



GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING ADVOCACY BRIEF

OBJECTIVE

Gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) is a crucial approach that aims to promote gender equality by incorporating a gender perspective into all stages of the budget process. As outlined by Sharp (2004), this includes planning, drafting, implementing, and evaluating budgets to ensure that they address gender issues effectively.

The primary goal of GRB is to prevent discrimination against individuals based on their gender, whether it is direct or indirect. By integrating gender considerations into budget policies, GRB helps to create a more equitable society where both women and men have equal opportunities and access to resources.

Implementing gender-responsive budgeting is essential for advancing gender equality and promoting social inclusion. By embedding a gender perspective into budgetary decisions, policymakers can identify and address disparities that may exist between women and men in areas such as healthcare, education, employment, and social services.

Through GRB, governments can allocate resources more effectively to meet the diverse needs of all members of society, contributing to the overall well-being and empowerment of individuals. Ultimately, gender-responsive budgeting plays a vital role in building a more just and equitable society where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential.



HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

Education is a fundamental human right. Government financing and spending trends must be seen and analysed through this lens. Public revenue and budgets are two of the central means governments can use to fulfill their obligation to ensure the right to education.

A gendered examination of government budgets is necessary to guarantee the right to education. (UNESCO, 2003). GRB will facilitate oversight of the implementation process to secure these basic human rights

Government spending responsive to the needs of the poorest and most marginalized can significantly contribute to establishing a more equitable society, increasing access to high-quality education for all, and mitigating disadvantages.

SENSITIVITY & EQUITY OF BUDGET ALLOCATION

The sensitivity of the budget relates to the extent to which budgets and spending address educational inequalities. Gender sensitivity in budget allocation should be informed by an analysis of the gender barriers to education and the allocation of budget to policies and programs that address gender inequalities in education.

EDUCATION ADVOCATES CAN DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Examine the budget through an equity lens to understand the context, types of inequality, and disadvantages.
- Investigate the funding allocated for those who are the most discriminated against, especially in terms of intersecting inequalities around, for example, ethnicity, class, and non-nationals (including migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, which can be easily overlooked in budget planning).
- Conducting an intersectional analysis of education can help redress inequality in education.
- Demonstrate the need for gender-responsive budgeting through research.
- Lobby governments to implement gender-responsive budgeting.
- Build the capacity of women and community-based organizations to carry out gender analysis of government and hold government to account.
- Build cross-sectoral alliances in support of gender-responsive budgeting.



PLANNING FOR GENDER-RESPONSIVE BUDGETARY ADVOCACY

- Set out what the actual budget cycle stages are in your country
- Identify what the government is currently doing in terms of gender-responsive budgeting at different stages of the budget cycle (if anything!) in education
- Now identify the different types of interventions that your government might do over the year (according to your budget cycle)
- Consider where you want to influence the government to do more. In which areas? In which parts of the budget cycle?
- Identify the gender gaps and interventions required, prepare a technical paper on gender-responsive budget and engage your government.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Asks the government to invest in public education to the maximum available resources by increasing the sensitivity allocation to address the needs of the most marginalized groups in society.

You can do this by:

Increasing national budget and International aid through

- Progressive Tax Reforms
- Sustainable use available National Resources
- Ensure equitable spending on education resources.
- Ensuring transparency and accountability in collecting and spending revenues.