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Gender Budget Watchdog Network
for a gender equal region



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SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

REPORT ON THE SDG 5.C.1 INDICATOR

“PROPORTION OF COUNTRIES WITH SYSTEMS TO TRACK
AND MAKE PUBLIC ALLOCATIONS FOR GENDER EQUALITY
AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT”

MONTENEGRO



ŽENSKA AKCIJA
WOMEN ACTION

DELIVERING ON SDG INDICATOR 5C.1

COUNTRY REPORT MONTENEGRO

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INTRODUCTION

The principle of adequate financing for gender equality is rooted in the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (para 345 and 346) adopted in 1995. However, the Secretary General's report on the twenty-year review and appraisal of the Platform for Action found that underinvestment in gender equality and women's empowerment has contributed to slow and uneven progress in all 12 critical areas of concern. Inadequate financing hinders the implementation of gender responsive laws and policies. Data shows that financing gaps are sometimes as high as 90% with critical shortfalls in infrastructure, productive and economic sectors. A widely recognized definition of "gender budgeting" is: "Integrating a clear gender perspective within the overall context of the budgetary process through the use of special processes and analytical tools, with a view to promoting gender-responsive policies" (OECD, 2016). Another definition of Stotsky, 2016 for "gender budgeting is not a special approach to budgeting or even an add-on to budgeting. Rather, gender budgeting is an approach to budgeting that can improve it, when fiscal policies and administrative procedures are structured to address gender inequality and women's development needs. When properly done, one can say that gender budgeting is good budgeting".

The Council of Europe has since 1995 set up a Group of specialists on gender mainstreaming (EG-S-MS), under the auspices of the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG)¹, which drafted a report published in 1998² including a definition of gender mainstreaming. Following this Report, the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted a Recommendation on gender mainstreaming in October 1998³. As part of its research work on the situation of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the Council of Europe member states, the CDEG decided to look more closely at the different methods available for implementing the strategy of gender mainstreaming and agreed that gender budgeting should be a priority. Council of Europe's Group of specialists on gender mainstreaming, in 2006 developed the following definition of gender budgeting: „Gender budgeting is an application of gender mainstreaming in the budgetary process. It means a gender-based assessment of budgets, incorporating a gender perspective at all levels of the budgetary process and restructuring revenues and expenditures in order to promote gender equality.⁴ GRB is recommended by the CoE which has also developed a number of resources for the countries to apply the concept“⁵.

¹ The CDEG is an intergovernmental committee composed of one representative of each of the 46 member States of the Council of Europe.

² COE (1998) Gender mainstreaming – Conceptual framework, methodology and presentation of good practices. Final activity report of the Group of Specialists on Mainstreaming (EG-S-MS) (EG-S-MS (98) 2 rev)

³ Recommendation No. R (98) 14 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on gender mainstreaming.

⁴ Council of Europe (2005), Final report of the Group of Specialists on Gender Budgeting (EG-S-GB), EG-S-GB (2004) RAP FIN; Equality Division, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, p.10 available at http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/12462/GenderBudgeting-report2005_En.pdf

⁵ In example, Sheila Quinn (2009) Gender budgeting: practical implementation Handbook, available online: <https://rm.coe.int/1680599885>

Respondents to this questionnaire, however, may want to use an alternative definition that is used in their countries. Please share with us the definition your government uses for gender responsive budgeting.

The Agenda 2030 for sustainable development which is dedicated not to leave anyone behind under SDG 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Agenda commits to “significant increase in investments to close the gender gap”. Costing and making available the requisite resources for gender equality is central to implementing and achieving SDG 5 and all gender targets across the framework. Tracking resource allocations for gender equality and making them publicly available is an important first step to assess progress towards meeting these goals. Therefore, with the indicator 5.c.1. Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality, it directly evaluates countries transition to gender responsive budgeting which sets an entry point for a globally unified methodology on GRB. This indicator measures three important components of a gender responsive public finance system: (i) intent of a government to address gender equality by identifying whether policies, programs and resources/budgets are in place; (ii) existence of mechanisms to track resource allocations towards these policy goals; (iii) existence of mechanisms to make resource allocations publicly available to increase accountability to women.

The main limitation of the indicator, is that is process oriented. It assesses the process of budgeting whether address gender equality, tracks and reports allocations made for women and gender equality. The indicator unfortunately does not provide data on the adequacy or quality of resource allocations made. So, the assessment is not done on the level whether the needs of women and girls are met with policies and budgets, whether the policies are implemented and budget spent to improve gender equality and what are the gender results of their implementation. As such the indicator 5 c.1. is “an indicator of characteristics of the fiscal system. It is not an indicator of quantity of finance being allocated for gender equality and women’s empowerment”⁶.

At session on July 7, 2016, Government of Montenegro adopted the National Sustainable Strategy development until 2030 with the Action Plan (NSSD). NSSD represents the umbrella, horizontal and long-term development strategy of Montenegro in response to the challenges that stand in way of sustainable development of Montenegrin society until 2030. In defining the strategic framework, the results of the implementation of Action Plan of the previous NSSD 2007-2012 were taken into account, international commitments were made, primarily those contained in United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development until 2030, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015 taking into account the priorities in the process of Montenegro 's accession to the EU. The strategic framework set in this way is directly related to the challenges related to translation

⁶ Diane Elson (2017) Measuring Sustainable Development Goal Indicator 5.c.1 Discussion Paper for Expert Group Meeting 27-28 March 2017 New York, UN Women

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17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) and 169 sustainable development tasks defined within the United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development until 2030 in the national context, so that NSSD measures and sub-measures provide a response to national needs and at the same time connect them with meeting global obligations. Within the NSSD, recommendations were given for the establishment of a funding framework for sustainable development of Montenegro. The basic principles of financing for sustainable development are discussed in detail and possible sources of financing are considered in relation to the requirements contained in the Addis Ababa Action Plan. The proposal of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development until 2030 was presented in July 2016 Voluntary National Report (VNR) at the Political Forum at High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York.

METHODOLOGY

In the framework of the Gender budget watchdog network project, financed by the Austrian Development Agency, an assessment of the status of gender responsiveness of public finance system is made in seven countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Republic of Moldova. The assessment is made by the project partners: Centre for Research and Policy Making (Macedonia), Kosovo Women's Network (Kosovo), Gender Knowledge Hub (Serbia), Gender Alliance for Development Cooperation (Albania), Women's Action (Montenegro), Centre for Civil Society Promotion (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Keystone (Moldova)

The methodology encompassed gathering primary data through in-depth interviews, using open-ended questionnaire as a research tool; and secondary data through desk top research, policy and legal analysis. The gathered data was analyzed and presented in country reports in each of the countries of the project. This report captures the regional comparative perspective of the countries and presents how far they are in delivering the SDG indicator 5.c.1. Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality.

The Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDGs reclassified the indicator as Tier II in 2015 and developed methodological note for collecting data by UN-Women, together with UNDP and the OECD, piloted in 15 countries of which two countries from the region were included Macedonia and Albania. The indicator measures progress towards Target 5c of the SDGs to “adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels”. According to the methodology the system should be led by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the sectoral ministries and National Women's Machineries and overseen by an appropriate body such as Parliament or Public Auditors.

The comparison is conducted on the data gathered for the 2019 fiscal year in the target countries assessing the following 5 aspects: (i) institutional framework for GRB; (ii) gender equality in budget planning; (iii) gender equality in budget adoption; (iv) gender equality in budget execution and (v) gender equality in budget control. The data was gathered independently from the civil society organizations in the Gender Budget Watchdog Network. The assessment fully follows the SDG Indicator 5.c.1 Methodological note for the IAEG-SDG ⁷ and has one objective to inform policy makers on their progress to achieve SDG Indicator 5 c.1 and to provide policy advice for future policy development in this field that is based on evidence from the region. Considering that all countries are

⁷ For more information please refer to: <https://sdg.data.gov/5-c-1/> and <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/metadata-compilation/Metadata-Goal-5.pdf>

on an EU accession track and that the EU has changed the methodology for negotiations of accession including democratic institutions and governance issues in the negotiation framework the assessment may serve as a source of information of progress of countries from Western Balkan region to EU accession as well as inform EU - WB accession dialogue.

According to this methodology SDG indicator 5.c.1 measures three criteria: (1) Existence of policies/programmes and corresponding allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment; (2) systems to track allocations for gender equality; and (3) mechanisms to make allocations for gender equality publicly available. Each criterion is assessed by a set of binary questions. If the country has in place the document, budget and procedures that the question is measuring it is scored with 1 point and if the country does not have the document, budget and procedures that the question is measuring is scored with 0. At the end of each summary of target countries scoring per question is presented.

The scoring according to the methodology for the indicator is structured as a 'scale' measure by classifying countries into one of three categories: 'fully meets requirements', 'approaches requirements', and 'does not meet requirements.' The use of a scaled scoring was recommended at the EGM (March 2017) to incentivize countries to improve tracking systems and to show progress over time⁸.

⁸ SDG Indicator 5.c.1 Methodological note for the IAEG-SDG

GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN MONTENEGRO

In addition to existing institutional mechanisms for the implementation of policy gender equality: Ministries for Human and Minority Rights - Departments for Gender Equality, Committee for Gender Equality of Parliament of Montenegro and Institutions of Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, with contact persons from all relevant institutions, which are obliged to perform Gender Equality, at the national and local level, on October 24, 2016, the National Council for Gender Equality was established, which is a new institutional mechanism for achieving gender equality. As an expert-advisory body, it was formed to consider the implementation of gender equality policy at the national and local levels.

Pursuant to Law on Gender Equality, ministries and administrative bodies have appointed officials who perform the activities of coordinators of activities related to gender equality issues within their competence, and participate in the preparation and implementation of action plans.

The Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality in Montenegro 2017 - 2021 (hereinafter: APAGE)⁹ was adopted, which is the third development document for the implementation of gender equality policy in Montenegro. Like the previous two, it is based on international and domestic legal framework that addresses the issue of gender equality.

Law on Budget and Fiscal Responsibility, which regulates planning and execution in Montenegro budget, fiscal responsibility and other issues relevant to the national budget and budgets local government unit, does not recognize the gender perspective in budget process and does not structures revenues and expenditures in order to promote gender equality.¹⁰

"The Committee calls for the realization of substantive gender equality, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, throughout the process of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."¹¹ (Conslusion 58 from CEDAW Committee , Jule 2019)

CHAPTER 1: intent of government to address gender equality by identifying whether policies, programs and resources/budgets are in place

Budgets are the most important policy tools available to a government and reflect its political priorities. Although the numbers and figures compiled in the budget documents might seem gender-neutral, empirical findings show that expenditure patterns and the way that government raises revenue have a different impact on women and girls as compared to men and boys. Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) is an approach that calls for integrating gender into government planning and budgeting processes. It pre-supposes that the country has a gender equality policy, or gender objectives in sectoral programs for which it allocates sufficient resources and defines procedures for execution of such resources.

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<http://www.minmanj.gov.me/ResourceManager/FileDownload.aspx?rid=270269&rType=2&file=PAPRR%202017%20-%202021.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://mmp.gov.me/biblioteka/izvjestaji?pagerIndex=2>

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https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2fC%2fMNE%2fCO%2f2&Lang=en

1.1. Well-identified gender equality goals are in place

The first dimension of the 5c1 indicator measuring the intent of government to address gender equality is assessing whether there are programs or policies of the government, that are designed to address well-identified gender equality goals.

There is no relevant Strategy but an Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality in Montenegro 2017-2021, which provides basis for gender mainstreaming in policies and institutional mechanisms for the implementation of gender equality policies.¹²

1.2. Adequate resources for gender equality policy

Do these programs or policies have adequate resources allocated within the budget, sufficient to meet both their general objectives and their gender equality goals?

Montenegro does not include gender perspective in budgeting yet. Hence the 2019 budget provisions does not any gender equality objectives. For gender equality programs and projects in 2019 is allocated 220,000 euros which is less than 1% of total budget expenditures.

1.3. Procedures for execution of budget allocations for gender equality are in place

There are no one procedures in place to ensure that these resources are executed according to the budget

Table 1: Criterion 1 Summary of Results

Country	Are there programs or policies of the government, that are designed to address well-identified gender equality goals?	Do these programs or policies have adequate resources allocated within the budget, sufficient to meet both their general objectives and their gender equality goals?	Are there procedures in place to ensure that these resources are executed according to the budget?
Montenegro	1	0	1
Percentage / Average	100%	%	%

¹² Action plan for achieving gender equality (2017-2021) p.23 <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/mne151332.pdf>

CHAPTER 2: Public Financial Management system that promotes gender-related or gender-responsive goals

GRB makes gender an integral part in fiscal and budgetary decision making and brings focus to the recognition that fiscal policies (both expenditures and revenues) have differentiated impacts and that analysis and review of fiscal policies and practices should take this into account. Gender responsive budgeting is intended to ensure that PFM can contribute to addressing gender specific needs and closing gender gaps in men and women's opportunities for economic, social, and political participation and thus development outcomes¹³.

¹³ PEFA (2020), Supplementary Framework for Assessing Gender Responsive Public Financial Management, Guidance for assessment teams, Washington DC

Criterion 2. To what extent does your Public Financial Management system promote gender-related or gender-responsive goals? (In the last completed fiscal year)

- **Question 2.1:** Does the government [The Prime Minister/ Ministry of Finance] provide, in the context of the budget, a clear statement of gender-related goals often known as a gender budget statement? (Yes=1/No=0)

Material which have been presented to the Parliament by the Government does not include information on Gender issues. Neither, budget proposal is not accompanied by a Gender budget statement or any form of additional explanatory notes that reveal the gender dimension of the proposed budget. Finance Minister does not give a pre-budget statement and in 2019 in the speech of the Finance Minister to Parliament there is no mention of specific gender information, it does not incorporate specific focus on GRB and gender equality. The Minister of Finance, Darko Radunović, pointed out during the discussion in the Assembly that the document is result of continuation of the implementation of fiscal consolidation measures with t aim of reducing the budget deficit and public debt. "The current budget amounts to 910.74 million euros, the budget of state funds 700 million, capital 320.93 million, financing transactions 432.35 million, and reserves 20 million," Radunovic specified

- **Question 2.2:** Does the Ministry of Finance/budget office issue call circulars or directives that provide specific guidance on gender-responsive budget allocations? (Yes=1/No=0)

There are no instruction for gender budgeting in budget circular issued by the Ministry of Finance, and accordingly this fact there are is not the information on the Gender impact of programs respective to the budget items in their submission of budget material. Sectoral ministries or departments do not prepare Gender budget analyses of the main programs and policies that are to be included as part of the budget material. Generally, response of citizens to budget discussions is very poor, on national and local level, as well.

But, in instructions for budget user's for budget circular from last month (September, 2020), the last note is gender-responsive budgeting.

- **Question 2.3:** Are key programs and policies, proposed for inclusion in the budget, subject to an ex ante gender impact assessment? (Yes=1/No=0)

Government does not occasionally/systematically carry out a gender impact assessment (or a gender incidence analysis) of new government policy initiatives, equivalent to an economic or financial impact assessment, before they are approved by the government Annual government

program does not include Gender Equality objectives. That will be possible when Budget will be programmatically.

• **Question 2.4:** Are sex-disaggregated statistics and data used in a systematic manner across key programs and policies in a way which can inform budget-related policy decisions? (Yes=1/No=0)

- Two articles (14 and 18) of Law on Gender Equality (Official Gazette 49/07) - all statistical data and information that are collected, recorded or processed in bodies, companies and other legal entities, and entrepreneurs, must be expressed by gender.

- Gender Equality Index, 2019 (EIGE methodology): in 2019 Gender Equality Index was calculated for the first time in Montenegro using EIGE methodology, index was measured by the National Statistical Office of Montenegro. With the index value of 55 (out of maximum 100 points), Montenegro scored lower than the EU average of 67.4. At the national level, women in Montenegro are least equal when it comes to Power, followed sequentially by Time, Knowledge, Money and Work. Highest equality was observed in the domain of Health. Greatest differences between the EU countries and Montenegro were recorded in the domains of Money and Power.¹⁴

- Publication *Men and Women in Montenegro*: Every second year, the national statistics office MONSTAT, in cooperation with Government's Department of Gender Equality, publishes a publication *Women and Men in Montenegro*. The topics which covered are: population, health, education, justice, employment and pensioners, politics and decision making and domestic violence.

• **Question 2.5:** Is there a requirement to apply a gender perspective in the context of setting budget-related performance objectives (e.g. program-based or performance-related budgeting)? (Yes=1/No=0)

Government does not have in place a framework for gathering, managing and monitoring the performance of ministries implementing policies and agencies in delivering public services (i.e., program/performance budgeting. There is document named Plan of optimization of Public administration in Montenegro 2018-2020, but there is not Report of evaluation of mentioned Plan. This plan does not include specific performance targets or indicators relating to gender equality

• **Question 2.6:** Are key programs and policies subject to ex post gender impact assessment?

¹⁴<https://www.me.undp.org/content/dam/montenegro/docs/publications/si/Gender/Gender%20Equality%20Index%202019%20for%20web.pdf>

(Yes=1/No=0)

The legislature/parliament did not conduct any oversight hearings, nor published any reports in the last five years that discuss the impact of the budget or tax policy decisions on gender equality. The Assembly Committee did not organize a debate on the budget execution report and the impact it had on gender equality. But, at the initiative of the Assembly Committee on Gender Equality, in November 2019, Montenegrin Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development announced the Government's intention to implement gender budgeting within the next agro budget cycle within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.¹⁵

The budget execution report for 2018¹⁶ was published in June 6 2019 and the review showed that gender perspective was not integrated in it.

• **Question 2.7:** Is the budget as a whole subject to independent audit to assess the extent to which it promotes gender-responsive policies? (Yes=1/No=0)

In 2019 the State Audit office has published 41¹⁷, and none of these has analyzed the ex post impact of budget or tax policy decisions on gender equality. The employees in audit office did not participate in any kind of education about Gender Equality and do not have anymore awareness for gender equality. In 2019 the OSCE has built the capacity of the Head of the Court of auditors and staff for gender equality and through a workshop discussed possibilities and approaches for introducing gender in performance audits produced by the Court.

During the budget report discussing in parliament as well as the audit report does not take place the debate concerning gender equality in the budget.

During 2019, the Parliamentary Committee for Gender Equality organized three thematic workshops on gender budgeting for MPs and employees in the Parliament of Montenegro.

Table 2: Criterion 2 Summary of Results

¹⁵ <https://www.vijesti.me/vijesti/drustvo/faktor-rodne-ravnopravnosti-cesto-nije-uzetprilikom-pripremanja-budzeta>

¹⁶ <http://www.gov.me/vijesti/202206/Na-danasnoj-sjednici-Vlada-usvojila-Predlog-Zakona-o-zavrshnom-racunu-budzeta-Crne-Gore-za-2018-godinu.html>

¹⁷

<http://www.dri.co.me/1/doc/Godišnji%20izvještaj%20o%20izvršenim%20revizijama%20i%20aktivnostima%20DRI%20za%20period%20oktobar%202018%20-%20oktobar%202019.%20godine.pdf>

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Country	Does the government provide, in the context of the budget, a clear statement of gender related goals often known as a gender budget statement?	Does the Ministry of Finance/budget office issue call circulars or directives that provide specific guidance on gender responsive budget allocations?	Are key programs and policies, proposed for inclusion in the budget, subject to an ex ante gender impact assessment?	Are sex disaggregated statistics and data used in a systematic manner across key programs and policies in a way which can inform budget-related policy decisions?	Is there a requirement to apply a gender perspective in the context of setting budget related performance objectives?	Are key programs and policies subject to ex post gender impact assessment?	Is the budget as a whole subject to independent audit to assess the extent to which it promotes gender responsive policies?
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage / Average	0%						

CHAPTER 3: existence of mechanisms to make resource allocations publicly available to increase accountability to women

The transparency of the budgetary process is usually evaluated on basis of accessibility of the information on budget making and budget execution by ordinary citizens. Therefore in this study we consider the various tools of accessing budget data in Macedonia: from using the free access to information procedure; to evaluation whether and to what degree the Macedonian government is following the *IMF Code of Good Practices on Fiscal Transparency* and the *Lima Declaration of Guidelines*

on *Auditing Precepts*¹⁸. In this process the author has used secondary data sources (legislation, financial and narrative analytical reports and public expenditure and institutional reviews) property of the Centre for Research and Policy Making (hereinafter: CRPM), as well as primary data (i.e. Macedonia relevant scores from the International Budget Transparency Index 2008)¹⁹. The analysis takes in consideration the legal aspects, the procedures and the implementation practices that make the budgetary process in Macedonia transparent and opened to citizens.

The usual shortcomings of a budget are their gender neutral economic framework, the lack of socioeconomic and gender sensitive statistics and lack of transparency and public participation (The International Budget Process, 2002). A major problem of a standard budgeting process is that it is based on the prevailing economic opinion, which assumes the rational behaviour of individuals led by their own best interests without considering gender, class, age or ethnicity, and is exclusively market oriented and extends beyond specific historical geographic and social contexts. It is also assumed that the decisions made by such individuals are not affected by the ruling power relations.

Gender budgeting contributes to the **democratisation of relations within a society** as, among other things, it encourages the responsibility/accountability of government for the implementation of commitments taken in the area of enhancing gender equality, enhancing the transparency of its actions by improving the transparent nature of its work, measurability of its results, the participation of women and all vulnerable and marginalised groups in all stages of the budgetary process, the efficiency and effectiveness of policy strategies, the fight against gender based discrimination and the economic and social security of citizens.

Criterion 3. Are allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment made public? (In the last completed fiscal year)

Question 3.1: Is the information on gender equality allocations published in an accessible manner on the Ministry of Finance (or office responsible for budget) website and/or related official bulletins or public notices? (Yes=1/No=0)

There are not organized budget debate about impact of budget on Gender Equality. Budget is not debated in the Gender mechanism (Parliamentary committee for gender equality). Until now, civil society, Gender and women's activists and independent researchers have not been involved in the hearings and parliamentary debates.

¹⁸ Published by the United Nations International Organization of Supreme Auditing Institutions (INTOSAI)

¹⁹ CRPM is the Macedonian partner organization for the International Budget Project www.openbudgetindex.org

In the history of the country the Parliament did not make changes to budget allocations to better meet the needs of women nor ensure sufficient funding for Gender Equality objectives. In 2019 the civil society has not lobbied for increases in budget allocations for items of particular importance to women and gender equality and provided briefings on the impact of gender equality on budgets and other issues related to the budget debate, neither on central or on local level.

- **Question 3.2:** If published, has the information on gender equality allocations been made public in a timely manner? (Yes=1/No=0)

No.




- **Question 3.3:** If published, has the information on gender equality allocations been made public in an easily understandable format? (Yes=1/No=0)

Country	Is the information on gender equality allocations published in an accessible manner on the Ministry of Finance (or office responsible for budget) website and/or related official bulletins or public notices?	If published, has the information on gender equality allocations been made public in a timely manner?	If published, has the information on gender equality allocations been made public in an easily understandable format?
Montenegro	0	0	0
Percentage / Average	0%		






CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS:

- ✚ Indicator SDG 5.c.1 is not monitored in Montenegro, the monitoring system is still being developed by UN Women and the competent institution is Ministry of Human and Minority Rights
- ✚ Montenegro is the only one country in the whole region that has not involve gender responsive budgeting in budget circular due to lack of political will to do it.
- ✚ There is not the intent of government to address gender equality by identifying whether policies, programs and resources/budgets are in place

-  Public Financial Management system does not promote gender-related or gender-responsive goals
-  There are no mechanisms for allocating resources publicly available to increase accountability to women
-  There is no estimation of women's and men's needs and roles in relation to the budget

RECOMMENDATIONS:

-  It is necessary to work on strengthening cross-sectoral coordination between departments in the Government in order to harmonize public policies with the policy of sustainable development, as it is defined by the NSSD by 2030. This includes identifying deficiencies in the horizontal and vertical level of government in terms of taking over the goals and indicators of sustainable development in national framework, in order to achieve harmonization of existing relevant strategies, programs and plans with the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development until 2030. In particular, it needs to be executed analysis of sectoral policies from the aspect of their compliance with the NSSD by 2030 and in this regard amendments to existing sectoral policies in relation to the responsibilities of the authorities should be proposed departments and administrative bodies in the implementation of the NSSD until 2030.
-  Realize the stated intention to introduce GRB in the agribudget for 2021
-  Make mandatory the instructions that exist in budget circular for introduction of GRB
-  Through lobbying activities and media campaigns raise awareness of the newly elected government about importance and benefits of the introduction of GRB
-  It is necessary, as soon as the new legislative and executive power is established, through lobbying activities and media campaigns, to call for responsibility and obligation to implement domestic and international documents and finally introduce gender responsive budgeting in budget cycle in Montenegro, at state and local level.

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