

ESCWA Pilot Project

Social Expenditure Monitor:

An integrated framework for supporting macro-fiscal policies and the SDGs

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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



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A joint project between

*Economic Development and Integration Division (EDID), Statistics
Division (SD), and Social Development Division (SDD)*

*With contributions from other divisions of ESCWA & Member States
participating in the pilot project*

Purpose of the questionnaire

- Designed to collect expenditure data for the SEM's framework for the years 2010 to 2018
- Directed to ministries and other general government units operating/managing programs mapped to the framework's indicators.
- Linked to the country's public budget and other agencies' financial accounts

Three groups of government units

Units responsible for devising social policies related to the social dimensions

Example

Ministry of Education in Jordan and Tunisia

Units that only deliver social programs related to the social dimensions

Example

Public universities in Jordan

Units that only provide transfers to other government units responsible for delivering social programs related to the social dimensions

Example

Ministry of Finance in Jordan and Tunisia



Three sets of questionnaires were designed

Group 1 : Devising social policies

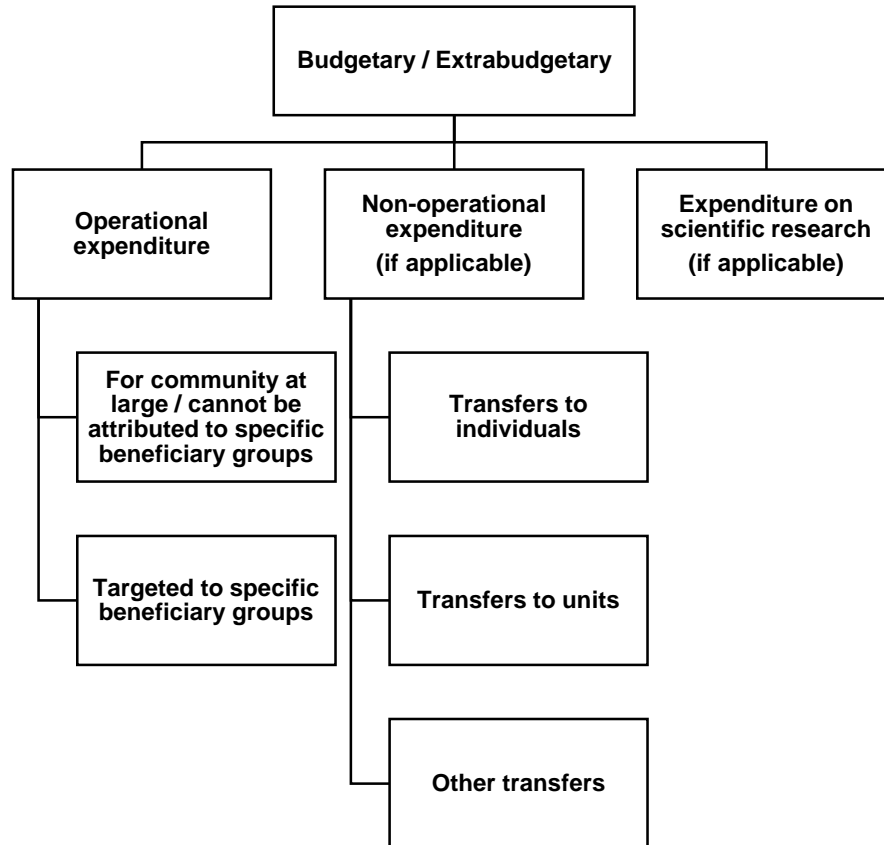
Jordan	
Education	Health and nutrition
Ministry of Education	Ministry of Health
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	

Tunisia	
Education	Health and nutrition
Ministry of Education	Ministry of Health
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research	Ministry of Women
Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment	
Ministry of Women, Family and Childhood	



Questionnaire collects both budgetary and extrabudgetary expenditure

Structure of questionnaire



Operational expenditure *(incurred within the process of providing goods and services)*

- Current expenditure
- Scientific scholarships for staff
- Investments in non-financial assets

Non-operational expenditure *(Transfers, in cash or in kind, to individuals or units)*

- Current transfers in cash
- Current transfers in kind
- Capital transfers in cash or in kind
- Other transfers such as loans at reduced interest rate:
(regular interest rate - reduced interest rate) Number of loans*

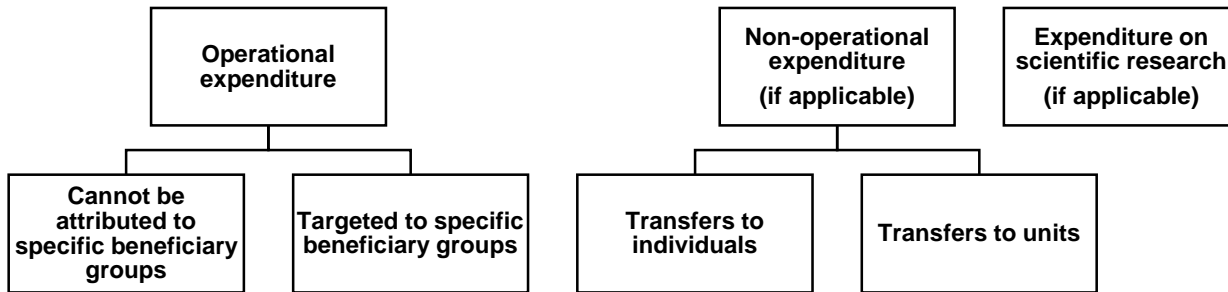
Group 2 : Units that only deliver social programs

Jordan	
Education	Health and nutrition
Public universities	Royal Medical Services
Scientific Research Fund	Prince Hamza Hospital
Vocational Training Corporation	Jordan University Hospital
Employment, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (E-TVET) Fund	King Abdullah University Hospital



Questionnaire does not ask separately about budgetary and extrabudgetary expenditure

Structure of questionnaire



Operational expenditure *(incurred within the process of providing goods and services)*

- Current expenditure
- Scientific scholarships for staff
- Investments in non-financial assets

Non-operational expenditure *(Transfers, in cash or in kind, to individuals or units)*

- Current transfers in cash
- Current transfers in kind
- Capital transfers in cash or in kind
- Other transfers such as loans at reduced interest rate :

(regular interest rate - reduced interest rate) Number of loans*

Group 3 : Units that only provide transfers to other units

Jordan	
Education	Health and nutrition
Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Tunisia	
Education	Health and nutrition
Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation	Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation



Questionnaire asks about transfers to units/individuals and tax breaks

Disaggregation of expenditure by beneficiary and gender

- The following expenditure is disaggregated by target beneficiary groups and gender of beneficiaries
 - Operational expenditure targeted to specific beneficiary groups (excluding Investments in non-financial assets)
 - Transfers to individuals
- If the disaggregation is not available at the level of gender or beneficiary group, an indicator such as the number or percentage of beneficiary group/gender out of total will be used to estimate the disaggregation.

Some of the issues to be raised

- Should operational expenditure that benefit the community at large be disaggregated into the beneficiary groups targeted by the units?
(*ex. Administrative and Support Program in Ministry of Education for Jordan*
Support and Leadership Program for Ministry of Education in Tunisia)
- Which of the 2 options is better to avoid double counting of expenditure?
 - Asking each ministry about expenditure observed in the ministry's budget and other ministries' budget (ex. Transfers from Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning)
 - Asking each ministry about expenditure observed in the ministry's budget only and asking Ministry of Finance about the transfers made to other ministries.
- How to take into account change in the names of programs/ministries over the years?
- Purpose of research?

Thank you

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