

OPEN BUDGET SURVEY REPORT 2019 – UGANDA 2ND IN AFRICA.

1. INTRODUCTION

UDN in collaboration with International Budget Partnership (IBP) and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) have released [Uganda's Open Budget Survey 2019 results report](#). (

The report (Open Budget Survey- OBS) measures the extent of various national governments' compliance with the standard expectation - Making national budget information publicly accessible and giving citizens opportunities to participate in the national budget processes. The report was launched by the Minister of Finance (Hon. Matia Kasaija) who was represented by Mr Kakama Godwin (Commissioner, Budget Policy and Evaluation Department) on Thursday 9th July 2020 2018 at the Uganda Bureau of Statistics conference hall, Ministry of Finance - Kampala.



L-R: Ms Christine Mubiru (UDN, Board Secretary), Mr Patrick Tumwabeze (ED,UDN), Mr Kakama Godwin (Commissioner, Budget policy and Evaluation department) and Mr Julius Kapwepwe (DOP, UDN) launching the 2019 Uganda Open Budget Survey results at the Uganda Bureau of Statistics conference hall on 9th July 2020.



Presenting the report on behalf of Civil Society, UDN's Director of Programmes, Julius Kapwewe said, Uganda's overall score is above Global average of 45%, the best in the Eastern Africa region and 2nd in Africa (after South Africa- at 87%). Although having the highest transparency score of 58% in the region in 2019, it is a drop since 2015.

He also noted that Uganda provides few opportunities for the Public to engage in Budget process- with a score of 22% and the legislature & Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) in Uganda provide limited oversight of the budget – at 59%.

Ms. Christine Mubiru, (UDN, Board Secretary) said Uganda has made steady progress in promoting budget transparency at national level evidenced by publishing the Citizens budget online. She called upon MoFPED, legislature and other line ministries to ensure citizens' participation in the budget process as government responds to urgent social, political & economic needs with more expenditure today, to be funded by taxes & debt in future budget cycles, open and credible budgeting is even more essential.



Above: Ms Christine Mubiru giving opening remarks at the launch of the Open Survey result report for Uganda.



Above: Mr. Kakama Godwin giving remarks on the launch of the Open Survey result report for Uganda.

Commenting on UDN's presentation of the report the Commissioner, Budget policy, Mr. Kakama Godwin said Uganda ranked second in Africa in Budget transparency after South Africa just as it was in 2017. This he attributed to the ministry's commitment to provision of comprehensive and substantial budget information to citizens." He pledged that government will continue to be transparent in terms of budget by even taking budget engagements down to sub counties and districts effective with FY2020/21 in order to advance accountability and ensure there is better delivery on social services to Ugandans.

3. UGANDA'S OBS RESULTS SHOW A DECLINE IN BUDGET TRANSPARENCY IN 2019



L-R: Mr Africa Kiiza (SEATINI), Mr Julius Kapwepwe (UDN), Ms Naisanga Priscilla (UDN), Mr Sirage Magara (CSBAG) and Mr James Ssempiija addressing the media on the release of the Open Budget Survey (OBS) Results.



Following the launch, UDN and partner CSOs held a press conference at the UDN secretariat to present the observations and recommendations in respect to the OBS 2019 results report. They also committed to continuously enlist international best practices and sustain these engagements with government for the ultimate good of citizens hence meeting their rights to transparent and accountable service delivery. Follow this link for the detailed Press Statement : shorturl.at/lqRU6

2. KEY LAUNCH OBS STATEMENTS



Above: Mr Julius Kapwepwe, presenting Uganda's Open Budget Survey 2019 results

UDN appreciates support by: UDN Membership; [DCA](#); [Save the Children in Uganda](#); [OSIEA](#), [Inspectorate of Government](#); [IBP](#), [Trocaire](#) and [DGF](#).

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