



GENDER AND SPENDING REVIEWS

How can gender perspectives be integrated into the spending review process?



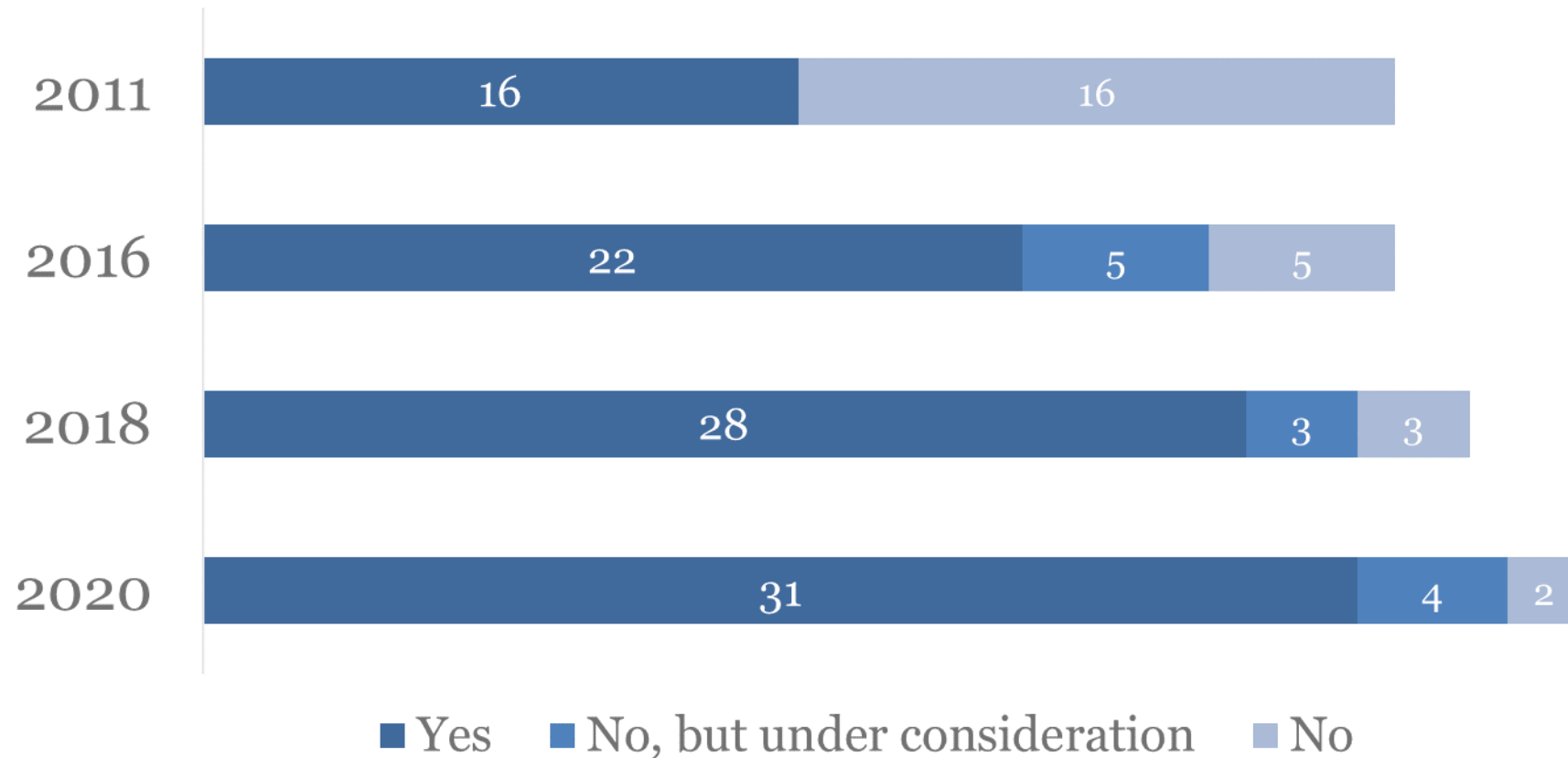
Spending reviews defined

- Spending reviews are a *collaborative* process of developing and adopting policy options by analysing the government's *existing* expenditure within defined areas, and *linking* these options to the budget process
- The purposes of a spending review include:
 - Enabling the government to *manage the aggregate* level of expenditure
 - Aligning expenditure *according to the priorities* of the government
 - *Improving effectiveness* within programmes and policies



The number of countries conducting SR has increased over the past decade...

Adoption of spending reviews 2011 - 2020





Why are spending reviews important?

- Analyse existing expenditure
- Analyse important spending areas
- Rely on good quality data
- Collaboration between important stakeholders
- Widely used and results can have considerable impact
- Results feed into the budget process
- Based on strong political leadership



Aligning Public Financial Management Reforms

- PFM reforms are often mutually supportive
 - Performance budgeting → SRs → Gender budgeting
- Most likely, spending reviews will be used more extensively in the coming years
 - Unsustainable public finances
- Integrating gender perspectives into spending reviews can ensure that gender is a routine part of the budget process
 - Highlight gender perspectives across administrations



Integrating gender into the SR process

- The application of a gender perspective to spending reviews has the potential to ensure that reprioritisation of expenditure has a positive impact on gender equality goals
- This is particularly relevant in the context of the current crisis as evidence shows that fiscal consolidation post financial crisis targeted sectors in which women were over-represented
- A gender perspective to spending review can help ensure that:
 - Re-prioritisation of expenditure does not increase gender gaps
 - Any decisions to reallocate expenditures from one area to another take into account the potential for these decisions to impact on gender inequality



How can this be done?

- Spending reviews draw on existing evaluations that include gender perspective and gender-related data
 - Germany
- Spending reviews can identify policies that affect women
 - Spain and Germany
- Gender perspectives are routinely included in the spending review process
 - Canada



THANK YOU!

Álfrún TRYGGVADOTTIR

Alfrun.TRYGGVADOTTIR@oecd.org