



# CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



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Advocating for a People Centered Budget that Dignifies Humanity



## Social Development, Trade and Tourism still among least funded in FY2018/19 Budget

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A session of Parliament in progress. The FY 2018/19 Budget, which was passed by Parliament last week on Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, will among others see the Social Development and Trade and Tourism sector receive the least allocations | @CSBAG2018

The ministries of gender, labour and social development, and that of trade, industry and cooperatives are among the five least funded sectors in the financial year 2018/2019 national budget. Parliament on Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup> approved a Ugx. 32.3 trillion National budget for the FY 2018/2019, with a recurrent expenditure of Ugx.9.4 trillion, Development Expenditure of Ugx.13 trillion and statutory expenditure at Ugx.10 trillion. The appropriation of the Ugx. 32.3 trillion Resource envelope by parliament saw the social development sector allocated only Ugx.209.3b, followed by the science and technology sector which was allocated almost the same amount (Ugx.209.31b). The trade and industry sector received Ugx.158b, ICT and national guidance Ugx 181b, and Tourism Ugx 118 b.

### Allocations

Presenting their position paper on the Trade, tourism and industry sector ministerial policy statement for the financial year 2018/19, to Parliament last month, civil society organizations under their body the civil society budget advocacy group (CSBAG) implored the government to increase funding towards the trade and tourism sectors which bring in revenue to the government. According to the CSOs, since the financial 2016/17, the budget for the ministry of trade has been drastically reducing, which they said affects the sector performance. “The budgetary allocation to the ministry of trade, industry and cooperatives should be made a priority given its role in the economic development of the country. The sector should therefore be allocated more resources in line with NDP II,” Kiiza Africa a programs officer SEATINI told MPs. The CSOs also called for increased funding towards the social development sector, to cater for programs like SAGE and youth programmes for economic empowerment. As has been the norm for the past three financial years, the Works and transport ministry received the lion’s share of the budget, this time to the tune Ugx.4.7 trillion.

This is higher, compared to the Ugx.4.5 trillion which was allocated to the same sector in the current FY 2017/2018. This was followed by the Education and sports ministry, which was allocated Ugx. 3.1 trillion, Up from the Ugx. 2.5 trillion which was allocated to the sector in the current FY 2017/18. The ministry of health which is an important sector in health service delivery was allocated Ugx.2.3 trillion. Water and environment Ugx 1.2 trillion and security Ugx. 2.1 trillion.

### Minority report

The agriculture sector on the other hand, was allocated Ugx.914b representing only 3% of the total budget. Ugx 8.66 trillion which is 28% of the total budget was allocated towards treasury operations, Ugx.1.8 trillion for the public sector management and Ugx. 1.4 trillion for the justice, law and order sector. The accountability sector has been allocated Ugx.1.2 trillion, Public administration Ugx 616b, the legislature Ugx 459b and Ugx 222b, to the lands, housing and development sector. However in her minority report, Cecilia Ogwal, a member of the Parliament’s committee on budget, raised concerns about allocations to some sectors.

On agriculture, according to Ogwal, Parliament resolved that Ugx 54b be allocated in FY 2018/19 to the ministry to fight pests and disease control which she said are a huge threat to Uganda’s agricultural production and food security, but only Ugx.11.5b was availed for this activity. Ogwal also noted that it was resolved that the government prioritizes and provides Ugx 20b for the revival of the cooperatives, under the ministry of trade, industry and cooperatives, but only Ugx.5b was provided.

### Concerns raised

She also raised concern over the Ugx 39.09 billion counterpart funding for the implementation of the SAGE program, under the social development sector. Out of the Ugx.39 billion required, government had only committed Ugx 32.88 b, in the FY 2018/19, leaving a funding gap of Ugx7.46b. The Budget which will be presented to the nation on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> by finance minister Matia Kasaija is under the theme “Uganda and industrialization.”

## OUR WORK IN PICTURES



CSBAG ED, Julius Mukunda speaks during the joint CSBAG and Equal Opportunities Commission event to promote gender and equity responsive budgeting among Ministries Departments and Agencies at Hotel Africana in Kampala last week.



CSBAG Budget Policy Specialist, John Mark Agong (2<sup>nd</sup> left) speaks last week in Kampala at a meeting about harnessing digitization for the development of Agricultural value chain in Uganda.



CSBAG Budget Policy Specialist David Walakira speaks during the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAC People’s Agriculture Budget Summit which was held in Nairobi last week.