



# PROGRAMME FOR THE NATIONAL BUDGET MONTH FY2020/21



## STATEMENT BY THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON THE NATIONAL BUDGET MONTH FOR FY 2020/21



**Hon. Matia Kasaija**  
Minister of Finance,  
Planning & Economic  
Development

Fellow Ugandans, I take this opportunity to welcome you to the National Budget Month (NBM) FY2020/21. This is part of Government's Budget Transparency Initiatives that are aimed at increasing public awareness and knowledge of the National Budget as well as enhancing public participation in its formulation, implementation and monitoring. These initiatives include among others, publications such as the Citizen's Guide to the Budget, the Budget website ([www.budget.go.ug](http://www.budget.go.ug)), the Budget toll free line (0800229229), 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 therefore, 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. Indeed these initiatives have contributed to the fight against corruption as citizens use the information obtained to monitor the use of public resources. In addition, the feedback obtained during these interactions has led to better planning and budgeting, leading to better outcomes.

The National Budget Month FY2020/21 was launched with the Pre-Budget Dialogue that was held on Thursday, 28th May 2020. The rest of the activities of the National Budget Month FY2020/21 will be implemented as indicated in this press release. Therefore, as the country grapples with the negative effects of COVID-19, it is imperative that you, the citizens, participate in identifying key interventions needed to mitigate these effects on the economy.

I would like to thank our National Budget Month partners, the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group, Uganda Revenue Authority, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, Bank of Uganda, Action for Development and Environment, Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute, National Information Technology Authority and Overseas Development Institute – Budget Strengthening Initiative, for this partnership that is expected to increase the citizen's understanding of the National Budget and participation in the Budget process.

I call upon you, fellow countrymen and women, to participate in these activities, not only to obtain key knowledge and information on opportunities in the National Budget, but also to make your contribution towards the economic recovery and socio-economic transformation of our society as a whole.

**I thank you all.  
For God and my Country.**

## THE PROGRAMME

### Event 1: **The High Level Pre-Budget Speech Policy Dialogue**

#### **Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

The Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) and the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) in partnership with the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development are organizing an online High-Level policy dialogue on the National Budget under the theme '*Fiscal responses to Covid-19 Pandemic and Economic Recovery Measures*'. The dialogue is the 10th in the series and seeks to re-examine Uganda's budget priorities for FY 2020/21 in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the road to economic recovery going forward.

### Event 2: **State of the Nation Address**

#### **Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

### Event 3: **Launch of the PFMA, 2015 Performance Index**

#### **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

The Civil Society Budget Advocacy group (CSBAG) in partnership with the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) carried out an assessment to ascertain progress attained in adhering to the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 in the financial year 2016/17. Volume II, of the PFMA index, will be launched of the PFMA, 2015 performance Index (FY 2016/17) jointly by CSBAG together with MoFPED.

### Event 4: **Reading of the Budget Speech**

#### **Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020:**

The Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development shall read the Budget Speech FY 2020/21 to inform the Public about key programmes and projects for the coming FY, the Budget Speech Reading will be held at Parliament. The event shall be presided over by HE the President of Uganda

### Event 5: **Post Budget Speech E-Conference**

#### **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

In order to provide a platform for discussion of the National Budget priorities among key industry players and sector leaders, the Post-Budget Speech dialogue will be held via traditional and other media platforms. This event targets the sector leaders and large industry players within the Ugandan economy. These may include Private Company CEOs and Heads of Government agencies. The proposed message in the dialogue is: "*Sustainable Industrialization for inclusive growth, employment and wealth creation*". These will be broadcast live on TV.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CIVIL SOCIETY BUDGET ADVOCACY GROUP



**Mukunda Julius**  
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. This therefore makes it very critical that when government is preparing its national budget the planning and budget process must be participatory and gender responsive. This justifies why the

Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) a coalition that was formed in 2004 has since its inception worked to strengthening citizens' voice and participation in the government 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. In 2014, as part of generating citizens interest in the Budget Speech, CSBAG initiated the Budget Count Down campaign through which we rally citizens to listen to the Budget to know the key budget policy directions as well Government commitments to citizens.

To build on these initiatives, CSBAG has partnered with Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and the Uganda Revenue Authority and Bank of Uganda to mobilise citizens, who are the key stakeholders who pay tax as per Article 17 (g) of the 1995 constitution, to participate in the National Budget Month, 2019 engagements which began on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020. This National Budget month presents opportunity for citizens and Civil Society actors to showcase their contribution in promoting budget accountability in Uganda.

It is every citizen's right to know and get involved in the affairs of government as enshrined in 1<sup>st</sup> Political objective in our constitution and Article 38. As such, CSBAG implores Ugandans to join us in the planned events that make up the 2020 National Budget Month, listen to the National Budget Speech on 11<sup>th</sup> of June 2020 and beyond that, monitor Budget implementation.

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

