



Local Government Budget
Consultative Workshops
FY2025/26, 19th – 20th September
2024

Nyaika Hotel
Presented By Bwangwa Angella

Bundibugyo, Kikuube, Ntoroko,
Mbarara, Mbarara City, Hoima,
Hoima City and Kyegegwa

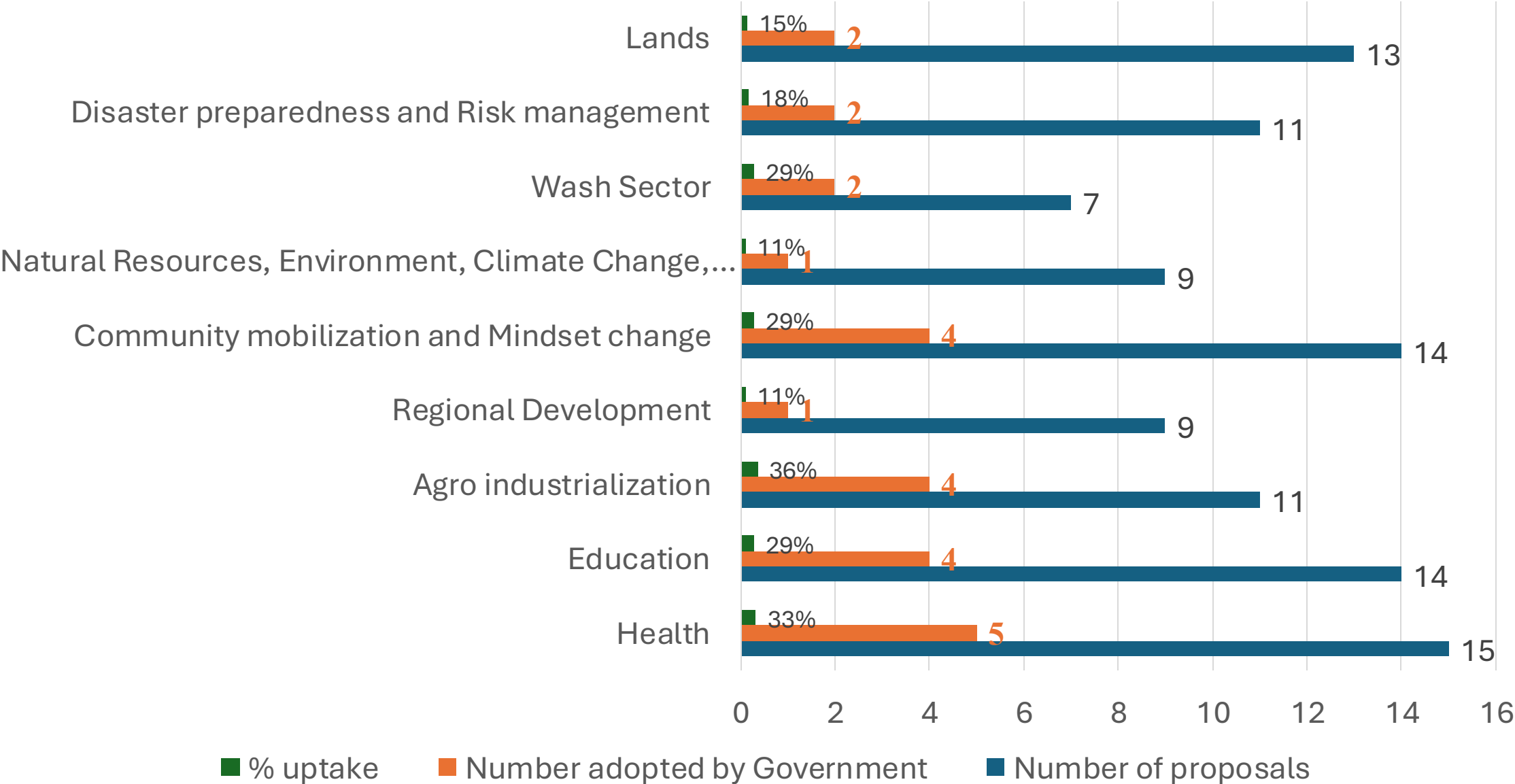
Introduction

- AS Civil Society Organizations (CSOS), We Deeply Appreciate the Opportunity to Actively Engage in the Government of Uganda's Budgeting Processes.
- Fiscal Year 2025/26 Will be The First Implementation Year of the 4th National Development Plan (2025/26-2030/31), and Will be the First Five Years of the Strategy for Growing the Economy Tenfold, from about Usd50 Billion in Fy2022/23 to Usd500 Billion by 2040
- The Ambitious Target to Grow Uganda's GDP Tenfold by 2040 Requires a Shift away from Business as usual. The Sectors that have been identified to Drive this Growth are mainly Agro-Industrialization, Tourism, Mineral Development and Science and Technology, LG Sectors so take advantage.

Government Response to CSOs Service Delivery Concerns Raised in FY2024/25

- **Increase in Funding for Local Governments.** The Government for increasing the budget for LGs from **UGX 5.04 trillion in FY 2022/23 to UGX 5.39 trillion in FY 2023/24 to 5.98 trillion in FY 2024/25.** It also provided **UGX 1 billion to each district** for rehabilitation of Roads (DUCAR).
- **Increased Budget accountability and transparency.** The **Open Budget Survey Report 2023**, ranked Uganda as the leader in East Africa regarding budget transparency. Uganda scored 59/100 above, Kenya's 55/100, Rwanda's 50/100 and Tanzania's 41/100
- **Increased Citizen Participation in the Government Audit Process.** This was witnessed by the launch of the **Citizens Feed back Platform by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG)** to enable citizens voice their commendations and concerns regarding the quality of service delivery.
- **Increased attention to Boosting Household Incomes:** the Government has put in place numerous interventions aimed at boosting household incomes (**PDM, Emwooga, Grow, Invite, EP, SAGE, etc**)The

Citizen Participation -CSO Proposal Uptake FY 2024/25



SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURES



Education and Health sectoral committee members inspect the delivery of new desks in Butebere Primary school- Hoima City



Some of the CSO Participants trained on the use of the Citizen Feedback Platform by CSBAG and the OAG in Mbarara, Sept 2023. Photo: @CSBAG

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURES



*Two Newly Constructed classroom block at Kashaka P.S-
Mbararr District*



A newly Constructed classroom block at Katukuru PS-Mbarara City

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURES



Newly Constructed Mirambi HCIII- Bundibugyo DLG



A newly Constructed maternity ward including electrical installation at Migongwe HC II in Kyegegwa District

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURES



A classroom blocks, HT's office & Staffroom, installed stainless 10,000ltr water tanks at Kibiro P/S- Hoima DLG



Improved road network due to availability of machines in Hoima DLG

SERVICE DELIVERY IMPROVEMENT IN PICTURES



Before and after of Galijura-Rubona-Muhangi 3.5km community access road Kibuye/Kabweza Parish- Kyegegwa District

Supply chain Challenges addressed through a multisectoral approach.



1

FUNDING FOR COMMODITIES

Increased from UGX **544 BN (30%)** in FY 2021/22 to UGX **740 BN (36%)** in FY 2024/25

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

HSC integrated in the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development budget circular and MoLGs circular to DLGs

Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development, P.O. Box 5147, Kampala, Uganda

15th February 2023

All Technical Program Heads
All Accounting Officers:

- Central Government Voted;
- Allocation Abroad;
- Local Government Voted; and
- State-Owned Enterprises and Public Corporations.

THE SECOND BUDGET CALL CIRCULAR (2nd BCC) ON FINALISATION OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024.

A. INTRODUCTION
1. Pursuant to Section 10-13 of the Public Finance Management (PFM)



3

DIGITIZATION

- ✓ **1,434** facilities provided with digital supply chain infrastructure.
- ✓ **1,947** facilities ordering electronically.
- ✓ **53** facilities using the GOU EMR.
- ✓ National Data Warehouse developed with supply chain dashboards.

4

HSC HUMAN RESOURCES

New HSC positions instituted in HFs i.e Senior Pharmacists, Assistant Medical Records Officer, ICT officers, Health Records officers.



6

HSC GOVERNANCE

IMTF instituted and coordinated by OPM, MOH approved 6 HSC policy frameworks documents

5

HEALTH COMMODITY WAREHOUSING

Completion of the NMS warehouse at Kajjansi.





CITIZENS CONCERNS AND PROPOSALS FOR FY2025/26



Focus areas to advance the management of the supply chain in districts, cities, municipalities and hospitals .

Human resource for the health supply chain:

Gaps at all levels, new HRH structure approved some supply chain positions in districts and Hospitals and lower-level HFs but not yet implemented.

Recommendation

Districts should prioritise the recruitment of critical staff for Health Supply Chain e.g district senior pharmacist, IT officers, and medical records in HFs.



Accountability of health commodities: In FY

2022/23, health commodities worth **UGX 87,847,435,333** in **2774** public health facilities in 136 districts was not accounted for. The FY 2023/24 analysis report is yet to be completed and shared

Recommendation.

1. The accounting officers pay utmost attention to accountability of health commodities delivered in health facilities



Planning and budgeting for HSC activities:

Available data indicates that half of the total number of districts in the country deliberately include HSC activities in their annual plans and budgets.

Recommendation:

1. Local governments and hospitals incorporate health supply chain activities in annual plans and budgets for FY 2025/26 moving forward.
2. Intensify resource mobilisation for health supply chain activities through engagement with private sector and regional IPs



Supply chain digitalization: Only 40% of health facilities medicine stores are digitalized.

Recommendation

Allocate resources for procurement and maintenance of ICT infrastructure and equipment in health facilities to ensure HSC digitalization for visibility and traceability of health commodity consumption



CITIZENS CONCERNS & PROPOSALS FOR FY 2025/2026

HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Inadequate and poor infrastructure in HCs in LGs

For example, Ntoroko District, Kanara Health Center III has one ward shared by females, males and children.

Drug Stock Outs and delayed response by NMS

Sometimes, some health centres do not receive drugs during some of the delivery cycles which stifles service delivery- Rwangwara Health Centre **111 missed drugs**

Limited Staffing: Most health centres have been grappling with few staff that can not serve that growing number of patients

Recommendation

- 1) The Government should allocate resources for the rehabilitation of dilapidated structures and the expansion of old health centres III and IV due to population growth, these health centres are now overstretched.
- 2) There is a need for timely and consistent delivery of drugs to Health centres by NMS
- 3) With the partial lifting of the recruitment burn, LGs through the DSC should recruit critical health staff.

CITIZENS CONCERNS & PROPOSALS FOR FY 2025/2026



A Worrisome Delivery Bed at Nyakayojo H/CIII- Mbarara City



Mothers lining up for immunisation due to inadequate staff at Mbarara municipal H/Ciii, Mbarara City

CITIZENS CONCERNS & PROPOSALS FOR FY 2025/2026

HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Inadequate and Dilapidated infrastructure in schools

According to the MoES education standards, most primary schools have limited infrastructure, leading to overcrowded classrooms.

Inadequate and dilapidated staff quarters in primary schools. These cause teachers to arrive late and leave early, negatively impacting their performance and student outcomes.

Recommendation

- 1) Allocation funds for provision of critical infrastructure (construction and renovation) specifically teachers quarters and classroom blocks
- 2) Government should consider allocation of resources for provision of desks to improve pupil learning conditions

Inadequate and poor state of buildings in primary schools



A P. 4 Class at Bunyaruta PS that doubles as a store and HM's office- Bundibugyo DLG



A dilapidated staff house at Mbarara Mixed P/S - Northern Division, Mbarara City

Inadequate and poor state of buildings in primary schools



A mad and Watto classroom block at Ntororo PS- Bundibugyo District



Dilapidated classroom block at Kishasha Primary school- Mbarara City

Inadequate and poor state of buildings in primary schools



Kashaka P.S is in Bubaare sub country- Mbarara DLG



Incomplete classroom block at Bukangama ps – Bundibugyo DLG

PDM- Implementation challenges that need attention

We are supportive of the Parish Development Model (PDM) as a flagship implementation approach for local economic development in Uganda. However, studies by the Equal Opportunities Commission and NGO forum have identified challenges that need attention:

- Each beneficiary is supposed to get UGX. 1M, however, some beneficiaries have received less than UGX. 1M
- Some Local Governments do not have enough Parish Chiefs, CDOs and Agricultural extension workers who are crucial for the implementation of PDM
- **Corruption:** For example, in Bundibugyo district, we have just received a report that all SACCOS totalling 134 were told to pay 300000 to 500000 or their accounts would remain blocked by the district without accessing monies. A total of 65 million is suspected to be illegally submitted to district officials.
- The SACCO members have reached the extent of taking the wendi PINs of beneficiaries to get their cut ranging from 50000 to 100000 from the beneficiaries

Recommendation

- Harmonise the guidelines and to emphasize the 1 M disbursement to beneficiaries.
- Priorities the recruitment of Parish Chiefs, CDOs and Agricultural extension workers in sub-counties where there are few to enhance the delivery of the model
- Put measures in place to curb corruption

Low staffing Levels in Local governments

- Districts have been operating with minimal staff way below the recommended average of **55%**.
- For example, Bundibugyo has most critical staff not confirmed still in acting positions such as District Production Officer
- Bundibugyo district has 26 administrative Units but with 4 Confirmed Community development Officers most of them are Parish Chief assigned.
- Following the recruitment Saga that happened in Ntoroko, the district does not have enough staff leading to poor service delivery
- The salary disparities between science and arts teachers in secondary schools have also led to some of the arts teachers opting for early retirement hence widening the staffing gap.

Recommendation (s)

1. *The ministry of Public Service should expedite the process of allowing Ntoroko district to recruit critical staff*
2. *The government should also consider enhancing the salaries of Arts teachers to improve their morale and stop the mass exodus of Arts teachers leaving the profession.*

The state of road infrastructure in LG Including Bridges

Due to climate change and old age, many bridges have been left deplorable state in most districts of western Uganda.



Ntahya Bridge on Bundimwendi- Hakitara road under Construction.
The bridge was just during this rainy season. A new arch bridge is under construction.



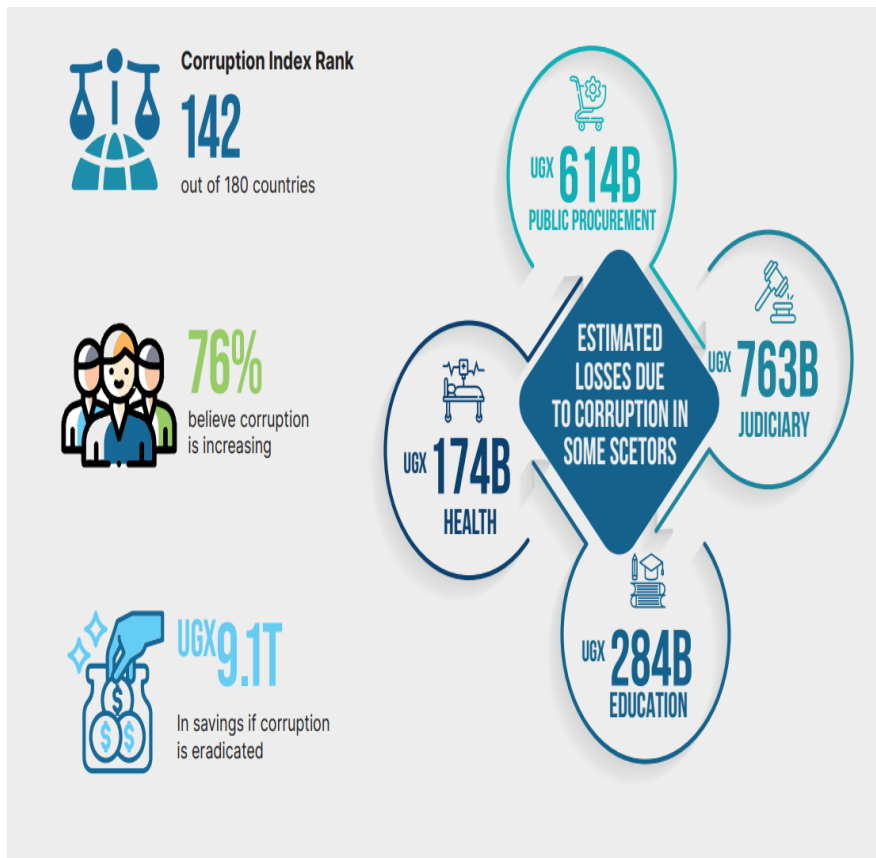
Katete bridge in Mbarara city that was closed due to its poor state

RECOMMENDATION

- The MoWT should consider providing funds for more Roman-type arch bridges since they have been proven to withstand floods in flood-prone areas like Bundibigyo.
- *MoWT should provide resources should be provided for inspection and repair/ replacement of Old Bridges in LG*

1.

Rampant Corruption in LG and inefficiency of statutory Boards and Commissions in LGs



- Several studies have indicated structural and operational gaps in the functionality of various accountability organs at the Local Government level. In addition, DSC, DLB and the contracts committees have been implicated in corruption scandals in most districts.
- As a result, there have been talks of recentralizing some of these functions which pose a threat to Democracy.
- According to the IGG report, the cost of corruption in Uganda is estimated to be **UGX. 9.144 trillion** a year.
- **Recommendation:**
 1. There is a need to institute measures to fight corruption at the LG
 2. Prioritizing the allocation of resources to empower and foster independence through induction of members of statutory bodies through the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG)

Induction of Local Government Leaders

The end of FY 2025/26 is expected to usher into office new Local Government leaders following the elections that will be held in February 2026.

According to the MoLG, the average turnover in the **2021** elections was **85%** but the ministry was able to only induct 25 districts (**2** were inducted fully, **10** cities and 12 Municipalities). The limited understanding of mandates for the different leaders resulting from limited or no induction of political leaders continues to be sources of conflicts in many LG.

The Ministry of Local Government requires at least **UGX 17 billion** to carry out the induction of districts and city councillors.

Recommendation; *The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development should prioritise funding for the induction of newly elected political leaders by allocating the required **17 billion** to the MoLG. This will go a long way in enhancing their capacity to exercise their legislative and oversight mandate in the budget execution*

NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, LAND AND WATER PROGRAMME

1. Lack of mainstreaming Climate change into the local government plans

- Uganda passed the National Climate Change Act in 2021 to give legal force to international climate agreements, providing a framework for climate response measures. The developed Climate Change Policies demonstrate government commitment to mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Implementing these policies in LGs remains challenging, particularly in integrating climate change considerations into local development plans because the insufficient skill and knowledge regarding climate change
- For instance, tracking climate-related expenditures has been difficult, as highlighted in the PEFA 2023 findings.

Recommendations.

- Build staff capacity on climate change budget tagging (CCBBT) systems across MDAs and local government this can only be achieved through providing comprehensive training and Resources to ensure consistent application of CBBT.
- The LGs with support from the MWE prioritize the development of District Climate Change Action Plans that address specific vulnerabilities while leveraging on locally-led capacities per the National Climate Change Act



Photo: Bweramule Primary School submerged - Ntoroko district



Thank you
