open market operations to rapidly and flexibly respond to money supply fluctuation, as a monetary policy tool to ensure stability in prices without affecting domestic interest rates and investment.



ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT		
Quarterly Indicators	'17Q4	'18Q1
GDP Growth Rate (%)	2.11	1.95
Oil GDP (%)	11.20	14.77
Non-oil GDP (%)	1.45	0.76
Unemployment Rate (%)	NA	NA
Foreign Direct Investment (US \$ Million)	378.41	246.62
Portfolio Investment (US \$Millions)	3,477.53	4,565.09
Other Investment (US \$Million)	1,526.92	1,491.93
External Debt (FGN & States- N'Billion)	5,787.51	NA
Domestic Debt (FGN-N'billion)	3,348.77	NA
Manufacturing Capacity utilization (%)	NA	NA
Monthly Indicators	Apr'18	May'18
Headline Inflation (%)	12.48	11.61
Food Sub-Index (%)	14.8	13.45
Core Sub-Index (%)	10.9	10.7
External Reserves (End Period) (US\$ Million)	47,492	47,605
Official Rate Approx. (N/US\$)	305	305
BDC Rate Approx. (N/US\$)	362	362
Manufacturing PMI	56.9	56.5
Non-Manufacturing PMI	57.5	57.3
Crude Oil Price (US\$/Barrel)	NA	NA
Petrol (PMS-N/litre)	151.4	150.2
Diesel (AGO -N/Litre)	204.35	205.67
Kerosene (HHK -N/Litre)	278.49	280.29
MPR (%)	14	14
CRR (%)	22.5	22.5
91 Day T-Bill Rate (%)	11.43	11.43
Savings Deposit (%)	4.07	4.07
Prime Lending (%)	17.24	17.08
Maximum Lending (%)	31.56	31.29
Narrow Money (N'Billion)	10,670.63	11,226.31
Broad Money (N'Billion)	24,620.65	25,169.01
Net Domestic Credit (N'Billion)	27,476.80	25,716.58
Credit to the Government (N'Billion)	5,222.73	3,509.84
Credit to the Private Sector(N'Billion)	2,225.40	2,220.67
Currency in Circulation (N'Billion)	1,957.21	1,930.63
FAAC (N'Billion)	701	NA

*Revised GDP figures/tentative figures

NA: Not Available

¹DMO (2018). “Nigeria's Public Debt Stock as at March 31, 2018”. Retrieved from, <http://www.dmo.gov.ng/debt-profile/total-public-debt/2470-nigeria-s-public-debt-stock-as-at-march-31-2018/file>

²DMO (2018). “Nigeria's Public Debt Stock as at March 31, 2017”. Retrieved from, <http://www.dmo.gov.ng/debt-profile/total-public-debt/2075-total-public-debt-stock-as-at-31st-march-2017/file>

³National Bureau of Statistics (2018). “STATISTICAL REPORT ON WOMEN AND MEN IN NIGERIA 2017”. Retrieved from, <http://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng/>

⁴CBN (2018). “The Movement in Reserves (30-Day Moving Average with effect from November 2011)”. Assessed June 27, 2018. <https://www.cbn.gov.ng/IntOps/Reserve.asp>

⁵CBN (2018). “Money And Credit Statistics (Million Naira)”. Accessed June 27, 2018. <https://www.cbn.gov.ng/rates/mnycredit.asp>