Sector Allocation Analysis – Uganda National Budget 2025/2026

# Objective

To explore and evaluate Uganda’s 2025/2026 national budget allocations across sectors, focusing on equity, transparency, and alignment with national development priorities. This analysis is designed to support policy advisors and civil society organizations (CSOs) in advocating for more responsive and accountable public resource management.

# Process Summary

# Data Collection and Preparation

* Obtained official budget data for FY 2025/2026 in CSV format.
* Cleaned numerical fields (Wage, Nonwage, GoUDev, Ext Fin, AIADev) by removing formatting symbols and handling missing or zero values.
* Aggregated budget figures by Vote Name (sector) and Programme Name for both sector-level and program-level insights.

# Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

* Calculated total allocation per sector (Total Allocation) and computed relative shares of the national budget.
* Visualized:
  + Top 10 funded sectors (bar chart)
  + Expenditure breakdown by Wage, Non-Wage, and Development
  + Bottom 10 underfunded sectors, to highlight inequities and potential service delivery gaps

# Dashboard Development

* Built a web-based interactive dashboard using Python’s Dash library:
  + Filters for sector and program-level comparisons
  + Exportable data views for use in reports and policy briefs
  + Dynamic KPIs and interactive charts for stakeholders

# Key Findings

* Treasury Operations, Ministry of Defence, and Local Governments command the largest allocations, collectively absorbing over 40% of the national budget.
* Infrastructure-heavy votes like UNRA and Works & Transport receive significant funding, reflecting ongoing investments in road and capital development.
* Health and Education, while in the top 10, receive relatively smaller shares, raising concerns about Uganda’s long-term investment in human capital.
* Underfunded votes include oversight institutions, gender, youth, and cultural programs areas vital for social equity and inclusive development.

# Recommendations

## To Policy Advisors

1. Rebalance toward human capital development shift greater resources to Health, Education, and Social Protection to meet Uganda Vision 2040 goals and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 3 (Good Health) and SDG 4 (Quality Education)[1].
2. Enhance accountability for local government funds given their large share of allocations, monitor fiscal discipline and service delivery in high-budget districts[2].
3. Implement performance-based budgeting (PBB) link sectoral funding to measurable indicators like school completion rates, maternal health coverage, and road quality[3].

## To Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

1. Use evidence for advocacy on underfunded sectors. CSOs should highlight neglected sectors such as youth development, environment, and disability services to ensure inclusive growth[4].
2. Monitor budget execution, not just allocations. Advocate for transparency in disbursement and utilization of funds at subnational levels to reduce leakages and ghost projects[5].
3. Promote participatory budgeting. Strengthen community involvement in allocation decisions, especially for local government budgets, to reflect real needs[6].

# References

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2. 2. Lukwago, D., *ANALYSIS OF THE NATIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FY 2023/24.*
3. 3. Negm, E., *Assessing Egypt’s Readiness to Introduce Program and Performance-Based Budgeting*. 2024, The American University in Cairo (Egypt).
4. 4. Tushabe, G., et al., *Retrogressive or Misplaced Priorities? An Assessment of Public Expenditure for Food Security and Disaster Risk Reduction in Uganda.* International Journal of Disaster Risk Management, 2025. **7**(1): p. 15-38.
5. 5. Mwebaze, A., *FOSTERING TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND EQUITABLE ROYALTY SHARING OF REVENUE FROM EXTRACTIVES IN UGANDA.*
6. 6. Islam, S., *Public Finance and Policy Effectiveness A Review Of Participatory Budgeting In Local Governance Systems.* Available at SSRN 5287147, 2025.