

# Inter-ministerial Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming/Budgeting (IMAG GMB)

Since 2000 the **IMAG GMB** supports and facilitates the implementation of gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting in all federal ministries and at all political levels. By including gender budgeting in the Austrian Constitution in 2009 the Working Group also took over the task to promote gender budgeting on all levels and was renamed **Inter-ministerial Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming/Budgeting**.

**Chair:** Gabriele Heinisch-Hosek, Federal Minister for Women and Civil Service

**Members:** representatives of federal ministries as well as other important public institutions (Constitutional Court, Court of Audit, Parliament, etc.), Union of Public Services, representatives of the Laender.

**More information:** [www.imag-gmb.at](http://www.imag-gmb.at)



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## Gender Budgeting

Making Equality between  
Women and Men a Reality...

... Step by Step to a  
Gender-equal Budget

### Legal notice

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## Gender Budgeting in Austria...

... means to analyse the federal, state and community budgets with regard to their impact on the lives of women and men, and to adapt them according to gender equality objectives.

The **Federal Budget Reform** and the principle of **outcome orientation** are considered as a great opportunity for gender budgeting and to promote gender equality policies in Austria. It is of utmost importance to employ existing funds in the most equitable way in order to achieve **effective equality of women and men within the national budget**.

Austria has made strong commitments on legal and political level to realise gender equality at all levels.

### What is the legal basis?

The key foundation for gender-responsive budget management in all public authorities lies in the **Austrian Federal Constitution**:

#### Austrian Federal Constitution, Art. 13, para. 3

"Federation, Laender and municipalities have to aim at the **equal status of women and men in the budget management**."

## Gender Budgeting at Federal Level...

... means that as of 2013 the federal ministries are obliged to implement **effective equality of women and men** as one of the principles of **outcome orientation** in managing the budget of the federal public administration.

#### Austrian Federal Constitution, Art. 51, para. 8

"In the **budget management of the Federation** the fundamental principles of **outcome orientation**, especially considering the **objectives of the effective equality of men and women**, [...] are to be observed."

The **Federal Budget Law 2013** comprises detailed regulations on outcome oriented administration including the consideration of the **objective of effective equality of women and men**.

In the future, equality aspects will explicitly be a factor throughout the management cycle of administrative action, from planning to implementation to evaluation.

### How to implement gender budgeting?

As of 1st January 2013 each federal ministry and supreme state organ has to determine **gender equality outcomes** for every societal aspect of its activities which – as a consequence – will require gender-specific data. In a next step, these federal authorities have to define **concrete measures (outputs)** and **indicators** in order to realise and monitor the respective **gender equality outcome**.

Furthermore, [§ 41 of the Federal Budget Law 2013](#) and the [Regulation on the presentation of information on outcome orientation in the Annual Federal Budget Statement and the Explanatory Budget Documents](#) are regulating the details of gender budgeting application regarding outcomes, outputs and indicators.

The details of the outcome orientation are elaborated in the **Strategy Report** on the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. In the yearly planning, the gender equality outcomes and outputs are set out in the **Annual Federal Budget Statement** on budget chapter and global budget level as well as in the **Explanatory Budget Documents** on detail budget level.

An additional purpose of gender equality outcomes and outputs is to provide members of Parliament and citizens with more information on and insight into the priority areas of each ministry in the respective financial year.

### What is the political basis?

In order to establish and enhance gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting important steps have been taken by means of five **resolutions of the Council of Ministers** since 2000:

- 2000: Establishment of the Inter-ministerial Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming (IMAG GM)
- 2002: Working programme for the implementation of gender mainstreaming
- 2004: Definition of gender mainstreaming-meta-goals, e.g. consideration of the gender perspective in all budget policy measures of federal ministries
- 2008: Use of the guide on gender budgeting in public administration
- 2011: Sustainable implementation of gender mainstreaming in five key priority areas: the successful application of gender budgeting shall be continued systematically