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## Activity: Role of the media in the budget process

1. Hold a quick discussion on what could be covered, talked about or be the subject of a story on the health budget process.
2. Understanding where a positive impact can be made on the budget process.
  - Give small groups a health budget topic, such as the budget for emergency maternal and newborn health, childhood vaccination services, care for mental health issues, sexual health services, HIV services, accident and emergency health services.
  - Ask each group to draw the budget process and the stages and steps of each element.
  - Ask each group to propose seven ideas for stories that hold budget-makers to account at each stage. Help each group to think beyond news stories and to identify the audience for each story.
  - Provide feedback to the group, discuss, ask whether the whole group agrees on which are workable and why. Keep these ideas aside for a later activity.
3. Summarize the key points of the section.