



# **Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative (GRBI)**

**Quarterly Progress Report  
(April- June) 2006**

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## 1. OVERVIEW

Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative project has been initiated with the technical and financial support of the UNDP and its cost sharing donors namely, SDC and Royal Norwegian Embassy. The project is implemented by the Ministry of Finance and Finance Department, Government of Punjab. The project aims to:

- a. Develop skills to prepare, review and analyze budgets using the gender lens;
- b. Promote policy and resource allocation with a gender perspective; and
- c. Build advocacy skills of GOP and civil society organizations for gender budgeting.

The total cost of the project is \$1.044 M for two and a half years

Following is a brief result oriented description of various activities performed under different stages to achieve project outputs during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of financial year 2006.

## 2. PROGRESS AGAINST PLANNED ACTIVITIES

### **Output No. 1: Government spending addresses the needs of women and men and attends especially to the needs of the poor**

#### **Results Achieved:**

##### *2.1 Raise Awareness and build consensus (Stage 1)*

Parliamentarians are key stakeholders in the GRB process due to their important role in resource allocation and monitoring of budget utilization. To familiarize the parliamentarians with gender responsive budgeting concepts, issues, the project scope and their role in equitable and need based resource allocation, an **awareness raising workshop for Parliamentarians** was organized in April 2006 in Lahore.

The workshop covered key aspects of GRB such as its scope, research tools and utility for effective budgetary planning. Resource persons facilitating the workshop presented an overview of the current situation of gender budgeting in the three pilot sectors of the project, i.e. Health, Education and Population Welfare along with the policy analysis. The Parliamentarians were also briefed on the budget for the relevant sectors and the state of service delivery in the light of updated statistics. The opportunities for Parliamentarians in the domain of Medium Term Budgetary Framework and the Gender Aware Beneficiary Assessment Survey were also discussed. Lady MPAs took

enthusiastic part in deliberations and suggestions and stressed for the need of more resource allocations for women empowerment and gender cause. The workshop concluded with a discussion on the opportunities for Parliamentarians in using gender budgeting as a tool for planning and lobbying for effective and gender aware social services.



The workshop was well attended by Parliamentarians representing various constituencies of Punjab. The Chief Guest on the occasion was the Provincial Finance Minister of Punjab, Hasnain Bahadur Dareshak, who announced that gender responsive budgeting will be taken into account in the Punjab budget for the year 2006-07 and gender budget statements will also be issued soon.

The PRSP Secretariat organized a workshop '*Consultation Workshop on PRSP II Globalization, Unemployment, Gender, Inequality and Environment*'. The topic of engendering PRSP was discussed in separate session titled '*Reducing the Gender Gap/ Engendering PRSP II*'. Taking advantage of the opportunity, the project provided inputs on the subject of GRB to the presenter and after due discussion with the presenter, the concept of GRB was adequately reflected in the presentation including as to how GRB can contribute to PRSP processes. Subsequently, as result of the above and other efforts, the draft document of PRSP II reflects an enhanced scope and coverage of gender responsive budgeting while consolidating on -going work thus **supporting the process of mainstreaming GRB in PRSP**.

For wider dissemination of GRB concept, a **short pamphlet on Frequently Asked Question (FAQs)** was developed and printed. The FAQs pamphlet answers such basic questions such as to what are the steps of carrying out GRB and what are the linkages between GRB and Pakistan's poverty reduction strategy. The pamphlet has been widely circulated along with other GRBI reports.

**Output No. 2: Budgets reviewed and analyzed through a gender lens, undertake a sector specific situation analysis in order to better understand the contribution and needs of women in the national economy**

**Results Achieved:**

*2.2 Training in Gender Budgeting for the stakeholders (Stage 2 )*

A **half-day training session on Time Use Survey** was organized specifically for the relevant officials of FBS. The designated Project Director for Time Use survey from the FBS was also present on the occasion. The training was conducted by Ms. Debbie Budlender, a renowned subject specialist on gender responsive budgeting and Time Use survey. During the workshop the experience of South African and other developing countries where Time Use survey has been carried out was also shared among others. Subsequently, a follow-up discussion session was also organized with FBS to resolve methodological issues and finalize the Time Use survey instruments

A short **in-house orientation session on GRB for the officials of Finance Department, Govt. of Punjab** was held in Finance Department, Lahore and was attended by a number of senior officials. They were briefed on the project background, activities and future plans. They were also informed about the concept and proposed plan for the issuance of the Gender Budget Statement

A **Gender Budget Statement Handbook** has also been prepared and published as a reference document for future guidance to government officials. The Handbook contains practical demonstrations of how to prepare a gender budget statement with respect to Education, Health and Population sectors. It also highlights key gender issues in the Education, Health and Population Welfare sectors and presents examples of Gender Budget Statements from other countries among other key facts and pointers.

Subsequently **draft Gender Budget Statements** have been prepared for the sectors of Education, Health and Population Welfare and will be published in July 2006.

**Study tour to Malaysia:** Malaysia is perhaps one of the most progressive Muslim states in the world today. Not to be left far behind politically and economically, the Malaysian government introduced gender responsive budgeting in 2003. Also supported by UNDP, this initiative is housed in the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (MWFCD) and works in

close cooperation with Ministry of Finance/Treasury. Two important initiatives of Malaysian GRB include gender responsive amendments in the Budget Call Circular and completion of Time Use survey carried out by their Statistics Department. In Pakistan, GRBI has also recently initiated work on introducing changes in Budget Call Circular and on Time Use survey which is very similar to the Malaysian initiative.



To learn and benefit from the Malaysian experience, the GRBI project organized a short visit to Malaysia in late May specifically for relevant officials of the Federal Ministry of Finance, Provincial Finance Department (Punjab) and Statistics Division. The visiting members were introduced to the Malaysian GRB initiative and its results and lessons learned, as well as to the various tools and resources produced by the Malaysian GRB project. The visiting members also attended a number of debriefing sessions by department of Women Development, Economic Planning, Treasury, Statistics, Rural

### *2.3 Gender Analysis of the priority sector (Stage 3)*

The Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan and Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS) signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to carry out a Time Use Survey on a national basis** covering approximately 20,000 households. This is the first time that a survey of this kind is being conducted on a national level in Pakistan. The Pakistan Time Use Survey (TUS) is utilizing a diary-based approach, in which selected respondents are asked in a face-to-face interview what activities they performed in each halfhour of the preceding day (a 'yesterday' diary). The survey is being conducted in four 'tranches', one in each quarter, so as to allow for capturing of

any variation in seasonal activity. Different sets of 5,000 households each will be sampled per quarter.

**First draft of questionnaire and the draft-training manual on TUS for the field enumerators** has been developed by FBS with the support of the project.

The field work for **Beneficiary Assessment survey** in both districts is in progress, based on a meticulously worked out gender sensitized questionnaire. **A half-day Focus Group Discussion** with the firm carrying out the survey resulted in better and harmonized strategy for implementation of the activity.



The outcome of this survey will assist the government in determining the level of satisfaction of intended beneficiaries by sex, understanding the degree and manner in which community members have benefited from education, health and population services by sex and learning how stakeholders feel these services could be improved in terms of equitable access. This would in turn facilitate in advocacy and sensitization of key stakeholders for better planning and more gender aware resource allocations.

**Draft Amendments in the federal and provincial MTBF Budget Call Circular** have been prepared which specifically aims at introducing gender sensitive mission statement, sex dis-aggregated inputs and sex dis-aggregated output indicators for the three pilot sectors. These amendments are expected to be incorporated in the upcoming Call Circular.

**Output 3: Civil society and government partnership promotes transparency in the determination of government priorities and in public spending**

**Results Achieved:**

***2.4 Review of Research (Stage 4)***

No action to report during this quarter under this head

***2.5 Advocacy Activities (Stage 5)***

The three sectoral GAPA papers on Education, Health and Population Welfare respectively, are major studies in identifying gaps and gender biases in social sector planning. While these studies are fairly exhaustive, accompanying **GAPA Policy Briefs** have been prepared by GRBI for each of these papers to facilitate the dissemination of the results. These short booklets identify the key areas in situational, policy and budgetary analysis of each sector, so that the target audience of researchers, civil society and government, can raise issues and identify further areas of work

In order to disseminate and discuss the findings of the three Gender Aware Policy reports, a **half-day workshop 'Demystifying the Policies and Budgets through Gender Aware Policy Appraisals'** was organized in Islamabad.



The workshop provided the authors of the studies an opportunity to present their respective findings and substantiate their research. All three presentations followed a more or less uniform structure; beginning with the situation analysis of women, men, girls and boys in the respective sectors. Policy, budget and impact analysis were highlighted and discussed individually. Sets of recommendations for improving the current gender

situation for the three sectors were also shared. The workshop was attended by a large number of participants ranging from government officials to NGOs to research institutes, gender and social sector specialists and representative of the international donor agencies and evoked lively debate centered around gender issues in social sectors.

In order to highlight the activities that can be undertaken by NGOs, a small booklet titled *GRB: Opportunities for NGOs* has been developed by the project. The booklet is intended to assist NGOs to think about what their role can be in the government's Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative (GRBI) and/or in their own GRB activities. It provides cases studies as to how NGOs in different countries have carried out diverse GRB related activities. A corresponding **training module for the NGOs** has also been developed.

Additional **advocacy material** which include updated project brief and posters were professionally designed, printed and disseminated.

The **websites** were further updated to reflect the current activities.

### 3. MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

#### **Output: Strengthened Monitoring and Management Capacities**

##### **Results Achieved:**

##### *3.1 Linkages/Collaboration*

**The Aga Khan Rural Support Program (AKRSP)** is a leading organization for community development in the Northern Areas of Pakistan with a widespread network. AKRSP has decided to launch gender responsive budgeting in the Northern Areas with the technical support of GRBI. Incidentally, AKRSP's staff member in charge of this initiative is GRBI's trained master trainer. This is a source of great pride for GRBI that its trained personnel are being utilized to explore and implement their training in far-reaching areas of Pakistan.

**The Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT)** is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit research and training institution which has been actively involved in building the capacities of Parliamentarians. As a result of synergies, GRBI supported and conducted an awareness raising session *Demystifying the Budget and a gender-based analysis of the Budget* as part of parliamentary development course organized by the PILDAT. Further, a

briefing paper for Parliamentarians, scribed by National Expert GRBI, was also prepared for PILDAT.

**The Medium Term Development Framework Secretariat** was provided with the Gender Aware Policy Appraisal reports by GRBI. With due acknowledgment the reports have been used as one of the sources for drawing up the official 'Ministry Strategic Review' reports of Ministry of Education and Health. These reports will help in facilitating the engendering process of the relevant ministries.

**Coordination with Gender Support Program (GSP) Projects:** GRB concept material was provided to the **Women's Political School**, a sister UNDP gender project which has been incorporated in their training manual for women councilors. This help in widespread awareness raising of the basic concept of GRB at the local level amongst women councilors. Suggestions for amendments in the social sector PC I were shared with the **Gender Mainstreaming in P&DD project** which are being used by the project to gender sensitize the officials of Planning and Development Division/Departments

A **group meeting with the federal focal persons** was held under the chairmanship of National Project Director. The meeting provided an opportunity to brief the focal persons on future plans of GRBI and the role of focal persons in various activities and the support that the project expects from them

#### **4. CHALLENGES/RISKS**

##### ***4.1 During the Quarter***

The formal accepted position from Federal Bureau of Statistics on disbursement of payments is still awaited which is delaying the disbursement to FBS.

##### ***4.2 Future Challenges***

Lack of ownership by various concerned ministries and departments and their relevant sections can make their full participation as well the acceptance of the research analysis an uphill task

Lack of reliability and consistency of available data can cast doubt on the results of the research analysis

*FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION*

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2006 (April-June)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	DONOR	ADVANCE REQUESTED BY GRBI FEDERAL	EXPENDITURE 2 <sup>nd</sup> QUARTER GRBI-FEDERAL	ADVANCE REQUESTED BY GRBI PUNJAB	EXPENDITURE 2 <sup>nd</sup> QUARTER GRBI-PUNJAB	TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2 <sup>nd</sup> QUARTER
Awareness Raising	SDC & NOR	-	2,448.58	8,300.00	3,209.00	5,657.58
Material Development	SDC & NOR	-	-		-	-
Stakeholder Training in GRB	SDC & NOR	16,350.00	7,312.99	2,428.00	2,248.40	9,561.39
Review of Tools on Gender Analysis	SDC	16,060.00	502.93	26,841.00	23,223.06	23,725.99
Review of Research Reports (STNC + 5 Seminars)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advocacy Activities (STNC)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction of GRB Website	SDC & NOR	168.00	167.64	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,167.64
Advocacy and Training Material Development	SDC	4,500.00	5,496.85	1,845.00	3,129.38	8,626.23
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE OF 2<sup>nd</sup> QTR</b>		<b>37,078.00</b>	<b>15,928.99</b>	<b>40,414.00</b>	<b>32,810.64</b>	<b>48,738.83</b>
Admin Cost (Salaries)	SDC & NOR	15,682.00	16,266.76	6,434.00	6,113.47	22,380.23
Equipment	SDC & NOR	-	566.64	-	-	566.64
Sundries	SDC	3,130.00	4,667.76	4,000.00	4,110.99	8,778.75
Travel	SDC	2,619.00	4,388.62	2,974.00	1,952.78	6,341.40
<b>TOTAL ADMIN EXPENDITURE OF 2<sup>nd</sup> QTR</b>		<b>21,431.00</b>	<b>25,192.94</b>	<b>13,408.00</b>	<b>12,177.24</b>	<b>38,067.02</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>58,509.00</b>	<b>41,818.77</b>	<b>53,822.00</b>	<b>44,987.88</b>	<b>86,805.85</b>

Component Description	GRBI- Federal		GRBI- Punjab		TOTAL	Utilization %
	PLEA Account	Direct Payment	PLEA Account	Direct Payment		
<b>Advance Requested</b>	<b>58,509.00</b>		<b>53,822.00</b>		112,331.00	
<b>Expenditure</b>	41,818.77	16,236.00	44,987.88	1,870.00	104,912.65	<b>93.40</b>

**Progress against Planned Activities**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (Aril – June 2006)**

<b>Planned Activity</b>	<b>Responsible Party (Fed/Prov)</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
News Letter of GRBI Project	Fed	Completed	
Group Meeting with Focal Persons	Fed	Held	
Training for Time Use Survey	Fed	Held	
Study Tour with Government official to Malaysia	Fed / Prov	Held	
Training for Parliamentarians, Officials of Finance Departments. (International Consultant)	Fed / Prov	Completed	
Contract with FBS for Time Use Survey (5% Advance)	Fed	Postponed till next quarter	On the request of FBS
Benefit Incidence Analysis	Fed	Postponed till next quarter	Due to non-availability of micro-data from FBS
Website Maintenance Contract payment	Fed	Completed	
Dissemination Workshop-Gender Aware Policy Appraisal Studies	Fed	Held	
Printing of Advocacy Material (Project Briefs , GAPA Briefs & Posters)	Fed	Completed	
Printing of Additional Copies of Manual.	Fed	Completed	

To conduct session on PRSP and GRB in PRSP workshop on Gender Issues.	Fed	Held	
Preparation of Draft amendments for next FY Budget Call Circular for incorporation of Gender Perspective	Fed	Prepared	Draft amendments prepared and would be processed during next quarter
Meeting of Project Steering Committee	Fed	Postponed till next quarter	Proposed to be held on 27 <sup>th</sup> July
Resource Material of NGO's.	Fed	Completed	
1-Day Awareness Raising Workshop for Parliamentarians at Lahore	Prov	Held	
Pre District Budget Consultation with key Stakeholders (1 at Gujrat 1 at Lahore)	Prov	Completed	Since the officers were involved in budget making so most of the consultations were done on phone & through emails.
Awareness Raising and Advocacy through TV talk shows	Prov	Postponed	It was deemed appropriate to hold it after publication of Gender Budget Statement which is expected in early August 2006.
In-House training workshop for Finance Department officers on GRB	Prov	Held	
Handbook on Gender Budget Statement	Prov	Published	
Preparation of Draft Gender Budget Statement for pilot sectors	Prov	Completed	
Training on Gender Budget Statement	Prov	Postponed	Officials were not available in June due to budget work. It is desirable to hold it before launch of Gender Budget Statement in early August

Half day review meeting with CRCP for Gender Aware BA Survey in pilot Districts	Prov	Held	
40% payment to CRCP for Gender Aware BA Survey in pilot Districts	Prov	Completed	
Printing of Advocacy & Training material	Prov	Completed	
Up-gradation and maintenance of GRBI Website	Prov	Completed	
Preparation of Draft amendments for next FY Budget Call Circular for 2007-08 incorporation of Gender Perspective	Prov	Prepared	Draft amendments prepared and would be processed during next quarter
Analysis of sex-disaggregated data collected through amended Budget Call circular 2006-07	Prov	Partially completed	TORs for consultant selection completed. Actual work to be done in 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter.