

Gender Responsive Budgeting and Aid Effectiveness:

Knowledge briefs

This series of briefs provides **highlights of findings** from research reviews conducted under the **European Commission (EC)/ UNIFEM** programme ‘**Integrating Gender Responsive Budgeting into the Aid Effectiveness Agenda**’. The three-year programme consists of research and programmatic technical assistance. The programme seeks to demonstrate how gender responsive budgeting (GRB) tools and strategies can help ensure that aid provided in the form of General Budget Support (GBS) and Sector Budget Support (SBS) contributes to the achievement of gender equality goals.

During the first stage of the programme, **research** was carried out in ten developing countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Morocco, Nepal, Mozambique, Peru, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda) in July 2008. The research investigated how GRB tools and strategies have been used in the context of aid modalities, such as GBS and SBS. The research aimed to increase national partners’ and European Union (EU) decision-makers’ understanding of the opportunities for using GRB to enhance accountability to ensure that aid delivers effectively for gender equality. The second stage of the programme (June 2009 – June 2011) involves **targeted technical support** in five of the countries (Cameroon, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, and Tanzania) to improve capacity to further institutionalize GRB.

Each of the **country reviews** provided an overview of the planning and budgeting frameworks and processes in each of the countries, analyzing how these had integrated gender concerns. A gender analysis of the development management practices of the EC and a second major donor was also undertaken. The second donor was chosen based on the size of

its support to the country, and its use of new aid modalities. The donors reviewed were **DFID** (Uganda, Ethiopia, India, Nepal, and Rwanda), the **Netherlands** (Tanzania), **Sweden-Sida** (Mozambique), **Spain-AECID** (Morocco and Peru) and **France** (Cameroon). The country’s GRB experience was assessed, investigating particularly how GRB initiatives had engaged in national planning and budgeting processes. Each study conducted a sectoral gender budget analysis. The chosen sectors were important for addressing women’s needs and interests in the country, and in addition had a sector-wide approach (SWAp), or benefited from budget support.

The programme has published the ten **country reports** and the **ten-country overview report** by Debbie Budlender (available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish) online. In addition to these, **a series of knowledge briefs** has been developed to highlight some of the key research findings:

- Guidance sheet on ‘**How can aid be gender responsive in the context of the new aid modalities? Lessons from gender responsive budgeting initiatives**’
- Brief on ‘**How do donors collectively address gender issues in joint coordination mechanisms at country level?**’
- Brief on ‘**How do individual donors address gender issues in their policy, programming, and financing at country level?**’
- **Summaries of country reports**

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