

OPEN BUDGET SURVEY REPORT 2021 – UGANDA 4TH IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.

1. INTRODUCTION

UDN in partnership with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Budget Partnership (IBP), and in close collaboration with Uganda's Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) have released [Uganda's Open Budget Survey \(OBS\) 2021 results report](#).

The [OBS report](#) 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. In 2021 the survey was conducted and covers 120 countries. Uganda's country report was launched by the Minister of Finance (Hon. Matia Kasaija) on Tuesday 12th July 2022 at Ministry of Finance - Kampala conference hall.



L-R: Hon. Matia Kasaija (Minister of Finance) launching the 2021 OBS results, Hon. Fred Omach Jachan (Board Chairman, UDN) and Mr. Patrick Ocalip (Deputy Secretary to the Treasury-MoFPED).



Some of the participants sharing a light moment after the launch of the 2021 OBS results.

2. KEY FINDINGS FOR UGANDA

Uganda ranked 43 out of 120 countries in the Open Budget Survey 2021, ranked 4th in Sub-Saharan Africa and 1st position in East Africa. Transparency score dropped from 65% in 2012 to 58% in 2021 largely the same as its score in 2019. It is above the Global average of 45%, however the country is still placed in the category of countries that provide limited budget information.

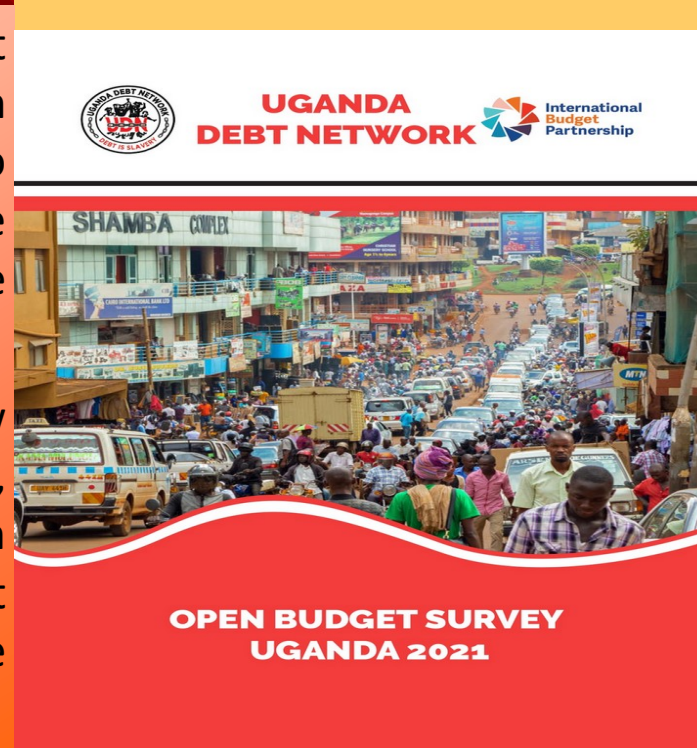
The report also revealed that Uganda provides few opportunities for the public to engage in the budget process, with an average global score in public participation of 19% which is categorized as limited. The legislature & supreme audit institution together in Uganda provides limited oversight of the budget (59%).

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

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Above: Hon. Fred Omach Jachan (UDN Board Chairman) presenting Uganda's Open Budget Survey 2021 results.

Hon. Matia Kasaija (Minister of Finance), appreciated UDN for taking lead in the OBS together with IBP. He applauded the ideal of participating in an initiative that creates sensitization, improves budget transparency and accountability for public expenditure and service delivery in Uganda.

He also said that the survey gives government an opportunity to evaluate its interventions and obtain feedback on the extent they are contributing to attain desired outcomes. Furthermore the Minister pledged that government will continue to be transparent in terms of budget transparency and also during the planning.



Above: Hon. Matia Kasaija (Minister of Finance), presenting Uganda's Open Budget Survey 2021 results.



Above: Mr. Arthur Mutesasira (UNICEF) giving closing remarks during Uganda's Open Budget Survey 2021 results launch.

In his closing remarks, Mr Arthur Mutesasira (UNICEF) reaffirmed working with UDN and MoFPED with a view to take Uganda's score beyond being the 4th in Sub-Saharan Africa during the next survey. He alluded that as Uganda works towards strengthening budget transparency, there is need for a cohesion between good results and the welfare of citizens especially the children.

Furthermore he said that timely, easily understandable and systematic accessibility of all budget intentions, formulations and executions to citizens ensures more inclusive economic growth and a more effective fight against poverty through better use of public resources, in particular for the most vulnerable groups.

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