

5.8 United Kingdom: Gender Budgeting in Wales 2005/2006

- by Jackie Jones

GENDER BUDGETING IN WALES 2005/06

JACKIE JONES

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MEANING IN WALES

Jane Hutt – Minister for equality and equality of opportunity.

Equality Policy Unit.

Welsh Assembly Equality of Opportunity Committee.

– *Report on Mainstreaming Equality in the Work of the National Assembly 2004*

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GOVERNMENT OF WALES ACT 1998

SECTION 120

'The Assembly shall make appropriate arrangements with a view to securing that its functions are exercised with due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people.'

– Covers everything, including gender.

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Mainstreaming Report 2004 mainstreaming rec. 1

- Integration of respect for diversity & equality of opportunity principles, strategies and practices into the every day work of the Assembly and other public bodies.
- Equality issues considered from the outset as integral part of the policy-making and service delivery process
- Achievement of equality inform all aspects of the work of all the individuals within the organisation as they go about their business.
- Its success measured by evaluating if inequalities reduced.

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EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

The model used in Wales is equality of outcomes for all.

Not just a level playing field. Measurable results.

Aspirational goal:

'It is not enough to open the gates of opportunity. All our citizens must have the ability to walk through those gates.'

L. Johnson

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Mainstreaming Report 2004 summary of recs.

- Training for new staff members.
- Ongoing programme for other staff and Assembly members.
- A senior level official in each Assembly Division to have responsibility of dealing with equality issues in its work.
- Development of toolkits, checklists etc.
- Forward work programme equality checked.
- Externally commissioned equality audit.

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**Mainstreaming Report 2004
rec. 20**

'We recommend that the Assembly Gov't pilots gender budgeting in a policy area to assess the level of equity in financial allocations, with a view to expanding its use across the Assembly.'

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GENDER BUDGETING

BUDGETING means planning of revenues and expenditures within a certain period. It is also a method of priority setting and of decision making on issues that influence the actual and future situation of people and their environment.

GENDER is used to indicate social differences between men and women – not biological differences – the social significance given to the biological differences. Social roles are assigned according to prevailing laws and customs.

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**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR
WGBG?**

Steering committee:

EOC
Oxfam
WWNC/Women's Voice
NUS
Swansea University
Mewn Cymru

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GENDER BUDGETING

GENDER BUDGETING is the process through which public budgets are examined in order to assess whether they contribute to more equality between men and women and then to introduce changes that promote gender equality.

GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING simply refers to the analysis of government expenditure and revenue on women and girls as compared to men and boys.

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**WGBG WORK
GENDER BUDGETING**

- Advocates
- Dissemination of information
- Provision of expertise
- Training/capacity building
- Guidance/support
- Pilot on gender budgeting in sport
- Conferences

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GENDER BUDGETING

'Since men and women generally occupy different social and economic positions, budgets typically affect them differently. Ignoring the gender impact of the budget is not neutrality. It is blindness'.

Noleen Heyser Executive Director UNIFEM

Shares elements of **PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING** in that it demands that women are involved in expressing their needs and making budgetary decisions.

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GENDER BUDGETING

GENDER BUDGETING DOES NOT MEAN A SPECIAL BUDGET FOR WOMEN. It means planning the budget to take account of the needs of women **AND** men mindful of the different roles they have in the home, workplace and society.

GENDER BUDGETING involves following the money through to those who benefit from the spending.

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GENDER BUDGETING AND THE EU

Since 1995 EU also committed to gender mainstreaming.

EU Action Programmes on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men.

More than 50m Euros assigned for implementation.

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GENDER BUDGETING AROUND THE WORLD

GENDER BUDGETING is not new.

Initiatives have been undertaken in more than 100 countries. First done in the 1980's in Tanzania & Australia. Carried out a lot in developing countries, emerging democracies and countries where new political structures have been set up.

Also in South Africa and Central America.

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GENDER BUDGETING AIMS – LINKING SPENDING TO THE EFFECT ON PEOPLE'S LIVES

Transforming of unequal social and institutional structures and mechanisms into structures and mechanisms that enhance equality.

Raise awareness of the gendered impact of policies and the corresponding budget allocations.

Highlight gaps between policy and budget allocation.

Make governments accountable for their commitment to gender equality.

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GENDER BUDGETING AROUND THE WORLD

Commitment in **BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION (1995)**. Point 345:

'For all financial arrangements, the integration of a gender perspective and adequate financing of specific programmes should be guaranteed';

Point 356 governments should make *'efforts to systematically review how women benefit from public sector expenditures, adjust budgets to ensure this, both for enhancing productive capacity and for meeting social needs.'*

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GENDER BUDGETING WHY?

Budgetary decisions are made on our behalf. By elected parliamentarians. In a democracy we expect those decisions explained. We demand more **openness and transparency** and we are seeking more participation in decision-making.

It ensures **accountability and transparency**. – it requires policies to say how the gendered needs of the population are being met.

Gender budget analysis helps governments decide how policies need to be adjusted to **achieve their maximum impact**.

Linking spending to the policies which government signs up to measures the **commitment** to those policies.

Gender and equity are critical factors for environmental **sustainability**.

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GENDER BUDGETING WHY?

- As a means to expedite Gender Mainstreaming.
- Beijing intended ALL government departments to engage.
- Value for money. Equality duty.

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GENDER BUDGETING HOW CHECKLIST

- Are women and men equally represented in the specific target groups of the projects, programmes or action plans?
- What is the composition of the beneficiary group i.e. the actual recipients? Do men and women benefit equally?
- Were women and men equally involved in the planning? If not how was equal participation dealt with?
- What was the average expenditure per beneficiary? Are there any identifiable differences between average expenditure for female and male beneficiaries? If so, can they be accounted for?

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GENDER BUDGETING WHY?

- Increases the role of women in decision-making.
 - New Deal Programme – Funds distributed under three categories: Young People, Long Term Unemployed, Lone Parents. 8% of funding went to Lone Parents of whom **95%** are female, 57% went to Young People of whom **27%** are female.
- Dr. Katherine Rake. Chair UK Women's Budget Group.**

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GENDER BUDGETING HOW CHECKLIST

- In analysing all the relevant information say whether the policy/programme reduced gender inequalities, left them unchanged or increased them
- How much budget is there to overcome obstacles that impede equality for men and women?
- Do you have adequate consultation mechanisms?
- Are gender experts involved?

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GENDER BUDGETING HOW?

EXPENDITURE. The sums set aside or spent - are they distributed so that the objectives can be achieved for both men and women?

ACTIVITIES. Are the services planned or delivered suitable and adequate for both men and women?

RESULTS. Are the results achieved for both men and women – if this was intended and deliverable?

EFFECTS. The planned or achieved results in a broader perspective – i.e. on health or income distribution – is the effect relevant for both men and women?

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GENDER BUDGETING HOW CHECKLIST

- **How does the spend per beneficiary differ between programmes?** Can differences be explained in terms of stated policy? Do the differences reveal a gender bias?
- **Are there mechanisms in place to receive feedback?** Is there a difference between what men and women are saying?
- **Is there analysis of target groups not benefiting?** Are their particular barriers to access? Are these gender related? What is the cost of removing them?
- **What are the outcomes of the programme** in terms of benefits to the target groups? Can these outcomes be measured for women and men separately?

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WALES

- 'We recommend that the Assembly Gov't pilots gender budgeting in a policy area to assess the level of equity in financial allocations, with a view to expanding its use across the Assembly.'

Rec. 20 M Report.

- **Training. Civil servants and Assembly Members.**
- **Sport – EOC.**
- **Scoping. Transport.**

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TRANSPORT EOC STUDY 2005

Table 2 Main mode of transport to work Wales, 2004

	Per cent	
	Women	Men
Car, van, minibus, works van	77	86
On foot	16	7
Bus, coach, private bus or taxi	6	2
Railway	1	2
Bicycle	...	1
<i>All</i>	100	100

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TRANSPORT EOC STUDY 2005

- National Assembly of Wales statistics on Welsh transport were examined for possible gender issues.
- It concluded that a much higher proportion of the journeys made by men than women were made as car or van drivers in 2002-03.
- Conversely, a much higher proportion of women's journeys were made as a car passenger.

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TRANSPORT EOC STUDY 2005

In Wales a higher proportion of men's than women's journeys are for commuting and business, while

a higher proportion of women's journeys are for shopping.

Thus in 1999-2001, commuting and business accounted for 23 per cent of men's trips, compared with only 13 per cent of women's.

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TRANSPORT EOC STUDY 2005

Table 1 Trips made by mode of transport Wales, 2002-03

	Per cent	
	Women	Men
Car/van driver	35	54
Car passenger	31	19
On foot	24	19
Other mode	10	8
<i>All trips (N)</i>	929	970

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TRANSPORT EOC STUDY 2005

Men travel much larger distances for commuting and business reasons than do women.

In 2002-03, more than one third of the distance that men travelled in Wales (an average of 2,749 miles) was for this reason, compared with less than a fifth of the distance travelled by women (an average of only 1,054 miles).

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MEANING?

- Transport needs differ for men and women.
- Reflected in the fact that men are largely in the paid economy while women stretch their time between the two. Women do more caring work than men.
- Caring responsibilities as a result of sharing households and many women share their households with persons more likely to be in the paid economy, working long hours.

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CONCLUSION

- Gender budgeting can play a big role in fulfilling the public sector duty on gender.
- Only a tool – the start of the process. But a good, sound, practical start.
- Positive duties are also vital.
- Really: Change in the hearts and minds of people needed.

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