

# **Call For Expression of Interest to undertake Synthesis of Budget Monitoring**

## **Background**

The Center for Budget and Economic Governance (CBEG) at the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment with support from the Hewlett Foundation has been undertaking Budget and Service Delivery Monitoring Exercises (BSDMEs). The BSDMEs are carried out in 26 districts where the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) operates<sup>1</sup>. The monitoring exercises are undertaken bi-annually and part of ACODE's role under the Budget Transparency Initiative (BTI). The Initiative is a partnership between Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MFPED), ACODE, the Budget Strengthening Initiative of the Overseas Development Institute (BSI-ODI) and the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group. The main objective of the BTI is to promote budget transparency and accountability in Uganda through the dissemination of budget information to citizens and soliciting feedback on the use of public resources. The BSDME largely focus on three basic aspects namely display of information on transfers at service delivery units, payroll & pensions, timeliness of funds (delays), and quality of services including challenges. The findings of the monitoring have been shared with the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MFPED).

The BMSDE exercises have been taking place against the backdrop of the Public Financial Management Reform Strategy-PFMRS (FY 2017/18 to FY 2022/23). The goal of the strategy is to enhance resource mobilisation, improve planning and public investment management, and strengthen accountability for quality, effective and efficient service delivery. The main outcome targets of the strategy include improved aggregate fiscal control, resource allocation and operational efficiency. Whereas the BSDMEs focus on districts, it is important to put their findings in the context of broader PFM reforms with the view of gauging the efficacy of the latter on the former.

## **Objectives**

The overall objective of the study is to put findings of the BSDMEs into context of PFM reforms as laid out in the PFMRS with the purpose of identifying the effect of PFM reforms on Local Government PFM. The findings from the study will be used and advocate for improved PFM at Local Government Level.

## **Specific objectives**

- i) Examine the budget performance of Local Governments for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- ii) Examine the effects of key PFM reforms on Local Government PFM

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<sup>1</sup> Agago, Amuru, Bududa, Buliisa, Gulu, Hoima, Jinja, Kabarole, Kamuli, Kanungu, Lira, Luweero, Mbale, Moroto, Moyo, Mbarara, Mpigi, Mukono, Nakapipirit, Nebbi, Ntungamo, Rukungiri, Soroti, Tororo, Amuria, Wakiso,

- iii) Elaborate perspectives of users on public service delivery in agriculture, health, roads and education sectors

## Scope

The study will focus on the BSDMEs for FY 2017/18 up to FY 2019/20. It will also focus on budget performance of the 26 districts over that period of time and the experiences at district level with respect to key PFM reforms namely, the Single Treasury Account (STA), Performance Based Budgeting and related tools, Medium Term Budgets, IFMS, Domestic Revenue Mobilisation Strategy, and Gender & Equity Budgeting to mention a few.

The study will involve review of relevant government documents including but not limited to:

- a) The National Budget Framework Papers for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- b) The Approved Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- c) Budget and Service Delivery Monitoring Exercise Reports for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- d) Budget Call Circulars FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- e) Approved Annual Workplans and Budgets for the 26 districts for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- f) Annual National Budget Performance Reports for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20
- g) Annual District Budget Performance Reports for the 26 districts for FY 2017/18 to FY 2019/20

## Duration

The assignment will be completed within two months from the date of signing of the contract.

## Expected Competencies

ACODE is seeking to contract a consultant to undertake the study. The following competences are expected of the consultant;

- A degree in economics, development studies, public policy and other relevant fields
- Research experience
- Excellent writing and organizational skills

## Submission of Expression of Interest

ACODE invites interested applicants to express their interest to undertake this work by sending an email with the subject line 'EOI for Budget Monitoring Synthesis' and CV attached to the **Executive Director, Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE)** on [acode@acode-u.org](mailto:acode@acode-u.org) or delivered to Plot 97-98 Kanjokya Street, Kampala – Uganda by **Close of Business (5pm) on Tuesday, July 28, 2020**. Applications submitted after the deadline shall not be accepted.

**Please note that due to the expected volume of applications, only successful applicants will be responded to.**