



# Government Accountability for Family Planning Budgets Project

# FY 2019/20 and FY 2020 Family Planning Budget Scorecard Launch

**PAI**  
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# WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Christina Wegs, VP of Global Programs and Advocacy, PAI



## Panelists:

**Jérôme Chatigre**, Executive Director, Groupe de Recherche d'Action et de Formation en Epidémiologie et en Développement (GRAFED), Benin

**Wezi Mjojo**, Head of Finance and Administration, Malawi Network of AIDS Service Organisations (MANASO)

**Charity Nagemi**, Health Economist, Samasha, Uganda

**Jennifer Sleboda**, Project Manager, PAI

**Julien Tingain**, President, Initiative pour la Justice Sociale, la Transparence et la Bonne Gouvernance en Côte d'Ivoire (SOCIAL JUSTICE)

## Concluding remarks:

**Amos Mwale**, Executive Director, Centre for Reproductive Health and Education (CRHE), Zambia

## Moderator:

**Christina Wegs**, Vice President of Global Programs and Advocacy, PAI



# BACKGROUND AND HIGH-LEVEL FINDINGS

Jennifer Sleboda, Project Manager, PAI

# Government Accountability for FP Budgets Project

- Hewlett-funded project launched in 2017; now in Phase 3
- Supports 10 CSOs in 7 African countries to hold their governments accountable for increasing domestic FP investments and improving transparency of FP budget data
- CSO partners track FP budgets to generate evidence for real-time advocacy and annual **FP Budget Scorecard**, an advocacy tool used with policymakers
- Use of **Common Framework for Measuring Government Spending on FP**, a tracking & accountability methodology developed through this project by PAI and CSO partners (incl. Samasha, CRHE)
- These FP Budget Scorecards are 3<sup>rd</sup> set of annual Scorecards produced

# Common Framework for Measuring Government Spending on FP

- Measures performances of governments investing in FP supplies and services
- Set of indicators that CSO advocates (and others) can use to track government FP spending in comparable way across countries
- **10 indicators** organized under four types of information in planning and budgeting cycle:
  - Funding need
  - Allocation
  - Disbursement
  - Expenditure
- **Transparency dimension:** necessary to measure access to FP budget data for tracking and accountability purposes

## Associated Tools:

- Online real-time FP budget tracking dashboard/tool
- FP Budget Scorecard

# High-Level Findings from Scorecards

1. Countries are much more likely to fund contraceptive commodities than the FP programs that are needed to deliver both commodities and services.
2. Over time governments are doing a better job at fully spending the domestic resources that they allocate for contraceptive commodities.
3. However, it is nearly impossible to track how well governments are spending either their domestic or donor resources for FP services.
4. FP allocation and expenditure data from the seven countries for the four fiscal years tracked show no consistent increase in FP investment over time.
5. Some improvements in the transparency of FP budget data over time.



# FIRST ROUND OF QUESTIONS FOR PANELISTS



# Question 1:

What are the key findings on FP budgets from your country's latest Scorecard?

# BENIN SCORECARD: KEY FINDINGS

- FP allocations as a % of funding needs declined between FY 2019 and FY 2020, for programs (67.4% to 40.7%) and commodities (45.3% to 31.3%).
- FP programs allocation as a % of MOH budget declined between FY 2019 and FY 2020, from 1.5% to 1.2%. FP commodities remained the same (0.4%) in both years.
- Transparency increased from 2019 to 2020: more data was available for FY 2020 than FY 2019.
- Overall, trend data shows FP programs and commodities allocations as % of funding needs increased significantly from FY 2018 to FY 2019 and then fell in FY 2020.

# COTE D'IVOIRE SCORECARD: KEY FINDINGS

- **FP programs allocation** was same in FY 2019 & FY 2020 (FCFA 108.5 million), but allocation as share of funding need decreased from 3.9% to 3.4%.
- **FP commodities allocation** was same in FY 2019 & FY 2020 (400 million FCFA); allocation as share of funding need was 15.3% in both years.
- **Expenditure of FP programs allocation** decreased from 100% in FY 2017 to 20% in FY 2018.
- **Expenditure of FP programs allocation** as share of funding need decreased from 2.3% to 1% between FY 2017 & FY 2018, because only 20% of FY 2018 allocation was spent.
- **No spending on FP commodities** from FY 2017 to FY 2019. No allocation in FY 2017. In FY 2018 & FY 2019, allocations were made but were not spent.

**NOTE:**

- FY 2019 & FY 2020 expenditure data for FP programs not available.
- FY 2020 expenditure data for FP commodities not available.

# MALAWI SCORECARD: KEY FINDINGS

- No budget allocation for FP programs
- FP commodities allocation increased nominally in previous years
- Allocation as a share of funding need dropped from 2.6% in 2017/18 to 1.5% in 2019/20
- FP budget expenditure increased from 73% to 100% in 2019/20
- Government expenditure on FP commodities as a share of the total funding need fluctuated between 1% and 2.2% over 4-year period (FY 2016/17 – FY 2019/20)

# UGANDA SCORECARD: KEY FINDINGS

- 0.3% increase in FP programs allocation as share of funding need between FY 2018/19 and FY 2019/20. Sharp decline → FY 2016/17 and FY 2017/18
- FP commodities allocation increased from 0% to 6% of funding need between FY 2017/18 and FY 2018/19; remained at 6% between FY 2018/19 and FY 2019/20
- No FP programs expenditure data over past four fiscal years (FY 2016/17 – FY 2019/20)
- FP commodities allocation in FY 2019/20 was fully spent, and the expenditure was 6% of the funding need

## Question 2:

Since you began to produce the annual Scorecards, what are some of the specific ways in which the Scorecards have strengthened your advocacy?

# GRAFED, Benin: Ways in which Scorecards strengthened your advocacy

- Has improved FP budget monitoring
- Helps to strengthen budget advocacy efforts
- Facilitates real-time monitoring of FP budgets
- Provides CSOs with factual data and evidence to support FP budget advocacy

# SOCIAL JUSTICE, Cote d'Ivoire: Ways in which Scorecards strengthened your advocacy

- Development of advocacy strategies related to Scorecard results (information repository, establishment of monitoring committee, petition, etc.)
- Better visibility and increased knowledge of challenges around monitoring financing of FP programs and commodities – helps to guide actions of CSOs
- Partnership with CAIDP (government access to information agency)
- Engagement with Open Government Partnership (OGP)



# MANASO, Malawi: Ways in which Scorecards strengthened your advocacy

- Made available credible evidence for advocacy
- Easy engagement with like-minded CSOs due to evidence that we brought to the table (coalition building)
- Verifiable data made decision-makers and parliamentarians listen

# Samasha, Uganda: Ways in which Scorecards strengthened your advocacy

- The Scorecards have provided a new way for budget advocates to effectively present evidence to policymakers in Uganda.
- The trend data on the Scorecard provides an opportunity to compare budgets over the years to inform and update our advocacy asks.
- The lessons learned from the Scorecards determine the advocacy strategies for the following years.



## SECOND ROUND OF QUESTIONS FOR PANELISTS

# Question 1:

What advocacy successes have you achieved using the Scorecards?

# GRAFED, Benin: Advocacy successes achieved using Scorecards

- FP is ranked among State priorities: in 2021 State made commitment to free FP services
- Improvement of allocations and disbursements, especially for FP products.
  - In 2022 more than 300 million CFA francs were allocated to contraceptive products for Benin's Woman and Child Survival Week and more.
  - Information to be confirmed by FY 2022 data collection, which respects the financial commitment made in 2021.
- Data collected enabled CSOs to conduct high-level advocacy with MPs.
- In the budget session, the deputies asked Minister of Health to take into account FP issues for 2023.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE, Cote d'Ivoire: Advocacy successes achieved using Scorecards

- Development of an FP budget data repository to be placed on Ministry of Health website
- Commitment to creating an FP commodities budget line in Cote d'Ivoire's OGP National Action Plan 2020-2022
- Mobilization of civil society around a petition for creation of FP budget line and annual increase in FP commodities budget as per FP2030 financial commitment

# MANASO, Malawi: Advocacy successes achieved using Scorecards

- FY2019/20: 125% increase in budget allocation for contraceptive commodities
- Increased commodities budget was fully spent in FY2019/2020
- Commodities budget increased by 9% in FY2020/21 instead of planned decrease in allocation of MWK 10 million

# Samasha, Uganda: Advocacy successes achieved using Scorecards

- Contributed to making FP2030 financial commitment specific to FP commodities – it was previously about RH commodities in FP2020 commitments
- Allocations for RH commodities increased overall from UGX 8 billion to UGX 22 billion from FY 2016/17 to FY 2019/20



## Question 2:

What challenges have you faced in your FP budget tracking and advocacy work?

# GRAFED, Benin: Challenges

- Budget tracking challenge:
  - Data collection, especially lack of availability of disaggregated data
- Advocacy challenges:
  - Government maintaining the course in terms of FP investment
  - More transparency in terms of budget execution

# SOCIAL JUSTICE, Cote d'Ivoire: Challenges

- Absence of budget line for contraceptive products
- Reluctance of actors from Ministry of Health and National Maternal & Child Health Program
- Lack of information on periodic disbursements and expenditures on FP programs and contraceptive products
- Cumbersome administrative procedures
- Start of free FP services seen as a brake on creation of budget line for contraceptive products

# MANASO, Malawi: Challenges

- Data availability since most FP budget data are not online
- Poor retention of government officials who are key to accessing FP budget data

# Samasha, Uganda: Challenges

- Difficulty in accessing expenditure data for FP programs and commodities
- Competing priorities for policymakers (e.g., more focus on allocations for maternal health commodities than FP commodities)

# Question 3:

What lesson(s) have you learned from this work that you can share with others who may be interested in FP budget tracking and advocacy?

# GRAFED, Benin: Lessons Learned

The use of evidence is paramount for budget advocacy.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE, Cote d'Ivoire: Lessons Learned

- Collaboration with state entities in charge of access to information and open data (CAIDP, OGP) to support advocacy actions sensitized the government on making FP budget data more transparent.
  - Made it possible to develop FP budget data repository and enabled adoption of OGP commitment to publish these data on MOH website.
- Collaboration with civil society umbrella organizations working on health and local government associations to support advocacy to improve their local development policies has allowed, for example, the Union of Cities & Municipalities (UNIVOCI) to commit to piloting an FP budget line at the municipality level.



# MANASO, Malawi: Lessons Learned

- Availability of data/evidence is a powerful tool for driving advocacy agenda
- Transparency about what information will be used for builds trust with government officials
- Working in coalition with a united voice helps to achieve more with advocacy

# Samasha, Uganda: Lessons Learned

- Advocacy work is a moving target: one must be ready to adjust or change strategies to fit the prevailing situation
- Collaboration with other budget advocates, CSOs, and MDAs improves the efficiency and effectiveness of advocacy work



# Q&A SESSION



# CONCLUDING REMARKS

Amos Mwale, Executive Director,  
Centre for Reproductive Health and  
Education (Zambia)

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. CSOs can bring about tangible improvements in FP allocations and expenditure – and ultimately, the delivery of FP commodities and services – by tracking funds through the budget cycle and using the evidence generated for advocacy with policymakers.
2. The Common Framework and FP Budget Scorecards provide a structure and tools for systematic FP budget tracking, evidence generation, and the development of evidence-based advocacy objectives, messages, and strategies.
3. These tools also allow CSOs to:
  - a) Generate a multi-year evidence base
  - b) Influence national and global policy processes (CIPs, FP2030 commitments)
  - c) Build and strengthen coalitions
  - d) Open new advocacy spaces
  - e) Develop strategic partnerships
4. Continuous investment in national FP budget tracking and Scorecards like this is needed – and would be even more impactful if combined with community monitoring of FP commodities and services at the frontlines.
5. Budget tracking and service delivery monitoring are essential to generating the evidence needed to hold governments accountable for their commitments to invest domestic resources in FP.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CLOSING

Christina Wegs, VP of Global Programs and  
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# For further information:

FP Budget Scorecard Resource Page: [bit.ly/3E0kcye](https://bit.ly/3E0kcye)

- 7 FP Budget Scorecards
- Webinar recording and presentation
- Regional infographic for Benin, Burkina Faso & Cote d'Ivoire
- Blog recap of webinar (upcoming)
- Analysis with more detailed Scorecard findings (upcoming)

Common Framework for Measuring Government Spending on FP:  
<https://pai.org/resources/the-common-framework/>

Government Accountability for Family Planning Budgets project:  
<https://pai.org/projects/government-accountability-for-family-planning-budgets/>

*\* All materials in English and French*