



Promoting Social Accountability through Gender Responsive Budgeting

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Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Conceptual frameworks
- Implementing strategies and impact
- Challenges faced and the way forward and
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Government budgets are the most important instruments of government policy.
- NGOs are calling attention to transparency, social accountability and inclusiveness in government budget processes.
- This informed the need to initiate the Gender Budget Transparency and Accountability Project (GBTAP).

Conceptual frameworks

Commitment to women's rights described in:

- Beijing Platform for Action (BFA) of 1995
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

But..

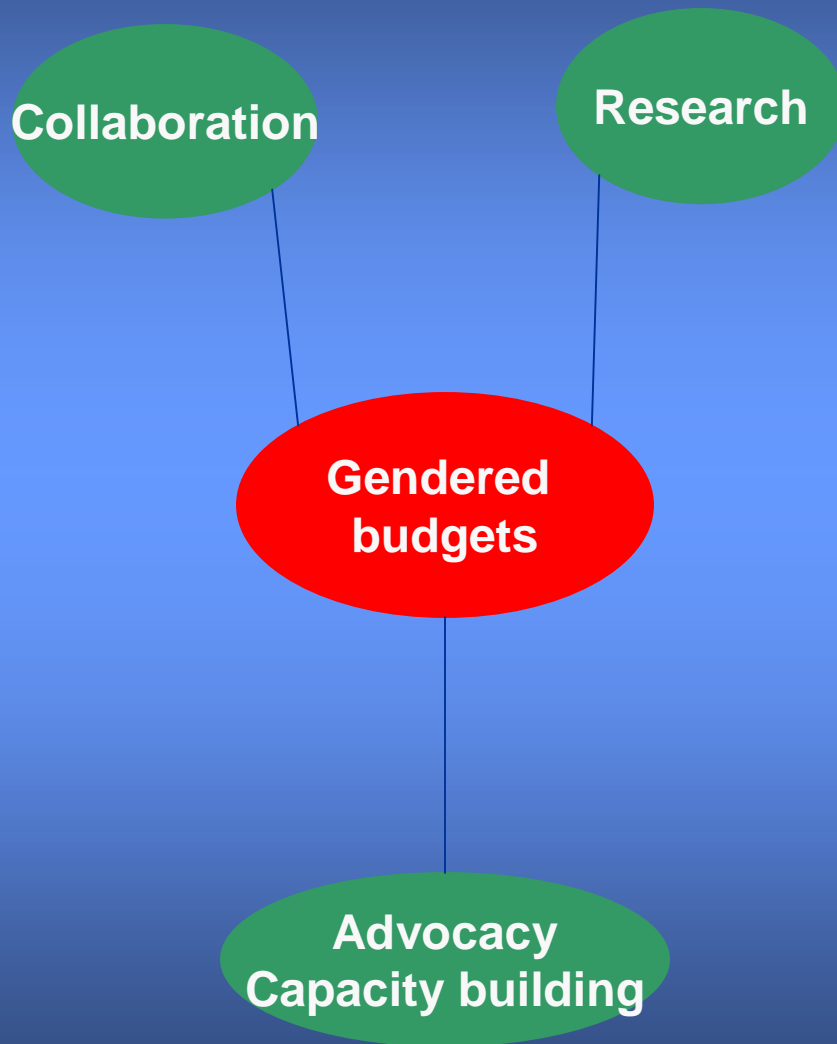
Nigerian commitments to gender equality are extensive but..

- to what extent is Nigeria fulfilling its commitments to poverty reduction, social inclusion & gender equity?
- Are these policies and commitments translated into government budgets?
- How can we determine whether Nigeria is ‘putting its money where its mouth is?’

GBTAP

- These are the questions that drive DIN's GBTAP.
- Main objective is to institutionalize gender budget analysis as an integral element of advancing women's rights.

Implementing Strategy



- Collaborating with key government institutions and signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
- Budget policy research and information dissemination
- Advocacy and training of communities, Government officials.

The critical success factor...

The most successful initiatives are those, which adopt a multiple strategy to secure dialogue at level of the policies, and the transformation involving various partners and actors in the economic management (Ministries, civil society, members of Parliament [legislative House], women's rights activists, academics, media and researchers).

Source: *Gender Report*, Ministry of Finance and Privatisation, Morocco

Strategic outreach



Budget policy research and information dissemination

- Publication/Output
 - Gender Budget Training Manual
 - Factsheets
 - Posters
 - Newsletters
- Launching of a dedicated gender budget website, www.lagosgenderbudget.net, with freely downloadable resources.

Public education, advocacy and training

- Strategically tailored to the Nigerian context

Key features

- Public meetings in all 57 municipalities.
- Capacity building for State and Local Government Budget Officers in preparing gender budget statements and gendered call circulars.

Challenges

Major challenges include:

- The absence of a freedom of information legislation in Nigeria
- Limited availability of sex-disaggregated data at Lagos State ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs)
- Limitation of community participation in budget processes

DIN's perspective...

The question of whether government policies and commitments on poverty reduction, social inclusion, gender equity or human rights protection is being fulfilled or not, is no longer one for government officials alone.

DIN's perspective...

It is now one, which must be open and made subject to analysis and debate by non-state actors. In other words, governments must increasingly be made accountable to their citizens through budget analysis, especially how budget affects women/men/boys/girls.

Thank you for listening.