



Republika e Kosovës

Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo

Qeveria - Vlada - Government

ZYRA E KRYEMINISTRIT / OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER / URED PREMIJERA
AGJENCIA PËR BARAZI GJINORE / AGENCIJA ZA RAVNOPRAVNOST POLOVA



Ms. Edona Hajrullahu, Chief Executive, Agency for Gender Equality/Office of the Prime Minister, Kosovo



Mr. Klaus Feiler, Secretary of State, Senate Department for Finance, Berlin, Germany



Mrs. Mimoza Kusari-Lila, Deputy Prime Minister, addressing to International Conference "Gender Responsive Budgeting: Challenges and Practices"



Ms. Catharina Schmitz, Executive Director Interdevelop. From Sweden



Ms. Alida Tota, Director for Equal Opportunities and Family Policies—Sector for Equal Opportunities and Measures towards the Domestic Violence

International Conference:

"Gender Responsive Budgeting: Challenges and Practices" Prishtina, Kosovo, 15 November 2012

Introduction

The issue of equality between men and women has attracted a lot of attention at the central and local level. Fair share of municipal budgets is considered to be an important issue in pushing forward social, economic and democratic processes in Kosovo. Recently, decision makers, with the support of different international donors are inquiring new approaches in order to emphasize the gender issue. Therefore, gender responsive budgeting (GRB) is a new approach to combat gender inequality and to properly meet the needs of men and women by reflecting them in public policies.

The Republic of Kosovo has the adequate legislation that guarantees gender equality and equal opportunities. However, gender inequality in accessing financial resources and in spending public funds is challenging. Therefore, Agency for Gender Equality in the Office of Prime Minister of Republic of Kosovo organized the international conference on gender responsive budgeting.

The conference aimed to:

- Provide information on best practices and extend knowledge on gender responsive budgeting at the local and central level.
- Exchange instruments and instructions drafted about the way how to implement gender responsive budgeting at the local level.

Key Speakers

The conference had key speakers from abroad and Kosovo:

- Edona Hajrullahu, Chief Executive, Agency for Gender Equality/Office of the Prime Minister, Kosovo
- Klaus Feiler, Secretary of State, Senate Department for Finance, Berlin, Germany
- Catharina Schmitz, Executive Director Interdevelop. from Sweden
- Alida Tota, Directorate for the politics for equal opportunity, and family- Ministry of Labour and Social issues and Equal Opportunity, Albania
- Celestine Krösschell – HELVETAS Swiss
- Avni Kastrati- Mayor of Municipality of Mitrovica
- Melihate Limani, USAID Democratic Effective Municipalities Initiative
- Zana Plakiaq, Leader of Women Caucus, Gracanica
- Mubexhel Zhuri, Gender Officer, Prizren
- Zejnije Lenjani – Gender officer Kamenicë/ Kamenica

Participants

The conference was attended by more than 150 participants from Kosovo central and local institutions, civil society sector and international donors and guests.



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Conference: Conclusions, and Recommendations

Identified Challenges:

1. Budgets that reflect gender perspective (including cross sectorial gender mainstreaming)
2. Gender disaggregated data and gender analyses.
3. Participation of Women in Decision-making Processes
4. Cooperation between Women at Local and National Level
5. Cooperation of Women from Different Political Parties
6. Slow implementation of Laws (especially those affecting gender issues)
7. Employment of women
8. Economic empowerment of Women
9. Education of women in rural areas
10. the budget circular reflecting gender perspective

Conclusions:

1. Gender budgeting is a new concept for the institutions and the society of Kosovo, thus its implementation is slow
2. Institutional mechanisms can be empowered by having clear budget lines. All institutions should be responsible for gender responsive budgeting.

Recommendations:

1. Gender budgeting should be enforced by law.
2. Before approving the Local and National Budgets to Conduct Gender Audits
3. Allocate Targeted Budget for Gender Issues in Local Level (including cross sectorial gender mainstream)
4. Gender analysis is needed to determine Budgets impact on men and women.
5. Develop Key Indicators to Measure the Progress of Gender Equality in Municipal and National Level
6. Increase Women Involvement in the Political Processes in Local Level
7. To Continue with the Application of the Quota for Gender Representation
8. Increase Cooperation between Women at Local and National Level Disregarding their Political Affiliation
9. Enforce the Implementation of the Laws (especially those affecting gender issues)
10. To Increase Awareness of Women and Man on Gender Equality
11. Increase capacities of Women in Specific Fields
12. Increase Cooperation between Women and Non-Governmental Organizations
13. Collect more gender disaggregated data's, Conduct Gender Analysis, and use such data's and analyses when developing Local/National Policies



Celestine Krösschell – HELVETAS
Swiss



Mr. Avni Kastrati, Mayor,
presented the practices and challenges of gender responsive budgeting in Mitrovica Municipality



Mrs. Mubexhele Zhuri, Gender Officer,
presented the practices and challenges of gender responsive budgeting in Prizren Municipality



Ms. Zana Plakiq,
presented the practices and challenges of gender responsive budgeting in Gračanica/Graçanicë Municipality