

Gender Responsive Budgeting: the case of Belgian DC

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GRB & Belgium DC

- Belgium DC (multilateral): supporting GRB programme of UNIFEM
→ GRB conference: Brussels, 2001



- Federal GRB project: training, action research, information dissemination
- Action research: one of the departments selected: DGCD

I. Belgium's support to GRB (UNIFEM)

➤ **GRB I** (period: 2000-2004)

- Amount: 2.35 Mio €

- Reason:

-importance of framing gender (development) issues in (macro) economic language (also inside DGCD)

-importance of GRB, in particular within the context of PRSP:

*capacity building (*why + how*) (+ see scheme of engendering PRSP)

.gender actors (inside & outside government): ↑ participation, ownership → ↑ gender sensitiveness of process and content

.'mainstream' actors (inside & outside government): ↑ gender sensitiveness of process and content

*(international) advocacy role of UNIFEM (based upon research & dissemination)

- Main recommendations for GRB II:
 - valorize training, capacity building, awareness-raising (to effective implementation)
 - align with PRSP process (similar principles)
 - .results-oriented & performance based budgeting (+ importance of M&E)
 - .good governance & transparency & accountability (inside & outside government use)
 - .see scheme engendering PRSP for possible entry points
 - cooperation with other (mainstream) national actors
 - .from ministry of women's affairs → ministry of finance
 - .from women's groups → general budget groups
 - cooperation with other international actors (WB, IMF, bilateral donors)
- **GRB II** (period: 2004-2007)
 - Amount: 2.48 Mio €
 - Concentration (Belgian partner countries, PRSP): Senegal, Mozambique, Ecuador, Morocco
 - Follow-up
 - within the context of the policy advisory research on PRSP
 - internal dissemination of lessons-learned
 - ! opportunities for linkage with bilateral cooperation

Possible actions and instruments to engender PRSP (extract with focus on GRB)				
PROCESS	CONTENT			
Process of elaboration, implementation, M&E	Poverty diagnosis and analysis	Identification of priorities and strategies	Budgeting and implementation	Monitoring and evaluation
<p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investing in the macro-economic analysis capacity of the 'gender actors involved investing in the gender capacity of the mainstream actors involved 	<p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identification of differential priorities of men and women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -use of gender-disaggregated beneficiary and needs assessment use of analysis results of previous M&E rounds 	<p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> take into account differential priorities of men and women: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -use of gender-disaggregated beneficiary and needs assessment ex-ante evaluation of all policies and strategies on their gender impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -use of gender-aware policy appraisal if it does not exist, building institutional capacity for gender-responsive planning, monitoring and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of gender-aware macro-economic framework integration of gender dimension in results-based management and budgeting (see Elson, Functional Framework) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -inputs, output, outcome are assessed on their gender-sensitiveness through inclusion of specific questions -indicators of inputs, implementation, outputs and outcomes indicators are disaggregated by gender 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> engendering conventional monitoring and evaluation instruments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -use of gender-disaggregated beneficiary incidence analysis -use of gender-disaggregated tax incidence analysis -use of gender-disaggregated analysis of the impact of the budget on time use -use of gender impact assessment disaggregation of input, implementation, output, outcome, impact indicators (if not yet done during previous stages)

II. Belgium GRB project: action research within DGCD

➤ Objectives :

- assessment of the relevance and usefulness of GRB (as an internal management tool) for DGCD
- assessment of the feasibility of integration a gender dimension into existing policy, management and budgeting instruments

➤ Activities:

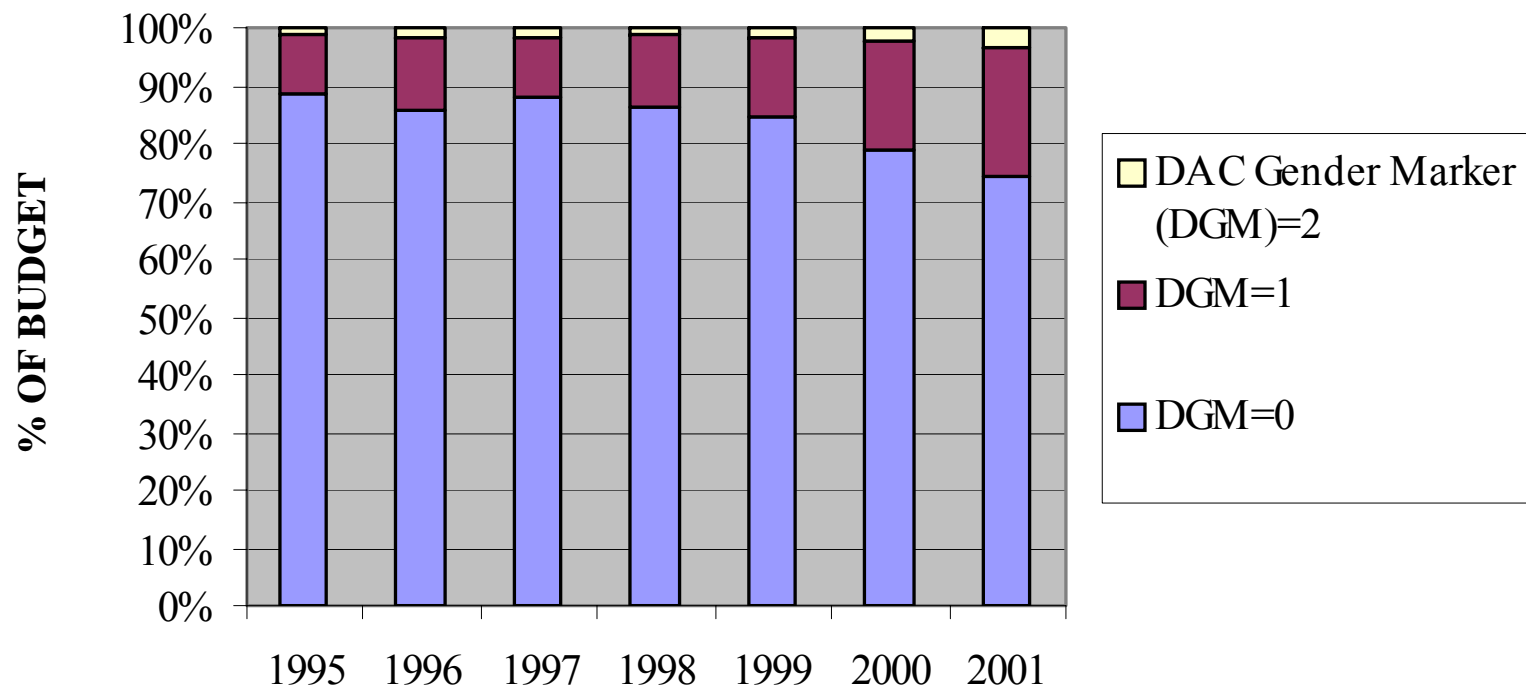
- stocktaking of possible existing GRB (like) practices and opportunities within DGCD (no tabula rasa)
- application of some instruments of gender-budget analysis (on the basis of available data) → show its relevance and usefulness

➤ Selected findings

- absence of database with sex-disaggregated data about final beneficiaries reduces applicability of some conventional instruments (i.e. gender-disaggregated benefit incidence analysis) → real ex-post analysis of gender-sensitiveness of aid budget difficult
- application of results-based type of management (logframes) facilitates adoption of GRB (functional framework, Elson) (compared to other Belgian federal ministries)
- a form of qualitative gender-aware policy appraisal is foreseen in the Law on International Cooperation: gender proofing of strategy and country papers → instrument that helps increasing gender-sensitiveness of policy & interventions (& aid budget) ex-ante
BUT
 - not yet systematically applied
 - on-the-job training needed of authors of strategy notes

- quantitative simplistic form of gender budget analysis (on the basis of DAC Gender Marker) could be relevant as a early warning M&E system
 - DAC Gender Marker: score for 'gender sensitiveness' (0/1/2) applied at the moment of identification of interventions and put centrally in database (! problems of consistency, no follow up throughout the phase)
- disaggregation of above analysis according to relevant categories (time, sectors, instruments of aid delivery) could provide highly relevant policy information:
 - evolution over time?
 - some sectors more gender-sensitive than others?
 - re-orientation of budget to those sectors (if possible, e.g. if these are priority sectors for Belgian DC)
 - special efforts to make 'badly performing' (but priority) sectors more gender-sensitive (e.g. reorientation to specific sub-sectors)
 - some intervention types more gender-sensitive than others? (?applicability of DAC Gender Marker for all intervention types, e.g. budget support)
 - if DAC Gender Marker not applicable, then other screening instrument (policy advisory work PRSP)
 - special efforts to make 'badly performing' (but important) intervention types more gender-sensitive
 - *inclusion of gender criteria in GB ex-ante assessment criteria (PFM, quality PRSP)
 - *inclusion of gender criteria in M&E of GB
 - *multilateral and bilateral support to GRB initiatives on the ground (see I)

**FIGURE 1: GENDER-SENSITIVENESS OF BELGIAN AID BUDGET
(1995-2001)**



**FIGURE 2: GENDER-SENSITIVENESS OF BELGIAN AID BUDGET BY SECTOR
(1995-2001)**

