Road Map for Gender Responsive Budgeting in Telangana

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Structure of the Presentation

Overview of GRB In India
GRB in five year plans
GRB at state levels
GRB at AP/ Telangana
Proposed Strategy

Gender Responsive Budgets-Basis for emergence

- A pragmatic and tested approach ,enables a sound gender analysis and integrates gender perspective across the planning, budgeting and audit cycle.
- Human rights, economy, efficiency and equity the premise to justify the importance of investing in gender responsive measures across sectors.

GRB in India: An Overview

Found location in the Economic Survey of India, 2000-2001 as a chapter on 'gender inequality'. (by NIPFP).

(MoF) constituted an expert group on "Classification of Government Transactions" in 2004 .An important TOR for the committee was to recommend ways and means to institutionalize GRB at the national level.

Important Landmark in India

- 2005-06 Introduced Gender Budget Statement (GBS) in the Union Budget. The GBS reflects the quantum of budgetary allocations for PPS that substantially benefit women.
- The expert group was constituted with Chief Economic Advisor of India, Ashok Lahiri as Chairman. Section ii of the report pertains to GRB and related recommendations.

Budget for Gender Equity and GBCs

- MWCD, the nodal Ministry for women in the Gol adopted 'Budgeting for Gender Equity' as a mission statement in 2004-05. A Strategic Framework of Activities to implement this mission was also framed and disseminated to all departments and ministries at the central level.
- 2004-05- Initiated the process of creating an institutional mechanism for mainstreaming gender by mandating the setting up of Gender Budgeting Cells (GBCs) in all ministries/departments.
- These GBCs were envisaged as focal points for mainstreaming gender through GRB.

GRB- In Five year plans

- The 8th Plan (1992-97) stated that benefits from different sectors should focus on women; however there was no reference to how this could be achieved.
- The 9th Plan (1997-2002) introduced the Women's Component Plan (WCP), which required both the Centre and State governments to ensure that not less than 30% of the funds/benefits from all development sectors flowed to women's programmes.

GRB Linking

- This represented not only an acknowledgment of the importance of budgetary commitments to achieve gender equality but also indicated the minimum criteria.
- The 10th Plan (2002-07) linked the concepts of WCP and GRB, (which were seen as complementing each other in ensuring that women receive their rightful share of public expenditure) and charted another major shift to look beyond 30% allocations.

Replacement of WCP with GRB

- The 11th Plan (2007-12) centre staged GRB as an important strategy for gender equality, replacing WCP. It was explicitly stated that GRB should happen across the board/across sectors.
- The Twelfth Five Year Plan was approved on 27th December, 2012. It is extremely encouraging to note several critical gender commitments made in the Plan.

Gender Task Force

- Acknowledging the gaps in the current GRB methodology, the Plan emphasizes that purposive gender planning will be promoted.
- It also recommends setting up of a Gender Task Force by the MWCD with representation from the National Mission for Empowerment of Women, MoF as well as the Planning Commission to review the functioning of GBCs.
- It is critical to ensure that these commitments are not lost at the level of implementation in states.

GRB at State Level

The 11th Plan took GRB to the sub national level and directed State governments to include GRB in their Annual Plans.

The Planning Commission vide is communication No. PC/SW/1-3(13)/09-WCD, dated 5th January, 2010 clarified that in State governments should discontinue the Women Component Plan (WCP) and instead adopt GRB only.

GBC s at State Level

- The Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India, vide D.O. no. PC/SW/1-3(13)/09-WCD, dated, 18th October, 2012, has written to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs that, "to accelerate the process (of GB)-----
- State Finance Departments to set up Gender Budget Cells and
- The State Planning Departments were instructed to include the need for gender budgeting as a part of their annual plan circular".

Guidelines and Road Map

The need for GRB at the state level was reiterated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development vide communication No. 1-25/2012-GB to all State Chief Secretaries including guidelines to States to provide a road map towards institutionalizing Gender Budgeting at State level.

As per the latest available information, almost 12 states have engaged with GRB. States such as Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand have institutionalized GRB by way of producing GBS on the lines of the one produced by the Union government.

GRB in Andhra Pradesh

In 2013, the Special Chief Secretary Planning Department, Government of AP, took the initiative to accelerate the process of institutionalizing GRB in the State.

A note to this effect was circulated to all departments of the government on 31st October, 2013 to follow the instructions/guidelines issued by the MWCD, GoI and take necessary steps to implement GRB.

GRB Consultation Workshop

the planning department, GoAP in partnership with Centre for Rural Studies and Development (CRSD) and UN Women organised a two-day GRB consultation workshop in December, 2013 to prepare the GRB strategy and road map.

The agenda was planned with the aim to explore entry points for gender responsive planning & budgeting and strategize ways in which GRB could be effectively operationalized in the State.

Proposed Strategy for GRB in Andhra Pradesh

- Gender Responsive Budgeting as a strategy, help integrate a gender inclusive perspective across the planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and auditing continuum.
- It ensures a holistic response in a planned and systematic manner and provides the opportunity for purposive gender planning within the sector or subsector. The proposed steps systematically outline the entry points for GRB within the Planning and Budgeting processes.

Purposive Gender Responsive Planning : The Proposed Steps to Integrate 'Gender' in Plans

To formulate the <u>State Gender Policy for Andhra</u> <u>Pradesh</u> with a clear GRB Strategy. It is imperative that the State formulates and adopts a Gender Policy with a well-defined action plan.

Gender Appraisal of all Programme/Projects/Schemes (PPS) :

This step is important as it ensures that gender concerns are examined/explored at the onset. This enables chalking out **appropriate gender responsive measures** that can be integrated within the proposed PPS. The MWCD checklists can be used as a reference document

Steps to Integrate 'Gender' in Plans

- The format in which departments prepare proposals for planned scheme approval should include clear guidelines on how gender is integrated in the new PPS. Also, important to include in the guidelines for each PPS to mention how it will impact Gender.
- Criterion on women/girl beneficiaries across all beneficiary oriented composite expenditure schemes of all departments can be established. This can be in the range of 30 to 50%. Instructions to this effect that be communicated to all departments.

Steps to Integrate 'Gender' in Plans

- A plan scheme on Gender Responsive Budgeting with the provision for technical support, research, capacity building and technical staff/bureau to be formulated.
- This can be on lines with the MWCD Gender Budgeting Scheme
- This scheme can be introduced in the financial year 2013-14.

Gender Responsive Budgeting : Proposed Steps to Integrate Gender in Budgeting

- Pre- Budget Entry Points:
- Gender Budget Statement & Budget Circulars

The GBS and Budget Circular format to be finalized and endorsed. Appropriate guidelines/instructions for departments on 'reporting in the GBS' to be formulated and issued by Departments of Finance.

Post- Budget Entry Points:

- Guidelines to report sex disaggregated information/data/results in Outcome Budgets
- Appropriate guidelines (similar to the instructions issued by Ministry of Finance, GOI can be incorporated in similar guidelines issued by the Department of Finance, GoAP. The departments will accordingly report on gender in the department Outcome Budgets.

Institutional Structure/Mechanisms for GRB

- Institutional mechanisms should be planned out to ensure effective implementation of the GRB strategy in the State and across departments.
- Clear guidelines on the composition, role and responsibilities of such mechanisms should also be prepared.

Capacity Building

- As and when the GRB strategy in GoAP is finalised a calendar for GRB trainings should be developed. The GRB CD trainings should be specific to target groups that can be broadly classified as (but not limited to):
- Gender Budget Cells (Officers representing the GRB institutional Structure)
- Budget Officials of all Departments
- Sector specific trainings with all officials

Miscellaneous

A Gender budget format should also to be introduced as part of SCSP and TSP. This will enable tracking quantum of allocations flowing towards women/girls in the SCCP & TSP.

The above mentioned approach/steps will ensure a meaningful engagement with the GRB framework. The measures will enable an effective GRB operational strategy within the state.

Thank you