



GENDER BUDGETING IN EUROPE: Different Approaches and Lessons Learnt

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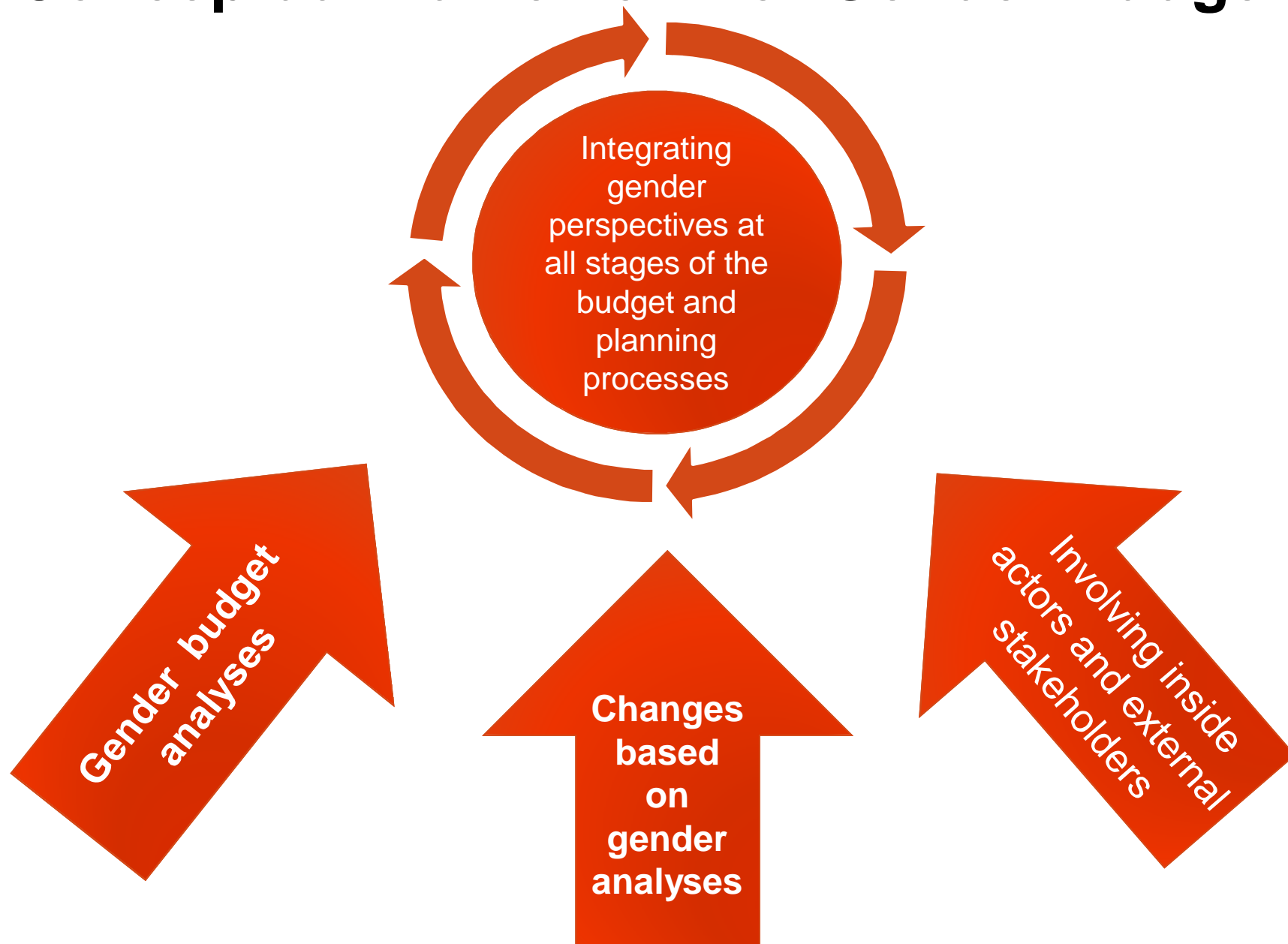
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Overview

1. A few general remarks on Gender Budgeting
2. Different Approaches in Gender Budget work in Europe
3. Lessons learnt

Conceptual framework for Gender Budgeting



*The challenge: Moving systematically
from seemingly gender-neutral to gender responsive*



Source: Küng/Doblhofer (2008)

International momentum for Gender Budgeting

- ∅ OECD
 - 2016 OECD survey of Gender Budgeting practices
 - Senior Budget Officials meeting: GB expert group
- ∅ International Monetary Fund
 - 2016 world-wide survey
 - Enhanced GB work in PFM context. Commitment by IMF Director Christine Lagarde, to push forward work on GB
- ∅ Sustainable development goals
 - ∅ Global indicator framework
- ∅ European Institute for Gender Equality
 - 2016 research
 - Expert meeting on Gender Budgeting
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Different approaches in GB work

- ∅ Mainstreaming Gender Perspectives into the whole process of Public Finance Management
 - ∅ Integrating gender perspectives into performance-based resp. program-based budgeting
 - ∅ Including medium-term expenditure frame
- ∅ Categorization of budget programs & gender analysis
- ∅ Taking a macro-perspective on fiscal policies
- ∅ Application of standard Gender Budgeting analytical tools
 - Methods of ex post gender budget analysis
 - Needs assessments
 - Combining GB with gender impact assessments
- ∅ Wellbeing Gender Budgeting (WBGB)
- ∅ Linking Gender Budgeting and Participatory Budgeting
- ∅ Tracking financial allocations to promote women's rights and gender equality

GB in Europe: Broad range of lessons learnt

Focus here on 5 dimensions of key lessons learnt:

- I. Gender Budgeting as a longer term **change process**
- II. GB as part of effective, **modern budgetary governance** towards high-quality Public Finance Management
- III. Ensuring **transparency and continued focus** on gender equality issues
- IV. **Co-ordinated approach**: ensuring cooperation and involvement of different actors and stakeholders
- V. Focus on **achieving goals and results**

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt

I. Introducing Gender Budgeting as a longer term change process

- Ø Key aspect of integrating gender perspectives in regular processes
- Ø Key aspect of cultural change for public officials: focus on building capacities and changing way of doing
- Ø Providing continuous support, guidance and practical training to public administration is essential
- Ø Availability of resources for managing change process

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (2)

II. GB as part of effective, modern budgetary governance towards high-quality Public Finance Management

- Ø Linking GB with performance oriented strategic planning and budgeting is key
- Ø GB is providing better evidence-base for decision-making
- Ø Key aspect of working towards improvement of budget contributions to gender equality and better governance
- Ø Making it explicitly mandatory to get clear message across

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (3)

III. Ensuring transparency and continued focus on gender equality issues

- ∅ Transparency about GB and budget impacts
- ∅ Systematic analysis
- ∅ Regular controlling, monitoring and evaluation
- ∅ Different types of GB reporting (Gender Budget Statements)

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (4)

IV. Complementarity of different actors

- ∅ Continued political commitment and guidance
- ∅ Public administration: GB as regular work procedures
- ∅ Public finance management, sector policy and gender experts working together
- ∅ Parliament: strategic debates and decisions
- ∅ Court of Auditors
- ∅ Complementarity of inside government/public administration and outside actors (civil society, academics,)

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (5)

v. Maintaining focus on achieving goals and results

- ∅ Some evidence of progress and lots of case studies
- ∅ However: challenge of tracking systematically evidence of positive impact
- ∅ Continued political support and engagement is crucial

Moving forward: Building blocs and challenges

- **Keeping large and small picture in focus**
 - Macro, meso and micro perspectives
 - Building approaches to capture multi-layer governance and combined gender equality impacts
- **Aiming for change towards gender equality**
 - using GB to focus on innovation and improvements in policies and budgets as well as in budgeting processes
- **Broadening perspectives and expertise**
 - creating institutionalized spaces for continuous interaction with academics and civil society to ensure continued contributions of outside expertise and perspectives