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**Country programmes and related matters**

Draft country programme document for the Gambia (2017-2021)

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## Programme rationale

1. The Gambia has enjoyed two decades of relative peace and a stable political environment, despite two failed attempted coups, in 2006 and 2014. The Gambia Human Development Index value increased from 0.330 to 0.441 between 1990 and 2014,[[1]](#footnote-2) reflecting progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, with goal 2[[2]](#footnote-3) and goal 4[[3]](#footnote-4) achieved by 2015. Its long-term ‘Vision 2020’, developed in 1996, sets the goal of attaining middle-income status by 2020. Three medium-term development plans[[4]](#footnote-5) have not generated the growth required for the achievement of middle-income status, as economic reforms are affected by policy slippages and other shocks.[[5]](#footnote-6) The successor plan being formulated is aligned to Vision 2020, the sustainable development goals,[[6]](#footnote-7) and ‘Agenda 2063’ of the African Union.
2. Poverty, inequality and exclusion are challenges in the Gambia due to: limited productive natural resources; limited resilience capacities to climate change and external shocks; disproportionate distribution of growth benefits between urban and rural areas;[[7]](#footnote-8) limited employment opportunities for youth and women; restrictive productive assets for women;[[8]](#footnote-9) limited institutional capacity for oversight; and absence of state-supported welfare programmes and social safety-nets.
3. A poverty headcount in 2010 indicated that 48.4 per cent of the population lived below the poverty line of $1.25 per day.[[9]](#footnote-10) The multidimensional poverty index, 2013, shows that 57.2 per cent of people are poor[[10]](#footnote-11) while an additional 21.3 per cent live near multidimensional poverty, with marked disparities and inequalities among regions[[11]](#footnote-12) and genders. Over 79.5 per cent of the rural population lives below the poverty line, against 29.4 per cent for urban population. Inequality, as measured by the Gini coefficient, remains high, at 0.46 in 2010,[[12]](#footnote-13) and unchanged due to limited comprehensive social protection programmes to address inequality. Growth averaged 1.8 per cent over the last five years,[[13]](#footnote-14) while the unemployment rate was 29.2 per cent, with women (38.3 per cent) and youth (38 per cent) affected disproportionately.[[14]](#footnote-15) Low productivity across sectors is due to the high illiteracy rate (48 per cent) and limited professional skills,[[15]](#footnote-16) resulting in a dearth of employment, income-generating opportunities, and distributive income[[16]](#footnote-17) – which perpetuates exclusion, especially among rural women and youth.
4. The World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessment indicated a deterioration of the policy and institutional environment with the decline of the rating of the Gambia from 3.5 in 2011 to 3.1 in 2015.[[17]](#footnote-18) The Gambia is on the list of fragile states, 2016,[[18]](#footnote-19) due largely to weak institutional capacity for effective economic management[[19]](#footnote-20) and limited policy coherence. The midterm review of the Programme for Accelerated Growth and Employment revealed weak economic management, minimal alignment between priority areas and resources allocation, and low outcome-level results; further constricting growth, with a negative impact on poverty and employment.[[20]](#footnote-21) In 2015, the Government recognized the institutional weakness and established the Ministry of Planning and Policy to separate the planning functions from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs and create coherence between the different arms of the state.
5. The impact of climate change is high in agriculture, which is still heavily dependent on rainfall.[[21]](#footnote-22) The contribution of agriculture to the economy contracted from 29 per cent in the 1980s to 23 per cent in 2015, leading to a downturn in economic growth. Climate change also affects the tourism, fisheries and forestry sectors, limiting opportunities for economic diversification. Vulnerability to sea-level rise[[22]](#footnote-23) puts pressure on the environment and livelihoods of coastal communities.[[23]](#footnote-24) Environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, and deforestation – coupled with limited adaptive capacity – are leading the economy along an unsustainable development pathway.[[24]](#footnote-25) Limited access of women[[25]](#footnote-26) and youth to productive resources and decision-making opportunities have affected them disproportionately. Livelihood opportunities to the increasing youth population in the rural areas could curtail migration to urban areas and other countries.[[26]](#footnote-27)
6. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework midterm review, 2014, indicated that progress had been made in deepening democratic governance but significant challenges remained. The slow pace of reforms has constrained citizen participation in decision-making, particularly concerning women,[[27]](#footnote-28) anti-corruption and accountability, and promotion of rule of law and human rights, while hampering implementation of the decentralization policy and strategies for improved economic and political governance, as illustrated by the evaluation of the civil service reform programme.[[28]](#footnote-29)
7. Women and girls suffer disproportionately from deprivation due to social and traditional norms and practices, as manifested by a high prevalence of female genital mutilation (76 per cent), child marriage[[29]](#footnote-30) and female high-school dropout rates[[30]](#footnote-31). UNDP advocates strong policy and legislative gender equality frameworks and women’s empowerment in decision-making processes.
8. The Independent Elections Commission organizes periodic elections. However, the country could benefit from widening the political space and participation. UNDP has shown comparative advantage in improving the efficiency of the judiciary through innovative mobile legal aid clinics, decentralized legal aid services, and a dispute resolution secretariat for accessible dispensation of justice.[[31]](#footnote-32) Support for performance audit at the National Audit Office, the Joint Public Accounts Committee and the Public Enterprise Committee at the National Assembly have strengthened the accountability frameworks, promoting economic governance.
9. UNDP contributed to addressing challenges identified by the midterm review of the country programme action plan, 2012-2016, and the midterm review of the Programme for Accelerated Growth and Employment, 2014. UNDP support to policy formulation and its development of sectoral plans improved coordination and monitoring of the medium-term planning frameworks. Support to the national Millennium Development Goals status reporting and development forums, and strengthening statistics, contributed to effective pro-poor policies and strategies formulation.[[32]](#footnote-33) Support to the social sector public expenditure review led to the preparation of the social protection policy. UNDP and the African Union facilitated the development of the African development gender index.[[33]](#footnote-34)
10. UNDP, in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, supported preparation of the Human Rights Commission Act, the Universal Periodic Review report, 2014, and national compliance with special procedures. Institutionalization of the value-added tax, in partnership with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, led to an increase in tax revenue collection.[[34]](#footnote-35) Future support should focus on improving expenditure management, restoring macroeconomic stability, and developing policies and programmes to address the needs of rural women and unemployed youths.
11. In collaboration with the Government, UNDP piloted the Songhai project through South-South cooperation and replicated the model, where 165 jobs have been created. Forty-five young people were trained in self-employed oriented skills, and 256 hectares of land transformed for productive use. Forty per cent of the beneficiaries were women.
12. Although the Gambia is one of the least-aided countries,[[35]](#footnote-36) the UNDP comparative advantage in economic and political governance, human capital development, poverty eradication and resilience development proved effective in mobilizing resources for programming, while effective collaboration on policy reform (with the World Bank, the IMF and other United Nations partners) improved development effectiveness. Continued support, informed by analytical studies in institutional strengthening and development of pro-poor policies and strategies, positioned UNDP as a major thought leader in policy dialogue and capacity development, and as a coordinator for international agendas such as the sustainable development goals. Lessons learned from past support have contributed to the design of the proposed country programme.

## The proposed programme is underpinned by the logic of accelerating inclusive, sustainable economic growth, reinforced by a holistic resilience-building approach that promotes sustainable management of the economy, natural resources, and the environment, through capacity-building of national institutions and communities, focusing on selected strategic areas with multiplier effects. The development of evidence-based policies, rooted in lessons from downstream interventions, will be prioritized to promote growth, inclusiveness and empowerment of women, youth[[36]](#footnote-37) and the rural poor, through skills development, employment creation, income generation and resilience-building, using innovative approaches. Important components are governance reform and partnership-building to open financial space with renewed inflows of private-sector investment; official development assistance and foreign direct investment to supplement domestic resources to accelerate inclusive growth; and implementation of sustainable development goals.

## II. Programme priorities and partnerships

## UNDP, in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, 2017-2021, and the UNDP strategic plan, 2014–2017, will focus on: (a) inclusive economic growth and poverty eradication; (b) governance and human rights; and (c) environment and resilience development. UNDP will leverage its comparative advantage by addressing the root causes of vulnerability[[37]](#footnote-38) to accelerate growth, build resilience and promote good governance while complementing the efforts of the United Nations country team. The strategic choices are in line with the broad objectives of the post-2015 agenda, Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and the Istanbul Programme of Action. The small size of the country office and limited resources, both human and financial, dictate that the programme adopts a more focused approach

## The midterm reviews demonstrated that UNDP contributed to the formulation of a climate-resilient strategy and adoption of sustainable agricultural practices for small-scale producers, rehabilitation of mangrove ecosystems, and coastal protection and early-warning systems for better planning and management of climate-related disasters and shocks. UNDP supported the enactment of legislation and the formulation of policy frameworks to integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into national policies and promote renewable energy.

***Inclusive economic growth and poverty eradication***

## UNDP will address the poverty, inequality and exclusion nexus, providing both upstream and downstream support and building on current programme cycle achievements: evidence-based planning, livelihoods and employment promotion; inclusive growth; and social protection. In collaboration with the World Bank, the IMF and African Development Bank, UNDP will support the recently created Ministry of Planning and Policy and the Gambia Bureau of Statistics. UNDP will work with key ministries to align resources with national priorities, and assessment risks to the achievement of national development objectives, and will mobilize resources. UNDP will prepare high-quality analytical products – the National Human Development Report, the sustainable development goals status report, and other relevant studies. This will enhance the environment for evidence-based policy planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, in line with the sustainable development goals.

1. The capacity of relevant institutions will be strengthened to design and implement skills and entrepreneurship development interventions[[38]](#footnote-39) for increased employment and productivity, to sustainably lift target groups out of poverty in the Central River and Western Regions. UNDP will institutionalize and harness the linkage between skills development and export promotion; and strengthen linkages with microfinance institutions to help local communities to produce, add value, and support diversification of the economy in partnership with UNCDF. In reducing poverty and inequality, UNDP will assist the implementation of the social protection policy and strategy by implementing a comprehensive social protection programme targeting the most vulnerable children, women and youth, in line with the sustainable development goals objective of leaving no one behind. This will contribute to the attainment of goals1, 8, 10 and 17.

***Governance and human rights***

1. This programme will consolidate governance-related reforms, strengthening national institutions to promote the culture of democracy, human rights, access to justice, anti-corruption through improved accountability and transparency, and the rule of law, using innovative approaches to reach the poorest. UNDP will focus on the nexus between political and economic governance to achieve improved economic management for poverty eradication through bilateral and multilateral relationships, with positive consequences for foreign direct investment, business growth and government revenue.
2. UNDP will support access to justice by strengthening capacities of enforcement authorities in justice delivery and human rights institutions to provide services, enlarge citizen participation in decision-making and elections, and uphold the rule of law, tapping into its global network through South-South and triangular cooperation. Building upon lessons learned from the 2012-2016 cycle, this programme will deepen the foundations for coordinated delivery of high-quality justice services to the poor, focusing on children and women through legal aid and assessments of development results. UNDP, in collaboration with United Nations organizations, development partners and civil society organizations, will strategically leverage its position as a neutral convening entity to dialogue and advocate on sensitive issues, governance risks and mitigation strategies. Support to promoting gender equity and women’s empowerment will focus on the implementation of policies through a joint Gambia Government-United Nations system programme. UNDP will continue to advocate for implementing the national human rights commission act and support human rights monitoring mechanisms.
3. The programme will support citizen participation and strengthen capacities of oversight and accountability institutions, the National Council for Civic Education, and the Association of Non-Governmental Organizations. Support for implementing the citizen engagement framework will target the media and emphasize providing voice to women and excluded groups. Implementation of the decentralization policy and strategy will be prioritized for capacity-building. This pillar will contribute to the attainment of sustainable development goals 5 and 16.

***Environment and resilience development***

## UNDP will support the application of evidence-based policymaking for increased resilience; improved absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities of at-risk communities; and the establishment of appropriate, coordinated and timely responses to risks and shocks. UNDP will lead the climate change and resilience-building agenda while forging effective partnerships within national and international frameworks.[[39]](#footnote-40) The support will enable the Government to implement the national climate change policy, 2015, and the Paris Agreement reached at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties, and promote natural resources management and the roll-out of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, the disaster risk reduction policy and strategy, 2014-2017, and the renewable energy policy. UNDP will strengthen national capacity to assess, respond to and coordinate disaster and climate risk management. The programme will support implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, and strengthen protected areas management, sustainable use of natural resources and reforestation of degraded lands through the land use policy.

## UNDP will support the mainstreaming into development plans of low emissions, climate resilience, risk assessment and management; development of early warning systems; and implementation of priority mitigation and adaptation measures to reduce vulnerability across key sectors. UNDP support will enhance the effectiveness of post-disaster recovery; the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems and watering points; and construction of climate-resilient infrastructure. The development of a climate readiness plan will be critical for resource mobilization. UNDP will introduce innovative production techniques linked to agricultural value chains to facilitate local communities’ adaptation to climate change. The programme will engage the private sector in issues of natural resources management.

1. UNDP will provide catalytic support to assist the Gambia in accessing the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to implement its national obligations,[[40]](#footnote-41) while strengthening dialogue and exploring funding opportunities with Qatar, the European Commission and the Government of Japan. South-South and triangular cooperation will be explored for community-based poverty reduction, renewable energy and a green economy. The pillar will contribute to the attainment of sustainable development goals12, 13, 15 and 17.

## Building on the experience gained during the Millennium Development Goals period, and leveraging its leading role in the Development Partners’ Group, UNDP will strategically support the roll-out of the sustainable development goals,[[41]](#footnote-42) working with the Government, civil society organizations, the private sector, United Nations organizations and development partners.

# III. Programme and risk management

1. The country programme will be nationally executed in collaboration with key national counterparts to ensure ownership, leadership and accountability for the realization of UNDP support for achieving development results. Different implementation modalities – national implementation, non-governmental organizations and direct UNDP implementation, or combinations thereof – will be selected to maximize efficiency, flexibility of operations, and effective UNDP contributions to development results. Implementing partners will be selected with a view to building sustainability and based on comparative advantages and capacity assessments. When required, UNDP will provide necessary support to national implementing partners to address capacity gaps. Fast-track procedures can be adopted to provide timely response to crisis situations and respond efficiently to emerging demands for UNDP support.
2. For both national and direct implementation, and pursuant to Executive Board decision 2013/32, cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects. UNDP is committed to implementing harmonized cash transfer principles in coordination with relevant United Nations partners. Using these procedures, including macro and micro assessment, will mitigate the risk of insufficient implementation capacity.
3. UNDP will ensure that the country office has adequate human capacity, structures, and management systems, to implement the country programme successfully. The financial sustainability plan will be reviewed regularly for best use of resources and optimal management ratios. The country office will effectively collect host government contributions to increase its delivery capacity in accordance with government contributions towards local office costs guidelines.[[42]](#footnote-43) Staff capacities will be developed through continuous training and exchange programmes. The country office will use resources such as those of the Regional Service Centre to expand capacity to deliver on its programme, and will employ innovative approaches such as attracting young, talented graduates through internships to augment staff capacity.
4. Economic and political dynamics and uncertainties are likely to continue, exposing programme implementation to considerable risks, including: limited resource mobilization potential, given donor concerns over the governance record of the Gambia; high attrition rates within the Government, and brain drain, loss of institutional memory and limited continuity, which exacerbate the already weak capacities of implementing partners, and possible disruptions in programme implementation due to the planned National Assembly and local elections. The country office will formulate a contingency plan to respond to electoral risks and will regularly update the business continuity plan. Based on the Gambia Intended National Determined Contribution, UNDP will support policy reforms to reduce the impact of climate change. In relation to resource mobilization-related risks, the country office will identify new and innovative sources of finance[[43]](#footnote-44) and support the Government in identifying domestic sources, including through efficiency gains in resource allocation and utilization. The country office will strengthen project quality assurance and social and environmental safeguards for sustainability, and reemphasize integrated, flexible, innovative programme design, systems of data collection, and evidence-based results reporting and communication to address lessons learned and scale up best practices.
5. This country programme document outlines UNDP contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the UNDP [programme and operations policies and procedures](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/accountability/programme_and_operationspoliciesandprocedures.html), and the i[nternal control framework](https://info.undp.org/global/popp/rma/Pages/internal-control-framework.aspx).

# IV. Monitoring and evaluation

1. Guided by a results-based management approach, the country programme monitoring and evaluation platform[[44]](#footnote-45) will be aligned with the monitoring and evaluation framework of the United Nations Development Framework and the national system. Most of the data to monitor UNDP support at the outcome level is sourced from national systems.[[45]](#footnote-46) UNDP, collaborating with partners,[[46]](#footnote-47) will strengthen national statistical capacity. This will enable the country to monitor its own national development plan and report on progress towards the sustainable development goals and United Nations Development Assistance Framework and country programme outcome-level indicators.
2. The country office will strengthen in-house capacity for data collection, analysis and utilization to track the contribution of the programme to transformative change. At least 5 per cent of programme resources will be earmarked to cover costs of monitoring, evaluation and relevant studies. The UNDP gender marker will be used to monitor country programme expenditures and improve planning and decision-making. The new country programme will intensify efforts in monitoring and operationalizing real-time, specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and trackable gender-disaggregated data collection for continuous assessment of UNDP contributions.
3. A communication strategy linked to the partnership and resource mobilization strategies will be formulated to increase the transparency, visibility and impact of UNDP interventions, and thought leadership in priority programme areas.
4. United Nations Development Assistance Framework outcome boards will oversee and continually track the progress of United Nations and UNDP contributions to achieving outcomes, adjusting the strategies of the country programme accordingly. The United Nations inter-agency monitoring and evaluation group will monitor overall performance and testing of the theories of change. The country office will conduct evaluations to determine progress, identify lessons and challenges, and offer solutions. Projects will undergo systematic reviews to ensure environmental and social safeguards.

#### Annex. Results and resources framework for the Gambia (2017-2021)

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| **National priority or goal: 1 and 3. Accelerating and sustaining economic growth, agriculture and natural resources for food security** | | | | |
| **United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) outcomes 1 and 3.2.** **By 2021, accelerated inclusive and sustainable economic growth to reduce poverty and inequality for the vulnerable groups** | | | | |
| **Related strategic plan outcome 1. Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded** | | | | |
| **UNDAF outcome indicators, baselines, and targets** | **Data source, frequency of data collection, and responsibilities** | **Indicative country programme outputs**  ***(including indicators, baselines, and targets)*** | **Major partners, partnerships and frameworks** | **Indicative resources by outcome (in thousands of $)** |
| **Indicator 1.1.1.** Real gross domestic product (GDP) growth, 2017-2021  ***Baseline:*** 4.2% (2016)  ***Target:* 7%**  2. **Indicator 1.1.2.** Percentage of population below $1.75 per day (‘poverty headcount’)  ***Baseline:*** 48.4% (2010)  ***Target:* 20%**  **Indicator 1.1.3**: Real GDP per capita  ***Baseline:* $271 (2014)**  ***Target:* $1,250 (Vision 2020)**  **Indicator 1.1.4**: Unemployment rate, ages 18-65  ***Baseline:*** National, 29.2%; rural, 31.1, urban, 28.4%  Male: 20.9%, Female: 38.3%, 2012  ***Target:*** 10% | **Data source:**  National accounts  Annual project reports  Integrated Household Survey  National accounts  Labour force surveys | **Output 1.1. National and subnational institutions enabled to achieve structural transformation of productive capacities that are sustainable and employment- and livelihoods- intensive.**  **Indicator 1.1.1.** Number of gender-sensitive strategies, in place at the national and sub-national levels to generate and strengthen employment and livelihoods.  ***Baseline:*** 3 sectoral; 0 regional strategies[[47]](#footnote-48)  ***Target****:* 6 sectoral; 4 regional strategies  **Indicator 1.1.2.** Number of schemes that expand and diversify the productive base.  ***Baseline:*** 0central; 2 urban; 0 rural[[48]](#footnote-49)  ***Target:*** 2 central; 3 urban; 6 rural  **Indicator 1.1.3.** Number of new jobs and other livelihoods generated, disaggregated by sex and age.  ***Baseline:*** 700men; 600 women; 600 youth; Total: 1,100  ***Target:*** 2,000men; 2,000 women; 1,000 youth; Total: 4,000  **Output 1.2.** **Options enabled and facilitated for inclusive and**  **sustainable social protection.**  **Indicator 1.2.2.** Proportion of vulnerable children, women and youth receiving social protection support, disaggregated by sex.  ***Baseline:*** 50,000 (29, 000 women, 10,000 youth). [[49]](#footnote-50)  ***Target:*** 220,000 (100,000 women, 120,000 youth)[[50]](#footnote-51)  **Output 1.3.** **Capacity of national and subnational-level institutions strengthened to deliver improved basic services, formulate pro-poor and gender-sensitive strategies and plans.**  **Indicator 1.3.1.** Number of national and subnational governments with functioning planning, budgeting and monitoring systems.  ***Baseline:*** 2 [[51]](#footnote-52)  ***Target:*** 6[[52]](#footnote-53)  **Indicator 1.3.2.** Number of national statistical surveys that produced informed, gender-sensitive policies and plans.  ***Baseline:*** 2[[53]](#footnote-54)  ***Target:*** 5 | Ministry of Youth and Sports  Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment (MOTIE)  Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA)  Department of Social Welfare  Ministry of Energy (MOE)  Gambia Bureau of Statistics  Ministry of Planning and Policy  MOFEA | **Regular**  **$8,000**  **Other**  **$6,000** |
| **National priority or goal: improving governance and fighting corruption** | | | | |
| **UNDAF outcome 1.2. Institutional reforms implemented to ensure rule of law and guarantee the protection of the human rights of all, including access to justice, gender equality, access to basic services, and democratic participation in decision-making processes.** | | | | |
| **Related strategic plan outcome 2. Citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law, and accountability, are met by stronger systems of democratic governance** | | | | |
| **Indicator 1.2.1.**  Governance index: Mo Ibrahim ratings, and World Bank country policy and institutional assessment (CPIA)  ***Baseline:*** Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG): 51.6 (2014)  CPIA: 3.1(2015)  ***Target:*** IIAG: 55; CPIA: 3.2 (2021)  **Indicator 1.2.3:** Voter turnout  ***Baseline:* 70%**  ***Target:* 85%**  **Indicator 1.2.4:** Percentage of women serving in local councils, national assembly  ***Baseline:*** 9%; Local government areas (LGAs): 12%  ***Target:*** 20); LGAs: 30% | **Data source**  Ibrahim Index on African Governance  Frequency: annual  Universal Periodic review  Frequency: annual  Voter registration database and election results (Independent Electoral Commission)  **Data source**  Reports by Women’s Bureau  Annual report of the National Assembly Ministry of Justice report  Annual report of the National Assembly | **Output 2.1. Electoral institutions enabled to perform core functions for improved accountability, participation and representation, including for peaceful transitions.**  **Indicator 2.1.1.** Proportion of eligible registered voters, disaggregated by sex**.**  ***Baseline:*** Presidential elections, 82%; National Assembly, 50%; local government, 12% (2011-2013)[[54]](#footnote-55)  ***Target:*** Presidential, 88%; National Assembly, 65%; local government, 40% (2016-2018)  **Indicator 2.1.2.** Number of women participating as candidates in local and national elections.  ***Baseline:*** 20/114 for local government, 4/48 for national assembly[[55]](#footnote-56)  ***Target:*** 40/114 for local government; 15/55 for national assembly.  **Output 2.2. Enhanced institutional capacity of the justice system to deliver accessible, efficient and accountable justice to all, especially women and vulnerable groups.**    **Indicator 2.2.1.** Number of legal aid centres established.  ***Baseline:*** 3  ***Target:*** 5  **Indicator 2.2.2.** Number of beneficiaries, particularly women and vulnerable groups, using legal aid centres, disaggregated by sex.  ***Baseline:*** 672 cases, 40% women  ***Target:*** 3,000 cases, 60% women    **Output 2.3. Frameworks developed for effective and transparent engagement of civil society, including women’s organizations, in national development.**  **Indicator 2.3.1.** Number of civil society organizations, including women’s organizations, using open platforms and networks to engage in national and local governance and decision-making processes.  ***Baseline:*** 2[[56]](#footnote-57)  ***Target:*** 5  **Output 2.4. Strengthened operational capacities of oversight and accountability institutions actively engaged in the public sphere.**  **Indicator 2.4.1.** Number of backlogged audit reports and performance reports produced by National Audit Office  ***Baseline:*** 0audit reports; 40 performance reports  ***Target:*** 0 audit reports; 0 performance reports | Ministry of Justice  Gambia Press Union  National Council for Civic Education  Coalition on Elections  Development partners  Independent Electoral Commission  Inter-party Advisory Committee  National Assembly  Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO)  Joint Public Accounts Committee  Public Enterprise Committee | **Regular**  **$5,500**  **Other**  **$4,000** |
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|  |
| **National priority or goal: Accelerating and sustaining economic growth** | | | | |
| **UNDAF outcome 3.3.** **By 2021, National institutions and community capacities are strengthened for effective disaster risk management, climate change response actions and resilience.** | | | | |
| **Related strategic plan outcome 5. Countries are able to reduce the likelihood of conflict, and lower the risk of natural disasters, including from climate change** | | | | |
| **Indicator 4.1.1.** Number of institutions responsible for disaster risk management supported with human resource capacity-building.  ***Baseline:*** 0  ***Target:*** 8  **Indicator 4.1.2.** Per-capita carbon dioxide emission (metric tons)  ***Baseline:* 0.3**  ***Target:* 0.01** | National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) yearly progress reports to Government  Gambia progress report to the UNFCCC; INDC report  Reports from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Forestry, Water and Wildlife | **Output 3.1. Preparedness systems to effectively address the consequences of and response to natural hazards.[[57]](#footnote-58)**  **Indicator 3.1.1.** Number of end-to-end early warning systems for man-made and natural hazards.  ***Baseline:***1  ***Target:*** 8  **Indicator 3.1.2.** Number of contingency plans at national and sub-national level to prepare for and recover from disaster events with adequate financial and human resources, capacities and operating procedures.  ***Baseline:***0  ***Target:***1 Central, 8 regional plans  **Indicator 3.1.3.** Existenceof clearly defined institutional responsibilities and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms for disaster and climate risk management at national and subnational levels.  ***Baseline:*** At national level[[58]](#footnote-59)  ***Targe****t****:*** National, 8 regional, 48 districts.  **Indicator 3.1.4.** Percentage of the at-risk population covered by national and community level contingency plans for disaster events[[59]](#footnote-60).  ***Baseline:*** 15% (5% women)  ***Target:*** 50% (25% women)  **Output 3.2. Gender-responsive disaster and climate risk management integrated into the development planning and budgetary frameworks of key sectors.**[[60]](#footnote-61)  **Indicator 3.2.1.** Number of districts with plans or strategies for enhanced resilience to climate change impacts.  ***Baseline:*** 0  ***Target:*** 2  **Output 3.3.** Scaled-up actions on climate change adaptation and mitigation implemented.  **Indicator 3.3.1.** Number of systems in place to monitor, report and verify use of climate finance.  ***Baseline:*** 2[[61]](#footnote-62)  ***Target:***  5  **Indicator 3.3.2.** Number of comprehensive plans, strategies, policies and programmes implemented to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient development objectives.  ***Baseline:*** 3[[62]](#footnote-63)  ***Target:***  6  **Output 3.4.** Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted to achieve increased renewable energy access and efficiency.[[63]](#footnote-64)  **Indicator 3.4.1.** Number of new development partnerships for improved, efficient and sustainable energy solutions targeting underserved communities/groups and women.  ***Baseline:*** 1[[64]](#footnote-65)  ***Target:*** 5  **Indicator 3.4.2.** Proportion of population with access to energy.  ***Baseline:*** 37%[[65]](#footnote-66)  ***Target:*** 76%  **Output 3.5**: Capacities of national and subnational administrations enabled to enhance conservation, sustainable management, and use of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems.  **Indicator 3.5.1.** Number of communities benefiting from sustainable natural resources management.  ***Baseline:*** 5 communities (85% women’s groups)  ***Target:*** 8 communities (90% women’s groups).  **Indicator 3.5.2:** Number of protected areas established and managed for biodiversity conservation.  ***Baseline:*** 5  ***Target:*** 10 | NDMA  National Environment Agency  Gambia Red Cross Society  Concern Universal  MOE  Ministry of Environment  Ministry of Local Government  Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water, Wildlife and Fisheries  National Environment Agency | **Regular**  **$1,500** |
| **Other**  **$30,000** |



1. Human Development Report, 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Gross enrolment rate reached 101.2 per cent in 2015: 103.5 per cent for girls and 99 per cent for boys. Millennium Development Goals status report, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Infant and child mortality rates dropped to 34 and 54 per 1000, respectively, against the target of 42 and 67.5 per 1,000 births by 2014. Millennium Development Goals status report, 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. The most recent national development plan is the programme for growth and employment, 2012-2015, extended to 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Real per capita gross domestic product was around $ 271 in 2014, far off track to achieve middle-income status by 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Sustainable development goals launched nationally, and initial prioritization of the goals completed through a consultation process (2015 report). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Rural poverty rate of 79.5, against urban poverty of 24.4 per cent (Multidimensional poverty study, 2015) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. In the Gambia, 76.4 per cent of women lack land ownership, against 61.9 for men (Gambia Demographic and Health Survey, 2013) [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Fifty-six per cent of the labor force is categorized as working poor (labour force survey, 2012). Source for income poverty: integrated household survey, 2010. Poverty declined from 58% in 2003 to 48.4% in 2010. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. The multidimensional poverty index measures deprivation at household level on dimensions of education, health and living standards. Scoring is based on weighted indicators for each dimension, using ten indicators and a cut-off 33 per cent was taken as poverty line. Households with total weighted scores above 1/3, are multi-dimensionally deprived (poor). Households with a score below 1/3 are non-deprived. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. UNDP study on multidimensional poverty, 2015. The two most impoverished regions are Kuntaur (90 per cent) and Janjanbureh (85 per cent). Basse has the largest number of poor people. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Integrated household survey report, volume I, 2010. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Gambia Bureau of Statistics, national income accounts data, 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. Labour force survey, 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. Labor force survey, 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. Programme for accelerated growth and employment, midterm review, 2014 (supported by UNDP). [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. Country Policy and Institutional Assessment, Gambia report, 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. World Bank harmonized list of countries in fragile situations, 2016. A recent study by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) indicated that fiscal policies and institutions have played a significant role in building resilience in sub-Saharan African countries during 1990-2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. Economic management challenges have resulted in a widening fiscal deficit, which was around 11 per cent of gross domestic product in 2014, largely financed by domestic debt, pushing the country into macroeconomic imbalances. The wage bill and interest payments climbed above 70 per cent of the total budget, reducing funds available for development. IMF report, September 2015. The high interest rate of treasury bills (above 20 per cent) has reduced private sector accessibility to credit/finance (-7.5 per cent) in 2014. African Economic Outlook, 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. Programme for Accelerated Growth and Employment, midterm review, October 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. More than 98 per cent of agricultural lands in the Gambia are rain-fed, making the sector highly vulnerable to rainfall variability. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. It is estimated that a one-meter rise in sea level will inundate about 8.7 per cent of total land area. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. Common Country Assessment [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. To address this challenge, the Government formulated a national climate change policy in 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. Women account for only 9.4 per cent parliament seats, according to the MDG status report, 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. According to Eurostat data, over 12, 000 Gambian migrants requested asylum in 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. Women represent 9 per cent in parliament and below 20 per cent in local councils. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. Terminal evaluation of public service reform and institutional strengthening, 2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. Gambia Demographic and Health Survey 2013: Median age for first marriage is 18.6 years. Women 15-19 years old, 23.8 married. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. MDG status report of the Gambia, 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
31. Gambia Ministry of Justice, annual report of the National Agency for Legal Aid and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat, 2015/2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
32. The national human development report, focused on youth employment, has led to a youth agenda in the policy sphere as well as the review and reformulation of the youth policy and strategy of the country. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
33. Includes gender equality and women’s empowerment in legal and institutional frameworks. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
34. Tax to gross domestic product ratio increased from 15 per cent in 2007 to 17 per cent in 2015 (UNDP 2015), Gambia policy brief on domestic resources mobilization, 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
35. According to the 2011 report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Gambia is among the top ten least-aided countries. Only a few donor entities, such as the European Commission, the IMF and the United Nations are resident in country. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
36. Youth, according to the national youth policy, are 15-35 years of age. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
37. Weak institutions for economic and social service provisions, weak governance systems, frequent extreme weather events, lack of integrated early-warning and disaster risk management system, limited endowment of natural resources, and high population growth. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
38. Selected interventions from the Empretec and Songhai initiatives will be scaled up to reach more unemployed youths and women. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
39. Sustainable development goals, multilateral environmental agreements, the Montreal Protocol and Capacity 21. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
40. The obligations include the Rio conventions: the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Conventions to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
41. Key sustainable development goals to which the country programme will contribute: 1, 5. 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
42. Government contributions towards local office costs have been collected partially during the current country programme. The country office will put in place a mechanism for full payment of future costs in the Gambia. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
43. The country office will work with emerging donors such as China to explore options for cooperation while targeting thematic funds such as the European Commission Migration Fund, GEF and the Green Fund. [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
44. Within the country programme and as part of the monitoring and evaluation system, multi-year, issues-based policy research and studies will be commissioned through think tanks, universities and the private sector to test underlying theories of change. The findings will contribute to learning and adjustments to the programme strategies and outputs. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
45. Preliminary assessment of the data for sustainable development goals reporting in the Gambia shows that about 36 per cent of the data was available for monitoring Millennium Development Goals progress over the last 15 years. For the already-finalized 100 goals indicators, there is limited up-to-date data. Thirty-two per cent have data less than 3 years old (UNDP policy brief: Data gap to implement and monitor SDGs. 2015). [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
46. World Bank, IMF, African Development Bank and other United Nations organizations. [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
47. Data source: Government budget and MOTIE reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
48. Data source: Government budget and sectoral reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
49. Estimated based on the assumption that only 5 per cent of the total vulnerable groups as per the SP policy are covered currently. [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
50. Source: Social Protection Survey report. Frequency: every two years [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
51. MOFEA and MOTIE [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
52. Two national institutions (Ministry of Policy and Planning and MOFEA) and four subnational institutions. [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
53. Rating scale of 1-5: 1=low; 2=below average; 3=average; 4=above average; 5=high [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
54. Data source:Independent Electoral Commission reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
55. Data source: National Council for Civic Education. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
56. Data source:report of TANGO. Frequency: annual. [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
57. Geo-physical, climate related and man-made crisis at all levels of government and community. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
58. Data source: NDMA and water resources reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
59. Evacuation procedures, stockpiles, search and rescue, communication protocols and recovery preparedness plans [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
60. Water, agriculture, health and education. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
61. Data source: NDMA, Department of Water Resources (DWR) reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
62. Data source: NDMA, DWR reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
63. Off-grid renewable energy [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
64. Data source: sectoral reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
65. Data source: National Water and Electricity Company and basic services reports. Frequency: annual [↑](#footnote-ref-66)