

## UN EGYPT COVID-19 INSIGHTS SERIES

### TRANSPARENCY BRIEF ON THE GOVERNMENT PRELIMINARY BUDGET DOCUMENTS – INCLUDING COVID-19 SPENDING

No. 8/2020

#### 1. Overview

The brief aims at engaging citizens about budget provisions and COVID 19 allocations displayed in the executive budget proposal published by the Ministry of Finance after the budget estimates were sent to the parliament by the end of March for means of discussion ahead of budget approval previewed before the end of June.

#### 2. Key vulnerable groups or sectors in focus

The focus of the budget is the all country and the all citizens. Some budgets are of particular interest for the child population (40% of the all population) like the budget of Education, health and social protection sector. Some provisions, taken into consideration by the COVID 19 socio economic response plan focus especially on the poor representing the 32.5% of the population and on the informal workers that represents around 56% of the working population (World Bank, 2012).

#### 3. Key insights from the knowledge product

The brief discloses insights about the FY2020/21 budget that is dedicated to achieving sustainable, inclusive growth while fostering human development and implementing wide-ranging structural reforms. The brief also discloses the details of the post COVID 19 stimulus package of EGP 100 billion. The package aims at supporting citizens and sectors negatively affected by COVID-19 crisis. Further, it includes many incentives for productive industries and projects. All in consideration of the valuable partnership the Government has with the private sector and the accent the Government puts on protecting people's lives. Including, so far ensures for the most vulnerable, informal workers, industries and economic sectors as well as citizens at large. The documents is one of the first in presenting the budget by programmes departing from a mere economic classification.

#### 4. Policy Implications

- Increased transparency on the allocations being presented in the budget proposal ad to be discussed and approved by the government;
- Increased readability of the document that presents now financial allocations by sectors giving citizens the opportunity to really understand what the sectorial provisions are at large;
- Increased transparency/information useful for people to not only engage but also to benefit of the financial allocations for the COVID 19 socio economic response including tax exemptions and measures for informal workers.

## 5. Programmatic relevance

This product is the fourth of a series of transparency briefs in which we are increasingly inserting child relevant pieces of information for youth and citizens to be aware of what the allocations are but especially to be able to constructively participate in the budget making process through the dedicated fora.

## 6. Partners and Donors

UNICEF organized and funded the transparency series in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance

## 7. Link to the full knowledge product :

<https://www.unicef.org/egypt/reports/budget-transparency-series>

## 8. Name and email address of a focal point for the knowledge product

[mforaci@unicef.org](mailto:mforaci@unicef.org)