GENDER BUDGETING IN ICELAND

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QUICK FACTS

- The population of Iceland as of 1st of January 2016 was 332,529.
- Participation of men and women has always been at high level.
- The development has been met with childcare-, a parental leave system and a legal right for parents to return to their jobs after childbirth.
- 90% of children aged 1-5 years are in a day-care.
- In the *World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report* from 2016, Iceland is ranked number one as in previous years.
SO.....

...Why is a small country...?

....A winner in Gender Equality...?

....Spending time on Gender Budgeting?
Gender Budgeting:

Where justice and fairness go hand in hand with economic wellbeing
THE PROCESS

2009
• Implementation starts
• Steering Committee appointed
• Information gathering and planning

2010-2011
• Pilot Projects
• At least one per ministry
• Results in the 2012 Budget Statement

2011-2014
• Three Year Plan
• Main Policy Areas, etc

2015-2019
• Five Year Plan
• Emphasis on Decision Making
• Gender Equality Assessments of Law Proposals
• Budget Proposals
• Statistics
• Legally binding
• Integration
STRUCTURE

MoF
- Minister of Finance
- Steering Committee
- Project Manager

Ministries
- Owner
- Steering Group
- Team
COOPERATION

» Reykjavik City
» Other municipalities
» University of Iceland
Article 18

Gender budgeting and equality

The Minister, in consultation with the minister responsible for gender equality, leads the formulation of a gender budgeting programme, which shall be taken into account in the drafting of the Budget Bill. The Budget Bill shall outline its effects on gender equality targets.
34 Expenditure areas

Each minister formulates and submits at least five year policy for these areas

The policy sets out targets, including quality and service targets, and explains how these will be achieved

Towards Performance Budgeting

GB is now more goal orientated
NOT JUST FLOWERS AND RAINBOWS

» Gender disaggregated data
» Top down- not bottom up
» Time

The sceptisism
Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts.

Albert Einstein
WHEN PEOPLE LIVE WITH DIFFERENT SITUATIONS...

» They have different needs...
» Therefore you can not expect the same outcome with the same decision
EXAMPLES - WHAT WE KNOW NOW

» Cuts in healthcare affects women more often than men
» Decrease of payment for parental leave affect fathers more often than mothers
» Women are more often in part time jobs that have more negative affect on their pension
» Capital income is taxed jointly and it goes to the pocket of the one with higher salary
EVEN COMMODITY TAX HAVE GENDER IMPACT

Electric razors – exempt from tax

Other razors and hair removal devices – 7.5%
Abolished in 2017
ROAD TUNNEL- REALLY?

• New road tunnell between two small towns in north Iceland
• Transportation, community development, economic conditions, public service and social wealth from a gender perspective
• Results: It suits men better than women and they are already in a stronger position in rural areas
Takk fyrir