



Republic of Serbia
GOVERNMENT
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
COORDINATION BODY FOR GENDER
EQUALITY

Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in the Republic of Serbia

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Gender Responsive Budgeting



GRB introduction milestones

- **2008 -2015**

- First GRB initiatives at provincial (APV) and local level(LSG)
- In APV under the leadership of Provincial Secretariat mandated for gender equality
- LSG include gender perspective in their budgets
- Shift from line to program budgeting in 2015

GRB introduction milestones

- Ministry of Finance (MoF) includes GRB in the Budget System Law
- Gender Equality becomes mandatory and one of the objectives of the budget
- Coordination body for Gender Equality (CBGE), MoF and UNWOMEN establish operational group for GRB

GRB introduction milestones

GRB definition, Budget System Law, article 2, 58v:

- *Gender responsive budgeting entails gender mainstreaming of the budget process, including gender analysis of the budget and restructuring of income and expenditures in order to advance gender equality*

GRB introduction milestones

Budget objectives, Budget System Law, article 4:

- *Budget system should achieve the following: 4) efficient allocation of budget resources with the objective of advancing gender equality*

GRB introduction milestones

2016

- Introduction of mandatory gender analysis and reporting on GRB in Budget System Law
- National Strategy for Gender Equality 2016-2020 includes GRB as one of the specific objectives
- The budget planning software in the APV integrates GRB

GRB introduction milestones

2017

- Handbook on GRB introduction
- Step by step guidebook on sectoral gender analysis
- 35 institutions at national and 14 at provincial level apply GRB in their budgets for 2018

GRB introduction milestones

2018

- 40 institutions at national and 18 at provincial level apply GRB in their budgets for 2019
- Over 900 public sector employees trained for GRB
- 184 individual mentoring and information sessions tailored and implemented

Key actors

- MoF and CBGE, Government of the RS
- Provincial Secretariat of Finance and Provincial Secretariat of Social Policy, Demography and Gender Equality, APV
- Women's Parliamentary Network, NA RS and APV
- Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities
- Network of local women's CSO and gender experts
- UN Women

Success factors

- DPM, President of the CBGE and MoF provided support to GRB introduction and continuous support
- Provincial Secretary of Finance supports and leads this process at the provincial level
- Women's Parliamentary Networks role in emphasizing the importance of GRB introduction

Success factors

- Technical assistance conceptualized, tailored, flexible and relies on both local knowledge and international experience
- Growing community of practice among public sector employees who have direct experience in GRB implementation
- Reform gradual and continuous

GRB overview in numbers

- 900 public sector employees trained in GRB
- **16** national budget users applied GRB in 2016 budget
- **25** national and **10** provincial budget users applied GRB in 2017 budget
- **35** national and **14** provincial budget users applied GRB in 2018 budget
- **All budget users** will apply GRB by 2020 (53 national, 25 provincial and all local budget users)

Successful examples

- **National Statistical Office** has increased the number of indicators that it reports on disaggregated by sex and related to demographic and social statistics
- **State Audit Institution** has included verification of GRB implementation among its regular audit activities targeting institutions encompassed by the annual audit plan

Successful examples

- **Provincial Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry** has conducted sectoral gender analysis in 2017 to define GRB priorities for the next 3 years
- Based on the analysis, it has identified that women were underrepresented in access to subsidies in agriculture, which will be considered while planning budgets in the period from 2019 to 2021

Successful examples

- **Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure** is currently conducting sectoral gender analysis in order to define GRB priorities for the next 3 years
- The impact of public transport accessibility on quality of daily lives of women and youth, especially in rural areas, was preliminary identified and will be reflected in financing in the period from 2020 to 2021

GRB challenges



“What if we don’t change at all ...
and something magical just happens?”

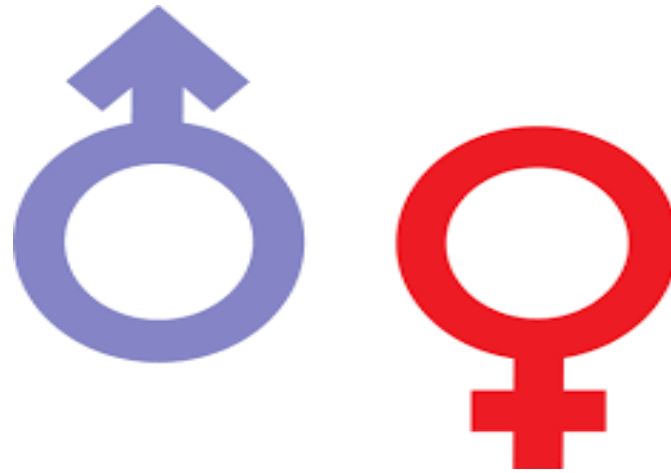
GRB challenges

- Requires change
- To ensure cooperation and ownership across and within sectors
- To ensure that decision makers are involved in GRB together with staff
- Lack of sex desegregated data and statistics
- Lack of monitoring and evaluation practice

Next steps

- Continue with gradual reform
- Further develop all procedures and steps based on experience
- Work towards full institutionalization of GRB
- Work on monitoring, reporting and analysis of GRB
- Move towards transformative change

Conclusion



“INEQUALITY, it turns out, is not an economic necessity: IT IS A DESIGN FAILURE.”

Kate Raworth

Coordinating body for Gender Equality

Thank you

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