Gender Budgeting
The Austrian Case

Gerhard Steger
Director General of the Budget
Ministry of Finance, Austria

Vienna, 14 December 2012
GB integrated in a comprehensive Budget Reform

- Result-oriented management of administrative units
- **2009**
- **2013**
- New budget structure: „lump-sum budgets“
- Performance Budgeting including Gender Budgeting
- Accrual budgeting and accounting
- **Unanimous decision in parliament**
- **Flexibility** for line ministries through full carry-forward of unused funds
- **Budgetary discipline and planning:** binding medium term expenditure framework
- **New budget principles:** outcome-orientation; efficiency; transparency; true and fair view

Gerhard Steger
Gender Budgeting, The Austrian Case
Vienna, 14th December 2012
Gender Budgeting enshrined in the Austrian Constitution

- Art. 13 of the Austrian Constitution requires: “Federation, States and Communes are to strive for the effective equality of women and men in their budget management.”
- According to the Austrian Constitution the Austrian Federation has to apply Gender Budgeting as an integral element of Performance Budgeting: Art. 51 of the Austrian Constitution states: „In the budget management of the Federation the fundamental principles of impact orientation, especially under consideration of the objectives of the effective equality of women and men . . . are to be observed.“
Why Gender Budgeting?

- To foster gender equality: Focus on the most important levers.
- Budget decisions are KEY decisions: Government policy put into numbers.
- Therefore: Use the budget as lever for gender equality!
Challenges in Implementing Gender Budgeting

Political:
• Create awareness for gender issues: Identify reasons for stakeholders to support GB.
• Establish a broad political consensus to implement GB.

Technical:
• Focus on the most important issues. Don’t create a bureaucratic monster!
• Design simple tools to support GB (i.e. standards to present GB in the budget).
• Collect, analyze and disseminate sex-disaggregated and gender-related data to identify the challenges to be tackled.
• Provide adequate training of staff.
Performance Budgeting (GB integrated) - Pyramid

Budget Chapter

Mission statement

Max. 5 outcome objectives, at least 1 gender objective

Global Budget 1 – 5 primary activities

Global Budget 1 – 5 primary activities

Global Budget 1 – 5 primary activities

Detail Budget G
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget e
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget n
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget d
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget t
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget r
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget i
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget n
Objectives and Activities

Detail Budget cl.
Objectives and Activities

Performance Contracts

Annual Budget Statement

Explanatory budget documents
Austrian Budget 2013: Practical GB-Examples

- **Facilitate combination of job & family:** Ministries of Finance; Economy and Family; High Courts
- **Facilitate participation of women in labour market:** Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs; Economy and Family; Transport, Innovation and Technology
- **Reduce gender pay gap:** Ministry of Finance
- **Safeguard women against violence:** Chancellery; Ministry of Interior
- **Reduce poverty among women:** Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- **Improve representation of women in institutions:** Chancellery; Ministries of Defense; Science; Economy and Family; Finance
- **Improve gender data base:** Court of Audit; Ministries for Labour and Social Affairs; Health; Transport, Innovation and Technology
- **Improve public awareness for gender equality:** Parliament; Chancellery; Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Thank you for your attention!

Contact address:
Dr. Gerhard Steger
Director General
Directorate for Budget and Public Finance
Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance
Tel: +43 1 514 33 50 2000
gerhard.steger@bmf.gv.at
www.bmf.gv.at