

Summary of 2016 edition of the Report on the results-based Budget taking into account the Gender dimension

Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB), from the perspective of human rights, is an operational mechanism for the management of public policy in favour of the effectiveness of gender equality and respect for human rights. Its approach is based on the obligation to take into account the aspect of human rights in the implementation of public policies. They combine in fact two approaches, namely, the gender approach and human rights approach. The first approach is based on finding an optimum efficiency and performance of public policies in favour of a more focused and more coordinated impact with regard to the differentiated needs of multiple segments of the population. The second approach calls for reorienting the logic and objectives of the development plans, policies and mechanisms towards the respect for the rights and obligations established by the relevant international conventions.

The importance of the GRB has also been recognized by His Majesty the King Mohammed VI in the message which he sent to the participants at the 2nd World Forum on Human Rights, held in November 2014 in Marrakech:

« ... We are pleased, in this respect, that the Marrakesh Forum has chosen the issue of gender equality as one of the main topics on the agenda. We are sure your debate at the Forum will be a significant contribution to the international process under way. Our country has made this question one of the pillars of its public policies, promoting, to this end, gender budgeting, which is recognized by the United Nations as a pioneering approach. We realize, however, that there is still much to do. ...».

This Royal message constitutes now a truly national roadmap and a major guide for directing the various ongoing and future reform projects.

It is in this context that this edition of the Report on the results-based Budget taking into account the Gender dimension has been dedicated to the analysis of the efforts made by our country with regard to the enrichment of its legal, legislative, regulatory and institutional arsenal and this being in perfect harmony with the commitments made within the general framework of UN mechanisms relating to the respect for human rights and particularly the respect for gender equality principles as they are laid down in the Constitution. This report has also highlighted the challenges ahead and the ways for improvement to be examined by the different ministries with respect to programming and planning in order to ensure to women and men the effective enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. Particular attention was paid to the innovative process of the operationalization of the new Organic Law of Finance destined for enshrining, in fact, the requirements of efficiency, accountability and making public policies more concerned with proximity, inclusion, equity and gender equality.

In accordance with their international commitments regarding respect for human rights (the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the CEDAW and its Optional Protocol, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on Children's Rights, the International Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and its optional

protocol, ...) and the provisions of the Constitution of 2011, Morocco continues to make considerable efforts in terms of accession and ratification of other international instruments of human rights and harmonizing its national legal framework with these instruments. Thus, several laws were adopted in 2015, namely, the adoption of bills No. 125/12 relating to the approval of the optional protocol to CEDAW, and No. 126/12 regarding the approval of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the new organic law of finance. In addition, several bills have been issued for consultation, namely the bills relating to the establishment of the Authority for Parity and the fight against all forms of Discrimination and the family and children's Advisory Council...

The continuous enrichment of the national legal arsenal by legislations fostering the protection of the rights of the citizens was accompanied by continued efforts undertaken by the constitutional bodies to ensure the full enjoyment and preservation of their dignity, rights and individual and collective freedoms. Therefore, the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights (IDHR) undertook several activities during the period 2014-2015 aiming at stimulating the inclusion of dimensions related to human rights in the public policies and actively interacting with UN mechanisms in charge of the respect for human rights. The IDHR has actually drawn up and submitted a number of initial and periodic reports to UN bodies (mid-term report on the implementation of recommendations issued at the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review in 2014; initial report on the implementation of the convention on persons with disabilities; fourth national report on the monitoring of ICESCR; the sixth periodic report on the implementation of the ICCPR).

In addition, the IDHR has taken part in reinforcing the capacities of ministerial departments in terms of mainstreaming human rights into public policies across the organization, in collaboration with the specialized agencies and regional partners, of training sessions on the international mechanisms for human rights and Morocco's international commitments with regard to the respect for women's rights.

Meanwhile, the National Human Rights Council has embarked on several projects aiming at strengthening the building of the rule of law and actively interacting at the international level. It has also co-organized the second edition of the World Forum on Human Rights in Morocco, which was held from November 27 to 30, 2014 in Marrakech, with the participation of over 7,000 people from 95 countries. Under the High Patronage of H.M. King Mohammed VI, this forum has met the challenge of its commitment and allowed to discuss several issues relating especially to the rights of women, children, people with disabilities and migrants...

In terms of the efforts made by the ministerial departments to ensure that in practice women and men enjoy their civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights, our country has made considerable progress but challenges remain.

Thus, with regard to equal access to civil and political rights, the objective of convergence of various initiatives to mainstream gender equality in public policies and development programs has been strengthened by the adoption of Governmental Plan for Equality (GPE), on June 6, 2013, by the Council of Government. Common national platform, bringing together 32 ministerial departments, this plan seeks to achieve 26 objectives through 132 actions. These actions converge towards the mainstreaming of gender equality in public policies and development programs so as to achieve the social justice. In this context, the Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development (MSWFSD), coordinator of the said plan, with the support of the ministerial departments involved, have embarked on major projects related to the protection and promotion of women's rights. The actions undertaken, in this context, during the period from 2014 to 2015 have focused mainly on:

The institutional anchoring and dissemination of the culture of gender equality: in this regard, special mention should be made of the launch of the Excellence Award "TAMAYUZ" for Moroccan women. In the same vein, the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs (MEIA) actively contributes to the promotion of gender equality culture, through several programs, namely, programs dedicated to the training of the *morchidates* (Female religious guides) as well as the modernization of the training system, with new teaching methods, adapted to the beneficiaries.

In the same vein, the Ministry of Communication contributes to the promotion of the image of women in the audiovisual field through ensuring in particular that the specifications of the national Television channels include provisions improving the image of women in the media. These efforts have been sealed by the adoption of Bill No. 96-14 amending and supplementing Law No. 77-03 on Audiovisual Communication which includes provisions prohibiting any advertisement that undermine the image of women or including a type of message that is likely to broadcast negative stereotypes, and by the installation of the members of the National Observatory for Improving the Image of Women in the media.

Regarding the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, the Government Council adopted, in March 2015, the bill No. 79.14 relating to the establishment of the Authority for Parity and Fight against All forms of Discrimination (APAFD). The year 2015 has also witnessed the operationalization and appointment of the members of the National Observatory for the Fight against Violence against Women. Similarly, an Integrated Information System on Violence against Women was established through the signing in October 2014 of a computerized data exchange protocol on violence against Women between MSWFSD and its partners (Ministry of Justice and Liberties, Ministry of Health, General Directorate of National Security and the Royal Gendarmerie).

Regarding the care for women and children victims of violence, the Ministry of Justice and Liberties (MJL) has continued its efforts in this field. Thus, periodic letters were sent to the courts, in order to provide the care needed for this vulnerable category.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Justice and Liberties undertook the revision of the law No. 41-10 related to the Family Solidarity Fund so as to rectify the problem related to the delays in the implementation of the judicial provisions governing alimony (widening of the circle of beneficiaries, simplification of procedures for obtaining financial allocations ...). It should be noted in this regard that the number of beneficiaries of the Family Solidarity Fund reached in 2015, nearly 1468 women (that is, the equivalent of MAD 14.4 million disbursed on June 6, 2015), bringing the total number of beneficiaries, since the operationalization of the fund, to 6369 divorced women, that is, the equivalent of MAD 57.3 million in cumulative expenditures.

With respect to the institutionalization of the mainstreaming of the gender dimension in the ministerial departments' practices of planning and programming, mention should be made in this context of the Constitutional Council's approval, in May 2015, of the new organic law of finance, after taking into consideration the observations of the said Council, which constitutes a major outcome of the efforts made and the commitment towards the generalization of implementation and adoption of GRB in Morocco. Morocco, through the adoption of the new organic law of finance, which explicitly institutionalizes the inclusion of the gender dimension in the practices of programming, monitoring and evaluation of ministerial departments and public institutions, is now recognized as a pioneer country in this field. The new organic law of finance stipulates that each ministry or public institution is required to take into account the gender dimension when defining their strategies in the light of the results of diagnosis related to the current situation of gender inequalities in the sector in question. Therefore, each program should be associated with defined objectives and numerical indicators allowing measuring the results reached, while taking into account the gender dimension. To meet the objectives of the provisions of the new organic law of finance and as part of its phased implementation, a third array of departments, for the implementation of the provisions of the reform, for the year 2016, has been designated. This array concerns seven new ministerial departments, namely the Ministry Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of General Affairs and Governance, the Ministry Delegate to the Ministry of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment in charge of Water, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Policy, the Ministry of Handicraft and Social and Solidarity Economy, the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Staff Training, the Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development; and the Department of Maritime Fisheries. In this regard, the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), through the Centre of Excellence of GRB (CE-GRB) has initiated several actions to strengthen the adoption of the GRB by the national stakeholders (including the departments designated to implement the provisions of the new organic law of finance), the exchange of knowledge and expertise and the development of research relating to the financing for gender equality.

For improving the representation of women in decision-making spheres, the Inter-ministerial Consultation Network for Gender Equality has assisted, during the year 2015, with the completion of the study related to the establishment of a strategy of institutionalization of the principle of gender equality in the civil service. The year 2015 witnessed also the operationalization of the Observatory on Gender in Civil Service. Despite the efforts made and those underway to consolidate the place of women in the civil service, women's presence in the high civil service positions of responsibility, however, remains low, not exceeding the threshold of 16.4% in 2014 . In addition, and in order to promote women's participation in the management of local affairs, several legal and institutional provisions have been taken. Those provisions are as follows: the organic law n ° 28.11 relating to the House of Councillors¹ and the Organic Law No. 34.15 amending and supplementing the organic law No. 59.11². Through these efforts, women represent 21.94% of all those who run in the municipal elections and 38.64% in the regional elections held on September 4, 2015.

In terms of equitable access to social rights, several projects were launched to ensure equitable access for the citizens to education, health, housing and basic infrastructure (water, electricity, roads, highways, sanitation services etc ...). Tangible progress has been made in this context, and challenges remain with regard to women's equal enjoyment of these rights.

With regard to education, the national level of the gender parity index (GPI), in the public primary education, has risen from 0.84 in 2000-2001 to 0.90 (90 school girls against 100 school boys) in 2014-2015, that is, an increase of 6 percentage points. In rural areas, this index has gone up from 0.76 to 0.89 (89 schoolgirls against 100 schoolboys), that is, an increase of 13 percentage points between 2000-2001 and 2014-2015. At the lower secondary education, the public GPI has risen, during the same period, from 0.75 to 0.81, that is, an increase of 6 percentage points. In rural areas, this indicator has gone up from 0.42 to 0.64 with a significant increase of 22 percentage points between 2000-2001 and 2014-2015. The GPI regarding the public upper secondary education rose from 0.85 in 2000-2001 to 0.92 in 2014-2015 at the national level, that is, an increase of 7 percentage points. In rural areas, this index has risen from 0.48 to 0.68, recording an increase of 20 percentage points between 2000-2001 and 2014-2015. That being said, the dropout rate at primary level remains high among girls, at 4% during the 2014-2015 school year. At the lower secondary level, this rate has shown an increase rising from 7.6% for girls in 2012-2013 to 10.4% in 2014-2015.

As for the right to literacy, Morocco has adopted, since 2014, a literacy roadmap that extends over the period 2014-2020. In accordance with this strategy, diverse programs according to the specific target groups have been set up. Despite this progress, women remain the most affected by illiteracy with a rate set, in 2014, at 41.9% against 22.1% for men.

With respect to the higher education, gender equality is almost achieved with a rate of feminization of the student population being around 48.4%. This rate even exceeds 50% in some higher education institutions.

With regard to access to health services, the Synthetic Fertility Index (SFI) is experiencing a steady decline since 1980 to stand at 2.21 children per woman in 2014 (2.01 in urban areas against 2.55 in rural areas). The maternal mortality rate has also experienced a remarkable decline, to stand at 112 per 100,000 live births in 2009-2010 (50.7% compared to 2004). However, significant disparities remain between urban and rural areas. The latter records a maternal mortality rate of 148 per 100,000 live births against 73 in urban areas. Similarly, infant and child mortality have continued a downward trend to reach respectively 28.8 and 30.5 per 1,000 live births in 2011, that is, a decline respectively of 28% and 35% compared with 2004.

Furthermore, in the context of enlargement of the population benefitting from the compulsory health insurance (AMO), the law No. 116-12 relating to the Compulsory Health Insurance for students and

¹ Which stipulates that standing for election is done in an alternating manner between the two sexes

² Related to the election of members of territorial collectivities providing for a new procedure for candidacy, and this being through a single list of candidacy composed of two parts: the first is open to candidates on an equal footing and the second is reserved exclusively to women

its implementing decree were adopted in 2015. It should be noted that the AMO beneficiary population stood at 8,000,000 people in 2013, including 5.1 million from the private sector and 2.9 million in the public sector. As for RAMED (medical assistance plan), the continued efforts made for its generalization has allowed achieving a number of beneficiaries of around 8.78 million at the end of July 2015, exceeding the target population.

In terms of access to decent housing, the share of households living in modern Moroccan houses rose from 62.5% in 2004 to 65.9% in 2014. Similarly, in the context of the "cities without slums", the rate of access to the ownership of the beneficiaries of the program of the "cities without slums" reached 92.5%. This rate is 91.3% for households headed by a man and 93.2% for households headed by a woman. It is clear that 80.9% of land titles (of land or apartment) are held by men, against 16.3% for women and only 2.2% of the issued titles include the names of both partners (man and woman).

With regard to access to drinking water, the percentage of households connected to the drinking water supply network, has risen from 57.5% in 2004 to 72.9% in 2014. In this vein, the rural drinking water supply program has allowed achieving a rate of access to drinking water of 94.5% at the end of 2014 against a rate of only 14% in 1994 and it is expected to be around 95% at the end of 2015.

As for the global rural electrification program (GREP), it has allowed at the end of July 2015, the electrification of 38,893 villages by interconnected networks (nearly 2,079,722 homes), allowing nearly 12.4 million of inhabitants to benefit from electricity, raising the rural electrification rate to 99.09%.

In respect to the access to the road network, the total length of rural roads implemented under the National Rural Roads Programme (NRRP), whose second edition (NRRP 2) is expected to conclude in late 2015, has reached 14,756 km at the end of June 2015. The rate of access for rural population to road network has reached nearly 80% at the end of June 2015 against 54% in 2005.

In terms of the execution of development projects aiming at improving the living conditions of the citizens taking into account the gender dimension, the implementation of the INDH (National Initiative for Human Development) has benefitted more than 9.7 million people during the period from 2005 to 2014, including 4.1 million women. The INDH has thus allowed the execution of more than 38,341 projects and 8,294 development actions for a total investment of over MAD 29 billion dirham.

The strengthening of equitable access for women and men to economic opportunities has necessitated the implementation by public authorities of several actions and measures, in partnership with the civil society and the private sector for creating the conditions necessary for an enabling environment for employment and entrepreneurship especially for women.

In this regard, the major employment promotion programs have allowed generating the following results: the "Idmaj" program allowed the integration in 2014 of nearly 63,143 people, 53% for women. During the first five months of 2015, the integrations made totalled 30,740 people, including 46% of women. For the "Taehil" program, nearly 18,400 job seekers were registered in 2014, of which 30% are women, and 5591 job seekers were registered in the first five months of 2015, of which 47% are women. Similarly, under the self-employment program "Moukawalati" nearly 1,408 project owners were supported in 2014, of which 22% are women. In the first five months of 2015, almost 754 candidates were supported of which 21% are women.

Moreover, the payment of compensation for loss of employment (CLE), set up in 2014 for the benefit of workers and managed by the CNSS (national social security fund), has been of benefit in the first half of 2015 to 2289 people, including 37% are women.

Despite significant efforts made and those underway for the promotion of employment, especially women's employment, the evolution of male/female parity in employment confirms that men are

three times more likely to hold a job than women. Similarly, the analysis of activity rate reveals a significant disparity between the two sexes (72.4% for men and 25.2% for women in 2014), reflecting the low participation of women in the labour market. The same applies to the unemployment rate, which stands at the national level at 9.9% in 2014 (9.7% for men and 10.4% for women). In this context, several actions were taken to promote equitable access to work, employment and social protection.

Thus, in terms of access to decent work, labour inspectors are required, through a circular, to ensure the effective implementation of the legal provisions concerning the rights of women in work. For the year 2014, labour inspectors conducted 12,833 visits³ to various production units to ensure the compliance with the labour code. In addition, the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs in partnership with the International Labour Office (ILO) launched the "Youth at Work" project which is spread over the period 2012-2016 in three pilot areas⁴ to increase the employability of young women and men in Morocco.

The actions undertaken to promote women's access to factors of production and employment are also supported by the Green Morocco Plan. Thus, the actions undertaken within the framework of this Plan have allowed, between 2011 and 2015, the launch of 47 pillar II projects targeting women, benefitting 7,806 beneficiaries in the various regions of the Kingdom, that is, 47% of total beneficiaries. The actions taken within the framework of the Plan also cover provision of support to women's cooperatives. Thus, nearly 1779 women's cooperatives with 32,126 members were supported. In addition, several actions in favour of rural women in partnership, particularly with the «Millennium Challenge Corporation MCC », the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development and the European Commission for Training and Agriculture (CEFA) were carried out.

Similarly, gender equality now occupies a central place in the fisheries policy. In this regard, two projects for the construction and equipment of two seafood valorisation units have been undertaken in 2015. In parallel, and as part of the programs of development of the sector of traditional fishing, the Department of fisheries has signed a partnership agreement with the Social Development Agency in order to promote income-generating activities for the improvement of living and working conditions of fishermen (men and women) and their families.

Furthermore, being aware of the role of women's entrepreneurship as an essential and indispensable pillar in the economic empowerment of women, the government in partnership with the private sector and civil society has established a set of specific actions. These measures concern in particular the operationalization of the Guarantee Fund "Ilayki" of the Central Guarantee Fund (CGF), which has allowed, since its entry into force in March 2013 until September 2015, raising funds of a total amount of almost MAD 81.5 million which allowed funding 236 new businesses promoted exclusively by one or several women and contributed to the creation of almost 762 direct jobs.

Women's entrepreneurship also constitutes a strategic and transverse component of the national strategy for the development of social and solidarity economy (2010-2020). Thus, nearly 64 "Dar Sanâa" (houses of crafts) were established in the rural areas at the end of 2014. They involve 3,650 women employed in the trades of rural carpets, embroidery and sewing. In addition, 839 women's cooperatives were created in the craft sector until the end of 2014 (41.5% of the total number of cooperatives) with 34,877 women members (36.1% of all the women members).

As for the presence of women in the field of social and solidarity economy, it is necessary to highlight the increasing number of women members in cooperatives in order to engage in income-generating activities. The women-only cooperatives have actually experienced a real leap in recent years, going up from 738 in 2008 to 2,021 in 2014, that is, 14.6% of all cooperatives with a number of women

³ During these visits 297,886 women were inventoried, including 652 women aged 15-18 years, 7511 women hold positions of responsibility, 620 women employees' representatives and 111 women union representatives.

⁴ This is Souss Massa Draa, Oriental and Casablanca-Kenitra axis.

members of about 34 877 women. They work mainly in the field of agriculture (12,662 women), crafts (12,582 women members) and the valorisation of the argan tree (6.860 women members).

The analyses carried out within the framework of this edition of the Report on the results-based Budget taking into account the Gender dimension in accordance with the principles of gender analysis of public policies from the perspective of human rights, attest that our country is heading in the way of progress and the progressive establishment of milestones able to ensure to men and women equally the enjoyment of the three generations of rights without distinction whatsoever. The progress made with regard to the legislative, legal and institutional framework favouring the promotion of gender equality can only be strengthened through the adoption of operational mechanisms, such as the new organic law of finance that allows the common adoption of the programming and planning taking into account the gender dimension. However, the successful and generalized application of provisions of the new organic law of finance, particularly those related to the integration of gender dimension into the indicators of performance of the ministerial departments and public institutions still face the problems related to the availability and regularity of gender sensitive data. In this regard, it becomes essential to develop gender-sensitive information systems.