



IN BRIEF



# GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING IN TANZANIA

Photo: UN Women

## The Issue

Globally, the convergence of COVID-19, climate change and geopolitical conflicts has threatened gender equality across the globe. Women and girls have faced disproportionately intense impacts of threats; higher rates of poverty, greater risks of food insecurity, skyrocketing rates of violence and a global pushback on equal rights. As gaps remain in efforts to stem the tide of these crises, it is important to have fiscal policies in place, including tax and budget systems to safeguard spending for women. Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) can ensure a gender-equitable allocation of resources and track their expenditure to promote gender equality.<sup>1</sup>

The United Republic of Tanzania has been a frontrunner in the implementation of GRB by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Local Government Authorities (LGAs). However, studies have noted that challenges continued due to insufficient financing mobilized and spent for gender equality, inadequate integration of GRB in laws and policies, lack of coordination across the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP) and sectoral ministries, and absence of robust initiatives among non-state actors to monitor GRB implementation. Importantly, this left out the role and contribution of GRB from existing Public Financial Management (PFM) frameworks which is designed to increase the efficiency of allocation of public resources and improve the technical efficiency of service delivery in national budgeting.

## What We Do

UN Women Tanzania is supporting the renewed efforts of United Republic of Tanzania in upholding the principles of GRB as a transformative enabler to transform development outcomes across sectors. The efforts are in line with the Tanzania United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) which has identified Financing for Development as a result area. At the onset, in 2022 our major task was to first integrate GRB in major national fiscal laws, policies, strategies, and plans. As a result, MoFP included gender targets in 3 out of 5 strategic objectives of the Public Financial Management Reform Programme (PFMRP) IV strategic plan (2022-2027). An analysis of all major fiscal policy frameworks was also undertaken including the budgets for the agriculture and health sector analysis for FY 2022-23 to determine sector level entry points.

Secondly, a capacity development assessment was also conducted to assess the existing understanding, knowledge, and skills on GRB among nine key PFM institutions at national level. A gender audit and GRB training manual was also carried out and developed at the Local Government level respectively. GRB sensitization sessions were subsequently held with directors of policy and planning in mainland and Zanzibar, permanent secretaries, parliamentarians, UN Country Team and UN Gender coordination mechanisms. These forums highlighted the need for greater alignment of GRB to PFM reforms, as well as global geopolitical developments for achieving inclusive and sustainable growth and advancing gender equality and women's empowerment.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/Videos/view?vid=6317151430112>



## How We Make a Difference: Step by Step

2023 Strategies on Gender Responsive Budgeting in the United Republic of Tanzania:

### Where we are going

In alignment with the UN Women Strategic Plan (2023-2027), UN Women in Tanzania and its partners will build on the momentum for gender financing by integrating a systemic outcome on financing gender equality through global normative frameworks, gender-responsive laws, policies, and institutions, particularly focusing on the commitments for Generation Equality Forum Action Coalition.

We are committed in supporting the United Republic of Tanzania as a leader of the Economic Rights and Justice Coalition in their commitment to design and implement gender-responsive macroeconomic plans, budget reforms and stimulus packages so that the number of women and girls living in poverty is reduced including through quality public social protection floors and systems.

UN Women will further support state and non-state actors to develop capacity and establish a coordination mechanism to integrate gender equality into fiscal laws and policies. Evidence and data to catalyze, promote, and track progress on the integration of gender financing strategies will also be made available and utilized by state and non-state actors.

### What we need

Three major elements are needed to facilitate the expected outputs. First, partnerships to consolidate the gains and catalyze commitment for increased accountability for financing for gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE).



Photo: UN Women

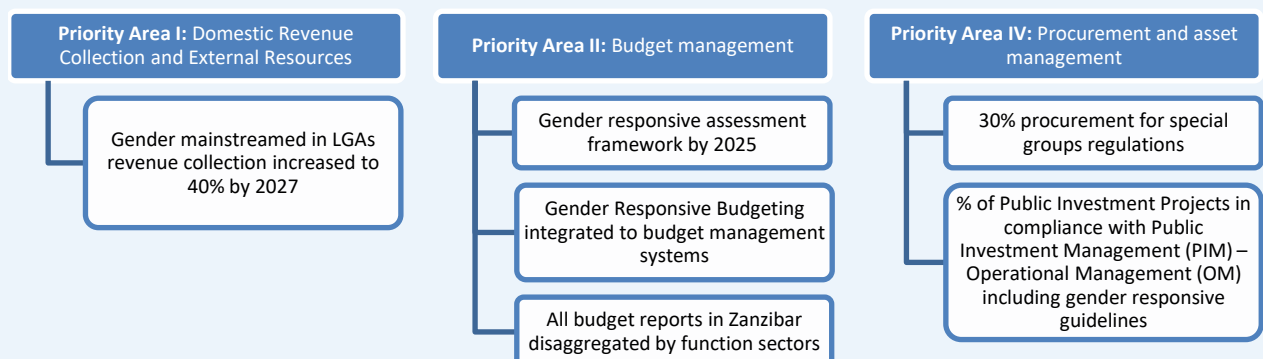
*Dr. Saada Mkuya Salum, Minister of State, President's Office, Finance and Planning, Zanzibar and Maureen Gitonga UN Women Tanzania GRB Advisor at PFM RP IV launch as recognition of partnership at the launch of PFM RP IV.*

Secondly, institutionalization of GRB as a key enabler in accelerating achievement of the sustainable development goals (2020-2030) and the United Republic of Tanzania Five-Year Development Plans (2021-2026). Government translates GEWE related policy commitments to action through increased financing and unlocking potential areas of private sector investment.

Lastly, that engagement of women's rights organizations to have capacity to track progress and demand for accountability on financing for gender equality at the national and local level in alignment with global, regional, and national commitments.

#### BOX 1

### Plan for technical assistance to the Ministry of Finance and Planning to implement gender targets in the priority areas of the Public Finance Management Reform Programme IV Strategic Plan



Supported by:

