



# IWWAGE suggestions to the Broad-based Committee on Gender Responsive Budgeting, MWCD



In response to the introductory comments of the honourable Secretary, MWCD and the presentation made by Ms. Santosh, from IWWAGE perspective, we have the following suggestions:

### » **Budgetary technicalities:**

- The comments made on the GB statement by the Ministry is extremely important. There is a need to urge all ministries to report their expenditures in the GB statement, especially in part B. Our suggestion is to strengthen the GB statement by adding footnotes/explanations for such reporting in Part B to clarify the rationale for such reporting. This will help in increasing the number of ministries reporting in the GB statement.
- Adding rationale to GB statement would also lead to improved evaluation of the intended outcomes and expenditures will be tracked more efficiently.
- Being the nodal ministry, MWCD can also urge all states to produce GB statements regularly so as to enable state level tracking of the GRB outcomes.

## » On GRB implementation:

- The information shared by the ministry about reaching out to all Union Ministries and state governments on setting up GB cells is excellent. It will be very useful to get updates on the status of current GB cells in the Union Ministries and departments as well as request states to provide similar information.
- Sustained training and capacity building of GB cell officials and other departmental officials within the Ministry's training programmes is laudable. It is recommended that the Ministry reach out to state training institutes and also prepare its own roster of GRB experts from whom they can draw up resources for training and facilitation of workshops. IWWAGE would be more than willing to assist in revising modules, preparing the roster of experts and providing resources in training and capacity building.
- The Union ministry being the nodal ministry should align with the state WDCs/GRCs for greater convergence across state departments for successful implementation of GRB at the state level, especially in states which have still not adopted GRB

## » Gender disaggregated data collection:

- Urging MWCD to align with MoSPI for coordinating, conceptualising and collecting gender disaggregated data. Joint workshop by both ministries with statistical and gender experts and economists to prepare roadmap for data collection on indicators useful to track policies relevant for women's empowerment. At IWWAGE we would be happy to extend support and help prepare for any such initiative by the MWCD.
- Identify key ministries rolling out important government schemes and programmes for women's empowerment and align with those ministries for collecting gender disaggregated information in their MIS.
- IWWAGE worked with the NITI aayog on creating a gender index in which we had created an extensive gender disaggregated database from available government databases on women's economic empowerment. IWWAGE can align with the MWCD to take this forward in coordination with the NITI aayog.

## » Gender Responsive Policy analysis:

- As part of the GRB exercise, in order to track the efficacy of budgetary allocations and outcomes, an analysis of the budgets, policies and programmes of the government using a gender lens is critical. IWWAGE has recently completed a policy landscaping of government policies and programmes across union ministries and states. We would be glad to work with the Ministry and NITI Aayog jointly to work on the suggested policy mapping using our prior experience.
- IWWAGE has concluded several studies and is currently engaged in more such evaluative research studies generating data and evidence for gender responsive policy making in the areas of women's paid and unpaid work, barriers to access work and empowering women through economic collectives. Our ongoing and planned work involves evaluative research on the Ujjawala scheme, national crèche programme, skill development programmes for young girls, MUDRA yojana to encourage women's entrepreneurship, women's participation as frontline service providers for government schemes. We are also working with NRLM and few state SRLMs to empower women's collectives. We would be happy to discuss some of our studies with the Ministry and frame our research to accommodate the data and evidence requirements of the Ministry.

**We believe, the above mentioned points would be critically important for the review of the GRB exercise and help in strengthening the GRB process at the union ministries and also in the states. We would be glad to work with the MWCD on some these and other priorities of the Ministry.**