

## UNICEF-CABRI Reflective Roundtable on Programme-Based Budgeting in Eastern and Southern Africa

### *What is working, where and how?*

17 November 2021 – 11:00 East Africa Time

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#### Background

Several countries in the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) region are currently implementing programme-based budgeting (PBB). These include Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. The reform aims to strengthen the linkages between sector priorities and spending plans and provide a more effective framework for measuring outcomes. This is done by re-organizing the budget around a set of programs with clear policy objectives: each program has a set of indicators, measuring whether policy objectives are being achieved, and time-bound targets related to each indicator, that measure progress toward achieving these objectives.

UNICEF and the [Collaborative African Budget Reform Initiative \(CABRI\)](#) are among the many organisations that are supporting governments to implement functional PBB reforms. Currently, UNICEF is supporting the rollout of PBB in Angola, Lesotho, Kenya, Malawi (local level), Mozambique, and Rwanda. UNICEF is supporting PBB at both national/federal and sub-national level. Progress at sub-national level has been made in Kenya and Malawi. Since 2012, CABRI has been providing support to various Ministries of Finance across the continent on key PFM reforms, including the implementation of PBB.

Past [experiences](#) from the implementation of PBB in Africa revealed that the impact of these reforms has more often been observed at the budget formulation stage but has been more limited with regards effectively strengthening performance management, improving allocative decisions, or enhancing accountability. A lot may have changed since then. The question that begs an answer is how successful have governments in ESA been in implementing PBB? Additionally, to what extent have the design and follow up actions successful, and how transformational has been the support provided by development partners such as UNICEF and CABRI?

Against this background, UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) and CABRI intend to hold a virtual regional roundtable on PBB targeting Ministries of Finance, development partners, thinktanks and research institutions involved in the design and implementation of BPP reforms. The event will be held virtually through Zoom on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2021 at 11:00 (East Africa Time)/ 10:00 Johannesburg time.

## Objectives

- Reflect on progress and challenges in the implementation programme-based budgeting in Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Share good practices and lessons learned in the design and implementation of programme-based budgeting at local and national/ federal level.

## Agenda

- 1100 Introductions and welcome remarks (*Moderator, Matthew Cummins, ESARO Social Policy Regional Adviser*).
- 1105 Short Video
- 1110 Overview of progress, challenges, and lessons learned in the rollout of PBB (*Neil Cole, Executive Secretary, CABRI*)
- 1130 Plenary (Question and Answer)
- 1145 Country experiences: What is working or not, where and how? - *Joana Bento, CABRI*
- ✓ Kenya - PBB at National and County Level, Kenya, *Treasury (tbc)*
  - ✓ Malawi – PBB at District level, *National Local Government Finance Committee (tbc)*
  - ✓ Mozambique, *UNICEF Mozambique (tbc)*
- 1230 Open discussion
- 1250 Final thoughts and closing
- ✓ *Neil Cole*
  - ✓ *Matthew Cummins*

## Contacts

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