



# CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



278<sup>th</sup> EDITION | 24<sup>th</sup> July – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Advocating for a People Centered Budget that Dignifies Humanity



## Gov't creating districts with inadequate funds for operation – Onzima

**“We should ensure that money allocated to these administration units is utilized well. We have received many audit reports on local governments but when you look at them, you find that they misuse the monies”**



Permanent Secretary and Secretary to the Treasury, Keith Muhakanizi (right) speaking at a past event. He told Parliament on Thursday last week that there is no money to organize elections in the newly created districts.

Statistics by the committee indicate that the budget for Local government has continued to decline from 34% in the FY2007/8 budget to 12% in the FY2016/17. Civil society organizations under their body the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) proposed an increment in the budget for the local governments, from 12% to 38% to guarantee improved service delivery.

### Utilization of money

During the current FY2017/18, parliament approved Sh2, 585,96b for all Local governments, of which Sh1, 625.6b was for wages and Sh559.85b, was for non-wage recurrent and Sh400.51b for development expenditure. However, Onzima accused Local government leaders for poor performance and abuse of public resources allocated to districts by the government. “We should ensure that money allocated to these administration units is utilized well. We have received many audit reports by the auditor general on Local governments, but when you look at them, you find that they misuse all the monies, procurement is not done well. Much as we want

government to increase their funding, they should ensure proper accountability of public funds,” Onzima said.

### Service delivery

For improved service delivery, Onzima urged the government to ensure timely and efficient release of funds to enable Local governments carry out their work. He also appealed to the Local governments to ensure that funds allocated to the districts are properly used to benefit Ugandans. At a meeting in Namboole stadium last week, the Local government authorities under their organization, the Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA), attributed the poor service delivery by Local governments to limited resources. The Local governments indicated that most of the juicy local revenue sources which were initially being used by the authorities to collect revenue to supplement their funding from the government, had been taken over by the central government, leaving them with limited sources of revenue to fund their activities.

## UPCOMING CSO EVENTS

**Event:** Regional Budget consultative meeting

**Convener:** Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group

**Venue:** Agago and Abim districts

**Date:** 7-11<sup>th</sup> August 2017

## OUR WORK IN PICTURES



CSBAG Board members and staff at a recent Board retreat that was held in Entebbe from July 28<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup>. | @CSBAG2017



Members of the civil society attending the IMF CSO brief on the performance of Uganda's economy at Kampala Sheraton hotel last week.



CSBAG Executive Director, Julius Mukunda (left) addressing CSO members during the launch of the CSO Budget advocacy roadmap for the FY 2018/19 last week. On the left is Ishmael Magona, Ag. Director Budget at the Ministry of Finance. In the middle is CSBAG Budget Policy Specialist, David Walakira |@CSBAG2017