INTRODUCTION

Uganda's Ministry of Health (MoH) is making strides towards improving its budget allocation to the health sector – particularly reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP). In the last three financial years (FY), the health sector budget allocation has increased by 38 percent from 1.8Trn UGX (approx. 487.89Bn USD) to 2.5Trn UGX (approx. 677.63Bn USD) while the RH/FP budget has grown by 10 percent from 13.85Bn UGX (approx. 3.754M USD) in FY 2017/18, to 15.23Bn UGX (approx. 4.128M USD) in FY 2019/20.

The RH/FP budget reduced by 6.7 percent from 16.3Bn UGX (approx. 4.18M USD) for FY 2018/19 to 15.23Bn UGX (approx. 4.128M USD) in 2019/20. In the FY 2019/20, approximately 97 percent of the RH/FP budget was spent on commodities but only three percent was on advocacy by the Ministry of Health, service delivery and capacity building.

Uganda FP2020 commitments

Uganda sought to reduce unmet FP need from 28 percent to 10 percent by 2020 and increase the modern contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) among all women from 39 to 50 percent by 2020. In 2017, the Uganda government committed to leverage annually 20M USD (approx. 75Bn UGX) from its development partners, and allocate 5M USD (approximately 18.7Bn UGX) annually for procurement and distribution of RH/FP supplies and commodities. However, the findings show that only 13.85Bn UGX was allocated in FY 2017/18, and only 16.3Bn UGX (approx. 4.18M USD), FY 2018/19. In the FY 2019/20 only 15.23Bn UGX (approx. USD 4.128M), was allocated. This was a reduction which all fall below the committed 5M USD equivalent to 18.7Bn UGX.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

The FP budget and expenditure analysis tracked resources through three main agencies: The National Medical Stores (NMS), Regional referral hospitals (RRH) and MoH. In FY 2019/20, NMS received 96.8 percent of the entire budget while the Regional referral hospitals (RRH) and MoH received 2.5 percent and 0.7 percent respectively. The overall analysis shows that only 6.5 percent of the national budget was allocated to the health sector in FY 2019/20, yet during the Abuja Declaration, the Government of Uganda committed to allocate 15 percent of its annual budget to the health sector.

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1 By 2020 through adopting the Uganda Family Panning Costed Implementation Plan (2015 -2020). The cost of the total plan was estimated to 622 billion Uganda shillings (UGX) or $235 million USD between 2015 and 2020, which would increase the number of women in Uganda using modern contraception from approximately 1.7 million users in 2014.
Methodology

The information was retrieved from the A4HU/DSW 2019 Budget and Expenditure Analysis Study report. The study was conducted between July and November 2019. It analyzed the FP budget lines for FY2017/18, FY 2018/19 and FY 2019/20. It further analyzed the approved annual budgets and work Plans, budget performance reports and policy documents from MoH, NMS, and RRHs. Budgets were analyzed using the A4HU/DSW FP Excel tool. A draft report was validated at both national and sub-national level.

Referral hospital FP Budget allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>2017/18 approved budget ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>2017/18 expenditure ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>2018/19 approved budget ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>2018/19 expenditure ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>2019/20 approved budget ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>2019/20 expenditure ('000 UGX)</th>
<th>Percent share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commodities</td>
<td>13,560,408</td>
<td>11,480,000</td>
<td>16,051,000</td>
<td>16,009,278</td>
<td>14,747,600</td>
<td>15,207,590</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy &amp; Mobilization</td>
<td>101,350</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>49,973</td>
<td>26,119</td>
<td>59,092</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service delivery</td>
<td>184,936</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>233,089</td>
<td>219,643</td>
<td>386,885</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14,013</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,846,694</td>
<td>11,480,000</td>
<td>16,334,062</td>
<td>16,255,041</td>
<td>15,207,590</td>
<td>15,207,590</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The budget allocation and expenditure analysis focused on the five main components of: Commodities, Advocacy and Mobilisation, Service delivery, Capacity building and Other Services e.g. counselling. Commodities were allocated almost the entire budget of 97 percent while the rest of the components were allocated three percent in total. In the last three years, the breakdown of the budget for commodities has been ambiguous, hence there is no specific allocation to FP commodities. Furthermore, the budget for the FY 2019/20 for FP/RH reduced by 6.7 percent from 16.3Bn to 15.2Bn UGX.

In order to fulfil the FP2020 Commitment, the Government of Uganda should consistently increase the budget to 18Bn UGX per annum an equivalent of 5M USD.

Sources

- MFPED (2018), Approved budget estimates for central government FY 2018/19
- MoFPED (2019), Annual Budget Performance Report FY 2018/19
- MoFPED (2019), Approved budget estimates for central government FY 2019/20
- UBOS (2016), The National Population and Housing Census 2014 – Main Report, Kampala, Uganda
- UDHS (2016), Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016, Kampala, Uganda