



Gender Responsive Budget Program

Overview

MIFTAH has been working on this program since 2003, which falls under MIFTAH's strategic objective "to influence policy and legislation to ensure their safeguarding of civil and social rights for all sectors and their adherence to principles of good governance."

The project contributes to developing and implementing strategies for women's participation in economic decision-making through their engagement in budgetary processes. It also helps increase the transparency of economic governance and management processes, and holds national actors accountable to their policy commitments to women. Thus, the whole process of engendering the national budget will contribute positively to Palestinian women's status and rights, in addition to its contribution to the process of reform through adopting principles of transparency, accountability, and social equity.

Objectives

1. To activate national policies which are interpreted into a Gender Responsive National Budget;
2. To contribute positively to Palestinian women's status and rights through putting forth proposals for a reprioritization of expenditures and revenues, which takes into account the different needs and priorities of women;
3. To enhance principles of transparency and accountability on the national level.

Activities during the year 2010-2011 within the GRB program:

- **On the national Level:** activities are funded by NDC (The Palestinian NGOs Development Centre)
 1. One valuable assessment study of the impact of the services provided by the Ministry of Labor on both Men and Women will be published in October 2011
 2. *Specialized on-the-job training on gender mainstreaming, participatory planning and budget analysis is implemented.* The training targeted the Planning and Budgeting committees of the five ministries (Social Affairs,

Education, Health, Labor and Ministry of Women Affairs) to build and reinforce the capacity of the planning and budgeting committees in five ministries as a pilot intervention. **Completed By July 2011.**

3. MIFTAH also developed *a policy paper on Palestinian women and the informal labor sector*, to advocate on policy and decision makers concerning women's protection in the labor force that cross cuts with the four strategic sectors included in the PRDP

Link to MIFTAH website

<http://miftah.org/PublicationDetails.cfm?id=54>

4. *A GRB Guidebook is being developed based* on the results of the trainings, all the training materials in addition to the related global information published regarding the GRB. All related information will be collated into a published GRB guidebook. *This Guidebook is considered a resource for practical guidelines (guidance) for GRB concepts, tools, mechanisms and procedures, practises and similar regional cases.*

5. *Organize a one-day national gathering (a seminar)* to address the issue of engendering budgets, to reach out and enhance networking among partners, stakeholders, decision and policy makers *to be conducted by mid-November 2011*

- **On the local Governance level:** activities are funded by Heinrich Boel Foundation, 2011

- *Participatory Needs Assessment Survey in Bani Zaid*

Aim: assist the local council to produce a needs assessment research in partnership with the local community, including knowledge, expertise, and resources of the involved community.

- *Participatory gender-based strategic planning process for the Bani Zaid Local Council.*

Aim: assist the Local Council in bringing the community together to explain how they would like their community - including marginalized groups - to develop over the next few years.

- *Revision and evaluation of the strategic plans of Birzeit, Halhoul and Anabta municipalities' from a gender perspective.*

Birzeit, Halhoul and Anabta municipalities, had the opportunity to complete the strategic planning process through a CHF and GIS intervention program within the year 2010 – and early 2011, and succeeded in developing their strategic plans.

The process will examine and identify areas of addressing gender needs and the degree of applying gender mainstreaming to certain social sectors included within the strategic plan. She /he will work on preparing gender indicators which can be used to monitor progress on gender mainstreaming in the long run that meet the municipality's vision, mission and objectives.

➤ ***Impact evaluation session***

Aim: *To assess the outcomes attributable to the project on gender-responsive budgets in local councils, and to determine the relevance of project activities and how efficiently and effectively they were implemented and whether the benefits generated by the project will contribute to higher level objectives.*

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