



CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



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Advocating for a People Centered Budget that Dignifies Humanity



FY 2015/16! Did Government deliver on its NDP II Commitments in social sectors?

The financial year (FY) 2015/16 was the first year of NDP II implementation and in this Edition, CSBAG shares the CSBAG assessment on whether the planned targets as per NDP II are progressively being achieved to ensure that the country is on track for inclusive growth targets as Uganda aspires to be a middle-income economy by 2020



The social sectors feature among the priorities under the National Development Plan II (NDP II).

Health

Nationally, the sector's performance was poor compared to the NDP II targets. In FY 2015/16, the sector had many areas of non-compliance with the National Planning Authority certification process largely on issues of preventive health and nutrition. Specifically, the key areas of non-compliance included: Review and realign the essential care health package; Establish a national Institute of Public Health; Establish and operationalize an emergency operating centre; Capacity building in the field of epidemiology; Mass treatment of malaria for prevention; Mass distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs); Insecticide residual spraying to high-transmission districts; Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnostic capacity for Zoonotic diseases: Develop the Immunization policy and enact the Immunization Act; Implement the national immunization communication strategy in all districts; Screen and treat oral diseases particularly among primary school children; Community structures for health education, promotion and disease prevention; Promote healthy lifestyles that prevent or delay occurrence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs); Establish a functional surveillance, monitoring and research system to support the prevention and control of NCDs. The sector did not comply on the entire objective of addressing the key determinants of health through strengthening intersectoral collaboration and partnerships, save for the establishment of a sanitation fund.

The reduced absorptive capacity and unspent funds at end of the financial year point to institutional weaknesses within the Social Development sector that must be addressed.

Thus, key issues of nutrition, gender, health concerns in food production systems were not addressed. In addition, the budget did not address a key objective of increasing financial risk protection of households against impoverishment due to health expenditures, thus leaving out key interventions of: A system to collect pre-payments and voluntary contributions; Design and implement a co-payment system for health care; Design and implement a National Health Insurance scheme; and Develop innovative purchasing and payment mechanisms for efficient use of health resources.

Social development

The NDP II noted the importance of social development as a pre-requisite for inclusive growth. With regard to the social development component, emphasis was on: strengthening Labour Market Information System (LMIS) and Employment Services; implementing a national programme for women's economic empowerment; promoting creative industries for job creation especially for young people; establishing and operationalizing productivity centres at national and regional levels for improving the productivity of the Ugandan workers among others.

In terms of compliance with the NDP II, the sector had areas of non-compliance with the National Planning Authority certification process. Specifically, the Authority noted the areas of non-compliance that included:

- The sector had a draft Development Plan and the Strategic Plan (2013/14-2017/18) for the Equal Opportunities Commission which was not aligned to NDPII, calling for a review.
- The Annual Budget prioritized and allocated funds to 7 out of the 14 NDP II priorities namely: Entrepreneurship Programme; Strengthening Safeguards, Safety and Health at Workplaces; Strengthening the Capacity of Equal Opportunities Commission; Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment (SAGE) II; and Youth Livelihoods Programme. While this is a positive trend towards implementation of the NDP II, the sector did not prioritize community mobilization which is critical for effective participation and efficiency in the utilization of the project funds. The budget did not prioritize strengthening culture and creative industries, which is key for enhancing youth employment. Other interventions not prioritized include: expanding the scope and coverage of social security services; establishment of the National Council for Older persons; and priority projects of: Strengthening the Uganda National Response for Implementation of Services for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCS); Strengthening Community OVC Response; HIV/ AIDS programmes; Child Helpline; Community Based Rehabilitation; and Strengthening the Culture and Creative Industries.

The Social Development sector, therefore, is faced with financial constraints in terms of achieving sector outcomes. However, the reduced absorptive capacity and unspent funds at end of the financial year point to institutional weaknesses that must be addressed. The sector must invest in statistics to effectively show the gender inequalities as a tool for advocating for additional funding.

Water and environment

In terms of compliance with the NDP II, the sector had areas of non-compliance with the National Planning Authority certification process. Specifically, the Authority noted the areas of non-compliance that included: the sector having a draft Sector Development Plan which was aligned to NDP II in terms of content and time horizon but was yet to be approved. With regard to the sector MDAs, the National Water and Sewerage Corporation had a strategic plan that was aligned in terms of content; but in time horizon (2015-2018), the National Forestry Authority had a draft Strategic Plan that was aligned to NDP II in terms of horizon, while Uganda National Meteorological Authority only had a planning document. Some of the priority interventions in the NDPII such as; restoration of degraded ecosystems were unfunded priorities

Conclusion: The fact that all sectors had poor compliance levels with the National Planning Authority, certificate was a reflection of the limited commitment within sectors of improving service delivery.

SECTOR PERFORMANCE IN RELATION TO NDP II 2015/16

Sector	NDP II Performance Indicators/ Target	Sector performance in FY 2015/16	Comment
Agriculture	104,103 Jobs created in 2015/16		There is no data to measure this performance
Education	Primary to secondary school transition rate (80% by 2020)	63.2% (63.8 % for girls, 62.8% for boys)	Substantially achieved
	Net Secondary completion rates (50% by 2020)	36.2% (35.9% for girls, 36.4% for boys)	Substantially achieved
	Average years of schooling (11 by 2020)		There is no data to measure this performance
Health	Life Expectancy at birth (60years by 2020)	63.3 years (64.2 years for female, 62.2 years for male)	Substantially achieved
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (44 by 2020)	54	Substantially achieved
	Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births (320 by 2020)	438	Substantially achieved
Social Development	Child Stunting as percent of under-5s (25 by 2020)	33% (29.9 % for girls, 37% for boys)	Substantially achieved
	Total Fertility Rate (4.5 by 2020)	6.2	Substantially achieved
	None		There is no data to measure this performance
Water and Environment	Rural Safe water coverage (79% by 2020)	67%	Substantially achieved
	Urban Safe water coverage (100% by 2020)	71%	Substantially achieved

UPCOMING EVENTS

High-Level Policy Meeting on Local Government Financing

Date: 21st March 2017

Venue: Hotel Africana

Convener: CSBAG

Strategic meeting on financing IGG and PPDA

Date: 23rd March 2017

Convener: CSBAG

Venue: Hotel Africana

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