

WORKSHOP

GENDER BUDGETING AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE FROM AFRICA AND EUROPE

Friday, 24th September 2010

Gustav-Stresemann-Institut

Langer Grabenweg 68, 53175 Bonn - Bad Godesberg

The Africa-EU-strategy aims to promote democratic governance and to strengthen the implementation of human rights. Transparent and inclusive budgets that reflect the interests of all parts of the population are key to reach these goals. Against the background of structural gender inequalities in legal, political and social areas, gender budgeting plays an integral part to democratise fiscal and political decisions. This applies both to budget revenues and disbursements. On the one hand, gender budgeting enables the systematic integration of the gender perspective into different budgeting phases. On the other hand, it is also the basis for the dialogue with civil society on political priorities and decisions. Thus, democratic control mechanisms and gender justice can be strengthened by gender budgeting initiatives.

Governments worldwide committed themselves to gender equality in all areas of society by signing the Beijing Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW). In these declarations, Gender Mainstreaming and the integration of gender approaches into budget policies are considered integral parts of states' efforts to implement gender justice. Nevertheless, 15 years after Beijing, this approach is not anchored in (public) budgets yet. Despite of single initiatives on the local or national level, the progress of implementation has been insufficient so far and the potential for democratization has not been used neither in Europe nor in Africa. However, social and gender budgeting is becoming an increasingly important topic, especially as new aid modalities in development cooperation include more and more direct support of national budgets by donors.

Against this background, the Workshop „Gender Budgeting and Democratic Governance“ aims to gather specific experience from Africa and Europe to commonly discuss potentials and risks of this approach. Its aim is to develop common strategies for gender budgeting and thus contribute to the further development of democracy and gender equality in both continents.

PROGRAMME

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- 11:00** **Welcome and Introduction**
Prof. Dr. h.c. Christa Randzio-Plath, VENRO
- 11:15** **Gender Budgeting and (Gender) Democracy: What are the linkages?**
Marion Böker, European Gender Budgeting Initiatives Network (EGBN)
- 12:00** **Lunch**
- 13:00** **Experience from Africa**
Patricia Munabi, Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE), Uganda
Comment: Prof. Dr. h.c. Christa Randzio-Plath, VENRO, Germany
- 14:00** **Experience from Europe**
Dr. Elfriede Fritz, Federal Ministry of Finance, Austria
Comment: Tilder Kumichii, Gender Empowerment and Development (GeED), Cameroon
- 15:00** **Coffee Break**
- 15:30** **Discussion of Strategies on how to democratise budget processes**
- 17:00** **End**
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The workshop will be held in English.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact:

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The project is co-funded by the German Federal
Ministry for Economic Cooperation and
Development (BMZ).



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*** MEETING REPLY FORM ***

*To register for the Workshop, please complete this registration form and return
until 17th of September 2010
by fax: +49 30 28046672 or by email to m.bilinski@venro.org*

Name :

Organisation :

Function :

Address :

E-mail :

Tel & fax :

Working language will be English.