



## ROLE OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS

circular, it approves the format for gender budget statements and it can publish gender budget statements.

*Sector ministries* are responsible for submitting budget estimates to the Ministry of Finance and executing budgets according to their sector policies and priorities. They need to take into account gender-aware sector-specific research findings when formulating policies and drawing up budgets. They prepare submissions in line with the budget call circular and prepare gender budget statements for their respective sector.

*The Ministry of Women's Development (MOWD)* has the mandate to lobby for mainstreaming of gender in all projects and programs of the government. It is in a good position to monitor the process of the implementation of gender responsive budgeting.

*Researchers* can carry out post-budget impact analysis or prepare pre-budget scenarios by applying different tools of gender responsive budgeting. The research findings should be widely disseminated and used for lobbying and advocacy.

*Statisticians* are crucial as good gender budget analyses and gender-sensitive planning and budgeting are dependent on the availability of reliable sex-disaggregated data and other gender-relevant statistics. In some cases, the re-formulation of existing questionnaires

Different stakeholders can be involved in gender responsive budgeting. They have different roles and carry out different activities. However, who is involved in gender budget work differs from country to country.

*The Ministry of Finance* plays a central and crucial role in gender responsive budgeting. This ministry is in the position to make changes in the budget call circular, it checks the line ministries' submissions against the prescriptions of the budget call



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## ...role of different stakeholders

would be necessary to collect these data. In other cases the design of new surveys would be needed, for example time use surveys for the collection of time use data.

**Civil society organizations** can lobby and advocate for budgets that are more pro-poor and gender-equitable. Experience has shown that gender responsive budgeting initiatives are more successful in countries where groups outside the government are involved as a strong pressure group.

**Parliamentarians** have to approve the budget after it is tabled in the parliament. They should scrutinize the proposed

budget from a gender perspective and propose amendments. However, the scope to demand amendments differs from country to country.

**The media** can play an important role in ensuring transparency and accountability by a reporting about budget decisions from a gender perspective.

**Donors** play a role in gender responsive budgeting by funding gender-responsive budgeting activities and providing technical advice. As gender responsive budgeting implies a medium- to long-term process, it is important that activities are supported for a longer period if results are to be sustainable.

### *The Role of the Ministry of Finance*

*An early GRB initiative in Sri Lanka, coordinated by the Department of National Planning in the Ministry of Finance, brought together government officials across a wide range of departments. An Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee, including representatives of the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Department of Census and Statistics, met each month to assess progress. Findings and implications were presented in six sectoral reports at two workshops for officials from key line ministries along with NGOs, research institutes and donor agencies.*

*In the 2000/01 budget process in Tanzania, gender concerns were included in the budget guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance. All agencies were mandated to include a gender focus in the budget submissions. The NGO Tanzanian Gender Networking Program was commissioned by the Ministry of Finance to assist technicians to mainstream gender into six sectors of the budget.*

*Source: Debbie Budlender, Diane Elson, Guy Hewitt and Tanni Mukhopadhyay (2002) "Gender Budgets Make Cents: Understanding gender responsive budgets"*

