



CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



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Advocating for a People Centered Budget that Dignifies Humanity



CSBAG upscales budget performance monitoring in 10 Districts.

Budget Performance monitoring is one of the key aspects the budget process aimed at reinforcing budget accountability and ensuring quality service delivery. Through budget performance monitoring, Government tracks whether the budget is being spent in accordance with appropriation and whether the services have been delivered in the right quantity and quality.



Amuru
Josephine Laker the Amuru Budget Network Coordinator inquiring at the meeting.



Masindi
On display is a list CSOs in Masindi that form the Budget Performance Network in Masindi District



Oyam
Discussion on Transparency, accountability and Vale for money with budget performance network in Oyam district



Mubende
Mr. Mubiru John, Head teacher at St. Mary's Primary school Mubende showing CSO budget performance monitors the tem II Fund releases

An integral part of budget performance monitoring is the feed-back to the decision-making processes. To deliver on this, CSOs under CSBAG have since the Financial 2014/15 played a central role in the budget performance monitoring process.

Since then CSBAG on a quarterly basis share their budget performance monitoring findings with Ministry of Finance as feedback to inform policy processes.

Using our position on the Ministry of Finance's Steering Committee of Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit (BMAU), CSBAG has since FY 2014/15 worked with 10 CSOs to monitor budget implementation in 297 service delivery centers in FY 2014/15 and FY 2015/16. This process has supported the Ministry of Finance to institute key public finance management reforms aimed at ensuring Government priorities for economic development and poverty reduction are implemented as well as good value for money.

One of the public finance management reform process we contributed to is the cleaning of the payroll and ghost pupils in government aided primary schools, which started in FY 2014/15 a move which saved Government billions.

Another process we are proud to have contributed to is the reform by Ministry of Finance to start transferring funds directly to schools and health centers. To date Ministry of Finance sends funds directly to Health Centers and Schools, after our feedback to Ministry of Finance revealed delays in receipt of funds for health centers and schools



Agogo District
Agogo district Budget monitoring network poses for a group photo after the training.



John Mark Agong discussing budget performance monitoring with Oyam District officials at Oyam District Local Government



Nwoya
Budget performance monitoring training ongoing in Nwoya district

GOVERNMENT FEEDBACK ON OUR BUDGET PERFORMANCE MONITORING WORK



“CSBAG work at the local and national level has saved Uganda billions of shillings. I cannot quantify their work in monetary terms. Their vigilance has helped us remove so many ghost names from Government's pay roll. They are a useful partner to Government”

Margaret Kakande, Head of the Budget Monitoring & Accountability Unity – Ministry of Finance
July 2016

One key challenge CSBAG faces in this process is limited scope for the areas where we monitor and in order to increase to the scope, CSBAG has been heavily engaged in creating linkages and collaboration with additional likeminded CSOs and duty bearers in the districts of Mubende, Nwoya, Amuru, Agogo, Gulu, Lira, Oyam, Masindi, Kibaale and Apac,

In these districts, CSBAG has established Budget performance monitoring networks which are now form part of the CSOs that are engaged in monitoring Government budget performance.

Whereas before CSBAG worked with an individual CSO in a given region or district, starting this Financial Year 2016/17, the approach has shifted to where a network of CSOs within a district/region would be engaged in this exercise.

Their capacity to collect quality and credible budget performance information that can be trusted and used by Ministry of Finance is being strengthened and in the month of July 2016, CSBAG has trained over sixty Civil Society Organizations in budget performance monitoring and budget advocacy.