

GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING (GRB), PLANNING AND REPORTING

The brief introduces the concept of gender responsive budgeting and the benefits of its application in planning and budgeting.

GRB is an approach to budgeting that considers the differential needs and impacts of government spending on women, men and marginalized groups. GRB promotes gender equality and equity by allocating public resources effectively and fairly. Consider the building of a new hospital. With traditional budgeting men and women's wards could be planned with similar space and resource considerations. While equal this may be an inefficient use of public resources. Do women and men visit hospitals with the same frequency? Do they stay the same length of time? Often not. Trends shows that women visit hospitals more often than men and stay for longer visits. Constructing equally sized and resourced men and women's wards could lead to overcrowded women's wards and underutilized men's wards. Using GRB, analyzing gender-specific health needs could address the unique health burdens faced by each gender. This approach not only ensures a more efficient use of resources but also promotes equity in health outcomes.

KEY COMPONENTS OF GRB:

- **Gender analysis:** Assessing how the different genders are affected by budget allocations, policies, program and projects.
- **Gender-sensitive planning:** Incorporating gender perspectives into the planning and design of policies, programs and projects.
- **Budget allocation:** Ensuring that financial resources are distributed in a way that addresses gender-specific needs, with a focus on reducing inequalities.
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** Tracking the impact of budget allocations on gender equality outcomes and making adjustments as needed.

BENEFITS OF GRB FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR

- **Efficient resource use:** Better targeting of resources to where they are needed most.
- **Enhanced accountability and transparency:** Clearer tracking of how public funds contribute to gender equality through reporting on progress on gender equality commitments.
- **Improved public services and show commitment to gender equality:** More responsive and inclusive services that meet the needs of all citizens.



HOW GRB WORKS IN PRACTICE:



Identify gender gaps: Gather and analyze sex -age disaggregated data to identify disparities between different genders in various sectors (e.g., education, health, employment).



Stakeholder engagement: Consult with women, men, and gender-focused organizations to inform planning processes.



Set clear gender objectives: Define clear goals and objectives for improving gender equality through planning and budgetary measures.



Allocate resources: Direct funds toward initiatives that specifically address gender inequalities (e.g., women's health programs, support for female entrepreneurs, climate adaptation).



Transparent reporting: Providing clear and accessible reports on how funds have been used to promote gender equality, disaggregated by sex and age.



Feedback mechanisms: Establishing channels for receiving input from the public on gender-related