



Republic of Guinea
Work, Justice, Solidarity“
MINISTRY OF BUDGET



TOPIC: *Do financial management information systems provide useful information during a health crisis and are they sufficiently flexible?*

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INTRODUCTION



Since the 6th of April 2020, the Government of Guinea has presented a COVID-19 Health Crisis Economic Response Plan. This plan, which is estimated to cost **GNF 2,500 billion (USD 270 million)**, includes health, social and economic and financial components, aimed at supporting the private sector.

This amount does not include external financial funds.

Regarding the management of this fund, an institutional system and various mechanisms are put in place at both strategic and technical levels.

INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM

At the **strategic** level, an inter-ministerial committee was established by Decree No. ... of 13 March 2020, in order to combat the COVID-19 epidemic.

Mission: Lead and monitor the implementation of the national strategy for disease control.

In doing so, this committee gives its opinion on :

- ❖ The National Disease Alert and Response Plan ;
- ❖ The Periodic Progress Report of other relevant structures which have been established

On the **technical** side, a joint order issued by the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Budget, No. of 26 May 2020, established a Committee to facilitate and monitor transactions carried out within the “**COVID-19 Response and Economic Stabilization Special Fund**” account.

BUDGETARY MECHANISMS



In contrast to the funding of the Ebola Virus Disease (Ebola) Response Plan, which had been the subject of a **Special Earmarked Budget (SEB)**, the COVID-19 Health Crisis Economic Response Plan was managed through a “**COVID-19 Response and Economic Stabilization Special Fund**”.

The resources of this fund are kept in an open account within the books of the Central Bank of the Republic of Guinea. The “*Payeur Général du Trésor* (Paymaster General) is the trustee of this account.

The account's **resources** consist of:

- 1. State contributions;**
- 2. Contributions from bilateral and multilateral donors;**
- 3. Contributions from individuals and businesses.**

BUDGETARY MECHANISMS



As far as expenditure is concerned, it is carried out through special imprest accounts established by an order of the Minister of Finance at the request of the sectoral ministers involved.

Expenses eligible for these accounts are broken down by economic category according to the current budget classification, as reflected in the imprest decrees pertaining to the supplemental appropriation to support the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan.

- Expenses relating to water and electricity bills which are paid for by the State, are incurred and mandated on the basis of transfer orders to households, with the recipients being the companies issuing the invoices.
- Bus and train transportation fees of publicly owned transport companies are covered by the State, and are the subject of a transfer order issued by the Minister of Budget.
- The expenditures made by the public administrative institutions (EPA) engaged in the response, including the National Agency for Health Security (ANSS) and the National Agency for Economic and Social Inclusion (ANIES) are carried out under transfer expenses.

BUDGETARY MECHANISMS



- Economic recovery support expenditures, including the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) Bank Loan Guarantee Fund, Economic Interest Groups (EIGs) Specific Funds, are executed as transfer expenses under economic intervention through an order issued by the Minister of Budget, at the request of the relevant ministers.
- Food security support expenditures are executed as transfer expenses to households on the basis of a transfer order at the request of the Ministry of Social Action.

A coding system allows for the identification of line items related to the implementation of the response plan in the budgets of all departments involved.

BUDGETARY MECHANISMS



Administrative classification

Subsections have been created in the administrative classification and inserted into the IS database, with a homogeneous coding in the budgetary sections which are responsible for implementing the response plan expenditure.

This allows the expenditure to be earmarked according to its economic category (wages, goods and services, transfers, investment) and geographical location.

Functional classification

A functional classification allows for the reclassification of all expenses implemented under the COVID-19 Response Plan, regardless of the ministry or department which incurred the expenditure.

In terms of reporting, the computerized expenditure chain helps restore the position of transactions processed in the COVID-19 response account, at any time and in various formats.

TAKEAWAYS



The main challenges when using our FMIS during the Ebola epidemic include:

- The use of a SEB whose mechanism was not adequately controlled by the various actors. While the expenditure items were more or less known, the identification of the SEB resource component experienced some difficulties, particularly regarding the contribution part of bilateral and multilateral donors. With COVID-19, the establishment of a Trust Fund allows us to retrace the contributions of donors as well as those of individuals and corporations.
- In terms of budgetary coding during the Ebola epidemic, it was not possible to create specific codes for the response plan expenditure, which made it difficult to refund them. With the COVID-19 response plan, the coding system allows the relevant expenditure to be isolated at any time, for refund and audit purposes.
- Ebola response plan expenditure implementation procedures were not sufficiently adhered to due to poor control of legislation and regulations, in addition to the lack of implementing legislation.

TAKEAWAYS



- At the institutional level, the roles of the various actors involved in the implementation of the Ebola response plan were not clearly identified.

In practice, the establishment of the National Agency for Health Security as a single intervention operator in the management of health crises since the outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease has made it possible to better organize the response against the COVID-19 pandemic. Even budgeting the response was easier and more spontaneous.



**Thank you for your
kind attention!**