

ROUND 2 POLIO CAMPAIGN

UGANDA NATIONAL EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION

STATUS ON PAYMENTS AND E-CASH: Policy position and country experience







BILL& MELINDA GATES foundation



The head aches in payment for mass activites

- Internal processes in the MoH; 1-2 weeks
- Processes for processing funds; 2-3 weeks
- Payment mixed methods of individuals take 1-3months still counting
- Processes new and not universally adopted
- Myriads of challenges to be resolved.
- HWs are frustrated due to delays in payment
- We are on good course but.....

MOFPED CIRCULAR ON E-CASH

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Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development, P.O Box 8147 Kampala, Uganda

27th April, 2022

All Accounting Officers

CIRCULAR ON E-CASH USAGE

Reference is made to the above subject and earlier E-Cash guidelines issued on 28th May 2019.

E-cash platform has been in use since FY 2017/2018 and has registered significant growth in the number of users and volume of transactions. The platform has undergone reviews and upgrades to address user's feedback and identified operational challenges for more efficiency.

The E-cash platform shall be used for those transactions that are largely one off, abrupt or urgent and therefore the set up on Integrated Financial Management Services (IFMS) may lead to delay in implementation or may present challenges.

Votes not yet set up on the E-cash platform are required to write to the Accountant General's Office and submit user details to facilitate set up.

This is therefore to issue updated guideline to Accounting Officers on the E-cash for ease of reference.

ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

Copy to: The Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury The Auditor General, Office of the Auditor General The Internal Auditor General, MoFPED

Digital Payments Guidance

- MoFPED allows for a limit of UGX 40 million to make payments in cash per month. However, provision has been made for Districts to use E-Cash in order to make payments for activities beyond the UGX 40 million cash limit.
- Digital payments will enable the districts to make timely payments for health workers and other activities as well as timely reporting and accountability.

These are critical steps for the districts to make payments digitally;

- Ensure that your District has been set up by MoFPED to transact and the respective personnel are fully onboarded with the relevant credentials i.e. Initiators (Health Accountant/designated Accountant), Verifiers (CFOs/Assistant CFO) and Approvers (CAOs/Deputy CAOs).
- ii. Ensure proper preparation of participants lists (database) for the campaign at training and implementation that majorly include; health workers, VHTs, LC1s, and any other participants at District, Sub County and Parish level.
- iii. Prepare to transfer funds for the E-cash payment to the Accountant General within 10 days of the activity implementation as per the financial management guidelines.

Digital Payments Guidance

- After implementation, the Health
 Accountant inputs all details of
 participants/beneficiaries in the MoFPED
 E-cash online platform;
- The CFO will verify the list input by the accountant in the system; and
- The CAO approves the payment and money goes to the beneficiary's mobile money accounts directly.
- The Health Accountant and CFO can download the final payment list that indicates all successful transactions for attachment to the technical report as accountability for each activity.

For more details, please refer to the attached MoFPED Accountant General E-cash user guidelines and MoFPED Focal point can be reached on 0776298109.

Status of Payments at District level

Status of Payment	# of Districts
Number of Districts called	141
Number of Districts that have paid	45
Number of Districts that have paid-partially	18
Number of Districs that have not yet paid	78
Districts not reached	4
Districts that didnt impliment	5
TOTAL	150

Status of E-cash usage

Status of E-cash Usage	# of Districts
Number of Districts that used E-cash	64
Number of Districts that used Cash	47
Number of Districts that used Cash and E-cash	17
Uncertain	17
TOTAL	145

Reasons for delayed payments at District level

- Inputting information in the E-cash system takes time
- Delayed implementation of the campaign activities
- The E-cash system is new to them and experiencing a steep learning curve
- Some districts claim not to have received guidelines for payments
- Delay in sending requisitions to the CAO
- E-cash charges are a hinderance as these were not budgeted for
- Delay in passing of the District Supplementary budgets to enable warranting
- Delay in receiving approvals from MoFPED and District structure (CFO & CAO)
- IFMIS system is failing, and no help has been rendered by MoFPED
- Late submission of recipients information for input in the E-cash system
- Power outage and poor network in the district for more than two weeks
- Need a fresh training on how to use system
- The E-cash system is a long process
- Some participants have no phones