

Annex 8

Gender Assessment and Action Plan

For the GCF-FAO Project “Climate Resilient Fishery Initiative for Livelihood Improvement”

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AF	Adaptation Fund
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ANR	Agriculture and natural resources
CC	Climate Change
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CFC	Community Fisheries Center
DPT	Diphtheria, Pertussis (whooping cough) and Tetanus
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Project
FGM	Female genital mutilation
FTT	FAO-Thiaroye Fish Processing Technique
GABECE	Gambia Basic Certificate Examination
GAfsp	Global Agriculture and Food Security Program
GAMHOPE	Association of Horticultural Producers and Exporters of The Gambia
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IMCC	Inter-ministerial Climate Committee
LGA	Local Government Area
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoFWRNAM	Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MWA	Ministry of Women's Affairs
NAATIP	National Agency against Trafficking in Persons
NAT	National Assessment Test
NCC	National Climate Committee
NCCC	National Climate Change Council
NFCS-GAM	The Gambia National Framework for Climate Services
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NWC	National Women's Council
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PEP	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
PMIU	Project Management and Implementation Unit
SEAH	sexual exploitation, abuse and harrassment
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USD	United States Dollar

WASSCE

WB

WHO

WMO

World Bank

West African Senior School Certificate Examination

Women's Bureau

World Health Organization

World Meteorological Organization

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
(IBRD)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TRANSFORMING GENDER ASSESSMENT INTO ACTION PLAN FOR MAINSTREAMING

Women comprise a **great majority** of the workers in the **fishery sector** in The Gambia at about 80% of the sector's labor force. Women do not participate in all subsectors of fishery, as **work is differentiated by gender**. The Gambian women are not involved in capture of marine resources, except for shellfish which is reserved for them. **Processing and selling** of fish and shellfish for the **domestic market** have **lower profit margins** than for the export market and are women's domain. The widespread **illiteracy** among women (information, technical and financial barriers) makes it difficult for them to **access the formal sector**, which includes export markets (market barrier). The latest **infrastructure**, without which export would be difficult, is more than often constructed with men in mind (technical and institutional barriers). **Productive activities** are commonly **defeminized** when the activities start **attracting investment**, especially in the form of **machinery**. **Extension services** for women's subsectors are rare (technical and institutional barriers), and illiteracy forces women to cede the **Treasurer's positions** of their organizations to men (informational barrier).

Despite these setbacks, women processors and sellers in the fishery sector **generate more income** than their husbands. They have complete autonomy over their incomes and finance almost **single-handedly** their children's **education** and **everyday household needs**. Men's monetary contribution to these matters is on an *ad hoc* basis (financial barrier against women). Regardless, many women swallow their words when there is **disagreement** with their **husbands** so that the **marriage** is not negatively affected (social barrier). **Close to half** of the Gambian women think husbands have the **right to beat** them if they are not satisfied about the household or their conjugal relationship (social barrier). As girls in the rural areas have very limited opportunities to study or earn a living, the only **option left** for them is usually **early marriage**, which perpetuates the vicious circle for women (social barrier).

The **most fundamental constraints** that the women in the fishery sector face are **gender imparity of decision-making power** and **illiteracy**. The **impacts of climate change** on women are considered **much larger** than on men, as their lack of literacy and numeracy skills make women inept at conceiving **strategic actions** that are required for effective adaptation to climate change. Limited decision-making power and access to productive resources among women do not give them the **full range of adaptation options** that would be available under **gender parity**, and thus negatively affecting their business as well as management of the environment and ultimately the **adaptation capacity** of the **entire society**.

The project tackles these **root causes** through activities to improve **decision-making parity**, involving women, men and community gatekeepers and applying household methodology. The discussions under this methodology will include sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH) and gender-based violence (GBV), as appropriate, and the community gatekeepers will be sensitized and mobilized for community-driven support measures against them. These measures are to mitigate the possibilities that the engagement of women in new activities and their acquisition of new skills upset the current gender-based power-balance in the household and community to provoke SEAH or GBV. The Grievance Redress Mechanism of FAO Gambia will be strengthened to handle such incidents in an inclusive, survivor-centered and gender responsive manner. **Referral pathways** for **gender-based violence** will be established and **professionals trained** for their operationalization. The effectiveness of these interventions rests on the willingness of the targeted groups to learn from the trainings and dialogues, which in turn partly depends on the skills of trainers/facilitators.

The project will make use of **rural young women** with intermediate level of education – the group which suffer from one of the highest unemployment rates – to help the **older generation of women** to gain **literacy and numeracy skills**. Women will also be trained on **sustainable environmental management under climate change** and **negotiation skills**. In order to tailor the intervention more closely to the **needs and strengths of women** and to create their **ownership**, they will be: consulted on the **location, dimensions, efficacy and effects of infrastructure** that concern them and appropriateness of exact **intervention sites**; invited to **observe or participate** in the **construction** processes; consulted on the **voice-over version** of **extension services** for women; involved in **mangrove restoration and conservation**, including **monitoring and evaluation** of mangroves; and be part of **planning and executing** various **campaigns** as well as **community-level decision making**.

LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPIRITUAL FRAMEWORK

Constitution and National Laws: The Constitution of The Gambia 1997 declares that women and men are equal in all domains of life, but also incorporates the customary law and *shari'a*, which are not entirely compatible with gender equality. Many national legislations on women, youth and children draw from the treaties that the country ratified, but their effective implementation has been hampered by the time-honored patriarchal norms and beliefs.

Policies: Both the National Gender Policy 2010-2020 and Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Policy 2017-2026 recognize the importance of women in agriculture sector as well as the low productivity of female farmers. One of the objectives of the ANR Policy is to improve participation and representation of female and youth farmers. Lack of negotiation skills among women is among the concerns highlighted by the ANR Policy.

The National Climate Change (CC) Policy 2016 aims for achieving, among others, environmental justice and “addressing social inequalities, particularly relating to gender, age, infirmity and socioeconomic status, which would be aggravated by climate change[.]” With respect to forests, the Policy underlines the necessity of adopting fuel-efficient cooking stoves and forest restoration, such as that of mangrove systems.

The National Youth Policy 2019-2028 recognizes the youth as the most important and valuable resource as well as the agriculture as the source of employment. It lists “[t]he increasingly high number of school drop-outs, forced and early marriages and teenage pregnancies” as issues that deserve attention. The ANR Policy sees out-migration of rural youths as an obstacle to the vibrancy of the sector. According to the CC Policy, the youth are vitally important in the country’s response to climate change.

Government Officials: In connection with women and youth, the government officials interviewed were most concerned about the loss of livelihoods due to climate change and lack of capacity to cope with it. According to them, fishery specific issues were: illegal fishing by industrial fleets; and lack of mangrove restoration. Other general obstacles observed were lack of: bargaining power and marketing/literacy/numeracy skills; access to funds; and voice. Additional problems identified were: gender-based domestic violence; unbalanced work responsibilities between genders; penury of freshwater in the rural areas; and unsustainability of projects due to insufficient integration of local knowledge in design and implementation. Landing Site Managers did not consider women as landing site users, although they are physically present at the landing sites to purchase fish which they process or sell. The youth being a relatively new topic to the policymakers, the officials consulted often saw the problems of women and youth together.

Religion: Religions do not rule every aspect of the lives of the Gambians, but are the cornerstones with respect to women's reproductive health, marriage and inheritance.

GENDER AND YOUTH IN RURAL GAMBIA

Women and the youth – including both male and female – are often treated together as one group. While rural women face particularly disadvantaged conditions and deserve attention as a group on its own, their plight is usually in the shadow of broader issues of women or development. According to the latest Census in 2013, 35% of the total population were aged 13-30 and most of them lived outside the capital. In 2020, it was estimated that slightly over 40% of the population lived in the rural areas.

Basic Statistics – Gender Parity: According to the Human Development, Gender Development and Gender Inequality Indices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Gambia was one of the least developed and the least gender unequal in the world in 2019. Gender inequality is said to be manifestation of social stratification on a larger scale in the Gambian society.

Basic Statistics – Population: The population growth rate peaked in 1988 at 5.0% and was 2.9% in 2019, which resulted in a large youth population (about 35% in 2013). More than 60% of youths lived in the rural areas at the time of last Census in 2013.

Basic Statistics – Literacy and Education: A mere 34% of women aged 15 and above and 51% of men aged 15 and above were literate in 2013, but the rates for women and men aged 15-24 were much higher at 64% and 71%, respectively in 2015. The school enrolment rate increased rapidly, but a non-trivial proportion of children were still out of school in 2017, with higher percentage for girls. The dropout rate has been higher for girls; the possible contributing factors were preference for boys' education, early and forced marriages, teenage pregnancy and child labor. The numeracy skills of children trailed behind their reading skills; less than 9% of children demonstrated satisfactory level in 2018. Girls who had satisfactory numeracy skills led boys by three percentage-points in the country, but the rural girls with satisfactory skills were less than 2%.

Basic Statistics – Poverty: UNDP identifies multiple deprivations suffered by individuals in three dimensions: health, education and standard of living. An average Gambian in 2018 lived practically in severe multidimensional poverty. It is estimated that the latest pandemic has added a great number of additional people into poverty.

Basic Statistics – Employment: It is believed that 70% of Gambian women are engaged in low productivity rural subsistence agriculture. Informal employment is higher for women at all education levels, but the gender gap is the largest when the highest education level attained is intermediate. Around 2000, less than half of the persons aged 13-30 were economically active and comprised 70% of all unemployed. Gender gap among the youth who are not in education, employment or training is the largest when the highest education level attained is intermediate. Rural unemployment is low for all ages. Emigration is widespread, generating 15% of Gross Domestic Product in 2019.

Basic Statistics – Marriage: Nearly 10% of women aged 15-49 were married before the age of 15 in 2018, compared to 0.3% of the male counterparts. In 2018, more than half of the women aged 15-24 and married had a spouse who was older by ten years or more. For women, more than often there are no meaningful alternatives to marriage including work opportunities in the rural areas. The statistics imply

that women's empowerment influences the types of unions, including involvement in transactional intimacy, as they depend on gendered economic inequalities.

Basic Statistics – Religion: Well over 95% of the population in the country were estimated Muslims in 2019. It was estimated in 2018 that the tensions along the ethnic, regional and religious lines had reached high levels, which are likely to affect proportionally more the most vulnerable.

Labor Division: Women and men are not only different actors of the same value chains, but also operate on different scales and serve different markets. Anything meant for local consumption is women's work and is of low profit margin. Household chores and caregiving are almost entirely women's responsibilities. Most households engage in small-scale farming and livestock raising on a subsistence basis, even if their main livelihood is in fishery sector. Commercial sex in the tourist sector, human trafficking and related exploitation appear to continue, and their targets tend to be women rather than men.

Decision Making and Autonomy: Men are by default the heads of households. Women and youth are consulted in decisions related to their work, but do not have the same decision-making power as adult men. In case the parents are involved in the same work as the youth, the parents speak for all. At home, women make decisions on day-to-day issues and are consulted for bigger family matters such as inheritance, but the husband is the ultimate decision makers of each household. Women have complete autonomy over their own income, which is used to run the household, supplemented by husband's income. Women do not own any of big-ticket assets.

About one in three women in The Gambia experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime. The latest pandemic has led to loss of jobs and possibility of questioning men's authority, which is likely to have driven men to violence. In 2018, more than three-quarters of girls and women aged 15-49 had undergone female genital mutilation. Child marriage remains common among girls, especially in the rural areas. Nearly 50% of women were of the opinion in 2018 that beating the wife was justified when: the wife neglects the children; she burns the food; she argues with him; she goes out without telling him; or she refuses to have sex with him. Women allow men to have power in the household, because they know that otherwise men may be discontented and create problems for the marriage and the household. All community leaders interviewed emphasized the importance of dialogues in conflict resolution.

Access to Resources and Services: Women do not own land and access is given through their male family members. The so-called women's crops and animals are usually for subsistence purposes. Women are often allotted the least attractive units of infrastructure. Extension services are unsatisfactory, in particular for subsectors dominated by women. Climate information services are not available for women or men. Formal credit is hard to come by in the rural areas, and combined with illiteracy, women rely on borrowing from family and friends. Women's access to mobile phones was on par with that of men's. Gender and rural-urban gaps were pronounced for computer access, with the largest gaps observed among the youth, the group with the highest access. The most popular media was the radio for both women and men. There is no organized information on markets or extension services that is diffused by the media and accessed by women.

Women in fishery know that mangroves are indispensable for their livelihoods, but many continue to harvest the mangroves for fuel and roofing, while being aware that the mangroves will continue to diminish with the current management practices. Women listed insufficient quantity as one of the most concerning issues of water, but they were also willing to engage in aquaculture if proposed by a donor. Gender-based division of work confers on women less profitable markets and little investment.

Water and Sanitation: More than 90% of the population had access to an improved source of water in 2018. The time required to reach an improved drinking-water source was 30 minutes or more in the rural areas. It was women over 15 years of age who collected water. Less than 2% of households in the rural areas had access to an improved drinking-water source located on premises, free of *E. coli* and available when needed. Improved sanitation was observed less among rural than among urban households.

Energy: The vast majority used solid fuel, and little over half used three stone stove or open fire. The fuel was primarily wood and charcoal; almost all was wood in the rural areas. It was the women who collected or purchased fuel. Artisanal smoking and drying of fish were estimated larger in terms of fuel use than the rest of the sector and inefficient per landed fish. Electric lighting was available to over half of the population.

Health: Life expectancy at birth in 2018 for Gambian women and men was roughly on par with the Sub-Saharan average. More than half of the deaths were caused by communicable diseases and maternal, prenatal and nutrition conditions, implying the unsatisfactory state of the health services. The prevalence of undernourishment was 12%; the rate has been constantly below the Sub-Saharan average. Micronutrient deficiencies were considered widespread and affected women and under-five children most. The country was evaluated medium by the World Health Organization (WHO) Classification of malnutrition for stunting and for wasting, while high for underweight in 2018.

Women aged 15-24 from the poorest households engaged more in sex than women of the same age group but from wealthier households. Sexual activities diminished progressively with wealth. For men, the level of education attained or household wealth did not clearly affect their behavior as they did for women; men's engagement in sex slightly increased with education level and was the highest for those from the richest households, although the poorest was the second highest. The overall fertility rate declined from 6.4 in 1983 to 4.4 in 2018. The adolescent fertility rate expressed as number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 also declined from 200 in 1983 to 67 in 2018; the number remained high in the rural areas at 108. Health services are underutilized by the adolescents, and unsafe abortion is considered a major factor in the high maternal mortality rate.

Coping with Negative Shocks: Limitations in fiscal, monetary and financial buffers do not allow the country to establish a full-fledged system of social safety nets. The practice of informal social protection is based on the tradition of kinship-support through cash or in-kind transfers; it is the most preferred and used method in the rural areas.

Aspirations of the Youth: Many youths believe that self-employment through small enterprises is the way to improve their lives and mentioned acquiring skills. For training and capital for such endeavors, donor support was expected. Prosperity was the social goal for them.

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF RURAL GAMBIAN WOMEN

Rural Women's Voice in Politics: Gambian women have made a big progress in terms of political representation at the regional and national level – about 10% of National Assembly members and nearly 15% of regional governors/mayors were women in 2015 – but women's voice was not as prominent at the local level – slightly over 1% of local ward councilors were women in 2015.

Harvester/Processor/Seller and Farmer Organizations: The fish and oyster harvesters, processors and sellers belong to a local association comprised of women of the same profession. Fees are collected from the members, and some associations use the fees for equipment purchase and also as revolving funds. The President and the Secretary of these associations are women, but that of the Treasurer is often assume by a man, owing to illiteracy among women in the profession.

RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING RURAL GAMBIAN WOMEN

Livelihoods under Climate Change: The women in the fishery sector are mostly illiterate and acquired professional skills by helping their mothers in the same profession. They are aware of the effects of climate change on their work, but do not have a concrete strategy for the future. The youth facing a similar situation are also yet to embark on a new career adapted to climate change. Aquaculture could help the women and youth in the fishery sector to make use of their knowledge and skills.

New Activities and Unpaid Work: If women are to take up new activities, household members who are not participating in household chores and caregiving must shoulder some of the women's share. If the country is to make the best use of its human resources, all must be given decision making power regardless of gender, in particular equal power between wife and husband. Open dialogues will help guide them to more equitable participation in family life. The project personnel may use their power related to the project and engage in sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment (SEAH), or gender based violence (GBV). The engagement of women in new activities and their acquisition of new skills may upset the prevailing gender-based power-division and provoke SEAH and GBV by their male family members and other men in the community. For prevention of SEAH and GBV, the project trains project-related personnel on the subject. FAO Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be strengthened so that SEAH and GBV related grievances are adequately managed in inclusive, survivor-centred and gender-responsive ways through training of GRM respondents and linking of GRM to GBV referral pathways. GBV pathways will be established and operationalized to provide timely services and redress to survivors. The issue of unequal gender relations will be approached using a household methodology, whose unit is a household, at the community level. Additional mitigation measures against risks outside their homes include: sensitization and involvement of community gatekeepers; and gender training of project personnel (including some of their supervisors) and professionals along the GBV referral pathways.

Awareness of Community Leaders: Sensitization of community gatekeepers will be necessary for them to understand the *soft* issues that prevent women from achieving their full potential and to approve equal distribution of decision-making power between wives and husbands. The community gatekeepers will also be involved in community-driven support measures against SEAH and GBV.

Limitations from Illiteracy: Many women are astute enough to generate more income than their husbands, but are limited by lack of literacy and numeracy skills, especially when it comes to finance. Women are also reluctant to expand their business and enter the formal sector. Their business acumen could be further sharpened with more information, but unlikely if written information remains off-limits to them.

Negotiation Skills: Lack of negotiation skills is often cited as one of the prominent factors that hinders women from realizing their full economic potential. While female-headed households without male relatives are rare in the rural areas, equipping them with negotiation skills will give them access to same income generating opportunities as other women.

Social Integration of Female Youth: Poverty and patriarchy pose high risks to female youth of falling victim to violence and of being deprived of opportunities for self-fulfillment. Meaningful employment is rare; the unemployment rate for female youths with intermediate level of education is higher than for male youths with the same level of education or for female youths with other levels of education. Teenage pregnancy rate is high. Young women in the rural areas could be integrated in the society through work that makes good use of their strength: higher literacy and numeracy skills compared to that of rural women of older generations.

Ownership, Sustainability and Empowerment: Involvement of women users in location selection, design, installation and maintenance of equipment to be introduced will not only improve ownership and sustainability of the equipment, but also empower women by equipping them with the knowledge and skills related to the tools of their trade. Women do not think they are responsible for safeguarding the environment, limiting the sustainability of their actions.

PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Principles of Project Formulation: Women will be enabled for strategic decision making and actions, while female youths will be engaged as agents of change by focusing on their strength – stronger literacy and numeracy skills than the women of the older generations. Negotiation skills, often highlighted in various gender assessments of the country as the weak points, will be included in professional trainings of the project. Sustainability of the project will be ensured by creating sufficient ownership.

Principles of Project Implementation: The project will build on and enhance the strengths of women by filling the investment gap left by the society. Female youths will be recognized as a distinct group with their own strengths, which can be leveraged for the whole communities. Gender empowerment will be supported by strengthened capacity on gender – including capacity related to sexual exploitation, abuse harassment and gender-based violence – of technical officers, executing agencies and community gatekeepers. The Grievance Redress Mechanism of the FAO Country Office will be strengthened to manage such incidents in an inclusive, survivor-centred and gender-responsive way. The project will support establishment and operations of referral pathways for gender based violence. Awareness on the environment among women and female youth will be raised to make their decisions on business and household management sustainable by taking the environmental impacts into account. Stakeholders must be consulted for organizational/logistical matters and content of all activities, especially women, who have many more household obligations than men and whose needs and strengths tend to be seen as unimportant. The project's Technical Advisory Committee as a member will include as members a gender and social inclusion expert, the representatives of the Ministries of Women's Affairs, Youth and Sports and of female professional associations related to the project, such as oyster harvesters and lawyers.

The indicators of the Gender Action Plan will be monitored by the Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist for adaptive management.

PART I: GENDER ASSESSMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Introduction from Gender Perspective

1 Between 25,000 and 30,000 people were engaged in artisanal fishery and about 2,000 people were employed in the industrial sub-sector in 2014¹ in a country of slightly over 2 million. The Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources estimates that about 80% of people engaged in the sector are women.² Small pelagic fish such as sardinella, bonga, horse mackerels and mackerel serve as important protein sources for the inhabitants, providing more than a half of total protein intake.^{3 4}

2 Around the world, a significant proportion of workers in the fishery and aquaculture sectors are women, mostly responsible for non-vessel related activities, such as processing and marketing,⁵ and that is indeed the case in The Gambia. Women and men are not only different actors of the same value chains, but also operate on different scales and serve different markets, which in some cases means differentiation of products by gender.⁶ Anything meant for local consumption is women's work and is of low profit margin; shellfish is only for the local market and women harvest them. Such demarcation is not limited to the fishery sector, but also exists in crop cultivation and animal raising, although the boundaries can be fluid for crops.

3 The division of economic activities by gender is based on the social norm that women are responsible for house chores and caregiving, which allow only work near the house.⁷ It also originates in unequal access to productive assets, which does not allow meeting the rigors of non-local markets. Women in the sector do not have formal schooling, except for the younger generations. They learned the trade from their mothers and are not equipped with other economic skills.⁸ Due to illiteracy, they are at a great disadvantage when the business concerns written documents, especially financial matters, putting them at the mercy of men.⁹

4 An evaluation of the fishery sector in The Gambia in 2014 identified integration of gender considerations into the design and implementation of infrastructure as a one of the most critical issues.¹⁰ The project proposes installation of the FAO-Thiaroye fish processing technique (FTT), which has been adopted in many Sub-Saharan countries¹¹ and reduces the amount of required fuel, a primary concern to

¹ UNCTAD, 2014. "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women." https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ditc2013d4_en.pdf (accessed March 2021).

² Interview with the Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Fisheries and Water Resources, Banjul, March 12, 2021.

³ Olleros, X. and Hesling, L., 2019. "The women fish sellers of West Africa." <https://chinadialogueocean.net/8887-women-fish-sellers-gambia-west-africa/> (accessed March 2021).

⁴ Ragusa, G., 2014. "Overview of the Fisheries Sector in the Gambia." *Fisheries and Aquaculture Journal*. Vol. 5, Issue 3.

⁵ FAO, 2021. "The essential role of women in fisheries | Women's cooperative 'Belyounesh Wave.' " Gender. <http://www.fao.org/gender/resources/videos/video-detail/en/c/1381720/> (accessed April 2021).

⁶ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."
⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul, Binting and Kartong landing sites, March 9-20, 2021.

⁹ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

¹⁰ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

¹¹ Mindjimba, K., 2020. "Study of the profitability of fish smoking with FTT-Thiaroye kilns in Côte d'Ivoire." FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1155. <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca8220en> (accessed April 2021).

the processors (all of whom are women).¹² It hence lessens generation of smoke, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and other substances harmful to health.¹³ The lack of proper ventilation at the smoking/drying facilities is a major problem at some landing sites.¹⁴

5 Women in the sector are well aware that their livelihoods are dependent on mangroves and that the trees have been diminishing, a trend that is likely to continue with the current management practices.¹⁵ They have not completely eliminated their habits to cut mangroves for fuel or house roofs,¹⁶ while knowing that the practice is subject to fine for good reasons. Some women who have been participating in a mangrove reforestation project recognize that the mangroves can be brought back to good health with their own efforts.¹⁷ The project proposes mangrove rehabilitation and environmental awareness raising involving women for sustainable management of the environment and their livelihoods.

6 Along the Gambian coast, the amount of fish and shellfish catch has been decreasing and the oyster season shortening, both of which have been attributed to climate change and overexploitation. The Gambian households do not specialize in one type of livelihood, and the farming households have the potential to accommodate aquaculture to supplement the declining source of protein for the country. The women and the youth consulted were willing to take up aquaculture if there is an opportunity, just as they took up vegetable gardening proposed by development partners in the past years, generating a considerable amount of cash income for the women involved.¹⁸

7 Full integration of aquaculture into women's daily activities will necessitate reduction of their other duties, as they are in charge of housekeeping and caregiving, in addition to their work for cash income. This implies that men will need to shoulder some of their unpaid work, in which they do not engage as the society does not prescribe to do so. Women harvesters, processors and sellers often earn more than men and put their children through school with their income, while men contribute to the daily household expenses as they see fit. Despite the economic achievement by many, close to half of the women believe that husband's beating his wife is justified when she neglects the children, argues with him, goes out without telling him, etc.¹⁹ They also let the men have the final say in strategic matters of the family so as not to cause problems in the family. For further gender equality, wives and husbands need to engage in honest conversations on what they wish for the family and construct a common vision as well as a roadmap.

8 Women put more rice on the table than their husbands, but they often delegate the role of treasurer of their professional associations to literate men. The lack of written numeracy skills also leave the women vulnerable to financial fraud. Women are reluctant to expand their small business and enter

¹² Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021.

¹³ Mindjimba, Study of the profitability of fish smoking with FTT-Thiaroye kilns in Côte d'Ivoire."

¹⁴ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Bintang and Kartong landing sites, March 13 and 20, 2021.

¹⁵ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul, Tambi and Bintang, March 9-17, 2021.

¹⁶ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul, Bintang and Kartong landing sites, March 9-20, 2021.

¹⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in farming, Jahally, March 17, 2021.

¹⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in farming, Njoben and Medina Lamin Kante, March 12 and 18, 2021.

¹⁹ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife (any of five reasons) (%) - Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.REAS.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2019. "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report." https://mics-surveys-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/MICS6/West%20and%20Central%20Africa/Gambia/2018/Survey%20findings/The%20Gambia%202018%20MICS%20Survey%20Findings%20Report_English.pdf (accessed March 2021).

the formal sector, as they view it as a men's world, most certainly intimidated because of their lack of competence in literacy and numeracy. The Gambian women are savvy enough to earn respectable amount of cash without being able to read, but they have little information outside their immediate circles and are limited in strategic planning.

1.2 Objective of the Assessment

1.2.1 Rationale

9 Climate change impacts the vulnerable members of the society proportionately more than others. It has been estimated that women and children are 14 times more likely to die during a disaster,²⁰ whose frequency and intensity are increasing due to climate change. At the same time, addressing the needs of these members in projects and policies is known to improve their outcomes.

10 The assessment examines the situation of female and youth workers engaged in fishery and farming with respect to climate change to find the most effective ways to reduce the vulnerability of the weak members of the society and also to maximize the benefits of the interventions. The youth represent an important disadvantaged group, half of which are women. The youth need to have the experience and training on the job today to be able to shoulder the national economy in the future.

11 The Gambia has ratified international agreements and goals related to the gender and children, most notably the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women²¹ and the Convention on the Rights of the Children. The national laws on women's and children's rights are based on the international treaties that the country has ratified, but other laws and the Constitution are not necessarily compatible with the treaties.²²

12 The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recognizes that gender equality is key to its mandate to achieve food security for all. As evidenced by *FAO Policy on Gender Equality*,²³ the Organization is of one mind with a wide range of global agreements and conventions that guide FAO's work in recognizing gender equality as a building block towards sustainable development. Every one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concerns the lives of women, youth and children, and The Gambia has adopted the Goals, whose overarching objective is to leave no one behind.

1.2.2 Objective

13 The Gender Assessment for the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, "Climate Resilient Fishery Initiative for Livelihood Improvement," studies the socioeconomic conditions of women and men targeted by the proposed project to shed light on gender-specific constraints and needs for a strategic approach to the integration of gender dimensions into the project. The Assessment also briefly examines the youth for the same, as many policies often treat them as one group. The strategies for both are summarized as the Gender Action Plan.

²⁰ UN Women, 2018. *Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York: UN Women.

²¹ UN, 2019. "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women." United Nations Treaty Collection. https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=_en (accessed February 2021).

²² UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, 2020. *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law: Mapping and Analysis of the Laws of the Gambia from a Gender Perspective*. New York: UN Women.

²³ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2020. *FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030*. Rome: FAO.

14 The underlying theory of change is: the project will recognize the strengths, constraints and needs of the women so that their potential as agents of change will be realized for achieving the best outcomes possible under the proposed project. It will necessarily entail changes in access to and distribution of resources and decision-making power between women and men in the targeted communities. The same applies to the youth, as their capacities complementary to others' have not been fully taken advantage of.

15 While the proposed project focuses on one subsector of food production systems, i.e., fishery, the subsectors are connected in terms of inputs and outputs, especially for smallholders. The finite amount of labor and financial means must be divided among them and the by-products of one food production process are often used as inputs to others. The assessment examines the role of women in the food production systems, while keeping the focus on fishery. It will also touch upon the role of youth, a group which composed nearly one quarter of the total population in 2019,²⁴ but alienated and more likely to be unemployed than the older working population.²⁵

2. METHODOLOGY

16 The Gender Assessment focuses on the situation of women in fishery and crop agriculture in areas targeted by the proposed project: Banjul, Bintang and Kartong landing sites, Tambi Wetlands Complex, and the farming villages of Njoben, Jahally and Medina Lamin Kanteh. It also examines the situation of youth, who comprise another vulnerable social group and are likely to be affected by and affect the project.

17 Consultations were the primary means to determine the key issues pertaining to the lives of women involved in fishery and in crop farming (Section 8.2 lists the core questions asked). A total of 132 villagers in the target areas were consulted, of which 81 were women and 41 were aged 15-35. Women's views on livelihood related issues were collected through consultations exclusively for women. Institutional meetings were held at national levels with nine institutions and organizations. The issues thus identified were assessed in detail with the aid of literature search, whose results are summarized in this document. As a reference project on aquaculture, farmers involved in Food and Agriculture Sector Development Project (FASDEP) of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) in Nyaniberreh and Lamin were also consulted. The analysis elucidated the risks and opportunities for female workers engaged in fishery and crop agriculture under climate change and contributed to project formulation.

18 To the best extent possible, the assessment is based on official statistics and published research results pertaining to and field consultations conducted in the target regions. Where relevant information could not be found, it relies on that of the whole nation. Where no such information is available, the assessment may refer to the general consensus among the professionals in the field or anecdotes.

²⁴ World Bank, 2021. "Population ages 10-14, female (% of female population) – Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.1014.FE.5Y?locations=GM> (accessed February 2021).

World Bank, 2021. "Population ages 10-14, male (% of male population) – Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.1014.MA.5Y?locations=GM> (accessed February 2021).

²⁵ United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2017. "Africa's youth and prospects for inclusive development: Regional situation analysis report." <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Youth/UNEconomicCommissionAfrica.pdf> (accessed February 2021).

3. LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SPIRITUAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Equality, Inclusion and Protection: Women, Youth and Children

3.1.1 Treaties, Constitution and Laws

19 As is the case with the majority of the countries in the world, The Gambia has ratified the core international treaties that enshrine equality between women and men in all spheres of life, most notably the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). It has also ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Children African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Unlike other countries whose dominant population is of Muslim faith as is The Gambia, the country has not expressed reservations on the rights of women and children in view of contradiction with *shari'a*.²⁶ However, the country has not signed the Optional Protocols to the two major treaties on women and children which allow the respective Committee on the Convention to receive and consider complaints on the matter from persons in its jurisdiction.

Table 1: International Treaties on Women, Youth and Children

Title	Description	Status for The Gambia
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	Declares that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that they are endowed with reason and conscience. Sets a common standard of achievement to promote respect for these rights and freedoms.	Not part of the United Nations at the time of voting
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Ensures the equal right of women and men to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights.	Ratified
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Declares that all peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. Together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, they make up the International Bill of Human Rights, which promotes, protects and monitor human rights and fundamental freedoms.	Ratified
Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women	Eliminates discrimination against women in political and public life and promotes equal rights for women and men.	Ratified
Optional Protocol to the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women	A signatory state recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women -- the body that monitors States parties' compliance with the Convention -- to receive and consider complaints from individuals or groups within its jurisdiction.	Not signed
African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights	Promotes and protects human rights and basic freedoms in the African continent.	Ratified

²⁶ Forced Migration, undated. "Who has signed what..."

<https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/FMRpdfs/Human-Rights/signatories.pdf> (accessed February 2021).

Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol)	Ensures promotion, realization and protection of rights of women so that they can fully enjoy their human rights.	Ratified
Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa	Accelerates the implementation of the Maputo Protocol in areas such as women's health, gender-based violence, gender parity and women's land and property rights.	Adopted
African Youth Charter	Aims to strengthen and consolidate efforts to empower young people through meaningful youth participation and their equal partnership in driving Africa's development agenda.	Ratified/ Acceded
Convention on the Rights of the Child	Guarantees the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights that should be enjoyed by any human being under the age of eighteen, unless the age of majority is attained earlier under national legislation.	Ratified
Minimum Age Convention (with the specification that the minimum age is 14 for the country)	Sets the general minimum age for admission to employment or work at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 (16 under certain strict conditions), with the possibility of initially setting the general minimum age at 14 (12 for light work) where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed.	Ratified
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts	A signatory state commits not to involve children under the age of 18 in armed conflicts.	Ratified
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children child prostitution and child pornography	Strengthens implementation of the Convention and increases the protection of children from involvement in armed conflicts and from sale, prostitution and pornography.	Ratified
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure	A signatory state recognizes the competence of the Committee on the Rights of the Child -- the body that monitors States parties' compliance with the Convention -- to receive and consider complaints from a child of her/his representative within its jurisdiction.	Not signed
African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	Highlights the issues of greater importance to the African continent, such as child marriage and child soldiers, while building on the same basic principles as the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	Ratified

Primary source: UN Women (2009), United Nations (2021).

20 The Constitution of The Gambia 1997 declares under Section 28 Rights of Women that “[w]omen shall be accorded full and equal dignity of the person with men” and “shall have the right to equal treatment with men, including equal opportunities in political, economic and social activities.” It also accords right to identity and education in conformity with the international treaties, but some clauses of the Constitution and national legislations remain discriminatory against women. On the one hand, Section 28 of the Constitution endorses the CEDAW by stating that women shall be accorded “full and equal dignity of the person with men” and “the right to equal treatment with men, including equal opportunities in political, economic and social activities.”²⁷ On the other hand, Section 33 (2) of the Constitution contradicts the CEDAW; it adds that “[s]ubject to the provisions of subsection (5), no law shall make any

²⁷ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

provision which is discriminatory either of itself or in effect[,]" but subsection (5) (c) and (d) rule out application of no-discrimination principle on "adoption, marriage, divorce, burial, devolution of property on death or other matters of personal law" as well as "application in the case of members of a particular race or tribe of customary law with respect to any matter in the case of persons who, under that law, are subject to that law."²⁸

21 The Constitution states under Section 27 Right to marry that: "(1) Men and women of full age and capacity shall have the right to marry and found a family. (2) Marriage shall be based on the free and full consent of the intended parties."²⁹ It also guarantees the "freedom to practice any religion and to manifest such practice" under Section 25 Freedom of speech, conscience, assembly, association and movement.³⁰ Section 26 of the Constitution accords political rights to all persons in The Gambia "without unreasonable restrictions."³¹ Similarly, the "Directive Principles of State Policy" of the Constitution contains most of the socioeconomic rights stipulated in the CEDAW, but the Constitution adds that "[t]hese principles shall not confer legal rights or be enforceable in any court,"³² nullifying their power on the ground.

22 The Constitution incorporates the customary law and *shari'a* by stipulating that "in addition to this Constitution, the laws of The Gambia consist of ... (e) Customary law so far as concerns members of the communities to which it applies; (f) The sharia as regards matters of marriage, divorce and inheritance among members of the communities to which it applies." Over 95% of the population in the country were Muslims in 2011³³ and a higher proportion was estimated in 2019.³⁴ The Gambia's legal system is thus based on English law, customary law and *shari'a*, where English law includes the common law, equity principles and statutory law.³⁵ The customary law and *shari'a* apply only to indigenous Gambians and Muslims.³⁶ The customary law is administered by the District Tribunals and *shari'a* by the *qadi* courts³⁷ on the matters of marriage, divorce and inheritance.³⁸ Both courts are placed under the Magistrates' Courts.³⁹

23 The Alternative Dispute Resolution Act 2005 established an alternative dispute resolution secretariat to facilitate dispute resolution,⁴⁰ but most citizens are unaware of this mechanism and believe that court proceedings are the only manner to resolve disputes⁴¹ in case dialogues at the ground level turn out ineffective. Neither are lawyers, judges and magistrates equipped with sufficient knowledge of

²⁸ *ibid.*

²⁹ The Republic of The Gambia, 1997. *Constitution of the Republic of the Gambia*, 1997.

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=&p_isn=48490&p_country=GMB&p_count=44 (accessed February 2021).

³⁰ *ibid.*

³¹ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

³² *ibid.*

³³ Liu, J., 2011. "Table: Muslim Population by Country." Religion & Public Life, Pew Research Center.

<https://www.pewforum.org/2011/01/27/table-muslim-population-by-country/> (accessed February 2021).

³⁴ US Department of State, 2019. "2019 Report on International Religious Freedom: The Gambia"

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2019-report-on-international-religious-freedom/the-gambia/> (accessed March 2021).

³⁵ Amie Bensouda & Co., 2019. "Legal System." <http://www.amiebensoudaco.net/legal-system/> (accessed February 2021).

³⁶ *ibid.*

³⁷ *ibid.*

³⁸ Ngo-Martins, F.O., 2019. "UPDATE: Researching Gambian Legal Information." GlobaLex.

<https://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Gambia1.html> (accessed February 2021).

³⁹ Lexadin, 2010. "Courts and Cases Gambia." The World Law Guide.

<https://www.lexadin.nl/wlg/courts/nofr/oeur/lxctgam.htm> (accessed February 2021).

⁴⁰ Ngo-Martins, "UPDATE: Researching Gambian Legal Information." GlobaLex.

⁴¹ The West African Law Institute, undated. "Summary of Findings: Alternative Dispute Resolution in The Gambia."

<http://www.undp.org/content/dam/gambia/docs> (accessed February 2021).

the Act.⁴² It also suffers from a structural problem, namely that the Secretariat is under the supervision and control of the Ministry of Justice.⁴³ The Secretariat is hence a governmental body and unlikely to be viewed as an independent body, a feature that is essential to successful dispute resolution by a neutral third party.⁴⁴

24 Many national legislations on women, youth and children largely draw from the treaties (Table 2), and some were amended to reflect the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee issued in response to the country report submitted in 2012;⁴⁵ the Women's Act and Children's Act were revised in 2015 and 2016, respectively, to legally prohibit female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage.⁴⁶ Effective implementation of these laws has been hampered by the time-honored patriarchal norms and beliefs.⁴⁷

Table 2: National Legislations on Women, Youth and Children

Title	Description
Criminal Code 1933	Establishes a code of criminal and penal law.
Women's Act 2010 (amended in 2015 to prohibit female genital mutilation)	Implements the legal provisions of the National Policy for the Advancement of Gambian Women and Girls, and incorporates and enforces the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.
Sexual Offences Act 2013	Protects all persons, especially vulnerable groups, including women, children and people who are mentally and physically disabled, against sexual crimes.
Domestic Violence Act 2013	Combats domestic violence and provides protection for the victims of domestic violence, particularly women and children.
African Youth Charter	Aims to strengthen and consolidate efforts to empower young people through meaningful participation and their equal partnership in driving Africa's development agenda.
Labour Act 2007	Provides for equal employment opportunities for both women and men, ⁴⁸ prohibits exploitative labor of children and makes provisions for maternity leave and return afterward.
Trafficking in Persons Act 2007	Provides for the prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking in persons and for the treatment of victims of trafficking.
Tourism Offences Act	Defines offences which are tangential to the tourism sector, including unlawful sexual advances, sexual abuse of a child, and procurement of a child for sex, child pornography and sexual exploitation of a child.
Children's Act 2005 (amended in 2016 to prohibit child marriage)	Protects children through placing the best interest of the child as the primary consideration in any matter concerning her or him, applying the Act to all children residing in The Gambia, regardless of nationality, and

⁴² *ibid.*

⁴³ The West African Law Institute, "Summary of Findings: Alternative Dispute Resolution in The Gambia."

⁴⁴ *ibid.*

⁴⁵ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁴⁶ *ibid.*

⁴⁷ *ibid.*

⁴⁸ United Nations, 2015. "List of issues and questions in relation to the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Gambia." CEDAW/C/GMB/Q/4-5/Add.1 (accessed February 2021).

	stipulating the responsibilities of children towards their parents, elders, community and country. ⁴⁹
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Primary source: Law Hub Gambia (2018).

25 The Women's Act 2010 covers a wide range of topics concerning women and was amended in 2015 to illegalize FGM, but does not prohibit practices harmful to women, such as levirate marriage and unequal inheritance.⁵⁰ The Act, like the Constitution, contains provisions which allow personal law to prevail in the areas of: health and health care; choice of matrimonial home; separation, divorce and annulment of marriage; widows' rights; and inheritance.⁵¹ The Sexual Offense Act 2013 does not recognize marital rape, contrary to the *CEDAW General Recommendation No. 35 on Gender-Based Violence against Women, Updating General Recommendation No. 19* issued in 2017.⁵²

26 Various national laws are not necessarily in line with each other. The Women's Act does not go beyond the Constitution on the subject of marriage. Hence, four types of marriages are recognized in the country: Muslim marriages, governed by *shari'a* law and the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act 1941; Christian marriages, governed by the Christian Marriage Act 1862; civil marriages, governed by the Civil Marriage Act 1938; and customary marriages, influenced by *shari'a*.⁵³ At the same time, the Criminal Code 1933, which prohibits bigamy, is still in force. The Code also criminalizes abduction and "defilement" of girls under age 16.

27 While the Women's Act stipulates six months of maternity leave for all pregnant women in Part V "Prohibition of Discrimination against Women in Employment," the Labour Act provides for 12 weeks of maternity leave if the employee has "two years of continuous service with the same employer" or if her "period of service with the same employer has been interrupted by one or more periods, none of which exceeds seven months and who has in aggregate not less than eighteen months service with the same employer."⁵⁴ The Wills Act 1992 provides that the voluntary order of property devolution cannot exceed the limits laid down by *shari'a*, which is one-third of the estate to a woman.⁵⁵ Exceptions similar to those in the Constitution and the Women's Act are permitted in the Children's Act 2005 in terms of the right to parental property.⁵⁶ It is subject to personal law and puts children born out of wedlock as well as girls at a disadvantage.⁵⁷ The exception clause of the Act could in principle also be applied to child marriage.⁵⁸

28 The Trafficking in Persons Act 2007, Section 28, stipulates a fine of no less than 50,000 Dalasi (roughly USD 970 in February 2021) and no more than 500,000 Dalasi (roughly USD 9,700) in addition to minimum imprisonment of 15 years and maximum for life.⁵⁹ Under the Tourism Offences Act 2003

⁴⁹ Child Protection Alliance, undated. "The Children's Act 2005 of The Gambia: Provisions on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children."

<https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/90620/104569/F960858535/GMB90620%20Summary%20of%20Act.pdf> (accessed February 2021).

⁵⁰ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁵¹ *ibid.*

⁵² UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁵³ Tahirih Justice Center, 2021. "Forced Marriage Overseas: The Gambia."

<https://preventforcedmarriage.org/forced-marriage-overseas-the-gambia/> (accessed February 2021).

⁵⁴ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁵⁵ International Federation of Human Rights, 2005. "Note on the situation of Women in Gambia, 33rd session (5 – 22 July 2005) New York."

https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/gm_cedaw2005a.pdf (accessed February 2021).

⁵⁶ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁵⁷ *ibid.*

⁵⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁹ *ibid.*

(Section 13), buying, selling, procuring or trafficking in children or removing them from Gambia by tourists or any other person constitutes an offence.⁶⁰ Section 7 of the same Act states that “[a]ny person who gets or finds a child so that he or she can be sexually abused by another person or so that the child can be used as a prostitute can be imprisoned for 10 years.”⁶¹ The Trafficking in Persons Act 2007, Part X Application of Certain Enactments, assures coherency with the Extradition Act, Children’s Act 2005 and the Criminal Code, but the Trafficking Act imposes a penalty of five years’ imprisonment for trafficking of a child (Section 13), while the Children’s Act 2005 stipulates life imprisonment for trafficking of a person under age 18 (Section 39).

3.1.2 Treaties, Constitution and Laws in Practice

29 In spite of Section 28 (Rights of Women) of the Constitution, a testimony of two women is equal to that of one man under the influential *shari’a*.⁶² In practice, inheritance is governed mostly by *shari’a* and customary law.⁶³ The patriarchal and patrilineal nature of customary law has resulted in exclusion of women from land inheritance, and *qur’an* allocates daughters half the share of their brothers.⁶⁴ According to customary law, a wife cannot inherit her husband’s property unless she remarries a member of her husband’s family.⁶⁵ Women are thus increasingly taking their grievances over inheritance issues to the *qadi* courts than to the District Tribunals, but those who do so are frowned upon and occasionally shunned by the male members of their families.⁶⁶

30 Under the customary law, it is the husband who owns the house of the couple and decides whether the wife may claim the rights to the house after separation, divorce or annulment of marriage, while the Women’s Act stipulates that both parties “have the right to equitable sharing of the joint property derived from the marriage.”⁶⁷ The decisions are usually made without taking into account the wife’s contribution to the acquisition of the property.⁶⁸ Upon annulment of marriage, women are often asked to return the gifts and dowry from the former partner.⁶⁹

31 Most marriages are not registered with the government and many instances of forced marriage are not reported.⁷⁰ Polygamy is most commonly found in West and Central Africa, and The Gambia ranks the third highest in the region of 16 countries at 30% of individuals belonging to polygamous households in contrast to 2% worldwide.⁷¹ Thirty percent of them in The Gambia are Muslims and 12% Christians.⁷²

⁶⁰ International Labour Organization, undated. “Demande directe (CEACR) – adoptée 2010, publiée 100ème session CIT (2011).” http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/fr/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:13100:0::NO::P13100_COMMENT_ID,P13100_LANG_CODE:2323062,en (accessed February 2021).

⁶¹ Child Protection Alliance, 2019. “Sexual Exploitation of Children in The Gambia : Submission for the Universal Periodic Review of the human rights situation in The Gambia.”

<https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/uprweb/downloadfile.aspx?filename=6896&file=EnglishTranslation>

⁶² Wikigender, 2015. “Africa for Women’s Rights: Gambia.”

<https://www.wikigender.org/wiki/africa-for-womens-rights-gambia/> (accessed February 2021).

⁶³ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁶⁴ *ibid.*

⁶⁵ Wikigender, “Africa for Women’s Rights: Gambia.”

⁶⁶ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law: Mapping and Analysis of the Laws*.

⁶⁷ *ibid.*

⁶⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁹ Wikigender, “Africa for Women’s Rights: Gambia.”

⁷⁰ Tahirih Justice Center, “Forced Marriage Overseas: The Gambia.”

⁷¹ Kramer, S., 2020. “Polygamy is rare around the world and mostly confined to a few regions.”

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/12/07/polygamy-is-rare-around-the-world-and-mostly-confined-to-a-few-regions/> (accessed February 2021).

⁷² Tahirih Justice Center, “Forced Marriage Overseas: The Gambia.”

32 The Sexual Offences Act 2013 stipulates the punishments of offenders and construction of a shelter for rehabilitation.⁷³ As of 2015, effective remedial and rehabilitation services were unavailable, mainly because of insufficient resources allocated to institutions mandated to provide such services.⁷⁴ As required by the Domestic Violence Act 2013, the Victims of Violence Advisory Committee was established, but its effective functioning had not been realized and thus the government was in violation of Part II Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 in 2015.⁷⁵ It remained difficult to access official data on how often these Acts have been invoked before the Courts.⁷⁶

33 The amended Children's Act prohibits child marriage and establishes the minimum age for marriage as 18 years.⁷⁷ The Criminal Code 1933 stipulates that "defilement" of girls under age 16 is an offence. Customary law allows girls of 13 years to be married off by their parents, especially in rural areas.⁷⁸ Around 2015, 26% of the girls in The Gambia were married before the age of 18 and 8% married before the age of 15.⁷⁹ Female genital mutilation (FGM) became illegal by the amendment of the Women's Act in 2015, but its prevalence rate was 76% in 2020.⁸⁰ The rate varies among ethnic groups; it is estimated that FGM affects 100% of Mandingo and the Soninke (Sarakole) women, 90% of Fula women and 65-70% of Jola women.⁸¹

34 Human rights is one of the priority areas of the latest national policy of the Gambia on gender 2010-2020⁸² (described in detail under 3.1.3 Gender Policy below). The policy states that it is "critical that matters relating to customary and religious laws are addressed, as these fall within the realm of 'personal law', which is expressly made applicable by virtue of the constitution and other laws of The Gambia." It identifies a related challenge as "how to ensure that the constitutional principles that accord equal dignity of the person to both man and woman, prevail over the other constitutional provisions that recognize customary laws and practices, that tend to subjugate and abrogate these fundamental rights that women should enjoy." The policy resolves to "address these inconsistencies, because most of the discrimination against women arises directly from the discriminatory practices perpetuated under the guise of religious and customary laws."

3.1.3 Gender Policy

35 The Gambia Gender National Policy 2010-2020,⁸³ the latest of its kind, was developed "as an integral part of the national development objectives to enhance the overall government strategy of

⁷³ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, 2015. "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): List of Issues and Questions in Relation to the Combined Fourth and Fifth Periodic Reports of The Gambia."

<https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/GMB> (accessed February 2021).

⁷⁴ *ibid.*

⁷⁵ *ibid.*

⁷⁶ *ibid.*

⁷⁷ Girls Not Brides, 2021. Gambia.

<https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/gambia/> (accessed February 2021).

⁷⁸ Wikigender, "Africa for Women's Rights: Gambia."

⁷⁹ Girls Not Brides, Gambia.

⁸⁰ UNICEF, 2020. "Joint statement by UNFPA, UNICEF on International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation." <https://www.unicef.org/gambia/press-releases/joint-statement-unfpa-unicef-international-day-zero-tolerance-female-genital> (accessed February 2021).

⁸¹ Wikigender, "Africa for Women's Rights: Gambia."

⁸² Ministry of Women's Affairs, undated. "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

<https://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/docs/1958/Gambia%20national%20gender%20policy.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

⁸³ *ibid.*

growth through poverty eradication.” The vision of the Policy is that all attain dignified living standards. The four missions of the Policy are to: achieve gender equity and equality at policy, programme and project levels in all institutions across all sectors; achieve sustainable eradication of gendered poverty and deliver an acceptable quality of life; eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence; and empower women to be able to take their rightful position in national development. The guiding principles are: gender equity and equality; women-in-development and gender-and-development approaches;⁸⁴ affirmative action; partnership; cultural pluralism and tolerance.

36 It notes that the Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MWA), National Women’s Council (NWC) and the Women’s Bureau (WB) are mandated to spearhead the formulation, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the gender policy and that the responsibility of the policy implementation rests with each of these institutions in accordance with its mandate. It also notes that the role of the Gender Policy is to enhance gender sensitive implementation of institutional policies.

37 It sets its priority areas as: education; health; sustainable livelihoods development; governance; human rights; and poverty reduction and economic empowerment. Under sustainable livelihoods development, the Policy states that it focuses on “gender issues in agricultural production to redress the constraints women and men face that limits their productivity.” It recognizes that women play a key role in smallholder agriculture by constituting over 50% of full time farmers and accomplishing nearly 70% of all the agricultural work and food production, but that their productivity is limited by lack of access, control and ownership of productive resources, such as land, credit, and improved technology and extension services, among others. Under sustainable development, the Policy has: nutritional security; agricultural production; water resources and supply; and fisheries.

38 The goal of agricultural production under sustainable development of the Policy is to “ensure equal access to productive resources (land, capital, farming implements and skill and inputs) by 2020[,]” which is supported by following six objectives, aligned with the Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026, but with more nuanced description on gender:

1. To promote national efforts for food self-sufficiency;
2. To lobby for increased access to and control of land by women and men in both matrilineal and patrilineal systems;
3. To encourage increased access by women to agricultural extension services;
4. To advocate for increased availability, access and control of credit by disadvantaged farmers particularly women;
5. To lobby for increased accessibility to processing and marketing of agricultural produce; and
6. To advocate for the generation of appropriate and affordable gender sensitive technologies.

Fisheries under sustainable development does not have a goal, but its objective is “[t]o encourage the participation of indigenes, men and women in fish farming, processing and marketing.” With respect to the priority area, poverty reduction and economic empowerment, the goal is to “[r]educ[e] national poverty level by 30% and ensure equitable distribution of national resources between male and female by 2020.”

⁸⁴ The Policy describes the women-in-development approach as: “mainstreaming of development so as to improve their condition and bridge gender gaps.” It describes the gender and development approach as a strategy to “support women and men in their roles in development through advocating for structural transformation in reproductive and productive spheres.”

39 The Mid-Term Review of the National Gender Policy 2010-2020 conducted in 2017 found that among the 11 strategies under the sub-theme – Agriculture, Business and Industry – “to create an enabling environment for the elimination of gender disparities in access to training, credit, appropriate ICT technologies, value adding, labour saving devices, and markets for the expansion of agricultural production and productivity and Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)[,]” over 10% were fully implemented.⁸⁵ The sub-theme of Fisheries aimed “to enhance the participation of indigenes, men, women and youths in fish farming, processing, marketing and post harvesting techniques[,],” and all three strategies were under implementation in 2017.⁸⁶ The Review identified challenges under these two sub-themes: “gender insensitivity” at institutional and policy levels; lack of equipment for aquaculture among women; and dependence on donor funds for gender related activities, among others.⁸⁷

3.1.4 Youth Policy

40 The National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019-2028⁸⁸ is a manifestation of the government of The Gambia to “lead the process and coordinate the creation of knowledgeable, skilful [*sic*] and properly comported youths who can contribute optimally to national development.” It notes that it also demonstrates the government’s commitment to all international conventions and charters that affect the youth and the country has signed. The Policy intends “to provide guidelines and direction for all stakeholders involved in the implementation of policies, programs and projects for the development of youths in The Gambia.”

41 Following the African Union’s African Youth Charter, The Gambia defines youth or young people as every person between the ages of 15 and 35 years. The Policy also recognizes several categories of people relevant to this age group which deserve special attention: potential youths (persons of ages 0-14); students in secondary, tertiary and higher educational institutions; out-of-school youth; unemployed and under-employed youth; female youth; rural youth; youth that are differently-abled; youth engaged in social crimes and delinquency; commercial sex workers; and fully employed youth. Under female youth, the document underlines that “[t]he increasingly high number of school drop-outs, forced and early marriages and teenage pregnancies recorded across the country is also an indication that young women require specific support measures in this regard.” Under rural youth, it notes that the young in the urban areas are much more likely to be unemployed than in the rural areas and adds that the agriculture sector plays an important role in absorb young rural workers.

42 The Policy’s main guiding principles and core values are: needs of potential youth (0 –14 years) formation; youth as the most important and valuable resource of the nation; national commitment to mainstream youth issues with sectoral differences in mind; government commitment to integrate the youth in economic and development planning; youth-driven and -centered programmes for youths; national commitment to youth participation in the democratic process. The Policy goal is to “establish a holistic and harmonious youth cohort imbued with adequate knowledge and competencies, strong professional ethics, spiritual and moral values; and a level of independence, patriotism and commitment that gives them life options to choose development and progress in alignment with the national vision.”

⁸⁵ Women’s Bureau, 2017. “Mid-Term Review Report of the National Gender And Women Empowerment Policy 2010 - 2020.”

⁸⁶ *ibid.*

⁸⁷ *ibid.*

⁸⁸ Ministry of Youth and Sports, 2019. “National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019.”

<https://nyc.gm/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/National-Youth-Policy-of-The-Gambia-2019-2028-Final.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

Its vision is to “empower and render the Gambian youth capable and willing to make sustainable life choices.” While the policy priority areas are defined, it falls short of providing an action plan to indicate activities, responsible parties and timelines.

43 The Gambia Gender National Policy 2010-2020 also touches upon youth and contains goals, objectives and strategies, such as: “[e]nsure gender parity at all levels and equitable access to equality education and appropriate livelihood skills for women and men, girls and boys by 2015” (goal); “advocate for the development of specific integrated programmes on counseling in family life, behavioral change and moral education and reproductive health for adolescents and youths”(objective); “reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rate by 30%” (objective); “[e]stablish and strengthen existing post-abortion care and counseling to the youth”(one of the strategies for the objective on the material and infant morbidity and mortality rate); “encourage the creation of increased employment opportunities for the youths”(objective); and “advocate for the improvement of the socioeconomic status of vulnerable groups such as women, children, youths and people with disabilities”(objective). A specific policy on children does not exist for The Gambia.

44 The Mid-Term Review of the National Gender Policy 2010-2020⁸⁹ examined the implementation of the objective “to ensure equal employment opportunities and benefits for women, men and youth” under the sub-theme of employment. It reported that four out of five strategies associated with the objective were under implementation in 2017.

3.1.5 Gender, Youth and Ethnic Minorities Protection

45 The relationships among various social groups have been maintained and mediated by themselves in a traditional and historical context – a mechanism which includes the directions given by the leaders, such as chiefs, imams and elders – to result in strong tolerance and conflict-enduring capacity.⁹⁰ The mechanism is used within and between communities and often among family members.⁹¹ For legal matters related to women, organizations such as the Female Lawyers Association of The Gambia offer legal counseling and other services relating to their statutory rights, gender violence, family maintenance and child custody.⁹²

46 The Constitution Part 7 on Political Parties states that “[n]o association shall be registered or remain registered as a political party if (a) it is formed or organised on an ethnic, sectional, religious or regional basis.” There is no national policy aimed at protecting ethnic minorities in The Gambia.

47 Ethnic, regional and religious sentiments have been stirred up during the Second Republic for political purposes, weakening the social fabric that so far spared the country from falling into major internal conflicts.⁹³ It was estimated in 2018 that the tensions along the ethnic, regional and religious lines have reached “toxic levels,” which are likely to affect proportionally more the most vulnerable, which includes ethnic minorities, young women and young men.⁹⁴ In the same year, it was noted that “[o]f

⁸⁹ Women’s Bureau, “Mid-Term Review Report of the National Gender And Women Empowerment Policy 2010 -2020.”

⁹⁰ Government of The Gambia, 2018. “Conflict and Development Analysis – The Gambia.”

https://peaceinfrastructures.org/Home%20Documents/Conflict%20and%20Development%20Analysis-The%20Gambia/GovernmentGambiaWANEPJointProgramme_CDTheGambia_2018.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁹¹ *ibid.*

⁹² Republic of the Gambia, 2012. “The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.”

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/women-peace-security/assets/documents/2019/NAP/Gambia-NAP-2012.pdf> (accessed February 2021).

⁹³ Government of The Gambia, “Conflict and Development Analysis – The Gambia.”

⁹⁴ *ibid.*

particular concern are the embedded patterns of mistrust and divisions amongst ethno-linguistic groups, which have been fostered and engineered by the state through intentionally unequal access to goods and services, and through the active fomenting of disparities and divisions based on ethnicity, tribal, and political affiliation.”

48 The concern seems to remain today; an observer remarked that the fears of political-power monopolization by certain ethnicities are disproportional to organized attempts to do so and that accusatory politics are salient, but neglected, features of ethnic dynamics in Africa.⁹⁵ Consequently, observations on the relative numbers of tribes have become contentious, as there exists no absolute majority tribe covering the entire country.

3.1.6 Religion in Legal Sphere

49 As discussed above, the Constitution of The Gambia 1997 declares that women and men have equal rights but also incorporates the customary law and *shari’a*, which are not necessarily compatible with the provision of equal rights. Religions do not rule every aspect of the lives of the Gambians, but are the cornerstones with respect to women’s reproductive health, marriage and inheritance, which are reinforced by the patriarchal nature of the society. Under one of its priority areas, human rights, the last Gambia Gender National Policy⁹⁶ lists a strategy to “[e]nsure the review of all harmful customary practices perpetuated under the disguise of religion.”

3.2 Fishery, Crop Agriculture, Livestock and Climate Change Policies on Women and Youth

3.2.1 Gender and Policy on Agriculture and Natural Resources

50 The Agricultural and Natural Resources (ANR) Policy 2017-2026 of The Gambia⁹⁷ is concerned about the declining share of agriculture and natural resources in employment and exports while the sector remains of primary importance to the economy. All products from the sector have been increasingly reliant on importation, except fruits, vegetables, onions, milk and fish. Given the disintegration of the Association of Horticultural Producers and Exporters of The Gambia (GAMHOPE), which jolted the horticulture subsector, the Policy deems it indispensable to strengthen the involvement of the private entities and women if the country wishes to revitalize the subsector.

51 As for the factors contributing to the economic decline of the ANR sector, the Policy lists: climate change; declining primary commodity prices; and inadequate domestic policy on poverty and food security. In view of these factors, the Policy emphasizes the importance of an enabling environment which promotes private sector participation, diversification of the production base, domestic savings, healthy environment and mainstreaming of women in the development process, and at the same time, discourages rural-urban migration and natural resources degradation.

52 Ten constraints related to the system and institutions are identified in the Policy: technical departments; farmer organizations; extension; agricultural research; rural finance and input/output marketing; agricultural mechanization; land and water resources; gender and youth; household food

⁹⁵ Hultin, N. and Sommerfelt, T., 2020. “Anticipatory tribalism: accusatory politics in the ‘New Gambia’.” *The Journal of Modern African Studies*. Vol. 58, No. 2, 257-279.

⁹⁶ Ministry of Women’s Affairs, “The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020.”

⁹⁷ The Republic of Gambia, 2017. “The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026.”

<https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline->

[files/6.%20The%20Gambia_Ag%20and%20Food%20Security%20Strategy_0.pdf](https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/6.%20The%20Gambia_Ag%20and%20Food%20Security%20Strategy_0.pdf) (accessed March 2021).

security; and the environment. Under the constraints related to gender and youth, the Policy states that their contribution to agriculture and household welfare is limited by: lack of property rights; small-scale of operations; use of traditional production technologies; low access to productive resources including capital and improved inputs; lack of access to technical information and knowledge; and inadequate distribution and marketing systems. The constraints related to land and water resources include land tenure system that discriminates against women and leads to degradation of the resources.

53 The Policy recognizes in its rationale that the majority in the sector are smallholders and hence should aim for improvement of their efficiency and surplus generation, in particular among women farmers and operators. Its vision includes narrowing the gender gap in capacity. Based on the above rationale and vision, the Policy defines five objectives, one of which is to achieve wider and more effective participation and representation of subsistence farmers/operators especially women and youths in modern and commercial production, agribusiness and trade.

54 One of the strategies of the Policy – greater role of the private sector – include expanding market outlet for small-scale producers especially women farmers. The Policy also contains sixteen sub-sector/enterprise policies: macroeconomic policy; food and cash crop policy; seed production system; gender and youth mainstreaming policy; livestock and range management sub-sector policy; feed production system; ANR Institution/services policy; forestry policy; parks and wildlife policy; marketing policy; food security policy; horticulture sub-sector policy; fisheries sub-sector policy; agricultural mechanization policy; environmental management policy; and land and water use policy.

55 Under food and cash crop policy, women farmers are referred to under sweet potato cultivation that they are able to produce two crops a year by taking advantage of seasonal moisture of the soil as well as water from shallow wells. Other parts of food and cash crop policy does not make reference to women or youth.

56 With respect to the gender and youth mainstreaming policy, the Policy proposes six threads which it considers are in line with the country's commitments under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): land tenure; access to credit; appropriate technologies for female and youth farmers; reliable sources of water; training and marketing. The second thread of the gender and youth mainstreaming policy pays attention to women in the fishing industry by proposing support in their bargaining and purchasing fish for processing with their own capital and notes that this measure requires establishment of female fish monger groups and cooperatives.

57 Another thread entitled training touches upon training on formation of self-managed (*kafo*) groups to negotiate prices in the markets. The thread also points out the necessity of awareness raising on food and nutritional security as well as training in food preservation and processing to ensure food and nutritional security all year around. The sixth thread – marketing – also emphasizes the importance of women's forming groups for price negotiation.

58 Under livestock and range management sub-sector policy, women are mentioned in relation with small ruminants and poultry, which are considered "women's animals." While women are also involved in feeding, washing and milking of other animals, such as cattle (excepting the free-range cattle), horses, donkeys, pigs, ducks, turkeys, guinea fowls and rabbits, they are not mentioned in relation with them in the Policy. Topics such as food production system, ANR institutions/services policy, forestry policy, parks and wildlife policy, marketing policy, food security policy do not refer to women.

59 The horticulture sub-sector policy included in the ANR Policy proposes establishment of a National Horticultural Development Authority, whose main objective is to provide organized production and marketing systems for horticultural crops mainly produced by small growers, especially women. While it is a sub-sector highly dominated by female producers, they are not mentioned under all production systems: only in pomology, and not under oreliculture or floriculture. Similarly, fisheries sub-sector policy, agricultural mechanization policy, environmental management policy or land and water use policy do not make any explicit reference to women.

3.2.2 Youth and Policy on Agriculture and Natural Resources

60 As mentioned in the analysis of women in Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy, the youth appears together with women under institutional support services and system-wide constraints, one of the objectives of the Policy, and gender and youth main streaming policy (access to credit, appropriate technologies and training). Although information specific to the youth is not found in these sections, the second of the six rationales of the ANR Policy refers to aging farm labor “due to exodus of able-bodied rural youths” and the youth’s “preference for non-farm jobs.”

3.2.3 Gender and Climate Change Policy

61 The National Climate Change Policy of The Gambia 2016⁹⁸ provides directions to implement national development strategies in a climate-resilient manner through institutional arrangements for coordination and mainstreaming: an integrated approach to resource mobilization and human resources development. The Policy vision is: to “[a]chieve a climate-resilient society, through systems and strategies that mainstream climate change, disaster risk reduction, gender and environmental management, for sustainable social, political and economic development.”

62 The Policy is based on the following principles: equity and social inclusion; inter-generational equity; cooperation; precautionary and preventive; polluter pays; sustainable development; environmental justice; informed participation; evidence-based; innovation; and duty to maintain a decent environment. One of them – environmental justice – is on “addressing social inequalities, particularly relating to gender, age, infirmity and socioeconomic status, which would be aggravated by climate change, and enabling access to justice for all.”

63 The four focal areas of the Policy are:

1. Climate resilient food systems and landscapes: Agriculture, food security, forestry and natural resources, including water, biodiversity and wildlife;
2. Low emissions and resilient economy: Energy, transport, infrastructure, and the key economic sectors of tourism and financial services;
3. Climate resilient people: Health, education, equitable social development, and human settlements; and
4. Managing coastlines in a changing environment: climate-aware Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

⁹⁸ Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water, Forestry and Wildlife, 2016. “The National Climate Change Policy of The Gambia.”

<http://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/article/national-climate-change-council-inaugurated> (accessed March 2021).

64 The Policy objectives are:

1. Advance the understanding, capacity and social empowerment of all Gambians so that they can adequately respond to climate change;
2. Ensure adequate climate change research for informed decision making, and promote timely access to climate information and early warning of climate risks;
3. Put in place sound and equitable adaptation and mitigation measures that promote effective management of ecosystems and biodiversity, reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to achieve sustainable low-carbon socio-economic development;
4. Effectively integrate climate change into all sectors and across all scales, through mainstreaming climate risks and opportunities into national and sectoral frameworks, and through effective policy coordination and implementation;
5. Build the resilience of communities and ensure health and welfare through participatory, equitable and pro-poor approaches to climate change that emphasize the meaningful inclusion of women and vulnerable groups;
6. Integrate community-based adaptation with ecosystem-based approaches to strengthen people's adaptive capacities and develop more climate-resilient livelihoods, by investing in sustainable natural resource management initiatives; and
7. Coordinate national and international financial resource mobilization to address climate change by mainstreaming climate finance readiness and identifying, developing and promoting innovative financing mechanisms.

65 For establishing climate resilient food systems and landscapes (first focal area), the Policy proposes: participatory integrated watershed management; adaptation strategies in agriculture, forestry, fishery, water and parks/wildlife/biodiversity sectors; participatory sustainable forest management; and restoration of the River Gambia watershed. The adaptation strategies in agriculture include: selection and promotion of crop varieties with short maturity, improved and stable yields, and tolerance to stresses such as drought, pests, diseases and soil toxicities; product diversification; and sustainable use of irrigation water. Forest sector strategies include: fuel-efficient cook stoves; and afforestation and reforestation (e.g., restoration of mangrove systems).

66 The strategies of fishery sector are: sustainable fishery management (e.g., use of appropriate fishing methods); capacity development of the Fisheries Department; awareness raising among the public; improved access to microfinance for artisanal operators, including young women processors; and so on. The first water sector strategy is to: improvement in adaptive capacity to river salinity increase through a flow regulation system and water-use regulations. Other strategies include: adaptation to diminishing groundwater recharge through cross-sectoral planning; and development of small-scale rainwater harvesting systems.

67 Besides the references above to gender under the principle of environmental justice and to young female processors in connection with climate change adaptation, women or gender are explicitly or implicitly mentioned with respect to National Climate Change Council (NCCC) and Inter-ministerial Climate Committee (IMCC), whose members include the Minister on gender, and to the National Climate Committee (NCC), which is composed of representatives of farmers, women, scientific community,

children's and youth groups, communities, workers and trade unions, business and industry, non-governmental organizations, and local authorities.⁹⁹

68 The Policy also proposes collaborative implementation with the civil society and the private sector. In this context, it suggests the role of non-governmental entities as the ones to lead in tracking climate change expenditure in the national budget “with a strong focus on gender equality and informed inclusion of women.” The Policy states that the indicators and outcomes will be disaggregated by age and gender “to ensure correct targeting and to guide responses towards assisting the poorest and most vulnerable people and groups.”

3.2.4 Youth and Climate Change Policy

69 According to the National Climate Change Policy of The Gambia 2016,¹⁰⁰ the youth are represented at the national level on the topic of climate change; the Minister on youth issues is a member of the National Climate Change Council (NCCC) and Inter-ministerial Climate Committee (IMCC), and youths are members of National Climate Committee (NCC). The Policy states under collaborative implementation with the civil society and the private sector that the youth represent “a vitally important sector in the response to climate change, and their meaningful participation in planning climate change responses should be ensured.” It adds that “[y]outh entrepreneurs and leaders should be engaged in all policy development and review initiatives, as well as in capacity development, monitoring and tracking progress.” The Policy otherwise does not mention the youth, except for identifying them as a vulnerable group.

3.2.5 Mechanism for Gender Mainstreaming

70 The National Gender Policy 2010-2020¹⁰¹ defines the National Gender Machinery as composed of the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Gender, the National Women's Council and the Women's Bureau,¹⁰² which are mandated to spearhead the formulation, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the Policy. It also states that individual stakeholders shall be responsible for the implementation of components relevant to its institutional mandate, while noting that the Policy does not replace institutional policies but enhances their implementation process and ensures their gender sensitivity.

71 Under the Policy, each stakeholder organization must nominate a gender focal point and establish gender units. The network composed of gender focal points is responsible for: advising the Ministry and institutions in each relevant field on gender; providing feedbacks for effective monitoring and evaluation; identifying priority gender issues; planning for relevant interventions; and assessing and reviewing

⁹⁹ The Council and Committees are national-level bodies for climate change policy implementation. The NCCC governs the Gambia Climate Change Fund, IMCC assists the NCCC in carrying out its functions and NCC advises the Climate Change Secretariat on climate change-related questions and provides its views on complementary and related issues. The Climate Change Secretariat is mandated to work with sectors and institutions on integrating climate change into the national and sub-national plans, and coordinating Policy implementation. The Secretariat is housed in the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water, Forest and Wildlife and works closely with the Ministry of Planning, Policy and Development and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs.

¹⁰⁰ Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water, Forestry and Wildlife, “The National Climate Change Policy of The Gambia.”

¹⁰¹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, “The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020.”

¹⁰² The Policy states that the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Women's Bureau are to be renamed as the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Gender and Gender Bureau, respectively. The names used in March 2021 is the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Children and Social Welfare and the Women's Bureau.

progress in Policy implementation. The Gender Machinery is to assist the training of staff in the gender unit on gender analysis, gender budgeting, advocacy and gender mainstreaming strategies. According to a report in 2012, the Women's Bureau succeeded in ensuring that gender mainstreaming is strategically relevant in the policy making and planning agendas of member institutions of the network.¹⁰³ The Policy further details institutional structure roles and responsibilities for Policy implementation.¹⁰⁴

72 The government bodies consulted at their headquarters for the formulation of the proposed project were: Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (National Environment Agency, Department of Forestry and Department of Parks and Wildlife),¹⁰⁵ Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources; Ministry of Agriculture; the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs; and Women's Bureau (a body responsible for giving policy guidance and proposals to the national government on issues affecting women).¹⁰⁶ All officials consulted were aware of the CEDAW, except the Departments of Forestry, Parks and Wildlife and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs.

73 Although without the knowledge of the fundamental convention on the rights of women, the Departments of Forestry and Parks and Wildlife were well aware of the role of women and projects targeting women in their domain of work. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs indicated that the International Monetary Fund had offered to support them on gender budgeting – an approach to budgeting that uses fiscal policy and administration to promote gender equality as well as girls' and women's development¹⁰⁷ – but had not had the opportunity to take it up. Most of the officials participated in the interviews were aware of the National Gender Policy 2010-2020, but few were not.

74 All interviewed – except the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, which is the National Designated Authority – asserted that the gender dimension was integrated into their work, which was backed by their understanding of the problems that women face in their field of expertise. The most salient points raised were: women and the youth are losing their livelihoods due to climate change (National Environment Agency, Departments of Forestry and Parks and Wildlife); and they do not have

¹⁰³ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

¹⁰⁴ The major ones are those of the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Gender which is tasked to: oversee coordination and harmonization of various stakeholders' actions; establish appropriate mechanism for coordination of gender mainstreaming at all levels; lobby, advocate and mobilize resources for Policy implementation; and provide support to gender units and focal points. Those of the Women's Bureau are to: provide technical support on gender mainstreaming to ministries, institutions, organizations local government bodies, CSOs and the private sector; coordinate, monitor and evaluate Policy implementation; provide backstopping support in critical areas; and set standards, develop guidelines and disseminate and monitor Policy operations. The National Women's Council's roles and responsibilities are to: advise the government on gender; oversee Policy implementation at the decentralized level; lobby and advocate for policy reviews and law enactment for gender mainstreaming; and sensitize and advocate on gender at grassroots level.

As for the Ministries and parastatals, they are to: translate the Policy into institutional specific policies, strategies and programmes; support gender units and focal points by building their capacity in gender analysis, planning and providing budget lines for their operations; monitor, evaluate and provide disaggregate data on sector programmes and their impact on gender equity; institute and implement affirmative actions on a short term basis to reduce gender gaps; partner with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Gender and the Women's Bureau; mobilize, allocate and release resources for gender mainstreaming; and ensure that institutional policies and programmes are gender sensitive and benefit women and men. The NGOs, CSOs and CBOs also are tasked to translate the Policy into institutional specific policies, strategies and programmes, to develop and implement programmes addressing key areas of the Policy, etc.

¹⁰⁵ The Tambi Wetland Complex, an important location in terms of wilderness, is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Wildlife. There are many subsistence activities taking place in the Complex, one of which is oyster harvesting.

¹⁰⁶ Interviews with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources (the National Environment Agency, the Department of Forestry and the Department of Parks and Wildlife), the Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs and the Women's Bureau March 5-24, 2021.

¹⁰⁷ Stotsky, J. G., 2016. "Gender Budgeting: Fiscal Context and Current Outcomes." IMF Working Paper. WP/16/149 <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2016/wp16149.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

the capacity to cope with the changing climate (Women's Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture and Department of Parks and Wildlife).

75 Fishery specific issues that affected women's lives were: illegal fishing by industrial fleets (Department of Fishery) and lack of mangrove restoration at the Tambi Wetland Complex (Department of Parks and Wildlife). Other more general obstacles observed were lack of: bargaining power and marketing/literacy/numeracy skills (Ministry of Agriculture); access to funds (Department of Parks and Wildlife and Ministry of Agriculture); and voice (Departments of Fishery and Forestry). Gender-based domestic violence was also raised as a major issue by the Women's Bureau. Unbalanced work responsibilities between genders were pointed out by the Department of Fisheries and the Ministry of Agriculture. The Department of Fishery was of the opinion that penury of freshwater in the rural areas was a major issue. Unsustainability of projects were attributed to not integrating local knowledge in design and implementation (National Environment Agency and Department of Forestry). Landing Site Managers who belong to the Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources, on the other hand, did not consider women as landing site users and could not provide information on the conditions of fish processors who are physically present at the landing sites to purchase fish.¹⁰⁸

76 One each of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) was interviewed with respect to their views and activities on gender and youth: Agency for the Development of Women and children; and Action Aid International.¹⁰⁹ They were well aware of CEDAW in addition to the country's National Gender Policy, partly due to donors' being the main source of funds for gender related projects. The organizations asserted their commitment to strengthening the capacity of women and youth, but the collaboration mechanism in place under the Policy was not very clear to them.

77 When asked about the challenges that women and the youth face, the community leaders interviewed for the project formulation (those of landing sites and farming villages) did not refer to separate issues for both, expect in terms of material needs, which matched well with what each group expressed themselves.^{110 111} All asserted that women and the youth are important participants in decision-making; they are consulted, but not authorized to make final decisions.

3.2.6 Mechanism for Youth Mainstreaming

78 The National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019-2028¹¹² identified the lack of mechanisms for mainstreaming youth development and empowerment issues in sector policies and strategies as one of the obstacles in attaining the objectives of the previous Youth Policy. In recognition of this hurdle, the current Policy is "based on a common understanding of the need for deliberate formation of desirable quality youths, mainstreaming their empowerment in national development through formal and informal formation, and imbuing them with a set of core fundamental values and beliefs that determine how aptitude and character can be created in them for given societal purpose."

79 One of the ten priority areas of the Policy is to advocate for mainstreaming youth in economic planning and programming as prerequisites to growth and employment creation. As for a mechanism to mainstream youth, the Policy states under the topic of coordination that "[t]he task of effectively forming

¹⁰⁸ Interview with Landing Site Managers, Banjul and Bintang, March 9-13, 2021.

¹⁰⁹ Interviews with the Agency for the Development of Women and Children and Action Aid International, April 1-7, 2021.

¹¹⁰ Interviews with community leaders, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

¹¹¹ Focused group discussions with harvesters/processors/sellers and youth, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

¹¹² Ministry of Youth and Sports, "National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019."

and mainstreaming youths in national development is by default a partnership task between institutions, and must be coordinated effectively. This coordination task forms the core task and responsibility of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and its satellite institutions especially the National Youth Council.” Further details are not found in the Policy.

80 The youth being a relatively new topic to the policymakers, the seven government bodies consulted often saw the problems of women and youth together. The Women’s Bureau was the only one among the consulted to raise a specific concern regarding the youth, namely low quality of education. The national government has been encouraging the youth to take up various livelihoods – farming, tailoring, carpentry and so on – in the country, instead of emigration. Their efforts have reached as far as large towns in the rural areas.

81 The community leaders (those of landing sites and farming villages) distinguished the youth from women with respect to material needs, which was in line with what each group identified as their needs.¹¹³
¹¹⁴ Women and the youth are recognized by all as important stakeholders in decision-making, but the power to make final decisions lie with adult men. Some community leaders were concerned about male youths’ lack of livelihood skills, which was also expressed frequently by the youth, while one in Jahally explicitly referred to lack of education among female youth.

4. GENDER AND YOUTH IN RURAL GAMBIA

4.1 Basic Statistics

4.1.1 Gender Parity

82 Gambia was categorized as one of the “Low Development” countries in 2019 – a group consisting of 33 countries and territories among 189 worldwide – according to the United Nations Development Programme’s Human Development Index (HDI), a summary measure for assessing long-term progress in a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living.¹¹⁵ Between 1990 and 2019, the value of the Index steadily improved, supported by increases in life expectancy and education attained while the Gross National Income per capita stagnated.¹¹⁶ In terms of overall ranking only a slight improvement was observed during 2014-2019, ending in the 172th in 2019.¹¹⁷ When the HDI value is accounted for inequality, the value is lowered by 32.5%, slightly over the average loss due to inequality among low HDI countries and that among Sub-Saharan African countries, which are 31.4% and 30.5%, respectively.¹¹⁸

83 The Gender Development Index of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – which measures gender inequalities in health, education and command over economic resources – puts the country in Group 5, a group of countries with the least gender equality.¹¹⁹ Table 3 demonstrates the

¹¹³ Interviews with community leaders, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

¹¹⁴ Focused group discussions with harvesters/processors/sellers and youth, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

¹¹⁵ UNDP, 2020. *Human Development Report 2020: The next frontier – Human development and the Anthropocene*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.

¹¹⁶ UNDP, 2020. “Human Development Report 2020 Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report Gambia.” <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/GMB.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

¹¹⁷ UNDP, *Human Development Report 2020: The next frontier – Human development and the Anthropocene*.

¹¹⁸ UNDP, “Human Development Report 2020 Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report Gambia.”

¹¹⁹ *ibid*.

gender gap which constitute the Gender Development Index.¹²⁰ In a country where overall human development is low and not evenly distributed, it points to the critical situation for women, especially for those with scant socioeconomic means.

Table 3: Human Development of Women and Men¹²¹

Human Development Index		Life Expectancy at Birth		Expected Years of Schooling		Mean Years of Schooling		Gross National Income per capita	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
0.448	0.530	63.5	60.7	10.0	9.8	3.4	4.6	1,145	3,207

Source: UNDP (2020).

84 The Gender Inequality Index reflects gender-based inequalities in reproductive health, empowerment and economic activity, which can be interpreted as the loss in human development due to inequality between female and male achievements in the these three dimensions.¹²² The statistics – 597.0 deaths from pregnancy related causes for every 100,000 live births, 78.2 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19, 10.3% of parliamentary seats held by women, 31.5% of adult women having attained secondary level of education or more compared to 44% of the same among adult men, labor market participation rate of 51.2% for women and 68.0% for men – placed the country the 148th among 162 countries in 2019 (Table 4).

Table 4: Gender Inequality Index and Its Components¹²³

Gender Inequality Index Ranking	Maternal Mortality Ratio	Adolescent Birth Rate	Female Seats in Parliament (%)	Population with at least some secondary education (%)		Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	
				Female	Male	Female	Male
148 out of 162	597.0	78.2	10.3	31.5	44.0	51.2	68.0

Source: UNDP (2020).

85 It is thought that the situation of rural women is not given the recognition it deserves and tends to be subsumed under the general discussion of women and development issues.¹²⁴ Because of their geophysical location, they are socially excluded from mainstream development initiatives that can strategically improve their lives.¹²⁵ Neither are the cultural customs in their favor.

¹²⁰ *ibid.*

¹²¹ *ibid.*

¹²² Reproductive health is measured by maternal mortality and adolescent birth rates; empowerment by the share of parliamentary seats held by women and attainment in secondary and higher education by each gender; and economic activity by the labor market participation rates for women and men.

¹²³ UNDP, "Human Development Report 2020 *Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report* Gambia."

¹²⁴ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

¹²⁵ *ibid.*

4.1.2 Population, Ethnic Groups and Languages

86 **General and Female Population:** The population in The Gambia has been steadily increasing since 1960 to reach over 2.3 million in 2019,¹²⁶ of which 50.4% are women.¹²⁷ The population growth rate peaked in 1988 at 5.0% and was 2.9% in 2019, higher than that in 1961 and the world average in 2019 (2.0% and 1.1%, respectively),¹²⁸ which will lead to doubling of the population in slightly less than 25 years if the rate is maintained. The population density is one of the highest in Africa with nearly 180 persons per square kilometers.¹²⁹ High concentration of the population in the peri-urban areas, especially the growing seats of local administration, began in the early 2000s,¹³⁰ and close to 60% of the total population today is estimated to live in the urban and peri-urban areas.¹³¹ The population of seven Districts that contain the target areas are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Population in Target Districts¹³²

Local Government Area	Population
Banjul (and Tambi Wetlands)	31,054
Brufut	21,766
Tanjeh	14,531
Sanyang	12,572
Karthong	3,322
Blintang	773
Jahally	2,066
National Total	1,857,181

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013)

87 **Youth:** The Gambia today defines youth or young people as every person between the ages of 15 and 35 years, following the African Union's African Youth Charter, but at the time of 2013 Population and Housing Census, the youth was defined as persons aged 13-30.¹³³ The analysis in this subsection is based on the former definition of 13-30. According to the 2013 Census, the sources of data inaccuracy include: age misreporting; age heaping around zeroes and fives; and use of proxy respondents.¹³⁴

88 Between the two Censuses in 2003 and 2013, the youth population increased by 41.1% or 3.4% yearly to 690,836 persons, which is slightly faster than the national annual population growth rate of 3.1% during the same period.¹³⁵ In 2013, the youth comprised roughly 35% of the total population. The latest Census showed that 52.8% of the youth were females and 47.2% were males.¹³⁶ Among the youth, 12.0% were aged between 13 and 14 years, 31.0% between 15 and 19 years, 26.6% between 20 and 24 years,

¹²⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Population, total – Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

¹²⁷ World Bank, 2021. "Population, female (% of total population) – Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL.FE.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

¹²⁸ World Bank, 2021. "Population growth (annual %) – Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW?locations=GM> (accessed March 2012).

¹²⁹ World Bank, 2020. "The World Bank in Gambia: the Overview." <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/gambia/overview> (accessed March 2012).

¹³⁰ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

¹³¹ World Bank, "The World Bank in Gambia: the Overview."

¹³² Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Directory of Settlement*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

¹³³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

¹³⁴ *ibid.*

¹³⁵ *ibid.*

¹³⁶ *ibid.*

23.1% between 25 and 29 years and 7.3% aged 30 years. At the time of the last Census, 63.0% of the male youth lived in the urban areas while 60.3% of the female youth did, reflecting the higher tendency among males to migrate than females. About 2% of the total youth lived in Banjul, which was the lowest among the Local Government Areas (LGAs). The 2013 Census characterized the youth in Gambia as the most mobile age-group among the population, which migrates for various reasons, such as employment, education, family formation and reunification.

89 **Ethnic Groups:** The Gambia River basin has been a focal point for immigrants fleeing the western Sudanic wars dating from the 12th century.¹³⁷ The people with the longest history of the residence are the Jola, mostly located in the western part of the country.¹³⁸ The Wolof are predominant in Banjul as in Senegal.¹³⁹ The Fula in the upriver areas established a kingdom and was a major power in the late 19th century.¹⁴⁰ The upstream also hosts concentration of Soninke. The 2013 Census distinguishes ten categories of ethnic groups: Mandinka/Jahanka; Fula/Tukulor/Lorobo; Wollof (Wolof); Jola/Karoninka; Sarahule; Serere; Creole/Aku; Manjago; Bambara; and other.¹⁴¹ As the table below indicates, the ethnic composition has lately been in a flux.

Table 6: Ethnicity Distribution¹⁴²

Ethnicity	Population Share in Year (%)				
	1973	1983	1993	2003	2013
Mandinka/Jahanka	42.3	40.8	39.5	35.9	34.4
Fula/Tukulor/Lorobo	18.2	19.0	18.8	21.9	24.1
Wollof (Wolof)	15.7	13.7	14.6	14.5	14.8
Jola/Karoninka	9.5	10.4	10.6	11.4	10.5
Sarahule	8.7	8.3	8.9	8.1	8.2
Serere	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.1
Creole/Aku	1.3	1.7	0.8	2.0	0.5
Manjago	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.9
Bambara	1.0	0.8	1.8	0.5	1.3
Other	–	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.5
Not indicated	0.9	1.5	1.2	1.4	0.0

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013)

90 The official language of the country is English, but Mandinka and Wolof are widely spoken as the *lingua franca*.¹⁴³ Other languages spoken include: Pulaar (Fulbe), Serer, Jola and Soninke.¹⁴⁴

¹³⁷ Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2021. "The Gambia"

<https://www.britannica.com/place/The-Gambia/Government-and-society> (accessed March 2021).

¹³⁸ *ibid.*

¹³⁹ *ibid.*

¹⁴⁰ *ibid.*

¹⁴¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Spatial Distribution Report*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

¹⁴² *ibid.*

¹⁴³ Encyclopaedia Britannica, "The Gambia"

¹⁴⁴ *ibid.*

4.1.3 Literacy and Education

91 **Literacy:** The literacy rates according to gender and age indicate that The Gambia is catching up with other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (Table 7); the percentage-point difference by gender for the adult total literacy rate was 12.7 in 2015, but 7.2 for the youth total literacy rate in the same year. The percentage-point difference for female youth literacy between Gambia and Sub-Saharan African average was smaller than that for male youth literacy, while the situation is reversed for adult literacy, implying that women are advancing faster than men in terms of relative literacy in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Table 7: Literacy Rates according to Gender and Age¹⁴⁵

Literacy Indicator	Year of Latest Gambian Data	Gambia	Sub-Saharan Africa (in the same year)
Adult total (% of peoples aged 15 and above)	2015	50.8	63.5
Adult female (% of peoples aged 15 and above)	2013	33.6	54.5
Adult male (% of peoples aged 15 and above)	2013	51.4	70.4
Youth total (% of peoples aged 15 and above)	2015	67.2	74.4
Youth female (% of peoples aged 15-24)	2015	64.4	70.5
Youth male (% of peoples aged 15-24)	2015	70.7	78.3
Gender Parity Index	2013	0.85	0.89

Source: World Bank (2021)

92 **Education:** The Right to Education Section of the Constitution states that the basic education shall be free, compulsory and available to all,¹⁴⁶ but slightly less than one-third of the youth had never attended school in 2013.¹⁴⁷ Another one-third was attending school and slightly over one-third had attended in the past at the time of 2013 Census.¹⁴⁸ During 2015-2019, the enrolment rate increased progressively for all education levels at an annual rate of 6.9%.¹⁴⁹ The National Study on Out-of-School Children in The Gambia 2017 indicated that 16.7% and 24.2% of girls and boys aged 7-12, respectively, were out of school.¹⁵⁰ Most children aged 5-14 both work and attend school, and children with work often do not seek education beyond primary school or never attend school.¹⁵¹ Around 2005, education was deemed by the great majority of poor 10-19 year-olds as the single most important factor in progressing to a 'good career,' but the 20-29 year olds tended to reckon that academic qualifications beyond basic literacy in English had done little to advance their employment or earning opportunities and that what mattered more was social

¹⁴⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) - Gambia, The." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SE.ADT.LITR.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021)

and other literacy related data from the World Bank Data site (accessed March 2021).

¹⁴⁶ The Republic of The Gambia, *Constitution of the Republic of the Gambia*, 1997.

¹⁴⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

¹⁴⁸ *ibid.*

¹⁴⁹ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, 2019. "Education Statistics Summary Report 2019." <http://www.edugambia.gm/reports/download> (accessed March 2021).

¹⁵⁰ Republic of Gambia, 2017. "National Study on Out-of-School Children in The Gambia." <https://www.unicef.org/gambia/media/636/file/National-Study-of-Out-of-School-Children-in-The-Gambia-2017.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

¹⁵¹ Newgarden, S., 2021. "10 Facts about Child Labor in Gambia." The Borgen Project. <https://borgenproject.org/10-facts-about-child-labor-in-the-gambia/> (accessed March 2021).

networks.¹⁵² Many without any experience in formal schooling think of it as an investment not worth the time.^{153 154} Nonetheless, the primary school completion rate was 70% in 2019.¹⁵⁵

93 In 2019, 82.9% of lower basic education schools had access to safe drinking water, 79.4% of all schools (lower and upper basic education and senior secondary education schools) had adequately separated toilets, and 94.2% had permanent classrooms.¹⁵⁶ Improved safety and hygiene conditions in schools are ensuring that more girls are enrolled and retained in school.¹⁵⁷ In the same year, 60% of senior secondary education school had access to electricity.¹⁵⁸ The number of students per teacher ratio improved between 2015 and 2019 for upper basic education level from 23 to 18.¹⁵⁹ During the same period, the ratios remained at the same moderately high to low levels for lower basic education and senior secondary education, 35 and 23, respectively.¹⁶⁰

94 In 2018, the percentage of children aged 7-14 years who demonstrated basic reading skills was low at below 20% for all subgroups: female/male; and rural/urban.¹⁶¹ The rural areas lagged behind the urban areas by 9-11 percentage points, and the gender gaps were minimal in both areas.¹⁶² While boys' skills did not improve with mothers' educational level, girls' skills responded to their mothers' higher education.¹⁶³ So was the case with the wealth level; boys' skills did not respond, but the girls' did.¹⁶⁴ The results for basic numeracy skills were worse overall at 8.6% of children demonstrating satisfactory levels, where girls led boys by three percentage-points.¹⁶⁵ The situation was at worrying 2.6% for rural areas and 1.9% for rural girls.¹⁶⁶ The relationships of children's skills to mothers' education level and to wealth appeared inconclusive, except for that between girls' skills and wealth.¹⁶⁷

95 National Assessment Test (NAT) for Grade 3 students in 2019 was taken by 95% of the registered students. The passing rates for English and mathematics were 61.3% and 55.9%, respectively.¹⁶⁸ The NAT test for Grade 8 in 2019 was taken by 93.3% of the registered students, and 70.1% passed the English test and 16.6% the mathematics test.¹⁶⁹ The Gambia Basic Certificate Examination (GABECE) is a national examination which marks the end of nine years of basic education and grants access to senior secondary

¹⁵² Chant, S. and Jones, G.A., 2005. "Youth, Gender and Livelihoods in West Africa: Perspectives from Ghana and The Gambia." *Children's Geographies*, Vol. 3, No. 2, 185–199.

¹⁵³ Newgarden, "10 Facts about Child Labor in Gambia."

¹⁵⁴ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

¹⁵⁵ Newgarden, "10 Facts about Child Labor in Gambia."

¹⁵⁶ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, "Education Statistics Summary Report 2019."

¹⁵⁷ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, 2015. "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

¹⁵⁸ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, "Education Statistics Summary Report 2019."

¹⁵⁹ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁰ *ibid.*

¹⁶¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

¹⁶² *ibid.*

¹⁶³ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁵ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁷ *ibid.*

¹⁶⁸ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, "Education Statistics Summary Report 2019."

¹⁶⁹ *ibid.*

education in the Gambia.¹⁷⁰ In 2018, less than half of the students who took the exam passed.¹⁷¹ The “very poor performance” in English and mathematics was noted by the examiners.¹⁷²

96 According to the 2013 Census, 16% of the youth had attained primary education, 23% lower secondary education, while 24% reached upper secondary level.¹⁷³ Only 1% had vocational education and 3% reached tertiary level, painting a problematic picture in terms of their future employability and employment.¹⁷⁴ Students were most likely to leave school when they are between 15 and 19 years old.¹⁷⁵ In the rural areas, the years spent in school was shorter than in the urban areas;¹⁷⁶ 73% of 15-17 year olds in urban areas were still in school, against 61% in rural areas.¹⁷⁷ Formal education was limited outside cities, and for higher quality education and training, the students needed to migrate to the Greater Banjul Area or overseas.¹⁷⁸ The drop in school attendance did not match with increase in employment, which indicates that the students become inactive after dropping out of school.¹⁷⁹

97 The West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) is for senior secondary school students from the five Anglophone countries in West Africa: The Gambia, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Liberia.¹⁸⁰ This examination marks the end of senior secondary education and grants admission to universities and other higher institution of learning.¹⁸¹ In 2018, 12,121 candidates (54.6% female) registered for the examination in 32 subjects, and 3.2% of female students obtained credit passes in five subjects or more, including English and mathematics, while the rate for male students was 4.0%.¹⁸² Among all students, 1.7% obtained credit passes in nine subjects and 17.6% in one subject, and the overall performance was judged worse compared to the year before.¹⁸³

98 The statistics on education paints a picture that women are slightly ahead of men in The Gambia as is the case with literacy. In 2019, the gross enrolment rate for the low basic education attained gender parity of 1.08.¹⁸⁴ The expected years of schooling (the number of years of schooling that a child of school entrance age can expect to receive if prevailing patterns of age-specific enrolment rates persist throughout the child’s life) is already higher for girls. The expected years of schooling for female children is 1.3 years longer than the average of the group of Low Human Development Countries, to which The Gambia belongs. The mean years of schooling is only 0.6 years shorter than the average of the same countries, while for male the mean years are 1.4 years shorter. However, the actual mean years of schooling is shorter for girls than for boys (Table

¹⁷⁰ *ibid.*

¹⁷¹ The West African Examinations Council, 2018. “The Gambia Basic Education Certificate Examination May 2018 Chief Examiners’ Reports.”

<https://www.waecgambia.org/Portals/0/C%20E%20Report%20GABECE%202018%20FINAL%202.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

¹⁷² *ibid.*

¹⁷³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

¹⁷⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁷⁵ Ministry of Youth and Sports, “National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019.”

¹⁷⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷⁷ *ibid.*

¹⁷⁸ *ibid.*

¹⁷⁹ *ibid.*

¹⁸⁰ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, “Education Statistics Summary Report 2019.”

¹⁸¹ *ibid.*

¹⁸² Freedom Newspaper, 2018. “Gambia: Breaking News: 90 Percent of Gambian Students Who Sat for This Year’s WAEC Exams Failed Miserably!” Freedom Newspaper. July 30, 2018.

<https://www.freedomnewspaper.com/2018/07/30/gambia-breaking-news-90-percent-of-gambian-students-who-sat-this-years-waec-exams-failed-miserably/> (accessed March 2021).

¹⁸³ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, “Education Statistics Summary Report 2019.”

¹⁸⁴ *ibid.*

8). The higher dropout rate for girls at all levels of education, both in rural and urban areas,¹⁸⁵ is attributed to: preference for boys' education; early and forced marriages; teenage pregnancy; and child labor.¹⁸⁶ Given that each of the girls' completion rates of lower basic, upper basic and senior secondary education were higher than for boys in the same year,¹⁸⁷ the dropout rate among girls is rapidly declining and female youth is closing the gap.

Table 8: Expected and Mean Years of Schooling in 2019¹⁸⁸

	Expected Years of Schooling		Mean Years of Schooling	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
The Gambia	10.0	9.8	3.3	4.6
Low Human Development Countries	8.7	10.1	3.9	6.0
World	12.9	12.7	8.5	9.2

Source: UNDP (2020).

99 Against the background that the population is predominately Muslim, Madrassa education continuous to flourish.¹⁸⁹ The flexible teaching-learning approach widely employed by Madrassas is convenient and attractive to the less privileged and marginalized populations who invariably pursue education and livelihood needs at the same time.¹⁹⁰ The system provided access to education to hundreds of thousands of children, out-of-school youths and adults over the years.¹⁹¹ General Secretariat for Islamic/Arabic Education was established in 1996 under the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, which resulted in harmonization of the syllabi, alignment of the Madrassa's educational activities with national development goals and widening the scope of Islamic Education to include technical and vocational skills training.¹⁹² The improved quality and standardization of learning outputs have led to higher adult literacy rates in the country.¹⁹³ Between 2003 and 2004, about 162 Madrassa were in operation in Gambia with a total enrolment of 55,685 learners (21,859 females and 28,234 males) and about 20% of school-age children were attending Madrassa in 2014.¹⁹⁴

100 Little less than a quarter of children aged 7-14 could not attend class in 2018, with higher proportion among girls than boys and among rural children than urban children.¹⁹⁵ The most common reasons were teacher strike or absence (74.0% of the children aged 7-14) and teacher absence (29.9% for the same).¹⁹⁶ The inability to attend decreased with mother's education level and also with wealth, suggesting the poor's worse access to education or their tendency for truancy.¹⁹⁷

¹⁸⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

¹⁸⁶ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

¹⁸⁷ Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, "Education Statistics Summary Report 2019."

¹⁸⁸ UNDP, *Human Development Report 2020: The next frontier – Human development and the Anthropocene*.

¹⁸⁹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

¹⁹⁰ UNESCO, 2014. "Islamic Education System in The Gambia, Gambia."

<https://uil.unesco.org/case-study/effective-practices-database-litbase-0/islamic-education-system-gambia-gambia> (accessed March 2021).

¹⁹¹ *ibid.*

¹⁹² UNESCO, "Islamic Education System in The Gambia, Gambia."

¹⁹³ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

¹⁹⁴ UNESCO, "Islamic Education System in The Gambia, Gambia."

¹⁹⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

¹⁹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁹⁷ *ibid.*

4.1.4 Poverty

101 Gambian economy is an overwhelmingly agricultural one, with groundnuts as the most important cash crop. Tourism and remittances are also important sources of foreign exchange and contributed to about 12% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the early 2010s.¹⁹⁸ In 2019, GDP per capita in Gambia was USD 778, less than half of the Sub-Saharan average, even when we exclude the high-income countries in the region.¹⁹⁹ Purchasing Power Parity GDP per capita had more or less continued to increase from 1990 to 2010, but it took a sharp dive in 2011, because of the deepest and most widespread recession in half a century²⁰⁰ and the decline continued until 2014.²⁰¹ It was yet to recover to the 2010 level in 2019.²⁰² Poverty is higher in the rural than in the urban areas.²⁰³

102 UNDP identifies multiple deprivations suffered by individuals in three dimensions: health, education and standard of living.²⁰⁴ If the score is greater or equal to 20%, but less than 33.3%, the household and its members are vulnerable to multidimensional poverty, if the deprivation score is 33.3% or greater, they are classified as multidimensionally poor, and if the score is greater than or equal to 50%, they live in severe multidimensional poverty.²⁰⁵ In 2018, 41.6% of the population were multidimensionally poor and an additional 22.9% were vulnerable to multidimensional poverty; an average Gambian's deprivation score was 49% and hence practically in severe multidimensional poverty.²⁰⁶

103 The level of poverty in The Gambia increased between 1992 and 2003 from 31% to 58%²⁰⁷ and has stayed stable at 48% in the last five years.²⁰⁸ During 1993-2003, the disparity between the rural and urban areas also widened.²⁰⁹ The Gini index was 35.9 in 2015, but historical data does not exist.²¹⁰ The latest data of a neighboring country, Senegal, is 40.3 in 2011, showing larger income inequality.²¹¹ The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to have dampened GDP growth in The Gambia to between 2.5% and negative 2.4%²¹² and deepened the inequality gap in 2020. The economic impacts of the pandemic have stemmed from fewer tourists, trade disruption and lower commodity prices.²¹³

4.1.5 Employment

104 **Women versus Men:** Since the 1990s, the unemployment rate for Gambian women stayed slightly above 12%, while that for women in Sub-Saharan Africa also remained nearly constant around 6%; the

¹⁹⁸ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

¹⁹⁹ World Bank, 2021. "GDP per capita (current \$) – Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

²⁰⁰ OCED, 2010. *African Economic Outlook 2010*. Paris: OECD.

²⁰¹ World Bank, 2021. "GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$) – Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

²⁰² *ibid.*

²⁰³ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

²⁰⁴ UNDP, "Human Development Report 2020 *Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report* Gambia."

²⁰⁵ *ibid.*

²⁰⁶ *ibid.*

²⁰⁷ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

²⁰⁸ World Food Programme, 2021. "Gambia." <https://www.wfp.org/countries/gambia> (accessed March 2021).

²⁰⁹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

²¹⁰ World Bank, 2021. "Gini index (World Bank estimate) – Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?locations=GM>

²¹¹ *ibid.*

²¹² World Bank, "The World Bank in Gambia: the Overview."

²¹³ *ibid.*

rates were 12.0% and 6.4%, respectively in 2019.²¹⁴ The unemployment rates have evolved differently for males; almost steady decline from above 7.1% in 1990 to 6.5% in 2019 for the Gambians, and from 6.4% to 6.1% during the same period for Sub-Saharan Africans as a whole.²¹⁵ The latter had seen rapid gains in employment, only to lose them between 2002 and 2008; its unemployment rate has been climbing since 2015, unlike for the Gambians.²¹⁶ The unemployment rate for the total population of the country and that for the Sub-Saharan average moved in parallel with each other and in line the respective male unemployment rates; the male unemployment rates showed larger swings and stayed approximately 3 percentage points lower than the rates for the total populations at around 5-7%.²¹⁷

105 The comparative history of the unemployment rates implies that female employment in Sub-Saharan Africa is insulated from the world economy; its informal nature and strong connection to local economies persist. It is believed that 70% of Gambian women are engaged in low productivity rural subsistence agriculture.²¹⁸ The employment of Gambian men also appears grounded in local economies, albeit to a lesser extent. Overall, the employment in The Gambia is much more informal than the Sub-Saharan average.

106 **Youth:** The picture changes when the focus is narrowed to the youths. Trajectories similar to the total unemployment rates were observed for female unemployment among youths aged 15-24 in The Gambia alone and also in Sub-Saharan Africa, which indicates greater integration of the youth in the economies outside the borders.²¹⁹ The rate at 16.7% in 2019 was much higher than 12.0% for the female total in The Gambia or 13.1% for the Sub-Saharan average for female aged 15-24.²²⁰

107 For male youths aged 15-24, the Gambians fared better than the Sub-Saharan average by 2-3 percentage points throughout the period 1990-2019; the unemployment rate in 2019 was 8.9% and 12.2%, respectively, for The Gambia and Sub-Saharan average,²²¹ although the rates were higher than those for the corresponding total male population.^{222 223} The gap between the two has been growing since 2015, as unemployment for 15-24 year olds is abated in the Gambia and soars in Sub-Saharan Africa as a whole.²²⁴ Around 2000, 39.5% and 46.7 % of female and male youths, respectively, were economically

²¹⁴ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, female (% of female labor force) (national estimate) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.FE.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²¹⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, male (% of male labor force) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.MA.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²¹⁶ *ibid.*

²¹⁷ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²¹⁸ Touray, O., 2016. "Review of the Livestock/Meat and Milk Value Chains and Policy Influencing Them in The Gambia."

<http://www.fao.org/3/i5262e/i5262e.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

²¹⁹ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, youth female (% of female labor force ages 15-24) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.1524.FE.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²²⁰ *ibid.*

²²¹ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, youth female (% of male labor force ages 15-24) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.1524.MA.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²²² *ibid.*

²²³ World Bank, 2021. "Unemployment, male (% of male labor force) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.MA.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

²²⁴ World Bank, "Unemployment, youth female (% of male labor force ages 15-24) (modeled ILO estimate) - Gambia, The."

active, proportions comparable to all women in the country, but the unemployed youths aged 13-30 comprised 70% of all unemployed.²²⁵

108 **Types of Employment:** The unemployment rates segregated by gender and education level (Table 9) show that informal employment is higher for women at all education levels, but the gender gap is the largest when the highest education level attained is intermediate. The share of youth not in education, employment or training, segregated by gender, also points to the same situation. The informal sector was described in 2009 as vibrant, as poor women and men start micro and small businesses for family survival;²²⁶ it is the informal sector that provides the majority of work for women.

Table 9: Various Unemployment Rates in 2018²²⁷

Unemployment Related Rate	Percentage
Unemployment with advanced education (% of female labor force with advanced education)	n/a
Unemployment with advanced education (% of total labor force with advanced education)	7.0
Unemployment with advanced education, male (% of male labor force with advanced education)	5.9
Unemployment with intermediate education, female (% of female labor force with intermediate education)	23.8
Unemployment with intermediate education, male (% of male labor force with intermediate education)	13.4
Unemployment with basic education, female (% of female labor force with basic education)	14.7
Unemployment with basic education, male (% of male labor force with basic education)	9.7
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, female (% of female youth population)	53.5
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, male (% of male youth population)	45.3

Source: World Bank (2021).

109 In the early 2000s, 45% of economically active population were women, representing 16.4% in fisheries, 22.1% in manufacturing, 41.3% in hotels and restaurants, 2.7% in financial services, 7.0% in storage and communication, 40.0% in commercial, social and personnel services and 43.5% in wholesale and retail.²²⁸ Female youths aged 13-30 were more likely than male youths to be self-employed or unpaid family worker than males of the same age group.²²⁹

110 Urban youths were more likely to be employed for payment than rural youths,²³⁰ but unemployment rate itself was higher in the urban areas.²³¹ In fact, rural unemployment is low for all ages, which implies the ability of the agriculture to tap into labor that rural area provides, including youth labor.²³² Urban unemployment is the highest for those aged 20 to 24 years, and young workers tend to be

²²⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

²²⁶ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

²²⁷ World Bank, 2021. Data ("Unemployment with advanced education (% of total labor force with advanced education) – Gambia, The." etc. <https://data.worldbank.org> (accessed March 2021).

²²⁸ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

²²⁹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

²³⁰ *ibid.*

²³¹ Ministry of Youth and Sports, "National Youth Policy of The Gambia 2019."

²³² *ibid.*

employed in jobs of low quality and high levels of informality.²³³ The agriculture sector is considered the key when investing in the youth; the sector accounted for 41.5% of employed youth aged 13-30 years, 52.2% of female and 30.7% of male.²³⁴ Agriculture is also responsible for 66.3% of employment of this age group in the rural areas versus 7.5% in urban areas.²³⁵ In the urban areas, the service sector employs this age group as much as agriculture in the rural areas at nearly 65%.²³⁶

111 **Child Workers:** Among the male population aged 7 years and older at the time of 2013 Census, 53.2% were economically active compared to 37.8% of their female counterparts.²³⁷ The economically active population for the age bracket 7-9 was 10.1% for males and 7.3% for females.²³⁸ In 2019, it was estimated that over 60% of the population were under the age of 25 with the median age of 17 and that 20% of children worked in the country, 95% of them in the agriculture sector.²³⁹ As The Gambia chose the lower age limit option provided by the Minimum Age Convention, the general minimum age for admission to employment or work is 14, but 12 for light work.

112 **Migration:** The country has been historically a hub for migration, including transatlantic slave trades during the 15th-20th centuries, because of its geographical location.²⁴⁰ Rural-urban migration has been high and the proportion of urban population increased from 58% to 37% between 1993 and 2010, principally owing to youths relocating to the urban areas in search of work.²⁴¹ In 2017, internal migration was estimated to involve more than a quarter of the population.²⁴² The economic instability has fueled emigration among all segments of the society, in particular nurses and doctors; the skilled emigration rate at 63% in 2000 was among the 20 highest rates in the world and the second highest in Africa.²⁴³ More than 90,000 Gambians were estimated to live abroad in 2017: half of them in the United States, Spain or the United Kingdom, a quarter in other West African countries, and the last quarter in other European countries.²⁴⁴

113 Many Gambians emigrate along “back way” routes out of Africa, passing through Mali or Niger and to Libya in order to cross the Mediterranean Sea.²⁴⁵ In 2016, 6.6% of people arrived by sea in Italy were Gambians, mostly men aged 15-40. Among the minors who arrive by sea in Italy, Gambia was one of the most common nationalities, together with Nigeria and Eritrea.²⁴⁶ Remittances constituted 15.1% of GDP in 2019.²⁴⁷

²³³ *ibid.*

²³⁴ *ibid.*

²³⁵ *ibid.*

²³⁶ *ibid.*

²³⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Youth Report*.

²³⁸ *ibid.*

²³⁹ Newgarden, “10 Facts about Child Labor in Gambia.”

²⁴⁰ Kebbeh, C. O., 2013. “The Gambia: Migration in Africa’s ‘Smiling Coast.’” *The Online Journal of the Migration Policy Institute*. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2429807 (accessed March 2021).

²⁴¹ Kebbeh, C. O., 2013. “The Gambia: Migration in Africa’s ‘Smiling Coast.’” *The Online Journal of the Migration Policy Institute*. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2429807 (accessed March 2021).

²⁴² Armitano, F., 2017. “Migration in the Gambia: a Country Profile 2017.” Dakar: IOM (accessed March 2021).

²⁴³ Kebbeh, C. O., 2013. “The Gambia: Migration in Africa’s ‘Smiling Coast.’” *The Online Journal of the Migration Policy Institute*. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2429807 (accessed March 2021).

²⁴⁴ Armitano, F., 2017. “Migration in the Gambia: a Country Profile 2017.” Dakar: IOM (accessed March 2021).

²⁴⁵ *ibid.*

ibid.

²⁴⁷ World Bank, 2021. “Personal remittances, received (% of GDP) – Gambia, The.”

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

4.1.6 Marriage

114 **Age:** The 2013 Census showed that well over half of Gambian women, but only slightly over 10% of men, were married before the age of 25.²⁴⁸ Before turning 30, approximately 80% of women and 30% of men had been married.²⁴⁹ The gender gap closed for the age group 30-34 and further for the age group 40-44: 97.0% of women and 89.6% of men were married or had been married at some time in their lives before the age of 45.²⁵⁰ Around 2015, 36% of women aged 20-24 reported that they were married before the age of 24, ranking it the 9th highest among 16 West African countries, a region which contains some of the highest rate of child marriage in the world.²⁵¹ According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018, 9.6% of women aged 15-49 were married before the age of 15, compared to 0.3% of the male counterparts.²⁵² In 2018, more than half of the women aged 15-24 and married had a spouse who was older by ten years or more, and the proportion was higher for women aged 15-19 than for those aged 20-24.²⁵³ Early marriage among women proportionally increases roughly with the distance from the coast.²⁵⁴

115 In a study that targeted urban Muslim poor in The Gambia and Tanzania, it was concluded that education was an important factor in delaying marriage but that the perception of both parents and the girls themselves (that the drawbacks outweighed benefits) and the hidden costs of schooling (extra fees, transportation, uniforms and books) were preventing girls' longer education.²⁵⁵ The girls and their families in urban Gambia and Tanzania saw three contributing factors to early marriage which are intertwined: poverty, cost of education and prevalence of premarital sexual activity.²⁵⁶ Often early marriage is considered by the parents and the girls as the best available option for girls among the urban poor,²⁵⁷ and more than often there are no meaningful alternatives to marriage including work opportunities in the rural areas.²⁵⁸ Education is acknowledged to delay marriage by urban families who can afford schooling and whose girls do well in school.²⁵⁹ Girls who have no access to education or have lost the motivation to attend school often engage in intimate relationships, either to obtain financial support from boyfriends or to fill the time;²⁶⁰ gendered economic inequalities facilitates transactional intimacy.²⁶¹ The fear of premarital sex is also an important element in early marriage among girls,²⁶² and girls are becoming increasingly more sexually active, at least in the urban areas.²⁶⁴ The prevalence of child marriage differed

²⁴⁸ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

²⁴⁹ *ibid.*

²⁵⁰ *ibid.*

²⁵¹ OECD, 2016. "West African Girls are Being Married Off Too Young." Maps and Facts, No 33. Sahel and West Africa Club. <https://www.oecd.org/countries/chad/33-child%20marriage.pdf> (accessed March 2012).

²⁵² Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

²⁵³ *ibid.*

²⁵⁴ UNFPA, 2020. "Adolescents and Youth Dashboard – Gambia."

<https://www.unfpa.org/data/adolescent-youth/GM> (accessed March 2021).

²⁵⁵ Jouhki, J. and Stark, L., 2017. "Causes and Motives of Early Marriage in The Gambia and Tanzania Is New Legislation Enough?" University of Jyväskylä, Poverty and Development Working Papers 1/2017.

<https://jyx.jyu.fi/bitstream/handle/123456789/55704/978-951-39-7225-7.pdf?sequence=1> (accessed March 2021).

²⁵⁶ *ibid.*

²⁵⁷ *ibid.*

²⁵⁸ Lowe, M. et al., 2020. "Social and cultural factors perpetuating early marriage in rural Gambia: an exploratory mixed methods study." (Version 3)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6974925/> (accessed March 2021).

²⁵⁹ Jouhki and Stark, "Causes and Motives of Early Marriage in The Gambia and Tanzania Is New Legislation Enough?"

²⁶⁰ *ibid.*

²⁶¹ *ibid.*

²⁶² *ibid.*

²⁶³ Lowe et al., "Social and cultural factors perpetuating early marriage in rural Gambia: an exploratory mixed methods study."

²⁶⁴ Jouhki and Stark, "Causes and Motives of Early Marriage in The Gambia and Tanzania Is New Legislation Enough?"

within countries among various ethnicities in the late 1990s,²⁶⁵ and that is thought to be the case in The Gambia today.^{266 267}

116 **Types of Union:** The 2013 Census indicated that 66.6% of the ever-married population aged 12 years and older were in monogamous relationships, while 30.3% were in polygamous (more precisely, polygynous) unions.²⁶⁸ The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018 reported that 36.2% of women aged 15-49 were in polygynous unions,²⁶⁹ implying increase in the practice from 2013 to 2018. In 2013, polygamy was more common among the ever-married female population than males (36.4% and 28.7%, respectively), which the Census explained as a fact of polygamy (more precisely, polygyny); when a man takes on three wives for example, three women would be reported as being in polygamous union.²⁷⁰

117 Among the persons in polygynous unions in 2013, the most common occupation was agriculture for both women and men (67.3% and 40.4%, respectively),²⁷¹ implying higher prevalence of polygyny in the rural areas. In 2018, 43.6% and 32.3% of women aged 15-49 in rural and urban areas, respectively, were in polygynous marriages/unions.²⁷² The most common level of educational attainment was pre-primary or none in 2018, when 45.8% of women with such level of educational attainment were in polygynous relationships.²⁷³ The most common education level was none at 75% among persons in polygynous unions in 2013, but no education was also the most common among the monogamous persons at 54.5% in the same year.²⁷⁴ The Survey in 2018 indicated that women with handicaps were more likely to be in a polygynous relationship; 48.9% and 36.4% of women aged 18-49, with and without functional difficulties, respectively, were involved in polygyny,²⁷⁵ implying the effects of empowerment on types of unions.

118 A survey conducted in the late 1990s in four Sub-Saharan countries (Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and Zimbabwe) concluded that the husband's education was a contributing factor in monogamous marriages, while it was observed that the higher the level of social modernity, the more the wife's education mattered.²⁷⁶ Comparing the ethnicity of the head of household, Gambian women aged 15-49 were most likely to be in a polygynous marriage when the head was Sarahule (56.5%) and least likely when the head was Jola (25.6%).²⁷⁷ Other Gambian groups compared – Mandinka, Wolof, Fula and other ethnic groups – showed rates higher than 30%.²⁷⁸ Women were more likely to be divorced, separated or widowed than men; 6.6% among rural women and 1.0% among rural men, and slightly higher for both groups in the urban areas.²⁷⁹

²⁶⁵ Hayase, Y. and Liaw, K-L., 1997. "Factors on Polygamy in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings Based on the Demographic and Health Surveys." *The Development Economics*. Vol. 35, No.3, 293-327.

²⁶⁶ Lowe *et al.*, "Social and cultural factors perpetuating early marriage in rural Gambia: an exploratory mixed methods study."

²⁶⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

²⁶⁸ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

²⁶⁹ *ibid.*

²⁷⁰ *ibid.*

²⁷¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

²⁷² Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

²⁷³ *ibid.*

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

²⁷⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

²⁷⁶ Hayase and Liaw, "Factors on Polygamy in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings Based on the Demographic and Health Surveys."

²⁷⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

²⁷⁸ *ibid.*

²⁷⁹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

119 The Census commented that polygamy is a “long-standing cultural practice” which “is deeply rooted in the African society and is widely practiced among Muslims and Christians alike in many parts of the continent.”²⁸⁰ It has helped various tribes survive in a rather unproductive and hostile physical environment.²⁸¹ The rationales for polygamy (more precisely, polygyny) in Africa are that it is a remedy for: female infertility; menopause, pregnancy and nursing (in some societies, sex with women in these conditions are forbidden); social exclusion (the social norm is to be married and have children, leading to levirate marriage in some cases); acquisition of labor; lack of male heir; sick, absent or working mothers (who cannot engage in household work and caregiving); and sexual incompatibility.²⁸² These reasons are seen primarily from men’s point of view to overcome inconveniences and fulfill desires.

120 When women initiate divorce, husbands often do not respect court rulings in terms of child support, and in most cases the child is left under the custody of the mother without any contribution from the father.²⁸³ The application and reinforcement of court outcomes are not given sufficient attention because *qadi* courts are presided over by men,²⁸⁴ and it is said that there is reluctance to appoint female *qadi*.²⁸⁵ Under customary law, a wife needs to remarry a member of her husband’s family in order to inherit her husband’s property.²⁸⁶

4.1.7 Religion

121 According to an estimate in 2019, 95.7% of the population is Muslim, whose majority consists of Sunni.²⁸⁷ The religious minorities include: Christians (4.2% of the population); Ahmadi Muslims; Baha’is; Hindus; and Eckankar (the last four together constitute less than 1% of the population).²⁸⁸ Some follow indigenous beliefs blended with Islam and Christianity.²⁸⁹ The Constitution Section 17 provides for Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and states that “[e]very person in the Gambia, whatever his or her race, colour, gender, Language, religion, political or other opinion, National or social origin, property, birth or other status, shall be entitled to the fundamental human rights and freedoms of the individual contained in this chapter, but subject to respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for the public interest.” No law requires public or private schools to include religious instructions in their curricula.²⁹⁰

122 The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education assigns teachers on religion to public schools for an academic course on major world religions, which is offered by the majority of public schools and attended by most students.²⁹¹ Some private schools also offer similar classes.²⁹² Following the harmonization and upgrading of curricula by the government which started in the late 1990s, most Gambian Madrassa provide, besides Islamic studies, instructions on a range of subjects in common with

²⁸⁰ *ibid.*

²⁸¹ Hayase and Liaw, “Factors on Polygamy in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings Based on the Demographic and Health Surveys.”

²⁸² Baloyi, E. M., 2013. “Critical reflections on polygamy in the African Christian context.” *Missionalia*. (Online) Vol.41, No. 2. http://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0256-95072013000800006 (accessed March 2012).

²⁸³ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women’s Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, “The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).”

²⁸⁴ *ibid.*

²⁸⁵ *ibid.*

²⁸⁶ Wikigender, “Africa for Women’s Rights: Gambia.”

²⁸⁷ US Department of State, “2019 Report on International Religious Freedom: The Gambia”

²⁸⁸ *ibid.*

²⁸⁹ *ibid.*

²⁹⁰ *ibid.*

²⁹¹ *ibid.*

²⁹² *ibid.*

the secular national curriculum: languages (Arabic, English and local languages); history; geography; mathematics; life skills (conflict resolution, peace-building, tolerance, etc.); vocational education and training; science and health; social and environmental studies; and physical education.²⁹³ The primary focus of the Madrassa remains the Islamic studies, as the government allows flexibility over time allocation per subject area,²⁹⁴ which may be a reflection of possible penury of qualified instructors on secular subjects in a religious context.

123 The government in place continues to make efforts for interfaith unity, spanning various Muslim faiths and Christianity.²⁹⁵ The Supreme Islamic Council (SIC), a religious body to provide Islamic religious guidance in the country, continued to state that the Ahmadiyya community did not belong to Islam and did not include the community in its events and activities.²⁹⁶ Interfaith marriages remain common and accepted by the society.²⁹⁷ The Constitution of The Gambia 1997 incorporates the customary law and *shari'a*, which leads to curtailing the rights of women with respect to reproductive health, marriage and inheritance, despite its commitment to equal rights between women and men.

124 In recent years, *Tablighi Jama'at*, a global educational and missionary movement whose primary purpose is to encourage Muslims to be more religiously observant,²⁹⁸ has become popular among the Gambian youths.²⁹⁹ Similar to Pentecostal Christianity, *Tablighi Jama'at* followers are reformists whose primary goal is spiritual rebirth and remaking of religious practice by breaking from the local traditions and extricating the practice from the local cultural context,³⁰⁰ which is not seen favorably by the elders and parents.³⁰¹ Like the Pentecostals, the *Tablighi Jama'at* believers are provided with new ways of integrating modernity into religious practices, which encompass access to economic networks, material goods, modern lifestyles and transnational links and allow them to relate to India and Saudi Arabia, countries which are viewed to have succeeded in reconciling religiosity with prosperity.³⁰²

4.2 Labor Division, Decision Making and Autonomy

4.2.1 Fishery

125 In 2014, between 25,000 and 30,000 people were engaged in artisanal fishery and about 2,000 people were employed in the industrial sub-sector.³⁰³ Another 200,000 persons were indirectly dependent on fisheries and related activities³⁰⁴ in a country of slightly over 2 million. Of all engaged in the

²⁹³ UNESCO, "Islamic Education System in The Gambia, Gambia."

²⁹⁴ *ibid.*

²⁹⁵ US Department of State, "2019 Report on International Religious Freedom: The Gambia"

²⁹⁶ *ibid.*

²⁹⁷ *ibid.*

²⁹⁸ Pew Research Center, 2010. "Tablighi Jama'at."

<https://www.pewforum.org/2010/09/15/muslim-networks-and-movements-in-western-europe-tablighi-jamaat/#fn-5877-41> (accessed March 2021).

²⁹⁹ Janson, M., 2015. "'How, for God's sake, can I be a good Muslim?' Gambian Youth in Search of a Moral Lifestyle." *SAGE in Ethnography*. Vol. 17, Issue: 1, 22-46.

³⁰⁰ *ibid.*

³⁰¹ Janson, M., 2016. "We don't despair, since we know that Islam is the truth: New Expressions of Religiosity in Young Adherents of the Tabligh Jama'at in the Gambia." In Gomez-Perez, M. and LeBlanc M. N. (eds.), *L'Afrique des générations : Entre tensions et négociations*. Paris: Karthala.

³⁰² Janson, "'How, for God's sake, can I be a good Muslim?' Gambian Youth in Search of a Moral Lifestyle."

³⁰³ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

³⁰⁴ *ibid.*

fishery sector, about 76% were estimated to be Gambian nationals.³⁰⁵ The Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources estimates that about 80% of people engaged in the sector are women.³⁰⁶ Small pelagic fish such as sardinella (*Sardinella aurita* and *Sardinella maderensis*), bonga (*Ethmalosa fimbriata*), horse mackerels (*Trachurus tracaе*, *Trachurus trachurus* and *Caranx rhoncus*) and mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) serve as important protein sources for the inhabitants along the coast and also inland.³⁰⁷ More than a half of protein intake in the country is from fish.^{308 309} An evaluation of selected pelagic fish in 2018 found that sardine stock was not-fully exploited, chub-mackerel and anchovy stocks fully exploited, while sardinella, bonga, Atlantic horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*) and Cunene horse mackerel (*Trachurus trecae*) stocks were overexploited.³¹⁰

126 As a rule, women and men produce different products, operate on different scales and serve different markets.³¹¹ Shellfish are harvested by women and fish caught by men, although a few women have their own fishing unit or provide funding and equipment to other fishers.³¹² Processing of fish meant for domestic market, mostly pelagic, is the work of women and other export-oriented fish are handled by men. It was estimated that 80% of fish processors were women and half of the small-scale fish traders were women.³¹³ These numbers overestimate the proportion of men, since most of them are not engaged in these tasks themselves, but hire women to do the work. Women deal in the domestic market for fresh and cured fish products; raw fish is bought from large-scale mongers at landing sites in small quantities and directly sold to consumers, with or without processing, on a daily basis with low profit margins.³¹⁴ Roughly 2,000 people worked in the industrial subsector in 2007, mainly in processing factories³¹⁵ and well over half of them were women.³¹⁶ Men are involved in operations with higher profits margins, which serve markets further away and are capital intensive.³¹⁷ Some of them export unprocessed fish³¹⁸ – about 80% of which is destined to the European Union (EU) and the rest mainly to Africa and Asia³¹⁹ – as well as smoked and dried fish --- to neighboring West African countries.^{320 321} The artisanal catch of high value fish species (shrimps, soles, sea-brems, lobsters and cephalopods) are usually purchased by the industrial fishing companies for processing in the factories and exported mainly to the EU.³²²

³⁰⁵ Avadí, A. *et al.*, 2020. “Fisheries Value Chain Analysis in The Gambia. Report for the European Union, DG-DEVCO. Value Chain Analysis for Development Project.” europa.eu › file › download (accessed March 2021).

³⁰⁶ Interview with the Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Fisheries and Water Resources, Banjul, March 12, 2021.

³⁰⁷ Olleros and Hesling, “The women fish sellers of West Africa.”

³⁰⁸ *ibid.*

³⁰⁹ Ragusa, “Overview of the Fisheries Sector in the Gambia.”

³¹⁰ FAO, 2018. “Fishery Committee for The Eastern Central Atlantic, Scientific Sub-Committee, Eighth Session, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, 23-26 October 2018, Status Summary For Small Pelagic Stocks In The Northern Area of the Eastern Central Atlantic – Cefac.” CEFAC/SSCVIII/2018/2

³¹¹ UNCTAD, “The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women.”

³¹² Avadí *et al.*, “Fisheries Value Chain Analysis in The Gambia. Report for the European Union, DG-DEVCO. Value Chain Analysis for Development Project.”

³¹³ UNCTAD, “The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women.”

³¹⁴ *ibid.*

³¹⁵ Ragusa, “Overview of the Fisheries Sector in the Gambia.”

³¹⁶ Avadí *et al.*, “Fisheries Value Chain Analysis in The Gambia. Report for the European Union, DG-DEVCO. Value Chain Analysis for Development Project.”

³¹⁷ UNCTAD, “The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women.”

³¹⁸ *ibid.*

³¹⁹ Ragusa, “Overview of the Fisheries Sector in the Gambia.”

³²⁰ UNCTAD, “The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women.”

³²¹ Ragusa, “Overview of the Fisheries Sector in the Gambia.”

³²² *ibid.*

127 Such gender-based division of the economic sphere, which has consequences in terms of income generation, is based on the social norm that women are responsible for household chores and caregiving, restricting them to small-scale work around and near the house.³²³ It also stems from the inequality in access to productive assets; women tend to be allotted less attractive assets and work in units with less favorable conditions.³²⁴ At the Banjul landing site, for example, the processing unit used by women had a leaking roof, although their task was to smoke or dry fish, and no drinking water was available.³²⁵ The site had one toilet for all workers,³²⁶ but when asked, women answered that there was none on site.³²⁷ No secure storage facility existed for them, which resulted in occasional theft of their products.³²⁸ A similar situation existed at the Bintang landing site, which is located inland unlike Banjul on the coast.³²⁹ The smoking facility at Bintang was built by the EU, but without ventilation mechanism that could accommodate the intensified use, and the entire structure has dilapidated.^{330 331} The one toilet at the landing site was used by men only.³³² Defeminization of the activities is common when they start attracting investments.³³³

128 Almost all women involved in the sector, except for the younger generation, do not have formal schooling. They were trained in the trade by their mothers and do not have other livelihood skills.^{334 335} As a consequence, they are strongly committed to their occupation, and their biggest concern is the dramatic reduction in the amount of fish available for catch in the past few years.^{336 337} Due to illiteracy, they are at a great disadvantage when the business concerns written documents, especially financial matters which men tend to control.³³⁸

4.2.2 Crop Agriculture

129 Agriculture in The Gambia is rainfed, subsistence, of low degree of diversification and about 50% self-sufficient.³³⁹ Nearly 40% of the foreign exchange earnings owe to the crop subsector, which also generates about 75% of total household income.³⁴⁰ The subsector employs 70% of the labor force and accounts for slightly less than one-third of GDP.³⁴¹ According to the latest Agricultural Census of The Gambia 2011/2012, the largest primary occupation at the national level was crop farming with 90.6% of

³²³ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

³²⁴ *Ibid.*

³²⁵ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³²⁶ Interview with land site manager, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³²⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³²⁸ *Ibid.*

³²⁹ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³³⁰ *Ibid.*

³³¹ Interview with community leader, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³³² Interview with land site manager, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³³³ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

³³⁴ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³³⁵ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³³⁶ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³³⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³³⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³³⁹ FAO, 2021. "Gambia at a Glance." FAO in Gambia.

<http://www.fao.org/gambia/gambia-at-a-glance/en/> (accessed March 2021).

³⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

³⁴¹ *Ibid.*

the total population aged 10 or above and engaged.³⁴² Close to half of the same population named crop farming as their secondary occupation.³⁴³

130 Women in The Gambia appear to devote less time than the average African women to agriculture at 30%, compared to 60-80% in Cameroon.³⁴⁴ Nonetheless, approximately half of the full-time farmers are estimated to be women, who contribute to about 70% of all crop food production despite their low productivity, which is caused by lack of access, control and ownership of productive resources (e.g., land, credit, technology and extension services).³⁴⁵ Around 2010, women produced 80% of vegetables and 99% of rice,³⁴⁶ crops which are considered women's. It is not women alone who take care of all stages of vegetables and rice production. Men prepare the land for both vegetables and rice. They also join women in rice harvesting.

131 Men are heavily involved in cultivation of cash crops, such as groundnut, as well as *coos* (pearl millet),³⁴⁷ cassava and corn,³⁴⁸ which are considered men's crops. As is the case with vegetables and rice, men are *not* exclusively responsible from land preparation to sale; for example, shelling of groundnuts is done mainly by women.³⁴⁹ In other words, "women's" and "men's" crops refer to those that each group has control over and for which they solicit the others' help as necessary.³⁵⁰ In areas where rice production has become impossible due to saltwater intrusion, women grow the same crops as men, but independently.³⁵¹

132 The separation of tasks is such that the knowledge on crops is also gender dependent.³⁵² Women and men from the same compound work independently from one another without sharing labor and other inputs that are applicable to both.³⁵³ One motivation for such separation is thought to be prevention of control exertion concerning what is considered their own production processes, especially for women.³⁵⁴ In fact, rice used to be a women's crop, but the adoption of centralized pump irrigation transformed rice into a community crop under the authority of the male compound head, although the irrigation was designed and introduced to benefit women.³⁵⁵ It was also noted that women in The Gambia are willing to trade some autonomy in exchange for greater male participation in shelling groundnuts, which eased the post-harvest bottleneck and reduced drudgery for women.³⁵⁶ They also saw it as an opportunity to

³⁴² Republic of The Gambia, 2012. "Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia, 2011/2012: Volume 1: Background and Methodology."
http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/ess_test_folder/World_Census_Agriculture/Country_info_2010/Reports/Reports_6/GAM_REP_ENG_2011_2012.pdf (accessed March 2021).

³⁴³ *ibid.*

³⁴⁴ Palacios-Lopez, A. *et al.*, 2017. "How much of the labor in African agriculture is provided by women?" *Food Policy*. Volume 67, 52-63.

³⁴⁵ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

³⁴⁶ *ibid.*

³⁴⁷ *ibid.*

³⁴⁸ Nuiten, E., 2010. "Gender and management of crop diversity in The Gambia," *Journal of Political Ecology*. Vol. 17, Issue 1, 42-58.

³⁴⁹ Orr, A., *et al.*, 2015. "What do we mean by 'women's crops'? Commercialisation, gender, and the power to name" Presented at the International Conference of Agricultural Economists, Milan, 8-15 August 2015.
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/219473864.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

³⁵⁰ *ibid.*

³⁵¹ Nuiten, "Gender and management of crop diversity in The Gambia."

³⁵² *ibid.*

³⁵³ *ibid.*

³⁵⁴ *ibid.*

³⁵⁵ Doss, C.R. 1999. *Twenty-Five Years of Research on Women Farmers in Africa: Lessons and Implications for Agricultural Research Institutions; with an Annotated Bibliography*. CIMMYT Economics Program Paper No. 99-02. Mexico D.F.: CIMMYT

³⁵⁶ Orr *et al.*, "What do we mean by 'women's crops'? Commercialisation, gender, and the power to name."

increase income for the household and not as a threat which may erode their control over operations and finance.³⁵⁷

133 When vegetable gardens were introduced in The Gambia, there was a debate over whose crops they should be.³⁵⁸ It is said to have ended in a compromise but with significant power given to women,³⁵⁹ as witnessed by the gender categorization of vegetables today. While vegetable gardens promoted by development agencies are generally believed to have contributed significantly to economic empowerment of women,³⁶⁰ some think many of them are white elephants without adequate water supply, fences or proper organization among women for the task.³⁶¹ Some men are quite willing to venture into the trade, as they see well equipped plots and the income it generates.³⁶² Vegetables grown include: tomatoes, onions, eggplant, bitter tomatoes, sweet pepper, lettuce, and hot pepper.³⁶³ Okra was grown by 63.1% of the agricultural households in the country, followed by 56.5% growing hot pepper in 2011/2012.³⁶⁴

4.2.3 Livestock

134 According to the latest Agricultural Census of The Gambia 2011/2012, 0.8% of the population aged 10 and above engaged in livestock work as their primary occupation.³⁶⁵ Over 3% of the same population were engaged in livestock keeping as a secondary occupation.³⁶⁶ When compared with the previous Census 2001/2002, the number of cattle increased by roughly 20% and so did sheep and goats.³⁶⁷ Nearly 40% of households owned cattle, over 60% goats, over 35% sheep, 40% donkeys, over 10% horses, 0.9% pigs, over 40% chicken and other poultry in 2011/2012.³⁶⁸ Many households in Banjul keep pigeons and some keep ducks³⁶⁹ and sheep.³⁷⁰ Horses and donkeys are widely used for transport operations in both urban and rural areas, pulling a two-wheel cart to carry people and various goods, in addition to field and farm work.³⁷¹ It is common for each household to keep several types of animals.³⁷²

135 While cattle is considered “men’s” animal, well over 10% of cattle was owned by women.³⁷³ Although small ruminants, such as goats and sheep, are “women’s” animal, only roughly a quarter to one-

³⁵⁷ *ibid.*

³⁵⁸ *ibid.*

³⁵⁹ *ibid.*

³⁶⁰ Nuiten, “Gender and management of crop diversity in The Gambia.”

³⁶¹ Adaptation Fund Board, 2019. “Proposal for The Gambia.”

https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AFB.PPRC_.25.21-Proposal-for-the-Gambia.pdf (accessed March 2021).

³⁶² Focused group discussion with youth, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³⁶³ Sabab Lou, 2017. “The Gambia – Vegetable gardens are in full bloom.”

<https://www.sabab-lou.de/en/vegetable-gardens-in-bloom/> (accessed March 2021).

³⁶⁴ Republic of The Gambia, “Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia, 2011/2012: Volume 1: Background and Methodology.”

³⁶⁵ *ibid.*

³⁶⁶ *ibid.*

³⁶⁷ *ibid.*

³⁶⁸ *ibid.*

³⁶⁹ Wilson, R.T., 2018. “Domestic Livestock in African Cities: Production, Problems and Prospects.” *Open Urban Studies and Demography Journal*. Vol. 4, 1-14.

<https://openurbanstudiesanddemographyjournal.com/VOLUME/4/PAGE/1/FULLTEXT/> (accessed March 2021).

³⁷⁰ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 9-10, 2021.

³⁷¹ Wilson, “Domestic Livestock in African Cities: Production, Problems and Prospects.”

³⁷² *ibid.*

³⁷³ Republic of The Gambia, “Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia, 2011/2012: Volume 1: Background and Methodology.”

third of them were owned by women in 2011/2012.³⁷⁴ Women in the rural areas identified sheep and goats as the most important animals for them.³⁷⁵ Women participate in keeping of all animals in one way or another, except for cattle reared in the open. Women are involved in collecting milk, which is a process of low efficiency due to lack of: easy access to the market; hygienic containers and cooling facilities.³⁷⁶ There were eight dairy cooperatives in the country in 2016, through which women produced yoghurt and ghee.³⁷⁷

4.2.4 Household Work

136 Data pertaining to less than 40% of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators are collected in The Gambia, including unpaid care and domestic work.³⁷⁸ The focus groups discussion with women processors associated with the Banjul landing site revealed that while they spend their time processing/selling at the site, their female relatives or hired-hands take care of the household work and caregiving, with the processors/sellers themselves supplementing two hours per day.³⁷⁹ During the weekends, they spent about eight hours per day; men did not help in household chores or caregiving.³⁸⁰ The female youth joined their cash-earning mothers when the workload become heavy, such as during the oyster seasons in Tambi.³⁸¹

137 In rural communities, women depended on female relatives for household work and caregiving, while women with outside work spent up to four hours per day to cook.³⁸² If there were no elderly women or children old enough to take care of younger siblings at home, mothers took children with them to their work location,³⁸³ which was perceived as a difficult situation.³⁸⁴ Such labor division between women who earn cash income and those who stay at home, usually the young, to look after the house is common in The Gambia.³⁸⁵

138 Gambian girls regularly perform a wide range of activities including cooking, cleaning, washing, sewing and looking after younger siblings, whereas boys are expected to sweep the compound, to run errands, or to accompany younger brothers and sisters to school; this gender disparity is in line with the social norm that domestic chores are women's work.³⁸⁶ One young man in Bintang said he helps his wife with work around the house, such as sweeping and cooking.³⁸⁷

³⁷⁴ *ibid.*

³⁷⁵ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kante and Kartong, March 12-20, 2021.

³⁷⁶ Touray, "Review of the Livestock/Meat and Milk Value Chains and Policy Influencing Them in The Gambia."

³⁷⁷ *ibid.*

³⁷⁸ UN Women, 2021. "Gambia," Women Count.

<https://data.unwomen.org/country/gambia> (accessed March 2021).

³⁷⁹ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³⁸⁰ *ibid.*

³⁸¹ Focused group discussion with women involved in oyster harvesting and processing, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021.

³⁸² Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

³⁸³ *ibid.*

³⁸⁴ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

³⁸⁵ Chant and Jones, "Youth, Gender and Livelihoods in West Africa: Perspectives from Ghana and The Gambia."

³⁸⁶ *ibid.*

³⁸⁷ Focused group discussion with youth, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

4.2.5 Supplementary Income

139 An overwhelming majority of households report crop agriculture as primary occupation, and the most prevalent secondary occupation is crop farming.³⁸⁸ Most families have diverse sources of income; non-farm employment (especially trade) and remittances are important sources besides crop agriculture.³⁸⁹

140 In general, children start participating in unpaid work around the house, including family farm plots, at around 7-8 years of age.³⁹⁰ As many as half of the children aged 11-12 in 2005 were likely to have engaged in part-time remunerated work – such as assistance to relatives at market stalls and in small family businesses – or engagement in own-account informal services and commerce – such as running errands or street-vending.³⁹¹ Children may devote to these activities 1-2 hours before or after school hours as well as weekends;³⁹² nearly one-fifth of children aged 5-11 worked at least one hour per week in 2018, with higher frequency among boys than girls and in the rural than in the urban areas.³⁹³ Among children aged 12-14, 12.8% worked 14 hours or more per week, with almost equal participation between girls and boys.³⁹⁴ Among those aged 15-17, 0.9% worked 43 hours or more per week: 1.5% among boys and 0.4% among girls.³⁹⁵ The children's engagement in work roughly decreases with the mothers' education and wealth, but not smoothly, suggesting variety in the nature of work that the children undertake.

141 The children's eagerness to contribute to household income was said to be not only motivated by poverty, but also by strong sense of obligation to return to their parents what they owe for their existence.³⁹⁶ Muslim youth in The Gambia believe that the more one does for one's parents, the more blessings one accrues.³⁹⁷ Nowadays their own material well-being also plays a factor.

142 In 2018, about a quarter of the children aged 5-17 were involved in child labor: girls slightly more than boys, proportionately more than twice as much rural children as urban children, and proportionately more children from poorer households.³⁹⁸ Over 15% of the same age group worked under hazardous conditions: boys slightly more than girls, proportionately more than twice as much in the rural than in the urban areas, and proportionately more from poorer households.³⁹⁹ Overall 13.6% of children worked at or above age-specific threshold; the proportion of children working above age-specific threshold decreased with household wealth.⁴⁰⁰

143 The majority of children participate in household chores across age groups, and the gender gap is about 10 percentage-points or less for each age group: 5-11, 12-14 and 15-17 years old.⁴⁰¹ Neither the

³⁸⁸ Republic of The Gambia, "Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia, 2011/2012: Volume 1: Background and Methodology."

³⁸⁹ *ibid.*

³⁹⁰ Chant and Jones, "Youth, Gender and Livelihoods in West Africa: Perspectives from Ghana and The Gambia."

³⁹¹ *ibid.*

³⁹² *ibid.*

³⁹³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

³⁹⁴ *ibid.*

³⁹⁵ *ibid.*

³⁹⁶ Chant and Jones, "Youth, Gender and Livelihoods in West Africa: Perspectives from Ghana and The Gambia."

³⁹⁷ *ibid.*

³⁹⁸ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

³⁹⁹ *ibid.*

⁴⁰⁰ *ibid.*

⁴⁰¹ *ibid.*

mothers' education nor wealth level seemed seem to reflect the amount of household chores. About 4% of them engaged in household chores above age-specific threshold: girls overwhelmingly more than boys, and more in the rural than in the urban areas.⁴⁰²

144 Human trafficking, involving both nationals and foreigners, has been a long-standing issue in The Gambia and has not yet shown a clear sign of abatement.⁴⁰³ As of 2018, no conviction has been made under the Trafficking in Persons Act 2007,⁴⁰⁴ and the reported cases of human trafficking and forced labor according to the government has been less than 20 per year for the period of 2011-2016.⁴⁰⁵ Concerning mostly women and girls, some are trafficked abroad, while others are subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor in street vending and domestic work.⁴⁰⁶ Although boys are involved to a lesser extent, the number of boys exploited in sex trafficking is estimated to be on the rise.⁴⁰⁷ Gambian children were found by NGOs in forced labor in neighboring West African countries.⁴⁰⁸ Gambian migrants attempting to travel to Europe through irregular routes are vulnerable to trafficking and abuse.⁴⁰⁹ Between January 2017 and October 2018, an international organization repatriated at least 3,500 Gambians from Libya, many of whom were at risk for trafficking.⁴¹⁰ The National Agency against Trafficking in Persons (NAATIP) with the assistance of international partners such as UNICEF has organized training activities for law enforcement officials to build capacity in the prevention and detection of human trafficking.⁴¹¹ NAATIP also organizes sensitization missions for communities around border posts on the dangers of human trafficking.⁴¹²

145 Commercial sexual exploitation is said to take place in the Tourism Development Area – around hotels, restaurants and nightclubs – and in densely populated and impoverished areas.⁴¹³ Some corrupt Madrassa teachers are said to force their male students into begging, street vending, and agricultural work.⁴¹⁴ ⁴¹⁵ Children living and working on the streets and beaches, in addition to stateless and undocumented children are exposed to high risks of trafficking and exploitation.⁴¹⁶ So are the children working in family farms, in the informal sector, in petty trading and in domestic work at home, as well as children forced to work in the farms of *marabout*⁴¹⁷ (religious teacher). There is no comprehensive data regarding children on the streets.⁴¹⁸

⁴⁰² *ibid.*

⁴⁰³ U.S. Department of State, 2020. "2020 Trafficking in Persons Report: The Gambia."

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-trafficking-in-persons-report/gambia/> (accessed February 2020).

⁴⁰⁴ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2021. "End of mission statement of the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, on her visit to The Gambia (21- 29 October 2019)."

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25235&LangID=E> (accessed February 2021).

⁴⁰⁵ United Nations, 2018. "List of issues in the absence of the second periodic report of the Gambia, Addendum: Replies of the Gambia to the list of issues." Human Rights Council, 123rd Session, 2-27 July 2018. CCPR/C/GMB/Q/2/Add.1

⁴⁰⁶ U.S. Department of State, "2020 Trafficking in Persons Report: The Gambia."

⁴⁰⁷ *ibid.*

⁴⁰⁸ *ibid.*

⁴⁰⁹ *ibid.*

⁴¹⁰ *ibid.*

⁴¹¹ United Nations, "List of issues in the absence of the second periodic report of the Gambia, Addendum: Replies of the Gambia to the list of issues."

⁴¹² *ibid.*

⁴¹³ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "End of mission statement of the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, on her visit to The Gambia (21- 29 October 2019)."

⁴¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "2020 Trafficking in Persons Report: The Gambia."

⁴¹⁵ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "End of mission statement of the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, on her visit to The Gambia (21- 29 October 2019)."

⁴¹⁶ *ibid.*

⁴¹⁷ *ibid.*

⁴¹⁸ *ibid.*

4.2.6 Decision Making and Autonomy

146 **Overall:** Men are by default the heads of households, about 84% of the households in The Gambia.⁴¹⁹ According to focus group discussions and interviews with community leaders, women and youth are consulted in decisions related to their work, but they do not have the same decision making power as adult men.⁴²⁰ In case the parents are involved in the same work as the youth, the parents speak for all.⁴²¹ At home, women make decisions on day-to-day issues^{422 423} and are consulted for bigger family matters such as inheritance, but the husband is the ultimate decision maker of each household.⁴²⁴ In 2013, close to 40% of women aged 15-49 participated in making decisions on all of: own health care; major household purchases; and visiting family.⁴²⁵

147 **Income:** Women keep the income obtained through their own economic activities, and some in the urban areas use the income to hire a worker to take care of the household work.⁴²⁶ The husbands give a portion of their incomes to wives, who use the money and their own income to purchase food as well as clothes for themselves and the children.⁴²⁷ Some put their children through school with their income, especially in the urban areas.⁴²⁸ It is common that the everyday needs of the household is met mainly by the wives' income with husbands' supplementing as they wish.

148 In contrast to cattle, income from the sale of small ruminants is mainly managed by women owners.⁴²⁹ It was reported that a 2019 qualitative study on gender and intra-household allocation in The Gambia showed that 58% of respondents, which included women and men, preferred husbands to receive cash transfers.⁴³⁰ When a group of women establishes a bank account to keep their funds, it is commonly a man who is assigned the role of signatory of the accounts.⁴³¹ According to another survey published in 2019, between 75% and 90% of women were the sole decision maker on how to use their savings, loans, and remittances, and most of them did not access formal loans.⁴³² For formal loans, a guarantor is required, but not restricted to a male person. In sum, women are mostly in control of their own earnings, but tend to shy away from assuming control when it involves official institutions, implying that it is the

⁴¹⁹ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

⁴²⁰ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling and interviews with community leader, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kenteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴²¹ Interview with community leader, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021

⁴²² Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁴²³ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13 2021.

⁴²⁴ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling and interviews with community leader, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kenteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴²⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Women participating in the three decisions (own health care, major household purchases, and visiting family) (% of women age 15-49) – Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.DMK.ALLD.FN.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁴²⁶ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁴²⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling and interviews with community leader, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kenteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴²⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁴²⁹ The Republic of Gambia, "The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026."

⁴³⁰ Bah, T., 2020. "From the smiling coast of Africa to the world: What The Gambia can teach us about women and household empowerment." World Bank Blogs.

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/african/smiling-coast-africa-world-what-gambia-can-teach-us-about-women-and-household-empowerment> (accessed March 2021).

⁴³¹ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁴³² UNCDF, 2019. "PoWER assessment of Women's Economic Empowerment in The Gambia."

<https://www.uncdf.org/Download/AdminFileWithFilename?id=9423&cultureId=127&filename=091019-wee-thegambia-powerpdf> (accessed March 2021).

widespread illiteracy among women that is preventing them from taking advantage of formal financial services.

149 **Assets:** The Constitution of The Gambia 1997 declares that women and men have equal rights but also incorporates the customary law and *shari'a*, which are not necessarily compatible with the provision of equal rights. It has been observed that the political will is not strong enough to repeal the provisions of Section 33(5) of the 1997 Constitution and the like in other laws, such as the Women's Act, which allows personal law to supersede and renders discrimination laws inapplicable to adoption, marriage, burial and devolution of property on death.⁴³³

150 Land tenure systems are governed by statutory norms and customary practices, and the latter prevails in the rural areas.⁴³⁴ Under the customary tenure arrangements, heads of lineages and households tightly control the use, lending, rental and inheritance of land.^{435 436} Inheritance is governed mostly by *shari'a* and customary law; *qur'an* allocates daughters half the share of their brothers, and customary law excludes women from land inheritance, while for widows inheritance of her husband's property is possible through remarrying a member of her husband's family.⁴³⁷ The focus group discussions indicated that the Inheritance issues are discussed by the family but the husbands make the final decisions.⁴³⁸ Women may establish bank accounts to keep their funds, but it is the men who become the signatories of the accounts, partly because of higher prevalence of illiteracy among women.⁴³⁹ Women own the tools and equipment that they bought for their own trade, commonly except for boats.⁴⁴⁰

151 **Farming:** Men are mainly responsible for physically demanding work (e.g., land preparation), and women for work that requires dexterity (e.g., groundnut shelling), but some tasks (e.g., rice harvesting) are done by both. Men may become involved in processing⁴⁴¹ if it has a clear possibility of bringing in cash. There are women's crops and animals, as well as men's crops and animals to designate which group has the ultimate control. Men's crops and animals usually generate more income, whereas the women's receive less attention and investment.⁴⁴² Although vegetables are considered mostly women's crops, men are ready to engage in it thanks to the assistance by the donors and the earning that the products bring.⁴⁴³

152 **Health:** About two-fifths of women of reproductive age had decision-making power over their own reproductive health, but wives viewed sexual relations as something that husbands were justly entitled to. Nearly 40% of women aged 15-49 in 2013 participated in making decisions on all of: own health care; major household purchases; and visiting family.⁴⁴⁴ Over 40% of the same age group of women

⁴³³ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

⁴³⁴ FAO, 2021. "Gambia." Gender and Land Rights Database.

http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/country-profiles/countries-list/land-tenure-and-related-institutions/en/?country_iso3=GMB (accessed March 2021).

⁴³⁵ *ibid.*

⁴³⁶ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁴³⁷ Wikigender, "Africa for Women's Rights: Gambia."

⁴³⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling and interviews with community leader, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kenteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴³⁹ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁴⁴⁰ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling and interviews with community leader, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Njoben, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kenteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴⁴¹ Orr *et al.*, "What do we mean by 'women's crops'? Commercialisation, gender, and the power to name."

⁴⁴² UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

⁴⁴³ Focused group discussion with youth, Njoben, March 12, 2021.

⁴⁴⁴ World Bank, 2021. "Women participating in the three decisions (own health care, major household purchases, and visiting family) (% of women age 15-49)."

made their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care.⁴⁴⁵ In the same year, 44.7% of women believed that a husband is justified in beating his wife when she refuses to have sex with him.⁴⁴⁶

153 **Violence:** It was estimated in 2020 that about one in three women in The Gambia experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime, similar to the global prevalence rate.⁴⁴⁷ In 2013, 7.3% of Gambian women aged 15-49 subjected to physical or sexual violence in the last 12 months.⁴⁴⁸ Sexual and gender-based violence is thought to have become a common practice at households, community and state levels.⁴⁴⁹ Men see their ability to provide, food, shelter and clothing for their households as the source of their legitimacy as an authority over their household.⁴⁵⁰ The latest pandemic has led to loss of jobs and possibility of questioning the authority, which is likely to drive men to violence in order to ensure that they continue to exert power and authority over their wives and households.⁴⁵¹ The incidents are largely unreported due to impunity, silence, stigma and fear.⁴⁵²

154 In 2018, 75.7% of girls and women aged 15-49 had undergone female genital mutilation (FGM).⁴⁵³ The practice was more prevalent in the urban areas (77.3%) than in the rural areas (71.1%) and so was the opinion among women that it should be continued (44.6% of urban women versus 42.5% of rural women).⁴⁵⁴ Women who were aware of the law prohibiting FGM were 93.1% and 89.2% in the urban and rural areas, respectively, and those against FGM were 47.7% and 52.0% in the urban and rural areas, respectively.⁴⁵⁵ Each age group of women were approximately evenly split between for and against FGM.⁴⁵⁶ The majority of women who had no FGM experience thought it should be discontinued (86.0%), while the majority with the experience thought it should be continued (55.7%).⁴⁵⁷ Among the ethnicities compared (Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola, Sarahule and other ethnic groups), Mandinka (95.3%) and Sarahule (94.0%) women aged 15-49 were most likely to have gone through FGM, while Wolof women of

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.DMK.ALLD.FN.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁴⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Women making their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care (% of women age 15-49) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.DMK.SRCR.FN.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁴⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she refuses sex with him (%) - Gambia, The"

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.REFU.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁴⁷ The Commonwealth, 2020. "The Gambia announces plans to launch national 'NO MORE' campaign against domestic violence."

<https://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/gambia-announces-plans-launch-national-%E2%80%98no-more%E2%80%99-campaign-against-domestic-violence> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁴⁸ World Bank, 2021. "Proportion of women subjected to physical and/or sexual violence in the last 12 months (% of women age 15-49)." <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.1549.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁴⁹ Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa and the Gambia Center for Victims of Human Rights Violations, 2020. "Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in The Gambia: A Handbook."

<https://www.ihrda.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Handbook-on-SGBV-in-The-Gambia-FINAL.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁵⁰ UNFPA, 2020. "The Parallel Pandemic: Domestic and Gender Based Violence during COVID-19 in The Gambia."

https://gambia.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Policy%20Brief%20on%20The%20Parallel%20Pandemic_%20Domestic%20and%20Gender%20Based%20Violence%20during%20COVID-19%20in%20The%20Gambia.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁴⁵¹ *ibid.*

⁴⁵² The Commonwealth, "The Gambia announces plans to launch national 'NO MORE' campaign against domestic violence."

⁴⁵³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁵⁴ *ibid.*

⁴⁵⁵ *ibid.*

⁴⁵⁶ *ibid.*

⁴⁵⁷ *ibid.*

the same age were much less likely (13.7%).⁴⁵⁸ The second less likely Gambian group was other smaller ethnic groups at 49.4%.⁴⁵⁹ In terms of wealth, it was the least approved by the poorest and the richest quintiles (slightly over 40%) and most approved by the middle quintile at 63.4%.⁴⁶⁰

155 Child marriage remains common; in 2018, 9.5% of women aged 15-49 were married before turning 15, and the rate was 12.9% in the rural areas. By contrast, only 0.3% of men aged 15-49 were married before the age of 15 in the same year.⁴⁶¹ Most marriages are not officially registered and many instances of forced marriage are not reported.⁴⁶²

156 In 2015 and 2016, the Women's Act and Children's Act were revised to legally prohibit FGM and child marriage.⁴⁶³ Various organs were also established in the recent years in relation to violence against women: a gender unit in 2014 by the Attorney General's Chambers to train police officers, prosecutors and law enforcement on gender and sexual and gender-based violence; Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare in 2019; National Human Rights Commission in 2019; community child protection committees; and youth neighborhood watch groups.⁴⁶⁴ Effective enforcement of these laws is weak due to: lack of awareness of the existence of these laws with ensuing penalties; lack of adequate human, technical financial and administrative capacity to oversee and respond to reported cases, including child-friendly services and assistance to victims.⁴⁶⁵ The fear or concern that girls may engage in premarital sex is considered the main reason for FGM and early marriage.⁴⁶⁶ Where one of the two is common, the other is practiced less, indicating interchangeable nature.⁴⁶⁷ The culture favors informal settling of problems and sees sex as a taboo subject between generations, deterring children from reporting their experiences.⁴⁶⁸ As of 2019, no alleged perpetrator of sale, sexual abuse/exploitation or human trafficking was known to have been prosecuted or convicted.⁴⁶⁹

157 Nearly a quarter of mothers and caretakers of children aged 1-14 believed in 2018 that physical punishment is required to raise and educate a child properly, and the rate was slightly higher in rural than in urban areas.⁴⁷⁰ The rate decreased with the mothers' and caretakers' education to about 20% and a similar trend was seen for the wealth level.⁴⁷¹

158 Women think that violence inflicted by the husbands is justified when the wife neglects the children (35.3% in 2013 and 34.6% in 2018),⁴⁷² when she burns the food (10.6% in 2013 and 11.8% in

⁴⁵⁸ *ibid.*

⁴⁵⁹ *ibid.*

⁴⁶⁰ *ibid.*

⁴⁶¹ *ibid.*

⁴⁶² Tahirih Justice Center, "Forced Marriage Overseas: The Gambia."

⁴⁶³ UN Women and Commonwealth Secretariat, *Towards Reversing Discrimination In Law*.

⁴⁶⁴ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "End of mission statement of the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, on her visit to The Gambia (21- 29 October 2019)."

⁴⁶⁵ *ibid.*

⁴⁶⁶ Lowe *et al.*, "Social and cultural factors perpetuating early marriage in rural Gambia: an exploratory mixed methods study."

⁴⁶⁷ *ibid.*

⁴⁶⁸ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, "End of mission statement of the UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, on her visit to The Gambia (21- 29 October 2019)."

⁴⁶⁹ *ibid.*

⁴⁷⁰ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷¹ *ibid.*

⁴⁷² World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she neglects the children (%) - Gambia, The"

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.NEGL.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

2018),⁴⁷³ when she argues with him (24.1% in 2013 and 22.1% in 2018),⁴⁷⁴ when she goes out without telling him (42.0% in 2013 and 31.8% in 2018)⁴⁷⁵ and when she refuses to have sex with him (44.7% in 2013 and 36.5% in 2018).⁴⁷⁶ Nearly 60% of women in 2013 and 50% in 2018 were of the opinion that any of these five reasons was justified in beating the wife.⁴⁷⁷ In 2018, women in the poorest quintile in wealth were most approving of beating by the husband (52.1%) and the approval rate diminished with increasing wealth (11.8% for the richest).⁴⁷⁸ Among the ethnicities compared (Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola, Sarahule and other ethnic groups), Sarahule women (59.2%) were most likely to approve of beatings, while Jola women much less likely (14.8%).⁴⁷⁹ Such condonation of violence from the husbands may be partly explained by women's desire to maintain their marriage and their belief that the key is to keep the husband content by allowing him have his way.

159 The men themselves were much less likely to think that beating was justified for any of the above reasons (Table 11). The attitude of men mirrored that of women of the same ethnicity, but at a much lower level of approval of domestic violence; 26.6% for Sarahule men and 5.6% for Jola men.⁴⁸⁰ The younger the men were, the more likely to be approving of violence, although the rate saw a small resurgence for the age group 35-39.⁴⁸¹ The attitude among women was more stable among various age groups.⁴⁸²

Table 11: Attitude toward Domestic Violence⁴⁸³

	Percentage of persons aged 15-49 who think believe a husband is justified in beating his wife if she:											
	neglects the children		burns the food		argues with him		goes out without telling him		refuses to have sex with him		Any of the five reasons	
Year	2013	2018	2013	2018	2013	2018	2013	2018	2013	2018	2013	2018
Women	35.3	34.6	10.6	11.8	24.1	22.1	42.0	31.8	44.7	36.5	58.4	49.9
Men	n.a.	15.4	n.a.	3.7	n.a.	8.8	n.a.	12.1	n.a.	12.3	n.a.	26.3

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2019) and World Bank (2021).

⁴⁷³ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she burns the food (%) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.BURN.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁴ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she argues with him (%) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.ARGU.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she goes out without telling him (%) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.GOES.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife when she refuses sex with him (%) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.VAW.REFU.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁷ World Bank, "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife (any of five reasons) (%) - Gambia, The."

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁸ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁴⁷⁹ *ibid.*

⁴⁸⁰ *ibid.*

⁴⁸¹ *ibid.*

⁴⁸² *ibid.*

⁴⁸³ World Bank, "Women who believe a husband is justified in beating his wife (any of five reasons) (%) - Gambia, The."

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

4.2.7 Conflict Resolution

160 **Community:** All community leaders interviewed, be it the landing-site user communities or villages, emphasized the importance of dialogues in conflict resolution and not escalating the case to the formal court.⁴⁸⁴ The landing-site community manager at Banjul added that dialogues are important for unity among the members, which is a moral lesson to be bequeathed to the future generation.⁴⁸⁵ The leader in Jahally reported grievance resolution by the Village Development Committee – which is required by the government to have at least 30% female members – before resorting to the formal system.⁴⁸⁶ In Medina Lamin Kanteh, a council of elders were in charge of conflict resolution for most cases, including those related to aid projects, but a committee of Muslim elders, involving elders from other communities, made judgements on more weighty issues, such as land conflict.⁴⁸⁷ The leaders were all male and asserted that both women and youth are consulted in the decision making process.

161 **Household:** When asked who in the family is responsible for material needs, women tend to answer that it is the husband, as did the women in Jahally.⁴⁸⁸ In practice, it is the women who spend their income for daily family needs supplemented by whatever proportion of their own income that husbands give to the wives. Women are consulted on decisions regarding assets, inheritance and marriage, but it is the husbands who have the final say. Women allow men to have such power, because they know that otherwise men may be discontented and create problems for the marriage and the household. If women are dissatisfied with a donor's project, they are willing to go to the officials themselves to have them resolved as long as it does not inconvenience their husbands.

4.3 Access to Resources and Services

4.3.1 Land, Crops, Animals, Equipment and Infrastructure

162 As discussed above, women do not own or inherit land, but have access to land through their male family members and shoulder a fair share or more of the agricultural work.⁴⁸⁹ The land in the rural areas is customarily controlled by the traditional chiefs (*alkalo*) who allocates parcels within the village boundaries to villagers according to their needs; conflicts erupt when outsiders gain access. The so-called women's crops are mainly non-cash crops, but vegetables are an exception to the rule. Women's animals are also small ruminants and poultry, which tend to bring in less cash and whose ownership belonged overwhelmingly to men in 2011/2012.⁴⁹⁰

163 Women are often allotted the least attractive units of infrastructure, which tends to receive less attention and investment.⁴⁹¹ Equipment and related infrastructure may be donated explicitly for women, but since the users are not sufficiently consulted, they may turn out to be inconvenient or not properly functional to the extent that they are abandoned by the intended users. In Tambi, for example, the donated oyster roasters are not in use, as the distance between the flame and the oysters cannot be adjusted to consume less fuel.⁴⁹² The smoking facility constructed by a donor in Bintang does not have

⁴⁸⁴ Interviews with community leaders, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁴⁸⁵ Interview with community leader, Banjul landing site, March 9-10, 2021.

⁴⁸⁶ Interview with community leader, Jahally, March 17, 2021.

⁴⁸⁷ Interview with community leader, Medina Lamin Kanteh, March 18, 2021.

⁴⁸⁸ Focused group discussions with women involved in rice farming, Jahally, March 17, 2021.

⁴⁸⁹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

⁴⁹⁰ Republic of The Gambia, "Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia, 2011/2012: Volume 1: Background and Methodology."

⁴⁹¹ UNCTAD, "The fisheries sector in the Gambia: trade, value addition and social inclusiveness, with a focus on women."

⁴⁹² Focused group discussion with women involved in oyster harvesting and processing, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021

appropriate ventilation mechanism, putting women's health at risk.⁴⁹³ Some of the smoking ovens have disintegrated from use over the years, but women do not have the capacity to repair them.⁴⁹⁴ Women own instruments needed for harvesting and processing oysters⁴⁹⁵ as well as fish processing,^{496 497} but not the boats which are necessary for oyster harvesting.⁴⁹⁸

4.3.2 Extension Services

164 **Fishery:** The Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources provides extension services in fishery and aquaculture through its Department of Fisheries.⁴⁹⁹ In 2010, the Department had 33 extension staff, covering about 25,000 rural households.⁵⁰⁰ The female processors/sellers at the Banjul and Bintang landing sites reported that they are trained by the extension workers of the Department of Forestry on management and fish handling.^{501 502} The processors/sellers in Bintang indicated that any important issue related to their work is also communicated to them by the extension workers.⁵⁰³ Those in Banjul saw halting the overexploitation of small fish by industrial fishermen more important to their livelihoods than trainings.⁵⁰⁴

165 Food and Agriculture Sector Development Project (FASDEP), a FAO project funded by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), contained technical assistance on aquaculture, but the content was not reported.⁵⁰⁵ The farmers involved had ponds created under the project, but the sustainability of their aquaculture activities is yet to be seen, as the interviewed farmers did not seem to have clear ideas on how to proceed without the inputs from the project.⁵⁰⁶

166 **Agriculture:** Agricultural extension workers and services have been widely acknowledged as scarce and inadequate in the country by all stakeholders.^{507 508} The Ministry of Agriculture counted 829 extension officers, which meant one officer per 1,000 farmers, according to a report in 2019.⁵⁰⁹ The

⁴⁹³ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling and interview with community leader, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁴⁹⁴ *ibid.*

⁴⁹⁵ Focused group discussion with women involved in oyster harvesting and processing, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021

⁴⁹⁶ Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling and interview with community leader, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁴⁹⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁴⁹⁸ Focused group discussion with women involved in oyster harvesting and processing, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021

⁴⁹⁹ Qamar, M. K., 2014. "Gambia." Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services.

<https://www.g-fras.org/en/world-wide-extension-study/africa/western-africa/gambia.html#extension-providers> (accessed March 2021).

⁵⁰⁰ *ibid.*

⁵⁰¹ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁵⁰² Focused group discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Bintang landing site, March 13, 2021.

⁵⁰³ *ibid.*

⁵⁰⁴ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁵⁰⁵ FAO, 2020. "Technical Assistance Component of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme in The Gambia, the Gambia Project: Findings and Recommendations."

https://www.gafspfund.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/GAM029GAM-FinalVersZZ_0.pdf (accessed April 2021).

⁵⁰⁶ Interview with FASDEP beneficiaries in Nyaniberreh and Lamin, April 8, 2021.

⁵⁰⁷ The Point, 2013. "Extension services key to agriculture." *The Point*. 23 July 2013.

<https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/article/extension-services-key-to-agriculture> (accessed March 2021).

⁵⁰⁸ Adaptation Fund Board, 2019. "Proposal for The Gambia."

https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/AFB.PPRC_.26.b.7-Proposal-for-The-Gambia.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁵⁰⁹ FAO and ECOWAS Commission, 2019. "National Gender Profile of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods – The Gambia." Banjul: FAO.

activities of the Communication, Extension and Education Services Unit of the Ministry included: printing of leaflets, booklet, posters, etc.; design and facilitation of the training-of-trainers; planning and coordination of sensitization programmes and national farmer training programmes with regional offices.⁵¹⁰ The topics covered by the service were: agricultural inputs; soil and water management; food and nutrition management; horticulture; training; and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).⁵¹¹

167 The lackluster performance of the extension system was attributed in 2017 to: inadequate training on outreach activities on a continuous basis; inadequate resources; large extension worker/famer ratio; limited knowledge and skills of some extension workers in sustainable agricultural production; and lack of robust mobility system that enables timely and effective delivery of the services.⁵¹² Around 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture identified three constraints in the sector, one of which was insufficient extension services, and the Department of Community Development of the Ministry of Lands and Regional Government indicated that their community engagement skills need to be updated to meet the differential needs of women, the youth, the disabled and so on.⁵¹³

168 Around 2020, the Planning Support Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture pointed to the low number and inadequate organization of extension workers as well as lack of transportation means.⁵¹⁴ One NGO stated that the extension workers have university degrees but without practical experiences, and another NGO reported that the extension workers who originate from the area are suited to the job.⁵¹⁵ An international NGO working in The Gambia has its own extension workers.⁵¹⁶ A National Extension Services Policy, a first of its kind for the country, was drafted and reviewed in 2019,⁵¹⁷ but has not been finalized as of February 2022. An Adaptation Fund (AF) project which includes an activity to train extension officers, along with women and the youth, on climate change adaptation was under review by the AF's Project/Programme Review Committee as of March 2021.

169 Historically and around the world, extension services have been geared toward men, and women have constituted a very small fraction of all recipients of extension services, as low as 5%.⁵¹⁸ Although data and other information on extension services and women in The Gambia are not readily available, it is known that most of the extension workers are men and that services are mostly meant for male-dominated activities, such as production of cash crops.⁵¹⁹ It has been noted that extension workers in horticulture (which concerns mainly women) and livestock (which concerns women, except for cattle raised in the open) subsectors are less strong than in other subsectors.⁵²⁰ Little extension services geared

⁵¹⁰ *ibid.*

⁵¹¹ *ibid.*

⁵¹² The Republic of Gambia, "The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026."

⁵¹³ Adaptation Fund Board, 2019. "Proposal for The Gambia."

https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/AFB.PPRC_.25.21-Proposal-for-the-Gambia.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁵¹⁴ *ibid.*

⁵¹⁵ *ibid.*

⁵¹⁶ *ibid.*

⁵¹⁷ FAO, 2019. "The first ever Extension Policy draft in the history of The Gambia receives support from FAO experts from Rome." FAO in Gambia.

<http://www.fao.org/gambia/news/detail-events/en/c/1206661/> (accessed March 2021).

⁵¹⁸ FAO, undated. "Women, agriculture and food security." <http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsummit/english/fsheets/women.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

⁵¹⁹ FAO and ECOWAS Commission, "National Gender Profile of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods – The Gambia."

⁵²⁰ *ibid.*

toward women is considered one of the factors contributing to low productivity of women in agriculture.⁵²¹

170 The National ANR Policy⁵²² stated in 2017 that training of extension workers on gender sensitivity will be necessary if they are to encourage women to form groups and enable them to bargain their selling price. It implies that the current state of extension services is inadequate when it comes to female operators in the sector and that female extension workers are probably very few in number, if they exist. The Policy also envisions women's working with potential buyers – who are commercial producers – as contract farmers, for which the extension workers are expected to help assure compliance with the demands of the commercial partners. Although the youth received little attention then, the government has been appealing lately to the youths to take up agriculture.

4.3.3 Climate Information Services

171 The Third World Conference of Ministers and Heads of State of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) launched a process in 2009 to create a Global Framework for Climate Services, and an Intergovernmental Council on Climate Services was established to oversee the implementation of the framework.⁵²³ The Council in turn urged WMO Member States to establish national frameworks; The Gambia responded in 2018 to formulate a National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS-GAM), which is a framework for exchange between experts “in producing information on weather, climate and water (in this case Department of Water Resources) and other experts in the sectors concerned, but also with end-users.”⁵²⁴ The other main institutional stakeholders include: National Disaster Management Agency, National Environment Agency (NEA), Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Health Services, Department of Energy, Action-Aid The Gambia, Gambia Civil Aviation Authority, Department of Fisheries, and Ministry of Tourism.⁵²⁵ The overarching goal of the NFCS-GAM is “[t]o enable better management of the risks of climate variability and change at all levels, through development and incorporation of science based climate information and prediction services into planning, policy and practice.”⁵²⁶

172 The NFCS-GAM and the Action Plan (2020-2024) analyze that “the drivers of rural vulnerability include the absence of capacity to overcome the impacts of climate change, particularly the increasingly shortening of the growing period with late onset and early cessation of rains; the growing migration flux of young people, the main workforce, towards the urban centres and abroad, enlarging the number of women headed households[,]” “and the deficient technical support to adopt adaptive options that would enhance resilience to the shortening of the growing period.” It also notes that “[g]ender has not been significantly main-streamed into the existing ANR policy's sub-sector policies and strategies though female-headed households are the main work-force in agriculture and should be a key focus of ‘rural resilience’ efforts.” It adds that “[t]his is a significant departure from the Gender and Women Empowerment Policy 2010-2020 which calls for the effective mainstreaming of gender perspectives into emerging crises such as climate change, disaster management and food crises.” Under the section devoted to “Priority Activities to be Undertaken to Reduce Gaps and Meet User Needs,” the NFCS-GAM identifies as a key challenge the “last mile” of an early warning system, “i.e., in reaching the most remote

⁵²¹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, “The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020.”

⁵²² The Republic of Gambia, “The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026.”

⁵²³ Republic of The Gambia, undated. “The Gambia National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS-GAM) and Implementation Action Plan (2020-2024).”

https://gfcs.wmo.int/sites/default/files/NFCS_GAM-June_2019.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁵²⁴ *ibid.*

⁵²⁵ *ibid.*

⁵²⁶ *ibid.*

and vulnerable population with timely, meaningful, and actionable warning information and in integrating a gender perspective into” the system. It adds that “gaps persist due to weak coordination among the actors and agencies concerned, limited public awareness and participation as well as insufficient political commitment.”

173 Gender differentiated needs for climate information have been documented in Africa: by content and means of access in Senegal (stronger demand among women for information on the onset of rainy season, through radio and less through SMS)⁵²⁷ and by means of access in Ghana (men had higher access as their larger financial resources allowed them to purchase phones).⁵²⁸ Gender differences are also noted elsewhere in the world; a Cambodian commune, where literacy rate is lower at 59% for women compared to 76% for men, 52% of female-headed households did not trust and act on early warnings on climate compared to 38 % of male-headed households.⁵²⁹ While the perception of the climate change did not seem to differ in Ghana,⁵³⁰ gender differences in perception of weather impacts on crops and in how they receive, share, understand, and act upon weather-related information were observed in Vietnam.⁵³¹ While the NFCS-GAM alludes to such differences between women and men, the accompanying Action Plan 2020-2024 does not include direct reference to women or gender.

174 The NFCS-GAM analyzes the state of the youth in Gambia, citing the unemployment rates among the youth in 2012, which was 38% against 30% for the overall population.⁵³² It adds that female youth are less likely to be employed or in education: 31% of female youth neither employed or in school against 27% of male youth in the same situation. The resulting high rate of exodus to Europe among the young, together with low labor productivity, high poverty and fertility rates, are identified as factors contributing to an “extremely challenging development context.” A project in The Gambia of the United Nations Environment Programme financed by the Global Environment Facility on an early warning system is said to have given hope to the youth and encouraged them to stay in the rural areas.⁵³³ The Action Plan 2020-2024 does not have reference to the youth.

4.3.4 Credit

175 Both women and men in the informal sector face constraints in accessing financial services, especially credit.⁵³⁴ The principal providers of finance are the twelve commercial banks and microfinance institutions, but their interest rates are high and unsuited for smallholders.⁵³⁵ Most financial service providers rely on their branches in the urban areas as the main delivery channel, and the number of field

⁵²⁷ Diof, N.S. *et al.*, 2019. “Factors influencing gendered access to climate information services for farming in Senegal.” *Gender, Technology and Development*. Vol. 23, Issue 2. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09718524.2019.1649790> (accessed March 2021).

⁵²⁸ Partey, S.T. *et al.*, 2019. “Gender and climate risk management: evidence of climate information use in Ghana.” *Climatic Change*. No. 158, 61–75. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-018-2239-6> (accessed March 2021).

⁵²⁹ Clingleffer, K., 2020. “Gender Learning Report: ‘Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Cambodia to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change’ project.” https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/cambodia_cIEWS_project_gender_learning_report_final_september_2020.pdf (accessed march 2021).

⁵³⁰ Partey *et al.*, “Gender and climate risk management: evidence of climate information use in Ghana.”

⁵³¹ Duong, T.M. *et al.*, 2017. Gender-differences in Agro-Climate Information Services.” CIGAR. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/rest/bitstreams/retrieve> (accessed March 2021).

⁵³² Republic of The Gambia, “The Gambia National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS-GAM) and Implementation Action Plan (2020-2024).”

⁵³³ United Nations Environment Programme, 2018. “Sowing Hope in the Gambia.” <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/sowing-hope-gambia> (accessed March 2021).

⁵³⁴ Touray, “Review of the Livestock/Meat and Milk Value Chains and Policy Influencing Them in The Gambia.”

⁵³⁵ *ibid.*

officers and agents is insufficient to reach the underserved communities and women.⁵³⁶ Very few financial products target women.⁵³⁷ Although the situation is improving for women, the barriers remain higher for them due to higher illiteracy, cultural attitudes and practices.⁵³⁸ Even when women have access, they may not control the credit, particularly in the rural areas.⁵³⁹ In a survey published in 2019, the distance to bank branches was the most frequently cited barrier by respondents when asked about the main challenges to accessing savings products at formal financial institutions.⁵⁴⁰

176 The women in the focus group discussions indicated that when in need of money they resort to funds pooled among them (*osusu*) or borrow from their family and friends.⁵⁴¹ ⁵⁴² The processors in Banjul expressed the need of capital to: construct fish drying platform and drying area; and to purchase a boatful of fish directly from the fishermen and not from the middlemen, whose presence allows purchase in smaller quantities but with markups.⁵⁴³ Collective purchase of fish by the boat used to be practiced in Banjul, but no longer, most likely due to disputes among the members.⁵⁴⁴ The Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources launched a fund of GMD 11,000,000⁵⁴⁵ (whose sources are fees on fishing rights, licenses, etc.) to support women and youth in the sector in January 2021; five individuals, three of whom are women, have received funds as of March 2021.⁵⁴⁶

4.3.5 Mobile Phone, Computer and Internet

177 According to the 2013 Census on information and communication technology (ICT), nearly 80% of both female and male Gambians had access to a mobile phone (Table 12).⁵⁴⁷ The proportion of population with access was around 90% for male aged 20-69. For women, no age group marked the 90% access rate, but it was above 88% for age group 20-49.⁵⁴⁸ The mobile ownership exhibited a much larger gender gap than access (Table 13), indicating that more women with access to mobile phones do not own the phones than men with access. The gender gap in access to computer was much higher and most pronounced for the age groups with the highest access, indicating that women were being left behind not only in traditional literacy, but also in digital literacy in 2013 (Table 14); the high access rates to mobile phones among women do not indicate their literacy, even when they have 3G phones or higher, since they use the phones primarily for making calls through Whatsapp. Mobile cellular prescription has increased from 94.2 per 100 persons in 2013 to 139.5 in 2018.⁵⁴⁹

⁵³⁶ UNCDF, "PoWER assessment of Women's Economic Empowerment in The Gambia."

⁵³⁷ *ibid.*

⁵³⁸ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

⁵³⁹ *ibid.*

⁵⁴⁰ UNCDF, "PoWER assessment of Women's Economic Empowerment in The Gambia."

⁵⁴¹ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁵⁴² Focused group discussion with women involved in oyster harvesting and processing, Tambi, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁵⁴³ Focused group discussion with women involved in processing/selling, Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

⁵⁴⁴ *ibid.*

⁵⁴⁵ Interview with the Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources, Banjul, March 12, 2021.

⁵⁴⁶ *ibid.*

⁵⁴⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Access to ICT*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

⁵⁴⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁴⁹ World Bank, 2021. "Mobile cellular subscriptions – Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.CEL.SETS.P2?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

Table 12: Access to Communication Technology in 2013⁵⁵⁰

Proportion of Population with Access (%)					
Mobile Phone		Landline Phone		Computer	
Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
78.5	79.7	4.8	5.1	8.8	13.2

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013).

Table 13: Mobile Phone Ownership in 2013⁵⁵¹

Proportion of Population Who Owns Mobile Phone (%)					
Female			Male		
Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
49.4	36.8	58.6	58.0	46.1	65.7

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013).

Table 14: Access to Computer by Age Group in 2013⁵⁵²

Age Group	Proportion of Population with Access to Computer (%)			
	Female	Male	Rural	Urban
15-19	12.4	13.6	3.6	19.5
20-24	15.3	21.1	5.5	24.7
25-29	12.4	21.3	4.9	22.9
30-34	9.9	19.8	4.2	20.3
35-39	8.4	18.0	3.9	18.3
40-44	7.6	16.8	3.6	17.6
45-49	7.2	15.7	3.6	16.6
50-54	6.1	12.8	2.6	14.6
55-59	6.7	12.4	2.8	14.9

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013).

178 Access to mobile phone was higher in the urban (81.3%) than in the rural areas (76.1%), and so were ownership of mobile phones (58.0% and 49.4% for urban and rural areas, respectively) and access to computer (16.4% and 3.0% for urban and rural areas, respectively).⁵⁵³ As with the gender gap, the rural-urban gap in access to computer was much higher than that for mobile phones and most pronounced for the age groups with the highest access; the rural areas were left behind in traditional and digital literacy in 2013 (Table 14).⁵⁵⁴

179 The proportion of the total Gambian population with access to internet has been steadily increasing and reached nearly 20% in 2017 from 14% in 2013.⁵⁵⁵ The 2013 Census indicated that persons

⁵⁵⁰ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Access to ICT*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

⁵⁵¹ *ibid.*

⁵⁵² *ibid.*

⁵⁵³ *ibid.*

⁵⁵⁴ *ibid.*

⁵⁵⁵ World Bank, 2021. Individuals using the Internet (% of population) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.NET.USER.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

with internet access were most likely to access either daily or weekly, both in the rural (65.1%) and urban areas (83.6%).⁵⁵⁶

4.3.6 Traditional Sources of Information

180 Access to the traditional media – newspaper, radio and television – was much better represented among both female and male populations in the country, except for newspaper, in 2013.⁵⁵⁷ The most popular was the radio, reflecting the rates of literacy and poverty; access to newspaper is limited by illiteracy and that to television by economic means to purchase a television set.⁵⁵⁸ The same pattern persisted five years later, but barring differences in methodologies employed by two surveys, access overall seemed decreasing except for men’s access to television. Access is further constrained in the rural areas because of low circulation of newspaper and magazines and unavailability of electricity needed for television.⁵⁵⁹ The gender gap was thus the largest for newspapers and magazines.⁵⁶⁰ The access to newspapers and magazines was 5.9% in the rural areas versus 21.3% in the urban areas, while that for radio was 88.8% in the rural areas versus 84.6% in the urban areas.⁵⁶¹

Table 15: Access to Information Media⁵⁶²

Year	Proportion of Population with Access (%)					
	Newspaper/Magazine ⁵⁶³		Radio		Television	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
2013	11.9	18.3	87.3	86.9	67.6	68.9
2018	5.8	14.8	60.1	72.7	61.8	70.2

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013, 2019).

181 The women processors who participated in the focus discussion groups also named radio and television as their sources of information, including news on weather.⁵⁶⁴ Other major information sources are family and friends and may include extension workers.⁵⁶⁵ The women reported that there is no organized information that is diffused related to their work and that they learn what sells, why and when by observing.⁵⁶⁶ The women in Jahally do not have enough information on how to grow quality vegetables, which results in consumers’ turning to imported products.⁵⁶⁷ They also lack information on how oversupply, leading to low selling prices, could be avoided.⁵⁶⁸ The lack of business information is often cited as one of the important impediments to economic empowerment of women.⁵⁶⁹

⁵⁵⁶ World Bank, 2021. Individuals using the Internet (% of population) - Gambia, The.”

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.NET.USER.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁵⁵⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Access to ICT*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

⁵⁵⁸ *ibid.*.

⁵⁵⁹ *ibid.*

⁵⁶⁰ *ibid.*

⁵⁶¹ *ibid.*

⁵⁶² Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2013. *2013 Population and Housing Census: Access to ICT*. Banjul: Republic of Gambia.

Gambia Bureau of Statistics, “The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report.”

⁵⁶³ For 2018, newspaper only.

⁵⁶⁴ Focused group discussions with harvesters/processors/sellers, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁵⁶⁵ *ibid.*

⁵⁶⁶ *ibid.*

⁵⁶⁷ Focused group discussion with women involved in rice farming, Jahally, March 17, 2021.

⁵⁶⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁶⁹ Ministry of Women’s Affairs, “The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020.”

4.3.7 Environmental Awareness: Climate Change and Ecosystems

182 The women who participated in focused group discussions had first-hand experiences in climate change: dwindling number and quantity of fish species in the ocean and river; loss of oyster habitat near the coast; low crop harvests; changes in weather in general and in ambient temperature.⁵⁷⁰ They heard the topic quite often on the television and radio, but did not know what was causing the changes. The women in Jahally were involved in reforestation (mangroves on the coast and other trees inland) as climate change mitigation/adaptation strategy through a government's project. The women were willing to start aquaculture if the fish stocks kept on shrinking due to climate change and if a development partner wants to introduce the practice.

183 On the one hand, women in fishery knew that mangroves are important for the lives of fish and oysters and hence for their livelihoods. They knew that their grandchildren would not have as much mangroves as their grandparents did. On the other hand, many appeared to continue harvesting the mangroves as fuel and roofing material despite the fine imposed by the government in such instances. The processors at the Banjul site use charcoal from inland areas for their smoking and drying, but sometimes husks from coconuts and groundnuts.

184 The availability of drinking water at home was not completely satisfactory; many expressed problems such as out-of-order pumps, insufficient number of water points in the village, lack of water source in the compound and insufficient quantity of water available. At the same time, they suggested water for the new project of aquaculture to come from the same or new boreholes and were willing to take the opportunity to engage in an activity which serves as an alternative source of income.

4.3.8 Access to Markets

185 Women do not have access to products and markets with high return, due to gender-based division of crops and animals as well as markets, which allocates women the less profitable. This division is accentuated by little attention and investment devoted to what is considered female products or markets. Higher profits are found in markets abroad or locations further away from the production site, which puts women at a great disadvantage as they are without capital and cannot afford proper storage facilities or long-distance transportation. They are also without connection with dealers in foreign markets, who are most likely men. The Gambian diaspora who visited the country served as a pseudo foreign market for smoked and dried fish of the kind processed by women, but the travel restrictions imposed by the latest pandemic has greatly diminished this outlet.

186 No organized market information was available to women who participated in the focused discussion groups, but they did not seem to take it as a disadvantage as they have always coped by making direct observations themselves. Whereas markets for fish and oyster products were not an issue, those for vegetables were considered insufficient in size by women farmers.⁵⁷¹ This was partly caused by foreign products of higher quality which become available during certain times of the year, crowding out the vegetables of inferior quality grown in the country. The women indicated that they did not know how to find markets for their products and appeared unaware of possible solutions: acquisition of quality seeds; diversification of crops; collaboration with the tourist industry which imports vegetables, and so on. In

⁵⁷⁰ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁵⁷¹ Focused discussion groups with women involved in vegetable farming, Njoben and Medina Lamini Kanteh, March 12, 18, 2021.

general, the low investment that the society accords its women in terms of literacy appears to be compounding their disadvantaged situation.

4.3.9 Other Professional Needs

187 The common unmet needs expressed by women and community leaders concerned infrastructure, equipment and tools for their work: jetty, canoes, smoking and storage facilities for women in fishery and land, ploughs/tractors for those in crop agriculture.⁵⁷² Women whose inputs were fish indicated that middlemen who bought boatfuls of fish from fishermen and sold to the women in smaller quantities with markups were one of the biggest problems, but the issue was not raised by the landing-site community leaders, who were otherwise informed about the plight of women working at the sites. Women at the landing sites also indicated that lack of toilets and drinking water at the sites was a problem, another angle overlooked by the community leaders.

188 Lack of capital as one of the largest obstacles was mentioned by women at all three landing sites visited, in addition to the community leader of the Banjul site. They did not appear to be aware that their chances of obtaining capital would increase by many folds if they became functionally literate. When asked about the major challenges in their work, women invariably added that the problems would be overcome with the support of development partners. The smoking facility in Bintang was built by a donor a couple of decades ago, but two of the ovens are out of order and have not been repaired; the community is waiting for a new facility to be built by a donor. At the same time, women engaged in farming were willing to take up a new project, such as poultry and aquaculture, if a donor would give them an opportunity. Many women are astute and know well how to run their small business, but insufficient ownership of past aid projects seemed to have deprived them of the capacity to plan strategically, which is likely exacerbated by their illiteracy, lack of formal education and patriarchal culture.

4.4 Water and Sanitation

189 **Water:** According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018,⁵⁷³ 90.4% of the population had access to an improved source of water, such as piped water, tube well, borehole, protected well and bottled water. The access rates for the poorest and richest quintiles in wealth were 76.6% and 99.9%, respectively, and for the rural and urban areas were 86.9% and 92.2%, respectively.⁵⁷⁴ The time required to an improved drinking-water source was 30 minutes or more for the households in the rural areas: 66.8% reported up to 30 minutes and 12.9% more than 30 minutes.⁵⁷⁵ Over 60% of urban households reported that improved drinking water was available on premises, while 27.5% needed to spend 30 minutes to reach a source.⁵⁷⁶ Almost all households of the richest quintile in wealth had water on premises (98.1%), but for more than half of the households in the three poorest quintiles up to 30 minutes of travel was required.⁵⁷⁷ It was overwhelmingly women over 15 years of age who collected water: 85.1% in the country and 90.5% and 77.8% in the rural and urban areas, respectively.⁵⁷⁸

⁵⁷² Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kante and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁵⁷³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁵⁷⁴ *ibid.*

⁵⁷⁵ *ibid.*

⁵⁷⁶ *ibid.*

⁵⁷⁷ *ibid.*

⁵⁷⁸ *ibid.*

190 Overall, the proportion of households which had access to an improved drinking-water source located on premises, free of *E. coli* and available when needed was low at 33.8%: 49.8% in urban areas and 1.9% in rural areas.⁵⁷⁹ While sufficient amounts of drinking water was mostly available (87.3% overall, 82.2% in rural and 89.8% in urban areas), the unavailability of sources affected more than 10% of the rural households.⁵⁸⁰ The quality of drinking water measured by *E. coli* count per 100ml was alarming; 92.1% and 63.5% of rural and urban households, respectively, drank water that contained the bacteria.⁵⁸¹ About 70% and 40% of the drinking water of rural and urban households, respectively, indicated high (between 11 and 100 per 100ml) or very high (over 100 per 100ml) contamination.⁵⁸² The great majority of the households did not treat water: 71.3% in the rural areas and 86.9% in the urban areas.⁵⁸³

191 **Sanitation:** Almost all households in the country had some kind of handwashing facility.⁵⁸⁴ Improved sanitation – flush toilets, pour-flush toilets, ventilated improved pit latrine and pit latrine with slab – was observed less among rural households (36.6%) than among urban households (73.9%).⁵⁸⁵ Open defecation was observed among 2.0% of rural households and 0.6% of urban households.⁵⁸⁶ Improved sanitation facilities tended to be shared, especially in rural settings; 28.7% and 55.9% of rural and urban households, respectively, did not share improved facilities.⁵⁸⁷ The situation of not sharing was reversed for unimproved facilities: 43.9% (rural) and 17.6% (urban).⁵⁸⁸ Unsafe disposal of excreta from on-site sanitation facilities was observed among less than 1% of households,⁵⁸⁹ which suggests that another type of drinking water contamination is responsible for the high level of contamination observed. Safe disposal of children’s stool is not complete, which is a likely contributing factor; 83.1% of children had their last stools disposed of safely in the rural areas and 74.1% of the same in the urban areas.⁵⁹⁰

192 Approximately 95% of women in the country used appropriate menstrual hygiene materials with a private place to wash and change while at home, and the rate was higher at 98.0% for rural women.⁵⁹¹ The National Development Plan 2018-2021 aspires to increase the proportion of population with access to safe drinking water to 100%, improve sanitation facilities to 75%, and become open defecation free by 2021.⁵⁹²

4.5 Energy

193 Only 1.2% of households in 2019 relied primarily on clean fuels and technology for cooking in The Gambia, all in the urban areas.⁵⁹³ The vast majority used solid fuel, little over half using three stone stove or open fire.⁵⁹⁴ The poorer the household, the more likely it used these devices; 94.1% of the poorest

⁵⁷⁹ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁰ *ibid.*

⁵⁸¹ *ibid.*

⁵⁸² *ibid.*

⁵⁸³ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁴ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁵ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁶ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁷ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁸⁹ *ibid.*

⁵⁹⁰ *ibid.*

⁵⁹¹ *ibid.*

⁵⁹² Africa Finance Ministers’ Meeting, 2020. “The Gambia Country Overview.”

https://www.sanitationandwaterforall.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/2020%20Country%20Overview_The%20Gambia.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁵⁹³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, “The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report.”

⁵⁹⁴ *ibid.*

wealth quintile and 2.9% of the richest quintile.⁵⁹⁵ In contrast, the use of manufactured solid fuel stove increased with wealth: 4.9% among the poorest to 88.0% among the richest.⁵⁹⁶ The fuel was primarily wood (71.3%) and charcoal (24.6%).⁵⁹⁷ In the rural areas, it was 98.1% wood;⁵⁹⁸ the women who participated in focused group discussions reported charcoal use for cooking in Banjul, Tambi and Njoben and wood elsewhere, collected by men.⁵⁹⁹ As for lighting, more than half had access to electricity, and the next most common was battery-powered at 24.6%.⁶⁰⁰

194 Fish smoking and drying as well as oyster boiling, the major occupations of women in the fishery sector, consume a great amount of fuel; fuel consumption by artisanal smoking and drying of fish of about 6,600 tonnes was estimated larger than the rest of the sector in 2014-2018 and inefficient in terms of fuel use per landed fish.⁶⁰¹ For wood as fuel for processing, it appeared that women themselves procure from the forests, if not buying from men in the trade.⁶⁰² Since the national government has prohibited cutting of mangroves for their protection, the main source for processors is non-mangrove wood from inland.⁶⁰³ The pressure has simply shifted from the coast to inland, as the Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources has expressed strong concerns about overexploitation of non-mangrove forests.⁶⁰⁴

4.6 Health

4.6.1 General Health

195 **Overview:** In 2018, life expectancy at birth for Gambian women was at par with the Sub-Saharan average at 63 years and it was also the case for Gambian male at 60 years; about ten years shorter than the world average for both gender (Table 16). The mortality rates for adults were lower than the Sub-Saharan average for both female and male, although higher than the world average in 2018. The gap between the Gambian and world rates were slightly larger for women.

196 More than half of the deaths were caused by communicable diseases and maternal, prenatal and nutrition conditions, and about two-fifths by non-communicable diseases; non-communicable diseases are considered under-diagnosed and underreported as a cause of illness and deaths.⁶⁰⁵ While the proportion of deaths by communicable diseases and maternal, prenatal and nutrition conditions in The Gambia was somewhat lower than that for the Sub-Saharan average and has decreased significantly from 64.2% in 2000,⁶⁰⁶ it is well above the world average of 18.4%; it indicates high prevalence of deaths from

⁵⁹⁵ *ibid.*

⁵⁹⁶ *ibid.*

⁵⁹⁷ *ibid.*

⁵⁹⁸ *ibid.*

⁵⁹⁹ Focused group discussions with harvesters/processors/sellers and youth, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁶⁰⁰ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁰¹ Avadí *et al.*, "Fisheries Value Chain Analysis in The Gambia. Report for the European Union, DG-DEVCO. Value Chain Analysis for Development Project."

⁶⁰² Focused Groups Discussion with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Kartong landing site, March 20, 2021.

⁶⁰³ Focused Groups Discussions with women involved in harvesting/processing/selling, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang and Kartong, March 9, 10, 13 and 20, 2021.

⁶⁰⁴ Interviews with officials the Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources, March 8, 2021.

⁶⁰⁵ Sine, J. *et al.*, 2019. "Assessment of the Health System in the Gambia: Overview, Medical Products, Health Financing, and Governance Components." Washington, D.C.: USAID.

⁶⁰⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Cause of death, by communicable diseases and maternal, prenatal and nutrition conditions (% of total) - Gambia, The."

preventable diseases and hence unsatisfactory health system in the country. Nonetheless, the country is much less afflicted by major diseases than the average of Sub-Saharan Africa, most of whose countries post higher GDP than The Gambia (Table 17).

Table 16: Basic Health Statistics⁶⁰⁷

Indicator	Year	Female (The Gambia/ Sub-Saharan Africa/World)	Male (The Gambia/ Sub-Saharan Africa/World)
Life expectancy at birth (years)	2018	63/63/74	60/60/70
Mortality rate, adult (per 1,000 adults)	2018	224/243/121	280/303/175
Death by communicable diseases and maternal, prenatal and nutrition conditions (% of total deaths)	2019	52.2/53.6/18.4	
Death by non-communicable diseases (% of total deaths)	2019	37.1/36.4/73.6	
Death by injury (% of total deaths)	2019	10.7/10.0/8.0	

Source: World Bank (2021).

Table 17: Prevalence of Major Diseases⁶⁰⁸

Indicator	Year	The Gambia	Sub- Saharan Africa
Incidence of HIV, ages 15-49 (per 1,000 uninfected population ages 15-49)	2019	1.62	1.77
	1990	0.38	5.49
Adults (ages 15-49) newly infected with HIV	2019	1,900	n.a.
Incidence of HIV, ages 15-24 (per 1,000 uninfected population ages 15-24)	2019	0.89	1.58
Prevalence of HIV, female (% ages 15-24)	2019	0.6	1.8
Prevalence of HIV, male (% ages 15-24)	2019	0.2	0.8
Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 people)	2019	158	226
Tuberculosis treatment success rate (% of new cases)	2018	88	82
Tuberculosis detection rate (% , all forms)	2019	71	57
Incidence of malaria (per 1,000 population at risk)	2018	66	219

Source: World Bank (2021)

197 The proportion of the population affected by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) has been historically very low compared to other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, and many more women of age 15-24 are infected than their male counterparts as is the case in Sub-Sahara. However, it was reported that 54% of women and 46% of men live with HIV/AIDs around 2007.⁶⁰⁹ With respect to tuberculosis, both the detection and treatment are at higher success rates than the average of Sub-Saharan Africa. The incidence of malaria is also quite contained compared to Sub-Saharan average.

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.DTH.COMM.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁰⁷ World Bank, 2021. "Data on health."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁰⁸ World Bank, "Data on health."

⁶⁰⁹ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

198 **Food Security and Nutrition:** The country produces only half of its food consumption needs today;⁶¹⁰ food sufficiency has declined since 2011/12 when it depended 37.9% of its staple food to imports and 8.6% to external food aid.⁶¹¹ Self-sufficiency in rice – the country’s staple crop – has fallen from about 50% in 2011/12⁶¹² to less than 10%.⁶¹³ The poverty rate has been stable at 48% in the last five years, but food insecurity rate has risen from 5% to 8% of total population.⁶¹⁴ In 2016, 0.6% of households were severely food insecure, 7.4% moderately food insecure, 29.1% marginally food secure and 62.8% food secure.⁶¹⁵ The majority of the food insecure households were mostly in the rural areas of Central River, Upper River, North Bank and Lower River regions.⁶¹⁶ Female-headed households were more food secure than male-headed ones (68.7% and 61.7%, respectively), and there were proportionately less severely food insecure households headed by women than those by men (0.0% and 0.8%, respectively).⁶¹⁷

199 A third of the total population had food intake short of minimum energy requirements, with cereals contributing 53% of the total energy supply, animal products 6%, added oils 20% and fats 2% around 2010.⁶¹⁸ Approximately two in every three households had a highly diverse diet and the urban households enjoyed higher diversity than the rural ones in 2016.⁶¹⁹ The households with lower diversity were in Upper River Region North and Central River Region North.⁶²⁰ Women are believed less nutritionally secure at household level compared to men.⁶²¹ The prevalence of undernourishment was 11.9% in The Gambia, while it was 17.5% in Sub-Saharan Africa and 8.9% in the world in 2018; the rate has been constantly below the Sub-Saharan average and the gap is widening.⁶²² Micronutrient deficiencies (iron, vitamin A and iodine) were considered widespread and affected women and under-five children most.⁶²³ It was estimated that the cost of undernutrition to the economy through health, education and labor productivity in 2018 was equivalent to 5.1 % of GDP.⁶²⁴

200 **Children:** The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018 indicates that under-five mortality was 57, infant mortality 41, and neonatal mortality 31, all per 1,000 live births⁶²⁵ and all considerably above world average rates of 39, 29 and 18, respectively, in 2018.⁶²⁶ The rates were higher in the rural areas than in urban areas, except for neonatal mortality rate.⁶²⁷ Mother’s education did not seem to influence neonatal

⁶¹⁰ FAO, 2021. “the Gambia.” FAO in emergencies.

<http://www.fao.org/emergencies/countries/detail/en/c/148707> (accessed March 2021).

⁶¹¹ The Republic of Gambia, “The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026.”

⁶¹² *ibid.*

⁶¹³ FAO, “the Gambia.” FAO in emergencies.

⁶¹⁴ World Food Programme, “Gambia.”

⁶¹⁵ World Food Programme *et al.*, 2016. “Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, The Gambia.”

<https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp290335.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

⁶¹⁶ *ibid.*

⁶¹⁷ *ibid.*

⁶¹⁸ The Republic of Gambia, “The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026.”

⁶¹⁹ World Food Programme *et al.*, “Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis, The Gambia.”

⁶²⁰ *ibid.*

⁶²¹ Ministry of Women’s Affairs, “The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020.”

⁶²² World Bank, 2021. “Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa.”

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SN.ITK.DEFC.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

⁶²³ African Union Commission *et al.*, 2018. “The Cost of Hunger in Africa: The Gambia.”

https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000119677/download/?_ga=2.163304895.2073215127.1616498648-1289744897.1614764057 (accessed March 2021).

⁶²⁴ *ibid.*

⁶²⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, “The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report.”

⁶²⁶ World Bank, 2021. “Data related to child mortality.”

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/> (accessed March 2021).

⁶²⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, “The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report.”

and infant mortality rates.⁶²⁸ The rates for boys exceeded or were equal to those for girls,⁶²⁹ indicating natural patterns. Among the West African countries which are known for high under-five mortality, Gambia was one of the countries with lower rates of deaths by eight common infectious diseases in 2015: pneumonia (14% of all under-five deaths); sepsis (9%); tetanus (0%); diarrhea (9%); malaria (4%); AIDS (2%); measles (0%); and meningitis (2%).⁶³⁰ In 2019, 23.9% of children under five years old had an episode of fever in the 12 months preceding the survey and 23.7% an episode of diarrhea in the same period.⁶³¹

Table 18: Basic Statics of Child Health⁶³²

Indicator	Year	The Gambia	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Mortality rate, infant, female (per 1,000 live births)	2019	32	47	26
Mortality rate, infant, male (per 1,000 live births)	2019	40	57	30
Immunization, measles (% of children ages 12-23 months)	2019	85	69.6	85.7
Immunization, DPT (% of children ages 12-23 months)	2019	88	73.5	85.7
Prevalence of anemia among children (% of children under 5)	2016	75.7	59.9	41.7
Prevalence of severe wasting, weight for height (% of children under 5)	2018 – The Gambia 2019 – Sub-Saharan Africa	1.3	1.7	n.a.
Prevalence of wasting, weight for height (% of children under 5)	2018 – The Gambia 2019 – Sub-Saharan Africa	6	6.8	n.a.

Source: World Bank (2021).

201 Immunization rates for children were close to or even exceeded the world average, while the prevalence of wasting was slightly lower and anemia among children much higher than the Sub-Saharan average (Table 18). Stunting of children under five years old was greatly reduced from 24.5% in 2013 to 15.7% in 2018.⁶³³ Similarly underweight under five fell to 10.6% from 16.2% and wasting to 5.8% from 11.5% in the same period.⁶³⁴ The country was evaluated medium by the World Health Organization (WHO) Classification of malnutrition for stunting (15.7% of children under age five) and for wasting (5.8% of the same), while high for underweight (10.6% of the same) in 2018.⁶³⁵ The proportion of children wasted or underweight was slightly higher in the rural areas and for boys.⁶³⁶ The rural-urban and female-male gaps

⁶²⁸ *ibid.*

⁶²⁹ *ibid.*

⁶³⁰ Sanyang, Y, 2019. "Prevalence of under-five years of age mortality by infectious diseases in West African region." *International Journal of Africa Nursing Sciences*. Volume 11, 100175. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214139119300198> (accessed March 2021).

⁶³¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶³² World Bank, "Data on health."

⁶³³ African Union Commission *et al.*, "The Cost of Hunger in Africa: The Gambia."

⁶³⁴ *ibid.*

⁶³⁵ *ibid.*

⁶³⁶ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

were larger for stunting.⁶³⁷ Mother's education was most positively related to stunting and less to underweight.⁶³⁸ It did not show a clear relationship to wasting.⁶³⁹

4.6.2 Reproductive Health

202 Unlike diseases prevalence and various mortality rates among the general population, the maternal mortality ratio in 2017 remained higher than the Sub-Saharan average at 597 and 534, respectively, per 100,000 live births (Table 19).⁶⁴⁰

Table 19: Reproduction related Mortality⁶⁴¹

Indicator	Year	The Gambia	Sub-Saharan Africa	World
Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births)	2019	597	534	211
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2019	51.7	75.8	37.7
Mortality rate, infant (per 1,000 live births)	2019	35.9	51.7	28.2
Mortality rate, neonatal (per 1,000 live births)	2019	27.1	27.5	17.5

Source: World Bank (2021).

203 **Fertility:** The overall fertility rate declined from 6.4 in 1983 to 5.9 in 2013⁶⁴² and further to 4.4 in 2018.⁶⁴³ The adolescent fertility rate expressed as number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 also declined from 200 in 1983, 86 in 2013,⁶⁴⁴ and to 67 in 2018,⁶⁴⁵ but well above the world average of 42.⁶⁴⁶ The number was quite high in the rural areas at 108, compared to 51 in the urban zones.⁶⁴⁷

204 **Sexual behavior:** The percentage of women aged 15-24 who had ever had sex in 2018 was 39.3% for the country.⁶⁴⁸ More women in the rural areas were engaged in sexual activities than in the urban areas (52.2% versus 34.0%), but rural women were more likely to be in monogamous relationships; 1% and 16% of rural and urban women, respectively, had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months.⁶⁴⁹ For over half of both groups, the partners were more than ten years older.⁶⁵⁰ The higher the educational level attained, the less women aged 15-24 engaged in sex; for those with pre-primary or no education, the percentage was 71.5%, while for those with secondary education or higher, it was 25.6%.⁶⁵¹ In addition, women aged 15-24 from the poorest households engaged more in sex (51.6%) than women

⁶³⁷ *ibid.*

⁶³⁸ *ibid.*

⁶³⁹ *ibid.*

⁶⁴⁰ World Bank, 2021. "Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births) - Gambia, The, Sub-Saharan Africa" <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.STA.MMRT?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁴¹ World Bank, "Data on health."

⁶⁴² Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

⁶⁴³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁴⁴ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report*.

⁶⁴⁵ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁴⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19)."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.ADO.TFRT> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁴⁷ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁴⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁴⁹ *ibid.*

⁶⁵⁰ *ibid.*

⁶⁵¹ *ibid.*

of the same age group but from wealthier households.⁶⁵² Sexual activities diminished progressively with wealth to 26.1% for the richest wealth quintile.⁶⁵³ About 9% of women aged 15-24 had engaged in sex without ever being married or in a union.⁶⁵⁴

205 The male counterparts were less sexually active than the women in 2018, as was the case in 2005,⁶⁵⁵ and there was no large difference in the proportion of those who were active in the rural and urban areas.⁶⁵⁶ The percentage of 15-24 year old males who ever had sex in the country, the rural and urban areas were: 35.7%, 36.0% and 34.3% respectively.⁶⁵⁷ Men of the same age groups were more likely to have multiple partners, especially in the urban areas; 55% of the sexually active 15-24 year old had multiple sexual partners in the past 12 months, compared to 14% of the same in the rural areas.⁶⁵⁸ The level of education attained or household wealth did not clearly affect the behavior as they did for women.⁶⁵⁹ Rather, men's engagement in sex slightly increased with education level.⁶⁶⁰ It was the highest for those from the richest households, although the poorest was the second highest and the percentages were in the range of 30-40% for all wealth quintiles.⁶⁶¹ Together with the profile for women of the same age group, the statistics suggest that young women's sexual activities are related to economic necessities and men's mostly to economic luxury.

206 Over 95% of both women and men aged 15-49 had heard of HIV and over 70% of them had good knowledge of what would prevent its transmission, but less had the correct knowledge on exact pathways.⁶⁶² Women tended to be marginally more knowledgeable than men, and urban inhabitants more than the rural counterparts.⁶⁶³ Education and wealth levels were positively related to knowledge for both women and men.⁶⁶⁴ Only 22.7% of women and 19.7% of men aged 15-24 were judged to have comprehensive knowledge on HIV/AIDS.⁶⁶⁵

207 The percentage of women who have had a live birth or were pregnant with their first child constituted 12.0% of women aged 15-19 in 2018, while 0.0% of men of the same age had fathered a child.⁶⁶⁶ Nearly all women aged 15-49 had access to a provider of antenatal care of some kind.⁶⁶⁷ Close to 90% of the group reported having received post-natal health checks for the newborns and the same percentage for checks for the mother.⁶⁶⁸ The government recognizes that delayed pregnancy indicates improved education and career opportunities as well as later marriage in life: women's empowerment.⁶⁶⁹

⁶⁵² *ibid.*

⁶⁵³ *ibid.*

⁶⁵⁴ *ibid.*

⁶⁵⁵ Ministry of Women's Affairs, "The Gambia National Gender Policy 2010-2020."

⁶⁵⁶ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁵⁷ *ibid.*

⁶⁵⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁵⁹ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁰ *ibid.*

⁶⁶¹ *ibid.*

⁶⁶² *ibid.*

⁶⁶³ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁴ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁵ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁶ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁷ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁶⁹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, *2013 Population and Housing Census: Gender Report.*

208 **Contraception:** Use of contraception among women of reproductive age (15-49) is very low at 16.8%, although almost all uses employ a modern method.⁶⁷⁰ Male condom is used by 0.1% of the same group.⁶⁷¹ The proportion increased with education and the number of living children in the family, but barely with wealth.⁶⁷² Less than half of the women who were of reproductive age and married (or in a union) expressed the need for contraception, and less than one-third claimed that their need for family planning was unmet.⁶⁷³ Among women of the same age group, but not married or in a union, more than 90% desired contraception and over 60% reported that their needs were not met;⁶⁷⁴ unsafe abortion is considered a major factor in the high maternal mortality rate.⁶⁷⁵ In 2014, 41% of women aged 15-49 made their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care.⁶⁷⁶

4.6.3 Health System

209 The government's health expenditure per capita, in purchasing power parity terms, was USD 24.7 in 2018, very low compared to the average of Sub-Saharan Africa or of the world, which were USD 84.8 and 846.8, respectively.⁶⁷⁷ The current health expenditures as percentage of GDP in 2018 were 3.1% (The Gambia), 5.1% (Sub-Saharan Africa) and 9.85% (the world).⁶⁷⁸ Together with the high immunization rates among children, these statistics suggest strong dependence on external aid in the health sector; the external health expenditure⁶⁷⁹ was considerable at 35.1% of the current health expenditure in 2018 in The Gambia (against 12.3% of the same for Sub-Saharan Africa in 2018), although it had more than halved in proportion in less than two decades.⁶⁸⁰

210 In 2014, public health care services were provided through: seven public hospitals at the tertiary level; six major health centers and 41 minor health centers at the secondary level; 40 community clinics and 634 Primary Health Village at the primary level.⁶⁸¹ Over 60 health care providers of other types – private, NGO and community managed – complemented the system; most of the private and NGO actors were located in Banjul and its environs.⁶⁸² Private pharmacies existed in a large number and provided health services as did traditional healers.⁶⁸³

⁶⁷⁰ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁷¹ *ibid.*

⁶⁷² *ibid.*

⁶⁷³ *ibid.*

⁶⁷⁴ *ibid.*

⁶⁷⁵ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

⁶⁷⁶ World Bank, 2021. "Women making their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care (% of women age 15-49) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.DMK.SRCR.FN.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁷⁷ World Bank, 2021. "Domestic general government health expenditure per capita, PPP (current international \$) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.GHED.PP.CD?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁷⁸ World Bank, 2021. "Current health expenditure (% of GDP) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.CHEX.GD.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁷⁹ Direct foreign transfers and foreign transfers distributed by government, encompassing all financial inflows into the national health system from outside the country.

⁶⁸⁰ World Bank, 2021. "External health expenditure (% of current health expenditure) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.XPD.EHEX.CH.ZS?locations=GM> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁸¹ Republic of The Gambia, 2014. "National Master Plan for Neglected Tropical Diseases 2015-2020."

https://espen.afro.who.int/system/files/content/resources/GAMBIA_NTD_Master_Plan_2015_2020.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁸² *ibid.*

⁶⁸³ *ibid.*

211 The number of hospital beds per 1,000 people is small, the latest available data indicating 1.1 (2011).⁶⁸⁴ There were fewer community health workers in 2008, 0.73 per 1,000 people, which showed a small decline from the previous year.⁶⁸⁵ In 2018, the caregivers of well over one-third of children, who were aged less than six and with diarrhea in the last two weeks, did not seek advice or treatment, with slightly higher proportion for girls (39.8%) than boys (38.0%). The behavior was not related to the mothers' level of education, and the richer tended to seek less advice or treatment.⁶⁸⁶ The result was similar for acute respiratory infection, while slightly higher percentage of no advice or treatment for boys and in the urban areas was observed.⁶⁸⁷ No relation was found to the mothers' education or household wealth level with respect to advice/treatment of acute respiratory infection.⁶⁸⁸ The percentage of the same for fever was higher at above 40% for both girls and boys, regardless of residential area.⁶⁸⁹ Care-seeking slightly increased with the mothers' education, but not with wealth.⁶⁹⁰ Almost all women, who had a live birth in the two years preceding the 2018 survey, took intermittent preventive treatment (IPTp) for malaria during pregnancy, regardless of residence area, education or wealth.⁶⁹¹

212 The Gambia's health care sector is characterized by emphasis on the tertiary level, which received nearly half of the national health budget in 2014; it came at the expense of the rural areas, which received 20% of the budget.⁶⁹² As a result, the health and nutrition services are mostly accessed by the better off in the urban and coastal areas.⁶⁹³ Services related to maternal and child health and nutrition was said to be of poor quality.⁶⁹⁴ The country lacks a comprehensive and feasible strategy for human resources in the sector to recruit, train, deploy, maintain and monitor a satisfactory number of providers in health facilities and communities; the attrition of skilled workers is high and the geographical distribution of providers is inadequate.⁶⁹⁵

213 Equipment, medicines, fuel, and commodities are inadequately or inconsistently supplied to both health facilities and in communities.⁶⁹⁶ Such items run from electricity, safe water, cold storage capacity to delivery kits, growth reference charts, service manuals, birth control consumables, transportation for supervision, emergency evacuation plans and needs forecasting.⁶⁹⁷ Some of the prevailing health practices are harmful and result in delayed treatment and ineffective contact with the professional in modern medicine. The health services are also underutilized by the adolescents.

⁶⁸⁴ World Bank, 2021. "Hospital beds (per 1,000 people) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.MED.BEDS.ZS?locations=GM-ZG> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁸⁵ World Bank, 2021. "Community health workers (per 1,000 people) - Gambia, The."

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.MED.CMHW.P3?locations=GM&view=chart> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁸⁶ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁶⁸⁷ *ibid.*

⁶⁸⁸ *ibid.*

⁶⁸⁹ *ibid.*

⁶⁹⁰ *ibid.*

⁶⁹¹ *ibid.*

⁶⁹² Republic of The Gambia, "National Master Plan for Neglected Tropical Diseases 2015-2020."

⁶⁹³ *ibid.*

⁶⁹⁴ *ibid.*

⁶⁹⁵ *ibid.*

⁶⁹⁶ *ibid.*

⁶⁹⁷ *ibid.*

4.7 Coping with Negative Shocks

214 **Social Protection:** Various social protection projects, schemes and programmes exist in The Gambia,⁶⁹⁸ but limitations in fiscal, monetary and financial buffers do not allow the country to establish a full-fledged system of social safety nets.⁶⁹⁹ The most notable gaps are: long-term cash transfer to the extreme poor that is predictable, comprehensible in reach and adequate in amount; unemployment insurance and maternity benefits for the employees in the formal sector; national health insurance programme; crop insurance;⁷⁰⁰ and programmes targeting the fishery sector.

215 The percentage of women aged 15-49 with health insurance in 2018 was a meagre 2.4%, and it was the employers who provided the insurance to 93.2% of them.⁷⁰¹ The coverage was somewhat better for men of the same age group at 3.9% with 92.6% of them covered by their employers.⁷⁰² In other words, the vast majority of the population who work in the informal sector do not have any health insurance.

216 **Informal Social Protection:** The practice of informal social protection is based on the time-honored tradition of kinship-support through cash or in-kind transfers.⁷⁰³ All women who participated in focused group discussions depended on information social protection, which consisted of borrowing money from the extended family and friends,⁷⁰⁴ although the custom is said to be in decline.⁷⁰⁵ More structured, but still informal, mechanisms are also in place, such as *kafo*, *osusu* (both are types of revolving funds) and *zakat* (charitable giving by the Muslim better-off),⁷⁰⁶ but *kafo* and *osusu* appeared not as widely used as simple borrowing.⁷⁰⁷ Although the extended family is likely to be hit by the same economic shocks, people always find ways to cope by relying on the kins.⁷⁰⁸

217 Two exceptions among the seven discussion groups were Njoben and Kartong. In Njoben, women had access to the Social Development Fund, a national NGO which operates as a microfinance institution with reasonable rates, but relied also on borrowing from families and friends.⁷⁰⁹ At Kartong landing site, the self-formed professionals' association operated revolving funds for the members, while having access to microfinance.⁷¹⁰

218 **Sources of Negative Shocks:** The female and youth participants in the focused group discussions asserted that catch from the sea was diminishing, which reduced the volume of their merchandise and

⁶⁹⁸ Government of The Gambia, undated. "The Gambia National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025." <https://www.unicef.org/gambia/media/606/file/The-Gambia-National-Social-Protection-Policy-2015-2025.pdf> (accessed March 2021).

⁶⁹⁹ World Bank, "The World Bank in Gambia: the Overview."

⁷⁰⁰ Government of The Gambia, "The Gambia National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025."

⁷⁰¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report."

⁷⁰² *ibid.*

⁷⁰³ Government of The Gambia, "The Gambia National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025."

⁷⁰⁴ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷⁰⁵ Government of The Gambia, "The Gambia National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025."

⁷⁰⁶ Government of The Gambia, "The Gambia National Social Protection Policy 2015-2025."

⁷⁰⁷ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷⁰⁸ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷⁰⁹ Focused group discussions with women involved in farming, Njoben, March 12, 2021.

⁷¹⁰ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling, Kartong, March 20, 2021.

directly affected their livelihoods.⁷¹¹ They were aware that climate change was one of the important factors, but were unaware of the cause of climate change.⁷¹² Some also pointed to overfishing by industrial fleets as a major detrimental factor.⁷¹³ The most often cited economic hardship by the participants in the discussions were ceremonies, such as weddings, which required large cash payments in a short period.⁷¹⁴

4.8 Aspirations of the Youth

219 In the rural areas around the world, female youth often belong more to the group of women, instead of to the youth, and that is also the case in The Gambia. The youths who participated in the focused group discussions were aged 15-35, whose occupations were: fishing, fish selling and boat building at landing sites; both fishing and farming in Jahally; and farming at other villages.⁷¹⁵ Some identified the current work as the ideal for them, while the others were of the opinion that better opportunities existed in the urban areas and abroad. The former group was comprised of those involved in fishery, and the latter included those in Njoben, Jahally and Medina Lamin Kanteh, which were further inland and away from the capital than others, in addition to Kartong on the coast. The Bintang youths pointed out that their profession allows attainment of food security.

220 The youths who worked in fishery had noticed the diminishing amount of catch, which they attributed to insufficient policing of the fishing activities and climate change. They did not expect the climate change to be reversed and the plenty of the previous times would return. They were also of the opinion that their lives were at the whim of the changing weather over which they do not have control. The Banjul youths asserted that the measures taken so far to combat climate change were ineffective and unsustainable. The youths who worked at landing sites were willing to try their hand at new types of livelihoods; the youth in Banjul preferred something related to fishery.

221 For the youth, economic hardships were caused by celebrations, e.g., wedding. The youths in Kartong thought such events should be controlled in one way or another, as they took place sometimes on a weekly basis, whereas the youth in Bintang thought they were infrequent. On such occasions, they borrowed money from the extended families. The economic hardships were more directly related to the climate change by the youths engaged in farming in Jahally, but the youths in Njoben and Medina Lamin Kanteh – both farming communities – were less informed about climate change. Youth farmers mentioned engaging in petty trade, construction work and migrating to the urban areas in the times of economic distress, unlike their fishery counterparts who borrowed money from their relatives.

222 The youths in both sectors were aware that they have more livelihood options than their parents. Some mentioned that they had access to more information. Many believed that self-employment through small enterprises was the way to improve their lives and mentioned acquiring skills (e.g. carpentry, tailoring, restaurant operation), while the fisher youth preferred fish related activities and skills. For training and capital for such endeavors, donor support was expected. Prosperity was the social goal for

⁷¹¹ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷¹² *ibid.*

⁷¹³ *ibid.*

⁷¹⁴ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷¹⁵ Focused group discussions with youths, Banjul, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kanteh and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

them, who did not mention peace, harmony, equity and equality, or balance between livelihoods and ecology.

5. SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF RURAL GAMBIAN WOMEN

5.1 Rural Women's Voice in Politics

223 Women's voice is heard increasingly more in The Gambia. The country has a good number of female lawyers in practice, the most celebrated case being the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, who is a former Attorney General and Minister of Justice.⁷¹⁶ Among the 12 new judicial appointments to the superior courts of The Gambia a few years ago, five judges were women.⁷¹⁷ Of the newly re-constituted Gambia Court of Appeal, four out of the seven Justices of appeal were women in 2018.⁷¹⁸ A woman was named a Justice of the Supreme Court of The Gambia, the highest court in the country.⁷¹⁹ The Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, the Gambia National Olympic Committee and the Gambia Christian Council have enshrined in their Constitutions that in case the President is a man, the Vice-President should be a woman.⁷²⁰ The remarkable progress concerns primarily the upper tier of the society at the national level; in the early 2000s and in 2015, women were much less represented at lower levels (Table 20).

Table 20: Women's Representation in Governance^{721 722}

Position	Percentage of Women	
	Early 2000s	2015
Cabinet Ministers	33.0	20.0
National Assembly Members	10.0	9.3
Regional Governors/ Mayors	0	14.3
District Chiefs	0	0
Local Ward Councilors	n.a.	1.3
Mediators of Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat, Ministry of Justice	13.6	n.a.
Village Chiefs	0.3	n.a.

Source: Republic of The Gambia (2012). The Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations (2015).

224 All of five Regions and eight Local Government Administrations (Area Councils and Municipalities), 39 Districts were headed by men, including one paramount Chief in the early 2000s.⁷²³ Marginal improvement in gender balance was seen in 2015, as a woman was chosen as one of the Regional Governors/Mayors.⁷²⁴ The Local Government Act 2002 calls for gender equality in village and ward

⁷¹⁶ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

⁷¹⁷ United Nations, "List of issues in the absence of the second periodic report of the Gambia, Addendum: Replies of the Gambia to the list of issues."

⁷¹⁸ *ibid.*

⁷¹⁹ *ibid.*

⁷²⁰ Republic of the Gambia, "The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325."

⁷²¹ *ibid.*

⁷²² The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

⁷²³ *ibid.*

⁷²⁴ The Association of Non-Governmental organizations, Women's Rights Organizations and Civil Society Organizations, "The Gambia Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

development committees, but since the Area Councils – whose role is to address the social needs of the population – are male dominated, the rural women’s voices are still not effectively heard.⁷²⁵ Of 1,873 villages, five women assumed the role of *alkalo* (traditional village head) in the early 2000s.⁷²⁶ Women were represented much less than men in the formal private sector, with less than one-third of employees and less than one-fifth of managers.⁷²⁷ The Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat under the Ministry of Justice had three female mediators out of 22 in the country.⁷²⁸

225 Gender inequality is said to be manifestation of social stratification on a larger scale in the Gambian society, which assigns jobs and functions to particular families and gender as well as renders family and community structures hierarchical.⁷²⁹ Social stratification excludes the selected segments of the society, including women, from taking part in public discussions and decisions to impede the country from making the best use of its human resources and to slow its development.⁷³⁰

5.2 Harvester/Processor/Seller and Farmer Organizations

226 As of 2017, it was reported that 60 years of cooperative development efforts in The Gambia did not succeed in institutionalizing viable economic groups.⁷³¹ The key constraints identified were: involvement of the government in excess to harness the collective strengths for political ends; lack of evolution of farmer groups into producer cooperatives; and lack of sustainable financing mechanism for the groups’ investments.⁷³²

227 The professionals working at each site, including not only women and but also men who work as fishermen, middlemen, etc., has a common leader,⁷³³ uniting the landing-site users under one informal organization. Whereas Land Site Managers, who are officials of the Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources, did not consider women as part of the community defined by landing sites and lacked information on female users of the sites,⁷³⁴ the community leaders were well aware of the hardships that women face and their material needs, such as canoes.⁷³⁵ Their concerns did not include what may require negotiations with men, such as the presence of middlemen at landing sites, as reported by women as one of the biggest problems for them at all three landing sites visited. The leader in Banjul cited the working capital, however, as one of the needs of women and hence made an indirect reference to the middlemen issue. The problems of women and the youth were not always distinguished by the community leaders, but some differentiated them by needs (Kartong and Bintang landing sites and Medina Lamin Kanteh).

228 The fish and oyster harvesters, processors and sellers, who participated in the focused group discussions for the proposed project preparation, invariably belonged to a local association comprised of

⁷²⁵ Republic of the Gambia, “The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.”

⁷²⁶ *ibid.*

⁷²⁷ *ibid.*

⁷²⁸ *ibid.*

⁷²⁹ Republic of the Gambia, “The Gambia National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.”

⁷³⁰ *ibid.*

⁷³¹ The Republic of Gambia, “The Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy 2017-2026.”

⁷³² *ibid.*

⁷³³ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling at Banjul, Bintang and Kartong landing sites, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷³⁴ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling at Banjul and Bintang landing sites, March 9-13, 2021.

⁷³⁵ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling at Banjul, Bintang and Kartong landing sites, March 9-20, 2021.

women of the same profession.⁷³⁶ These associations were formed among themselves and officially registered; the advocacy of donors to create such organizations is thought to have had positive impact. Fees are collected from the members, and some associations use the fees collected for equipment purchase (e.g., canoes for oyster harvesters) and also as revolving funds.⁷³⁷ In case a harvester who is not a member wishes to use the canoe, s/he must pay a fee to the association. Such active use of member dues was not universal among the women participated in the discussions.

229 The President and the Secretary of these associations were women, but that of the Treasurer was often assumed by a man, owing to illiteracy among women in the profession. Rice or vegetable growers too belonged to a local growers' association, which included a few men as members, unlike the associations for landing sites. For these associations, it was usually a male member who became the President.

230 TRY Oyster Women's Association is an organization on the coast that was established in 2007 with 50 women as a community organization.⁷³⁸ It grew in a few years into one involving 500 members and 15 communities, attracting the funds of USAID⁷³⁹ and Global Environment Facility.⁷⁴⁰ The activities include trainings on fishery management, oyster cultivation techniques and conflict resolution between oyster harvesters and other resource users⁷⁴¹ as well as planting of mangrove seedlings over seven hectares of coastal areas.⁷⁴² The members also participate in community meetings to learn their roles in and responsibilities for managing the fishery and in development of co-management plans.⁷⁴³ In 2012, it was awarded the Equator Prize of the United Nations Development Programme for its outstanding community efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.⁷⁴⁴ The strength of the organization is that of the female members, but the leadership and fundraising accomplished by the Association leader appears to be equally crucial, if not more.⁷⁴⁵ Funds pooling will allow smokers and dryers at the Banjul landing site to purchase fish in bulk, skipping the middlemen who do not add value but price margin. The processors/sellers are well aware of the benefits of such pooling and it was practiced some years ago, but problems among members arose and the women have not been resumed it since.⁷⁴⁶

6. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL WOMEN FACING CLIMATE CHANGE

231 **Livelihood Skills:** The women in the fishery sector are mostly illiterate and acquired the skills to harvest and process marine products by helping their mothers who also worked as harvesters and

⁷³⁶ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling and farming, Banjul, Tambi, Bintang, Jahally, Njoben, Medina Lamin Kante and Kartong, March 9-20, 2021.

⁷³⁷ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling at Kartong landing site, March 20, 2021.

⁷³⁸ US AID, 2013. "TRY Association Aims High to Improve The Lives Of Gambian Oyster Women."

<https://www.usaid.gov/global-waters/may-2011/try> (accessed March 2021).

⁷³⁹ *ibid.*

⁷⁴⁰ Global Environment Facility, 2012. "TRY Oyster Women's Association Celebrates Receiving the UNDP Equator Prize 2012." <https://www.thegef.org/news/try-oyster-women's-association-celebrates-receiving-undp-equator-prize-2012> (accessed March 2021).

⁷⁴¹ US AID, "TRY Association Aims High to Improve The Lives Of Gambian Oyster Women."

⁷⁴² Global Environment Facility, "TRY Oyster Women's Association Celebrates Receiving the UNDP Equator Prize 2012."

⁷⁴³ US AID, "TRY Association Aims High to Improve The Lives Of Gambian Oyster Women."

⁷⁴⁴ University of Rhode Island, undated. "Ba Nafaa: Gambia-Senegal Sustainable Fisheries Project."

https://www.crc.uri.edu/stories_page/try-oyster-womens-association-of-the-gambia-wins-equator-prize/ (accessed March 2021).

⁷⁴⁵ US AID, "TRY Association Aims High to Improve The Lives Of Gambian Oyster Women."

⁷⁴⁶ Focused group discussions with women involved in processing/harvesting/selling at Banjul landing site, March 9 and 10, 2021.

processors. As they have clearly noticed, the primary input necessary for their profession is decreasing, but they do not have a concrete strategy for the future. The youth facing a similar situation dream of acquiring skills that would enable them to become self-employed in trade, such as carpentry and tailoring. The government has promoted vocational training, which has reached as far as regional capitals.

232 With climate change reducing the amount of fish available, at least some of the women currently engaged in harvesting, processing and selling wild oysters and fish will need to engage in new activities. Aquaculture could help the women and youth in the fishery sector to make use of the knowledge and skills that they have already.

233 **Empowerment and Decision Making Power:** Most women in the fishery sector earn more than their husbands and many put their children through school with their income alone, but their economic empowerment has not been accompanied by more equal decision-making power between wives and husbands. The women may be consulted on strategic issues, such as purchase and sale of assets, inheritance and marriage, but the final decisions are made by men. Women allow such arrangements to continue, since marriage is important to them and wish not to create troubles in the family. Such sentiment is reflected in the fact that a significant proportion of women themselves think that men are justified in beating their wives if they neglect their children, go out without telling their husbands, etc. Domestic violence is rarely reported. When it comes to problems related to their work, but not directly with the family, women do not hesitate to go to the officials to lodge their complaints.

234 If women are to take up new activities under the project, household members who are not participating in household chores and caregiving must shoulder some of the women's share to give them the time to devote to additional activities. If the country is to make the best use of its human resources, all must be given decision-making power regardless of gender, in particular equal power between wife and husband. Given the gender-based assignments of work, crops and animals, women and men work mostly independently of each other, while they help the other at certain gender-determined stages of production. As a result, resources are not used efficiently at the household level; the availability of some equipment for "men's" crop or animal does not necessarily mean that it will be available for "women's" crop or animal, even in the same household. Open dialogues between wife and husband to construct a common vision for the family will help understand the roles, responsibilities and contributions of each household member and guide them to more equitable participation in family life.

235 The project personnel may be tempted to engage in sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment (SEAH), or even gender based violence (GBV), as they acquire new power from being associated with the project. The engagement of women in new activities and their acquisition of additional skills may tilt the prevailing gender-based power-division in favor of women and provoke SEAH and GBV by men at home and in the community. Men may perceive so even if that is not the case and interpret the changes as a threat to their identity, driving them to resort to SEAH and GBV. For prevention of such incidents, the project trains project-related personnel on the subject, including some of their supervisors who have stronger decision-making power compared to the personnel directly involved in the project. FAO Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will be strengthened through training of GRM respondents and linkage to GBV referral pathways so that SEAH and GBV related grievances are adequately managed in inclusive, survivor-centred and gender-responsive ways. GBV pathways will be established and operationalized to provide timely services and redress to survivors. The issue of unequal gender relations will be approached using a household methodology, whose unit is a household, at the community level. Additional mitigation measures against risks outside their homes include: sensitization and involvement

of community gatekeepers; and gender training of project personnel (including some of their supervisors) and professionals along the GBV referral pathways.

236 **Community Gatekeepers:** Men assume the role of landing site managers, who belong to the Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources. Although they oversee the entire landing sites, they do not regard women who work on the sites as part of the site community. The informal landing-site community leaders and *alkalo* are much more aware of the obstacles that women face, but reported only material related difficulties and not the low prices of the products that women handle compared to men. Sensitization of community gatekeepers will be necessary for them to understand the *soft* issues that prevent women from achieving their full potential. Sensitization is also required if they are to approve equal distribution of decision-making power between wives and husbands; equal distribution would not be fully achieved without the consent and encouragement of the gatekeepers.

237 **Literacy and Numeracy:** Many women are astute and know how to run their small business well enough to generate more income than their husbands. They are limited by lack of literacy and numeracy skills, especially when it comes to financial matters, leaving them vulnerable to men who wish to take advantage of their inability. Women may fill the posts of President and Secretary of their local professional associations, but often the role of Treasurer is given to a man, because of their illiteracy. Women are said to be reluctant to expand their successful small business and enter the formal sector, reasoning that it is a men's world. Since paperwork is the norm in the formal sector, their great disadvantage in, if not incapacity of, navigating in settings ruled by documents and paperwork must also be playing a role.

238 Women have conducted business with information obtained through direct observing and exchanged among themselves, that is without receiving structured periodical information on markets. Their business acumen could be further sharpened with more information, but that is unlikely if written information is off-limits to them.

239 The lack of decision-making opportunities at a strategic level at home, coupled with lack of literacy and numeracy skills, appears to have deprived the women of the capacity to make strategic planning with respect to their livelihoods, e.g., finding new markets and adapting to climate change. It may have been exacerbated by insufficient ownership of past aid projects. Without long-term visions accompanied by strategic thinking, it will be difficult to adjust their livelihoods to climate change which is increasingly exerting negative effects.

240 **Negotiation Skills:** Negotiation skills are often mentioned as an important skill set that most women in the primary sector lack and impede their economic achievement. While rare in the rural areas,⁷⁴⁷ the most affected in the fishery sector are women who are heads of households and do not have a male relative to supply them the fish that they process or trade. They are dependent on men outside the family and are often given less fish than they could have obtained if they were competent in negotiating.

241 **Female Youth:** The female youth are very often subsumed under the larger category of women, and their distinguishing qualities (e.g., higher literacy and numeracy) are not highlighted unlike the male youth who are differentiated from older men. Meaningful employment for female youth is rare; the unemployment rate for female youths with intermediate level of education is higher than for other levels or for male youths. Teenage pregnancy rate is high in the rural areas. Poverty and patriarchy pose high risk of their falling victim to violence and of being deprived of opportunities for self-fulfillment. Young

⁷⁴⁷ World Food Programme, 2016. "Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis."

rural women could be engaged in work that makes good use of their strength: higher literacy and numeracy skills compared to that of rural women of older generations.

242 **Ownership and Sustainability:** As has been noted by the National Environment Agency and the Department of Forestry, the knowledge and skills on the ground have not been sufficiently integrated in many of the aid projects, leading to unsatisfactory and unsustainable results. Women and *alkalo* in Bintang pointed out the insufficient ventilation of a smoking structure built by a donor, which appears to be partly caused by their use that is more frequent than prescribed as a result of population increase since the construction. Women in Tambi reported that they abandoned the new oyster boiling stoves provided by the donor, because it required more fuel than they could afford.

243 Involvement of women users in location selection, design, installation and maintenance of equipment to be introduced will not only improve ownership and sustainability of the equipment, but also empower women by equipping them with the knowledge and skills related to the tools of their trade.

244 **Safeguarding the Environment:** Women who participated in the focused group discussions knew that climate was changing and that it would not revert to what it was before. They were also aware that the mangroves were important habitats for fish and oysters, on which their livelihoods depended. Knowing these facts, they did not discontinue using mangroves for roofing and fish drying, and did not express, at least explicitly, concerns about their conflicted interests with respect to mangroves.

245 They described unsatisfactory situations with respect to drinking water at home; out-of-order pumps, insufficient number of water points in the village, lack of water source in the compound and insufficient quantity of water available. At the same time, they were willing to engage in aquaculture if a donor is to propose an aquaculture project, with the assumption that water will be found and pipes laid by the donor. Smoke generated when smoking fish is a health hazard, but women did not seem aware that it can also repel insects, including mosquitoes. In sum, women do not think they are responsible for safeguarding the environment, which will limit the sustainability of their actions.

7. PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Principles of Project Formulation

7.1.1 Enabling Women for Strategic Decision Making

246 Climate change is a social challenge profound enough that it does not allow leaving human capital underutilized as it has been to date. It demands both women and men to make strategic decisions at all levels so that their livelihoods are well adapted to the changes. Women, however, have not had the experience or given the power to make such decisions. The proposed project strengthens the capacity of women so that they will be able to effectively and strategically plan for the future. Empowerment of women needs to be accepted at home and in the community; men and community gatekeepers will be sensitized on the issue and will take part in gender empowerment for their acceptance and ownership.

7.1.2 Enabling Women for Strategic Actions

247 Climate change requires strategic decision making, which leads to strategic actions for livelihoods. Women are savvy enough to have survived and even flourished without literacy and numeracy, but also have been limited to the informal sector and low-productivity products with meagre profit margins. Some

of the crucial factors that enable women to go beyond these limits are their access to formal information and systems and acquisition of negotiation skills

7.1.3 Female Youth as Agents of Change

248 The female youth are not recognized as a distinct group among women or the youth, and their particular vulnerability as well as strengths are hardly taken into account in planning at any level. Focusing on the high unemployment among female youth with intermediate education, the proposed project will integrate this social segment more clearly into the society by taking advantage of their literacy, both traditional and ICT (information and communication technology), and numeracy to help their mothers and aunts obtain the skills. They will also be trained on the environment and participate in environmental management, together with the older generation. The project also makes use of the characteristics of the youth that they are more motivated than the older generations to transform the society for the better.

7.1.4 Ensuring Sustainability through Ownership

249 Not only the needs of women, but also their knowledge and skills are often insufficiently considered in various kinds of projects, generating little ownership among targeted women. Without ownership, projects are seen as gifts and hence a one-off activity, after which the pre-project condition prevails. Women do not have good knowledge of the environment, which prevents them from sustainably managing it and that to their advantage; they do not have ownership of the environment. The proposed project will integrate women's inputs, and at the same time, equip them with knowledge necessary to assume full ownership of the equipment and the environment that are essential to their livelihoods.

7.2 Principles of Project Implementation

250 Based on the above project formulation principles, the project activities will be implemented as below to enhance the participation of women and female youth in fishery with decision-making power. All activities and mitigation measures will be in accordance with FAO and Green Climate Fund Policies on gender and related issues: FAO Accountability Policy (2014); FAO Whistleblower Protection Policy (Administrative Circular N°2019/06); GCF Policy on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses (2018); FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030; GCF Gender Policy (2019); FAO Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (PSAE) N° 2013/27; FAO Policy on the Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Abuse of Authority N° 2015/03 (2015); GCF Revised Policy on the Prevention and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse, and Sexual Harassment (2021); FAO Policy against Fraud and other Corrupt Practices N° 2015/08 (2015); and GCF Policy on Prohibited Activities (2019). A gender and social inclusion expert will be a member of the project's Technical Advisory Committee. The aspects concerning women and youth of the project will be monitored according to the indicators in the Gender Action Plan.

7.2.1 Building on and Enhancing the Strengths of Women

251 The project will fully integrate inputs from women and engage them as much as possible in activities that are related to equipment and facilities for processors. The beneficiaries and the procurement/installation team will discuss site-specific needs, including what is the best time, location and work sequence for installation, and the beneficiaries will be allowed to observe the team's work on the site and be updated on the progress on a weekly basis. Women will be consulted on various aspects of aquaculture, such as types of fish, location and dimensions of aquaculture waterbodies. Any training

with female participants will involve them from the planning stage and allow instructors and beneficiaries to jointly define the content for enhanced effectiveness of the training and alignment of expectations.

7.2.2 Investment in Women

252 To make full use of the human capital in the country, the proposed project will compensate for the investment that the society had the tendency to neglect; it will provide literacy and numeracy trainings to female beneficiaries. The skills will encourage women to venture into the formal sector and capture the market segments that are more profitable, as they are already equipped with some business acumen. In the long term, the empowerment of women through these fundamental skills is expected to lead to transformation of the domestic market, whose sellers and consumers are overwhelmingly women, into one with higher productivity and profits.

253 Women will be thoroughly consulted beforehand for organization/logistics – including childcare and transportation needs and timing of activities – and content of all activities, as they have many more house-bound obligations than men and their needs and strengths are more than often set aside. All trainings and consultations under the proposed project will have slots reserved for women, including those on: rights and obligations of community forest tenure; technical, O&M and organizational aspects of equipment and fish handling facilities; and fish-feed production. Women will be involved in review and agreement preparation related to community forest tenure. They will be invited to take part in dredging for expansion of the Banjul landing site and aquaculture to encourage experiencing tasks commonly restricted to men. Training on sustainable management of clam and oyster culture as well as on quality standards, marketing, export rules, etc. for artisanal fish processors will specifically target women. In order to accommodate the women's needs for extension information, e-extension service will have a voice-over version.

254 Trainings for government officials and technicians will similarly consult women officials and technicians and include female youth participants. All will also be trained on gender issues so that they can more effectively accompany the process of gender empowerment.

7.2.3 Female Youth as a Distinct Group

255 The female youth will be recognized as a distinct group with its own strengths and weaknesses. Their strength in traditional and ICT literacy and numeracy will be tapped to empower their mothers' generation who constitute the main actors in fish processing/selling and oyster harvesting/processing/selling. Given that girls with satisfactory numeracy skills comprised only 1.9% of the age group 7-14 years in the rural areas, the female youth will be trained on numeracy and pedagogy, in addition to environmental management.

256 All trainings and consultations as well as activities for women under the proposed project will have slots reserved for female youth, in addition to slots for youth-led establishment of fish-feeding units. The government officials and technicians who are female youths will be given opportunities in a similar manner. By contributing to women's empowerment in this manner, the female youth will be better integrated in the society.

7.2.4 Social Acceptance of Gender Empowerment

257 Culturally prescribed roles along gender lines drive women and men to pursue different household strategies, often disjointed. The household methodology shifts our focus from what women

do not possess to what the family members aspire to, in particular, what they want to become, what they want to be engaged in and how they can achieve these goals. The methodology's objective is for family members to create a common vision for the household through guided dialogues among them, which allow women and men to understand and challenge gender norms and their connection to poverty. The methodology facilitates reflection, behavioral change and household planning through gender-sensitive participation. The topics discussed will include sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH) and gender-based violence (GBV), where appropriate. The project proposes application of household methodology to the beneficiaries involved in aquaculture, whose needs for gender equality at home will be greater than other female beneficiaries.

258 The important last mile in ensuring sustainable behavioral change is that the community gatekeepers and other key figures give a stamp of approval to the changes that have taken place, especially among men, who need to be assured that they have not been emasculated and that the changes are welcome to the entire community. The community leaders will be sensitized on the positive effects of gender empowerment at the household and community levels so that they may effectively endorse the changes in behavior. How effective these measures will be in terms of gender empowerment depends on the interest of the targeted groups and the skills of the trainers/facilitators to suscite the interest and to guide them over time.

7.2.5 Sexual Exploitation, Harassment and Abuse and Gender-Based Violence

259 Gender empowerment is not complete if there is no effective mechanism that transmits the message that Sexual Exploitation, Harassment and Abuse (SEAH) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) would not be condoned, while the project introduces additional possibilities of SEAH/GBV. The project personnel may use their power related to the project and engage in SEAH/GBV. The involvement of women in new activities and their acquisition of new skills may upset the prevailing gender-based power-division and provoke SEAH and GBV by their male family members and other men in the community. It is widely accepted that SEAH and GBV occur due to the aggressor's desire to assert his/her supremacy over the victim. The trigger for SEAH and GBV can be anything that the perpetrator perceives as a threat to his/her power over the ones whom he/she thinks is, or should be, inferior to him/her. In other words, there is no situation without risk of SEAH/GBV, and much will depend on the thinking/mentality of the potential aggressor (i.e., his/her perception of threat, or non-existence thereof, to his/her supremacy). This includes prostitution in which the client assumes that he/she is free to use the other's body as he/she wishes with money, a type of supremacy over the service provider.

260 It is also well known that some socially respected persons or organizations can be perpetrators. In other words, SEAH/GBV can occur anywhere, anytime and in any way; what matters is the perception of the potential perpetrator. In recognition of this characteristics of SEAH and GBV, the proposed project integrates the household methodology, which includes re-examination of power relationships between gender, generation, etc., based on dialogues, the time-honored method of conflict resolution in The Gambia. The project will implement this methodology at the community level so that women are protected also from men who are not their family members (Activity 3.2.3). Community gatekeepers who tend to set the tone for the community men are sensitized and involved in community-led measures against SEAH and GBV (Activity 3.2.3).

261 The project also acknowledges that the understanding of SEAH and GBV by the Gambian society and the international community does not neatly overlap. While the conflicts at community levels are resolved in an inclusive manner through dialogues among the members, the prevailing norm with respect to SEAH and GBV may be based on patriarchal traditions. According to the Gambia Multiple Indicator

Cluster Survey 2018,⁷⁴⁸ close to half of the women believe that husband's beating his wife is justified when she neglects the children, argues with him, goes out without telling him, etc., despite the economic achievement by many women. The same survey found that 75.7% of girls and women aged 15-49 had undergone female genital mutilation. The practice was more prevalent in the urban areas (77.3%) than in the rural areas (71.1%) and so was the opinion among women that it should be continued (44.6% of urban women versus 42.5% of rural women). It is neither effective nor culturally sensitive to work according to the definition of SEAH/GBV of the international community without agreeing with the local population what constitutes SEAH/GBV.

262 For these reasons, the project tackles the issues at their root to change the mentality of potential aggressors/victims and emphasizes prevention, which is a more effective mitigation measure than after-event management. The household methodology, based on dialogues, is adopted to allow the beneficiaries to examine which of their attitudes/behaviors/actions could be considered aggression/unwelcome by the victims and why such attitudes/behaviors/actions should be changed. In the event that SEAH takes place, the project will, as after-incident management (the other type of mitigation), convene gatekeepers of the relevant communities for analyzing and finding the best way to prevent similar incidents by the same aggressor/s and others in the communities: first with the FAO Gender Focal Points and ESS/Gender Specialist for the project; and later with the community members, one with women alone (excluding gatekeepers and project management members in case they are men), another with men alone and finally with the entire community members. This method respects the Gambian culture which gives great weight to dialogues. In case of GBV, the victim will be immediately put in contact with the professionals along the GBV referral pathway in the relevant district, followed up by the same after-management as for SEAH.

263 The risk of SEAH/GBV starts at home; gender-based domestic violence was raised as a major issue by the Women's Bureau of The Gambia, but not harassment/violence by strangers/acquaintances, implying the gravity of the former compared to the latter. Men in the family are not necessarily supportive of empowerment of their own women; the household methodology is used to sensitize men on gender and gender empowerment. Once the men in the family gain better understanding of the issue, the family can come up with strategies to overcome the threats that women may face at workplace and on the road. For most women under the project, the main place of work is the landing/mangrove site, which is used by the entire community. The household methodology, consisting of dialogues between women and men and across generations, is applied with a household as a unit and at a community level.

264 The FAO Gambia's Ethics Focal Point and Alternate Focal Point, Project Management Unit and other executing agencies – Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters – will be trained on the subject in line with the GCF and FAO policies on SEAH and GBV,⁷⁴⁹ and will participate in the community dialogues as needed. The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) of FAO will be strengthened so that SEAH and GBV incidents are properly managed; GRM

⁷⁴⁸ Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2019. "The Gambia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2018: Survey Findings Report." https://mics-surveys-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/MICS6/West%20and%20Central%20Africa/Gambia/2018/Survey%20findings/The%20Gambia%202018%20MICS%20Survey%20Findings%20Report_English.pdf (accessed March 2021).

⁷⁴⁹ GCF, 2021. "Revised Policy on Prevention and Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Sexual Abuse and Harassment." <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/seah-policy.pdf> (accessed March 2022).

FAO, 2013. "Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (PSEA)." Administrative Circular, 2013/27.

FAO, 2015. "Policy on the Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment, and Abuse of Authority." Administrative Circular, 2015/03.

FAO, 2019. "Policy on Prevention of Sexual Harassment." Administrative Circular, 2019/01.

respondents will be trained and the GRM will be linked to GBV referral pathways. The country offices of FAO and UNFPA in The Gambia are drafting an agreement to collaborate on establishing operational referral pathways and making Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits available. Professionals who would be involved in operationalizing referral pathways – such as the police, medical doctors, psychologists, lawyers and social workers – will be trained on GBV and campaigns will be carried out to inform the general population about GBV and the referral pathways. The project will ensure that GRM and GBV pathways take an inclusive, survivor-centered and gender-responsive approach.

7.2.6 Integration of the Environment in Business

265 Awareness on the environment among women and female youth will be raised to make their decisions on business and household management sustainable by taking the environmental impacts into account. Trainings on the subject will build on the knowledge that women already possess, supplementing it with western science. It will focus on enhancing their ability to observe nature, monitor and respond with climate change in mind. The importance of educating children on the environment will also be emphasized. As with the trainings related to equipment and facilities, female beneficiaries will be involved from the planning stage and allow instructors and beneficiaries to jointly define the content and align expectations. Women will also participate in mangrove restoration and conservation activities, including site selection, monitoring and evaluation and related campaigns. They will also serve as forest management committee members and contribute to citizen monitoring of fishery sector and associated ecosystems.

8. FIELD CONSULTATION: PARTNERS AND QUESTIONS

8.1 Consultation Partners

Date	Local Government Area	District	Village/City	Type of Stakeholders	Participants	
					Female	Male
March 9-10, 2021	Banjul	n.a.	Banjul	Fish smokers and driers working at the Banjul landing site	23	0
				Youths aged 17-34 working at the Banjul landing site	0	8
				Community leader of the Banjul landing site	0	1
March 9-10, 2021	Brikama	Kombo North/Saint Mary	Tambi	Oyster harvesters/processors/sellers	4	0
				Community leader of the Tambi oyster harvesters/processors/sellers	1	0
March 12, 2021	Kuntaur	Niani	Njoben	Vegetable farmers in Njoben	9	0
				Youths aged 25-34	0	8
March 13, 2021	Brikama	Foni Bintang Karenai	Bintang	Fish Smokers and oyster harvesters/processors working at the Bintang landing site	7	0
				Youths aged 18-35 working at the Bintang landing site	0	4
				<i>Alkalo</i> (traditional chief) of Bintang	0	1
March 17, 2021	Jajambureh	Niamina East	Jahally	Rice farmers in Jahally	23	0
				Youths aged 20-30 in Jahally	0	8
				Representative of <i>Alkalo</i> of Jahally	0	1
				Head of Jahally Development Association (informal CBO)	0	1
March 18, 2021	Kuntaur	Niani	Medina Lamin Kanteh	Vegetable farmers in Medina Lamin Kanteh	6	0
				Youths aged 15-35 in Medina Lamin Kanteh	0	7
				<i>Alkalo</i> (traditional chief) of Medina Lamin Kanteh	0	1
March 20, 2021	Brikama	Kombo South	Kartong	Fish smokers and oyster harvesters/processors/sellers at the Kartong landing site	6	0
				Youth aged 17-25 working at the Kartong landing site	1	6
				Community leader of the Kartong landing site	0	1
April 8, 2021	West Coast	Kombo Central	Nyaniberreh	Farmers involved in Food and Agriculture Sector Development Project of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)	1	3
		Kombo North	Lamin		0	1

Date	Local Government Area	District	Village/City	Type of Stakeholders	Participants	
					Female	Male
Total					81	51

Date	Location	Institution		Persons Consulted
		Name	Description	
March 5, 2021	Banjul	National Environment Agency (NEA), Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources	Government body to promote, coordinate and propose environmental policy to the National Environmental Management Council.	<p>Lamin Komma (Programme Officer, Coastal and Marine Services) +220 9939748 komma16@yahoo.com</p> <p>Modou Sanneh (Programme Officer, Agriculture and Natural Resources) +220 9922215 modoun.Sanneh@gmail.com</p> <p>Lamin Camara (Senior Programme Officer, Environment Impact Assessment) +220 9821995 blmncamara64@gmail.com</p> <p>Alhagie Sarr (Senior Programme Officer) +220 9866975 alagiesarr42@gmail.com</p>
March 8, 2021	Banjul	Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources	Government body to involve all residents in forest protection and to promote participatory forest protection and management.	<p>Sisawo Sabally (Assistant Unit Head, Participatory Forest Management Unit) +220 7974907 sisawo90@gmail.com</p> <p>Modou Colley (Senior Forest Ranger) +220 3600939 colleymodou23@yahoo.com</p> <p>Malang Jatta (Data Management Officer)</p>

Date	Location	Institution		Persons Consulted
		Name	Description	
				+220 3150442 mjatta04@yahoo.com Gherno Gaye (Unit Head, Participatory Forest Management Unit) chernogaye71@yahoo.com
March 9, 2021	Banjul	Women's Bureau	Government body responsible for giving policy guidance and proposals to the Gambia Government on issues affecting women.	Siaka Marong (Assistant Director Projects and Programmes) + 220 9969889 smarong2@yahoo.co.uk Sainey Cham (Assistant Monitoring and Evaluation Officer) +220 9992937 chamdemba73@yahoo.co.uk
March 9-10, 2021	Banjul	Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources	Government body responsible for fishery, including aquaculture, and water resources.	Babou Cham (Landing Site Manager) +220 7335479
March 12, 2021	Banjul	Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources	Government body responsible for fishery, including aquaculture, and water resources.	Omar S. M. Gibba (Acting Permanent Secretary) + 220 7050000 gibbaosm97@gmail.com
March 13, 2021	Bintang	Ministry of Fishery and Water Resources	Government body responsible for fishery, including aquaculture, and water resources.	Momodou Gassama (Landing Site Manager) +220 7703413
March 22, 2021	Banjul	Ministry of Agriculture	Government body responsible for agriculture, including livestock.	Bintou Gassama (Deputy Permanent Secretary) + 220 9815564 bintougjammeh@gmail.com
March 24, 2021	Banjul	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources	Government body responsible for protecting and conserving the country's wild fauna as well as their natural environment.	Lamin Saine (Park Manager) +220 9069090 sainelamin98@gmail.com Dawda Jallow

Date	Location	Institution		Persons Consulted
		Name	Description	
				(Assistant Park Manager) dawdabjallow@gmail.com Isatou Njie (Park Ranger) +220 7660083 ishan9705@gmail.com Essa Jallow (Park Ranger) +220 7710794
March 24, 2021	Banjul	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs	Government body responsible for setting the national government's overall economic policy objectives and the legal and institutional framework for achieving the objectives. The National Designated Authority of the proposed project.	Maria Azzi Tamedou (Principal Economist) + 220 7704440 missmazzi@yahoo.com
April 1, 2021	Banjul	Agency for the Development of Women and Children	National non-government body for improving the quality of life of vulnerable people, in particular, women and children.	Masamba Joof (Executive Director) +220 9915217 msjoof2014@gmail.com
April 7, 2021	Banjul	Action Aid International	A global federation working for a world free from poverty and injustice, in particular to achieve social justice and gender equality and to eradicate poverty.	Sarjo camara (Empowering Children Project Coordinator) +220 9929214 Sarjo.Camara@actionaid.org Fanta Jatta Sow (Head of Programms and Policy) +220 7901234 fantajatta.sowe@actionaid.org

8.2 Consultation Questions

8.2.1. Core Consultation Questions for Institutions

Gender, ethnic minorities and youth

- Understanding of gender/youth issues, including legislations, regulations and international conventions
 - Are you aware of the international agreement commitments made by the government pertaining to equal rights, access to resources and opportunities?
 - Are you aware of the National Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan?
 - Which components of the National Gender Policy and Action Plan does your office support?
 - Does your work take various policies, regulations and international conventions into account?
 - Do you make specific efforts to consider issues faced by gender/youth?
- Knowledge of formal rights, laws, regulations, and commitment of the country to international conventions and agreements
 - The country has policies, laws and regulations to safeguard the rights of all persons, regardless of gender, belief and age, including National Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan. Are you aware of them?
 - Which components of the National Gender Policy and Action Plan does your work support?
- What are the problems that rural women face in Gambia today?
- Do you have information indicating that women's conditions and needs are different from men's?
- Do you promote your gender concerns at meetings, internal and external, including these objectives?
- How do you encourage private commercial entities to consider the needs of women at all stages of their operation?
- Do you consider gender aspects when assessing and monitoring your programmes by differentiating the impacts on women and men?
- Do your publications clearly state your focus, priorities and activities on women and youth?
- Have the objectives led to improved situations for women and youths?

Governance and grievance resolution

- What is the mechanism for the community members to communicate the problems under your jurisdiction?
- Do you think the community members are well aware of the relevant laws and your mandate?
- How are the problems brought to you solved?
- How do you monitor whether the solutions that you provide are well implemented?

8.2.2 Core Consultation Questions for Female Harvesters/Processors/Sellers Farmers

Roles and responsibilities in production and livelihood systems

- Types of livelihoods: fishery, fish-landing related, processing/marketing, oyster (or other mangrove related), agriculture, livestock
 - What is the main livelihood of your household?
 - What is your work?
 - What is the work of other household members?
 - What is the biggest problems related to your work?
 - Are you part of producers' groups or cooperatives?

- What are the benefits of being part of producers' groups/cooperatives? Drawbacks?
- [for coastal communities] What may be the benefits? Drawbacks? Obstacles?
- Management of various natural resources: responsibilities and resultant social status
 - What are the crops cultivated for consumption at home? For sale?
 - Which livestock is raised for consumption at home? For sale?
 - Who is responsible for drinking water, including animals?
 - Who is responsible for fuel?
 - Are mangroves important for day-to-day?
 - Do you think you have the same amount of mangroves/fish/shellfish as your grandparents did?
 - Do you think your grandchildren will have the same amount of mangroves/fish/shellfish as your grandparents did?
- Food security and other basic needs (to clothe, etc.): financial and procurement responsibilities
 - Who is responsible for finding/purchasing food? Who pays for it?
 - Who is responsible for finding/purchasing clothes? Who pays for it?

Access to and control of resources

- Productive and household assets: ownership, access and control
 - What are the assets that are used to generate income (e.g., boat, fishing gear, hatchery, drying oven/rack, land, livestock)?
 - Who owns those assets?
 - Should each asset belong to one family?
 - What are the benefits of operating assets/facilities (e.g., fishing/drying/smoking gear) co-owned by all households in the village? If owned by several villages?
 - What may be the difficulties? If owned by several villages?
- Income and expenditure: primary and secondary sources, items and control
 - Who decides on how to spend income?
- Access to resources: water
 - What is the source of drinking water (e.g., well, river, pond)?
 - Is it shared by livestock and other animals?
 - Do people and animals bathe in the water used for drinking?
 - What do you think about water quality?
 - Do you have enough water for all your needs?
 - Has the amount of available water changed?
 - Are you interested in creating a pond for raising fish?
 - Where will the pond be located?
 - Where will the water for the pond come from?
 - How will it be carried to the pond?
 - What may be the benefits from raising fish in a pond? Drawbacks? Obstacles?
- Access to resources: fuel
 - What is the source of cooking fuel?
 - If you use charcoal, which trees are used?
 - From whom do you buy them?
- Access to markets: purchase and sale
 - Who goes to the market for purchase?
 - Who goes to the market for sale?
- Access to means of transportation: service frequency, cost, possibility of independent travel
 - What kind of transportation is available? For what purpose? For women/handicapped?

- Is the frequency of the available transportation satisfactory?
- Is the cost of the available transportation reasonable?
- Access to agricultural services: extension, (rural) finance, (agricultural) marketing, etc.
 - Is extension service (agriculture, fishery, livestock) available? Is the service useful?
 - Are there credits and insurance available for fish, shellfish, crops and livestock? Are they useful?
 - Is there enough information on what sells, why, and when?

Skills, knowledge and information

- Knowledge on health, sanitation and nutrition
 - Do you think there is a link between what we eat and our health?
 - Do you think eating variety of food items improves our health?
 - Do you think there is a link between how we keep things clean and our health?
 - Do you think there is a link between health of the animals that we keep and our health?
 - Do you think the way fish/shellfish is processed may make it not safe to eat (e.g., washing with unclean water, smoking)?
- Access to electronic devices for information
 - Do you have a mobile phone? A smart phone?
 - Do you have access to the internet?

Decision-making and governance

- Roles in decision-making: home, groups, community, producer and community-based organizations, and local government
 - Who makes what kind of decisions at home?
 - ... in the community?
- Nature of decision-making: income use, commons use, means of income generation, food distribution, marriage, number of children, inheritance, etc.
 - Who decides on purchases of goods for the entire family?
 - Who decides how to distribute food among family members?
 - Who decides on the marriage of family members?
 - Who decides who inherits what and how much?
- Conflict resolution mechanism: among individuals and different social groups, including violence
 - How are conflicts resolved within the family?
 - When you have a problem in the community, to whom do you go?
 - Are the solutions provided satisfactory to all parties?
 - What are the differences between problem solving by communities and formal institutions?
 - Are women/youth involved in providing solutions or mediating?

Living conditions

- Main health problems
 - What are the main health problems?
 - What may be the causes?
- Health services: public/private, number of nurses/doctors per population, distance to nearest hospital, affordable medicine, number of medical specialists
 - How many public clinics/hospital are there in the vicinity?
 - How far are they from the community?

Economic hardship

- Events leading to economic hardship: frequency, cause, nature (loss/damage of house/boat/landing facilities/hatchery/crops/livestock), predictability
 - What are the events that cause financial problems?
 - How frequent are they?
- Coping mechanism: use of event-specific/all-purpose saving, borrowing from relatives/friends/informal lender/formal lender, monetary/non-monetary aid from charity/government/NGO, sale of land/house/livestock/other, premature termination of schooling, change in food intake/expenses/living arrangement/occupation, migration
 - How do you cope with financial difficulties?
 - What kind of opportunities are good (e.g., aquaculture, craft making)?

Climate change

- Changes observed on the ground: temperature, water availability, floods/droughts, weather patterns, crop flowering/maturing, insect egg-laying/hatching/maturing, non-crop plants, plant/animal diseases, effects on product quality/quantity
 - Has there been any change in the weather/climate in the past years?
 - What are the effects on the fish/shellfish catch? Crop development? Animal behavior?
 - What are the effects on fish/shellfish diseases? Crop diseases? Animal diseases?
 - How is the fish/shellfish catch/production affected? Crop production? Milk/egg/meat production?
- Changes learned through other sources: mass media, communication with CBO/NGO staff/local government officials, participation in trainings/meetings
 - Do you hear about changes in weather/climate?
 - From which sources?
 - Do you think the climate will go back to what it was during your grandparents' time?
- Adapted coping mechanism: alteration of practices/crop types/occupation, migration
 - How do you deal with changes in weather/climate?
 - Are the measures effective?
 - If the weather/climate keeps on changing, will that affect the availability of food?

8.2.3 Core Consultation Questions for Youths

Vocation

- Job opportunities
 - What kind of work do you do?
 - Is your current work is different from your ideal occupation?
 - Does the urban areas or foreign countries offer good opportunities?

Economic hardship

- Family responsibility
 - What are the events that cause financial problems to the family?
 - How frequent are they?
 - What is expected of you during such times?
 - Have you heard about climate change? Do you think it is affecting your livelihood?
 - Do you think climate will go back to what it was during your grandparents' time?
- Coping mechanism: use of event-specific/all-purpose saving, borrowing from relatives/friends/

informal lender/formal lender, monetary/non-monetary aid from charity/government/NGO, sale of land/house/livestock/other, premature termination of schooling, change in food intake/expenses/living arrangement/occupation, migration

- How do you cope with financial difficulties?
- What makes you take up new opportunities to increase household income?
- What kind of opportunities are good?

Climate change

- Changes observed on the ground: temperature, water availability, floods/droughts, weather patterns, crop flowering/maturing, insect egg-laying/hatching/maturing, non-crop plants, plant/animal diseases, effects on product quality/quantity
 - Has there been any change in the weather in the past years?
 - What are the effects on the fish/shellfish catch? Crop development?
 - How is the fish/shellfish catch/production affected? Crop production?
- Changes learned through other sources: mass media, communication with CBO/NGO staff/local government officials, participation in trainings/meetings
 - Do you hear about changes in weather/climate?
 - From which sources?
 - Do you think the climate will go back to what it was during your grandparents' time?
- Adapted coping mechanism: alteration of practices/crop types/occupation, migration
 - How do you deal with changes in weather/climate?
 - Are the measures effective?

Community and society

- Contribution of the youth
 - Do you think the youth are very different from their parents?
 - What are the strength of youth? Weakness?
 - How can they best contribute to household/community/society?
 - What do you think is the common aspiration for Gambian male youth? Female youth?
- Future and pathways
 - What kind of community is best for Gambia? Society?
 - What are the pathways for creating such communities? Society?

8.2.4 Core Consultation Questions for Community Leaders

Concerns and aspirations

- What is the biggest concern of your community with respect to women?
- ... female youths?
- ... male youths?
- Are the concerns shared by all in the community?
- How do you think the concerns can be resolved?
- How do you think they may be related to the project?
- What is your future aspiration for the community with respect to women?
- ... female youths?
- ... male youths?
- Are the aspirations share by all in the community?
- How do you think they can be achieved?

- How do you think they may be related to the project?

Governance and grievance resolution

- Are women involved in community decision making?
- If not, what will be the benefits from involving them?
- Are youths involved in community decision making?
- If not, what will be the benefits from involving them?
- How are the grievances in the community solved?
- Are the decisions different if the case is solved in the community or brought to the local official court?
- What are the benefits of each one?

PART II: GENDER ACTION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

266 The day-to-day implementation of the Gender Action Plan for the project will be led by a full-time Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist, who will be recruited by the project, an arrangement which will strengthen integration of gender aspects in safeguards; experiences on the ground indicate unsatisfactory gender mainstreaming when the responsibilities of overall safeguards are given to one professional and those on gender to another. The Specialist will work as part of the Project Management and Implementation Unit (PMIU), and thus under the direct supervision of the Project Coordinator. The Specialist will closely collaborate with other project-recruited staff responsible for the implementation of project activities at national and village levels. The Specialist will also collaborate with the Technical Advisory Committee to ensure adequate integration of gender-differentiated needs as well as those of youth into the complementary support that the Entities provide for the project. The Specialist will be responsible for the monitoring and quarterly reporting of the indicators under the Gender Action Plan and for adaptive management, as well as informing GCF of the project's environmental and social performance as part of FAO's reporting to GCF.

267 FAO Ethics Focal Point, Ethics Alternate Focal Point, Gender Focal Point and Gender Alternate Focal Point and other project-related personnel at executing agencies will be trained to ensure that the proposed project will prevent and deal with sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment as well as gender-based violence that may be and have been triggered by the project implementation. FAO Gambia is in discussion with UNFPA Gambia to secure their assistance in GBV related issues, e.g., establishment and operationalization of referral pathways. Trainings will involve mediation skills to effectively participate in community level dialogues for conflict resolution. Technical Advisory Committee will include as members a gender and social inclusion expert, the representatives of the Ministries of Women's Affairs, Youth and Sports and of female professional associations related to the project, such as oyster harvesters and lawyers.

268 For organization/logistics and content of all activities, female beneficiaries will be consulted sufficiently prior to the event so that their household obligations, needs and strengths, which are numerous and essential in the lives of all, but often taken lightly, would be well accommodated. Such matters include childcare and transportation needs and timing of activities. The budget column of the Gender Action Plan indicates the amounts that are to be spent directly on women and female youths. The total amount of funds that women and female youths benefit from is larger than what is shown in the Gender Action Plan below. The table that follows indicates the timeline and milestones of activities.

269 The table from the funding proposal is reproduced below to demonstrate how gender and youth are mainstreamed in the entire project proposal. The indicators in the Gender Action Plan have separate targets for women overall and female youths.

Table Error! No text of specified style in document.-1 [From Funding Proposal] Summary of the adaptation barriers and the project's response interventions

	Adaptation barriers	How the project will address the identified barriers
Inform ation barrier	Very limited data and analysis on CC impacts and weak knowledge on adaptation measures	Under Output 3.1 , the project will disseminate the comprehensive climate analysis study done as part of the project preparation and will train public sector experts on climate change and adaptation and mitigation measures.

	Ambiguous separation between CC impacts and fisheries over-exploitation issues	Under Output 3.1 , the project will also support the country's capacity for monitoring fish stocks and landings, data collection on water parameters, mangrove cover and degradation to better document and separate human action effects and climate change impacts.
	Lack of systematic information relay mechanisms to reach fisher folk	Under Output 3.1 , the project will introduce an e-extension for the fisheries sector, using automated text messaging. In addition, investments will be made in strengthening the linkages between the MoFWRNAM and the community fisheries committees in terms of information dissemination and data collection. In addition, fisherfolk, farmers and project beneficiaries will receive dedicated training, capacity development and knowledge transfer to ensure strengthening their capacities in relation to technology transfers and adaptation to climate change (in Output 2.1 and Output 2.2).
	Widespread lack of literacy and numeracy skills among women	Under Output 3.2 , rural women in the fishery sector will be trained on literacy and numeracy skills.
Technical barriers	Limited knowledge about technologies proven successful	The range of investments in coastal infrastructure and equipment (Output 2.1) and in aquaculture (Output 2.2) has been designed based on the best available practices and technologies in the West Africa region and beyond. Each investment is complemented by a series of trainings for producers (e.g. Fisheries/Aquaculture Field Schools (FFS) with technical, operation and maintenance, marketing modules). Under Output 2.2 , public sector agents will be trained in these practices and technologies.
	Mixed past experience with improved fisheries and aquaculture technologies	Site selection of aquaculture activities under Output 2.2 will be done in consultation with the local communities and after a full technical assessment, in particular in terms of water access and quality.
	Insufficient availability of quality inputs for aquaculture production	Under Output 2.2 , the project will support the upgrading of the Jahally Aquaculture Centre's fingerling production capacity and the scaling of fish feed production at four mills.
	Lack of extension services tailored to women's needs and capacities	Under Output 3.1 , rural women in the fishery sector will be consulted on their needs and be provided with voice-over e-extension services addressing these.
	Infrastructure for women's business receives less attention and finance	Under Outputs 1.1, 2.1 and 2.2 , infrastructure investments will be made for rural women in the fishery sector; mangroves for both women and men (Output 1.1), landing sites improvement for both women and men (Output 2.1), fish smoking and drying equipment for women (Output 1.1), aquaculture related infrastructure for both women and men (Output 2.2). Under Outputs 3.1 and 3.2 , public service personnel and technicians will be sensitized on gender issues. Under Output 3.2 , roundtable discussions on private investment will aim to discuss investment for women at least 40% of the time and rural women in the fishery sector will be trained on literacy and numeracy skills.

Financial barriers	No disposable income for investing and weak access to credit	<p>Recognising the financial difficulties that a matching grant approach would impose on beneficiaries, the project will fully finance the adaptation packages under Output 2.2. The four aquaculture and fisheries packages have been carefully designed with a focus on ensuring sufficient working capital and profitability and most suitable and interested farmers⁷⁵⁰ will be engaged by the project. In addition, platforms to facilitate market access and linkages with subsequent segments of fisheries value chains will be facilitated in Output 3.2.</p> <p>Similarly, the investments under Output 2.1, which mostly represent communal equipment, will also be financed fully by the project. Completing these investments, the group trainings will focus on strengthening the local committees' capacity for fee collection and maintenance and replacement savings.</p> <p>Under Output 3.2 strengthening beneficiaries' financial literacy for improved access to finance if suitable financial products and system will be made available. Moreover, Output 3.2 will include dedicated public-private policy dialogue and capacity strengthening of public and private sector including financial institutions aimed at de-constraining the inclusive value chains development, thereby improving the availability of appropriate financial services for smallholder producers and their organizations. Under Output 3.1 policy dialogue will be active to stimulate policy and regulations reforms needed also to improve financial inclusion.</p>
	Financial leeway for women is much smaller than for men	Under Output 3.2 , women and men will examine their goals as a family and the roles they would play in reaching those goals, which serves as sensitization on the women's responsibilities, needs and strengths and creates understanding of gender issues by men. The youth members in the family will be encouraged to participate for their empowerment and strategic mapping of their lives.
Market barriers	Poor quality standards for fish products and insufficient linkages between fish value chain actors (producers) and buyers	Under Output 2.1 , the project will invest in improved fish processing equipment, designed to both reduce losses and to improve the quality of the products. Similarly, the improved water access will ensure that fresh fish is sold in more hygienic conditions. Fisher folk will also be trained in quality standards (including for export) under Output 2.1 and Output 3.2, as well as supported to organize themselves into common interest groups/cooperatives. In addition, linkages with the buyers (especially in the tourism and catering sectors) will be promoted under Output 3.2.
	Gender-based segregation of markets	Under Output 3.2 , women and men will examine their goals as a family and the roles they would play in reaching those goals, which serves as sensitization on the women's responsibilities, needs and strength and creates understanding of gender issues by men. The youth in the family will be encouraged to take part for reexamining their role in the family and life plan. Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment will also be discussed. As mentioned above, Under Outputs 3.1 and 3.2 , public service personnel and technicians will be sensitized on gender issues, and roundtable discussions on private investment will aim to discuss investment for women 40% of the time.
	Entrenched patriarchal norms among all in the society.	Under Output 3.2 , women and men will examine their goals as a family and the roles they would play in reaching those goals, which serves as sensitization on the women's responsibilities, needs and strength and creates understanding of gender issues by men. The youth in the family will be encouraged to take part for reexamining their role in the family and life plan. Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment will also be discussed.
	Early marriages for girls borne by lack of viable life alternatives in rural areas	

⁷⁵⁰ Beneficiaries selection will be done also in collaboration with co-financier ROOTS project (IFAD), which has a strong focus on the poorest and most vulnerable households.

Institutional barriers	Insufficient capacity for natural resource management	<p>Under Output 3.1, the project will finance the identified capacity development activities to boost the ability of the public sector to better manage Gambia's natural resources, while integrating climate change in its policies and regulations, including climate-resilient construction standards for fish landing sites and related infrastructure.</p> <p>In addition, under Output 1.2, the communities involved in the mangrove (fisheries habitat) restoration will be equipped to engage in sustainable ecosystem management at local level, with support from national institutions.</p>
	Lack of systematic inter-sectoral coordination	As part of its coordination and implementation arrangements , the project will create a multi-stakeholder Project Steering Committee (PSC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The meetings and activities of these two bodies will be financed by the Government's in-kind contribution. The project will propose the gradual transformation of these two bodies into permanent inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms.
	Target beneficiaries and formulators of policies, plans and interventions	<p>Under Outputs 3.1 and 3.2, public service personnel and technicians will be sensitized on gender issues, including sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment.</p> <p>Under Output 3.2, roundtable discussions on private investment will aim to discuss investment for women at least 40% of the time.</p>

2. GENDER ACTION PLAN

Expected Result ⁷⁵¹	Indicators and Targets	Timeline	Responsibilities	Budget
Fund-level impacts				
GCF core indicator	Core indicator 2: direct and indirect beneficiaries reached. <u>Direct:</u> <i>Baseline: 0 (0 women; 0 men)</i> <i>Target: 25,000 (42.0% women, including female youths; 58% men, including male youths)</i> <u>Indirect:</u> <i>Baseline: 0 (0 women; 0 men)</i> <i>Target: 2.1 million (50.4% women, including female youths; 49.6% men, including male youths)</i>	By end of Project Year 6	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.	Included in budget.
	Number of direct beneficiaries relative to total population. <u>Direct:</u> <i>Baseline: 0% (0% of total women; 0% of total men)</i> <i>Target: 1.1 % (0.92% of total women, including female youths; 1.29% of total men, including male youths)</i> <u>Indirect:</u> <i>Baseline: 0% (0% of total women, 0% of total men)</i> <i>Target: 8.9 % (8.9% of total women, including female youths; 8.9% of total men, including male youths)</i>	By end of Project Year 6	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.	Included in budget.
ARA 1: Most vulnerable people and communities	Supplementary indicator 2.1: Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: Sustainable ecosystem management: 2,160 women and 2,370 men by Year 3; 6,524 women and 5,926 men by Year 6</i> <i>Climate-proofed coastal infrastructure: 24,178 women and 21,963 men by Year 3; and 60,455 women and 54,908 men by Year 6</i> <i>Aquaculture development: 4,871 women and 4,425 men by Year 3; and</i>	By end of Project Year 3 and 6	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.	Included in budget.

⁷⁵¹ **Note:** All rows in the Gender Action Plan shaded in green include indicators and targets that are included in the overall project logframe. These constitute the higher-level results to which the actions in the Gender Action Plan will contribute. Progress in achieving these results will be assessed by the Project Monitoring Specialist. Rows that are not shaded in green include indicators and targets that are specific to the Gender Action Plan. The Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist will bear overall responsibility for delivering the Gender Action Plan, including: (i) working with other project-recruited staff and partners to ensure gender considerations and support are integrated into project support in a manner that enables achievement of the targets included in this plan; and (ii) monitoring progress against these targets and reporting to the PMIU (and Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist in particular).

	12,178 women and 11,062 men by Year 6, Improved climate adaptation capacities: 3,479 women and 3,161 men by Year 3; and 8,968 women and 7,902 men by Year 6.			
ARA 2: Health, well-being, food and water security	Supplementary 2.2: Beneficiaries (female/male) with improved food security Baseline: 10,000 households (83,000 individuals, of which 43,492 women) Target: 14,139 households (117,354 individuals, of which 61,493 women, and equivalent to 70% of beneficiary households) by Year 3 18,178 households (150,887 individuals, of which 79,065 women, and equivalent to 90% of beneficiary households) by Year 6	By end of Project Years 3 and 6	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.	Included in budget.
Project/Programme Co-Benefit Indicator Intra-households and societal gender based discriminations are reduced	Percentage of women who first marry or enter marital union before age 15 in rural areas⁸⁷ Baseline: 12.9% Target: 12% by Year 3 and 10% by Year 6	By end of Project Year 3 and 6.	FAO (as Executing Entity), particularly: Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.	Included in budget.
Activities	Indicators and Targets	Timeline	Responsibilities	Budget
Component 1: Strengthening restoration capacity and community management of artisanal fisheries habitats				USD 1,593,675
Output 1.1: Mangrove ecosystems sustainably restored in fisheries priority areas⁷⁵²				USD 1,186,850
Activity 1.1.1: Reforestation of 1,100 ha of degraded mangrove areas in key fisheries hotspots Sub activities 1.1.1.1 Select planting sites within targeted mangrove areas 1.1.1.2 Supporting the sensitization and training of communities surrounding the mangrove reforestation sites on mangrove conservation and sustainable utilization of	Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding. 1.1.1.1 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for planting site selection. Baseline: 0 Target: 50%/20% of stakeholders consulted 1.1.1.2-1.1.1.5 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics. Baseline: 0 Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted	All by end of: Project Year 2, Quarter 1 for the first 200ha; PY3 Q1 for the following 300ha; PY4, Q1 for the following 300 ha; and PY5, Q1 for the last 300 ha.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/ Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 671,250

⁷⁵² The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>resources (co-financed and executed by FAO)</p> <p>1.1.2.3 Mobilize local communities (identify and train planting teams) and determine planting plan</p> <p>1.1.1.4 Equip participating communities with restoration toolkits in each reforestation area</p> <p>1.1.1.5 Community-led planting campaigns</p> <p>1.1.1.6 Monitor, evaluate and replace dead plants</p> <p>Deliverables</p> <p>10 degraded mangrove areas restored through a mix of reforestation and assisted natural regeneration, for a total of 2,250 ha</p>	<p>1.1.1.2-1 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders consulted for training content, including use of mangroves and other goods and services from mangrove ecosystems. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted</i></p> <p>1.1.1.2-2 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders participating in sensitization and trainings on mangrove reforestation and conservation. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants</i></p> <p>1.1.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth planting team members. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of planting team members</i></p> <p>1.1.1.4 Proportion of women/female youth among restoration toolkit recipients. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of toolkit recipients in each reforestation area</i></p> <p>1.1.1.5 Proportion of women/female youth involved in planning and execution of community-led campaigns. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of all community members involved in planning and execution of community-led campaigns.</i></p> <p>1.1.1.6 Proportion of women/female youth involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves.</i></p>			
<p>Activity 1.1.2: Support assisted natural regeneration (ANR) on 1,250 ha of moderately degraded mangroves in key fisheries hotspots</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>1.1.2.1 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for</p>	<p>All by end of: Project Year 2, Quarter 1 for the first 200ha; PY3 Q1 for</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 515,600</p>

<p>Sub activities:</p> <p>1.1.2.1 Identify ANR sites and site-specific ANR measures within targeted mangrove areas</p> <p>1.1.2.2 Support the sensitization and training of communities surrounding the mangrove ANR sites on mangrove conservation and sustainable utilization of resources (<i>co-funded and executed by FAO</i>)</p> <p>1.1.2.3 Mobilize local communities (identify, train and equip work teams) and determine work plan</p> <p>1.1.2.4 Equip participating communities with restoration toolkits in each ANR area</p> <p>1.1.2.5 Community-led ANR campaigns</p> <p>1.1.2.6 Monitor, evaluate and replace dead plants</p> <p>1.1.2.7 Joint planning and execution of mangrove restoration (co-funded and executed by MoA)</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>10 degraded mangrove areas restored through a mix of reforestation and assisted natural regeneration, for a total of 2,250 ha</p>	<p>natural regeneration site selection. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of stakeholders</p> <p>1.1.2.2-1.1.2.5 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of stakeholders consulted</p> <p>1.1.2.2-1 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders consulted for training content, including use of mangroves and other goods and services from mangrove ecosystems. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of stakeholders consulted</p> <p>1.1.2.2-2 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders participating in sensitization and trainings on mangrove reforestation and conservation. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of participants</p> <p>1.1.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth work-team members. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of work members.</p> <p>1.1.2.4 Proportion of women/female youth among restoration toolkit recipients <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of toolkit recipients in each ANR area</p> <p>1.1.2.5 Proportion of women/female youth involved in planning and execution of ANR campaign. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in planning and execution of ANR campaign</p> <p>1.1.2.6 Proportion of women/female youth involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	<p>the following 350ha; PY4, Q1 for the following 350 ha; and PY5, Q1 for the last 350 ha.</p>		
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	<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves</i></p> <p>1.1.2.7-1 Proportion of women/female youth involved in joint planning and execution of mangrove restoration. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in joint planning of mangrove restoration.</i></p> <p>1.1.2.7-2 Proportion of women/female youth involved in execution of mangrove restoration. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in execution of mangrove restoration.</i></p>			
Output 1.2: Local communities equipped for sustainable ecosystem management⁷⁵³				USD 406,825
<p>Activity 1.2.1: Capacity development for local communities</p> <p>Sub activities: 1.2.1.1 Provide trainings on mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use 1.2.1.2 Establish community forest management committees (CFMCs) at each intervention site</p> <p>Deliverables: CFMCs established at each intervention site half of whose members are female.</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>1.2.1.1-1 Proportion of women/female youth consulted on the training content and participation logistics of mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of women/female youth of the mangrove community.</i></p> <p>1.2.1.1-2 Proportion of women/female youth trained on mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members trained on mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use</i></p> <p>1.2.1.2 Proportion of female/female youth forest management committee members. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of forest management committee members</i></p>	<p>1.2.1.1 By end of: Project Year 1, Q4 for one training; PY2 Q4 for another three trainings; and PY3 Q4 for the last three trainings. 1.2.1.2 By end of PY6.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	USD 30,000

⁷⁵³ The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>Activity 1.2.2: Support the establishment of community forest status (where applicable) for the interventions sites and the transfer of tenure to the local communities</p> <p>Sub activities: 1.2.2.1 Review forest situation, determine boundaries and establish community forest status 1.2.2.2 Prepare and enact forest tenure agreements 1.2.2.3 Conduct awareness raising workshops for communities on rights and obligations</p> <p>Deliverables: Transfer of tenure for 10 community forests</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>1.2.2.1-1.2.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted</i></p> <p>1.2.2.1 Proportion of women/female youth involved in review. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in review</i></p> <p>1.2.2.2 Proportion of women/female youth involved in preparation and enactment of forest tenure agreements. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in preparation and enactment of forest tenure agreements</i></p> <p>1.2.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth participants in awareness raising workshops. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community member participants in awareness raising workshops on rights and obligations</i></p>	<p>All by end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist..</p>	<p>USD 48,125</p>
<p>Activity 1.2.3: Provide technical support to the execution of the mangrove restoration activities and ensuring environmental and social safeguards</p> <p>Sub activities: 1.2.3.1 Supervision and extension for fisheries activities(co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM)</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>1.2.3.1 Proportion of women/female youth involved in identification of site-specific priority needs. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth landing site users</i></p> <p>1.2.3.2-1 Proportion of women/female youth consulted for the content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	<p>All except 1.2.3.3-2 by end of Project Year 2 Quarter 2 for one site; PY3 Q2 for another three sites; PY4 Q2 for another three sites; and PY5 Q2 for the last</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 328,700</p>

<p>1.2.3.2 Provision of capacity development to local communities on NRM / Mangrove forestry</p> <p>1.2.3.3 Supervise and ensure the correct application of environment and social safeguards (ESS)</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Communities in 10 degraded mangrove areas receiving support and technical expertise</p>	<p><i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth of participants.</i></p> <p>1.2.3.2-2 Proportion of women/female youth participating in capacity development. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth of participants.</i></p> <p>1.2.3.2-3 Proportion of capacity development time spent on women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of capacity development time.</i></p> <p>1.2.3.3-1 Proportion of environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items</i></p> <p>1.2.3.3-2 Proportion of women in the targeted communities who diversify their livelihoods using non-timber forest products of mangroves. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 20% of women in the targeted communities..</i></p>	three sites. 1.2.3.3.-2 by Project Year 6.		
Component 2: Climate resilient fisheries infrastructure and aquaculture development				USD 12,288,800
Output 2.1: Fisheries communities are equipped with climate-proofed and improved critical small scale fisheries infrastructure (artisanal fish landing sites) and with climate-smart fish processing equipment (solar dryers and improved ovens)⁷⁵⁴				USD 5,992,300
<p>Activity 2.1.1: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), detailed design and supervision for all sites</p> <p>Sub-activities:</p> <p>2.1.1.1 Conduct ESIA for all sites</p> <p>2.1.1.2 Detailed design of all construction works</p> <p>2.1.1.3 Supervision of</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.1.1.1 Proportion of female landing site users consulted for each site on possible environmental and social impacts. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.1.2 Proportion of female landing site users consulted for each site on design of construction works. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	By end of Project Year 4 Quarter 2.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 351,200

⁷⁵⁴ The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>construction works</p> <p>2.1.1.4 Provision of capacity development on environmental and social safeguards for artisanal fisherfolk, including on their role in implementing the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).</p>	<p><i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.1.3 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.1.4-1 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.1.4-2 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users participating in capacity development. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.1.4-3 Proportion of capacity development time spent on women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of capacity development time</i></p>			
<p>Activity 2.1.2: Expand the Banjul landing site to accommodate loss of capacity at other climate impacted sites</p> <p>Sub activities:</p> <p>2.1.2.1 Mobilization and dredging</p> <p>2.1.2.2 Piling works</p> <p>2.1.2.3 Installation of 4 new pontoons for fish landing</p> <p>2.1.2.4 Installation of shore facilities for fish handling</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Operational, expanded landing coastal site</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.1.2.1 Proportion of women/female youth invited to take part in dredging to encourage crossing the task division line defined by gender. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/20% of community members involved in dredging</i></p> <p>2.1.2.2-2.1.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth Banjul landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth Banjul landing site users</i></p> <p>2.1.2.4 Proportion of female Banjul landing site users consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 3, Quarter 3.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 1,347,500</p>

	Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Banjul landing site users			
<p>Activity 2.1.3: Introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Brufut, Tanji and Gunjur landing sites</p> <p>Sub activities:</p> <p>2.1.3.1 Installation of improved fish smoking units</p> <p>2.1.3.2 Installation of improved solar fish driers</p> <p>2.1.3.3 Installation of solar-powered sea water fish rinsing lines</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>Four operational, climate-proofed coastal landing sites (all smoking and drying units are for women)</p>	<p>This activity targets professionals who smoke and dry fish; they are as a rule women.</p> <p>To ensure sufficient involvement of women at all stages, the following is proposed.</p> <p>2.1.3.1 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted to reflect user perspectives.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Brufut/Tanji/Gunjur landing site users</p> <p>2.1.3.2 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted to reflect user perspectives.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Brufut/Tanji/Gunjur landing site users</p> <p>2.1.3.3 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted to reflect user perspectives.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Brufut/Tanji/Gunjur landing site users</p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 3, Quarter 1 for one site; PY3 Q2 for the second site; and PY3 Q3 for the third site.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 1,724,000</p>

<p>Activity 2.1.4: Develop flood-proof measures and introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Kartong landing site</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.1.4.1 Platform level raising works 2.1.4.2 Piling works and installation of floating pontoons 2.1.4.3 Installation of improved solar fish driers 2.1.4.4 Installation of improved fish smoking units 2.1.4.5 Installation of solar-powered sea water fish rinsing lines</p> <p>Deliverables: One operational, climate-proofed coastal landing site (all smoking and rinsing units are for women)</p>	<p>This activity targets professionals who smoke and dry fish; they are as a rule women. To ensure sufficient involvement of women at all stages, the following is proposed.</p> <p>2.1.4.1-2.1.4.5 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users</i></p> <p>2.1.4.3 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users</i></p> <p>2.1.4.4 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users</i></p> <p>2.1.4.5 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users</i></p>	All by end of Project Year 4, Quarter 1.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 1,253,300
<p>Activity 2.1.5: Develop flood-proof measures at the Bintang landing site (Package 4)</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.1.5.1 Road level raising works 2.1.5.2 Piling works and installation of floating pontoons</p> <p>Deliverables: One operational, climate-proofed river landing site</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.1.5.1-2.1.5.2 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of female/female youth Bintang landing site users</i></p>	All by end of Project Year 3, Quarter 3.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 348,800
<p>Activity 2.1.6 Capacity development for the Community Fisheries Centers (CFCs)</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do</p>	All by end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 375,000

<p>Sub-activities: 2.1.6.1 Trainings on equipment and technologies use, on organisational arrangements for equitable use and for user fee collection, on maintenance and repairs 2.1.6.2 Provision of capacity development for post harvest equipment management and maintenance (co-funded and executed by FAO) 2.1.6.3 Capacity development for the CFCs - organisational, O&M marketing including negotiation skills</p> <p>Deliverables: At least 7 CFCs received capacity development, half of which is for women</p>	<p>not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.1.6.1-1 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for training content and participation logistics related to equipment and technology use, etc. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.6.1-2 Proportion of female/female youth site users participating in training on equipment and technology use, etc. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 70%/70% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.6.1-3 Proportion of training time spent on equipment, technologies, organizational arrangement, maintenance and repair related to women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of training time</i></p> <p>2.1.6.2-1 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for content of capacity development and participation logistics on post-harvest equipment. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.6.2-2 Proportion of female/female youth landing site users participating in capacity development on post-harvest equipment. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.6.2-3 Proportion of training time spent on equipment related to women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of training time</i></p> <p>2.1.6.3-1 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for training content and participation logistics related CFCs. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p>	<p>and 5.</p>	<p>cial Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	
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	<p>2.1.6.3-2 Proportion of female/female youth participating in training on CFCs. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.6.3-3 Proportion of training time spent on capacity development related to women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of training time</i></p>			
<p>Activity 2.1.7 Introduce energy efficient technologies for fish handling and processing in 10 mangrove management communities</p> <p>Sub-activities: 2.1.7.1 Identify site specific priority needs of the mangrove communities to reduce firewood use and fish losses 2.1.7.2 Provide and install the necessary equipment 2.1.7.3 Install additional equipment (co-funded and executed by FAO) 2.1.7.4 Capacity development for (technical, O&M and organizational, including negotiation skills)</p> <p>Deliverables: Energy efficient technology packages in 10 communities, all of which are used by women</p>	<p>This activity targets professionals who smoke and dry fish; they are as a rule women. To ensure sufficient involvement of women at all stages, the following is proposed.</p> <p>2.1.7.1 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for location selection and periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 70%/70% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.7.2-2.1.7.3 Proportion of female/female youth site users consulted for design and installation of equipment to be introduced and periodically invited to the site to examine and learn about the installation process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 70%/70% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.7.4-1 Proportion of female/male youth site users consulted on content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>2.1.7.4-2 Proportion of female/female youth participants in capacity development activities related to technical, O&M and organizational aspects of equipment. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 60%/60% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p>	All by end of Project Year 2 Quarter 2 for one site; PY3 Q2 for another three sites; PY4 Q2 for another three sites; and PY5 Q2 for the last three sites.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 592,500
Output 2.2: Aquaculture activities introduced as adaptation measures for livelihood improvement of 2,800 smallholder rural households ⁷⁵⁵				USD 6,296,500

⁷⁵⁵ The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>Activity 2.2.1: Expand the Jahally Aquaculture Center</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.2.1.1 Upscale the fingerling production capacity (additional ponds, scale-up inputs) 2.2.1.2 Develop a training centre and a demonstration pond</p> <p>Deliverables: Operational Aquaculture Centre capable of progressively meeting fingerling, and training demand</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.2.1.1 Proportion of female/female youth beneficiaries of aquaculture consulted on type of fish, etc. before the activity commences. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members consulted</p> <p>2.2.1.2 Proportion of female/female youth beneficiaries consulted on location and dimensions of ponds, etc. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members consulted</p>	<p>2.2.1.1 By end of Project Year 2 2.2.1.2 By end of Project Year 1</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 45,000</p>
<p>Activity 2.2.2: Promote the increase of fish feed production through four manufacturing units</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.2.2.1 Provide additional inputs for the full operationalization of existing units 2.2.2.2 Finance the creation of two additional, youth-led units 2.2.2.3 Provide training and quality control for fish feed production, including business aspects</p> <p>Deliverables: Four active fish feed units capable of progressively meeting feed demand</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>2.2.2.1 Proportion of female/female youth oyster/fish harvesters/professors/sellers consulted on the effects of fish feed production on their livelihoods before and during the activity. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members consulted</p> <p>2.2.2.2 Proportion of female youths involved in creation of new units. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%</i> of youths involved in creation of new units</p> <p>2.2.2.3-1 Proportion of women/female youth consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of women/female youths of each community consulted</p> <p>2.2.2.3-2 Proportion of women/female youth trained on fish feed production and its business. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/30%</i> of training participants</p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 2, Quarter 2</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 70,000</p>
<p>Activity 2.2.3: Integrate catfish</p>	<p>The following measures that ensure that all beneficiaries are women as</p>	<p>All by end of</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing</p>	<p>USD</p>

<p>production in fish tanks in 30 communal vegetable gardens (aquaculture package 1)</p> <p>Sub activities:</p> <p>2.2.3.1 Construction and infrastructure works (co-funded and executed by MoA)</p> <p>2.2.3.2. Provide fish tanks, smoking ovens, shelters and start-up kits (tools and inputs)</p> <p>2.2.3.3 Provide training and supervision for fish production and smoking, and use of water with fish excrements as fertilizer in horticulture and negotiation skills</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>30 producer groups equipped and trained for fish production in tanks, integrated with vegetable production, all of which are for women</p>	<p>stipulated by co-financier IFAD.</p> <p>2.2.3.1 Proportion of women/female youths invited to periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth of each community involved</i></p> <p>2.2.3.2 Proportion of women/female youths receiving equipment and inputs. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 100%/40% of equipment and input recipients.</i></p> <p>2.2.3.3-1 Proportion of women/female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youths in each community involved</i></p> <p>2.2.3.3-2 Proportion of women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 100%/40% of training/instructions recipients</i></p>	<p>Project Year 2, Quarter 4 for five producer groups; PY3 Q4 for the next 10 POs; PY4, Q4 for another 10 POs; and PY5 Q4 for the last 5 POs.</p>	<p>Entity), led by: Environmental/ Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>3,704,900</p>
<p>Activity 2.2.4: Introduce integrated rice-fish culture in 300 ha of new irrigated schemes (aquaculture package 2)</p> <p>Sub activities:</p> <p>2.2.4.1 Contribute to the works of developing new irrigated schemes (top-up for additional cost of works) (co-funded and executed by MoA)</p> <p>2.2.4.2 Provide technical assistance for developing the adjusted design and technical</p>	<p>The following measures that ensure that half of the beneficiaries are women.</p> <p>2.2.4.1 Proportion of women/female youths involved in developing new irrigated schemes (design, construction, operation, maintenance, etc.). <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in irrigation schemes</i></p> <p>2.2.4.2 Proportion of women/female youths consulted on the specifications of irrigation schemes. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in specification</i></p> <p>2.2.4.3 Proportion of women/female youth recipients of start-up kits</p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 1, Quarter 4 for 50 ha; PY2 Q4 for the next 150 ha; and PY3 Q4 for the last 100 ha.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/ Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 1,510,450</p>

<p>specifications for the integration of fish cultivation in the irrigated schemes</p> <p>2.2.4.3 Provide start-up kits to the beneficiaries (tools and inputs)</p> <p>2.2.4.4 Provide technical training and supervision for the beneficiaries of integrated rice-fish production and negotiation skills</p> <p>Deliverables: Adjusted technical specifications for rice-fish irrigated schemes</p> <p>600 rice producers (half of which are women) equipped and trained to produce fish in their irrigated fields, reducing the use of chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides)</p>	<p><i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes</p> <p>2.2.4.3-1 Proportion of women/female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes</p> <p>2.2.4.3-2 Proportion of women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes</p>			
<p>Activity 2.2.5: Fund the development of fish culture in 60 earthen ponds (aquaculture package 3)</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.2.5.1 Improve water access and provide lining for 10 existing ponds and execute the works and provide equipment for 50 new ponds 2.2.5.2 Provide start-up kits to the beneficiaries (tools and inputs) 2.2.5.3 Provide technical training and supervision for fish pond</p>	<p>The following measures that ensure that half of the beneficiaries are women.</p> <p>2.2.5.1-1 Proportion of women/female youths consulted on selection of ponds, water access, etc. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in pond improvement/creation</p> <p>2.2.5.1-2 Proportion of women/female youths involved in pond improvement/creation work. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/20%</i> of community members involved in pond improvement/creation work</p> <p>2.2.5.2 Proportion of women/female youth recipients of start-up kits. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 1 Quarter 4 for four ponds; PY2 Q4 for the next 14 ponds; PY3 Q4 for another 17 ponds; PY4 Q4 for another 15 ponds; and PY5 Q4 for the last 10 ponds.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 262,450</p>

<p>aquaculture, and negotiation skills to the beneficiaries</p> <p>Deliverables: 60 producers (half of which are women) equipped and trained in pond production</p>	<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in aquaculture using improved/new ponds</i></p> <p>2.2.5.3-1 Proportion of women/youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80/80% of women/female youths in each community of pond.</i></p> <p>2.2.5.3-2 Proportion of women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in aquaculture using improved/new ponds</i></p>			
<p>Activity 2.2.6: Promote sustainable clam and oyster culture in 40 communities (aquaculture package 4)</p> <p>Sub activities: 2.2.6.1 Train 30 women's groups in clam and cockle culture on mudflats and train 10 women's groups in oyster culture and negotiation skills 2.2.6.2 Provide necessary inputs for clam rearing on mudflats (cultivation beds), canoes, necessary material and motorized canoes</p> <p>Deliverables: 40 women groups equipped and trained in sustainable clam and oyster culture</p>	<p>This activity targets professionals who harvest clams and oysters; they are as a rule women. To ensure sufficient involvement of women at all stages, the following is proposed.</p> <p>2.2.6.1-1 Proportion of women and female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of women/female youths in each community.</i></p> <p>2.2.6.1-2 Proportion of female youth participants in training. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 35% of participants</i></p> <p>2.2.6.2 Proportion of female youths receiving inputs. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 35% of participants</i></p>	<p>All by end of Project Year 1 Quarter 2 for seven groups; PY2 Q2 for the next 14 groups; PY3 Q2 for another 14 groups; PY4 Q2 for the last five groups.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 305,000</p>
<p>Activity 2.2.7 Provide technical support to the execution of the aquaculture activities and ensuring environmental and social safeguards</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p>	<p>All by end of each Project Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender</p>	<p>USD 398,700</p>

Sub-activities: 2.2.7.1 MoFWRNAM's provision of supervision and extension expertise for aquaculture activities (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM) 2.2.7.2 Provision of technical assistance and guidance of aquaculture activities by a dedicated Specialist for the full implementation period of the project 2.2.7.3 Supervise environmental and social safeguards and monitor implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework	2.2.7.1-1 Proportion of women/female youth in the community consulted on which safeguards issues are important to them and why. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/90% of women/female youths in each community.</i> 2.2.7.1-2 Proportion of supervision time spent on women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of supervision time</i> 2.2.7.1-3 Proportion of extension expertise tailored to women. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of extension content</i> 2.2.7.2 Proportion of technical assistance and guidance tailored to women. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of assistance and guidance content</i> 2.2.7.3 Proportion of supervision time spent on safeguard issues related to women. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of supervision time</i>		Specialist.	
Component 3: Improved climate change adaptive capacities				USD 2,424,025
Output 3.1: Public services strengthened to facilitate local community capacity to prepare for and respond to climate change risks ⁷⁵⁶				USD 643,475
Activity 3.1.1: Strengthen the sectoral institutions and policies and develop additional capacity to respond to climate risks Sub activities: 3.1.1.1 Short-term specialized trainings on climate risks, climate analysis and mainstreaming climate change in national policies and strategies	The following measures that ensure that at least 30% of the direct beneficiaries are women (due to low proportion of female technical professionals).3.1.1.1 Proportion of female/female youth participants in trainings on climate science and mainstreaming. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants</i> 3.1.1.1 Proportion of training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of training time</i>	3.1.1.1 By end of each Project Year 1, 3 and 5. 3.1.1.2 By end of each Project Year 1, 2 and 3.	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/ Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 81,000

⁷⁵⁶ The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>3.1.1.2 Development of updated curricula on fisheries, aquaculture and ecosystem management, integrating climate change, in partnership with local education institutions</p> <p>3.1.1.3 Design climate change content for Diploma/Advanced Diploma training for fisheries technicians</p> <p>3.1.1.4 Support for climate related sectoral studies and subsequent revision of national policies and strategies</p> <p>3.1.1.5 Organize institutional collaborations and facilitate interaction and decision making through policy and knowledge sharing</p> <p>Deliverables:</p> <p>50 technical staff (30% of which are women) trained</p> <p>5 technical staff (30% of which are women) obtaining specialized Diplomas/Advanced Diplomas from partner local education institutions</p> <p>2 national policies/strategies revised to include climate risk analysis and mitigation and adaptation directions</p>	<p>3.1.1.2 Proportion of female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants</i></p> <p>3.1.1.3 Proportion of female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants</i></p> <p>3.1.1.4 Inclusion of detailed analysis on and proposed strategies for women, including necessary data collection. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of lengths of main texts</i></p> <p>3.1.1.5 Inclusion of analysis on and strategies for women, including necessary data collection. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of lengths of meeting time</i></p>	<p>3.1.1.3 By end of each Project Year 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.1.1.4 By end of Project Year 4.</p> <p>3.1.1.5 By end of Project Year 4.</p>		
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<p>Activity 3.1.2: Improve public sector capacities to monitor the fisheries sector and its associated ecosystems and integrate climate risks</p> <p>Sub activities: 3.1.2.1 Organise a Frame Survey with a strong climate vulnerability assessment component (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM) 3.1.2.2 Support the expansion of monitoring capacities for Gambia river water parameters 3.1.2.3 Strengthen major coastal CFCs to monitor and report fishing efforts and catches (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM) 3.1.2.4 Establish regular monitoring mechanism for mangrove forest cover and train relevant government staff 3.1.2.5 Organize trainings and on the job learning opportunities to national institutions on georeferenced monitoring</p> <p>Deliverables: Up-to-date fisheries, water resources and mangrove status information available</p>	<p>Since the activity benefits the entire community, half of the budget is considered for women. The following measures that ensure sufficient involvement of women do not require additional funding.</p> <p>3.1.2.1 Proportion of survey that concerns women’s vulnerability to climate change. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of survey questions</i></p> <p>3.1.2.2 Proportion of female/female youth citizens involved in monitoring. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants</i></p> <p>3.1.2.3 Proportion of female/female youth citizens involved in monitoring and reporting. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants</i></p> <p>3.1.2.4 Proportion of female/female youth citizens and female/female youth government staff involved in data collection. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of citizen participants and 30/15% of government staff</i></p> <p>3.1.2.5 Proportion of female/female participants in training and on-the-job training on georeferenced monitoring. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants</i></p>	<p>3.1.2.1 By end of Project Year 1</p> <p>3.1.2.2 By end of each Project Year 1 and 4 (training) and PY2 (equipment).</p> <p>3.1.2.3 By end of each Project Year 1 (training) and PY2 (equipment)</p> <p>3.1.2.4 By end of each Project Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6</p> <p>3.1.2.5 By end of each Project Year 1, 2 and 3.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 286,225</p>
<p>Activity 3.1.3: Establish an e-extension/out-reach system for fisheries and aquaculture</p> <p>Sub activities:</p>	<p>The following measure ensure that women benefit as much as men.</p> <p>3.1.3.1 Proportion of women/female youths consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i></p>	<p>3.1.3.1 By end of Project Year 1.</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender</p>	<p>USD 276,250</p>

3.1.3.1 Prepare the feasibility study and technical parameters for the system 3.1.3.2 Set-up and test the system 3.1.3.3 Registration of fisherfolk and other value chain actors 3.1.3.4 National rollout 3.1.3.5 Continuous operation and refinement of e-extension system (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM) Deliverables: Operational e-extension system, including one voice-over version for illiterate women	3.1.3.1 Existence of voice-over version for illiterate women. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: One</i> that covers all the contents available in written form. 3.1.3.2 Proportion of women/female youths consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members consulted 3.1.3.3 Proportion of women/female youths registered. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of female/female youth community members surveyed 3.1.3.4 Proportion of women/female youths registered and find the service useful. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 60%/60%</i> of female/female youth community members registered 3.1.3.5 National rollout of written and voice versions for women's activities in the fishery sector. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: Two</i> rolled out at the same time 3.1.3.6 Proportion of women/female youth consulted. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members consulted	3.1.3.2 By end of Project Year 2. 3.1.3.3 By each of each Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. 3.1.3.4 By end of Project Year 4. 3.1.3.5 By end of Project Year 4. 3.1.3.5 By end of Project Year 5 and 6.	Specialist.	
Output 3.2: Local communities, groups and HHs capacities to implement market driven adaptation measures are strengthened ⁷⁵⁷				USD 1,780,550
Activity 3.2.1: Capacity development for field fisheries and forestry officers to support fisheries, aquaculture and mangrove investment Sub activities: 3.2.1.1 Trainings on aquaculture production (facilities and	The following measures that ensure that at least 30% of the direct beneficiaries are women (due to low proportion of female technical professionals). 3.2.1.1-1 Proportion of female/female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15%</i> of participating officers 3.2.1.1-2 Proportion of training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses.	All by end of Project Year 1, 2 and 6	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 82,500

⁷⁵⁷ The target group of women includes female youths.

<p>logistics) (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM)</p> <p>3.2.1.2 Provision of expertise for trainings on fisheries and aquaculture</p> <p>3.2.1.3 Trainings on mangrove monitoring, restoration and sustainable management</p> <p>3.2.1.4 Provision of technical equipment for effective monitoring of implementation</p> <p>Deliverables: 80 technical officers (30% of which are women) trained and equipped</p>	<p><i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of training time</i></p> <p>3.2.1.2-1 Proportion of female/female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants</i></p> <p>3.2.1.2-2 Proportion of training material on women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of training material</i></p> <p>3.2.1.3-1 Proportion of female/female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participating officers</i></p> <p>3.2.1.3-2 Proportion of training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of training time</i></p> <p>3.2.1.4 Proportion of female/female youth officers consulted on selection (accuracy, utility of data generated, operation, maintenance, budget, etc.) of equipment. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 30%/15% of participating officers</i></p>			
<p>Activity 3.2.2: Support to private investment, value addition and integration with other sectors</p> <p>Sub activities: 3.2.2.1 Organize yearly Invest in Fisheries roundtables with private and public participation (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM) 3.2.2.2 Support the organization of fisheries actors into cooperatives/producer</p>	<p>The following measures ensure that women benefit as much as men.</p> <p>3.2.2.1-1 Proportion of female/female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.1-2 Proportion of roundtable time spent on women specific activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% of roundtable time</i></p> <p>3.2.2.2 Proportion of female/female youth beneficiaries. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of beneficiaries</i></p> <p>3.2.2.3-1 Proportion of female/female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics.</p>	<p>3.2.2.1 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</p> <p>3.2.2.2 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.3 By end of each Project Year 3, 4, 5</p>	<p>FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.</p>	<p>USD 388,450</p>

<p>organizations (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM)</p> <p>3.2.2.3 Train artisanal fish processors on quality standards, marketing, export rules, etc. (co-funded and executed by MoFWRNAM)</p> <p>3.2.2.4 Promote partnerships between fisheries actors and the tourism sector</p> <p>3.2.2.5 Organize platforms of discussion between artisanal fisherfolks and private entrepreneurs (processors, markets, ...) including development of productive alliances</p> <p>3.2.2.6 Providing training (technical and entrepreneurial) to youth groups in production of fish feed</p> <p>3.2.2.7 Facilitating evidence based dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion (including RuralInvest or other tools to support financial institutions)</p> <p>3.2.2.8 Providing capacity development to artisanal fisheries actors on development of entrepreneurial and business opportunities within the value chain, including negotiation skills.</p> <p>3.2.2.9 Supervise and ensure environment and social safeguards</p> <p>Deliverables:</p>	<p><i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.3-2 Proportion of female/female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 90%/35% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.3.4 Proportion of female/female youth in fishery and tourism involved. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of fishery participants and 40/10% of tourism.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.5-1 Proportion of female/female youth processors consulted on the content and participation logistics of discussion on linking production and business. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.5-2 Proportion of female/female youth participants in discussions on linking production and business. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.6-1 Proportion of female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80% of female youth processors at each landing site.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.6-2 Proportion of female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.7 Proportion of female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.8-1 Proportion of female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site.</i></p>	<p>and 6.</p> <p>3.2.2.4 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.5 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.6 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.7 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.8 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.9 By end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</p>		
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5 Invest in Fisheries roundtables 100 artisanal fish processors (all of which are women) trained	<p>3.2.2.8-2 Proportion of female/female youth participants in capacity development. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.2.9 Proportion of environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items</i></p>			
<p>Activity 3.2.3: Support to gender and youth empowerment through the application of the Household Methodology</p> <p>Sub activities: 3.2.3.1. Household Methodology Training of trainers 3.2.3.2 Household Methodology large scale training (co-funded and executed by FAO) 3.2.3.3 Facilitation of Household Methodology meetings with the project beneficiaries, sensitization of community gatekeepers prior to Household Methodology facilitated meetings on gender and community-led support measures against SEAH and GBV</p> <p>Deliverables: 3-year gender and youth empowerment process for 600 households</p>	<p>3.2.3.1 Proportion of female/female youth/male youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50%/35%/35% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.3.1 - 3.2.3.3 Number of households meetings facilitated. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 10 households per session, four sessions a month, five months a year for three years for a total of 600households (200 households facilitated for five months in Project Year 2, 400 for five months in PY 3, 600 for five months in PY4, 400 for five months in PY5 and 200 in PY6)</i></p> <p>3.2.3.3-2 Number of community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 2 community gatekeepers per session, four sessions a month, five months a year for three years.</i></p> <p>3.2.3.3-3 Proportion of communities where more than half of the women agree that the community gatekeepers are leading support measures against SEAH and GBV. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 40% in Project Year 3 and 60% in Project Year 5 of the communities whose gatekeepers are sensitized.</i></p> <p>3.2.3.3-4 Difference in hours spent per week engaged in household chores and caregiving by women and men. <i>Baseline: To be surveyed at the outset of the Activity implementation.</i> <i>Target: 50% reduction in difference for each household.</i></p>	<p>3.2.3.1 By end of each Project Year 1 and 4.</p> <p>3.2.3.2-1 and 3.2.3.2 200 households facilitated for five months in Project Year 2, 400 in PY 3, 600 in PY4, 400 in PY5 and 200 in PY6 (total 3 years of facilitation for 600 households).</p> <p>3.2.3.3-2 By end of end of each Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</p>	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 929,600 (including FAO TCP 84,000 USD)

	<p>3.2.3.3-5 Proportion of women who think their husbands' beating is unjustified under any circumstance. <i>Baseline: To be surveyed at the outset of the Activity implementation.</i> <i>Target: 50% reduction in each community targeted by the Activity.</i></p>	<p>3.2.2.3-3 By end of Project Year 3 and 5.</p> <p>3.2.2.3-4 and 3.2.2.3-5 By end of 3-year programme for each household (200 each in PY 4, 5 and 6).</p>		
<p>Activity 3.2.4: Implement a functional literacy and numeracy programme targeted to project female beneficiaries</p> <p>Sub activities: 3.2.4.1 Identification of participants and definition of approach (including TRY women groups involved in oyster production) 3.2.4.2 Training of trainers (younger, literate women in the community) 3.2.4.3 Functional literacy and numeracy classes</p> <p>Deliverables: 1,500 women completing the programme</p>	<p>3.2.4.1 Proportion of female experts/practitioners involved. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.4.2 Proportion of rural female youth participants. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80% of participants.</i></p> <p>3.2.4.3-1 Number of rural women completing the 3-year programme. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1,500</i> (500 each in Project Year 4, 5 and 6)</p> <p>3.2.4.3-2 Number of male treasurers of female professional organizations in the fishery sector replaced by women. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 50% of male treasurers</i></p>	<p>3.2.4.1 By end of each Project Year 1 and 3</p> <p>3.2.4.2 By end of each Project Year 1 and 3</p> <p>3.2.4.3-1 By end of Project Year 4, 5 and 6.</p> <p>3.2.4.3-2 By end of Project Year 6</p>	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist.	USD 260,000
<p>Activity 3.2.5: Train executing-agency personnel on gender in general, SEAH, establish and operationalize referral pathways</p>	<p>3.2.5.1-1 Proportion of male professionals at executing agencies involved in the project management directly or indirectly participate in each SEAH training. <i>Baseline: 0</i></p>	<p>3.2.5.1-1 By end of each Project Year 1 and 3.</p>	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards	USD 120,000

for GBV and strengthen FAO GRM Sub activities: 3.2.5.1 Training of professionals from executing agencies, including strengthening of FAO GRM in handling SEAH and GBV incidents 3.2.5.2 Training of professionals along referral pathways 3.2.5.3 Establishment and operationalization of referral pathways 3.2.5.4 Communication of GBV and referral pathways to public Deliverables: 60 persons at executing agencies trained 20 professionals along each GBV referral pathway trained 1 GBV pathway each established and operationalized for each target district	<i>Target: 80% of male professionals.</i> 3.2.5.1-2 Proportion of professionals at executing agencies involved in the project management indirectly as supervisors participate in each SEAH training. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 15% of participants.</i> 3.2.5.1-3 Proportion of SEAH and GBV incidents reported through FAO GRM correctly identified as such by the GRM personnel <i>Baseline: TBD</i> <i>Target: 75% (Project Year 2) and 95% (Project Year 4)</i> 3.2.5.2-1 Proportion of male professionals along the referral pathways participate in each SEAH and GBV training. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 80% of male professionals.</i> 3.2.5.2-2 Proportion of supervisors of professionals along the referral pathways participate in each SEAH and GBV training. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 15% of participants.</i> 3.2.5.3 Number of referral pathways established and operationalized with trained professionals, PEP kits and a complete list of contact information along each pathway. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1 per each target District (2 pathways in each Project Year 1 and 2 and 3 pathways in Project Year 3).</i> 3.2.5.4 Number of information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways. <i>Baseline: 0</i> <i>Target: 1 per each target District per Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.</i>	3.2.5.1-2 75% of supervisors by end of Project Year 2 and 95% of supervisors by end of PY4. 3.2.5.2 By end of each Project Year 1 and 3. 3.2.5.3 By end of Project Year 3. 3.2.5.4 1 per target District by each Project Year 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.	and Gender Specialist.	
Environmental and Social Management				USD 120,500
Gender	Training of FAO Ethics Focal Point, Ethics Alternate Focal Point, Gender Focal Point and Gender Alternate Focal Point on sexual exploitation and abuse, gender-based violence and mediation skills – part of training under Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework	Each year until the end of Project Year 5	FAO (as Executing Entity), led by: Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender	USD 2,500/year (total 12,500)

			Specialist.	
	Engagement of an Environmental/Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist	Each year until the end of Project year 6	FAO	USD 18,000/year (total 108,000)
Grand Total				USD 16.427,000

3. TIMELINE AND MILESTONES

3.1 Component 1: Strengthening Restoration Capacity and Community Management of Artisanal Fisheries Habitats

3.1.1 Output 1.1: Mangrove Ecosystems Sustainably Restored in Fisheries Priority Areas⁷⁵⁸

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.1.1: Reforestation of 1,100 ha of degraded mangrove areas in key fisheries hotspots					<p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for planting site selection. <i>Target: 50%/20% of stakeholders consulted for the first 200 ha</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders consulted for training content, including use of mangroves and other goods and services from mangrove ecosystems. <i>Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders participating in sensitization and trainings on mangrove reforestation and conservation. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants</i></p> <p>Women/female youth receiving restoration toolkits. <i>Target: 50%/20% of planting team members for the first 200 ha.</i></p>			

⁷⁵⁸ The target group of women includes female youths.

					<p>Women/female youth among restoration toolkit recipients. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of toolkit recipients for the first 200 ha.</p> <p>Women/female youth involved in planning and execution of community-led campaigns. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of all community members involved in planning and execution of community-led campaigns for the first 200 ha.</p> <p>Women/female youth involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves for the first 200 ha.</p>			
Activity 1.1.2: Support assisted natural regeneration (ANR) on 1,250 ha of moderately degraded mangroves in key fisheries hotspots					<p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for natural regeneration site selection. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of stakeholders for the first 200 ha</p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of stakeholders consulted</p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders consulted for training content, including use of mangroves and other goods and services from mangrove ecosystems. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of stakeholders consulted</p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders participating in sensitization and trainings on mangrove restoration and conservation. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of participants</p> <p>Female/female youth planting team members.</p>			

					<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of planting team members</i></p> <p>Women/female youth among restoration toolkit recipients.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of toolkit recipients in each reforestation area for the first 200 ha</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in planning and execution of ANR campaign.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in planning and execution of ANR campaign for the first 200 ha</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in monitoring, evaluation and replacement of dead mangroves for the first 200 ha</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in joint planning and execution of mangrove restoration.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in joint planning of mangrove restoration for the first 200 ha.</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in execution of mangrove restoration.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in execution of mangrove restoration for the first 200 ha.</i></p>			
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 1.1.1: (continued PY3 and 4) Reforest 1,100 ha of degraded mangrove areas in key fisheries hotspots	The same milestones for the next 300 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 500 ha)				The same milestones for the next 300 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 800 ha)			
Activity 1.1.2: (continued PY3 and 4) Support assisted natural regeneration (ANR) on 1,250 ha in key fisheries hotspots	The same milestones for the next 350 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 550 ha)				The same milestones for the next 350 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 900 ha)			

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.1.1: (continued PY5) Reforest 1,100 ha of degraded mangrove areas in key fisheries hotspots	The same milestones for the last 300 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 1,100 ha)							

Activity 1.1.2: (continued PY5) Support assisted natural regeneration (ANR) on 1,250 ha in key fisheries hotspots	The same milestones for the last 350 ha, which involves different communities. (Cumulative area covered 1,250 ha)							
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3.1.2 Output 1.2: Local Communities Equipped for Sustainable Ecosystem Management⁷⁵⁹

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.2.1: Capacity development for local communities				<p>Women/female youth consulted on the training content and participation logistics of mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use. <i>Target: 80%/80% of women/female youth of the mangrove community</i></p> <p>Women/female youth consulted on the training content and participation logistics of mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use. <i>Target: 80%/80% of women/female youth of the mangrove community.</i></p>				The same milestones for the next three trainings, which involve different communities. (Cumulative number of training 4)

⁷⁵⁹ The target group of women includes female youths.

				<p>Women/female youth trained on mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members trained on mangrove monitoring, conservation and sustainable resource use for one training</i></p>				
<p>Activity 1.2.2:</p> <p>Support the establishment of community forest status (where applicable) for the interventions sites and the transfer of tenure to the local communities</p>								<p>Female/female youth stakeholders consulted for participation logistics.</p> <p><i>Target: 80%/80% of stakeholders consulted</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in review.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in review</i></p> <p>Women/female youth involved in preparation and enactment of forest tenure agreements.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community members involved in preparation and enactment of forest tenure agreements</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in awareness raising workshops.</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of community member participants in awareness raising workshops on rights and obligations</i></p>
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.2.3: Provide technical support to the execution of the mangrove restoration activities and ensuring environmental and social safeguards						<p>Women/female youth involved in identification of site-specific priority needs with a focus on NRM/mangrove forestry issues. <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth of site users</i></p> <p>Women/female youth consulted for the content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth of participants.</i></p> <p>Women/female youth participating in capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth of participants.</i></p> <p>Capacity development time spent on women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of capacity development time.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items</i></p>		

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 1.2.1: (continued PY3 and 4) Capacity development for local communities				The same milestones for the last three trainings, which involve different communities. (Cumulative number of training 7)				
Activity 1.2.2: (continued PY3 and 4) Support the establishment of community forest status (where applicable) for the interventions sites and the transfer of tenure to the local communities				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.2.3: (continued PY3 and 4) Provide technical support to the execution of the mangrove restoration activities and ensuring		The same milestones for another three sites. (Cumulative number of sites 4)				The same milestones for another three sites. (Cumulative number of sites 7)		

environmental and social safeguards								
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 1.2.1: (continued PY5 and 6) Capacity development for local communities								Female/female youth engaged as forest management committee members. <i>Target: 50%/20% of forest management committee members</i>
Activity 1.2.2: (continued PY5) Support the establishment of community forest status (where applicable) for the interventions sites and the transfer of tenure to the local				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity				

communities									
Activity	Timeline								
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6				
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Activity 1.2.3: (continued PY5) Provide technical support to the execution of the mangrove restoration activities and ensuring environmental and social safeguards		The same milestones for the last three sites. (Cumulative number of sites 10)						Proportion of women in the targeted communities who diversify their livelihoods using non-timber forest products of mangroves. <i>Target: 20% of women in the targeted communities..</i>	

3.2 Component 2: Climate Resilient Fisheries Infrastructure and Aquaculture Production

3.2.1 Output 2.1: Critical Small Scale Fisheries Infrastructure Climate-Proofed and Improved⁷⁶⁰

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.1.1: ESIA, detailed design and supervision for all sites								
Activity 2.1.2: Expand the Banjul landing site to accommodate loss of capacity at other climate impacted sites								
Activity 2.1.3: Introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Brufut, Tanji and Gunjur landing sites								
Activity 2.1.4: Develop flood-proof measures and								

⁷⁶⁰ The target group of women includes female youths.

introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Kartong landing site								
Activity 2.1.5: Develop flood-proof measures at the Bintang landing site								
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.1.6 Capacity development for the CFCs								<p>Female/female youth site users consulted for training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 90%/90%</i> of female/female youth users of each landing site</p> <p>Female/female youth site users participating in training on equipment and technology use, etc. <i>Target: 70%/70%</i> of female/female youth users of each landing site</p> <p>Training time spent on equipment, technologies, organizational arrangement, maintenance and repair related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50%</i> of training time</p> <p>Female/female youth site users consulted for content of capacity</p>

								<p>development and participation logistics on post-harvest equipment. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participating in training on post-harvest equipment. <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Training time spent on equipment, technologies, organizational arrangement, maintenance and repair related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of training time</i></p> <p>Female/female youth site users consulted for training content and participation logistics related CFCs. <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participating in training on CFCs. <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Training time spent on capacity development related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of training time</i></p>
Activity 2.1.7 Introduce energy efficient technologies for fish handling and processing in						Female/female youth site users consulted for location selection and periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Target: 70%/70% of female/female youth</i>		

10 mangrove management communities						<p>users of landing site</p> <p>Female/female youth site users consulted for design and installation of equipment to be introduced and periodically invited to the site to examine and learn about the installation process. <i>Target: 70%/70% of female/female youth users of landing site</i></p> <p>Female/male youth site users consulted on content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in capacity development activities related to technical, O&M and organizational aspects of equipment. <i>Target: 60%/60% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p>		
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

<p>Activity 2.1.1: (continued PY3 and 4) ESIA, detailed design and supervision for all sites</p>						<p>Female landing site users consulted for each site on possible environmental and social impacts. <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female landing site users consulted for each site on design of construction works. <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth site users consulted for content of capacity development and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Female/female youth landing site users participating in capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of female/female youth users of each landing site</i></p> <p>Capacity development time</p>		
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						spent on women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of capacity development time</i>		
Activity 2.1.2: (continued PY3 and 4) Expand the Banjul landing site to accommodate loss of capacity at other climate impacted sites			<p>Women/female youth involved in dredging. <i>Target: 30%/20% of community members involved in dredging</i></p> <p>Female/female youth Banjul landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process for piling works and pontoon installation. <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth Banjul landing site users for each operation</i></p> <p>Female Banjul landing site users consulted. <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Banjul landing site users</i></p>					
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 2.1.3: (continued PY3 and 4) Introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Brufut, Tanji and Gunjur landing sites	Female/female youth landing site users consulted on installation of improved fish smoking units, improved solar fish driers, and solar-powered sea water fish rinsing lines to reflect user perspectives. <i>Target: 90/90% of female/female youth of the first site users for each device</i>			The same milestones for the second landing site. (Cumulative number of landing sites 2)		The same milestones as for the last landing site. (Cumulative number of landing sites 3)							
Activity	Timeline												
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4								
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1				Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4		
Activity 2.1.4: (continued PY3 and 4) Develop flood-proof measures and introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Kartong landing site					Female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the process of platform level raising works, piling works and installation of floating pontoons <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users for each operation</i> Female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process of improved solar fish driers, improved fish smoking units and solar-powered sea water fish rinsing lines <i>Target: 50%/50% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users for each device</i> Female/female youth landing site users consulted on installation of improved solar fish driers, improved fish smoking units and solar-powered sea water fish rinsing lines <i>Target: 90%/90% of female/female youth Kartong landing site users for each device</i>								

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.1.5: (continued PY3 and 4) Develop flood-proof measures at the Bintang landing site			Female/female youth landing site users periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the pilling works and installation of floating pontoons <i>Target: 50% of female/female youth Bintang landing site users for each operation</i>					
Activity 2.1.6 (continued PY3 and 4) Capacity development for the CFCs				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity.				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity.
Activity 2.1.7 (continued PY3 and 4) Introduce energy efficient technologies for fish handling and processing in 10 mangrove management communities		The same milestones as in PY2 Q4 for each of three sites (Cumulative number of sites 4)				The same milestones as in PY2 Q4 for each of three sites (Cumulative number of sites 7)		

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 2.1.1: (continued PY5 and 6) ESIA, detailed design and supervision for all sites								
Activity 2.1.2: (continued PY5 and 6) Expand the Banjul landing site to accommodate loss of capacity at other climate impacted sites								
Activity 2.1.3: (continued PY5 and 6) Introduce climate-proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Brufut, Tanji and Gunjur landing sites								
Activity 2.1.3: (continued PY5 and 6) Develop flood-proof measures and introduce climate-								

proofed equipment for fish smoking and drying at the Kartong landing site								
Activity 2.1.4: (continued PY5 and 6) Develop flood-proof measures at the Bintang landing site								
Activity 2.1.6 (continued PY5 and 6) Capacity development for the CFCs				The same milestones as in PY2, which should be met in each PY of the activity.				
Activity 2.1.7 (continued PY5 and 6) Introduce energy efficient technologies for fish handling and processing in 10 mangrove management communities		The same milestones as in PY2 Q4 for each of three sites (Cumulative number of sites 10)						

3.2.2 Output 2.2: Aquaculture activities introduced as adaptation measures for livelihood improvement⁷⁶¹

⁷⁶¹ The target group of women includes female youths.

Activity	Timeline								
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2				
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Activity 2.2.1 Expand the Jahally Aquaculture Center				Female/female youth beneficiaries consulted on location and dimensions of ponds, etc. <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i>				Female/female youth beneficiaries of aquaculture consulted on type of fish, etc. before the activity commences. <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i>	
Activity	Timeline								
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2				
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2		Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.2: Promote the increase of fish feed production through four manufacturing units		Female/female youth oyster/fish harvesters/professors/sellers consulted on the effects of fish feed production on their livelihoods before and during the activity. <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i> Female youths involved in creation of new units. <i>Target: 50% of youths involved in creation of new units</i> Women/female youth consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of women/female youths of each community consulted</i> Women/female youth trained on fish feed production and its business. <i>Target: 50%/30% of training participants</i>							
Activity	Timeline								
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2				
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	

Activity 2.2.3: Integrate catfish production in fish tanks in 30 communal vegetable gardens (aquaculture package 1)								<p>Women/female youths invited to periodically invited to the construction site to examine and learn about the construction process. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of female/female youth of each community involved</p> <p>Women/female youths receiving equipment and inputs. <i>Target: 100%/40%</i> of equipment and input recipients for the first five POs.</p> <p>Women/female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of female/female youths in each community involved</p> <p>Women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Target: 100%/40%</i> of training/instructions recipients for the first five POs.</p>
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.4: Introduce integrated rice-fish culture in 300 ha of new irrigated schemes (aquaculture package 2)				<p>Women/female youths consulted on the specifications of irrigation schemes. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in specification for the first 50 ha</p> <p>Women/female youths involved in developing new irrigated schemes (design, construction, operation, maintenance, etc.). <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes for the first 50 ha</p>				<p>The same milestones for the next 150 ha which involves different communities. (Cumulative area 200 ha)</p>

				<p>Women/female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes</p> <p>Women/female youth recipients of start-up kits <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes for the first 50 ha</p> <p>Women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in irrigation schemes for the first 50 ha.</p>				
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Activity 2.2.5: Fund the development of fish culture in 60 earthen ponds (aquaculture package 3)				<p>Women/female youths consulted on selection of ponds, water access, etc. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in pond improvement/creation for the first 4 ponds</p> <p>Women/female youths involved in pond improvement/creation work. <i>Target: 30%/20%</i> of community members involved in pond improvement/creation work for the first 4 ponds</p> <p>Women/youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of women/female youths in each community of pond</p> <p>Women/female youth recipients of start-up kits. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in aquaculture using improved/new ponds for the first 4 ponds</p> <p>Women/female youths receiving training and instructions. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of community members involved in aquaculture using improved/new ponds for the first 4 ponds</p>				The same milestones for the next 14 ponds which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of ponds 18)
	Timeline							

Activity	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.6: Promote sustainable clam and oyster culture in 40 communities (aquaculture package 4)		The activity is for women only. Women and female youths consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 90%/90% of women/female youths in each community.</i> Female youth participants in training. <i>Target: 35% of participants for the first 7 groups</i> Female youths receiving inputs. <i>Target: 35% of participants for the 7 first groups</i>				The same milestones for the next 14 groups which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of groups 21)		
	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.7: Provide technical support to the execution of the aquaculture activities and ensuring environment and social safeguards				Women/female youth in the community consulted on which safeguards issues are important to them and why. <i>Target: 90%/90% of women/female youths in each community.</i> Supervision time spent on women's activities. <i>Target: 40% of supervision time</i> Extension expertise tailored to women. <i>Target: 40% of extension content</i>				The same milestones as in PY1.

				<p>Technical assistance and guidance tailored to women. <i>Target: 40% of assistance and guidance content</i></p> <p>Supervision time spent on safeguard issues related to women. <i>Target: 40% of supervision time</i></p>				
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.1 (continued PY3 and 4) Expand the Jahally Aquaculture Center				The same milestones for the next 10 POs. (Cumulative number of POs 15)				The same milestones for the next 10 POs. (Cumulative number of POs 25)
Activity 2.2.2: (continued PY3 and 4) Promote the increase of fish feed production through four manufacturing units								

Activity 2.2.3: (continued PY3 and 4) Integrate catfish production in fish tanks in 30 communal vegetable gardens (aquaculture package 1)								
Activity 2.2.4: (continued PY3 and 4) Introduce integrated rice-fish culture in 300 ha of new irrigated schemes (aquaculture package 2)				The same milestones for the next 100 ha which involves different communities. (Cumulative area 300 ha)				
Activity 2.2.5: (continued PY3 and 4) Fund the development of fish culture in 60 earthen ponds (aquaculture package 3)								The same milestones for the next 17 ponds which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of ponds 35)
Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 2.2.6: (continued PY3 and 4) Promote sustainable clam and oyster culture in 40 communities (aquaculture package 4)		The same milestones for the next 14 groups which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of groups 35)				The same milestones for the next 5 groups which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of groups 40)		
Activity 2.2.7: Provide technical support to the execution of the aquaculture activities and ensuring environment and social safeguards				The same milestones as in PY1.				The same milestones as in PY1.

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 2.2.1 (continued PY5 and 6) Expand the Jahally Aquaculture Center								

Activity 2.2.2: (continued PY5 and 6) Promote the increase of fish feed production through four manufacturing units								
Activity 2.2.3: (continued PY5 and 6) Integrate catfish production in fish tanks in 30 communal vegetable gardens (aquaculture package 1)				The same milestones for the last 5 POs. (Cumulative number of POs 30)				
Activity 2.2.4: (continued PY5 and 6) Introduce integrated rice-fish culture in 300 ha of new irrigated schemes (aquaculture package 2)								

Activity 2.2.5: (continued PY5 and 6) Fund the development of fish culture in 60 earthen ponds (aquaculture package 3)				The same milestones for the next 15 ponds which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of ponds 50)				The same milestones for the next 10 ponds which involves different communities. (Cumulative number of ponds 60)
Activity 2.2.6: (continued PY3 and 4) Promote sustainable clam and oyster culture in 40 communities (aquaculture package 4)								
Activity 2.2.7: Provide technical support to the execution of the aquaculture activities and ensuring environment and social safeguards				The same milestones as in PY1.				The same milestones as in PY1.

3.3 Component 3: Improved Climate Change Adaptive Capacities

3.3.1 Output 3.1: Public Services Supported to Analyze, Anticipate and Respond to Climate Risks ⁷⁶²

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 3.1.1: Strengthen the sectoral institutions and policies and develop additional capacity to respond to climate risks				<p>Female/female youth participants in short-term specialized trainings on climate risks, climate analysis and mainstreaming climate change in national policies and strategies. <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY1</i></p> <p>Training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Target: 40% of training time in PY1</i></p> <p>Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted on updated curricula on fisheries, aquaculture and ecosystem management <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY1</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted on updated curricula on fisheries, aquaculture and ecosystem management <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY2</i></p>
Activity 3.1.2: Improve public sector capacities to monitor the fisheries sector and its associated ecosystems				<p>Climate vulnerability survey that concerns women's vulnerability to climate change. <i>Target: 50% of survey questions</i></p> <p>Female/female youth citizens participating in training for river monitoring. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY1</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth citizens equipped with river monitoring device. <i>Target: 50%/20% of recipients</i></p> <p>Female/female youth citizens equipped with device for coastal fishery monitoring and reporting. <i>Target: 50%/20% of recipients</i></p>

⁷⁶² The target group of women includes female youths.

and integrate climate risks				<p>Female/female youth citizens and female/female youth government staff participating in training for coastal fishery monitoring and reporting. <i>Target: 50%/20% of citizen participants and 30/15% of government staff</i></p> <p>Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of citizen participants and 30/15% of government staff in PY1</i></p> <p>Female/female participants in training and on-the-job learning on georeferenced monitoring <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY1</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY2</i></p> <p>Female/female participants in training and on-the-job learning on georeferenced monitoring <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY2</i></p>
Activity 3.1.3: Establish an e-extension system for fisheries and aquaculture				<p>Women/female youths consulted on feasibility study and technical parameters for the system. <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i></p> <p>Existence of voice-over version for illiterate women. <i>Target: One that covers all the contents available in written form.</i></p>				<p>Women/female youths consulted on the voice-over version. <i>Target: 50%/20% of community members consulted</i></p> <p>Women/female youths registered for the system <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth community members surveyed in PY2</i></p> <p>Women/female youths registered. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth</i></p>

								community members surveyed in PY2
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 3.1.1: (continued PY3 and 4) Strengthen the sectoral institutions and policies and develop additional capacity to respond to climate risks				<p>Female/female youth participants in short-term specialized trainings on climate risks, climate analysis and mainstreaming climate change in national policies and strategies <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Target: 40% of training time in PY3</i></p> <p>Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted on updated curricula on fisheries, aquaculture and ecosystem management <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted Diploma/Advanced Diploma training for fisheries technicians <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY3</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted Diploma/Advanced Diploma training for fisheries technicians <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY4</i></p> <p>Inclusion of detailed analysis on and proposed strategies for women, including necessary data collection. <i>Target: 40% of lengths of main texts of climate related sectoral studies and subsequent revision of national policies and strategies</i></p> <p>Inclusion of analysis on and strategies for women, including necessary data collection. <i>Target: 40% of lengths of meeting time related to knowledge sharing</i></p>
Activity 3.1.2: (continued PY3 and 4) Improve public sector capacities to monitor the fisheries sector and its associated				<p>Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Proportion of female/female participants in training and on-the-job learning on georeferenced monitoring</p>				<p>Female/female youth citizens involved in training for river monitoring. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4</i></p> <p>Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of</i></p>

ecosystems and integrate climate risks				Target: 30/15% of participants in PY3				participants in PY4
Activity 3.1.3: (continued PY3 and 4) Establish an e-extension system for fisheries and aquaculture				Women/female youths registered. Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth community members surveyed in PY3				Women/female youths registered. Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth community members surveyed in PY4 Women/female youths registered and find the service useful. Target: 60%/60% of female/female youth community members registered National rollout of written and voice versions for women related subjects. Target: Two rolled out at the same time

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4

Activity 3.1.1: (continued PY5 and 6) Strengthen the sectoral institutions and policies and develop additional capacity to respond to climate risks				Female/female youth participants in short-term specialized trainings on climate risks, climate analysis and mainstreaming climate change in national policies and strategies <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY5</i> Training time spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Target: 40% of training time in PY5</i> Female/female youth experts/practitioners consulted Diploma/Advanced Diploma training for fisheries technicians <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY5</i>				
Activity 3.1.2: (continued PY5 and 6) Improve public sector capacities to monitor the fisheries sector and its associated ecosystems and integrate climate risks				Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5</i>				Female/female youth citizens involved in data collection of mangrove cover. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY6</i>
Activity 3.1.3: (continued PY5 and 6)				Women/female youths registered. <i>Target: 80%/80% of</i>				Women/female youths registered. <i>Target: 80%/80% of</i>

Establish an e-extension system for fisheries and aquaculture				female/female youth community members surveyed in PY5				female/female youth community members surveyed in PY6
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3.3.2 Output 3.2: National Capacities Developed to Support the Implementation of Adaptation Measures ⁷⁶³

Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 1				Project Year 2			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 3.2.1: Capacity development for field fisheries and forestry officers to support implementation				<p>Female/female youth participants in trainings on aquaculture production (including field visits to neighboring countries). <i>Target: 30%/15% of participating officers in PY1</i></p> <p>Training time on aquaculture production spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Target: 40% of training time in PY1</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in training for trainers. <i>Target: 30%/15% of participants in PY1</i></p> <p>Training material for trainers on women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of training material in PY1</i></p>				The same milestones for PY2

⁷⁶³ The target group of women includes female youths.

				<p>Female/female youth participants in trainings on mangrove monitoring, restoration and sustainable management <i>Target: 30%/15% of participating officers in PY1</i></p> <p>Training time on mangrove monitoring, restoration and sustainable management spent on women specific strengths and weaknesses. <i>Target: 40% of training time in PY1</i></p> <p>Female/female youth officers consulted on selection (accuracy, utility of data generated, operation, maintenance, budget, etc.) of equipment for effective monitoring of implementation <i>Target: 30%/15% of participating officers in PY1</i></p>				
<p>Activity 3.2.2: Support to private investment, value addition and integration with other sectors</p>								<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY2</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities. <i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY2</i></p> <p>Female/female youth beneficiaries of support to professional organization <i>Target: 50%/20% of</i></p>

								<p>beneficiaries in PY2</p> <p>Female/female youth in fishery and tourism involved in partnership establishment. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of fishery participants and 40/10% of tourism in PY2.</p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on the content and participation logistics of discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 80%/80%</i> of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY2.</p> <p>Female/female youth participants in discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 50%/20%</i> of participants in PY2.</p> <p>Female youth processors consulted on fish feed training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%</i> of female youth processors at each landing site in PY2.</p> <p>Female youth participants in training on fish feed for youths. <i>Target: 50%</i> of participants in PY2.</p> <p>Female/female youth</p>
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								<p>participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY2.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY2.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY2.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in business capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY2.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items in PY2.</i></p>
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Activity 3.2.3: Support to gender and youth empowerment through the application of the Household Methodology				Female/female youth participants in training of trainers. <i>Target: 80%/35% of participants in PY1.</i>				Household meetings facilitated. <i>Target: 200 in PY2.</i> Community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. <i>Target: 40 community gatekeepers in PY2.</i>
Activity 3.2.4: Implement a functional literacy and numeracy programme targeted to project female beneficiaries				Female experts/practitioners involved in identification of participants and identification of approach <i>Target: 80% of participants in PY1.</i> Rural female youth participants in training of trainers <i>Target: 80% of participants in PY1.</i>				Rural women enrolled in the 3-year programme. <i>Target: 500 in PY2</i>
Activity 3.2.5: Train executing-agency personnel on gender in general, SEAH, establish and operationalize referral pathways for GBV and strengthen FAO GRM				Male professionals at executing agencies involved in the project management directly or indirectly participate in each SEAH training. <i>Target: 80% of male professionals from executing agencies in PY1.</i> Professionals at executing agencies involved in the project management indirectly as supervisors participate in each SEAH training. <i>Target: 15% of participants.</i> Male professionals along the referral pathways participate in each SEAH and GBV training. <i>Target: 80% of male</i>				SEAH and GBV incidents reported through FAO GRM correctly identified as such by the GRM personnel <i>Target: 75%</i> Referral pathways established and operationalized with trained professionals, PEP kits and a complete list of contact information along each pathway. <i>Target: 1 per each target District, 2 Districts (Cumulative number pathways 4)</i> Information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways.

				<p>professionals in PY1.</p> <p>Referral pathways established and operationalized with trained professionals, PEP kits and a complete list of contact information along each pathway.</p> <p><i>Target: 1 per each target District, 2 Districts</i></p>				<p><i>Target: 1 per each target District in PY2</i></p>
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 3				Project Year 4			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 3.2.1: Capacity development for field fisheries and forestry officers to support implementation				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i></p> <p><i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY3</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities.</p> <p><i>Baseline: 0</i></p> <p><i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY4</i></p>
Activity 3.2.2: Support to private investment, value addition and integration with other sectors				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities.</p> <p><i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY3</i></p> <p>Female/female youth beneficiaries of support to professional organization.</p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable</p> <p><i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities.</p> <p><i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY4</i></p> <p>Female/female youth beneficiaries of support to professional organization</p>

				<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of beneficiaries in PY3</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in training for artisanal fish processors <i>Target: 90%/35% of participants in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth in fishery and tourism involved in partnership establishment. <i>Target: 50%/20% of fishery participants and 40/10% of tourism in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on the content and participation logistics of discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 50%/20% of</i></p>				<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of beneficiaries in PY4</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY34.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in training for artisanal fish processors <i>Target: 90%/35% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth in fishery and tourism involved in partnership establishment. <i>Target: 50%/20% of fishery participants and 40/10% of tourism in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on the content and participation logistics of discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 50%/20% of</i></p>
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				<p>participants in PY3.</p> <p>Female youth processors consulted on fish feed training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for consulted on</p>				<p>participants in PY4.</p> <p>Female youth processors consulted on fish feed training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female youth participants in training on fish feed for youths. <i>Target: 50% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY4.</i></p>
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				<p>training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY3.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in business capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY3.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items in PY3.</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in business capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items in PY4.</i></p>
<p>Activity 3.2.3: Support to gender and youth empowerment through the application of the Household Methodology</p>				<p>Household meetings facilitated. <i>Target: 400 in PY3.</i></p> <p>Community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. <i>Target: 80 community gatekeepers in PY3.</i></p> <p>Communities where more than half of the women agree that the community gatekeepers are leading support measures against SEAH and GBV. <i>Target: 40% of the communities whose gatekeepers are sensitized</i></p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in training of trainers. <i>Target: 80%/35% of participants in PY4.</i></p> <p>Household meetings facilitated. <i>Target: 600 households in PY4. (200 households completing 3-year course)</i></p> <p>Difference in hours spent per week engaged in household chores and caregiving by women and men. <i>Target: 50% reduction in difference for each of 200 household ending the Activity.</i></p> <p>Proportion of women who think their husbands' beating is unjustified under any</p>

								<p>circumstance. Target: 50% reduction in proportion for each of 200 household ending the Activity.</p> <p>Community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. <i>Target: 160</i> community gatekeepers in PY4. (Cumulative 40 gatekeepers completing 3-year course)</p>
Activity 3.2.4: Implement a functional literacy and numeracy programme targeted to project female beneficiaries				<p>Female experts/practitioners involved in identification of participants and identification of approach <i>Target: 80%</i> of participants in PY3.</p> <p>Rural female youth participants in training of trainers <i>Target: 80%</i> of participants in PY3.</p> <p>Rural women enrolled in the 3-year programme. <i>Target: 1,000</i> in PY3</p>				<p>Rural women enrolled in the 3-year programme. <i>Target: 1,500</i> in PY4</p> <p>Rural women completing the 3-year programme. <i>Target: 500</i> in PY4</p>
Activity 3.2.5: Train executing-agency personnel on gender in general, SEAH, establish and operationalize referral pathways for				<p>Male professionals at executing agencies involved in the project management directly or indirectly participate in each SEAH training. <i>Target: 80%</i> of male professionals from executing agencies in PY3.</p> <p>Male professionals along the referral pathways participate in</p>				<p>SEAH and GBV incidents reported through FAO GRM correctly identified as such by the GRM personnel <i>Target: 95%</i></p> <p>Information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways. <i>Target: 1</i> per each target District in PY4</p>

GBV and strengthen FAO GRM				<p>each SEAH and GBV training. <i>Target: 80%</i> of male professionals in PY3.</p> <p>Referral pathways established and operationalized with trained professionals, PEP kits and a complete list of contact information along each pathway. <i>Target: 1</i> per each target District, 3 Districts (Cumulative number pathways 7)</p> <p>Information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways. <i>Target: 1</i> per each target District in PY3 (Cumulative number of campaigns 2 per target District).</p>				(Cumulative number of campaigns 3 per target District).
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Activity	Timeline							
	Project Year 5				Project Year 6			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Activity 3.2.1: Capacity development for field fisheries and forestry officers to support implementation								The same milestones for PY6

<p>Activity 3.2.2: Support to private investment, value addition and integration with other sectors</p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities. <i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY5</i></p> <p>Female/female youth beneficiaries of support to professional organization. <i>Target: 50%/20% of beneficiaries in PY5</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in training for artisanal fish processors <i>Target: 90%/35% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth in fishery and tourism involved in partnership establishment. <i>Target: 50%/20% of fishery participants and 40/10% of tourism in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth</p>				<p>Female/female youth participants in Invest in Fisheries roundtable <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY6</i></p> <p>Roundtable time spent on women specific activities. <i>Target: 40% of roundtable time in PY6</i></p> <p>Female/female youth beneficiaries of support to professional organization <i>Target: 50%/20% of beneficiaries in PY6</i></p> <p>Female/female youth processors consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY6.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in training for artisanal fish processors <i>Target: 90%/35% of participants in PY6.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items in PY6.</i></p>
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				<p>processors consulted on the content and participation logistics of discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female/female youth processors at each landing site in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in discussion on linking production and business. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female youth processors consulted on fish feed training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female youth participants in training on fish feed for youths. <i>Target: 50% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in dialogue and sensitization on financial inclusion.</p>				
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				<p><i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth stakeholders (oyster harvesters/processors/sellers and fish processors/sellers) consulted for consulted on training content and participation logistics. <i>Target: 80%/80% of female youth processors at each landing site in PY5.</i></p> <p>Female/female youth participants in business capacity development. <i>Target: 50%/20% of participants in PY5.</i></p> <p>Environmental and social safeguards items considered for compliance and directly related to women's activities. <i>Target: 50% of safeguard items in PY5.</i></p>				
Activity 3.2.3: Support to gender empowerment through the application of the Household Methodology				<p>Household meetings facilitated. <i>Target: 400 households in PY5.</i> (Cumulative 400 households completing 3-year course)</p> <p>Difference in hours spent per week engaged in household chores and caregiving by women and men. Target: 50% reduction in difference for each of 200 household ending the Activity (Cumulative 400 households).</p>				<p>Household meetings facilitated. <i>Target: 200 households in PY5.</i> (Cumulative 600 households completing 3-year course)</p> <p>Difference in hours spent per week engaged in household chores and caregiving by women and men. Target: 50% reduction in difference for each of 200 household ending the Activity (Cumulative 600 households).</p>

				<p>Proportion of women who think their husbands' beating is unjustified under any circumstance. Target: 50% reduction in proportion for each of 200 household ending the Activity (Cumulative 400 households).</p> <p>Community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. Target: 80 community gatekeepers in PY5. (Cumulative 80 gatekeepers completing 3-year course)</p> <p>Communities where more than half of the women agree that the community gatekeepers are leading support measures against SEAH and GBV. Target: 60% of the communities whose gatekeepers are sensitized</p>				<p>Proportion of women who think their husbands' beating is unjustified under any circumstance. Target: 50% reduction in proportion for each of 200 household ending the Activity (Cumulative 600 households).</p> <p>Community gatekeepers (from the community of training) separately sensitized prior to the training per trainer. Target: 40 community gatekeepers in PY6. (Cumulative 120 gatekeepers completing 3-year course)</p>
Activity 3.2.4: Implement a functional literacy and numeracy programme targeted to project female beneficiaries				<p>Rural women enrolled in the 3-year programme. Target: 1,000 in PY5</p> <p>Rural women completing the 3-year programme. Target: 500 in PY5 (Cumulative 1,000 completing the programme)</p>				<p>Rural women enrolled in the 3-year programme. Target: 500 in PY6</p> <p>Rural women completing the 3-year programme. Target: 500 in PY6 (Cumulative 1,500 completing the programme)</p> <p>Number of male treasurers of female professional organizations in the fishery sector replaced by women.</p>

								Target: 50% of male treasurers
Activity 3.2.5: Train executing- agency personnel on gender in general, SEAH, establish and operationalize referral pathways for GBV and strengthen FAO GRM				Information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways. Target: 1 per each target District in PY5 (Cumulative number of campaigns 4 per target District).				Information campaigns organized for the public on GBV and referral pathways. Target: 1 per each target District in PY6 (Cumulative number of campaigns 5 per target District).