

**Workshop on Gender Responsive Budgeting in Lebanon:
Designing a Sectoral Gender Budget Statement**
Beirut, March 3-5, 2020

Time: Tuesday 3 March to Thursday 5 March 2020 from 9.30 to 14.30

Location: IMF-METAC, Abdallah Beyhum Street 119, 2nd Floor, Room 208

Brief of the workshop and Agenda

Background:

In March 2019, the Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan in collaboration with the METAC organized a workshop on "**Gender Responsive Budgeting**" for a group of 45 officials from **25** line ministries and public institutions in Lebanon. The main objectives of the workshop were to provide participants with an overview of the current situation of gender responsive budgeting (GRB) in the MENA region and to introduce them to key concepts related to GRB. It was also an opportunity to discuss possible institutional arrangements for GRB and their linkage with broader economic and Public Financial Management reforms. Discussions centered on key changes to be introduced in the budget preparation process to implement GRB.

In line with the key recommendations voiced by participants, a **follow-up workshop will be organized for one pilot ministry in Lebanon** during 3-5 March 2020. This workshop will assist a key group of officials to structure and design a **sectoral gender budget statement** for their ministry. This will later have to be followed by specific drafting exercises, in addition to further data systematization—key follow-on steps which this workshop will help to identify. A key objective of the workshop is to understand gender gaps in the sector and discuss how and to what extent gender-responsive budgeting can help to address the identified shortcomings. Expectation is that the experience from a pilot ministry can later be replicated to other administrations at a future stage.

Specific objectives:

- Structuring and designing a **Sectoral Gender Budget Statement** in one pilot ministry.

Content:

- Analysis of the gender gap(s) in the pilot sector
- Definition of objectives for the way forward to close the gap, including respective activities, indicators and budgets.
- Data gathering, assessment of comprehensiveness and their interpretation: gender statistics, budget figures, gender equality activities
- Analysis of the appropriateness of existing activities and allocated funds; including assessment of administrative and budgetary flexibility to address gender gaps.
- Structuring and designing of a sectoral gender budget statement (generating a template)—initial drafting which has to be completed following the workshop.

Participants:

- Officials from the selected pilot Ministry (Agriculture) - participants who are in charge of budget and gender issues
- Ministry of Finance (participants from the budget directorate)
- UN-Women
- Institute of Finance Basil Fuleihan
- Estimated are 15 participants in total

Trainers / IMF experts:

- **Institute of Finance Basil Fuleihan**
- **Mr. Jonas Frank, Advisor**, Public Financial Management, IMF-METAC
- **Mrs. Petra Gschiel, Expert**, Public Financial Management, International Monetary Fund (via videoconference)
- **Mr. Johann Seiwald, Expert**, Public Financial Management, International Monetary Fund (via videoconference)
- **Expert inputs by UN-Women.**

Place and dates:

- IMF-METAC, Abdallah Beyhum Street 119, 2nd Floor, Room 208, Beirut
- Tuesday 3 March to Thursday 5 March 2020 from 9.30 to 14.30

Setting and Language:

- English (interpretation into Arabic)
- Videoconferencing with the IMF-Joint Vienna Institute (JVI) – full-time VC stream

Agenda

Day 1: Tuesday, March 3, 2020	
9.30-10.00	<p>Introduction to Workshop</p> <p>Welcome Remarks (Institute of Finance, METAC)</p> <p>Presentation of participants</p> <p>Goals and expectations for the workshop</p> <p>Methodology</p> <p>Short introductory presentation on Gender-Responsive Budgeting (Jonas Frank, METAC)</p>
10:00-11:00	<p>Gender Issues in the Sector in Lebanon – Presentation by UN Women, Ms. Nadya Khalifeh</p> <p>Analysis of the gender gap(s) in the country</p> <p>Coverage and comprehensiveness of data (gender statistics, gender equality)</p> <p>Identification of gender equality measures</p> <p>Discussion and Q&A</p>
11.00-11.15	Break
11:15-12:00	<p>Gender Issues in the Agriculture Sector (Pilot Ministry)</p> <p>Presentation by the Gender Focal Point of the Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>Discussion and Q&A</p>
12.00-13.00	<p>Good practice in Gender Budget Statements – Presentation by IMF Experts (via Videoconference)</p> <p>Content and Structure of Gender Budget Statements – international experience</p> <p>Q&A</p>
13.00-13.15	Break
13.15-14.15	<p>Explaining the Budgeting and Service Delivery Chain in the Agriculture Sector – Presentation by the Pilot Ministry</p> <p>Policy Goals of the ministry</p> <p>Organization of service delivery: types of services (public/private; levels of complexity); types of programs; responsibilities of different units of the Ministry (central, local)</p> <p>The Budget Process and flow of funds</p>

	Challenges and Obstacles Q&A
14:15-14:30	Summary and Planning for the Next Day – Institute de Finance and METAC Main conclusions of the day’s activities Preparatory Steps for the work on next day

Day 2: Wednesday, March 4, 2020

9.30-10:45	Gender Responsive Budgeting: Budgetary Instruments and Tools – Presentation from IMF Experts (via Videoconference) Overview of the different budgetary instruments and tools Relation (or integration of) of budget calendar and GRB Q&A
10.45-11.00	Break
11.00-12.30	Structuring a Sectoral Gender Budget Statement in the Pilot Ministry (Agriculture) Defining a possible structure and content of a sectoral gender budget statement, taking into account international experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify boundaries to other ministries within the same sector • Development partners • Description and explanation of causes of key gender gaps • Strategic objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could include numerical indicators • Challenges • Activities in the budget how to promote gender equality • Indicative resources for activities • Medium-term perspective on further activities Writing Exercise (Flipchart/other)
12.30-12.45	Break
12.45-14.15	Structuring a Sectoral Gender Budget Statement in the Pilot Ministry (Agriculture) -- Continuation of Exercise ---
14.15-14.30	Summary and Planning for the Next Day – Institute de Finance and METAC Main conclusions of the day’s activities Preparatory Steps for the work on next day

Day 3: Thursday, March 5, 2020

9.30-10.30	<p>Budget Allocations and Gender Gaps: Understanding Managerial and Administrative Flexibility in the Pilot Sector (Agriculture) – Presentation/Discussion by the Pilot Ministry</p> <p>Can programs and the service delivery organization be adjusted towards gender gaps? What flexibility is there to allocate funds and resources (including human capacity) towards gender objectives? What fiscal and budgetary constraints are there to address the gender gaps? Discussion/Q&A</p>
10.30-11.30	<p>Further design of the Draft Sectoral Gender Budget Statement</p> <p>Discussing possible improvements and refinements in light of the findings and new reflections Finishing a Draft</p>
11.30-11.45	Break
11.45-12.15	<p>Evaluating results of Gender Responsive Budgeting and the Role of PEFA - Presentation by IMF Experts (via Videoconference)</p> <p>Evaluating results and lessons learned The potential role of PEFA’s “Supplementary Framework for Assessing Gender Responsive PFM” Q&A</p>
12:15-13:00	<p>Roadmap and Next Steps</p> <p>Developing a roadmap (i) to finalize and endorse the Draft Sectoral Gender Budget Statement and (ii) processes for gender-responsive budgeting. Developing a realistic timeline with milestones</p>
13.00-13.15	Break
13.15-14.00	<p>Roadmap and Next Steps</p> <p>Continuation of Exercise</p>
14.00-14:30	<p>Closing</p> <p>Evaluation of workshop Concluding remarks: Institute de Finance, Sector Ministry, METAC</p>