



Spotlight on Children in the 2023/2024 Budget

Budget Transparency Brief No.9



Budget briefs are part of the Budget Transparency Series that is produced by the Fiscal Transparency and Citizen Engagement Unit within the Ministry of Finance, in collaboration with UNICEF Egypt. This is in line with the government's keenness to enhance fiscal transparency and citizen engagement within public budget processes according to internationally recognized standards, with the goal of establishing adequate, well-structured, effective, and transparent budgets that yield more substantial, equitable, and inclusive outcomes.

The Budget Transparency Series highlights and monitors budget allocations for initiatives that benefit children directly, or indirectly through family allocations.

This budget brief provides insights on the size and composition of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024 state's general budget, with a particular focus on social sector spending and expenditure on child-related sectors. The brief also provides an overview of recent macro-economic developments that are of relevance to the country's public finances and highlights the government's efforts in responding to these developments.

These efforts come in accordance with Egypt's ratification of the Child Law in 1996 as the first legislation to protect children's rights in Egypt and the establishment of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) in 1988.

All the information detailed hereafter is the sole responsibility of the Ministry of Finance, as the leading source for all state budget allocations for FY 2023/2024.

Child Budget Transparency Series Numbers provided in this document by the Ministry of Finance can be categorized into:

- **Actual:** Refers to the actual achieved numbers for past fiscal years.
 - **Budget:** Refers to the projections mentioned in the Executive Budget proposal for the current fiscal year set at the beginning of the year.
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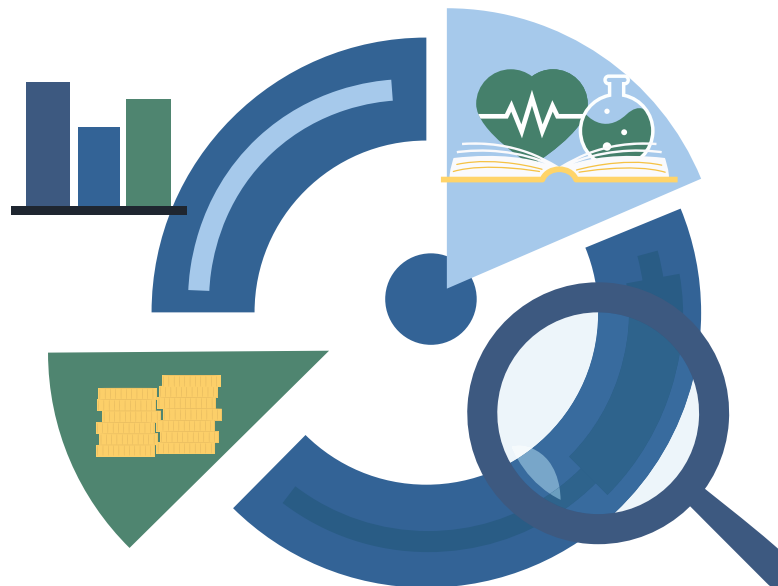
Contents

1	Introduction	4
2	Understanding the macro-economic context	5
3	Composition of the FY 2023/2024 budget and related trends	8
	a. Understanding the Economic and Functional Classifications of the FY 2023/2024 Budget	9
	b. Child-related spending	13
4	How is government investment spending distributed across different governorates?	15
5	How is the government planning to finance the FY 2023/2024 budget?	16
6	How much does each source of revenue contribute to the FY 2023/2024 budget?	16
7	Transition to Program-based Budgeting (PBB) – Latest progress in FY 2022/2023	17
8	Progress of the openness of the Egyptian budget	19
9	Fiscal Transparency & Citizen Engagement Unit and its Mandate	20
10	Participatory Budgeting at the Ministry of Finance	21

1

Introduction

- The Egyptian economy has been significantly impacted by a series of global events, which have created economic challenges. Against that backdrop, managing increasing inflation rates is a high priority for the government given its impact on vulnerable families; the average inflation rate for **FY 2022/2023 reached 24.1%** compared to an average rate of **8.5% in FY 2021/2022**. Meanwhile, the government is keen on enhancing the efforts of the Central Bank to reduce the annual inflation rates targets.
- Currently, various fiscal disciplinary measures are being implemented to ensure a declining public debt trajectory. The government is targeting to reduce the public debt-to-GDP ratio from **95.7% in 2022/2023 to 89% in 2023/2024** (estimates). Moreover, the total government budget deficit has **reached 9% in the fiscal year 2017/2018**, and by the fiscal year 2023/2024 the government seeks to reduce that **deficit to 7% of GDP**.
- Exceeding budgetary expectations, Egypt reached a preliminary primary surplus of 1.6% in FY 2022/2023. Meanwhile, due to the reduced gap between revenues and expenses (excluding interest payments), the budget targets a primary surplus of 2.5% of GDP (**295.6 billion EGP**) by the end of 2023\2024. For FY 2023/2024 total government expenditures amount to **EGP 2,990.9 billion, representing a 33.8% increase** over the previous year's adjusted budget.
- According to the program-based budget (PBB) total allocations to child-related programs amounted to **EGP 69.4 billion** in FY 2023/2024.
- The government targets a growth rate of 41.1% in public revenue to reach **EGP 2,142.1 billion** during FY 2023/2024.

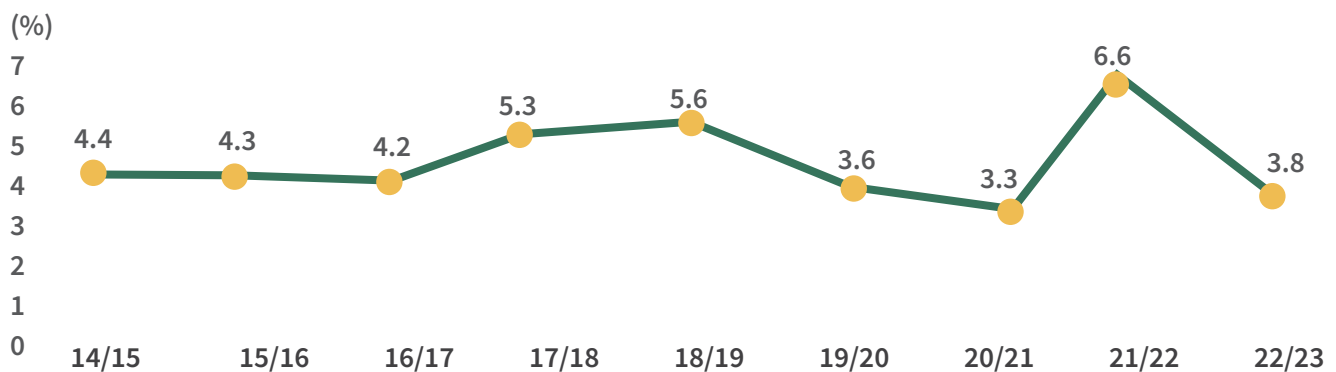


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Understanding the macro economic context

Despite the Egyptian economy’s exposure to a number of recent shocks, it has shown a lot of resilience and flexibility in the face of COVID-19 having achieved a real GDP growth rate of 6.6% during the FY 2021/2022. However, recurring global crises are putting pressure on the world economies’ growth rate of which the Egyptian economy is no exception. The war in Ukraine has had a lot of negative repercussions on the world economy such as the rise in commodity prices, in particular food and energy prices. Such rise in prices has resulted in inflationary pressures which has had a negative impact on the world economy’s growth. Against that backdrop, the Egyptian economy’s growth rate has declined to 3.8% for the FY 2022/2023.

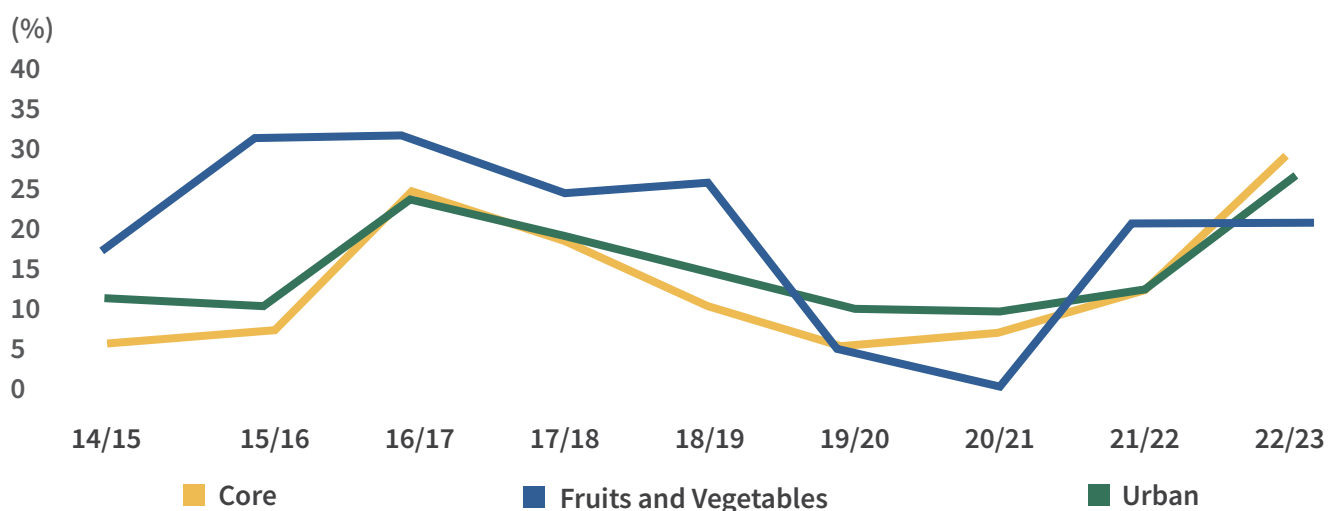
Figure 1 Evolution of real GDP growth rate



Source: Ministry of Planning and Economic Development.

As shown in Figure 2, in FY 2022/2023, urban headline inflation rose to 24.1%, an increase from the 8.5% recorded in FY 2021/2022.

Figure 2 Trends in urban, core and fruits and vegetables inflation rates, 2014/15 – 2022/23



Source: CAPMAS and Central Bank of Egypt (CBE); Calculations for inflation rates of fiscal years.

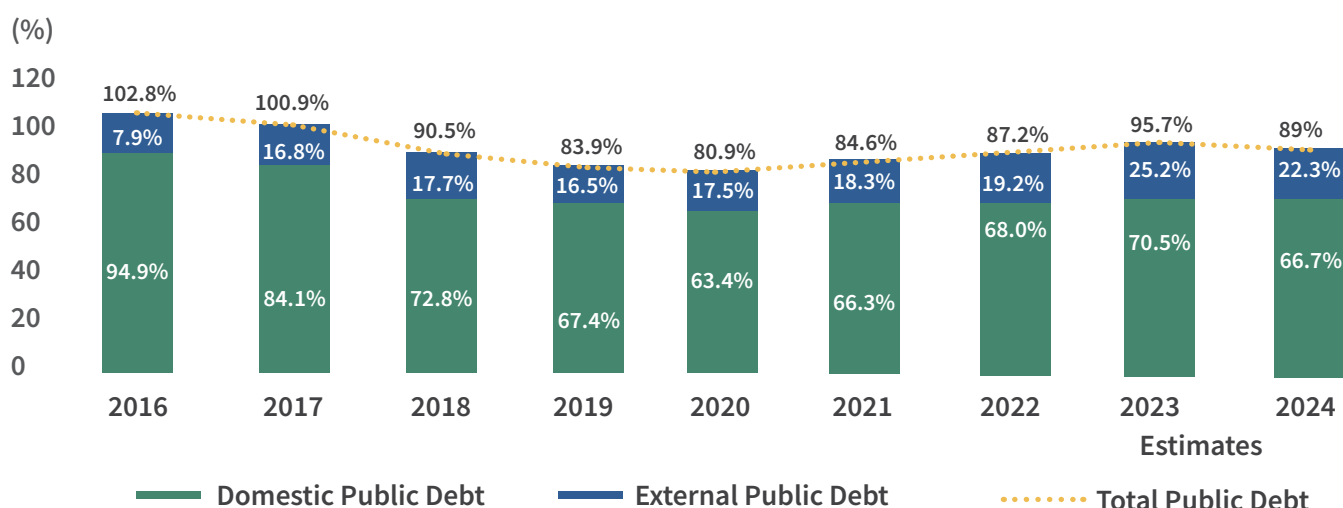
*Urban headline inflation rate: the inflation rate which the CBE targets.

*Core inflation rate: excludes volatile food items and regulated items

In the face of on-going challenges, the Egyptian authorities embarked on a set of actions to reduce macroeconomic imbalances, including the transition towards a more flexible exchange rate regime and monetary policy tightening. Furthermore, a commitment was established towards the implementation of fiscal consolidation measures aimed at reducing public debt and gross financing needs. Fiscal consolidation has also been accompanied by an expansion of the social safety net to alleviate the impact of the economic crisis on the most vulnerable groups. The government is relying on domestic revenue mobilization, through expansion of the tax base and a reduction of the state footprint and sale of state-owned enterprises, to create the needed fiscal space to emphasize the support to vulnerable households and increase spending on social and human development.¹

Despite global challenges, the state budget managed to achieve a primary surplus of 1.6% of GDP during FY 2022/23 for the sixth consecutive year, compared to achieving primary surpluses ranging between 1.3% and 1.8% of GDP between the fiscal years 2018/2019 and 2021/2022. This was despite increased spending on the health, education and social protection sectors, and the allocation of stimulus packages to face the ongoing crises, in addition to reducing the debt of budgetary entities from 102% of GDP to 95%. This is a result of the Egyptian government’s response to the successive global crises, in addition to a balanced financial management approach that continues to support sectors and groups most affected by these crises, while maintaining financial targets.³

Figure 3 Evolution of national public debt (% of GDP)^{2*}



Source: MoF, Financial Statement 2023/2024

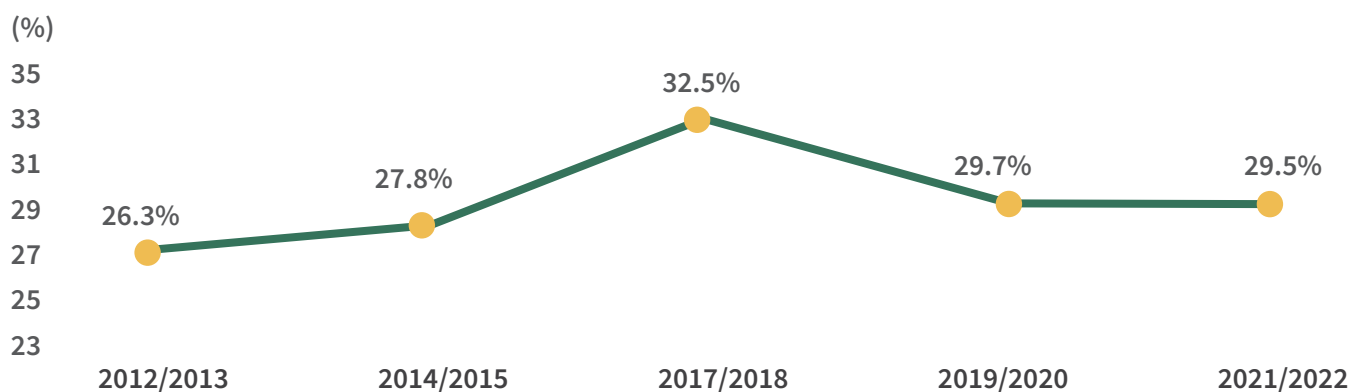
¹ IMF Country Report No. 23/2, 2023: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2023/01/06/Arab-Republic-of-Egypt-Request-for-Extended-Arrangement-Under-the-Extended-Fund-Facility-527849>; and Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement 2023/2024

²Ministry of Finance

³Ministry of Finance Financial Statement 2023/2024.

According to most recently available data from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) poverty rates stood at **29.5% in FY 2021\2022**.

Figure 4 Poverty rate trends, 2012/13 – 2019/20



Source: CAPMAS Household Income and Expenditure Survey, 2019/2020, poverty rates 27.8% for 2015; Ministry of Planning and Economic Development

The state budget for FY 2023/2024 has been formulated with the objective of achieving a balance between expanding the social safety net to protect citizens against inflationary pressures, and at the same time advancing development efforts and enhancing the business environment to stimulate the role of the private sector as a growth catalyst and restore overall economic stability.



3

Composition of the FY 2023/2024 budget and related trends

Table 1 Budget summary (in EGP billion)

Category	2021/2022 Actuals	2022/2023 Actual	2023/2024 Budget
Total Expenditures	1,831.0	2,184.6	2,990.9
% of GDP	23.3%	21.6%	25.3%
Total Revenues	1,347.2	1,563.9	2,142.1
% of GDP	17.2%	15.5%	18.1%
Net Financial Assets	0.6	-10.7	-24.4
Overall Balance	-484.4	-609.9	-824.4
% of GDP	-6.1%	-6.0%	-7.0%
Primary Balance	100.4	164.3	295.6
% of GDP	1.3%	1.6%	2.5%
Debt to GDP Ratio	87.2%	95.7%	89%*

Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024; Ministry of Finance data.
*Estimates

- For FY 2023/2024, public expenditure allocations recorded **EGP 2,990.9 billion**, an increase of **33.8%** compared to the FY 2022/2023 adjusted budget. At the same time, the government's total revenues are expected to increase by **41.1%** to reach **EGP 2,142.1 billion**.
- FY 2023/2024 will see increase in the **Primary Surplus to (2.5% of GDP)**, up from **1.6% of GDP** in the previous FY 2022\2023.



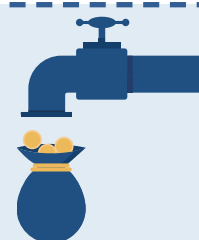
a. Understanding the Economic and Functional Classifications of the FY 2023/2024 Budget

Table 2 State budget breakdown by economic classification (in EGP billion)

Category	2022/2023 Actuals	2023/2024 Budget	% Total 2023/2024 Budget
Total Expenditures	2,184.6	2,990.9	100.0%
Wages and Workers' compensations	412.5	470.0	15.7%
Purchase of goods and services	127.8	139.4	4.7%
Interest	774.2	1,120.1	37.4%
Subsidies, grants and social benefits	454.1	529.7	17.7%
Other expenditures	127.1	145.1	4.9%
Purchase of non-financial assets (investments)	288.9	586.7	19.6%
Total Revenues	1,563.9	2,142.1	100.0%
Taxes	1,258.6	1,530.0	71.4%
Grants	5.4	1.9	0.1%
Other revenues	299.1	610.2	28.5%

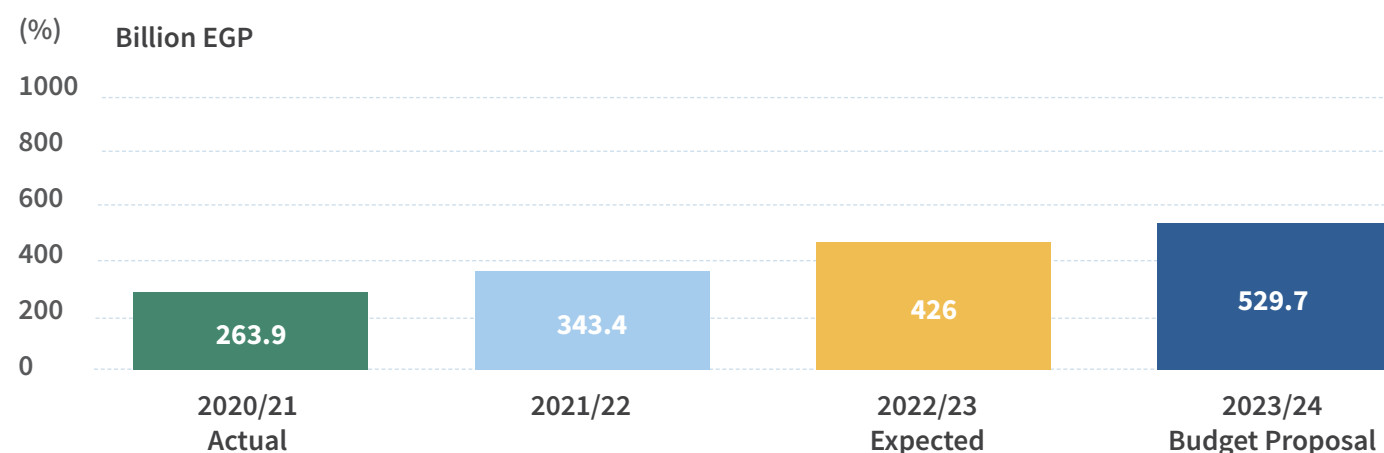
Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024.

The Economic Classification breaks down the budget into revenues and expenditures. It lists general categories from which money is collected and on which it is spent. Even though the economic classification tells people where the money comes from and on what it will be spent, it doesn't clarify the purposes and objectives of such expenditures.



As shown in Figure 5 there has been a gradual increase in spending on subsidies, grants and social benefits⁴ in nominal terms.

Figure 5 Allocations to subsidies, grants and social benefits from 2020/2021 - 2023/2024

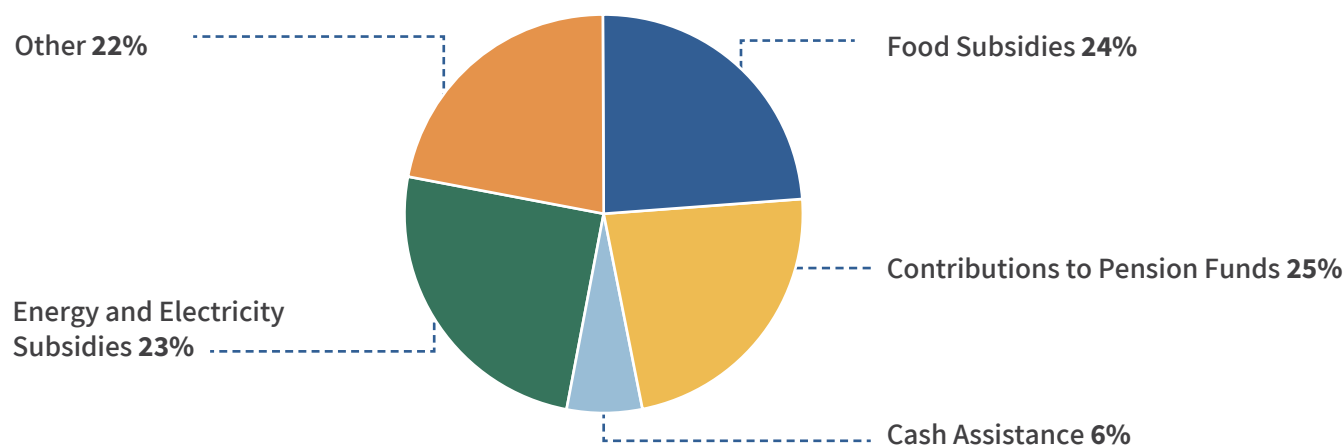


Source: Ministry of Finance

⁴ Subsidies, Grants and Social Benefits are composed mainly of food subsidies, energy and electricity subsidies, cash assistance and contributions to pension funds

As shown in Figure 6, contributions to pension funds contribute the largest share to Subsidies, Grants and Social Benefits, representing a quarter of that line item. Closely followed by Food subsidies and Energy and electricity subsidies, representing almost a quarter each. Cash Assistance comes as the spending category with the lowest share representing 6%.

Figure 6 Composition of Subsidies, Grants and Social Benefits allocations for the FY 2023/2024 budget



Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the Budget 2023/2024

Table 3 State budget breakdown by functional classification (in EGP billion)

Function	2022/2023 Amended Budget	2023/2024 Budget	% Total 2023/2024 Budget
Total Expenditures	2,235.9	2,990.9	100.0%
General Public Services ⁵	1,116.6	1,524.3	51.0%
Public Order and Security	95.5	105.6	3.5%
Economic Affairs	114.6	223.2	7.5%
Environmental Protection	3.6	4.0	0.1%
Housing and community facilities	74.8	116.3	3.9%
Health	128.1	147.9	4.9%
Youth, Culture and Religious Affairs	54.3	60.7	2.0%
Education	192.7	229.9	7.7%
Social Protection	363.4	477.4	16.0%
Other functional activities	92.4	101.6	3.4%

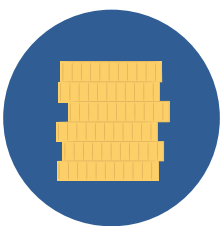
Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024.

⁵The sector of general public services includes the executive, legislative, financial affairs and foreign affairs bodies as well as public debt transactions.

The Functional Classification displays the state budget expenditure and allocation according to sectorial purposes, reflecting the fiscal policies' main objectives and targeted sectors. It is noteworthy that the functional classification is widely used to better communicate the developments in the state budget to normal citizens.



Public Spending by Functional Classification FY 2023/2024 ^{6*7*}



The functional classification of the state budget shows that the **general public services sector** receives around half of public expenditure allocations, with a share of **51% in FY 2023/2024** (see Figure 7).



The government has prioritized spending on child-related social sector spending. According to the functional classification, **social protection** is receiving the largest share of the **FY 2023/2024 budget at 16%, followed by 7.7% for education and 4.9% for health.**



Spending on **health and education**, combined, has increased by more than one-fold in nominal terms in the last four fiscal years. Allocations increased from **232.2 billion EGP in FY 2019/2020 to EGP 377.8 billion in FY 2023/2024**. In real terms, allocations to social sectors have increased at a lesser rate due to high inflation waves after COVID-19, that were further exacerbated by the Russian-Ukrainian conflict.*

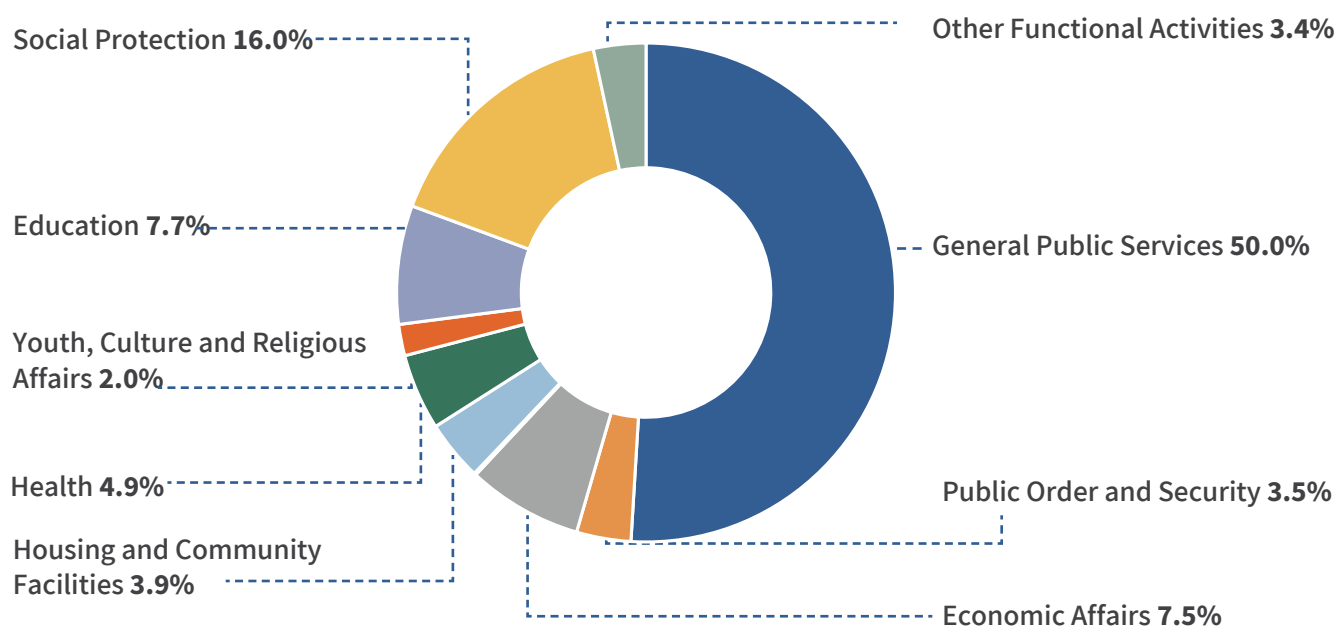


⁶ The broader definition of education spending considers the share of education in overall national debt interest payments. Broad health expenditures include: (i) expenditures of any extra-budgetary government entity of the health sector, such as economic authorities and public sector companies; (ii) health-related expenditures included in the budget but not under the health functional sector, such as police and armed forces hospitals; (iii) share of health in total interest payments; and (iv) drinking water and sanitation expenditures which are counted as preventive health expenditures.

⁷ According to the 2014 Egyptian Constitution, government spending on education, health and scientific research should constitute at least 6%, 3% and 1% of GDP, respectively.

*It is important to note that a wider definition than the basic functional classification is used by the government when comparing health, education and scientific research allocations to constitutional commitments. In the FY 2023/2024 budget, under this broader definition, the required constitutional shares are met, with education receiving a total of EGP 591.9 billion (6% of GDP), health receiving EGP 397 billion (4% of GDP), and scientific research receiving EGP 99.6 billion (1% of GDP).

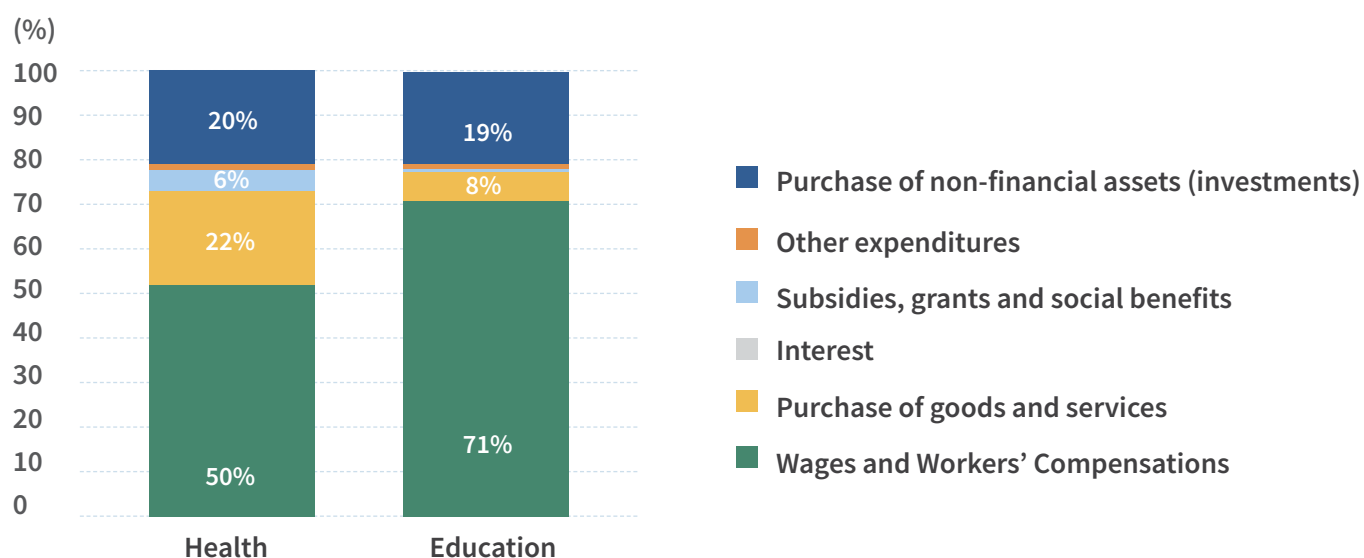
Figure 7 Distribution of functional classification of total government expenditure FY 2023/2024



Source: Author's calculations based on Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024.

As can be seen in Figure 8 in the FY 2023/2024 budget, wages and workers' compensations occupy the largest share of spending within the health and education sectors. Half of health allocations go to this component, while 71% of education expenditure is allocated to wages and workers' compensation.

Figure 8 Composition of Health and Education Spending



Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024

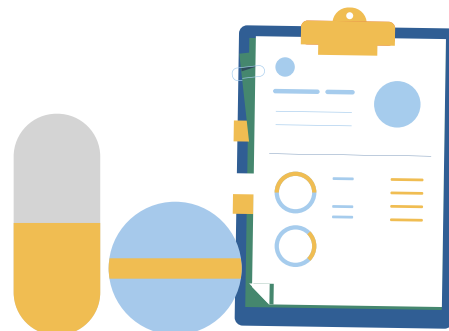
b. Child-related spending

Health*



14.1 billion EGP

Health insurance, medicines and treatment at the state's expense

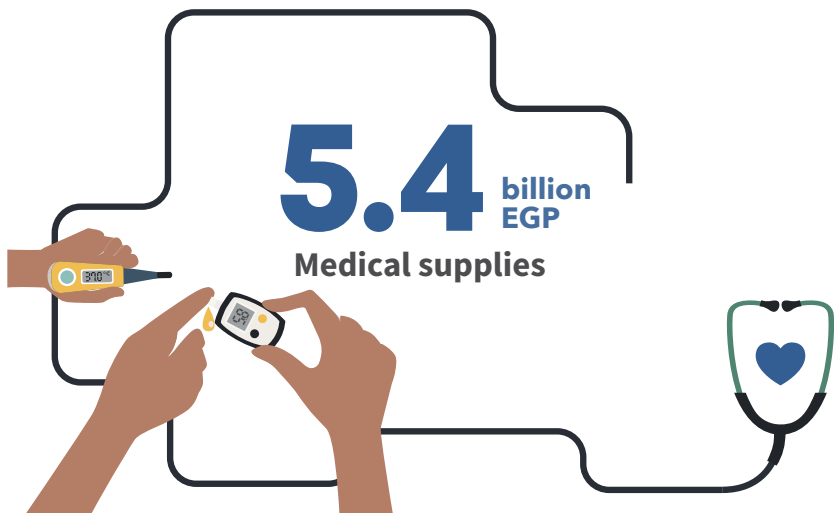


14.6 billion EGP

Medicines

5.4 billion EGP

Medical supplies



3.0 billion EGP

Baby milk and children medicine subsidies



Selected child-related investments⁸

Improving the infrastructure of current hospitals, which include:

167 curative care hospitals

29 mental health hospitals

49 hospitals affiliated to the Specialized Medical Centers.



⁸Economic and Social Development Plan Volume for FY 23/24, preliminary version dated May 2023 – Ministry of Planning and Economic Development)

*It is important to note that a wider definition than the basic functional classification is used by the government when comparing health, education and scientific research allocations to constitutional commitments. In the FY 2023/2024 budget, under this broader definition, the required constitutional shares are met, with health receiving EGP 397 billion (4% of GDP).

Education Sector

Selected child-related allocations

392.4 billion EGP

Pre-university education*



Selected child-related investments⁹



Distribution of **1.8 million tablets** to secondary school students.



Training of technical education cadres, in collaboration with development partners such as the TVET program funded by the European Union and the Egyptian government, **the employment support project and the technical support project** for the Comprehensive Technical Education Initiative funded by the German government through the German Agency for International Cooperation, and the Egypt Workforce Project funded by USAID.

Social protection sector

Selected child-related allocations¹⁰

127.7 billion EGP

Food ration subsidies

70 million EGP

Child pension

200 million EGP

Students' Transportation Subsidies (Train)

400 million EGP

Students' Transportation Subsidies (Metro)



10.2 billion EGP

Housing program for middle and low-income

31 billion EGP

Social Assistance (including Takaful and Karama and Daman Egtma'y)

203 million EGP

Social Affairs Support and the National Early Childhood Development

⁹ Economic and Social Development Plan Volume for FY 23/24, preliminary version dated May 2023 – Ministry of Planning and Economic Development)

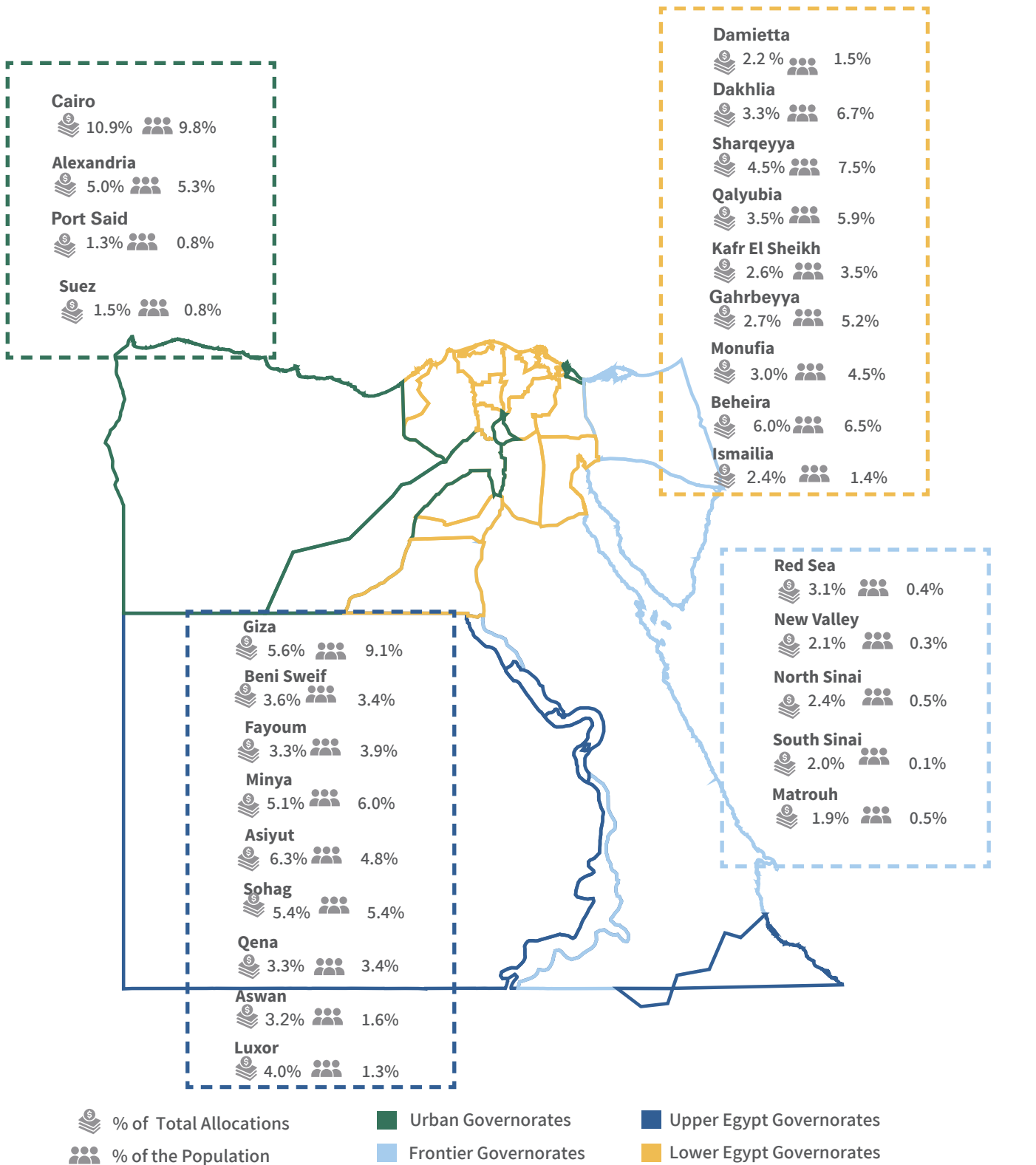
¹⁰ Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the State Budget 2023/2024

*It is important to note that a wider definition than the basic functional classification is used by the government when comparing health, education and scientific research allocations to constitutional commitments. In the FY 2023/2024 budget, under this broader definition, the required constitutional shares are met, with pre-university education receiving a total of EGP 392.4 (4% of GDP).

4

How is Government Investment Spending Distributed Across Different Governorates?

Figure 9 Geographical distribution of public investments (FY 2023/2024)



Source: Investment plan 23/24 of MoPED - preliminary version dated May 2023

5

How is the Government Planning to Finance the FY 2023/2024 Budget?

In the FY 2023/2024 budget the government is aiming to continue its efforts in strengthening the tax administration and accelerate the comprehensive automation of tax procedures. Moreover, the new budget is aiming to expand the tax base and increase tax revenue by linking it to economic activity and incentivizing the informal sector to adhere to the tax system.

Expansion of the tax base is a priority for the government in light of the government’s strategy to mobilize various sources of revenues, specifically through the collection of taxes, such as custom tax, value-added tax, and income tax. The objective is to achieve a tax revenue of around **12.9% of GDP in FY 2023/2024**, compared to the previous fiscal year’s contribution of about **12.5% of GDP**, signifying an **increase of 0.4% percentage points**.¹¹ In terms of non-tax revenue, the government looks to generate revenues via the Suez Canal Authority dividends, economic authorities’ dividends, and dividends from state-owned enterprises, amongst others.

It also seeks to bolster foreign reserves through better management of state-owned assets and a gradual exit from non-strategic activities. For instance, in the first quarter of FY 2023/2024, the total sales of **public assets reached 2.5 billion US dollars**. Moreover, the government identified 32 companies to either be i) listed on the Egyptian Exchange, or ii) sold directly to key investors, over the course of a year starting from the first quarter of 2023 until the first quarter of 2024. The listing plan includes Cairo Bank, the United Bank, the Arab African International Bank, and Misr Insurance Company.¹²

6

How Does Each Source of Revenue Contribute to the FY 2023/2024 Budget?

Total revenues for FY 2023/2024 are equal to **EGP 2,142 billion**

Table 4. Breakdown of revenues in the FY 2023/2024 budget

Source of Funding	% of Total Revenues
General taxes (income taxes + stamp tax)	38.6%
Non-tax revenues: surpluses, profits, service revenues and other	28.5%
Value-added tax	26.9%
Remaining tax revenues	3.3%
Custom Tax	2.7%
Grants	0.1%

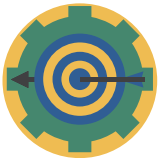
Source: Ministry of Finance, Financial Statement of the Budget 2023/2024

¹¹ Ministry of Finance

¹² Ministry of Finance, Citizen Budget 2023/2024

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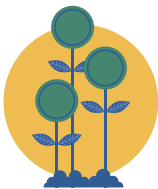
Transition to Program-based Budgeting (PBB) – Latest Progress in FY 2023/2024



The introduction of program and performance-based budgeting (PBB) in Egypt alongside existing line-item budgeting reflects a forward-looking perspective that targets to introduce a major shift in the financial management system.



The PBB implementation has been articulated in the Unified Public Finance Law no. 6, enacted in February 2022, which merged the Government Accounting and State's General Budget laws into one law.

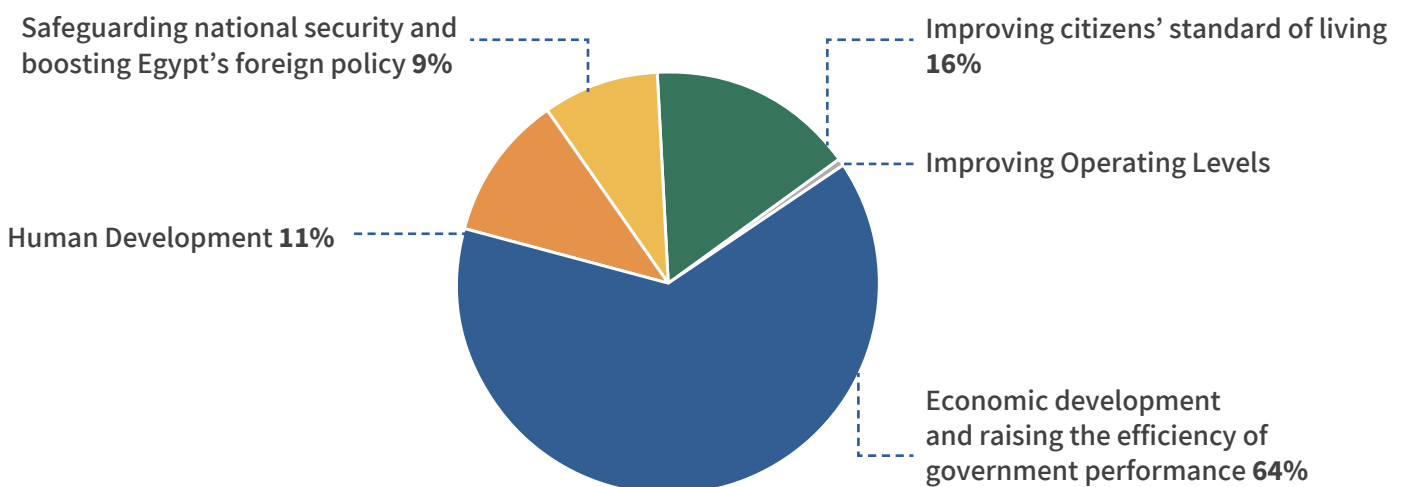


PBB is poised to enhance the efficiency of public spending and monitor the effectiveness of government performance by linking allocations to programs, with defined goals and objectives and a clear set of performance indicators.



PBB is based on five strategic objectives (see Figure 10) aimed at enhancing the quality of life for all citizens, while upholding macroeconomic stability. The fulfillment of each strategic objective relies on a number of main programs (25 programs in total) composed of a set of sub-programs (163 sub-programs in total). Each government entity is required to prepare a plan outlining its programs in alignment with the main and sub-programs stipulated by the government.

Figure 10 Strategic objectives of the programme-based budget



Source: Ministry of Finance, programme and performance-based budget 2023/2024



A Working Group for Performance and **SDG-oriented Program-based Budgeting** has been put in place with UNICEF support, bringing together relevant stakeholders from the MoF, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED) and relevant line ministries. The Group's work is guided by detailed Guidelines for Budgetary Programs Objectives and Performance Indicators that were developed by MoF in collaboration with the Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency (GIFT) and UNICEF. The guidelines provide insight on how to develop budgetary program that are linked to clear results and associated indicators.



According to the PBB, public spending allocations towards child-related programs in FY 2023/2024 reached a **total of EGP 69.4 billion**. A number of programs targeting the most vulnerable segments of society, namely women and children were highlighted in the program-based budget. Such programs include developing pre-university education, supporting talented and gifted children, broadening recreational and sports activities for youth, especially for orphans, as well as combatting child labor



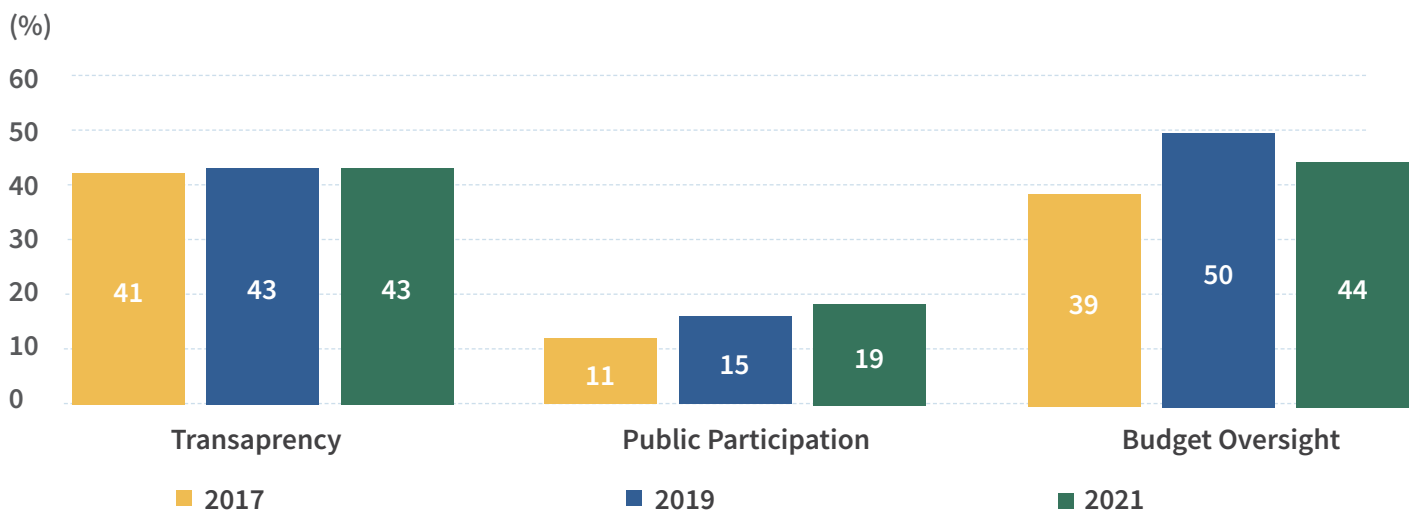
8

Progress of the Openness of the Egyptian Budget

The Egyptian government has taken steps to enhance its budgetary practices, as reflected in the indices of the Global Data Barometer (GDB)¹³ and Open Budget Survey (OBS)¹⁴. Egypt ranked first in the MENA region in the GDB Public Finance indicators of transparency and accountability, achieving a score of 49/100 in 2022.

Furthermore, Egypt has demonstrated an overall improvement in OBS scores, with the score of budget transparency rising to 43/100 in 2021, up from 41/100 in 2017. The score of public participation has also increased from 11/100 in 2017 to 19/100 in 2021. Likewise, budget oversight displayed a general upward trend, rising from 39/100 in 2017 to 44/100 in 2021 (see Figure 11).

Figure 11 Strategic objectives of the programme-based budget



Source: IBP-Open Budget Survey 2017, 2019, 2021.

According to the OBS recommendations, more efforts are needed to raise Egypt's transparency score above the global average of 45/100 through the following key steps:

- Ensuring timely online publication of the Pre-Budget Statement and Audit Report.
- Expanding the information in the Executive's Budget Proposal to encompass multi-year expenditure and revenue projections as well as a more comprehensive view of national debt.
- Incorporating macroeconomic data and detailed actual expenditure outcomes in the Year-End Report.
- Enhancing the comprehensiveness of the Mid-Year Review by providing updated execution data and revised fiscal year estimates.

¹³ <https://globaldatabarometer.org/module/public-finance/>

¹⁴ <https://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Open-budget-survey-2021-1.pdf>

9

Fiscal Transparency & Citizen Engagement Unit and its Mandate

What Is the Driving Force Behind Creating a Transparency Unit?

- The need for more transparency in the state's budget has become more pressing considering the **current global crisis and ever-changing global socio-political dynamics**. To that end, the government is keen to institutionalize internationally recognized standards of transparency and citizen engagement throughout its institutions as emphasized in **Egypt Vision 2030**.
- Ultimately, transparency and engagement aim at **effective public financial management, better public services and meaningful development projects that cater directly to citizens' priorities**.



The Transparency & Citizen Engagement Unit and its Mandate:

- Transparency and Citizen Engagement activities have been carried out since 2015 by the Ministry of Finance, through the Macro-Fiscal Policy Unit, before the official establishment of the Fiscal Transparency and Citizen Engagement unit by **Ministerial decree No.574 of 2018**. The unit has been assigned to **spread financial and economic awareness** through transparency and inclusiveness to empower citizens to **participate and follow up on the state's budget** and be part of the decision-making process.
- The unit is mandated with periodically informing the public of **fiscal and economic trends in a transparent, comprehensive and timely manner**.
- Therefore, building institutional frameworks that enable different segments of society to actively participate in the budget cycle and participate in decision making processes through several participatory budgeting tools deployed by the unit, and its success partners, such as the **public hearing sessions held in Fayoum and Alexandria**. In addition, creating participatory mechanisms aimed at reaching, motivating and empowering youth and women to participate and understand the state's budget and Egypt's Vision 2030, as well as getting to know national projects in innovative and interactive ways that suit different age groups.



Increasing the level of public impact which leads to a more effective and responsive citizen on the local level.

Objectives of Public Participation



Empowerment: Providing people with the opportunity to have the final decision



Cooperation: Participating with people in all decision taking aspects, including setting alternatives and identifying preferred solutions.



Participation: Working directly with people during the process to ensure an ongoing understanding and consideration of public concerns and aspirations.



Coordination: Receiving public feedback towards the analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.



Provision of Information: Providing people with balanced and objective information to help people understand the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.

How Does the Unit Perform Its Mandate?

- Firstly, the unit periodically publishes comprehensive reports around the budget cycle along with reader friendly citizen versions. Recently there have been several in-focus publications such as the COVID-19 Public Spending, spending in response to the impact of the Ukraine crisis, and the Children Budgetary Allocation briefs to respond to the uncertainty citizens are faced throughout these crises. All reports are published on the Ministry's interactive online platforms. www.budget.gov.eg www.mofdigitalgate.gov.eg, www.mof.gov.eg
- Secondly, the unit along with its success partners work on engaging citizens on ground through several participatory budgeting tools such as public hearing sessions, surveys, simulations, social accountability workshops.
- Youth constitute the larger block of the unit's audience, and therefore several endeavors such as orientations on the country's fiscal and economic status quo have already taken place at several universities to raise their financial awareness and engage them with the budget cycle. Furthermore, more endeavors such as a budget game and other interactive financial literacy tools are currently in the pipeline in partnership with the UNICEF (<https://cutt.ly/lc4enYS>)
- Moreover, the unit has partnered with pioneer civil society organizations and universities in order to integrate budget-relevant capacity building and sports-based extra-curricular activities in student's school learning journey as well as create a link between their graduation cap-stone projects, participatory budgeting and mega national projects to raise their awareness and provide them with hands-on experience.

- Lastly, creating better communication channels with the public such as public hearing sessions in the parliament, social media platforms with visual content, mobile apps and interactive games that cater to the needs of all the different audience groups have been at the core of the unit's mandate. Tools such as public surveys, public hearings, social dialogue, and third-party monitoring have been deployed in 3 governorates (Cairo, Alexandria, Fayoum) with ongoing prospects for expansion in other governorates simultaneously.

Egyptian Model for Participatory Budgeting

- The Egyptian Participatory Budgeting Model is a tool for good governance that aims at better financial management of the state's budget, by creating a common ground for citizens and relevant government and non-government institutions that ultimately leads to the alignment of development priorities and thus more effective results that are responsive to citizens' needs and government capacity.
- The Ministry of Finance relies on providing transparent economic and fiscal data that equips citizens to actively engage in sustainable development plans and decision-making processes through participation in budget preparation. Raising the financial awareness of citizens and equipping them to understand and analyze the citizen budget should in turn allow them to monitor development projects and carry out social accountability activities.
- The unit's medium-term action plan for the implementation of participatory budgeting relies heavily on creating a solid network of success partners amongst which are government, non-government institutions and private sector in order to successfully replicate the Egyptian model of PB across the country.

For more information, please visit our official websites or social pages

<https://www.facebook.com/FTCEUnit>

Instagram: @transparency_unit

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Z6felZ1N8nPsAa7cBlHjg>

https://twitter.com/FTCE_UNIT

<http://budget.gov.eg>

<https://www.Mof.gov.eg>

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