

# Gender Budgeting in Korea: An Introduction



Gender Budget Research Center  
Korean Women's Development Institute



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# 1. A Brief History of GRB in Korea

- 2006** Gender budgeting enshrined into the National Public Finance Act(an Organic Law governing public finance management and national budgeting)
- 2007** Training programs on gender budgeting provided to government officials
- 2008** Gender budgeting analysis tools and methods developed
- 2009** The first gender budget statement(2010 fiscal year) submitted
- 2011** The first gender performance report(2010 fiscal year) submitted
- 2012** The first local-level gender budget statement(2013 fiscal year) submitted
- 2014** The first local-level gender performance report(2013 fiscal year) submitted



# 1. A Brief History of GRB in Korea

Since 2002, women have actively pursued a gender budgeting agenda in the National Assembly. As a result, a legal framework for gender budgeting was enshrined into the National Public Finance Act revised in 2006. According to the law, submission of the gender budget statement and the gender performance report to the National Assembly became mandatory starting the 2010 fiscal year.

**1998**

The Korean Women's Association United (KWAU) began to annually analyze gender related budget issues. They submitted The Alternative Budget as a part of the gender budgeting movement.

**2002**

KWAU submitted a Petition for the implementation of gender budgeting to the National Assembly. Taking this opportunity, the Gender Equality and Family Committee of the National Assembly adopted a Resolution on gender budgeting and gender mainstreaming as one of the national governments' policy priorities. It was passed during the plenary session of the National Assembly in November.



# 1. A Brief History of GRB in Korea

2006

A Research Task Force on Gender budget launched within the special Committee on Budget and Accounts of the National Assembly.

In September, the legal groundwork for gender budgeting was laid down through the revision of the National Public Finance Act.

2007

The Korean Women's Development Institute opened the Gender Budget Research Center (GBRC). The Center started a three-year research project to establish institutional infrastructure for gender budgeting.



# 1. A Brief History of GRB in Korea

**2008**

A pilot project was conducted so that 2009 Gender Budget Statement could be prepared.

**2009**

A consulting team was formed at the GBRC to provide practical advices and gender perspective trainings to government officials.

The first gender budget statement was prepared and submitted to the National Assembly.



## 2. Institutional Framework

### ■ The National Public Finance Act

- The National Public Finance Act of 2006 mandated the submission of **the gender budget statement and the gender performance report** as the two legal documents regarding gender-responsive budgeting
- Article 16 (GRB Principles)
- Article 26 (Preparation and Submission of Gender Budget Statement)
- Article 34 (Documents Accompanying Budget Bills)
- Article 57 (Preparation and Submission of Gender Performance Report)



## 2. Institutional Framework

### ■ The Constitution

- Upholds that men and women are equal in terms of their rights and opportunities
- Mandates government to enhance gender equality through its policies and activities

### ■ The Organic Law of Gender Equality

- Requires to make the basic strategy plan for gender equality so that gender equality should be sought at every policy area
- Harnesses ministries and government agencies to pursue well-coordinated gender-equality goals
- Mandates gender-responsive budgeting and gender impact analyses





## 2. Institutional Framework

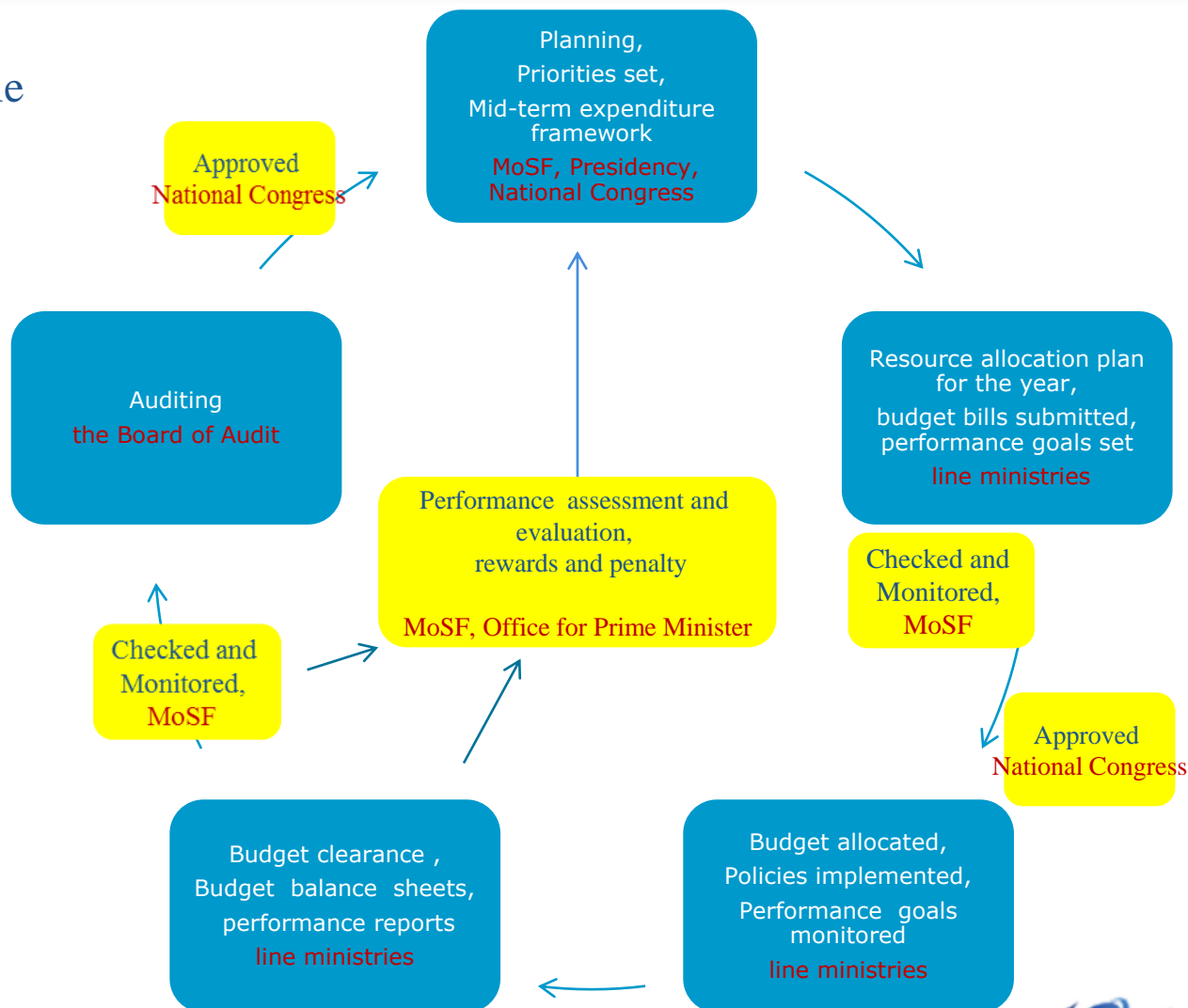
### ■ The Gender-Impact Analysis and Assessment Act

- Requires governments both at central and local level to submit gender-impact analysis reports on their laws, regulations, plans and policies to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family
- Stipulates that the results of gender-impact analysis should be feedbacked to the gender budget statements and performance reports(in case of GIA conducted on policies)
- Stipulates that gender budgeting processes should be applied to all policies that's been subjected to the gender impact analyses in the previous year.



### 3. Organization and Procedures

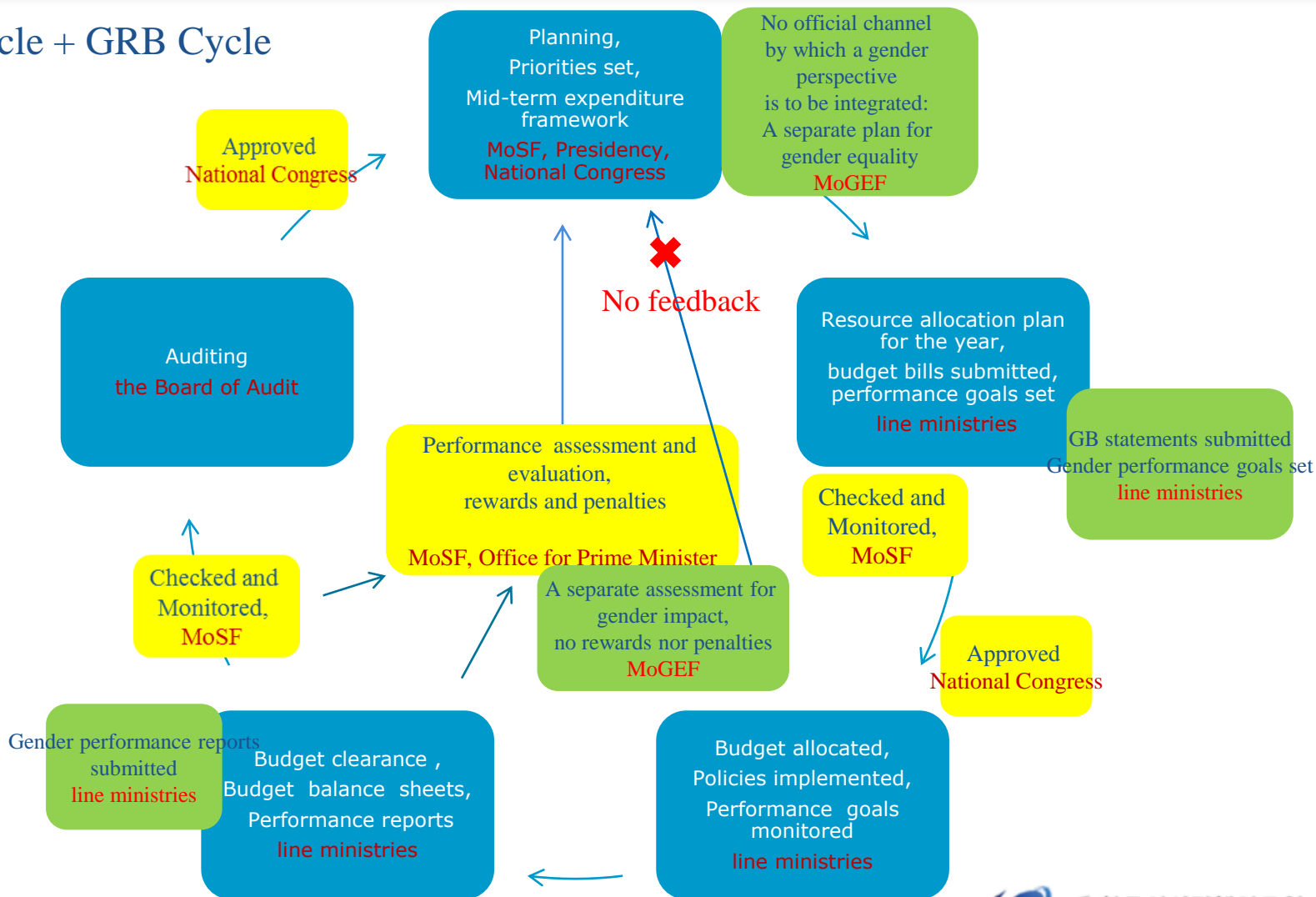
#### Budget Cycle





### 3. Organization and Procedures

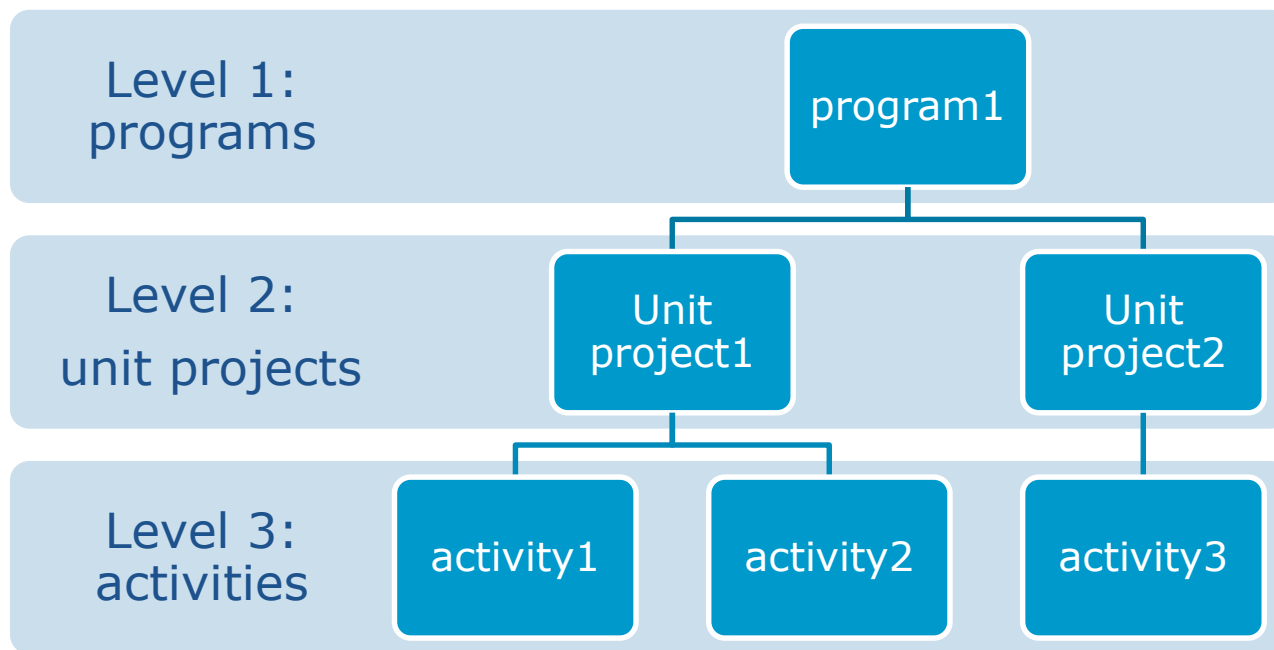
#### Budget Cycle + GRB Cycle





### 3. Organization and Procedures

Structure of programs in a typical ministry



- Ordinary performance management by the MoSF applies to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> level.
- Gender budgeting is applied only to the 3<sup>rd</sup> level.



### 3. Organization and Procedures

- The Contents of a Gender Budgeting Statement  
(Each government official who is in charge of targeted activity completes this part)
  - activity title
  - allocated budget(for the upcoming fiscal year)
  - objectives
  - target population
  - description of activity
  - rudimentary gender beneficiary analysis(for the past three years)
  - performance goal(s) with regard to gender equality
  - Performance indicator(s)



### 3. Organization and Procedures

- The Contents of a Gender Performance Report  
(Each government official who is in charge of targeted activity completes this part)
  - activity title
  - amount of actual expenditures
  - rudimentary gender beneficiary analysis(for the fiscal year)
  - performance goal(s) with regard to gender equality
  - performance indicator(s)
  - whether or not the goal was met
  - if not, why the goal was not met



## 4. Lessons Learnt and Tasks Ahead

- Strengths
  - Well established institutional arrangements
    - Legal framework from the constitution to the individual laws
    - Sex-segregated statistics for target populations and beneficiaries
    - Gender governance at work: the MoSF, the MoGEF, focal points in line ministries, presidential advisory committee for gender equality(forthcoming), standing committee in the National Congress. Analogous governance for local governments.
  - Awareness-Raising about gender budgeting and gender equality among government officials
  - A wider and wider range of government activities covered



## 4. Lessons Learnt and Tasks Ahead

### ■ Weaknesses

- Not adequately integrated into the performance-based budgeting system
  - Weak incentives to fully implement gender budgeting on a wider range of government activities and programs
  - Lack of coordination among line ministries and the MoSF and the MoGEF in gender budgeting and promoting gender equality
  - Too much focus on trees(activities), lack of influence in the big picture(mid-term expenditure framework)
  - Additional Workloads imposed on line ministries
- Relatively limited role played by Civil Society





## 4. Lessons Learnt and Tasks Ahead

### ■ Tasks Ahead

- Have to integrate gender budgeting to the wider public finance management system(including performance-based budgeting)
  - Consensus building among ministries involved
  - Encouraging government officials to assess their programs from a gender perspectives and find new gender issues
  - Identifying mid & long term goals for gender budgeting and linking them with the multi-year national expenditure framework
  - Evaluation on the effectiveness of gender budgeting in relation to more accountability and transparency in the budgeting process



## 4. Lessons Learnt and Tasks Ahead

- Have to strengthen the reviewing and monitoring roles the National Congress have been playing over the processes of gender budgeting in government bodies
- Have to find ways to institutionalize the participation of Civil Society groups in gender budgeting
- In a nutshell, we need to effectively link gender budgeting to the enhancement of gender equality : We need concrete measures to feedback the results of gender budgeting into policy making decisions, thereby implementing more equality- oriented policies and bringing in a more gender-equal society



# Thank You !

<http://gb.kwdi.re.kr>