

#REFSA101

HOW TO MAKE A BUDGET 2022 WISHLIST?

► **BUDGET 2022 WISHLIST - WHAT IS IT?**

Making a Budget wishlist is a great exercise to **identify and champion your wants and expectations** from the 2022 Budget. Think of it as your **personal blueprint and vision** on how Malaysia can thrive and prosper as a nation.



Importantly, a Budget wishlist is also an effective way to **make clear demands to the government and to rally support from your community.** How do you make a Budget wish list? Swipe right to find out!

In case you missed out, read our previous
#REFSA101 posts on:

- What is the Budget?
- How to make sense of the Budget?

▶ HOW TO MAKE YOUR BUDGET WISHLIST

#1 Identify areas of importance and interest

This year, Finance Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz pledged to develop key policies for Malaysia's overall development, in line with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs)**. Here is a good place to start. The SDGs outline key pillars from which you can identify goals that are important to you and your community.

Some examples:



For the complete UNSDGs, visit sdgs.un.org/goals

▶ HOW TO MAKE YOUR BUDGET WISHLIST

#2 Make your wishlist specific

Once you identify the areas of importance, list down what **specific goals you would like to see achieved** in the 2022 Budget. Here are some guiding questions and pointers:

1. **Beneficiaries:** Who are the beneficiaries of my wishlist? i.e. women, youth, job seekers, entrepreneurs.
2. **Mechanism:** Specify how you'd like to see this achieved? e.g for women and childcare, the government can offer incentives for companies to provide childcare services in the workplace.
3. **Benchmark:** Compare previous government spending on the area of focus and see how other countries in the region have been spending on them. Use the proportion of national GDP as a measure.

▶ I'VE MADE MY WISHLIST, WHAT'S NEXT?

#3 Identify the relevant ministries and ministers and hold them accountable to your wishlist

#4 Share your wishlist with your community and on social media and tag the relevant ministries/ministers on your post

#5 Follow up on the 2022 Budget by reviewing the following documents

- 1.The Economic Report
- 2.The Estimate on Federal Government Revenue
- 3.The Estimate on Federal Government Expenditure
- 4.The Federal Positions List
- 5.The Auditor-General's Report

What are these documents about? Read our post titled **“What is the Budget & why is it important?”** on our social media page!

Need more ideas? Here's a list of wishlist items from the REFSA research team!



MORGAN
Research Analyst

**EMPHASISE ON CHILDCARE SERVICES
FOR FEMALE LABOUR FORCE
PARTICIPATION**

“ Women empowerment and economic rights are crucial in building a strong and robust economy.

Hence, I propose an **increase in budget allocation on wage subsidies to keep caretakers in the care sector.** Allocating more subsidies to local kindergartens to keep childcare institutions afloat could be a measure to prevent caretakers from dropping out from the labour force while sustaining the supply of local childcare services.



JAIDEEP
Researcher

FORMALISE LONG-TERM SHOCK-RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION

“ The pandemic saw the popularisation of pro-poor social protection policies for the B40 through various stimulus packages. Now is the time to turn these reactive measures into a long-term proactive social protection framework that encompasses informal workers, migrant workers and other vulnerable groups using a combination of social assistance and contributory policies to ensure no one gets left behind.



LILLY
Researcher

PRIORITISE HOUSING AS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO ALL

“ In the realm of providing accessible and affordable housing to all Malaysians, **allocations should be dedicated to providing housing for the rental market,** alongside initiatives to strengthen and protect landlords and tenants through a comprehensive residential tenancy act.

Rather than building more houses in the city periphery, the government can consider **allocating a budget to repurpose old and abandoned buildings in city centres,** transforming them into spaces for affordable housing. We can breathe new life into these buildings to create more vibrant and resilient communities.



KIERAN
Librarian & Research
Assistant

ADVANCING THE COUNTRY'S GREEN ECONOMY AGENDA

“ The 12th Malaysia Plan's pledge to "advancing sustainability", including the adoption of various green economy measures, bears promising potential in **driving Malaysia's post-pandemic (economic) recovery.** ”

Hence, in the upcoming Budget 2022, I hope to see more investment into **supporting green businesses and jobs** as well as **building renewable energy resources.**



FAKHRURRAZI RASHID
Research Coordinator

STRENGTHEN OUR GOVERNING SYSTEM

“ It is pivotal for Budget 2022 to enhance the efficiency, transparency and accountability of its governance system. Allocating resources to **strengthen institutional capacity and reform efforts** is an investment that will have a positive impact on Malaysia’s post-pandemic recovery.

Note: the #REFSA101 series is meant to kickstart your own understanding of the Malaysian Federal Budget and not to be used as a definitive resource. Do peruse the sources below as well as your own independent research if you'd like to know more!