Feminist Economics in Practice

Inclusive Gender Responsive Budgeting: Tools and Techniques for Finance and Non-Finance Community Leaders

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Capitalist Economy

Capitalism is an **economic** system in which capital goods are owned by private individuals or businesses.

 The production of goods and services is based on supply and demand in the general market (market economy), rather than through central planning (planned economy or command economy) (Kenton, 2019)

Market Economy

A market economy is an economic system in which economic decisions and the pricing of goods and services are guided solely by the aggregate interactions of a country's individual citizens and businesses.

- There is little government intervention or central planning.
- This is the opposite of a centrally planned economy, in which government decisions drive most aspects of a country's economic activity. (Kenton, 2019)

Socialist Economy

A socialist economic system is characterized by social ownership and operation of the means of production that may take the form of autonomous cooperatives or direct public ownership wherein production is carried out directly for use.

 Socialist systems that utilize markets for allocating inputs and capital goods among economic units are designated market socialism.

(Busky, 2000)

(ex-Soviet Union...and at present China, Cuba, Vietnam in a reformed frame)

Modern Market Economies

Almost every economy in the modern world falls somewhere along a continuum running from *pure market* to *fully planned*.

Most developed nations are technically **mixed economies** because they blend free markets with some government interference. However, they are often said to have market economies because they allow market forces to drive the vast majority of activities, typically engaging in government intervention only to the extent it is needed to provide stability.

Schiller, Bradley, 2010.

Feminist Economics

Feminist economics is the critical study of economics and economies, with a focus on gender-aware and inclusive economic inquiry and policy analysis.

International Association for Feminist Economics (2018)

Along with that, it works to analyze and address systematically the issues of gender equality and inclusion from the basic unit of the economic spheres where 'family' and 'individual' belongs.

This is the most inclusive and caring economic system to develop and nurture humans and the environment.

Considers

Gender equality

- Gender equity refers to an approach where measures are put in place to compensate for the historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from operating on a level playing field.
- Gender equality refers to a relational status between women and men.

Gender Equity

a means to achieving gender equality.

Inclusion

Inclusion is a collective effort and practices in which different groups or individuals having different backgrounds are culturally and socially accepted and welcomed, and equally treated.

(Council for International Development, 2012 at https://globaldiversitypractice.com/what-is-diversity-inclusion/)

How we exclude people from the discussion

- Age
- Sex
- Culture
- Social
- Religion
- Geography
- Economic background

- Politics
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Occupation
- Physical differences
- Mental differences

Feminism Economics Considers:

Feminism is a range of political movements, ideologies, and social movements that share a common goal: to define, establish, and achieve political, economic, personal, and social rights for women.

This includes seeking to establish all productive and reproductive rights, educational and professional opportunities for women that are equal to such opportunities for men. Beasley, Chris (1999)

Feminism Economics Considers:

- "Intersectional feminism" is much more than the latest feminist buzzword. It is a decades-old term many feminists use to explain how the feminist movement can be more diverse and inclusive.
- There are various forms of social stratification, such as class, race, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed, disability and gender, which are included in the consideration of intersectional feminism and its social and cultural effects, impact the way they experience oppression and discrimination.

International Women's Development Agency (2018).

Feminism Economics Considers:

Unpaid Care Work

Unpaid care work includes the production of goods or services in a household or community that are not sold on a market. Unpaid care work in the household includes domestic work such as cooking, cleaning, washing, and water and fuel collection. Products of unpaid care work may also benefit those in the community, such as cooking a meal for a neighbour or volunteering in a homeless shelter. Unpaid care work also includes activities that nurture others such as taking care of children, and tending to the elderly and the sick.

The 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action referred to the unequal distribution of unpaid care work between men and women as a barrier to gender equality.

https://www.wikigender.org/wiki/unpaid-care-work/

Principles of Feminist Economics

(abbreviated here, omitting abstracted descriptions by Schneider and Shakelford)

- There can be no such thing as a definitive list of the principles of feminist economics.
- Values enter into economic analysis at many different levels.
- The Household is a locus of economic activity.
- Non-market activities are important to the economy.
- Power relationships are important in an economy.
- A gendered perspective is central to the study of economics.
- Human beings are complex, and they are influenced by more than just material factors.
- People compete, cooperate and care.
- Government action can improve market outcomes.
- The scope of economics must be interdisciplinary.

What is a Budget?



An estimate of income and expenditure for a set period of time following a plan.

Gender Responsive Budgeting

- Gender Responsive Budgeting is an important tool to Feminist Economics
- Gender Responsive Budgeting is used to reduce gender gaps within a particular context.

Inclusion and Gender responsiveness: Where is the GAP?

- National Level: Policy and National Budget procedure
- Local Government and Public Representatives?
- Community involvement?

IGRB's Goal is to

 Ensure benefits, rights and justice for all groups of people in the public expenditure for development.

Key components of an Inclusive Gender Responsive Budget

Participation and consultations

 A robust participation consultation must be ensured by creating a safe environment where all community groups can raise their opinion.

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 Community will identify the gaps in the sectors that hinder inclusion and gender equality, and set priorities to reduce the gaps

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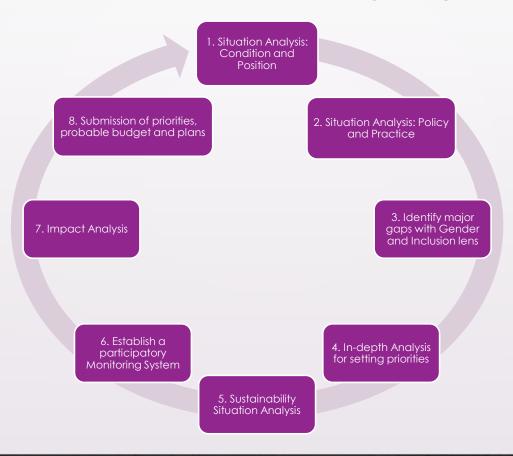








Steps to develop an Inclusive Gender Responsive Budget (IGRB)



Education: Primary and Secondary

What is the situation for boys and girls in primary education?

What we see in secondary education?

Is there any difference?

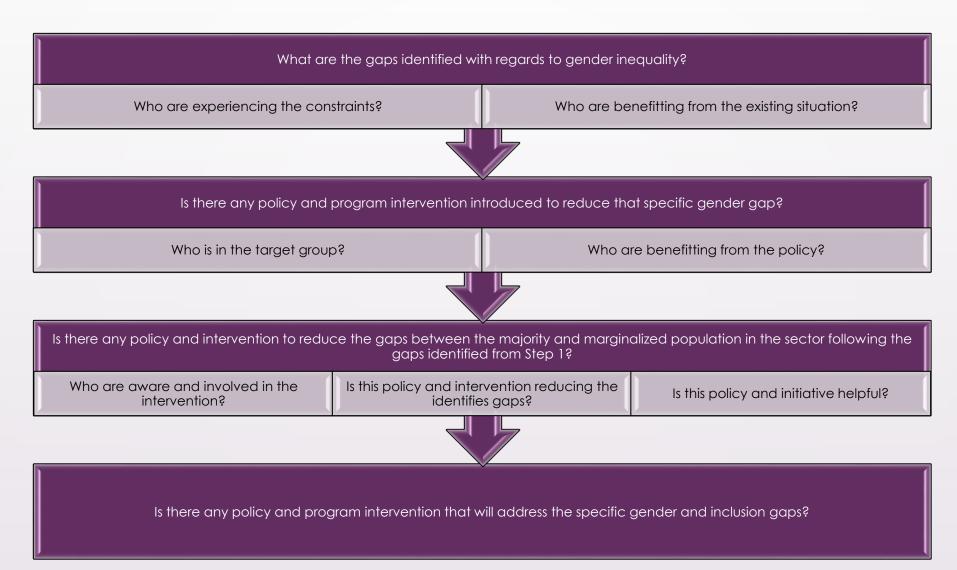
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Secondary Education sector	Boys	Girls	Girls with disability	Boys with disability	Girls from minority community	Boys from minority community
Access						
Participation						
Retention						
Teacher's response to different groups						
Teacher's skills to respond to special needs						
Environment (awareness, sensitivity etc.)						
Infrastructure (ramp, separate toilets etc.)						
Law and order situation (response to harassment, teasing, violence etc.)						
Environment in the community						
Expense (Cost of education materials, transportation etc.)						

Identifying the barriers from the chart

Local Barriers

National Level Barriers



Issue, Initiative and Impact Analysis

How much was the allocation in the current budget to reduce gender gaps in the sector (e.g. local transport)?

1

Is there any allocation for marginalized people, persons with disability, in particular?



If there are allocations, how much has been spent (numbers) and how is the impact (qualitative in percentage)?



Is the allocation helping to reduce the gaps with regards to gender and exclusion? Or, increasing the gaps?

Your priority suggestions for your local area

 Community leaders will discuss to select issues that should be addressed in priority to reduce the gap towards gender equality and inclusion

Allocation Analysis

How many students with physical/mental challenges and/or disability are there in the school catchment area who need public transportation support to school access?

How much allocation would be required to run a safe transportation service for those students (Girls, boys from different communities)?

How much allocation can be made by the local Union Budget and Upaziall Budget, how much can each department allocate (Education, Social Welfare and Transportation)?

How much money can community pay to run the transport services to reduce the gender and exclusion gaps in the secondary education?

Who would be involved from the community along with the local government to anchor the process?

Employment sector

 Consultation should involve women and men from different age groups

Income and Employment

What is the situation for Men and Women in Employment?

What we see in the sector, as example- Agriculture?

Is there any differences for People from Minority Groups?

What and Why?

Major barriers for women and marginalized individuals to get work

- Family
- Social
- Cultural
- Economic situation (less availability of work)
- Infrastructure
- Support services
- Lack of environment
- Transportation

Gender and Inclusion Analysis

Agriculture	Men	Women	Disabled	Minority people
Family condition				
Societal Barrier				
Cultural Barrier				
Access to employment				
Participation				
Skills				
Environment				
Infrastructure (Toilet, Water etc.)				
Law etc.				
Child Care				

How you bring the suggestions for the budget?

Where should you invest to reduce the gap?

Your Priority Suggestions for your Local Area

As example – Child care

What could b done to reduce the gap?

Who would support the initiative?

What the role the community can play?

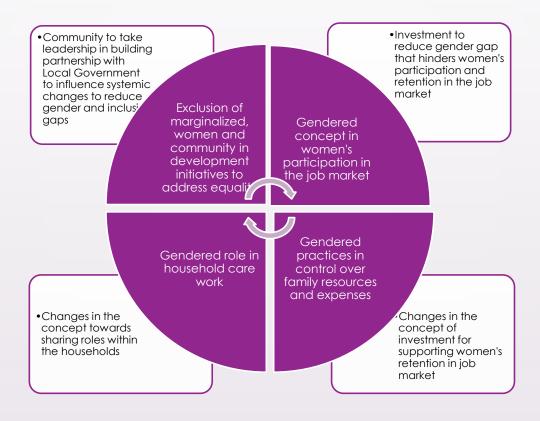
What is the policy suggestion?

What are the contribution community can offer?

What would be the possible allocation from the Local Government?

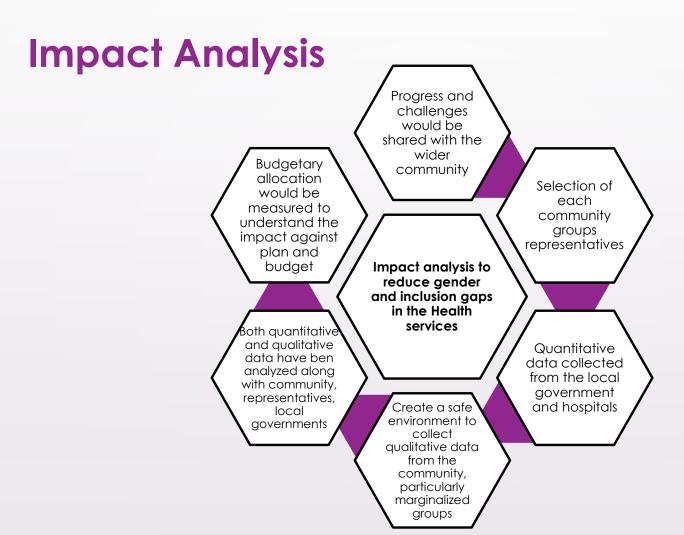
How a respectful monitoring mechanism can be created?

Sustainability Analysis



Establish a Monitoring System





Submission of the priorities, probable budget, and plans

Revisit priorities

Identify roles and responsibilities Confirm the monitoring system

Confirm expected results

Revisit approximate budgets

Who will use this tool?

Inclusive Gender Responsive Tools and Techniques (Naima Imam Chowdhury, 2019)













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Thank you!

Questions???