



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment of Women

*“How gender budgeting  
contributes to urban planning”*

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## Content of the presentation

- ⚙ Why Gender in Urban planning
- ⚙ What is Gender Responsive Budgeting
- ⚙ Experiences from SEE on GRB application and its impact
- ⚙ Challenges and lessons learned



# Why Gender principles in Urban planning?

**Because** women and men experience cities in different ways and have different concerns about how it meets their respective needs.

**Because** urban planning covers wide range of concerns that heavily impact women's lives, such as transport, open public space, environment, etc.

- **Because** in the end, Urban planning is a public policy which should mainstream gender in all areas of development, implementation and evaluation, just like any other public policy.





**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

DO YOU  
WANT TO  
MOVE FREELY?

Asphalted  
streets and  
pavements are  
a municipal  
matter.



**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

# DO YOU WANT TO STOP BEING SCARED AT NIGHT?

Well-lit streets and roads are a municipal matter.



**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

# DO YOU WANT TO SOCIALIZE?

Parks and children's playgrounds are a municipal matter.



**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

# DO YOU LIKE TO COOK?

The budget stew is a municipal matter.



**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

# DO YOU WANT TO REACH YOUR DESTINATION EASILY?

Public transport is a municipal matter.



**PARTICIPATE  
PROPOSE,  
DEMAND!**

# The Scoping Study in the City of Skopje on gender-based violence in public spaces provided the following preliminary findings:

*How women feel when using the public space, what obstacles they meet on a daily basis, what are their realistic perceptions of safety in public urban spaces*

- 60% of women said that they are afraid to use certain areas or streets;
- More than 55% of women are always, or at times, afraid when going home at night;
- 1 in 3 women said that they have not been out of the house alone at night;
- 12% think it is very likely that a woman will be sexually assaulted when using public spaces;
- 87% said that it is more likely for a woman to be attacked when using public spaces because of their gender;
- 85% of women said that lack of lighting on a street makes them feel unsafe and almost half of the women are always careful about what they wear so as to not draw attention to themselves;

How Gender Responsive Budgeting is linked with Urban Planning?

Gender Mainstreaming.....

”Gender budgeting is **application** of **gender mainstreaming** in the **budgetary process**.

It presents **gender-based assessment of budgets**, incorporating gender perspective at **all levels** of the budgetary process and **restructuring revenues** and **expenditures** in order to promote gender equality.”

*(Council of Europe, 2005)*

How Gender Responsive Budgeting is linked with Urban Planning?

## Why Gender Responsive Budgeting?

The objectives of introducing Gender Perspective in the budget is to ensure that **budgets and economic policies are based on analysis** that recognize the social and economic **inequalities** and work to overcome them in the interest of the community.

GRB is about processes-

- GRB is not just about content of budgets – the line items that constitute the total
- GRB is about the process:
  - **How** budget decisions are made
  - **Assumptions** informing the budget
  - **Who** makes decisions
  - **Who** influences decisions
  - **Who** is denied access to decision making process
- Involves capacity building, data systems in place, coordination, awareness of gender issues, information on the service users, etc.
  - **How much women and girls are involved in this process?**



Resource, GRB Training UN Women by Sheila Quin

# Actors and Stakeholders

## At national level

- Ministry of Finance
- Line Ministries
- Gender machineries
- Training Institutes of Public Administration
- National Institutes of Statics

## At local/regional level

- Municipalities  
Mayor's directly +  
public officials
- City Council

## Societal actors

- NGOs (Local & Central)  
Women from communities
- Parliaments, # commissions
- Court of Audit
- Parliament Institute
- Academia
- Gender experts/advocates

GRB tools can be easily used in the urban design and planning.

- Gender-aware policy appraisals
- Sex-disaggregated beneficiary assessment
- Gender-disaggregated public expenditure analysis
- Gender-disaggregated analysis of the impact of the budget on time use

See: see K. Schneider (2006). *Manual for Training on Gender Responsive Budgeting*. GTZ.

<https://www.ndi.org/sites/default/files/Manual%20for%20Training%20on%20Gender%20Responsive%20Budgeting.pdf>

## Examples of GRB application from SEE and its impact - **Case One**

In Municipality of Gjorce Petrov, one of the main employers of women is a textile factory;

The payment is higher during night shifts, but there is a reduction of women working third shift because they are afraid to travel at night and they don't feel secured.

- The municipality reached an agreement with the **public transport company and negotiated more bus stops** in the early morning and late night hours, so that women could easily reach the work place.

## Examples of GRB application from SEE and its impact - **Case Two**

As result of gender analyses done by the Municipality of Kriva Palanka, the Municipality decided to build new roads and pavements to allow for easy mobility of women, along with new extensions and repair of the lightening system in the urban and rural areas. These measures increased the security and made possibility for social inclusion of women.

**Case Three:** Bitola Municipality used Sex-disaggregated Beneficiary Assessments of Public Service Delivery and Budget Priorities:

**How do public investments in infrastructure and the provision of public services address women's and men's different needs and priorities?**

The municipality **did a survey** and discovered that neighboring villages are poorly connected with the city.

Women from rural areas/villages use the public transport more frequently in the period between 2 pm to 5 pm when they return from markets, work or health check-ups.

## Examples of GRB application from SEE and its impact - **Case Three**

- The Municipality introduced **additional bus lines** to address the limited access to public transport of rural women in these specific hours.
- The Department for Local Economic Development did an assessment of the cost of specific measures related to safety issues in the city.
  - As a result, they decided to invest in **street lighting** of the roads that connect the city with the villages, **repaired pavements** for women to use strollers easily, while planning the repairmen of the streets in general.

## Sex-disaggregated Analyses of Budget Impact on Time Use: How do expenditures impact differently women's and men's time use?

By performing gender analyses, the Municipality Aerodrom discovered that 80% of families with children with disabilities are divorced. In 98% of cases, the mothers who are taking care for the children are unemployed because they are taking care of the children.

- A local NGO in cooperation with Municipality did costing of the implementation of standards for children with disabilities in public schools; The Municipality did a five year social inclusion strategy for children with disability; the cost was 500 Eur/per child for 80 children in total.

## Examples of GRB application from SEE and its impact - Case Four

Municipality Aerodrom is considering to build ramps, specific toilets in schools, elevators, personal assistants, educational materials and have speech therapist.

- These measures will impact the lives of women i.e. mothers, by providing them with an opportunity to access the labor market and have more free time for themselves. At the same time it will impact the quality of life and health of the children.



**Challenges  
and lessons  
learned**

While applying GRB

## KEY CHALLENGES:

- Data availability and transparency: either in accessing budget information or in availability of sex-disaggregated data
- Lack of Public officials capacity to do gender analyses and identify the gender gaps (gender analysis, and time)
- Lack of budget literacy for policy makers and lack of understanding and lack of capacities to do policy analyses for budget makers
- Lack of coordination between departments in the Municipality
- Capacity of gender advocates in relation to economic policies.
- The perception that Urban planning is very technical matter and it not related to gender issues.
- Competing government agendas make gender budgeting look like an additional burden

# Lessons learned

GRB is a strategy which makes Gender Equality commitments from de jure to de facto

GRB takes time, but in the end it

yields success 😊

It can be implemented in any phase of policy and budget preparation from the assessment to policy formulation, budget preparation,, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

Technical skills both to understand government budgets and to apply a gender perspective, along with advocacy and negotiation skills

It requires coordination and participation of beneficiaries of the service in the policy formulation and evaluation

Every initiative followed its own approach  
no “recipe”

*Increase participation of women and bridge the gap between citizens and governments and ensure that the voice of most vulnerable groups of society are heard, prioritized and budgeted..*



