





Support to Enhanced Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt

Workshop on Implementing Gender and Equality Budgeting in Egypt

> 29 January- 1 February 2024, Cairo Summary Note



The EU-funded project **"Support to Enhanced Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt"** is implemented by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) over a period of five years (2022-2026). It aims to support the efforts by the Government of Egypt to strengthen the monitoring and implementation of priority public governance reforms. More specifically, the EU funded project addresses three priority areas through two components, namely support to the Egypt Vision 2030 and the National Administrative Reform Plan, as well as support for the effective and efficient execution of public finance systems. These objectives respond to the EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities 2021-2027 and will be implemented through strategic collaboration between the Government of Egypt, the EU, and the OECD.

Egypt has taken important steps forward in implementing gender budgeting in recent years. As it continues to develop its gender budgeting framework, it is vital to strengthen government capacity for effective implementation. Most notably, the efforts by Egypt's Ministry of Finance (MoF) to employ an intersectional approach to gender budgeting (which encompasses other groups of society that face inequalities in addition to women) is in line with best practices across the OECD. This approach allows the Egyptian Government to widen the definition of gender budgeting and consider the needs of women, children, the youth, the elderly and people with disabilities as part of the budgeting process.

Objective of the workshop

In the latest budget circular for FY2024/20256, the MOF included instructions for the first time in relation to gender and equality budgeting, requesting line ministries to conduct a three-step gender and equality impact assessment for each of the submitted programmes. Consequently, the aim of the workshop was to support four selected line ministries to conduct this task using a simple approach as per OECD best practices and EU standards. The three tasks included in the budget circular are as follow:

- ✓ Identifying the extent to which the submitted programs seek to progress equal opportunities and gender equality objectives.
- ✓ Classifying programme beneficiaries based on gender at all age levels.
- ✓ Providing a qualitative description of the expected impact of programs on the achievement of equal opportunities and gender equality objectives.



Summary of the workshop

Four-days of practical and tailored capacity building workshops were conducted between 29 January and 1 February to support selected line ministries in implementing the gender and equality budgeting instructions outlined in Egypt's Budget Circular for the FY 2024/2025. Several line-ministries participated in these workshops – gathering 37 participants from the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (MOHESR) as well as 32 participants from the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS) and the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS), along with representatives from the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MPED) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), with the lead of the Ministry of Finance of Egypt (MOF).

For each of the three tasks outlined, the OECD prepared suggested templates, questions to guide the analysis, strategic references from the national context and potential data sources. Using this guidance, along with examples from OECD countries, participants from line ministries were able to develop draft gender and equality impact assessments for programmes under their responsibility during the workshop. To do this, reference was made to the Women's Empowerment Strategy 2030, the National Human Rights Strategy 2021-2026, the National Strategy for Youth and Adolescents 2022-2027, and the National Strategy for Sports 2020-2025.

The workshop is in line with the European Union's key principles of gender mainstreaming and consistent with the project's overall objectives.

The workshop's working language was conducted in English, with simultaneous interpretation in Arabic.



Key Takeaways

- The continued need to raise awareness around the new instructions relating to gender and equality impact assessment in the FY 2024/2025 Budget Circular.
- The importance of understanding the high-level objective or policy challenge that each programme aims to address as the starting point for any gender or equality analysis.
- The value from focussing the gender and equality analysis on those groups of society most directly affected by the budget programme.
- The varying availability of gender disaggregated data across the different ministries and potential benefits from greater consolidation of this information.
- The value of enhanced cooperation between CAPMAS and line ministries to leverage the efforts already being made to strengthen the availability of data and indicators to support gender and equality analysis.
- The need for the Equal Opportunities Unit to enhance its cooperation with the different line ministries to support implementation of gender and equality considerations in the budgeting process.





Next Steps:

• Supporting the MOF with the review of submissions from the line ministries in relation to the new gender and equality budgeting requirements and using this as a basis to make recommendations on how the approach – and associated guidance and capacity development - could be further refined.



MOE & MOEHSR Group Photo



MOYS & MOSS Group Photo

For more information: Support to Enhanced Administrative and Public Economic Governance in Egypt (2022-2026)