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Explaining
the Budget
Framework

25 February
#Budget2026

ENGLISH
FACT SHEET



WHAT IS THE BUDGET?

The Budget is a detailed plan that guides how the government collects and spends money to support national priorities like education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

THE BUDGET IS BASED ON SIX KEY PILLARS:

1. MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET POLICY STATEMENT (MTBPS)

Sets government priorities.

2. MEDIUM TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK (MTEF)

Plans spending for three years.

3. FISCAL FRAMEWORK

Shows expected income and expenditure.

4. DIVISION OF REVENUE

Distributes funds among national, provincial, and local governments.

5. THE MEDIUM-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN (MTDP)

2024–2029, South Africa's central strategic framework for government planning, budgeting, and implementation, aiming to advance the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030.

6. THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Founded on 6 pillars that represent the broad objectives of the plan to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality.



national treasury

Department:
National Treasury
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

A **NATION** THAT **WORKS** FOR ALL





HOW THE BUDGET WORKS

The national budget is SA's financial roadmap, **ensuring funds are used effectively for development**. It balances income and spending through careful planning, forecasting, and adjustments based on economic conditions and priorities. **Here's how it works:**



1. FORECASTING THE ECONOMY

Experts predict economic growth, inflation, and tax revenue to plan spending.

These forecasts help ensure the Budget is realistic and sustainable.



2. RAISING MONEY FOR THE BUDGET

Taxes (like VAT, income tax, and corporate tax).

Other revenue (custom duties, levies, and fines).

Borrowing (if needed).



3. HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT

Funds are divided into three levels: National, provincial, and local government.

A portion of the budget is set aside as a contingency reserve for unexpected events (e.g., natural disasters).

WHO DECIDES ON THE BUDGET?

The Budget is a **collective effort, shaped by government departments** to ensure fair and effective spending. It goes through multiple stages of review and approval before it becomes law.



1. FUNCTION GROUP LEADERS

Make recommendations to the Technical Committee on the budget then they make recommendations to MINCOMBUD (Ministers' Committee on Budget), which makes input on the Budget proposals. Inputs are coordinated and a Budget is drafted.



2. THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

Presents the Budget Speech in February, outlining government priorities, tax policies, and spending plans for the next three years.

3. PARLIAMENT AND TREASURY

Analyse and refine the proposals, ensuring that funds are allocated effectively to meet national needs while maintaining fiscal responsibility.



4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Citizens, civil society groups, and business representatives can provide feedback through public hearings and consultations, helping shape budget decisions.

5. THE PRESIDENT

Gives final approval by signing the Budget into law after Parliament has debated and voted on it. This ensures transparency and accountability in how public funds are used.





WHY THE BUDGET MATTERS TO YOU!

The Budget affects everyone, **guiding public spending on services, infrastructure, and economic growth** for a better future for all South Africans.



1. Budget allocations help improve schools, hospitals and infrastructure.



2. Budget ensures that government spending is fair and transparent.



3. Budget allows citizens to track where their taxes go.

HOW TO INTERACT WITH THE BUDGET INFORMATION?

Vulekamali is South Africa's online public budget portal. It's a platform that lets anyone explore, understand, and engage with government budget information. It's designed by the National Treasury with civil society partners to make budget data more transparent and accessible for the public.

To access the portal, [CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR code.



<https://vulekamali.gov.za/>



The Minister of Finance, Mr Enoch Godongwana, will table the **2026 Budget on Wednesday, 25 February 2026 at 14:00.**

Watch it live on Treasury's X/Twitter, YouTube and major news channels.

