

**United Nations**  
**Division for the Advancement of Women**  
**Expert Group Meeting on financing for gender equality**  
**and the empowerment of women**  
**Oslo, Norway**  
**4-7 September 2007**

**FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND  
EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN:  
UGANDA'S EXPERIENCE**

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programmes. However for the sectors where the gender equality needs were passed as being “crosscutting” there was a danger of evaporation. This was more of a problem for spending institutions that were not a part of well articulated functional<sup>7</sup> sectors.

**The new aid modalities therefore provide both an opportunity and a threat to gender equality and women’s empowerment depending on the level of development of the sectors.** For the national machinery lacking a well articulated sector, it has suffered reduced funding because of the alignment and harmonized that has translated in reduced project aid. This is a big challenge for a ministry tasked with mainstreaming a complex crosscutting issue in all government policies and programmes.

2. Prioritizing the sectors to focus on in terms of effective capacity building for GEB. The six sectors were selected on the basis of their possible contribution to attaining gender quality in Uganda and they include health, education, agriculture, roads and works, water and sanitation; and justice, law and order.
3. Developing Manuals for Users and Facilitators for GEB. The facilitators are a group of gender advocates from the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development; Donor Gender Group; and Civil Society.
4. Training desk officers in the Budget Directorate, Ministry of Finance and some members of the priority sector working groups in GEB.

These activities have been undertaken since 2003 but it is still along way to attaining effective gender budgeting. This means that gender budgeting is a process that takes time and requires patience and commitment- particularly political commitment as results are long in coming. There is need to put in place a strategic long term plan for gender budgeting that is supported by a **critical mass of champions**. There is need for capacity building for all members of sector working groups, budget desk officers as well as support teams. The initiative itself therefore requires investment and a budget line that would ensure consistency and sustained operations.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of Resource allocation for gender equality**

As was noted resource allocations are made by the sector working groups, including those for gender equality within the sector. However there is no effective mechanism for allocating funds to the gender issues that may belong to no specific sector an intervention that ought to be taken by the Finance ministry. The civil society, influence allocations within sectors to the extent that they are active members of the sector working groups. At national level, they participate in the national budget conferences where they make an input. If their issues are properly articulated, they often influence budgetary allocations to sectors.

The monitoring of resource allocation for gender equality is currently undertaken by the Poverty Eradication Working Group (PEWG) that has membership of officials from the Ministry of Finance (also secretariat for the group); Ministry of Gender; Donors and Civil society. However, the sector working groups are also encouraged to carry out some monitoring and evaluation during their assessment of past performance (review both financial and physical performance) as they prepare the budget framework papers. The biggest challenge for this monitoring and evaluation is availability of adequate **gender disaggregated data (GDD)** at various levels of the analysis. For sustainability it is desirable that the National machinery has the requisite capacity to conduct this monitoring and evaluation. The challenge would be the ability of

reform policies and programs. It was the persistent gender inequality that influenced government's resolve to enhance gender-mainstreaming efforts.

Between 2002 and 2004, a substantial amount of work was done to understand the extent and impacts of gender inequality in Uganda. The government established a PEAP Gender Team (PGT) in 2002 under the leadership of Ministry of Finance to take the lead in coordinating and managing the integration of gender as one of the key crosscutting issues in the PEAP. This team commissioned studies to inform the policy-making processes; conducted workshops and also designed guidelines to facilitate the mainstreaming processes.

These efforts resulted into the PEAP 2004-2008 being more gender responsive than the previous two (PEAP 1997, and PEAP 2000). This was illustrated by the detailed discussions of gender issues and inclusion of strategies to address some of the pertinent issues in all the PEAP pillars. The challenge was the translation of the policy objectives of gender mainstreaming into reality. This is where the new aid modalities were instrumental in fostering gender and equity budgeting.

However, it is too early to ascertain the impact of GEB on gender equality. This is because the initiative is yet to be fully institutionalized. However, in some sectors where gender budgeting has been given some consideration; there are some positive results already. For example, under health a key gender issue was the high maternal mortality that was partly a result of low deliveries in health units in attendance of skilled personnel. With improved funding and therefore provision of maternal services, there was a 4 percent increase in deliveries in health units between 2004 and 2006, which has translated into reduced maternal mortality.

The impact of the new aid modalities therefore depend on level of gender mainstreaming already attained by the country.

### **Monitoring and Evaluating impacts of New Aid modalities**

The impact of the new aid modalities as they relate to “managing for results” is measured and monitored by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) through an Annual PEAP Review Process. The OPM coordinates an exercise that reviews performance based on an agreed on set of indicators.

The PEAP has five pillars and under each<sup>12</sup> there are performance indicators giving total of 45. Unfortunately there are no gender relevant indicators in four pillars save for the human development component. Under this pillar gender disaggregated data is used to illustrate the gender differences. The outcome indicators include:

- § Infant mortality rate
- § Maternal mortality rate
- § HIV/AIDS prevalence rate
- § Literacy rate

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<sup>12</sup> The five pillars are: Economic management; production, competitiveness and incomes; security, conflict resolution and disaster management; good governance and human development



stakeholders basing on evidence from the national gender machineries in collaboration with other gender activists. This type of funding should hasten the development of social development sectors that are aimed at addressing issues of gender<sup>14</sup> inequality.

3. Within countries efforts for gender budgeting should be supported irrespective of the application of new aid modalities. This shall entail the following:

Capacity building of budgeting officials at all levels of government in gender budgeting  
Strengthened capacity of the National machineries to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the initiatives. In addition the machinery must have capacity for providing technical support to the budgeting institutions.

National monitoring and evaluation systems integrating gender responsive performance indicators at all levels

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