
F1. Why analyse the public budget?

No matter what type of stakeholder you are, if you are interested in advocating for improvements or advancements in any issue or sector that depends on public decision-making, it is important to undertake budget analysis, for several reasons, including the following.

- The budget contains the answers to the key questions we have about the overall economy, how our government manages our money and particularly in specific sectors, such as health, that we care about.
- It can provide us with important evidence to make our case to government and key stakeholders.
- It is useful for monitoring, in concrete terms, whether a government is or is not advancing towards a given end, such as UHC.

To implement public policies, the government must allocate financial resources to them, which must be sufficient to respond to needs and trends. Nonetheless, allocation of sufficient resources to key elements of UHC is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for the public budget to be a useful instrument for advancement in this direction. Public funds must be spent efficiently, effectively and in a timely fashion.