

GENDER BUDGETING IN EUROPE: Different Approaches and Lessons Learnt

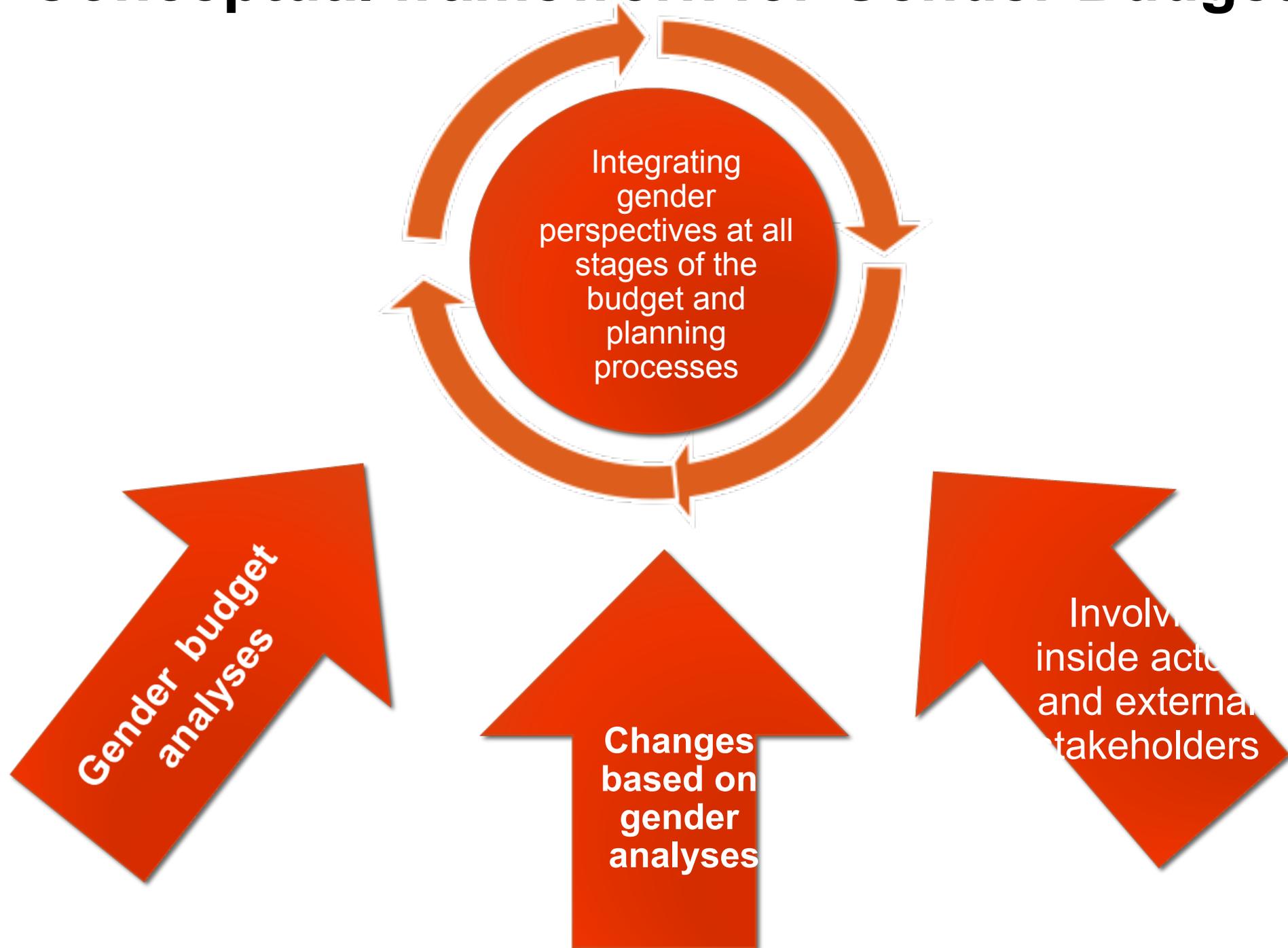
**Seminar
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Overview

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

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (2)

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

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

GB in Europe: Lessons learnt (3)

- I. **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)

I. 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)

I. 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