

Gender Budgeting

This presentation reflects work by Janet Stotsky, Lisa Kolovich, IMF staff, and outside authors (not cited here). The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the IMF, its Executive Board, or its management, or of DFID.

Gender Budgeting

- Provide the first comprehensive assessment of gender budgeting initiatives around the world.
- Assess the evidence on the success of gender budgeting.
- Create a publically accessible toolkit with data on gender budgeting efforts and gender inequality indices.
- <https://www.imf.org/external/np/res/dfidimf/>

What is Gender Budgeting?

- Gender budgeting is the use of fiscal policy and administration to promote gender equality, and girls' and women's development.
 - This approach has been used at the national, state, and local levels of government.
 - Gender budgeting goals should be aligned with national development goals on gender equality.
 - Gender budgeting translates these goals into fiscal policies.
 - Gender budgeting can also address boys' and men's needs.

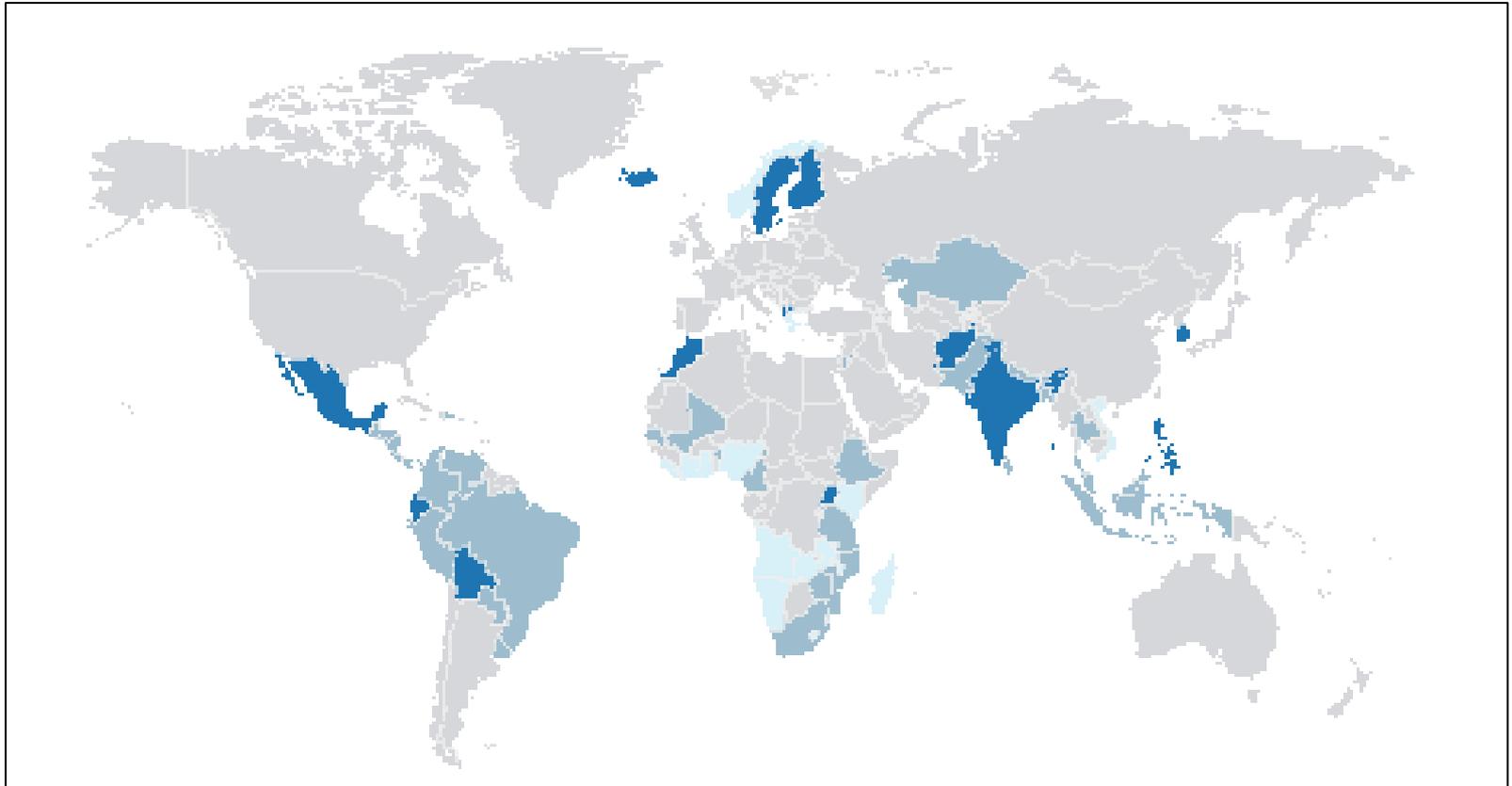
Examples of Gender Budgeting Goals

- Equalize females' access to education, particularly secondary and tertiary and science and math education.
- Improve maternal and related child health.
- Reduce women's and girls' unpaid time demands through improved water, energy, and communication infrastructure.
- Address women's lack of opportunity in economic markets.
- Address violence against women.
- Reform tax policies to meet gender equality goals.
- Improve collection of sex-disaggregated data.

Prominent Examples of Gender Budgeting

- **Asia:** Australia, India, the Philippines, and the Republic of Korea.
- **Europe:** Austria and Belgium, Scandinavian countries, and Ukraine.
- **Middle East and Central Asia:** Morocco and Afghanistan.
- **Pacific and Caribbean small states:** Timor-Leste.
- **Sub-Saharan Africa:** Rwanda and Uganda.
- **Western Hemisphere:** Mexico, Ecuador, Bolivia, and El Salvador.

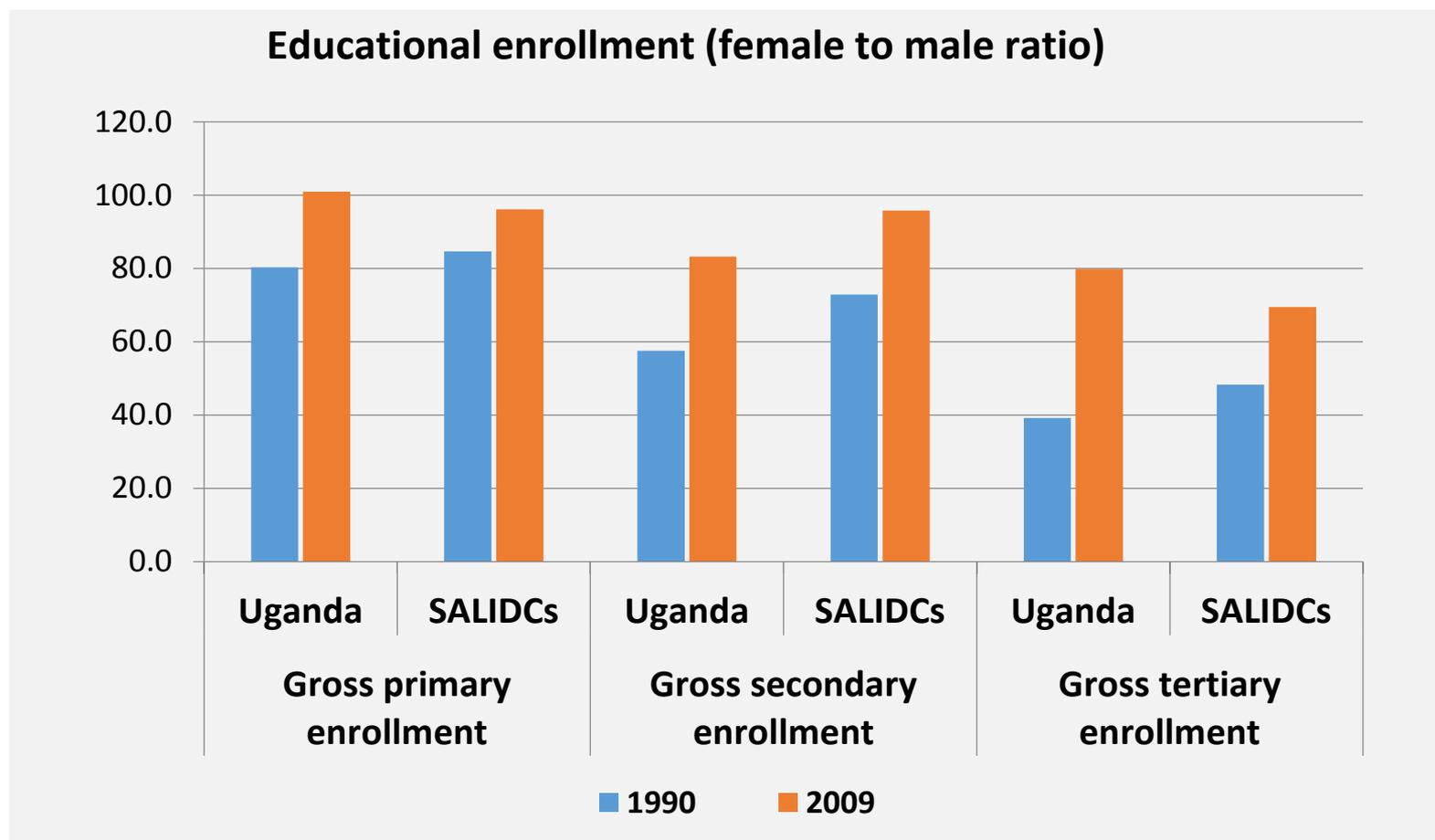
Survey of Global Gender budgeting Efforts



Africa: Uganda

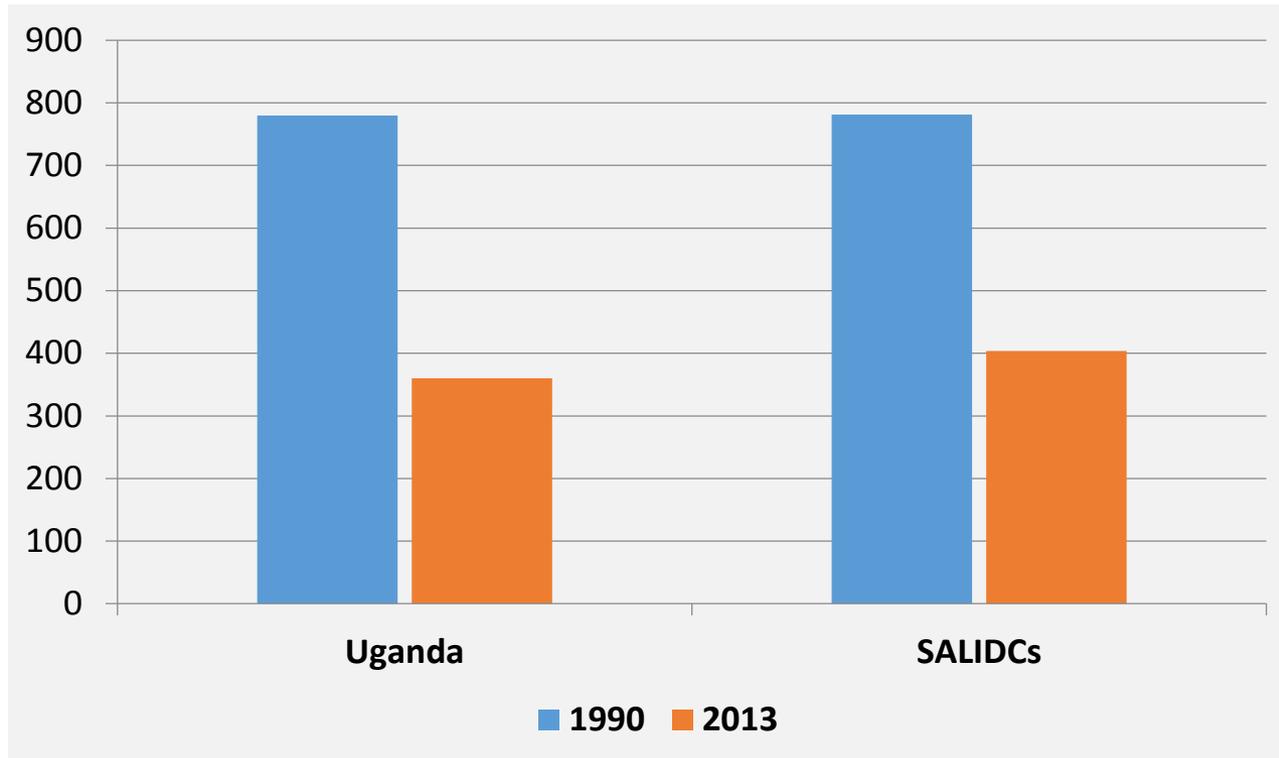
- Involved both central ministries of government and parliament and civil society.
- Priority sectors: Education, health, agriculture, roads and works, water and sanitation, and justice, law, and order.
- Education: Increased budget allocation to monitor efforts to improve enrollment and retention.
- Civil laws: Improved laws on marriage/divorce and violence against women.
- Economic empowerment: Took measures to strengthen women's role and productivity in agriculture.

Outcomes: Uganda



Outcomes: Uganda

**Maternal Mortality Ratio
(modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births)**



Africa: Rwanda

- Enacted organic budget law, in 2012/13, incorporating gender budgeting formally into budget laws and making Gender Budget Statements mandatory.
- Assigns lead role to Ministry of Finance in collaboration with ministry responsible for gender-related goals and spending ministries.
- Integrates gender budgeting into program and results-based budgeting through sectoral identification of goals and identifying desired outcomes.

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Africa: Rwanda

- Started with four pilot ministries of education, health, agriculture, and infrastructure, to integrate into both social and economic sectors.
- Then extended the endeavor to the entire national government.
- Extended to subnational level (districts).
- Established gender monitoring office to evaluate outcomes and hold ministries and other government entities accountable.
- Engaged civil society and research community in budget analysis and evaluation of outcomes.

Africa: Rwanda

- Assessment:
- Incorporation of into program-budgeting and degree of accountability and evaluation are unusual.
- Rwanda has improved on key education and health indicators at a faster rate than its African peers.
- Although not directly causal, these results are indicative of beneficial effect of fiscal policies on human capital and other indicators of welfare.

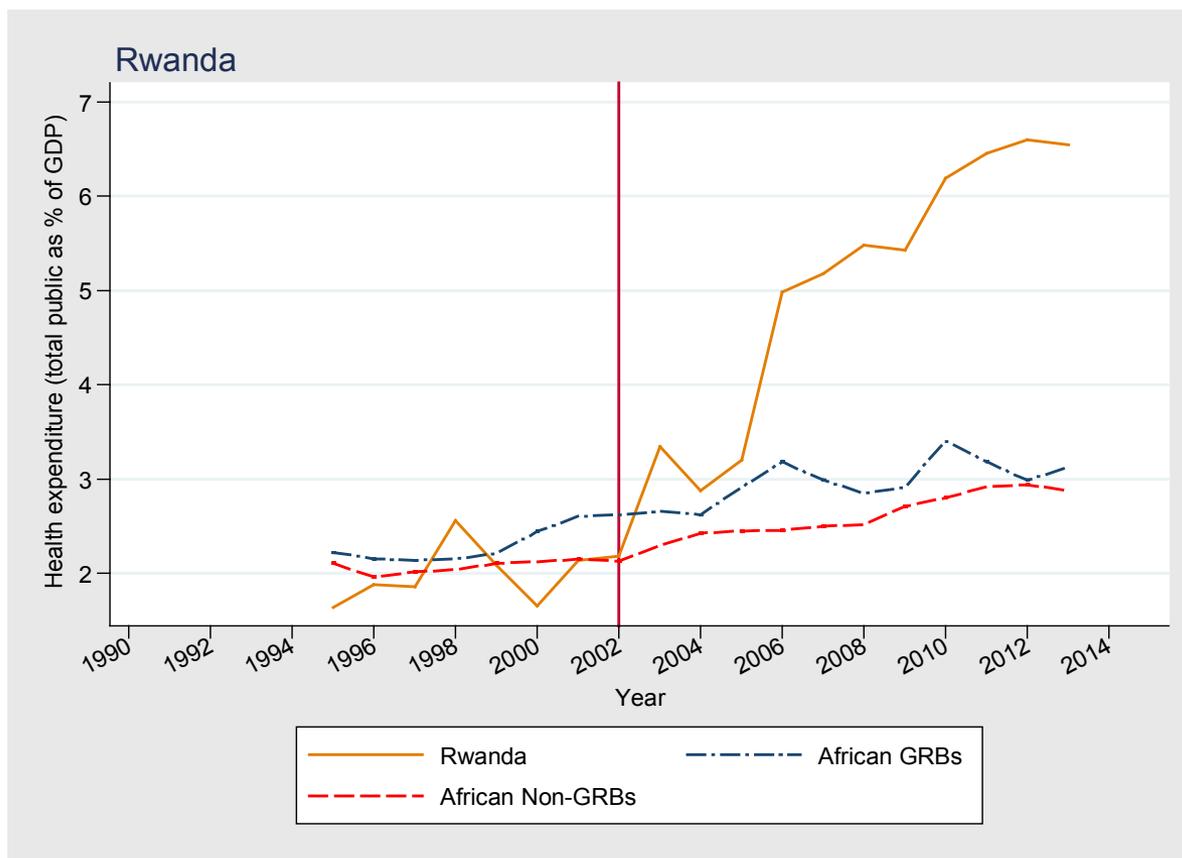
Approach: Rwanda

Budget circular guidelines	Ministries	Districts
Selection of subprograms that are service delivery in nature and with biggest budget	85%	73%
Backed by comprehensive gender analysis with sex disaggregated data	7%	50%
Has clear linkage with outputs, indicators, targets and activities	14%	13%

Source : Gender Monitoring Office Annual [Report](#) 2013/14, pages 3-4.

Outcomes: Rwanda

Health expenditure as a share of GDP, 1996-2013

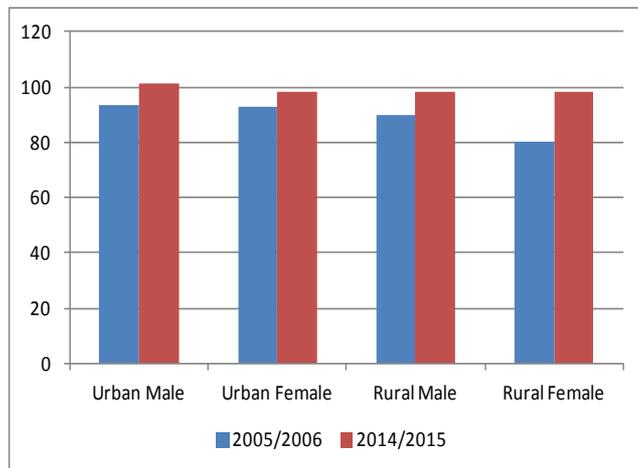


Middle East: Morocco

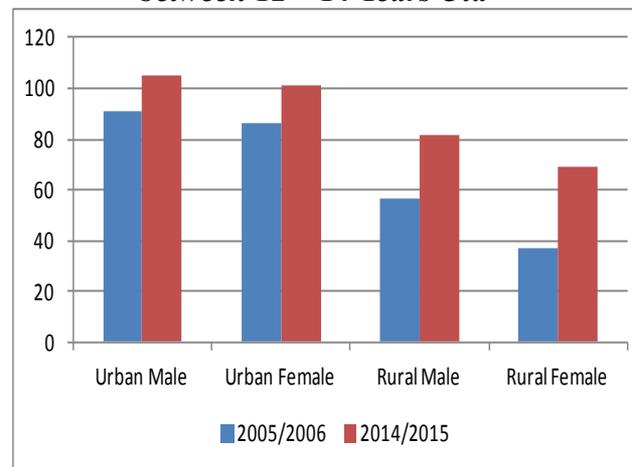
- Gender budgeting was initiated in 2002, making Morocco a leader in the region.
- The initiative is linked to the national development strategy and its focus was on education, health, and employment.
- The Ministry of Economy and Finance took the lead.
- It is undertaken in coordination with UN Women (who instituted a Gender Responsive Budgeting Center for Excellence).
- In 2014, the new organic finance law required:
 - Gender equality be considered when defining performance objectives, results, and indicators, in the budget.
 - A Gender Report be included in the annual Finance Bill.

Outcomes: Morocco

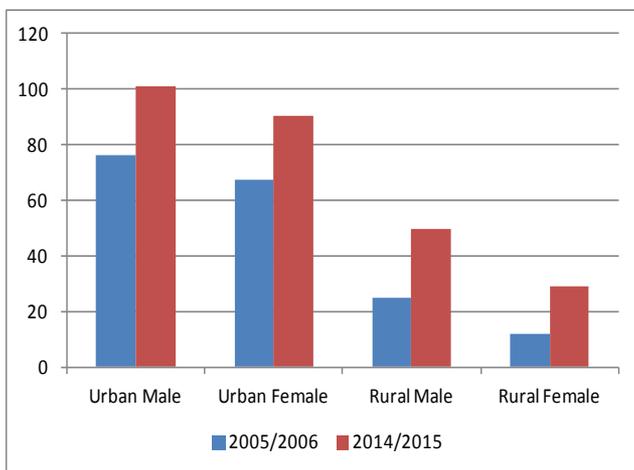
Primary School Enrollment



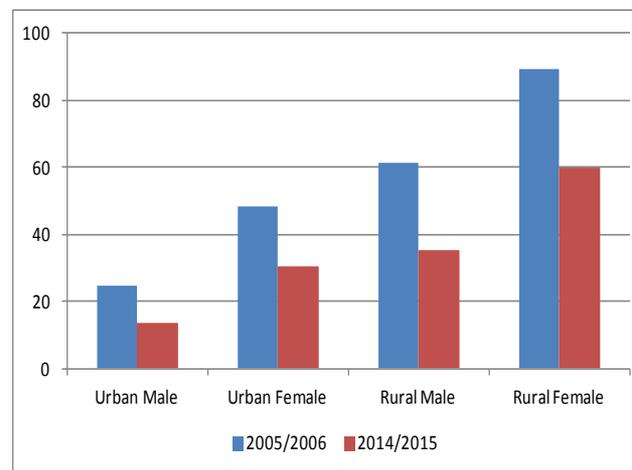
School Enrollment among Children between 12 – 14 Years Old



School Enrollment among Children between 15 – 17 Years Old



Illiteracy Rates



Europe

- **Austria:**
- In 2007, it introduced gender equality as one of four constitutionally mandated budgetary principles.
- The tax system was amended to reduce effective taxation on secondary earners to encourage greater female labor force participation.
- **Belgium:**
- In 2007, it passed legislation in which government ministries must identify gender equality objectives and then to link these objectives to the budget.
- All government policies and laws are assessed with regard to differential impact on women and men.

Latin America

- Mexico:
 - Federal initiative began with a focus on health.
 - In collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, government:
 - Determined health needs of women.
 - Assessed whether existing programs were adequate.
 - Allocated funds.
 - Designed indicators to measure outcomes.
- Mexico City:
 - Improved public transport routes providing a safer transportation alternative for women.

Pacific Region

- Timor-Leste:
- Parliament granted legal status to gender budgeting.
- Increasing access of girls and women to education.
- Implementing teaching practices and a scholarship program.
- Creating more opportunities for women in economic sectors.
- Improving access to legal aid to fight violence against women.

Gender Budgeting Lessons Learned

- Most countries in the world have adopted fiscal policies intended to address gender inequality.
- Some 80 or more have implemented “gender budgeting.”
- The leadership of the Ministry of Finance is critical.
- The bureaucracy must identify important and achievable objectives, consistent with national development goals on gender equality and women’s and girls’ advancement.
- The government, primarily through its budget, must adopt policies consistent with these goals and fund programs to achieve them.

Gender Budgeting Lessons Learned

- Education and health remain key priorities in the least developed countries.
- Infrastructure, especially in water and sanitation, electricity and other household energy, is essential to reduce unpaid time demands on women and girls.
- Innovative approaches to providing infrastructure may be key in the least developed countries.
- In some countries, including the more developed, the focus may encompass care of the elderly and social transfers to single-parent households, which are predominantly female-headed.

Gender Budgeting Lessons Learned

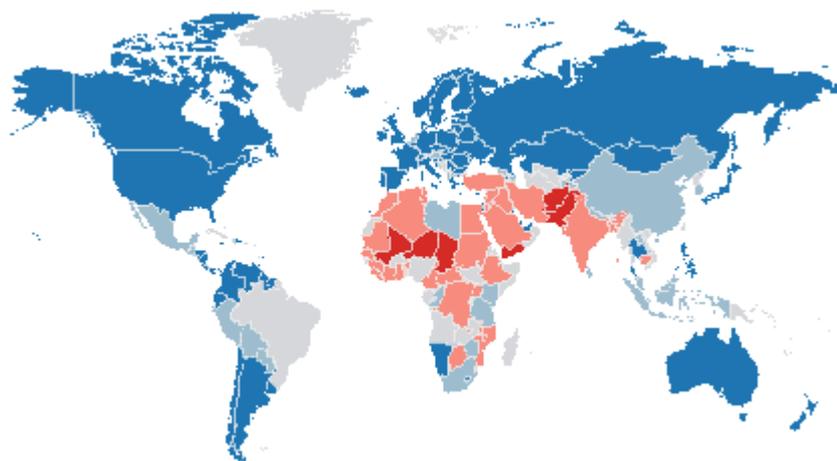
- Women's economic empowerment requires a multi-pronged effort. On the spending side, measures include improving the availability of care for children and the elderly, training and assistance to women entrepreneurs, and some judicious use of subsidies to employers or financial institutions for lending.
- On the revenue side, reducing effective taxation of secondary earners can contribute to making paid work more remunerative.
- Other revenue measures, including some selective reduction of indirect taxation, may help achieve gender-related goals.

Gender Budgeting Lessons Learned

- Parliamentary committees, nongovernmental entities, UN Women, and other aid agencies/donors play an important role in spurring.
- However, government ownership is essential to any success.
- Collection of appropriate data and use in supporting analysis is critical to formulation of policies and programs and evaluation of outcomes.

Toolkit: What You Will Find

- Links to the series of IMF working papers on gender budgeting in each region and a guide to manuals.
- A dataset on gender budgeting indicators.
- Two time-consistent indices of gender development.



Empirical Work: India

- Gender budgeting at the state level in India.
- Variation in gender budgeting across Indian states.
- Good state-level data coverage on gender indicators, fiscal variables, and other demographic variables.
- Using panel data at the state-level, we can measure the impact of gender budgeting on:
 - Gender equality.
 - Expenditure per capita.

Results

- Gender budgeting dummies are sometimes significant and imply that gender budgeting leads to more gender equality.
- But hard to say if picking up some other influence not captured in the model.
- Gender budgeting has a more mixed effect on spending.
- Income and transfers have a direct and positive effect, consistent with underlying model.