

Gender Budgeting in Iceland

Fact Sheet

Guiding Principles	Gender Budgeting: Where justice and fairness go hand in hand with economic wellbeing
Implementation started	2009
Phases of Implementation	2005-2006 (pre-implementation process) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First pilot project• Part of Nordic cooperation• Not continued 2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government Coalition Platform of the Social Democratic Alliance and Left-Green Movement “Gender budgeting will be a key concern in budget preparation and economic policy.”• Implementation starts• Steering Committee appointed• Information gathering and planning• Handbook 2010-2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pilot Projects• At least one pr ministry• Results in the 2012 budget proposal• Project Manager hired 2011-2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three Year Plan approved by the government in April 2011• Each Ministry has chosen a Main Policy Area to work with during the next three years.• Intermediate reports presented in the 2013 budget proposal• Handbook published
Main Emphasis of the Three Year Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main Policy Areas - All Ministries participate• Pilot Projects Continued - where relevant• Integration - various projects aimed at integrating GB into the system, f.ex. decision making, formalize/make statutory, publish results annually in the budget proposal, develop criteria for measuring progress, etc.• Gender Disaggregated Statistics• Cooperation• Education

Main Policy Areas

- **the biggest aspect of the three year plan**

Main Policy Areas for each Ministry were introduced in the 2012 budget proposal.

Each Ministry has formed a team working on the Main Policy Area.

Ministries delivered the first intermediate report in the summer of 2012.

First result were introduced in the 2013 budget proposal.

Second intermediate report will be introduced in the 2014 budget proposal.

Final results will be introduced in the 2015 budget proposal.

Objectives

The objective with gender budgeting is to make the impact on the genders visible, so it is possible to respond and re-evaluate policies, expenditures, and sources of income in accordance with objectives for equality

- The budget should be used in a systematic way to equal the status of women and men and promote the fair allocation of public funds, as well as fair raising of public revenue.
- Gender budgeting should be integrated into all policy making, decision making, and in the daily operations of public administration.
- If analysis reveals gender discrimination, it should lead to changed decisions so that public allocation of resources and revenue raising is fair and in accordance with the needs of both genders.
- Gender budgeting should become a part of public administration and good economic management, with the participation of all ministries.
- Knowledge gained through pilot projects should be utilized for the further build-up of knowledge and the implementation of gender budgeting.
- The importance of gender budgeting should be promoted through awareness raising and education.

Results/experience

- Increased awareness – On GB and Gender Equality
- Gender Analysis available from Pilot Projects, Main Policy Areas, Student Projects
- Improved knowledge
- Increased efficiency
 - GB projects often lead to improved work methods, better access to information, transparency, etc.
- Access to a tool (GB) that can prevent/decrease discrimination and facilitate equality
- However:
 - Still have a long way to go before implementation is complete and we reap full benefits of GB

List of Main Policy Areas

Prime Minister's Office

- Gender effects of new legislation (bills)

Ministry of the Interior

- Legal aid and other public procedural assistance

Ministry of Welfare

- The elderly

Ministry of Finance

- Analysis of the gender impact of the VAT system

Ministry of Industry

- Grants from funds intended to support business and innovation

Ministry of Education and Culture

- Universities and research, especially research funds

Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture

- Agricultural agreements

Ministry of the Environment

- Climate change and its gender impact

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

- Developmental cooperation

Ministry of Economy and Business

- Economic affairs

List of Pilot Projects

Prime Minister's Office

- Analyzing errands sent to the Ombudsman for Children in Iceland

Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

- Applications and allocations of artists' salary

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

- The ministry's contributions to development cooperation (excluding state-to-state bilateral aid (ICEIDA))

The Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture

- The AVS Research Fund

Ministry of the Interior

- Transportation repair/road construction and regional development policy: The social, cultural and financial impact of making a road tunnel in the north of the country on the lives of the inhabitants (research project).
- Composition of the staff of the ministry's institutions
- Looking at increase of women in the police force and the influence of the Police Academy

Ministry of Welfare

- Resources for the unemployed
- Unemployment benefits
- Treatment facilities for young people
- Waiting lists for cardiac imaging
- Waiting lists for hip/knee replacement surgery
- Grants from the ministry
- Grants from the Prevention Fund

Ministry of Finance

- The transferability of personal discount between couples

Ministry of Industry Energy and Tourism

- The ministry's funds

Ministry of Economic Affairs

- Funds of the ministry and distribution

Ministry for the Environment

- REACH: European Community Regulation on Chemicals and their Safe Use