



2019 NATIONAL BUDGET MONTH

Promoting Budget Transparency and Accountability



Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development



Hon. Matia Kasaija
Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Over the years, Government has engaged in activities aimed at promoting budget transparency through increased citizens' interactions and engagements on issues of the budget including through publications such as the Citizens' Guide to the Budget, platforms such as the Budget Toll Free Hotline (0800229229) and Ministry websites, the Barazas by the Office of the Prime Minister and the decision by Cabinet to explain policy issues through the Media.

The objective of these initiatives is to increase citizen's participation in the development of their country, through paying taxes and monitoring the use of public resources in the delivery of public services. These initiatives have been instrumental in disseminating information and obtaining feedback. For example, through these initiatives, we have been able to register

tangible success as follows:

1. Uganda was ranked as the second best country in Africa under the Open Budget Index in 2017;
2. Through transparent access to information, we have contributed significantly to the fight against corruption. People know how much has been budgeted, released, and spent on what; and,
3. Through the feedback mechanism, Government has been able to obtain feedback that has been incorporated into the budget process.

In the spirit of budget transparency and following the Budget Week FY2018/19 that was held in June 2018, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, working with other Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies and the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group, launched the National Budget Month FY2019/20, on Tuesday 14th May 2019. The objectives of the National Budget Month FY2019/20 are to increase buy-in and support for Government programs, improve accountability and service delivery. A number of activities will be implemented during the National Budget Month FY2019/20 as indicated in this press release.

I would like to thank our partners, the Government Agencies involved, the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group and the Private Sector for working tirelessly to increase citizens' participation in the budget process.

I call upon you, fellow countrymen and women, to actively participate in these activities in order to enhance your knowledge of the budget, take advantage of the opportunities therein and, contribute to the improvement in accountability and service delivery by monitoring the use of public resources.

I thank you all.

For God and my Country.

THE NATIONAL BUDGET MONTH ACTIVITIES FOR FY2019/20

Launch of the National Budget Month FY2019/20 at the MoFPED Head Offices Tuesday 14th May 2019

Tree Planting along one of the road reserves of Kampala Friday 24th May, 2019

Donation of Scholastic Materials at East Kololo Primary School Thursday 30th May 2019

National Budget March from the Constitutional Square to Kololo Ceremonial Grounds Tuesday 4th June, 2019

Service Excellence Exhibition @ Kololo Ceremonial Grounds Tuesday 4th - Thursday 6th June, 2019

Budget Speech Day Thursday 13th June, 2019

Post Budget Dialogue at the Serena International Conference Center Thursday 20th June, 2019

Budget Breakfast Meetings targeting the Public, especially those in SME sub-sector in the following 6 Regions:

- a) Northern Region- Lira
 - b) West Nile Region-Arua
 - c) Eastern Region-Soroti
 - d) Kampala-Hotel Africana
 - e) Mid-Western Region-Hoima
 - f) South Western Region-Kabale
- Friday 21st June, 2019

#UGBugdet19
#KnowYourBudget

MOFPED
#Doing More



2019 NATIONAL BUDGET MONTH

Promoting Budget Transparency and Accountability



Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group



Julius Mukunda
Executive Director
Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG)

The Budget is the most important development instrument that Government uses to transform the economy and wellbeing of its people. Therefore, it is very important that when government is preparing its national budget, the process is participatory and gender responsive.

This justifies why the CSBAG a coalition that was formed in 2004 has since its inception worked to strengthening citizens' voice and participation in the planning and budgeting processes. Annually, we provide platforms for citizens to debate and interrogate the budget, monitor budget implementation as well as influence budget decisions.

For FY 2019/20 Budget process, CSBAG and its members participated in all the Local government Budget consultative meetings, the National Budget Conference, the Parliamentary Committee Meetings on the National Budget Framework Paper (NBFP) and Ministerial Policy Statements (MPS)' review and all the press conferences on quarterly fund releases, hosted by the Ministry of Finance.

Despite our differences on how the National Budget is implemented and allocated, structured dialogue and collaboration with government is at the heart of our work and that is why we are happy to be part of the National Budget Month. We envisage that more budget information will be available, benefits of budgets will be communicated to the public and citizens will own and the budget process.

Fellow citizens and CSOs actors, this National Budget month presents us an opportunity to showcase our contribution in promoting budget accountability in Uganda.

I conclude by calling on every citizen to know and get involved in the affairs of government as enshrined in 1st Political objective in our 1995 Constitution and Article 38. As such, I implore Ugandans to join us in the planned events that make up the 2019 National Budget Month, listen to the National Budget Speech on 13th of June 2019 and beyond that monitor Budget implementation.

#UGBugdet19
#KnowYourBudget

**Our Budget | Our Responsibility
For God and My Country**