



Presentation on Citizen Guide to the budget in Rwanda

**2ND PUBLIC POLICY DIALOGUE ON INVESTMENT IN
CHILDREN AND YOURTH IN RWANDA**

19th December 2019

Presentation Outline



- ➔ Background
- ➔ Rationale
- ➔ Scope of the citizen guide
- ➔ Dissemination methodology
- ➔ Conclusion

Background

- A Citizen Guide refers to a non-technical and summarised presentation of the national budget, designed to reach and be understood by a large segment of the population as possible.
- From the perspective of an ordinary person, a citizen guide is key, because it is the only government-produced budget document that is explicitly developed for the public.
- We find this critical in line with accountability where the Government is accountable to its citizens for what they do and how they do it
- In this case, Government plans should reflect the priorities and needs of the people. We therefore bring this awareness to the people through the citizen guide.



Background-Ctn

- Rwanda's first Citizen's Guide to the Budget was published in June 2009 and was written in its entirety by MINECOFIN.
- However, today we are happy to record that we have partners such as CLADHO and UNICEF
- Since then, the guide is published every Fiscal Year in three official languages and disseminated in all the districts to the lower administrative units plus Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- In this fiscal year, we have brought on board Secondary schools and Universities with much help from UNICEF, which is the year they have also come on board



Rationale

- The main purpose of the citizen guide is to increase Peoples' knowledge on what the government is doing and enhance their capacity to participate in government programs and their ownership.
- This consequently helps citizens to exercise their role of holding the government accountable, but also consider themselves as partners through their involvement in different ways during implementation



Scope of Rwanda's citizen guide



- The citizen guide mainly includes key information on where the government wants to bring the attention of the citizens, that would facilitate them to monitor what it does and hold it accountable.
- It is also brings to the public opportunities to participate in the plans for implementation
- **In this citizen guide, we are able to present among the following;**
 - The Hon. Minister for Finance and Economic Planning; call upon all citizens to continue and always provide their ideas in the planning and budgeting processes, and increase their participation in monitoring and implementation of the budget and related programs going forward;
 - The purpose of the citizen guide and rationale for budget preparation;
 - Planning and budgeting process and timelines;

Scope of Rwanda's citizen guide-Ctn



- Stakeholders involved in the process;
 - ❖ Citizens,
 - ❖ Budget agencies,
 - ❖ MINECOFIN,
 - ❖ CSOs and the private sector,
 - ❖ The cabinet,
 - ❖ The councils of decentralized entities,
 - ❖ The parliament
- Domestic economic performance and projections
- Previous Fiscal year outturn
- Key achievements in the previous FY
- The approved national budget for the current FY, includes funding sources and expenditure categories
- Budget Allocation by NST1
- An annex showing key projects to be implemented along with allocated budget

Dissemination methodology



- Once the publishing of the citizen guide is done, MINECOFIN in partnership with CLADHO (a long term partner in this exercise) disseminate the booklets in all the thirty districts across the country and some selected universities with copies in their libraries.
- Booklets allocation per district depends on the number of sectors and cells in each district.
- From this year going forward, MINECOFIN will disseminate and conduct awareness campaigns in secondary schools and Universities.

Conclusion

- Every Fiscal Year, MINECOFIN continues to improve the citizen guide ensuring that it is concise as much as possible.
- For the past 10 years, the total number of booklets published have increased to allow more accessibility.
- We call upon more partnership in this exercise so that we can reach a big number of our citizens





THANK YOU