

Budget Performance Report

May, 2024

Prepared by the Monitoring and Reporting Unit
Directorate of Budget
mofea.gov.gm/budget/

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Rounding may affect totals throughout this document.

The data and analysis set out in this document are compiled by Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs staff. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy and completeness. When errors are discovered, corrections and revisions are incorporated into the digital edition available on the Ministry's website.

SUMMARY

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA) continues to strengthen fiscal consolidation through increased transparency and public accountability. The Directorate of Budget has adopted regular reporting processes to monitor and make publicly available monthly reports on Government fiscal performance with respect to the National Budget. These reports aim to provide reconciled information on Government Local Fund (GLF) budget execution and explain the reasons for deviation from fiscal targets, thereby supporting policy responses for the improvement of fiscal performance.

The budget performance report is prepared based on the Central Government sector, using GLF transactions denominated in Gambian Dalasi (GMD) for revenues, expenditures & net lending and financing. The monthly review focuses on monitoring budget execution rates and year-on-year (y-o-y) variations to address key issues on budget execution.

It is envisaged that this report promotes our commitment to accountability and fiscal discipline across Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) which is crucial for expenditure rationalization.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Government fiscal performance during the January-May, 2024 review period compared to the same period last year demonstrates an upsurge in both revenues and expenditures.

Domestic revenue in the period under review stood at GMD 9.32 billion, representing 41 per cent of its budget. Year on year it has increased by 30 per cent or GMD 2.16 billion.

Tax revenue receipts of GMD 7.78 billion were collected in the review period, representing 45 per cent of its budget. Year on year it has increased by 33 per cent or GMD 1.94 billion.

Non-tax revenue receipts of GMD 1.54 billion were collected in the review period, representing 28 per cent of its budget. Year on year it has increased by 16 per cent or GMD 214.8 million.

It is noteworthy that no budget support was received in the period under review.

Tax revenue performance continues to be driven by taxes on profits and capital gains, taxes on goods and services and taxes on international trade. Non-tax revenue performance continues to be driven by administrative fees collected by both the Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) Domestic Tax and Customs and Excise departments. The Ministry continues to enhance its consultation and coordination with GRA to broaden the tax base, as well as enhanced accounting and increased reliability provided through digitalization reforms.

GLF expenditure and net lending for the review period amounted to GMD 11.38 billion, registering 43 per cent of its budget. It has significantly increased year on by 41 per cent or GMD 3.31 billion. This is mainly attributable to increased expenditures on use of goods and services and capital in preparation for hosting the 15th Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit in the first quarter. Moreover, expenditures on capital for settlement of Interim Payment Certificates (IPCs) for on-going road construction and domestic debt interest payments as a result of increase in borrowing and its associated cost have increased year on year.

Consequently, a deficit of GMD 2.06 billion was incurred (table 1). This is GMD 1.15 billion more than the gross deficit for the same period of the previous year. The worsening of the deficit is due to expenditures growing at a greater annual rate than revenues. Correspondingly, with no budget support the deficit is substantially off track, reaching 347 per cent of its estimate during the period under review.

As per the net domestic borrowing (NDB) monitoring agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the Government registered an end-May NDB of GMD 3.73 billion². This is GMD 1.13 billion above the IMF Extended Credit Facility (ECF) June target of GMD 2.60 billion.

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² As per the Central Bank of The Gambia calculations, which includes Government overdrafts.

Table 1: Consolidated Fiscal Summary Analysis – Jan-May Outturn 2024, 2023

Budget Overview

Summary of GLF in Dalasi '000,000				Variance	Analysis	
Consolidated Fiscal	Approved Budget 2024	Jan-May Outturn 2024	Jan-May Outturn 2023	Variance Y-O-Y	Variance Y-O-Y (%)	Execution Rate (Outturn / Budget)
Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF)	25,931.5	9,315.9	7,158.2	2,157.6	30%	36%
Revenue	22,751.5	9,315.9	7,158.2	2,157.6	30%	41%
Tax	17,242.3	7,775.4	5,832.5	1,942.9	33%	45%
Non-Tax	5,509.2	1,540.5	1,325.7	214.8	16%	28%
Programme Grants (Budget Support)	3,180.0	ı	-	-	-	0%
Current	3,180.0		-	-	-	0%
GLF Expenditure & Net Lending	26,526.2	11,378.7	8,071.6	3,307.1	41%	43%
Debt Interest	5,114.4	1,969.5	1,074.0	895.5	83%	39%
External	813.0	343.8	240.7	103.0	43%	42%
Domestic	4,301.4	1,625.7	833.3	792.4	95%	38%
Other Expenditure	21,139.3	9,397.4	6,997.6	2,399.8	34%	44%
Personnel	7,391.2	2,971.9	2,842.1	129.8	5%	40%
Use of Goods and Serices	4,845.8	2,279.2	1,176.1	1,103.2	94%	47%
Subsidies and Transfers	5,533.0	2,656.8	2,041.3	615.5	30%	48%
GLF Capital	3,369.3	1,489.5	938.2	551.4	59%	44%
Net Lending	272.5	11.8	-	11.8	-	4%
Other equity participation	272.5	11.8	-	11.8	-	4%
Gross Surplus/Deficit(-)	(594.7)	(2,062.9)	(913.4)	(1,149.5)	126%	347%

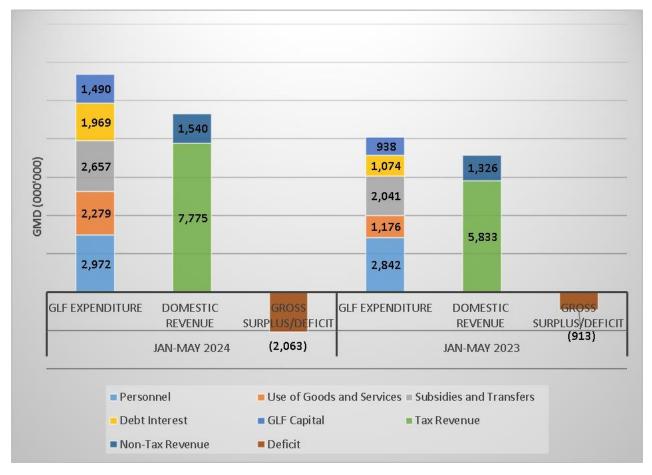


Chart 1: GLF recurrent and development summary for Jan-May outturn (2024, 2023)

Source: MOFEA staff calculations.

REVENUES

1. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE PERFORMANCE

The Government remains committed to intensifying interventions to improve revenue administration and management. GRA is determined to extend the efficiency gains through digitalization into the domestic tax sphere in efforts to reform the GAMTAX NET system. Domestic revenue receipts for Jan-May 2024 amounted to **GMD 9.32 billion** as compared to **GMD 7.16 billion** during 2023. With no budget support disbursement, this represents a GMD 2.16 billion increase (30 per cent y-o-y) in total receipts deposited into the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF).

Table 2: Revenue Performance Analysis – Jan-May Outturn 2024, 2023

Revenue Overview

Summary of GLF in Dalasi '000,000					Variance Analysis			
Consolidated Revenue	Approved Budget 2024	Jan-May Outturn 2024	Jan-May Outturn 2023	Variance Y-O-Y	Variance (%)	Execution Rate (Outturn / Budget) (%)		
Consolidated Revenue Fund	25,932.3	9,315.9	7,158.2	2,157.6	30%	36%		
Domestic Revenue	22,752.3	9,315.9	7,158.2	2,157.6	30%	41%		
Tax Revenue	17,243.1	7,775.4	5,832.5	1,942.9	33%	45%		
Taxes profits & capital gains	5,051.0	2,662.1	1,829.8	832.4	45%	53%		
Payable by Individuals	1,911.1	702.4	703.4	(1.0)	0%	37%		
Taxes pay by corp. & other enterprises	3,139.0	1,959.7	1,126.3	833.3	74%	62%		
Unallc tax on inc prof & cap	0.9	0.1	0.1	(0.0)	0%	7%		
Taxes on payroll and workforce	72.5	50.3	46.2	4.1	9%	69%		
Payroll tax	72.5	50.3	46.2	4.1	9%	69%		
Taxes on property	204.7	52.1	66.2	(14.1)	-21%	25%		
Estate inheritance & gift taxes	204.7	52.1	66.2	(14.1)	-21%	25%		
Taxes on goods and services	7,449.3	3,132.7	2,484.6	648.1	26%	42%		
General taxes on goods and services	6,075.2	2,656.0	2,137.4	518.6	24%	44%		
Excises	1,283.4	403.0	295.9	107.2	36%	31%		
Taxes on specific services	90.7	73.71	51.36	22.3	44%	81%		
Taxes on intel trade and trans	4,403.2	1,849.8	1,379.2	470.6	34%	42%		
Customs & other import duties	4,355.8	1,832.0	1,365.5	466.5	34%	42%		
Taxes on exports	2.9	0.4	1.9	(1.4)	-77%	15%		
Other taxes on intel trade	44.5	17.3	11.9	5.5	46%	39%		
Other taxes	62.4	28.3	26.5	1.8	7%	45%		
Payable solely by business	62.4	28.3	26.5	1.8	7%	45%		
Non Tax Revenue	5,509.2	1,540.5	1,325.7	214.8	16%	28%		
Sale of goods and services	5,497.4	1,540.5	1,325.7	214.8	16%	28%		
Administrative fees	5,497.4	1,540.5	1,325.7	214.8	16%	28%		
Fines, penalties and forefeits	11.8	-	-	-	-	0%		
Fines	11.8	-	-	-	-	0%		
Program Grants	3,180.0	-	-	-	-	0%		
From International Org	3,180.0	-	-	-	=	0%		
Current	3,180.0	-	-	-	-	0%		

1.1 Tax Revenues

Total tax revenue receipts increased by 33 per cent or GMD 1.94 billion to reach GMD 7.78 billion representing 45 per cent of its total budget (table 2). This compares favorably to GMD 5.83 billion during the same period last year.

Taxes profits & capital gains receipts of GMD 2.66 billion were GMD 832.4 million or 45 per cent higher than in 2023 (table 2), representing 53 per cent of its budget. This is driven by 74 per cent y-o-y increase in corporate tax, offsetting the marginal year-on-year decline in income tax.

Taxes on payroll and workforce receipts amounted to GMD 50.3 million representing a positive variance of GMD 4.1 million or 9 per cent compared to 2023 (table 2). This development represents 69 per cent of its budget.

Taxes on property receipts of GMD 52.1 million were GMD 14.1 million or 21 per cent lower than in 2023 and represents 25 per cent of its budget (table 2). Indications suggest this may reflect a timing issue, with a corresponding increase later in the year offsetting the decline.

Taxes on goods and services receipts of GMD 3.13 billion were GMD 648.1 million or 26 per cent higher than in 2023 and are within expectations as this is 42 per cent of its budget (table 2).

Taxes on international trade receipts of GMD 1.85 billion were GMD 470.6 million or 34 per cent higher than in 2023 and are in line with expectations as this is 42 per cent of its budget (table 2).

Other taxes receipts of GMD 28.3 million were GMD 1.8 million or 7 per cent higher than in 2023, and are slightly ahead of expectations as this is 45 per cent of its budget (table 2).

1.2 Non-Tax Revenues

Total non-tax revenue / Administrative fees receipts increased by 16 per cent or GMD 214.8 million to reach GMD 1.54 billion as compared to GMD 1.33 billion from the same period last year, mainly from GRA Customs and Excise collections. This is 28 per cent of its total budget (table 2).

1.3 Budget Support

There was no disbursement of budget support from any donor partner in the review period.

EXPENDITURES

2. CONSOLIDATED EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE

The Government remains committed to narrowing the fiscal deficit underpinned by fiscal consolidation and the ECF Program with the IMF. GLF expenditure and net lending for Jan-May 2024 amounted to GMD 11.38 billion as compared to GMD 8.07 billion during 2023 – representing a GMD 3.31 billion increase (41 per cent y-o-y). This represents 43 per cent of its total budget (table 3). Overall expenditure has surged due to an increase in spending across the board, especially on use of goods and services, subsidies and transfers, domestic debt interest and capital.

Outturn of expenditures & net lending

Personnel Emoluments (PE) amounted to GMD 2.97 billion.

Other Charges (OC) amounted to GMD 4.94 billion.

Debt Interest amounted to GMD 1.97 billion.

Capital Expenditure amounted to GMD 1.49 billion.

Net lending amounted to GMD 11.8 million.

Table 3: Consolidated Expenditures Summary Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Expenditure Overview

Summary of GLF in Dalasi '000,000			Variance A	nalysis
Consolidated Expenditure	Jan-May Outturn 2024	Jan-May Outturn 2023	Variance Y-O-Y	Variance (%)
Expenditure & Net Lending	11,378.7	8,071.6	3,307.1	41%
Current Expenditure	9,877.4	7,133.5	2,743.9	38%
Personnel Emoluments	2,971.9	2,842.1	129.8	5%
Other Charges	4,936.0	3,217.4	1,718.7	53%
Use of Goods and Services	2,279.2	1,176.1	1,103.2	94%
Subsidies and Transfers	2,656.8	2,041.3	615.5	30%
Interest	1,969.5	1,074.0	895.5	83%
External	343.8	240.7	103.0	43%
Domestic	1,625.7	833.3	792.4	95%
Capital Expenditure	1,489.5	938.2	551.4	59%
GLF Capital (Fixed Assets)	1,489.5	938.2	551.4	59%
Net Lending	11.8	-	11.8	100%
Lending and Equity Participation	11.8	-	11.8	100%

Source: MOFEA staff calculations.

Table 4: Consolidated Expenditures Summary Analysis – Jan-May Budget Execution

Expenditure Overview

Experiature overview			
Summary of GLF in Dalasi '000,000			
Consolidated Funeralitums	Approved Budget	Jan-May Outturn	Execution Rate
Consolidated Expenditure	2024	2024	(Outturn / Budget)
Expenditure & Net Lending	26,526.2	11,378.7	43%
Current Expenditure	22,884.4	9,877.4	43%
Personnel Emoluments	7,391.2	2,971.9	40%
Other Charges	10,378.8	4,936.0	48%
Use of Goods and Services	5,434.3	2,279.2	42%
Subsidies and Transfers	4,944.5	2,656.8	54%
Interest	5,114.4	1,969.5	39%
External	813.0	343.8	42%
Domestic	4,301.4	1,625.7	38%
Capital Expenditure	3,369.3	1,489.5	44%
GLF Capital (Fixed Assets)	3,369.3	1,489.5	44%
Net Lending	272.5	11.8	40/
Lending and Equity Participation	272.5	11.8	4%

2.1 Current Expenditures

Current expenditures increased by 38 per cent or GMD 2.74 billion to reach GMD 9.88 billion, as compared to GMD 7.13 billion from the same period last year. This represents 43 per cent of its budget. Personnel Emoluments increased by GMD 129.8 million (5 per cent y-o-y), registering 40 per cent of its budget (table 5). Basic Salary amounted to GMD 1.39 billion as compared to GMD 1.42 billion during 2023 — representing a GMD 38.8 million decrease (-3 per cent y-o-y). Allowances amounted to GMD 1.51 billion as compared to GMD 1.40 billion during 2023 — representing a GMD 103.0 million increase (7 per cent y-o-y). Other PE amounted to GMD 79.8 million as compared to GMD 14.3 million in 2023 — representing a GMD 65.5 million increase (459 per cent y-o-y), relating to expense of Revolving Loan Scheme.

Table 5: Compensation of Employees Summary Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Compensation of Employees Overview

Compensation of Employees Overview						
Summary of Wages and Salaries in Dalasi ('000)	Personnel Emoluments					
Salaries, Wages and Other PE	<u> </u>			ice		
	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%		
Basic Salary	1,385,915.25	1,424,689.27	(38,774.03)	-3%		
Allowances	1,506,157.13	1,403,135.19	103,021.94	7%		
Other PE	79,797.86	14,266.47	65,531.40	459%		
TOTAL Compensation of Employees	2,971,870.2	2,842,090.9	129,779.31	5%		

Source: MOFEA staff calculations.

Other Charges increased by GMD 1.72 billion (53 per cent y-o-y) registering 48 per cent of its budget. *Goods and services* expenditures have increased by GMD 1.10 billion (94 per cent y-o-y) – representing 42 per cent of its budget. The increase in goods and services is mainly due to expenses associated with hosting the 15th OIC Summit. While *subsidies and transfers* expenditures have increased by GMD 615.5 million (30 per cent y-o-y) – registering 54 per cent of its budget. Driving current transfers are increasing costs of Government counter-part funding in Health (table 6), Education (table 7) and Financial (table 8) sectors – whereas costs are decreasing in the Agricultural (table 9) sector.

Subventions of Health institutions have increased year on by GMD 60.4 million or 18 per cent (table 6). PE subventions increased by GMD 25.5 million or 8 per cent, and OC subventions increased by GMD 34.9 million or 148 per cent.

Subventions of Education institutions have increased year on by GMD 130.9 million or 148 per cent (table 7). PE subventions increased by GMD 64.7 million or 22 per cent, and OC subventions increased by GMD 66.2 million or 80 per cent. School Improvement Grant (SIG) increased by GMD 18.6 million or 62 per cent for primary, and GMD 55.9 million or 127 per cent for secondary education.

Subventions of Financial institutions have increased year on by GMD 219.4 million or 64 per cent (table 8). PE subventions increased by GMD 97.0 million or 99 per cent, and OC subventions increased by GMD 122.4 million or 50 per cent.

Subventions of Agricultural institutions have decreased year on by GMD 38.9 million or -9 per cent (table 9). PE subventions increased by GMD 14.0 million or 288 per cent, and OC subventions decreased by GMD 52.9 million or -12 per cent.

Table 6: Transfers to Public Health Institutions Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Management of Subvented Institutions Overview

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Summary of PE and OC Subventions in Dalasi ('000)								
Transfers to Public Health	Subvention PE				Subvention OC			
Institutions		ı	Variand	e		ı .	Varian	e
Institutions	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%
Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital (EFSTH)	157,117.94	160,817.84	(3,699.90)	-2%	20,133.13	10,836.26	9,296.87	86%
Serrekunda Hospital	41,653.23	35,459.01	6,194.22	17%	2,912.44	2,593.50	318.93	12%
Bansang Hospital	32,720.47	26,724.28	5,996.19	22%	2,484.54	2,212.47	272.08	12%
Farafenni Hospital	29,536.19	24,836.43	4,699.76	19%	2,329.43	2,074.34	255.09	12%
Bwiam Hospital	25,638.69	21,490.58	4,148.10	19%	1,755.09	1,562.90	192.20	12%
Medicine Control Agency	1,300.00	2,500.00	(1,200.00)	-48%	5,200.00	1,500.00	3,700.00	247%
Sheikh Zayed Regional Eye Care Center	20,130.12	16,605.29	3,524.83	21%	1,457.16	1,621.99	(164.83)	-10%
Bundung Maternal	35,111.39	29,259.49	5,851.90	20%	1,351.70	1,203.68	148.02	12%
Country Coord. Mechanism & Councils	-	-	•	•	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	-
Pharmacy Council	-	-	•	-	1,267.50	-	1,267.50	-
Public Health Council	-	-	•	-	578.33	-	578.33	-
Allied Health Council	-	-	•	-	481.67	-	481.67	-
Medical and Dental Council	-	-	-	-	1,033.33	-	1,033.33	-
National Health Insurance Authority	-	-	-	-	16,000.00	-	16,000.00	-
SUBTOTAL	343,208.0	317,692.9	25,515.11	8%	58,484.3	23,605.1	34,879.19	148%
TOTAL TRANSFER (Health)	401,692.35	341,298.06	60,394.29	18%				

Table 7: Transfers to Public Education Institutions Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Basic and Secondary Education Subvention Overview

Summary of PE and OC Subventions in Dalasi ('000)	S	ubventi	on PE		Sı	ubventi	on OC	
Transfers to Public Education			Varianc			Variand	ce	
Programs	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%
Strategy, Policy and Management	-	14,609.79	(14,609.79)	-100%	-	8,219.43	(8,219.43)	-100%
Basic Education Management	282,581.31	205,539.83	77,041.48	37%	48,560.44	30,000.00	18,560.44	62%
Secondary Education Management	78,261.74	76,000.00	2,261.74	3%	99,928.31	44,053.55	55,874.77	127%
SUBTOTAL	360,843.1	296,149.6	64,693.44	22%	148,488.8	82,273.0	66,215.77	80%
TOTAL TRANSFER (Education)	509,331.81	378,422.60	130,909.21	35%				

^{*}School Improvement Grant (SIG) falls under OC subventions for Basic Education Management and Secondary Education Management.

Source: MOFEA staff calculations.

Table 8: Transfers to Financial and Fiscal Institutions Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Management of Subvented Institutions Overview

Management of Subvented institutions overview								
Summary of PE and OC Subventions in Dalasi ('000)								
Transfers to Financial and Fiscal		Subvent	ion PE Varian	Subvention OC Variance				
Institutions	Jan-May	Jan-May			Jan-May	Jan-May		
	2024	2023	Y-O-Y	%	2024	2023	Y-O-Y	%
Strategy, Policy and Management	-	1,500.00	(1,500.00)	-100%	1,004.55	4,500.00	(3,495.45)	-78%
Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA)	137,634.33	74,489.37	63,144.96	85%	333,710.45	210,199.60	123,510.85	59%
Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBOS)	27,074.37	19,113.65	7,960.72	42%	3,262.89	9,000.00	(5,737.11)	-64%
Gambia Public Procurement Authrity (GPPA)	-	-	-	-	1,500.00	3,200.00	(1,700.00)	-53%
NAOSU	2,000.00	800.00	1,200.00	150%	3,000.00	2,700.00	300.00	11%
Social Development Fund (SDF)	-	-	-	-	1,250.00	6,000.00	(4,750.00)	-79%
Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)	10,233.50	2,000.00	8,233.50	412%	4,000.00	6,000.00	(2,000.00)	-33%
Complaints Review Board (CRB)	-	-	-	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	0%
Financial Reporting Oversight Board (FROB)	500.00	500.00		0%	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100%
Millenium Challenge Corporation (MCC)	16,948.80	-	16,948.80	-	12,540.20	-	12,540.20	-
State Own Enterprise Commission (SOC)	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	-	2,700.00	-	2,700.00	-
SUBTOTAL	195,391.0	98,403.0	96,987.98	99%	367,468.1	245,099.6	122,368.49	50%
TOTAL TRANSFER (Health)	562,859.09	343,502.62	219,356.47	64%		_	_	

Table 9: Transfers to Public Agricultural Institutions Analysis – Jan-May Variance 2024, 2023

Management of Subvented Institutions Overview

Summary of PE and OC Subventions in Dalasi ('000)								
Transfers to Public Agricultural		Subvent	ion PE	Subvention OC				
Institutions	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%	Jan-May 2024	Jan-May 2023	Y-O-Y	%
Strategy, Policy and Management	-	-	-	-	371,143.68	407,499.68	(36,356.00)	-9%
National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)	8,522.95	-	8,522.95	100%	25.00	15,869.85	(15,844.85)	-100%
Gambia Livestock Marketing Agency (GLMA)	-	1,123.99	(1,123.99)	-100%	4,470.35	5,169.73	(699.38)	-14%
National Seeds Secretariate (NSS)	4,540.32	-	4,540.32	100%	1	-	-	-
West Africa Innovation Center (WALIC)	5,768.03	3,725.60	2,042.43	55%	100.00	-	100.00	100%
Veteniery Council	-	-	-	-	•	125.00	(125.00)	-100%
SUBTOTAL	18,831.3	4,849.6	13,981.71	288%	375,739.0	428,664.3	(52,925.23)	-12%
TOTAL TRANSFER (Agriculture)	394,570.33	433,513.85	(38,943.52)	-9%				

Source: MOFEA staff calculations.

Debt Interest increased by GMD 1.07 billion (83 per cent y-o-y) due to external interest increasing by GMD 103.0 million (43 per cent y-o-y) and domestic interest increasing by GMD 792.4 million (95 per cent y-o-y). Debt Interest recorded 39 per cent of its budget. This can be attributed to increase in both debt stock and interest rates.

2.2 Capital Expenditures

Capital expenditures (acquisition of fixed assets) increased by 59 per cent or GMD 551.4 million to reach GMD 1.49 billion, as compared to GMD 938.2 million from the same period last year. This is 44 per cent of its budget. The significant increase is attributable to settlement of IPCs for on-going road construction projects.

2.3 Net Lending

Net lending amounted to GMD 11.8 million in the period Jan-May 2024 resulting from equity participation paid Gambia Submarine Cable Company (GSCC) in January towards operating and maintenance costs. This is 4 per cent of its total budget.

2.4 Top Spending Budget Entities

The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education is the highest spending Budget Entity (BE), accounting for 18 per cent of total expenditure for the period under review. This is followed by the National Debt Service accounting for 16 per cent of total expenditure. Following which are the Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure accounting for 10 per cent of total Jan-May 2024 expenditure mainly resulting from IPCs for contractors and consultants undertaking road construction, Ministry of Foreign Affairs accounting for 9 per cent and Ministry of Health, accounting for 8 per cent. The top ten spending BEs account for GMD 9.36 billion, representing 84 per cent of total expenditure for the period under review.

Table 10: Top Spending Budget Entities – Jan-May 2024, 2023

Budget Entity	Jan-May 2024 Outturn	Jan-May 2023 Outturn	2024 Total Exp. (%)	Variance (%)
Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education	2,013,730,564.42	1,530,637,644.48	18%	32%
National Debt Service	1,749,322,780.35	1,074,006,688.26	16%	63%
Ministry of Transport, Works and Infras.	1,110,387,536.87	773,558,549.36	10%	44%
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	981,416,671.40	399,773,444.08	9%	145%
Ministry of Health	864,814,469.50	721,109,434.26	8%	20%
Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs	752,780,279.22	504,810,093.25	7%	49%
Ministry of Interior	635,427,925.39	593,635,956.46	6%	7%
Ministry of Agriculture	487,055,063.07	517,568,340.21	4%	-6%
Office of The President	391,733,429.97	276,325,222.17	4%	42%
Ministry of Defence	374,797,248.29	331,619,126.55	3%	13%
Subtotal	9,361,465,968.48	6,723,044,499.08	84%	39%
Total Expenditure (minus BTL) Source: MOFEA staff calculations.	11,146,771,715.55	8,071,634,875.39	100%	45%

FINANCING

4. Financing Activities

The Government has financed its GLF deficit through domestic borrowing. A gross deficit of GMD 2.06 billion was recorded for Jan-May 2024, as compared to GMD 913.4 million for 2023. Arrears and guarantees amount to GMD 121.8 million, representing 41 per cent of its budget.