



# Resources and Spending Highlights in the Education Sector for the Financial Year 2019/2020



policy forum

Brief 3.20

In the Financial Year (FY) 2020/21, a total of Tsh. 4,720 billion has been allocated for education sector's expenditures; increasing by Tsh. 209 billion from a total of Tsh. 4,511 billion allocated for education sector in the financial year 2019/20. The 2020/21 education sector's budget is equivalent to 13.5% of the total government budget of the same financial year which amounts to Tsh. 34,880 billion. Although the total education budget has increased, the share of the education sector's budget to national budget has slightly dropped from 13.6% allocated in the financial year 2019/20 when the national budget was Tsh. 33,105 billion.

Figure 1: Education Sector's Budget Allocation

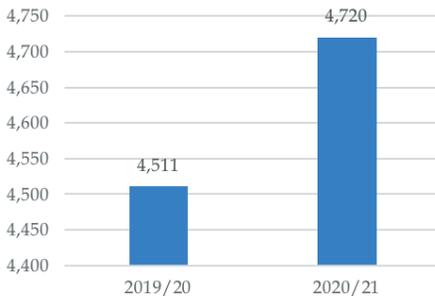
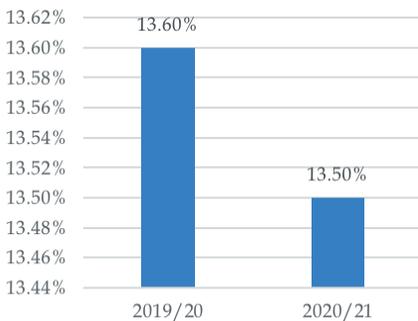


Figure 2: Education budget share to the National Budget

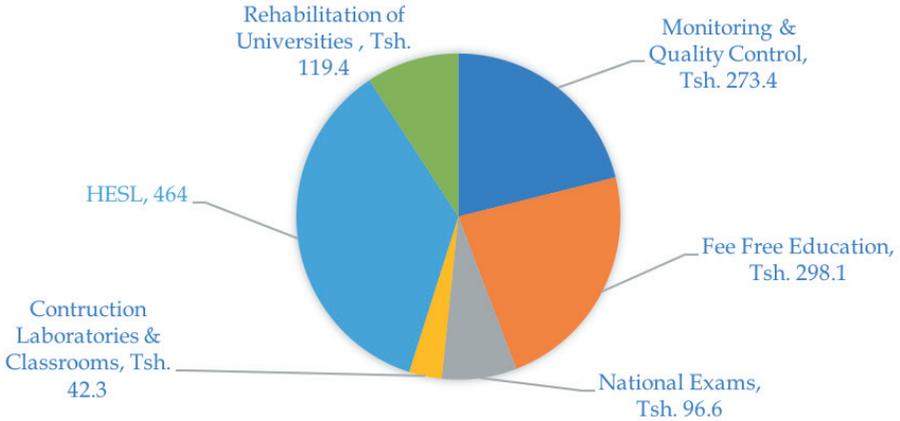


## Major Spending Institutions of the Education Sector's Budget

The 2020/21 education sector's budget will be implemented through Two major Ministries; the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) which in 2020/21 was allocated with **Tsh. 1,349 billion** and the Ministry of the President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Government Authorities (PO-RALG) which is allocated with **Tsh. 3,270 billion** in the same financial year. This budget aims to finance various programs including Fee Free Basic Education; Higher Learning Students Loans; construction and rehabilitation of infrastructures; enhancing the quality of education and developing skills at all levels of education; and develop innovation of technological discoveries for jobs creation.

The priority allocation of the 2020/21 education the sector expenditures includes **Tsh. 273.41 billion** shillings for education monitoring and quality control in basic education level and teachers' colleges; **Tsh. 3,270 billion** shillings for basic education in Local Government Authorities including **Tsh. 298.13 billion** shillings for

**Figure 3: the 2020/21 education sector's budget priority areas.**



(Source; Citizen Budget, 2020/21)

Fee Free Basic Education and **Tsh. 96.56 billion** shillings for National Examinations; **Tsh.42.33 billion** shillings for construction of laboratories and classrooms; **Tsh. 105.95 billion** shillings for implementation of various projects in technical colleges; **Tsh. 464 billion** shillings for higher education students' loans; **Tsh. 119.41 billion** shillings for construction and rehabilitation of universities' buildings and regional libraries; **Tsh. 12.70 billion** shillings for science, technology, research and development projects; **Tsh. 37.90 billion** shillings for promotion of innovations, science, technology and research and **Tsh. 86.11 billion** shillings for education related administrative services.

### Is Education Sector a Priority of the Government in Budgetary Allocations?

Even though allocations for the education sector have not been adequate when compared to demands in the sector, for the past several years, education sector has been amongst the government's top priority sectors. This is evidenced by

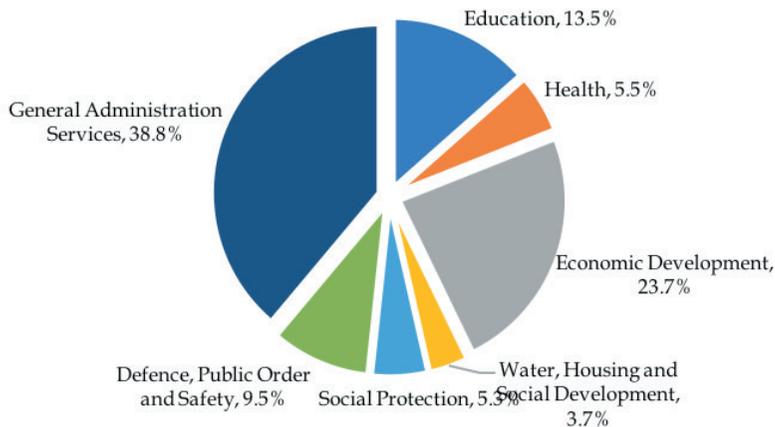
the allocations that the sector has been receiving over the years, which are high when compared to allocations in other sectors. The Tsh. 4,720 billion allocated for education budget, makes the sector to feature in high amongst the government priority spending sectors.

With 13.5% of the national budget, the education budget ranks third after general budget administration costs that has 38.8% of national budget share and 23.7% shares of economic development expenditures. Other priority spending areas of the 2020/21 national budget including the 9.5% for the national defense, public order and safety, 5.5% of the health sector, 5.3% of social protection and 3.7% for the water sector, housing and social development. Figure 4 below highlights the 7 government's expenditure priorities for the financial year 2020/21.

### Budget Allocation for MOEST 2020/21

To finance and implement its 2020/21 objectives, the Ministry of Education science and Technology (MoEST), has

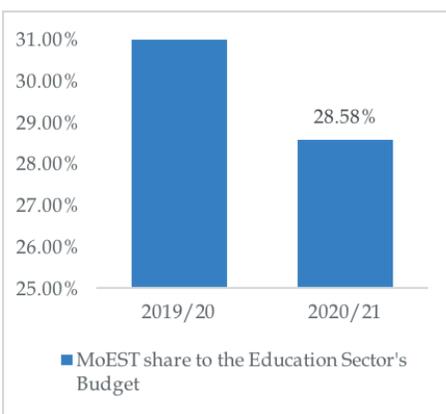
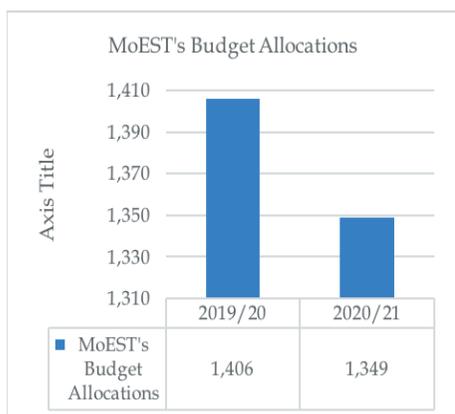
Figure 4: Government Budget Allocation for FY 2020/21



(Source; Citizen Budget 2020/21)

allocated a total of Tsh.1,349 billion to cater for its recurrent and development expenditures. This is 28.58% of the entire 2020/21 education sector's budget which is Tsh. 4,720 billion. It is also Tsh. 51 billion less than the allocated amount for MoEST during the financial year 2019/20 which was Tsh.1,406 billion. The share of the 2019/20 MoEST's budget to the education sector was 31.2%, slightly higher than the 2020/21 share.

The MoEST's budget allocation is divided into Tsh. 491.1 billion, equivalent to 36.42% for recurrent expenses and Tsh. 857.5 billion which is equivalent to 63.58% for development expenditures. Tsh. 1,406 billion allocated for MoEST in 2019/20 was divided into Tsh. 543.3 billion, equivalent to 38.6% for MoEST's recurrent expenditures and Tsh. 862.7 billion, equivalent to 61.4% for Development Expenditures. This means that, both MoEST's recurrent and



development expenditures allocations have dropped by 2.2% from the allocated share in 2019/20.

## Major Spending Areas for the MOEST's 2020/21 Budget

Some of the major capital spending for the MoEST budget includes, Basic Education Development **Tsh. 72.6 Billion**, School Quality Assurance **Tsh. 3.5 billion**, Teacher's Education Tsh 35 billion, Higher Education (including budget for HESLB1) **Tsh. 584.4 billion** and Technical Vocation Training **Tsh. 105.95 billion**.

So generally, the 2020/21 education sector's allocation has slightly increased from what was allocated in the financial year 2019/20. However, the challenges regarding transparency in planning and allocation of its resources still persist. While we have the total education sector's figure, its specific allocations for the entire budget is still not revealed and this makes it difficult for parliamentarians, media, CSOs and the public with interest in the sector's

<sup>1</sup> Higher Education Student's Loan Board.

budget to be able to trace and track specific expenditures in the sector. The share of the education sector's budget to the national budget has also fallen centrally to the financial demands within the sector which are escalating and the 2020/21 budget also did not reflect the emerging needs in the sector, especially the aftermath effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Key Recommendations

- i. The Government should ensure timely disbursement of the allocated resources.
- ii. Given the importance of innovation and research, there is a need for the government to give it a priority in its allocations.
- iii. Need for a more disaggregated budget to allow the public and other related stakeholders to understand and track specific expenditure areas.
- iv. The Government should invest in technology and modern facilities that can facilitate alternative learning in times of crisis like during the COVID-19 pandemic.



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