



Embracing  
Intersectionality  
for Health Equity  
& Justice

## CHECKLIST FOR BUDGET ANALYSIS FOR ADVOCACY

*Transforming policy promises into funded realities by monitoring and influencing government budgets.*

The Checklist for Budget Analysis for Advocacy provides a systematic approach for monitoring and influencing budgets to ensure increased and better allocated resources for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), particularly for marginalised groups. This tool is grounded in the fundamental idea that policies, plans and programmes targeting youth must be supported by appropriate budgets. Without adequate funding, even the most well-intentioned policies remain theoretical. This tool helps bridge the gap between political promises and budgetary reality.

### Understanding the tool

The budget analysis checklist supports users to understand sub-national and national budgets and guides them through six key stages of the budget process that form a continuous cycle of influence:

1. Preparing and planning to select priority budgets and identify key authorities;
2. Mapping the financial year timeline and documenting budget cycle steps to understand when and how to exert influence;
3. Analysing the budget formulation, examining its structure and alignment with policies;
4. Analysing its approval processes, understanding how decisions are made;
5. Monitoring the execution, tracking implementation and inclusion of marginalised groups;
6. Evaluating, assessing compliance and the impact on services.

The tool is designed to convene multiple stakeholders in advocacy efforts. In any one process, budget experts can conduct technical analysis, advocates can leverage the results to influence decision-making processes, and target groups receive critical information about available resources. This multi-stakeholder method ensures that budget advocacy is both technically sound and practically effective in creating change for marginalised communities.

### Impact: case study from the Make Way programme

In Kenya, the Black Coffee Network, a Make Way partner organisation, used the tool to train young people on how to do budget analysis. They then advocated for increasing SRHR funding in Nakuru County.

Their strategic advocacy efforts yielded significant results:

- » An additional allocation of 3.5 million Kenyan shillings (approximately €25,000) in the 2023/2024 fiscal year for diagnostics and testing at a facility providing SRH services.
- » The establishment of domestic funding for SRHR from the County, moving away from complete reliance on external donors.



As Angela Kioko, Programmes Manager at Black Coffee Network, noted: "All support came from external donors, but through our continuous engagement with youth advocates there was an allocation for SRHR for the first time in the financial year 2023."

This case demonstrates how the budget analysis tool can empower young advocates to influence resource allocation decisions and secure domestic funding for previously overlooked priorities.



*Black Coffee Network with 15 young budget champions, spearheading budget advocacy after going through a capacity-building process to deepen their understanding of budget issues and sharpen their skills in budget advocacy.*

## Potential for wide-scale application

The budget analysis advocacy tool has significant potential for broader application across various contexts and levels of governance. While developed with a focus on SRHR and youth services, the method can be adapted for any sector where budget advocacy is needed, including education, environmental protection and social welfare. Its flexibility makes it applicable at different government levels from national ministries to local municipalities, as well as for programme-specific budgets within institutions.

By making budget processes more transparent and inclusive, the tool contributes to enhanced citizen engagement in governance, improved accountability of public institutions, and more equitable resource allocation. When applied consistently over time, it can lead to more responsive budgeting practices, institutionalisation of consultation mechanisms, and sustainable domestic financing for priority areas. The tool's emphasis on continuous engagement throughout the budget cycle, rather than one-time interventions, makes it particularly valuable for achieving lasting impact on how public resources are allocated and utilised.

## More Information

You can find the [Checklist for Budget Analysis for Advocacy](https://www.make-way.org/toolkit/), along with many other tools from the Intersectional SRHR Toolkit, on the Make Way website: <https://www.make-way.org/toolkit/>.