

Tool: Handbook on strategizing health in the 21st century to identify the role of the ministry of health in the budget cycle

[Chapter 8 of the handbook](#) (34) addresses budgeting for health and provides ample information on the budgeting process for the sector, including the budget cycle and the role of the ministry of health. For this toolkit, chapter 8 of the handbook should be used to illustrate the link between the overall budget cycle and the health budget cycle.

Activity: Identifying the role of the ministry of health in the budget cycle

Look at sections 8.4 and 8.5 in Chapter 8 of WHO's *Strategizing health in the 21st century* (34).

- From this information, identify the key roles and functions of ministries of health in the budget cycle.
- At which stage do you think its role is more important? Why?
- At which stage of the cycle do you think it most strategic to seek to influence or collaborate with the ministry of health in order to advocate for UHC? Why?
- From this information, what type of input do you think you could have to the ministry of health in order to advocate for UHC?
- What does this information teach you in terms of the budget cycle in general and its connections with UHC?