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An Analysis of the Angolan

GENERAL STATE BUDGET 2024
Education in the GSB

KEY MESSAGES

The General State Budget (GSB) allocation for Education in 2024 stands at around Kz. 1.6 trillion. This figure represents an **increase of 1.2 per cent** compared to the budget allocated to Education in 2023.

There is a significant increase in the GSB as a whole, from Kz. 20.1 trillion in the 2023 to Kz. 24.7 trillion in 2024. However, despite this significant increase, the percentage, i.e. the **share earmarked for the Education function, fell to 6.4 per cent when compared to the 7.7 per cent** recorded in the 2023 State Budget. Thus, although there are more resources available in the 2024 State Budget, a smaller proportion of these resources is being allocated to Education compared to the last 5 years.

Angola is still a **long way from achieving the targets set out in the Incheon Declaration,** which recommended that the allocation of the State Budget for **Education should be at least 15 per cent of the total** and represent at least four per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). For 2024, the planned allocation for Education is around two per cent of GDP. It is therefore essential to review the sector's budget allocation, since Education is fundamental to the country's growth.

Angola is looking for progress in Education by 2050, with the average length of schooling planned to increase from 4.2 years in 2022 to 6.3 years in 2050, according to the National Development Plan (NDP) 2023–2027.

The Education budget lines that benefit most from the 2024 State Budget are: **Secondary Education,** with Kz. 629.7 billion **(40 per cent of the Education budget); Pre-school and Primary Education** (these two budget lines have historically been separated, the 2024 State Budget has brought the two together), with Kz. 505 billion **(32 per cent of the Education budget);** and **Undergraduate Higher Education,** with Kz. 302.8 billion **(20 per cent of the Education budget).**

The budget allocation for pre-school and primary education has decreased compared to 2023 Although the largest proportion of the student population is enrolled at Pre-school and Primary levels, Secondary Education continues to receive the largest percentage of the Education budget.

Angola allocates the lowest share of its budget to Education among the economies compared,[1] i.e. it is the only economy with less than ten per cent of its budget allocated to Education, a critical factor for the country's socio-economic development.

The **2023 budget execution** for Education recorded the lowest performance, with **only 61 per cent of the budgeted amount actually executed.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

01 Set as a priority the progressive allocation of the **Education Budget to 15 per cent of the total budget in the medium term,** as recommended in the Incheon Declaration, in order to guarantee greater quality and access to Education.

02 **Significantly improve utilization/ execution** of the Education budget, understanding the specific bottlenecks that lead to the gap between budgeted and executed expenditure.

03 **Conduct and publish an assessment of the 2018–2022 National Development Plan** for the Education sector, in order to understand the current state of the sector and identify ways of achieving the international benchmarks in the next 5 years.

04 Provide the most up-to-date **quantitative and qualitative data** possible on the sector's performance indicators on a **regular basis.**

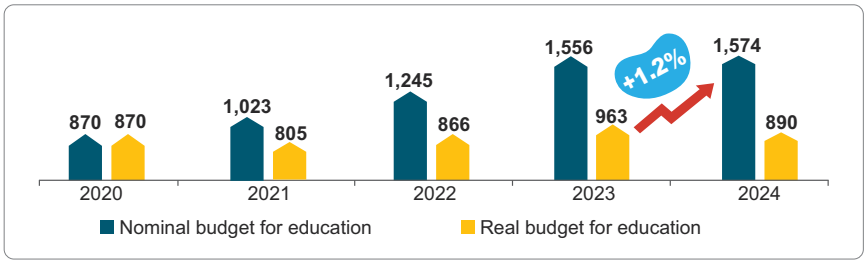
05 **Encourage continued investment in pre-school Education.** Pre-school Education is crucial for children's cognitive, emotional and social development. Investing in specific policies, human and material resources guarantees a suitable environment for this age group, with appropriate curricula and specialized educators, better preparing children for the next stage of their Educational journey.

06 **Correct the bias of the budget currently in favour of secondary Education and increase the weight of the budget allocation for the expansion and improvement of the quality of the Pre-school and Primary levels**, with a view to increasing the efficiency of investment in all other levels of Education, in line with the Executive's 2050 Long-Term Strategy.

07 **To progressively introduce greater equity in the distribution of resources**, taking into account the student population and the potential for correcting regional asymmetries, particularly school drop-outs prevalent in rural areas.

08 **Establish monitoring mechanisms** to regulate the efficient use of Educational resources at all levels of Education, from pre-school upwards, particularly those dedicated to the purchase of desks, textbooks and school management.

Graph 1 | **Education budget allocation (in billions kwanzas)**

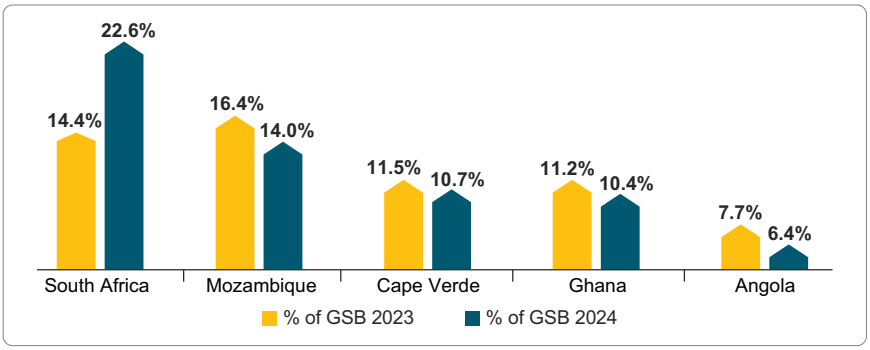


Source: Ministry of Finance, State Budget 2020–2024

In nominal terms, the allocation for Education in the 2024 State Budget has increased to Kz. 1,574 billion, compared to the allocation of Kz. 1,556 billion recorded in the 2023 State Budget.

However, in real terms,[2] the amount budgeted is Kz. 890 billion, below the inflation-adjusted allocation for the sector in the 2023 State Budget, which was around Kz. 963 billion. The amount in real terms emphasizes the purchasing power of the resources for Education, i.e. around Kz. 680 billion allocated to Education will be absorbed by inflation.

Graph 2 | **Education expenditure as a percentage of the State Budget**

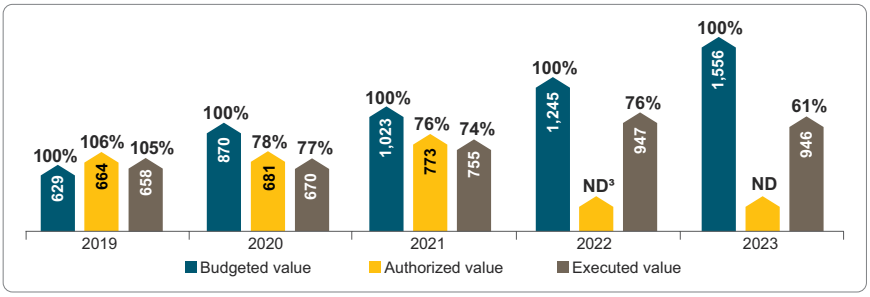


Source: Ministry of Finance of each country 2020–2024

Angola's Educational budget allocation performance is considerably sub-optimal, and it is ranked as the worst performer among the economies compared. In terms of budget allocation, it stands out as the only economy with less than ten per cent of its budget allocated to Education.

Of the amount budgeted, approximately Kz. 609.8 billion was not executed (execution rate of 61 per cent), making 2023 the year with the lowest budget execution rate of the last 5 years. Given the fact that a large part of the school-aged children are out of school, it is concerning that the sector has such low execution rate, and an in-depth analysis would be useful to understand bottlenecks.

Graph 3 | **Education Expenditure, in billion kwanzas (AOA)**



Source: Ministry of Finance, GSB, General State Account (GSA) and Quarterly GSB Implementation Reports (2019–2023)

[1] These are South Africa, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Ghana and Nigeria.
[2] Real expenditure corresponds to nominal expenditure adjusted for inflation (base year, 2020).
[3] ND, Not Defined.