

Institutional Mechanisms in Gujarat

In Gujarat, the process of GRB was initiated at the suggestion of the Chief Secretary in 2006. Thereafter the Department of Women and Child Development issued a GR dated 13th Oct'2006, within 10 priority sector departments Health, Education, Rural Development, Women and Child Development, Tribal Development, Narmada Water Resource, Supply and Kalpasar, Social Justice and Empowerment, Revenue, General and Administration and Finance.

- DWCD, Finance and GAD are the nodal departments.
- DWCD to also form Gender Cell for Monitoring of GRB process.
- Formation of a High Powered Committee headed by Principal Secretary (Expenditure), to monitor the progress. Secretaries of the various departments included in GRB are the members of this Committee. First High powered Committee meeting held in May 2007.
- Appointment of nodal officers in each department
- Formation of Task force (Gender Budget Cell) in each department
- SIRD initiated process of capacity building for GRB by committing a Capacity Building Cell for GRB

Ensuring appropriate institutional mechanisms in place is very crucial to the implementation of any new process. For the same a set of guidelines was issued by Ministry of Women and Child Development, GoI in 2006. As per the same the GoG has initiated appointment of nodal officers, mostly Deputy Secretary (Budgets) or Director (Research/ Monitoring) in all GRB departments. These nodal officers would be guided by a task force (Gender budget cell) in each department. The members of the task force would include senior officials of the department, mostly Head of Departments (HoDs), preferably chaired by the Commissioner or Secretary. The task force needs to meet at regular intervals to review the analysis of budgets to incorporate the emerging suggestions in their respective programmes. At the State level DWCD, along with Finance and GAD would form a gender cell to coordinate the process between various departments and for state level coordination. The roles of all three are discussed below in detail.

Role of Nodal Officer

- Would regularly liason with the Nodal Agency for regular awareness regarding the expectations from his/her department.
- Coordinating and facilitating the activities of the task force.
- Undertake collection of gender disaggregated data- for target group of beneficiaries covered under expenditure.
- Take up on gender sensitive analysis/review of public expenditure and policies.
- Help the Nodal Agency to locate the requirements from the department in its on-going plans.
- S/he then has to convert those requirements into a departmental scheme.
- Coordinate selection of two- three schemes for detailed analysis and gender audit with task force, GRC and other experts at regular intervals.

Role of Task force (Gender Budget Cell)

- Guide action on gender sensitive review of public expenditure and policies.
- Guide and undertake collection of gender disaggregated data- for target group of beneficiaries covered under expenditure, revenue raising/ policy/ legislation.
- Guide gender budgeting initiatives within Departments as well as in field units responsible for implementing government programmes and to conduct gender based impact analysis, beneficiary needs assessment and beneficiary incidence analysis to establish effectiveness of public expenditure.

- Identify scope for re-prioritization of public expenditure , improve implementation and collate and promote best practices on participative budgeting for and implementation of schemes
- To ensure that gender is incorporated at every stage of planning, formulating /designing of programmes and schemes and during its implementation.
- Monitor the performance of schemes on ground through small enquiries from time to time.
- Focal point for coordinating gender budgeting initiatives both intra and inter departmental.

Role of Nodal Agency (Gender Cell at DWCD)

- Keeps constant track of new information being generated regarding current realities on ground in different parts of the country. The cell is to act as the nodal point for building this data base and making it available for use by other departments.
- Set some priorities that fit in with both overall policies of the state as also with the general demands of women's movement.
- Promote further research in areas it feels are particularly problematic at the moment.
- Examine each of its prioritized outcomes and work out for each region the specific gaps or shortfalls in public services that have so far hindered progress towards the set goal.
- The agency should prepare a rough map regarding its set priority giving the dimensions and the time sequence in which inputs from different departments have to be dovetailed together.
- To analyze the different aspects and contributory factors behind a particular demand of women and then to locate which agency at what level can deal with it.
- Monitor the performance of schemes on ground through small enquiries from time to time