



The Gambia

Voluntary National Review, June 2020

A report on the progress of implementation of SDGs





REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

FINAL REPORT





Foreword

The Gambia actively participated in the formulation of the 2030 Agenda and was among the 19 African countries selected for the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) assisted inclusive national consultations. The national consultations was facilitated by a National Taskforce of Government, UN agencies, private sector, and civil society representatives, and involved focus group discussions with the private sector, Gambia Federation of the Disabled (GFD), youth and women, and other key stakeholders.

Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, The Gambia moved quickly to launch the agenda at the national level through a development forum on the theme “Post 2015 Agenda and its Financing at the Local level”. A key objective of this launching workshop was to recommend options for mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda into the development planning process and identify the most viable options for financing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in The Gambia, including public-private partnership and private sector financing.

In December 2016 Gambians went to the polls and elected a new government. The change in government came with renewed and increased expectations on the part of the citizenry. To meet this expectation, the new government formulated a National Development Plan (NDP) 2018 – 2021 to outline the development vision for the country. The overarching goal of the NDP is to “*deliver good governance and accountability, social cohesion, and national reconciliation and a revitalized and transformed economy for the well-being of all Gambians*”. The National Development Plan (NDP) mainstreams the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs into its eight strategic priorities and seven critical enablers as well as other global and regional agendas such as Africa Agenda 2063 and the Istanbul Plan of Action. The alignment between the NDP and the SDGs is highlighted in this report.

The Gambia is presenting its Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the first time. The VNR process has given the country the opportunity to further engage key stakeholders such as the private sector, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the citizenry, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups with the view to leave no one behind. The objective of the consultations was to gauge the level of implementation of the SDGs and to enhance the level of awareness on the SDGs. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected some of the planned consultations and engagements

while also threatening to erode some of the positive achievements made in the implementation of the SDGs.

The VNR consultations have raised the need for further advocacy and sensitization on the SDGs to enhance national ownership. The Government will strengthen the institutional arrangements and engagement with stakeholders to accelerate innovation and implementation in line with the 'Decade of Action'. A major challenge in preparing the VNR has been the availability of reliable, accurate and timely data to measure progress on some of the SDG targets and indicators. The Government will continue to work with development partners to support the implementation of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics II (NSDS II 2018 – 2022) to strengthen the National Statistical System (NSS) in the country.

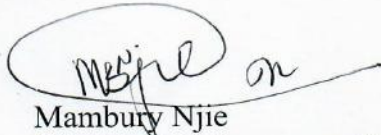
The VNR has indicated progress on some of the SDGs, challenges in others and revealed the need to accelerate implementation to attain the SDGs. Focusing on SDG accelerators, Goals that have multiplier effects across the other SDGs, has been the priority of the Government and development partners as outlined in the joint SDG implementation Roadmap developed through mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support. In the social services sector significant progress has been recorded with respect to access to education, water, and nutrition outcomes. Gains were registered with respect to school enrolment and retention; proportion of the population with access to improved water sources; prevalence of underweight among children under 5; prevalence of stunting among children; and prevalence of wasting among children under 5. Undernourishment has also improved and the proportion of women attended by skilled health personnel during delivery has also increased.

However, while poverty levels have stagnated at around 48% between 2010 and 2015/16 nationally, the poverty levels have increased in the rural areas. Unemployment, especially among the youth aged 15 – 35 years continues to be another development challenge.

To ensure building upon the progress registered and address the challenges being encountered, the Government will continue to ensure that the SDGs are mainstreamed into our development planning processes at national, sectoral, and sub-national levels. The VNR report will inform policy and strategic direction, especially as it relates to reducing the gap between the urban and rural areas (loop sided development). The Programme for Accelerated Community

Development (PACD) which have been initiated this year is one strategy in this direction. The ongoing interventions in infrastructure, including electricity, will help to reduce the gap between urban and rural areas.

The Gambia's adoption of the 2030 Agenda and implementation of the SDGs supports the national vision of the "new Gambia" to become a country that upholds the highest standard of governance, accountability and transparency; where social cohesion and harmony prevails among communities; where citizens enjoy a standard of living and access to basic services to enable them to lead decent and dignified lives; where youth, women, children realize their full potential, and a nurturing and caring environment exists for the vulnerable; where there is an enabling environment for our private sector to thrive and flourish; and where our natural heritage is nurtured and preserved for future generations. A sustainable Gambia for all its people, now and in the future.



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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AGDI	African Gender Development Index
AGOA	African Growth Opportunity Act
ANC	Antenal Care
APR	Annual Progress Report
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
CBCs	Community Birth Companions
CC	Climate Change
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
CH	Cadre Harmonize
CRC	Constitutional Review Commission
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCF	Development Cooperation Forum
DDP	Directorate of Development Planning
DSPD	Department of Strategic Policy and Delivery
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
ECF	Extended Credit Facility
EU	European Union
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBoS	Gambia Bureau of Statistics
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GDHS	Gambia Demographic and Health Survey
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFD	Gambia Federation of the Disabled

GLFS	Gambia Labour Force Survey
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
GMIS	Gender Management Information System
GRA	Gambia Revenue Authority
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communication
GSRB	Gambia Strategy Review Board
GT Board	Gambia Tourism Board
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management System
IHS	Integrated Household Survey
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
LGA	Local Government Area
LGA	Local Government Authority
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
LRR	Lower River Region
MAPS	Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support
MCNHRP	Maternal and Child Nutrition and Health Results Project
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MDFT	Multi-Disciplinary Facilitation Team
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

MIS	Malaria Indicator Survey
MoBSE	Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education
MoFEA	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
MoHERST	Ministry of Higher Education Research Science and Technology
MoICI	Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure
MSME	Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
NaNA	National Nutrition Agency
NA	Not Applicable
N/A	Not Available
NBR	North Bank Region
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NDB	Net Domestic Borrowing
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDMA	National Disaster Management Agency
NDP	National Development Plan
NEA	National Environment Agency
NEAP	National Employment Policy and Action Plan
NEEAP	National Energy Efficiency Action Plan
NEET	Not in Education Employment or Training
NEMC	National Environment Management Council
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSPP	National Social Protection Policy
NSS	National Statistical System

NTSC	National Technical Steering Committee
NYC	National Youth Council
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PACD	Programme for Accelerated Community Development
PBB	Programme Based Budgeting
PHC	Primary Health Care
PLHIV	People Living with HIV/AIDs
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PSBR	Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR)
PURA	Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
RTACs	Regional Technical Advisory Committees
SBCC	Social Behavioral Change Communication
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SOEs	State Owned Enterprises
SP	Social Protection
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SWGs	Sector Working Groups
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TADAT:	Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool
TBAs	Traditional Birth Attendants
TRRC	Truth Reconciliation and Reparation Commission
TSA	Treasury Single Account
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Thematic Working Groups
UHC	Universal Health Care
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
UN	United Nations



UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
URR	Upper River Region
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank



CHAPTER 1: HIGHLIGHTS

The Gambia, like many other countries demonstrated its commitment to the implementation of Agenda 2030 by mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the National Development Plan (NDP) 2018 – 2021; providing an opportunity to align and address its development priorities with SDG targets and indicators. The Government continues to engage the private sector, civil society, and development partners in the implementation of the Agenda 2030. While there is a need to increase awareness around the SDGs, the participation of stakeholders during the Voluntary National Review (VNR) has increased ownership of the Agenda 2030.

The Government has aligned the institutional arrangements for the SDGs and the NDP to enhance effective and efficient coordination among stakeholders. These arrangements include Ministerial Steering Committee, and technical Sector Working Groups. The VNR Coordinating Committee will be maintained and transformed into a technical SDG coordination mechanism.

The country has recorded remarkable progress in the area of governance. A new draft constitution has been completed which espouses respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms, and rule of law. The constitution also advocates for gender balance and fair representation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in parliament, other statutory bodies as well as in the State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs). In the judiciary, a balance in the gender representation was achieved and for the first time, there are two Gambian female judges at the Supreme Court. At the political level, for the first time, a female was elected as the Mayoress of Banjul, the capital city. The modality of the Truth Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) – a model and has been unprecedented, and instrumental in calming down victims, communities, and maintaining social cohesion.

Overall, 48.6% of the population in 2015/16 is poor (IHS 2015/16) with a large difference between urban (31.6%) and rural areas (69.5 %) - thus manifesting poverty as a rural phenomenon. The number of people living below the poverty line (i.e. less than \$1.25/day) increased from 0.79 million in 2010 to 0.94 million in 2015/16 (IHS, 2015/16). The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to have negative implications on poverty. Sectors such as tourism and hospitality, and trade have already been affected, and individuals face risks of unemployment or (partial) loss of income. But they are not the only ones; markets, and small businesses are also affected due to restricted hours. As highlighted, there will be many more new poor or ‘differently poor people’ as a result of COVID-19. This will be further compounded by inadequate formal social safety nets for the vulnerable population.

In the area of agriculture and food security, the majority of the rural population depends on crops and livestock for their livelihood. The sector witnessed a slight revival in 2018 and grew by 0.9% compared to the sharp contraction of (- 4.4%) in 2017. However, due to erratic rainfall in the 2018/19 cropping season, agricultural production declined by about 23%. The country is therefore not on target to achieving food and nutritional security. This is being further



exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and as a result, government has provided food support to 84% of households to mitigate the effect of COVID-19. In addition, rural dwellers who are mainly subsistence farmers dependent on rain-fed agriculture, will require a lot of support for the next cropping season mainly in forms of farming inputs and implements.

In the social services sector, significant progress has been recorded with respect to access to education, water, and nutrition outcomes. Gains were registered with respect to: school enrolment and retention, proportion of the population with access to improved water sources, prevalence of underweight among children under 5, prevalence of stunting among children, prevalence of wasting among children under 5. Undernourishment has also improved and the proportion of women attended by skilled health personnel during delivery has also increased. Proportion of household with access to safely managed drinking water is only 33.8 % (MICS 6 2018). With respect to climate change,

The Gambia is rated among the world's two most ambitious developing countries; its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) has ambitious conditional and unconditional targets that meet the 1.5°C Paris Agreement Commitment.

The key long-term development challenges facing The Gambia are related to its undiversified economy, small private sector and internal market, limited access to resources, high population growth rate, and inadequate skills necessary to create jobs for the youthful population.

To accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and the NDP, the Government has initiated the Programme for Accelerated Community Development (PACD), which factors the synergies between the SDGs and aims to reduce the gap between the urban and rural areas. Data for Development remains a challenge and to address this challenge, the government has developed a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) II (2018-2022) and is exploring innovative financing for the strategy. The current vision 2020 is being evaluated to guide the formulation of subsequent long-term vision.

Impact of COVID-19 on SDG implementation and measures taken to mitigate/ combat it¹

The Gambia confirmed her first COVID-19 case on March 17th 2020. As at 8th June 2020 there are 28 confirmed cases with one death. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed and amplified the challenges in the health sector in The Gambia, which range from inadequate human resources, infrastructure, commodities, and logistics. The COVID-19 pandemic also showed the gaps in surveillance, laboratory and diagnostics capacity of the health system. The elevated focus on containing and eradicating COVID-19 has led to a situation where, resources, both labor and

¹ A more detailed discussion of the impact of COVID-19 is in the annex 2.

capital are refocused on ending the pandemic. This negatively impacts non COVID-19 related health issues.

The pandemic poses serious socioeconomic challenges. Its multi-dimensional impact indicates the integrated and indivisible nature of sustainable development as reflected in the SDGs. Apart from its evident health impacts, the pandemic has very wide socioeconomic implications; impacting decent employment, food and nutritional security, access to quality education and health care, gender equality, economic growth, poverty reduction, financing for development among others.

The socioeconomic effects of the pandemic became evident in The Gambia even before the registration of a confirmed case. The strategies deployed by countries to contain the pandemic led to travel restrictions, which negatively impacted the tourism industry in The Gambia. This led to unemployment and attendant loss of income in the tourism sector, which also affected Government revenues. The estimated impact from the decline in import duties and other tax revenues is GMD2.7 billion (2.8 % of GDP) (MoFEA).

The containment measures that Government instituted have impacted normal economic activities including the operations of businesses. With significant informal sector employment, the restrictions led to further loss of employment and incomes. A reduction in economic activity due to the restrictions will adversely affect Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth. GDP growth for the year is estimated to slump to 0.5% from a projected 6.2% (MoFEA). The severity of the contraction in growth will depend on the length of the pandemic. The economic slowdown is leading to reduced government revenues which have negative implications on financing for development.

Other effects of the pandemic will be further deterioration of food and nutritional security. This will negatively impact ending hunger and ensuring access by all people - the poor, and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round. The closure of educational institutions has affected access to quality education. While alternative measures are being deployed to deliver lessons via radio, television, and virtual (internet), poorer students risk being excluded.

While the pandemic will negatively impact the entire population, the most vulnerable, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, women and children, will be most affected. The response measures indicate the importance of partnerships. While Development Partners have been very proactive in supporting the Government, The Gambia has seen unprecedented support and collaboration from the private sector, civil society organizations, and individual philanthropists who have in many instances been delivering support directly to communities. To enforce social distancing, there has been increased use of Information Communication Technology (ICT). These trends need to be further strengthened and nurtured. An important lesson that is learnt from the pandemic is strengthening coordination during emergencies and investing in the

National Statistical System (NSS) for enhanced data availability for better targeting and speedier response.

CHAPTER 2. INTRODUCTION

Country Profile

The Gambia, situated in West Africa, attained independence on the 18th February 1965 and the capital city is Banjul. It is bordered to the north, south and east by Senegal and has an 80km coast on the Atlantic Ocean to the west. The country's borders roughly correspond with the path of the River Gambia. The Gambia has a total area: 11,300 km² (4388 sq. miles) and out of this approximately 1,300 km² is of water bodies with an 80-km coastline and an exclusive fishing zone of 200 nautical miles with continental shelf. The agricultural land is 6,550 km² and the arable land is 588,000 hectares, of which, 334,000 hectares are under cultivation. It has a forest area of 4,750 km² (i.e. 47.5 % of land area).

Figure 2.1 below shows The Gambia by the numbers showing the population of the country as at 2015/16, the number of districts and Local Government Areas in the country, poverty rates and the number of poor people, workforce by gender and summary of trade statistics for 2019.

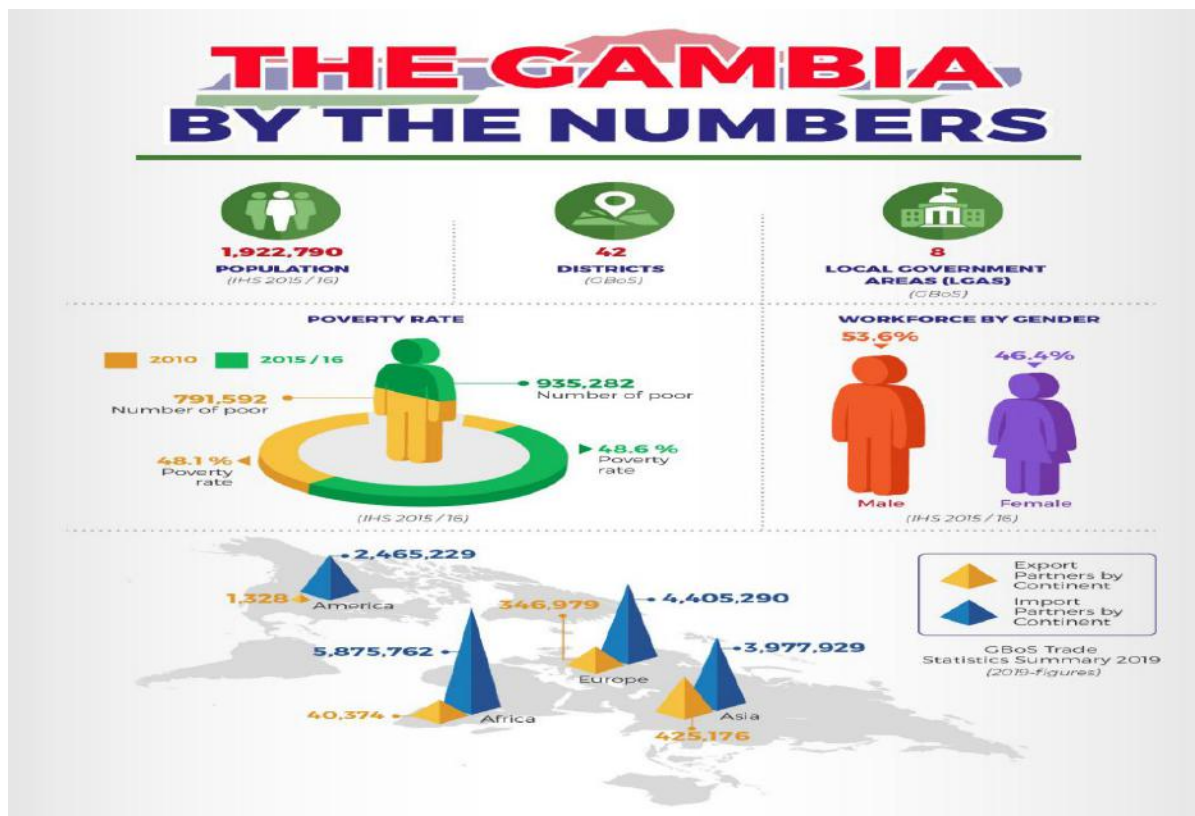


Figure 2.1 The Gambia by the numbers

The country has a sub-tropical climate with two distinct seasons; dry and rainy seasons. The dry season usually starts mid-October and ends around mid-June every year with an average temperature of 32°C / 89.6°F. The rainy season usually starts around mid- June and ends around mid-October with August being the wettest month of the year, temperatures can reach up to 41°C/105.8°C.

Overview of the Economy

The Gambian economy grew at a rate of 6.2% in 2019 (provisional) 7.0% in 2018 from 4.8% in 2017 and 1.9% in 2016 (GBoS, 2019) mainly driven by tourism, rain-dependent agriculture and remittances, and is vulnerable to external shocks.

The agriculture sector witnessed a slight revival in 2018 and grew by 0.9% compared to the sharp contraction of (-4.4%) in 2017) (GBoS, 2018). The number of tourist arrivals reached a record high and increased by 29.0% in 2018 compared to 2017 (GT Board, 2018). Similarly, credit to private sector rebounded strongly - a growth of 32.0% in 2018 from 3.0% in 2017.

Table 2.1 below shows imports and exports from selected regions and continents to and from The Gambia. The data shows that Africa is the major importing continent for The Gambia and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) accounted for the highest proportion whilst most of the country's exports were to Asia.

Table 2.1. Imports and exports from selected regions and continents to and from The Gambia

Values (GMD'000)		
PARTNER	IMPORTS	EXPORTS
AFRICA	11,335,901	28,334
OF WHICH		
ECOWAS	10,464,440	19,688
REST OF AFRICA	871,461	8,645
EUROPE	7,044,110	52,367
OF WHICH		
EU	5,670,350	38,886
AMERICA	3,675,664	27,162
ASIA	8,986,188	344,028
SUBTOTAL	31,041,863	451,891
REST OF THE WORLD	34,287	0
TOTAL	31,076,150	451,891

Source: GBoS

On the fiscal front, the fiscal deficit increased to 6.0% in 2018 from 5.3% in 2017, mainly due to

lower grant revenues, spending overruns on goods and services, and unbudgeted transfers to State-Owned Enterprises. Tax revenues, marred by weak tax administration and high discretionary tax exemptions, remained relatively stable at 10.4% of GDP.

The macroeconomic framework continues to be characterized by high debt levels. Nominal debt as percentage of GDP decreased from 89.1 % as at end 2018 to 80.1 % as at end 2019. The total debt service payment has increased by 18.0 % from GMD 3.9 billion in 2018 to GMD 4.7 billion in 2019 (MoFEA, Public Debt Bulletin 2019) leaving limited fiscal space for public investment and improved service delivery.

The key long-term development challenges facing The Gambia are related to its undiversified economy, weak governance framework, and small internal market, limited access to resources, and inadequate skills necessary to build effective institutions, high population growth rate, and inadequate private sector job creation. This among other things renders The Gambia a fragile state according to the World Bank.

Population

The total population of The Gambia was estimated at 1,857,181 inhabitants with average annual growth rate of 3.1, which is one of the fastest population growth rates in Sub-Saharan Africa according to the results of the 2013 Population and Housing Census. The population of the country is estimated to be 2.3 million in 2018 (Gambia Labour Force Survey, GLFS, 2018). Projected figures indicate that the population will be 3.6 million and 4.9 million respectively by mid-2035 and mid-2050 (Population Reference Bureau, 2020). As a result of the high rural-urban migration, over 50.0% of the population lives in the western part of the country, this constitutes the urban sprawl of Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs (GBoS, 2013 Census). The country has a young population with lower median ages of 17.8 years and 18.6 years respectively for males and females (GBoS, 2013 Census). Adolescents aged 15-24 years and youth aged 15-35 years, respectively account for 21.4% and 38.5% of the total population in 2013 (GBoS, 2013 Census). The Gambia is among the most densely populated countries in Africa with major concentration in the Greater Banjul Area.

Presented in Figure 2.2 and 2.3 is the population density for 2003 and 2013. The data shows the population density has increased from 127 persons per square kilometer to 174. During the inter-censal periods, Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama has the highest population densities compared to the other 5 LGAs which are predominantly rural.

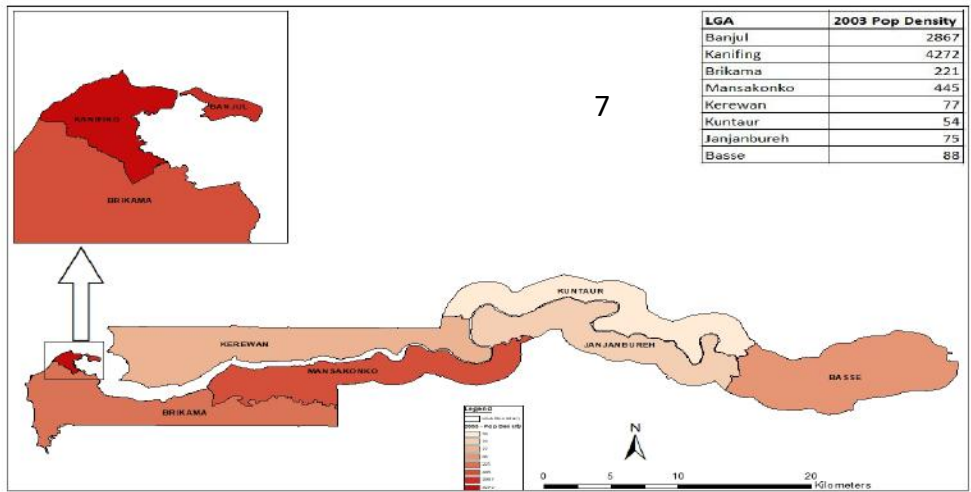
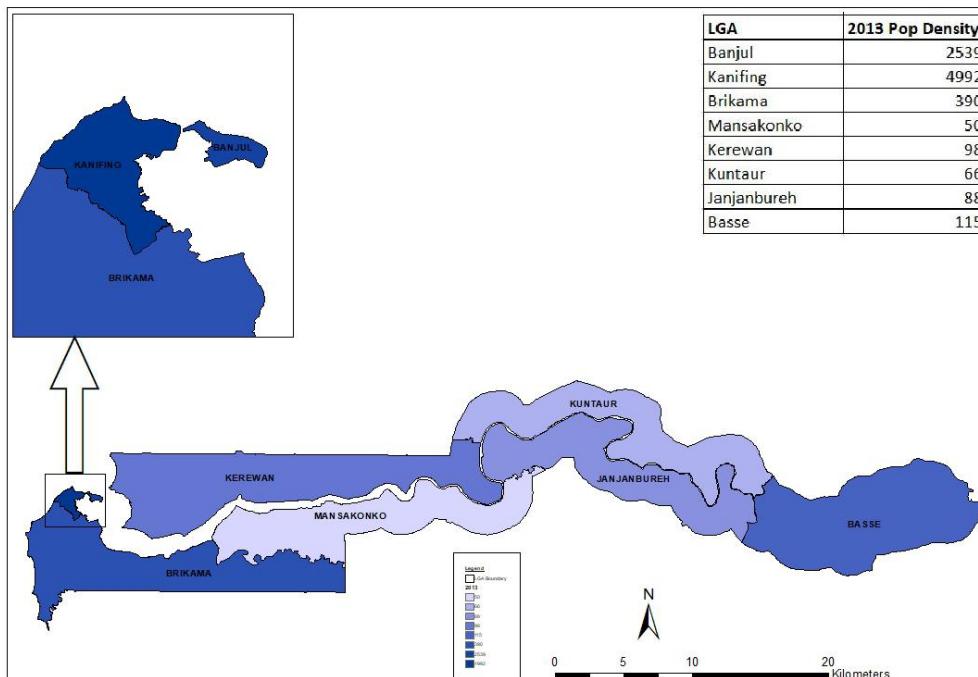


Figure 2.2:

2 0 0 3
Population
Density by
LGA

Figure 2.3: 2013 Population Density by LGA



Source: 2003
and 2013
Census

Unemployment among the youth aged 15-35 years is estimated at 41.5% higher than the national average (35.2%) (GLFS, 2018). Overall, about 57% of the youth are: Not in Education (i.e. not going to school), Employment or Training (NEET); with NEET of 44.7% and 56.3% respectively for males and females (GLFS, 2018).

The official language of the country is English and the different local languages mainly Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola, Sarahule, Serere, Manjago and Creole/Aku Marabout (krio). The Gambia's constitution guarantees freedom of religion. Christianity, and Islam, are the major faiths practiced in the country with the following representation: Christianity (3.8%), Islam (96.0%) with very few traditional and other religions (less than 1.0%) (2013 Census).

SDG Implementation

The Gambia actively participated in the consultation process for the Post 2015 development agenda launched in September 2012 and was among 19 African countries selected for national consultations that were conducted between March and May 2013, facilitated by a National Taskforce that included Government, United Nations (UN), agencies, private sector, and civil society representatives. The consultations were held at the grassroots and national level involving persons with disabilities, youth, women, academia and private sector through focus group discussions where the participants were tasked to identify and rank their development priorities for consideration in the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The consultation findings were subjected to a national validation workshop. A consolidated report of the consultations was subsequently compiled and sent to the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) to serve as input into the development of the SDGs.

The SDGs are being implemented through the current NDP and mainstreamed in sector strategies and plans. To help in tracking progress towards the attainment of the SDGs, there are plans to establish SDG's coordination unit at the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS) for supporting disaggregated data collection, provision of quality assurance and analysis of relevant SDG indicators at both the national and sub-national level.

To ensure that the SDGs are reflected in the medium-term plan and in the financing and budgetary frameworks, a development finance assessment was conducted to explore new and existing sources of financing for development. Deliberate efforts were also made by Government to effectively scrutinize multilateral and bilateral support as well as national and sub-national sector strategies, plans and submissions particularly during budget bilaterals at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA) for alignment with the SDGs. Government is committed to ensuring that each annual and mid-term review of the NDP and subsequent medium-term plans would assess progress towards attaining the SDGs.

In preparation for its first VNR, the Government of The Gambia, with support from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), undertook the preparation of the first SDG report covering the period 2016 – 2019 which served as a critical input into the VNR to be presented during the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2020 in New York.

Links to other international agreements such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Samoa Pathway, Istanbul or Vienna Programme of Action

As part of the global family, the NDP is not only aligned with the SDGs, but also mainstreams Africa Agenda 2063, Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Istanbul Programme of Action. In line with the AAAA and to strengthen Financing for Development (FfD), The Gambia conducted two Development Finance Assessments (DFAs) in 2017 & 2018, to have comprehensive picture of the sources of financing for development in the country and to provide recommendations for the development of an Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) to strengthen the linkages between planning, budgeting and financing.

The Gambia has highly acclaimed Nationally Determined Contributions. Of all the countries signed to the International Paris Climate Agreement, The Gambia is one of the two countries that have made commitments sufficient enough to limit temperature increases within the 1.5 degrees Celsius range by the end of the 21st century. Although The Gambia's current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are strong and have earned the country global recognition, there is still room for improvement. The Government of The Gambia is in the process of updating its NDC. The update will focus on inclusion of additional sectors (such as transport) and the strengthening of the adaptation component of the document. In addition, the Government aims to develop a monitoring tool to better assess the impacts of ongoing mitigation and adaptation efforts.

In regards to the country's current and future plans for climate action, the Government is working on implementation of the following strategies and policies; National Climate Change Policy, Strategic Plan for Climate Resilience in The Gambia, and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions. The Gambia is currently in the process of formulating a National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and Long Term Low Emission Vision and Strategy on climate change. There are also a number of renewable energy initiatives in the pipeline that will contribute significantly to the country's mitigation efforts (Green House Gas emission reduction).

As part of the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2015 – 2030, the Gambia has recorded some achievements in the implementation, despite being faced with challenges as a country. Amongst these, The Gambia has developed local and national strategies for disaster risk reduction and mainstreamed them into local plans. Some of these plans are now due for review. The country has also developed the National Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan 2019 – 2030 in the wake of “Building Back Better” initiative during and post disasters.

Equally, The Gambia has strengthened and integrated its Early Warning System including at local levels. Government has started the mainstreaming of DRR into educational circular in line with the Africa Programme of Actions for the Implementation of Sendai Framework for DRR 2015 – 2030. The Government through the UNDRR and African Union has engaged in capacity building of partners and the development of the Gambia National Risk Profile to enhance resilience.



CHAPTER 3. METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE REVIEW

Introduction

The preparation of The Gambia's Voluntary National Review (VNR) adopted a participatory and all-inclusive process. It avails the country an opportunity to review the progress made towards the implementation of Agenda 2030 in a manner that creates national ownership and better understanding of the SDGs. Equally, the VNR is part of the formal intergovernmental follow-up and review mechanism on the Agenda 2030 and will be presented at the 2020 United Nations (UN) High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2020. It represents The Gambia's progress report to its peers and other stakeholders at the global level on the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

Gambia's VNR Roadmap

The VNR preparation process followed a timeline that enabled The Gambia to present to the HLPF taking place in July of 2020. This timeline as shown below (Figure 3.1) includes not only a preparatory process within The Gambia but also peer engagement at the regional and global levels. (See Annex 1)

The Process

Upon receiving approval to present its VNR, The Gambia set up a national VNR taskforce comprising Government, National Assembly, private sector, Academia, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Development Partners, youth, and women. The taskforce coordinated the entire VNR process including the drafting of a roadmap and overseeing its implementation. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA) serves as the secretariat and coordinated the VNR process and activities.

The process also required a whole-of-society approach thus necessitated the establishment of a drafting team; leading the consolidation of provisional draft reports and consolidation of a final VNR report. This team was constituted with representatives from National Experts of different professional disciplines and facilitated data collection, analysis and drafting of the VNR report. In the case of The Gambia, the team worked under the technical supervision and guidance of the National Policy Adviser under the Office of the President as the designated Team Leader of The Gambia's VNR drafting. In addition, a team from GBoS actively participated which immensely helped in ensuring authenticity of data presented in the VNR report. As part of the process and precisely in response to some of the Covid-19 challenges, the VNR was virtually validated; involving various stakeholders. In addition, a separate virtual consultation was held with the National Youth Council (NYC) on the Draft Gambia National VNR Report aimed at ensuring that youth related matters are fully integrated into the VNR.

VNR Outreach, Information and Communication

A technical sub-committee co-chaired by the Ministry of Lands and Regional Government (the Decentralization Unit) and the Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure (MoICI), and including the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG), media outlets, representatives of decentralized structures, civil society and relevant population groups was constituted to manage the process. The Technical sub-committee is responsible for multi-stakeholder engagement of the VNR process mainly via the following two components; a) development and dissemination of communication and information materials and messages for the VNR process, and b) stakeholder outreach and engagement of the VNR. Specially, the committee designed and implemented a multi-stakeholder engagement platform that ensured continuous engagement of all stakeholders throughout the VNR process. In collaboration with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), the U Report platform was used to assess youth understanding of the SDGs and the VNR process in particular.

Regional Consultations

As part of the outreach and sensitization strategy, the team embarked on comprehensive VNR consultations with stakeholders across all Local Government Areas (LGAs), of the country. The aim of the consultations was to engage key stakeholders in LGAs across the country to gauge the level of implementation of the SDGs to ascertain the level of progress registered, challenges encountered, development initiatives at community levels, and the way forward. A dedicated consultation was also held with persons living with disabilities.

“Projects that have registered progress and contributed to improving livelihood for women in communities include interventions that addressed access to drinking water and animal and poultry businesses.

Women: Kerewan stakeholder consultation

To engender greater outreach, community radio stations were used to engage stakeholders to deepen understanding of the Agenda 2030 and the VNR process in particular.

Consultations followed a qualitative approach with Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) held in each of the LGAs with different groups including local authorities, women, persons with disabilities , opinion leaders/elders, the media, CSOs/NGOs, the private sector, youth and children. This approach provided an opportunity for in-depth discussions on various issues relating to the SDGs. In some instances, site visits were conducted to observe the performance of some SDGs related projects.



Picture 3.1: Women participants at the regional outreach on the VNR at Mansakonko in the Lower River Region (LRR)

Consultation with youth and children

Increasingly, Gambia's youth are becoming more and more important in the country's development quests. This is evident in their involvement in various national development initiatives and the implementation of the SDGs in particular.

The youth and children group pointed to widespread and rising poverty, food scarcity, limited health facilities, equipment and healthcare workers, lack of mental care facilities and counseling centers for young people as major challenges. In the area of education, they raised concern over limited qualified teachers, corporal punishment, bullying and sexual harassment among learners and teachers as well as limited mobility to access educational facilities. Inadequate clean water and proper sanitation management in schools and communities was also mentioned.

Participants reported that violence against children, young women and girls including child labor, child and forced marriages, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) are still practiced in some communities despite the existence of the Women's (Amendment) Act 2015 Children's Act and banning of FGM and child marriage in the country. High unemployment among youth, aggressive deforestation (cutting down of trees is increasing and little is done to replace them) remain pervasive in the Upper River Region (URR).



Picture 3.2: Youth and children participants VNR during consultations in Kerewan, North Bank Region(NBR)

National Outreach

Further to the regional consultations, a national outreach was embarked on mainly involving Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Private Sector and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and persons with disabilities. The general aim of the workshops was to sensitize stakeholders about the SDGs and the VNR process in an effort to enhance inclusiveness and participation. The workshops culminated in a set of recommendations. The need for adequate and timely availability of data for SDGs reporting emerged and participants emphasized the need to strengthen the country's NSS. Furthermore, participants lamented on the need for adequate financial and technological resources for effective and efficient implementation of the SDGs in The Gambia. On partnership (Goal 17), there is urgency in strengthening multi-sectoral coordination within government, development partners, private sector and CSOs through continuous dialogue, consultations, commitment to financial resources and coherent institutional arrangements. Concluding the national outreach sessions, Participants reiterated the need for continuous capacity development for effective SDGs implementation.



Picture 3.3: Participants at the VNR national outreach with civil society & the private sector

Consultation with persons with disabilities

Besides inviting their representatives in each of the regional consultations, a special session was held with the persons with disabilities. They pointed to a number of challenges including the inadequacy of support for the vulnerable (person with disabilities), the lack of ramps and sign-language interpreters at hospitals, the trouble of having to remain in queues to access public services, the inadequate supply of disability-friendly transportation facilitates, the paucity of sign language-trained qualified teachers, the inadequacy of assistance to set up businesses, the limited access to information, the pending disability bill to properly address their needs, the denial of deaf persons the right to drive, the high unemployment rate among members, the low access rate to higher education and the persistent discrimination against members in all aspects including police cases, abuses among others.

“Road networks and transportation facilities are not also user-friendly to Persons with Disabilities”

A person with disability during the FGDs with Gambia Federation of the Disabled (GFD)

A major step to mainstream and strengthen the socioeconomic development of persons with disabilities would be to finalize and enact the draft disability bill. This would contribute a great deal to realizing SDG 10 – reduced inequalities. Passing the bill into Law will help address such challenges as unequal access to opportunities for affected persons, access to health care, justice,

transportation facilities and infrastructure, quality education. In the draft constitution, there is a provision to increase the number of nominated persons with disabilities from one to two to the National Assembly.

On the education front, opportunities from primary to tertiary level including Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for persons with disabilities needs to be strengthened. There is also the need to work on normalization and integration of persons with disabilities in mainstream schools. The curriculum should be reviewed and tailored to their needs and special needs schools be decentralized and strengthened to enable those in remote regions also benefit. Appropriate learning materials such as braille machines for the visually impaired, qualified teachers trained on sign languages for the hard-of-hearing should be provided. The transport and infrastructure sector should cater for persons with disabilities. There is the need for all public buildings to have ramps and sliding doors, the toilets in public places should also be built in such a way that it can accommodate people sitting on wheel chairs.



Picture 3.4. Consultations with Persons with disabilities





CHAPTER 4. POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

(a) Creating Ownership of the SDGs and the VNRs

The Gambia actively participated in the formulation and adoption of the SDGs. The Gambia was among 19 African countries selected for these consultations. The national consultations in The Gambia were facilitated by a National Taskforce comprising of Government, UN agencies, private sector, and civil society representatives. The consultations involved three national-level workshops, focus group discussions with the private sector, youth and women culminating in the compilation of a consolidated national report. The country also took active part in the inter-governmental negotiations leading to the adoption of the Agenda 2030.

Since the adoption of the SDGs, The Gambia has been working hard to domesticate the Agenda 2030 and enhance ownership. The Gambia launched the SDGs through a development forum in November 2015. The national launch focused on the theme ‘the Post 2015 Agenda and its financing at local level’ and provided a platform for the Government to locally adopt the Post-2015 agenda, identified the priority areas for The Gambia and recommended options for mainstreaming the SDGs into the planning processes. The forum also identified the most viable options for financing SDGs in The Gambia, including public-private partnership and private sector financing.

The national launching was followed by various sensitization workshops with key stakeholders. The sensitization included meetings with Ministries, Departments, and Agencies and the building of capacities of the various Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) to effectively mainstream the SDGs into the NDP and sector strategies and policies. Recognising the important role of Parliament, a workshop on Parliamentary action to implement and monitor the SDGs in The Gambia was held to raise awareness and enhance National Assembly members understanding of the Agenda 2030. SDG Champions were identified to promote and popularise the SDGs amongst the National Assembly members.

The Government also engaged with non-state actors such as the private sector and civil society. This engagement took the form of sensitization workshops on the SDGs. These workshops helped build the capacities of these stakeholders to enhance their understanding and alignment of interventions with the SDGs. The Government partnered with some CSOs to undertake nationwide regional sensitization on the SDGs, including use of traditional communicators.

At the regional level, various sensitization and capacity building initiatives were undertaken. The engagements targeted key stakeholders at the sub-national levels including women, youth, persons with disabilities, and regional officials. The VNR process provided further opportunities for sensitization of stakeholders at different levels. A dedicated session was held with GFD and its different member organisations. The outreach utilized community radio stations to sensitize communities on the SDGs and The Gambia’s VNR process. The Government also used the U

Report with support from United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to engage with young people to assess their understanding of the SDGs and perceptions on priorities through polls.

The CSO and volunteer organizations have been complementing Government’s efforts to enhance understanding of the Agenda 2030. Volnet Gambia, a civil society organization, produced an SDG film titled “17 Goals for a Better Future” which localised the contents of each goal from a national perspective. The organization has since been screening the film in different communities. UNDP’s Accelerator Lab in The Gambia facilitates localized approaches and tools that engage local innovators to raise awareness on the SDGs whilst gathering home grown solutions. An open nationwide call for solutions invited local innovators to share their ideas/initiatives towards tackling youth unemployment and accelerating the attainment of the SDGs and NDP. An innovative workshop brought together the local innovators to share their ideas and solutions and build a network for collaboration.

The UN System, with technical and financial support from the UNDP, has been very instrumental in advocating for the SDGs through collaboration with Government to conduct series of capacity building workshops involving key stakeholders. While there are gaps in communication of the Agenda 2030, the sensitization efforts have contributed to enhanced capacities and increased ownership of the SDGs. This has supported the integration of the Agenda 2030 into the national development planning processes.

(b) Mainstreaming the SDGs into National Development Frameworks

During the preparation process of a medium-term national development plan, The Gambia seized the opportunity to mainstream the SDGs into its national development agenda. NDP serves as the first of a series of NDPs during the SDG period. Data challenges and a difficult political transition delayed the formulation of the national development plan.

The Gambia launched the SDGs nationally in November 2015 with support from the UNDP. The launching was preceded by stakeholders’ consultations grouped into Economic, Social, and Environment clusters tasked to critically look at the SDGs and recommend options for mainstreaming in the NDP. Recognising the challenges of implementing all the 17 Goals and 169 targets; the time horizon of the NDP; the country’s context; the data constraints; and the financial requirements, stakeholders provided the initial prioritization which resulted in all Goals and around 111 targets identified as high priority.

Using the support from the Africa-Kazakhstan Partnership for the SDGs, UNDP supported the Government to advocate for SDGs and further prioritize the goals using the UNDG guidelines – adapted for the Gambian context. The three cluster groups together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Gambians Abroad were provided training workshops using the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) guidelines. The participants prioritized 8 goals and 76 targets for inclusion in the NDP.

At the request of the Government of The Gambia, the UNDP co-organized the undertaking of a UNDG MAPS Mission in July 2017 which brought together policy expertise from across the UN System (UNDP, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), UN Women, International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in The Gambia). The mission provided inputs and helped enhance alignment between the SDGs and the NDP and also produced a joint SDG implementation roadmap for The Government of The Gambia and the UN System in The Gambia. The mission also assisted the country in promoting the Sustaining Peace Agenda by strengthening the building blocks for peace, security and sustainable development. High-level policy discussions were held with key stakeholders at all levels: Government, civil society including youth groups and women's groups, the private sector, the media and academia. An SDG workshop was held in conjunction with Government and UN Agencies, where stakeholders examined how to strengthen the NDP indicators and results framework to ensure greater alignment to the SDG and Agenda 2063 indicators.

Following the democratic change in government after the presidential elections in December 2016 and the tense yet peaceful resolution of the subsequent political impasse in January 2017, the new government took the opportunity to reflect the changing country context and emerging national priorities into the NDP.

The Government of The Gambia with UNDP support produced the NDP. As shown below, the 8 strategic priorities and 7 critical enablers that form the basis of the NDP are well aligned with the SDGs. The Local Government Authorities (LGAs) were also provided with support to formulate regional development plans. This provided an opportunity to mainstream SDGs into local development priorities.

Figure 4.1 Interlinkages between the SDGs and the National Development Plan

NDP Priorities	SDGs
Governance, Human Rights and Security Sector Reform	16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Macroeconomic Stabilization and Economic Management	1 NO POVERTY, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Modernized Agriculture, Agribusiness and Fisheries	1 NO POVERTY, 2 ZERO HUNGER, 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, 14 LIFE BELOW WATER
Human Capital Development (education, health, & social protection)	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 5 GENDER EQUALITY, 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Infrastructure and Energy	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Tourism and Culture	1 NO POVERTY, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Private Sector Development and Trade	1 NO POVERTY, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Youth Development and Empowerment	1 NO POVERTY, 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Strengthening Public Institutions	16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Women's Empowerment	1 NO POVERTY, 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 5 GENDER EQUALITY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Environment, natural resource management and climate change, and land use	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 13 CLIMATE ACTION, 14 LIFE BELOW WATER, 15 LIFE ON LAND
Diaspora in Development	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Information and Communication Technology	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Civil Society	16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Data for Development	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

(c) Integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions

The Government of The Gambia is committed to promoting economic growth, reducing poverty and vulnerability, and improving the well-being and welfare of its population through the development and implementation of series of policies and programmes that span the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development. Since independence, The country formulated and implemented a number of socioeconomic development policy frameworks to address the nation’s developmental challenges and drive its development agenda.

On the social front, the Government has a National Health Policy (2012-2020) in place to accelerate quality health services and Universal Health Coverage (UHC), as well as address the major traditional problems of health, burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, curb HIV/AIDS, and overcome a weak health system. The aim is to reduce morbidity and mortality of major diseases, reduce health risk and exposures associated with negative

environmental consequences. Also, there is an Education Sector Policy (2016-2030), which aims to provide accessible, equitable and inclusive quality education for sustainable development, particularly prioritizing girls, for greater gender equity. There is also a Tertiary and Higher Education Policy (2014-2023) A National Social Protection Policy (2015-2025) aimed at accelerating and sustaining pro-poor and inclusive economic growth, poverty reduction, enhance human capital development, social cohesion, and the attainment of basic human rights for the population was approved .

Economic Policies formulated include The Gambia's Trade Policy (2018-2022) to promote trade as an engine for economic growth and to take full advantage of The Gambia's trade potential to foster greater integration into the global economy and create employment. Also, there is a National Employment Policy and Strategy (2010-2014) currently being reviewed for the period 2020-2025 which aims to promote a more rapid growth of the productive employment sectors – the labour intensive and labour absorbing economic sectors, particularly agriculture, fisheries, tourism, construction and the informal sector through greater support and incentives for the private sector, and access to credit for productive investment. In addition, there is a National Entrepreneurship Policy (2016-2026), which aims to build a national entrepreneurship ecosystem in The Gambia, to support inclusive and green entrepreneurship development targeted at creating new economic activities, improving local productive capacities, providing solutions to environmental and social challenges and generating decent jobs.

A National Transport Policy (2018-2027) exists to guide the development of the country's transport sector, with focus on the development and maintenance of transport infrastructure in The Gambia, by contributing to reducing extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity. An ICT Policy (2018-2028) aims to pursue a strategy directed to the development, deployment and exploitation of ICTs within the society to support the delivery of health, education, government and social services and to facilitate the acceleration of development of the nation's economy through the development of ICTs, where a reasonable large proportion of the population have access to information and communications technology products and services. Finally a National Science and Technology Policy (2013-2022), exists to promote the harnessing of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for vibrant and sustainable socioeconomic growth and development for improved quality of life of the population through an effective utilization of STI for the socioeconomic transformation of the Gambia and its increased integration into the world economy.

Policies in the Energy Sector such as the, National Energy Policy, Strategy and Action Plan (2014-2018), National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) of The Gambia (2015-2030), Renewable Energy Act 2013 are examples of Policies and Strategies in the Energy Sector in The Gambia geared towards promoting Low Carbon Development and reducing Carbon Emissions for Sustainable Development. More importantly, Given the low lying nature of the Gambia and the negative and potential consequences of climate change, the Government will be adopting a more holistic approach toward Sustainable Development as an overarching framework, moving away from the sectoral approach to development, which has failed to adequately address all the

dimensions of sustainable development. Despite the challenges the country is steadily moving towards the level of sustainable institutionalization necessary to ensure that environmental considerations are incorporated into major development policies or programs implemented in the sectors.

With respect to Environmental Resilience and Climate Change, the Government of the Gambia has formulated a National Climate Change Policy (2016-2025) that provides an overarching framework for managing climate risks, building institutions and capacities, and identifying new opportunities for climate-resilient sustainable development in The Gambia. The goal of the Policy is, by 2025, to achieve the mainstreaming of climate change into national planning, budgeting, decision-making, and programme implementation, through effective institutional mechanisms, coordinated financial resources, and enhanced human resources capacity. The policy objectives mean that The Gambia will pursue climate risk management for pro-poor, equitable and inclusive growth, and that social development will be an integral part of adaptation and mitigation measures against climate change.

Furthermore, the Government through the Agriculture and Natural Resource Policy (2009- 2014) currently being reviewed, aims to increase productivity through commercialization and greater private sector participation, to enhance growth and employment creation. Nonetheless, it ensured complete integration of climate change into the Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy, Forestry Policy and Fisheries Strategy and Action Plan. The Gambia National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 2015 -2020 also promotes the rational use of the national biological diversity for the benefit of present and future generations in the manner that is consistent with the overall goal of sustainable development.

All these policies are translated into programmes within the context of the NDP, which ensured strong interlinkages across economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Its 8 (eight) strategic priorities focus on issues related to Governance, Economic Growth, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Social Services (Health & Education), Infrastructure, Tourism, Youth and Private sector development. In addition, the NDP has 7 (seven) critical enablers. One of the critical enablers seeks to promote environment sustainability, to ensure that The Gambia's Environment and Natural Resources are managed sustainably and conserved in order to increase resilience for the benefit of all by strengthening Environment and Climate Change-friendly Policies, creating programmes to raise awareness at all levels for Resilience and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources.

However, achieving the 3 (three) dimension of the SDG requires cooperation and coordination between sectors and institutions in order to manage the trade-offs and leverage on the synergies among the goals that cut across the three dimensions of sustainable development. To realise this, the country has in place a platform called the Planners Forum, which brings together central and local government planners to consistently dialogue and review planning and implementation of sector policies and programmes. This platform also addresses gaps in sector policies, ensures synergy in sector policies and enhances integrated and inclusive sustainable policy

formulation.

Implementation of the NDP is coordinated by The Directorate of Development Planning (DDP), in the MoFEA which is also supporting the localization of the SDGs within the regional structures to enhance the integration of all dimensions of the SDGs into the regional strategic plans. The Department of Strategic Policy and Delivery (DSPD) of the Office of The President provides high level oversight and coordination of the national development process as well as coordination and collaboration between government and its development partners.

(d) Leaving No One Behind

The 2030 Agenda is grounded in human rights, and the SDGs aim to realize the human rights of all. In November 2019, The Gambia was reviewed under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process which involves a peer review of the human rights records of countries and The Gambia's country report touched upon a variety of SDGs. The Gambia's VNR process shows the continued nexus between the country's commitment of its human rights obligations and the human rights principles of equality and non-discrimination and leaving no one behind.

Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) is a core component of Agenda 2030. In attaining poverty eradication, ending social exclusion and reducing inequality, it is imperative that no one is left behind and the furthest behind are reached. In The Gambia, those most at risk of being left behind are women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, rural dwellers and the elderly.

Efforts in leaving no one behind have focused on creating an enabling policy environment to support the provision of basic services to specific vulnerable groups through social protection mechanisms. While this section highlights some of these efforts, other sections also illustrate the principle of LNOB being implemented.

As part of efforts to ensure no one is left behind, the country is implementing a new initiative called Programme for Accelerated Community Development (PACD), to provide critical response to inclusive development for greater equity and social justice in line with the aspirations of the NDP and the SDGs. The Programme provides a platform for multi-sectoral approach towards addressing poverty and inequality to address the disparities between urban and rural areas in terms of access to basic social services (Water, Electricity, Road Infrastructure).

Generally, the final draft constitution of The Gambia safeguards fundamental human rights and freedoms for all, emphasizing the equality of all persons before the law. This is crucial, considering the country's history of Human Right's abuse during the previous regime. In December 2017, the National Assembly passed the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Act establishing the NHRC independent body whose functions include and not limited to the promotion and protection of human rights in The Gambia. Apart of the legislative reform

process, the government has undertaken to amend or repeal fourteen discriminatory laws against women currently found in its statute books.

Specific legislations promulgated for the protection and promotion of specific groups have also been enacted and revised. For example, in support of a more conducive regulatory and policy environment for youth empowerment, the youth policy was revised in 2018; covering the period 2019-2028. The Children's Act 2005 was reviewed in 2013 with subsequent amendments in the same year, and also in 2015 and 2016 to enhance its effectiveness. A child protection strategic plan with a “costed” plan of action was also developed.

The 2018 Annual Progress Report (APR) of the NDP highlighted some of the country’s achievements in leaving no one behind with regard to women empowerment. In the judiciary, a balance in the gender representation was achieved and for the first time in the history of The Gambia, now there are two Gambian female judges of the Supreme Court of The Gambia; and the Judicial Secretary is also female. At the political level, for the first time, a female was elected as the mayoress of Banjul. The constitution also allows for representation of women and persons with disabilities in parliament.

It is worth mentioning that The Gambia is a signatory to many conventions at global and regional level to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the Solemn Declaration On Gender Equity in Africa and other instruments to promote gender equality and equal political participation of women.

In February 2016 the Cabinet approved the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP). The policy outlines a comprehensive and crosscutting social protection (SP) agenda to guide the establishment of an integrated social protection system in The Gambia. The NSPP is supported by an implementation plan aimed at operationalizing the policy. The Social Protection Secretariat under the office of the Vice President has also been established and the creation of a national social protection single registry is underway.

Specific examples of a safety net programme are the Maternal and Child Nutrition and Health Results Project (MCNHRP) providing support to vulnerable households in 2018 as part of the food and nutrition security. Also, UNICEF in collaboration with the National Nutrition Agency (NaNA) and the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) continue to implement the Building Resilience through Social Transfers for Nutritional Security in The Gambia (BReST). The BReST project is a social cash transfer project aimed at delivering cash as well as Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) education for lactating mothers in the first 1000 days of life

To boost statistical governance and ensure the availability of quality data, the Statistics Act was reviewed and revised in 2018. In recent years, the data collection process at GBoS has moved to change the way things have been done in order to be able to capture people and communities that are otherwise regarded as vulnerable. In this process, GBoS introduced questions in survey

questionnaires that ask about the disability status of household members based on the 6 core domains of the Washington Group on Disability statistics as recommended by the United Nations Statistic Division (UNSD). This is disaggregated by sex, Local Government Area, place of residence, educational attainment and socioeconomic status of the household (wealth quintiles).

In terms of identifying households that are below the poverty line, GBoS has introduced collecting data at a more micro level. The previous rounds of the Integrated Household Surveys (IHSs) before 2015/16 were only conducted at the LGA levels. In the 2015/16 round of the IHS, the data collection was done at the district level to give the policy makers better understanding of the poverty status of households in The Gambia. The data collection exercise for the 2020 IHS has started and will follow the same format as the 2015/16 IHS.

Growing innovations have been witnessed within communities and particularly the private sector with a noticeable increase in young entrepreneurs and community-based initiatives. The government with the support of the private sector and UN agencies is actively engaged in creating the enabling environment to nurture the progressive shift in entrepreneurship in the areas of fashion, clothing, agribusiness, ICT, media, food and wellness. At a time when the country's ICT penetration rates are currently 82% for mobile internet subscription, and mobile penetration rate is 147%; higher than the African average of 98.9% (Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) Annual Report 2018). The government's ambition to leverage ICT for economic development plays a key role in achieving development objectives. The current NDP, aims to "make the Gambia a Digital Nation and create a modern information society". The role of ICT, innovation and digitization to social and economic development is key to creating jobs (SDG 8), factoring innovation (SDG 9), efficiently delivering services to the people and solving local development challenges

(e) Institutional mechanisms

This section describes the adopted institutional arrangements for the coordinating the implementation of the SDGs in The Gambia and roles of key stakeholders.

The Government of The Gambia adopted a robust institutional framework that enables all stakeholders to play active roles and ensure there is strong accountability for results. This holistic approach to coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and the NDP is facilitated by the mainstreaming of the SDGs in the NDP. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) era, the SDG targets are inclusive of the identified sectors targets incorporated in the current NDP. Considering the resource constraints faced by the government of The Gambia, prioritisation of the 17 goals of the SDGs and 169 targets was deemed necessary to allow domestication and implementation within the current NDP and the subsequent national development plans for the duration of the SDGs.

Similarly, the mandate for coordinating national development planning and the implementation of the SDGs lies within the same institution-MoFEA. For this reason, an amalgamated

institutional arrangement has been adopted for the implementation of the SDGs and the NDP. This is meant to enhance synergy and minimize duplication. However, to further encourage collaboration and consultation between government agencies, the Ministry has been working closely with the DSPD of the Office of the President, towards the implementation of the SDGs.

The institutional arrangements are all inclusive with stakeholders from government ministries, and agencies, national assembly representatives, civil society, private sector, local government representatives, youth, women, development partners, persons with disabilities and academia. The institutional framework takes a decentralized approach with two interlinked components namely; oversight and policy coordination functions, and technical and implementation functions.

The key institutions involved in oversight and policy coordination are; Cabinet, National Assembly, and Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee. For the technical and implementation function, the following structures have been adopted; National Technical Steering Committee (NTSC), Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) platform, Sector Working Groups (SWG), and Regional Technical Advisory Committees (RTACs). However, given the effective functioning of the National VNR steering committee, this committee is recommended to be transformed to National SDGs Steering Committee with a communication and outreach sub-committee.

The functions ascribed to the Cabinet, Inter-Ministerial Committee and National Assembly is to provide strategic direction, oversight and budget scrutiny to ensure sector coherence in implementation. The NTSC comprised all Permanent Secretaries and the committee meets quarterly to review implementation. It is chaired by the Secretary General and Head of the Civil Service and meets quarterly. NTSC is intended to align and strengthen cross-sectoral coordination in implementation and monitor and report progress.

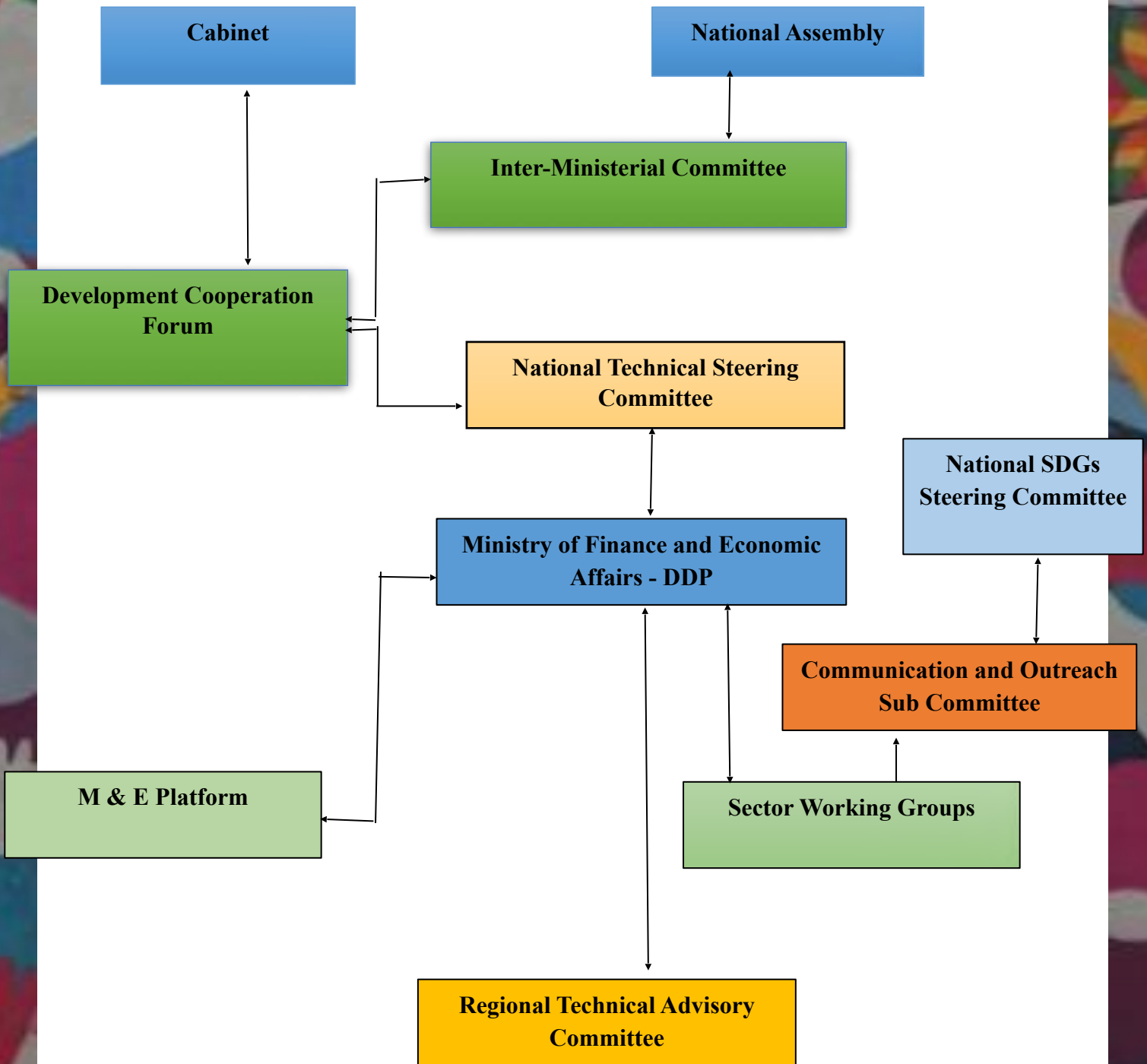
The DCF is a biennial forum that is intended to enhance policy dialogue between the government and its development partners. It aims to strengthen planning, monitoring and reporting processes, promote prudent use of available resources, sound data and strengthening of grassroots engagement. Overall, monitoring of the SDGs would be assured by the National Technical Committee and the DCF.

National SDGs Steering Committee comprises of MDAs local authority representatives, the UN System, national assembly representatives, women, civil society and youth representatives. The Committee intends to monitor and track progress of SDGs, enhance awareness of the SDGs. The DDP will serve as the Secretariat. This Committee will lead to the strengthening of Coordination within Government MDAs as well as bringing together other stakeholders outside Government towards the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the status of the SDGs.

Communication and Outreach sub-committee will be responsible for advocacy, awareness creation and outreach activities on the SDGs and will comprise of communication experts from MoICI Communication Unit, Office of the President, MoFEA, UNRC and UNDP. Figure 4.2

below shows the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) for the NDP and the SDGs.
Figure 4.2 National Coordination Mechanism for the implementation of the National Development Plan/SDGs

National Coordination Mechanism for National Development Plan / SDGs



The SWGs draws together all MDAs delivering on the respective priorities of the NDP and the SDGs, this committee has two co-Chairs; the line Ministry and a key Development Partner. The SWGs ensure that the SDG targets and indicators are fully integrated in development plans, for implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. The Private Sector, CSOs, UN agencies and other development partners are members of the SWGs, based on their areas of expertise.

The National M&E Platform is coordinated by DDP, with the support of GBoS. This platform is made to ensure adequate monitoring and evaluation of the NDP and SDGs. It shall bring together state and non-state actors. This committee will ensure the provision and monitoring of accurate and timely disaggregated data as envisaged in the data requirement of the 2030 agenda in order to produce more evidence based VNR and SDG reports.

At the regional levels, the RTACs will be supported by DDP to ensure Localization of the SDGs. Also, the Multi-Disciplinary Facilitation Teams (MDFTs) will ensure that Ward and local development programmes and projects are aligned with the NDP and SDGs and shall monitor and report progress. The RTACs will also provide the platform for Voluntary Local Reviews of the SDGs as a means to track progress and further enhance implementation of the SDGs at the regional levels. This outcome will also feed into the Voluntary National Reviews.

The DDP spearheads the implementation and coordination of the NDP and Agenda 2030. DDP will report on the work of the SWGs and the National SDGs Steering Committee to the NTSC. Government will continue to further strengthen the current coordination mechanisms to address the gaps arising from inadequate collaboration among stakeholders, duplication of functions, inadequate dissemination of information, inconsistent monitoring of resources, programmes/projects and initiatives, and delays in fostering government-donor dialogue and partnerships. In light of this, the Coordination Unit DSPD of the office of the President, facilitates high level coordination to address existing coordination gaps/challenges between stakeholders.

(f) Structural issues

Like many developing countries, The Gambia is faced with a range of structural issues that challenge its efforts in implementing the SDGs. Owing to its small population size, the country has a narrow internal market which also limits its ability to diversify labour and the economy in general. Two major structural challenges are the high dependency on rain-fed agriculture and the seasonality of tourism, two major contributors to the economy. These are further compounded by the limited growth of the private sector to, among other things, create jobs and provide necessary services due partly to the crowding out effect of excessive government borrowing. Also, of

immense concern is the inadequate availability of necessary infrastructure to ease binding electricity and transport constraints for instance to enhance productivity and growth.

Additionally, growth has also been constrained by low skills level. To realise any meaningful improvement in the provision of high quality products and services, there is need for substantial input of high-quality labour. While existing higher education institutions in the country are enhancing access to education for a large number of people, essential skills necessary for job creation and the provision of high-quality services remain inadequate. This includes services provided by technical and vocational education training institutes.

In the area of youth and women employment, the latest labour force survey (GLFS 2018) indicated that 58.5% of the youth were employed. However, while there are more unemployed males (32.8%) than females (28.8%) in the urban area, the proportion of unemployed females is higher (71.2%) than males (67.2%) in the rural areas.

The deplorable governance situation that existed until December 2016 was a major impediment to socioeconomic development. The lack of respect for democratic principles, alleged widespread corruption at the top government level and politicization of the judiciary and parts of the civil service, led to the isolation of the country by some international partners. This led to the country being excluded from many initiatives such as the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) of the United States, a beneficial preferential trade scheme, resulting into unfavorable levies on small export producers to this market. The withdrawal of the country from such international governance institutions as the International Criminal Court (ICC) and bodies like the Commonwealth also demonstrated the high disregard for democratic values and the rule of law by the previous leadership.

In the area of gender equality and equity, a number of constraints still exist. The representation and participation of women at decision making levels remain inadequate. As at 2020, in the National Assembly for instance, only 10.3% (52 males, 6 females) of seats are occupied by women compared to the target of 30.0% despite the fact that women continue to vie for such positions. Cabinet is also male dominated with only 20.0% female representation (16 males, 4 females). Results of the 2018 GLFS, 2018 also shows the gender disparity in employment as only 17.9% of women were reported to be in managerial positions. Furthermore, GBV including FGM continues to be practiced in some communities despite a law banning it. On November 24th, 2015, The Gambia joined 18 sub-Saharan African countries, to ban the practice of FGM. A bill was passed in the National Assembly on December 28th, 2015 criminalizing the practice of FGM in The Gambia. However, monitoring the practice of FGM and enforcing the ban can be challenging. The proportion of women (15-49) years who have undergone FGM still has not reduced as it was 76.3% in 2010 (MICS 4, 2010) and was 75.7% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018). Despite the practice being banned, in 2010, 64.2% of the women reported that the practice should be continued (MICS 4 2010). However, this reduced to 44% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018).

Cognizant of the effects of these constraints on the overall development of the country, Government has taken a number of steps to address them. The new government has lowered the

prime interest rate and reduced domestic borrowing with a view to stimulating private sector lending and growth. Government has also recognized partnership with the private sector as critical for increasing and enhancing public service delivery in the country. Public Private Partnership (PPP) Directorate was created at the MoFEA enhance and deepen private sector participation in the development process.

Other important steps include the formulation of an updated National Employment Policy and Action Plan (NEAP) 2020 - 2025, review of a first draft of the new Labour Act and Regulation, promotion of trade facilitation, investment, and private sector development including the revision and updating of the trade policy, developing the trade strategy 2018-2022, the formulation of a legal framework for the establishment of a Single Window for Customs Clearance, development of an investment park, and National Investment Policy 2018-2022. Government is also committed to improving infrastructure in the country with many roads and bridges under construction.

Furthermore, following democratic elections in December 2016, significant improvements have been realized in the governance landscape. A comprehensive review of the judicial sector for instance was undertaken to, among other things, nip out politics in justice service delivery and restore public trust. This saw the, nearly, total indigenization of the sector including the appointment of a Gambian Chief Justice and the elevation of women to more senior roles on the bench. These changes are resulting into greater efficacy and integrity in the system thereby restoring public trust and confidence. Similarly, a number of key governance and transitional justice structures including the Commission of Enquiry into fraudulent financial dealings of the past government, a TRRC, NHRC, and a Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) among others have been instituted to *inter alia* identify gaps and past wrongdoings with a view to averting their recurrence. Freedom of expression has improved significantly allowing citizens to express their views about government policies and programmes.

The change of government also initiated a process of re-engagement with the international community, which has allowed the country to rejoin major trade preference schemes such as AGOA and such governance bodies as the ICC and the Commonwealth. This openness is, among other things, helping to push up imports and creating more opportunities for exports and allowing the country access much-needed development aid and technical cooperation. These have enhanced access to international markets and improved the political image of the country. The country also made significant progress with respect to fulfilling international human rights treaty reporting obligations. This enabling environment is reflected in improved ranking of the country in many international indexes measuring good governance.

Government has also taken steps towards enhancing gender equality and equity in the political, social and economic spheres. Women's empowerment forms a key priority of government as set out in the National Development Plan. Legislative frameworks including a gender policy (2010-2020) and institutional architecture such as the creation of a dedicated Ministry of Women,

Children and Social Welfare to promote gender equality are examples of government's efforts to creating a conducive environment for women. Other efforts include mainstreaming of gender into the National Development Plan and other policies, development of a strategy and action plan to combat GBV practices, development of a Gender Management Information System/Africa Gender Development Index (GMIS/AGDI) data base and capacity development for women entrepreneurs.

An enterprise development fund has been set up which has been approved by Cabinet with standard procedure manual developed as a necessary tool for the operationalization of the fund. Currently, 2 of the 5 Governors are females whilst 1 out of the 8 heads of local councils are females; for the first time, a female was elected as the Mayoress of the capital city, Banjul. Similarly, government has adopted relevant international conventions on women's empowerment. These efforts have resulted into enhanced status for and participation of women and reduction in Gender-Based Violence. There is also commitment to enhance the human capital base of the country including promoting the acquisition of skills relevant to the job market through TVET.

(g) Progress on Goals and targets

Annex 3 of this report shows the details of progress on the SDGs for 78 tier 1 and tier 2 indicators that the country has data and can report on. One of the key challenges faced is the availability of data to assess progress and a key recommendation following this exercise is the need for the country to establish a data for SDGs framework which will identify the data needs, sources and collection methodologies. This section discusses performance on some of the indicators based on trends. Different sections indicate and or highlight reasons associated with successes and failures as well as the challenges being encountered.

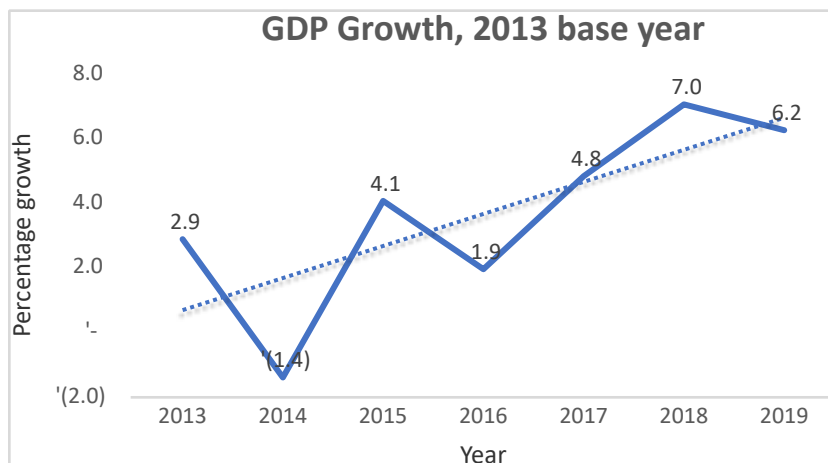
Goal 1. End Poverty In All Its Forms Everywhere

Achieving the SDG target of eradicating extreme poverty could be a big ask for the country as almost half the population (48.6% overall and 69.5% for the rural areas) in 2015/16 live below the poverty line. The NDP is focused on the elimination of poverty and the reduction of inequality through job creation programmes as well as creating conducive conditions for entrepreneurship. It has in place evidence-based policies, strategies and programmes to achieve the SDGs including inclusive structural transformation, access to land and resources, income diversification, decent jobs and gender equality as well as strategies to strengthen rural institutions and access to social protection for the rural poor.

Poverty is measured through a household consumption approach using the IHS which are conducted every five years. The last one conducted was in 2015/16 and one is currently underway covering 2020.

The Gambian economy grew at a rate of 6.2% in 2019 (provisional) 7.0% in 2018 from 4.8% in 2017 and 1.9% in 2016 (GBoS, 2019) mainly driven by services, agriculture, and remittances. Economic growth is vulnerable to external shocks. (see Figure 4.3).

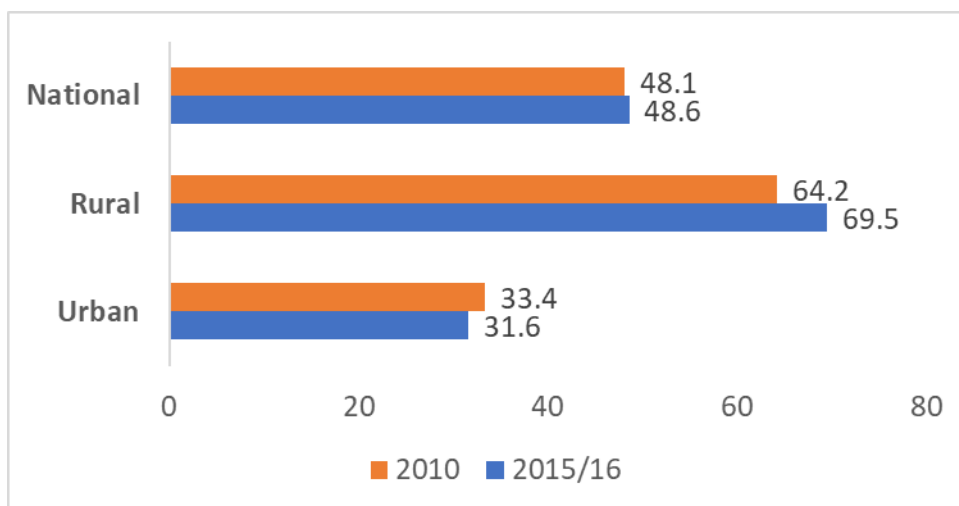
Figure 4.3 Percentage GDP Growth rates 2013 - 2019



Source: GBoS : NB: The 2019 figure is provisional

The IHS measures poverty at household level and therefore the country measures of poverty at household level and not at individual level. As shown in Figure 4.4, overall, poverty remains high and increased slightly between 2010 and 2015/16; declining slightly in the urban areas but increasing in the rural areas. The poverty rate in rural areas is about twice the rate in the urban areas thus indicating that poverty in the country is primarily a rural phenomenon. As has been stated earlier, government recognizes this challenge and therefore prioritized bridging the gap between rural and urban areas in the NDP.

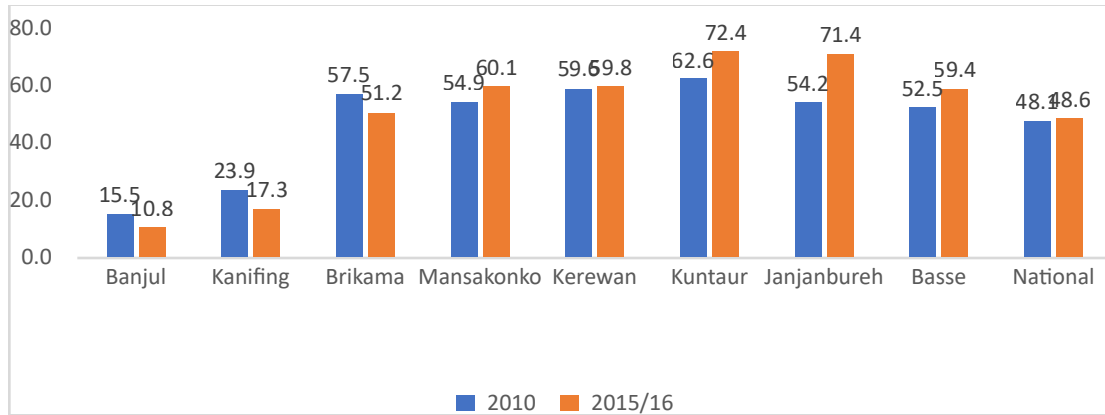
Figure 4.4. Poverty rates – National and Place of Residence



Source: IHS 2015/16

Figure 4.5 below shows poverty rates by LGA and at the national level. The data shows that poverty has decreased in Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama between 2010 and 2015/16 but has increased in the remaining 5 LGAs which are predominantly rural.

Figure 4.5: Poverty rates by LGA and National

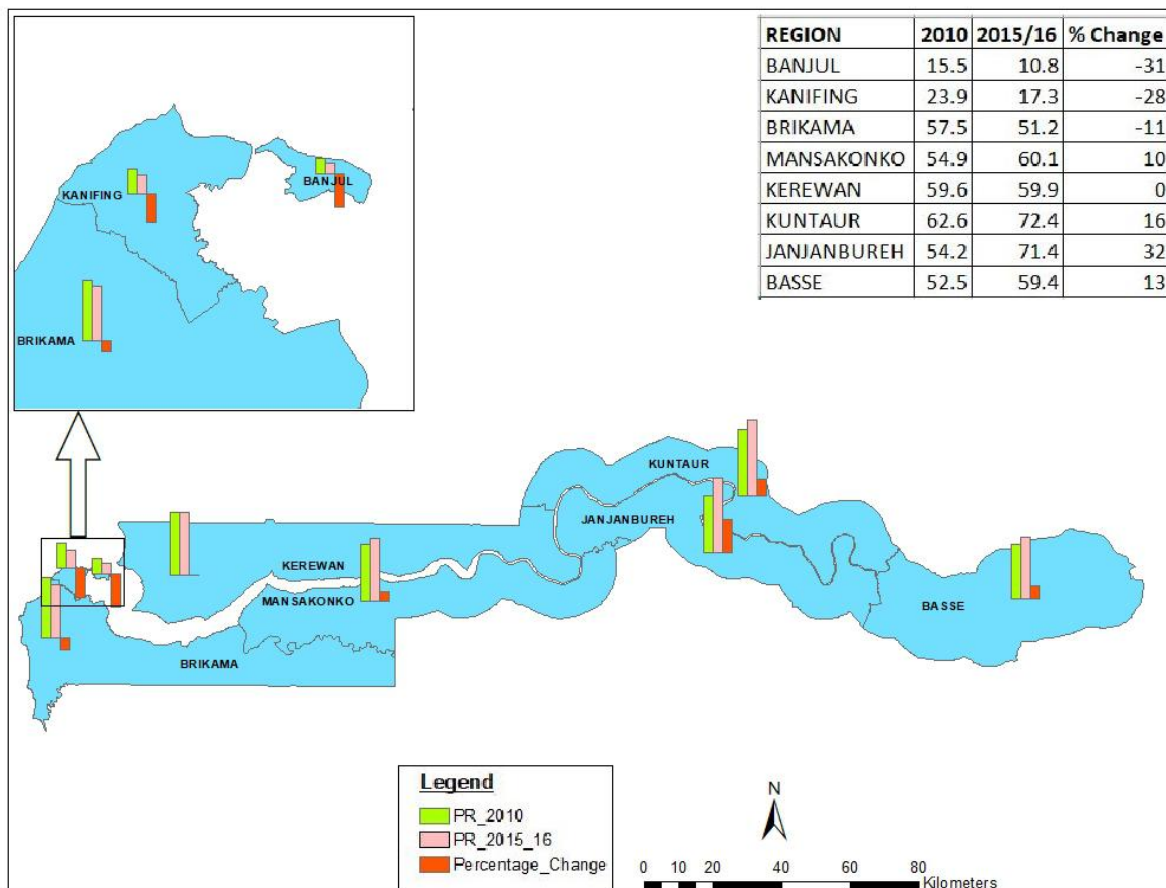


Source: IHS 2015/16

Starting this year, government has committed to allocating at least 5% of the national budget to the PACD which is being piloted this year in 75 communities and will go into full scale implementation next year. The PACD programme is being implemented in close collaboration with UNDP country office who are managing and co-financing the programme.

Figure 4.6 shows the map of The Gambia showing poverty rates by LGA between 2010 and 2015/16.

Figure 4.6 Map of the Gambia showing poverty rate by LGA, 2010 and 2015/16



Source: IHS 2015/16

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Agriculture is the second largest sector in The Gambia's economy, contributing 20 percent of the nation's GDP and employing most of the country's poor. However, the poor performance of the sector over the past years resulted in deepening of rural poverty and volatile GDP growth. Therefore, Agriculture forms a key priority of the new national development with the aim of modernizing and sustaining a market oriented agriculture and livestock sector for increased food and nutrition security, income and employment generation, poverty reduction and economic transformation.

Key interventions planned include development and implementation of an agriculture Sector Policy and associated sub-sector policies to attract private sector investments; agriculture value

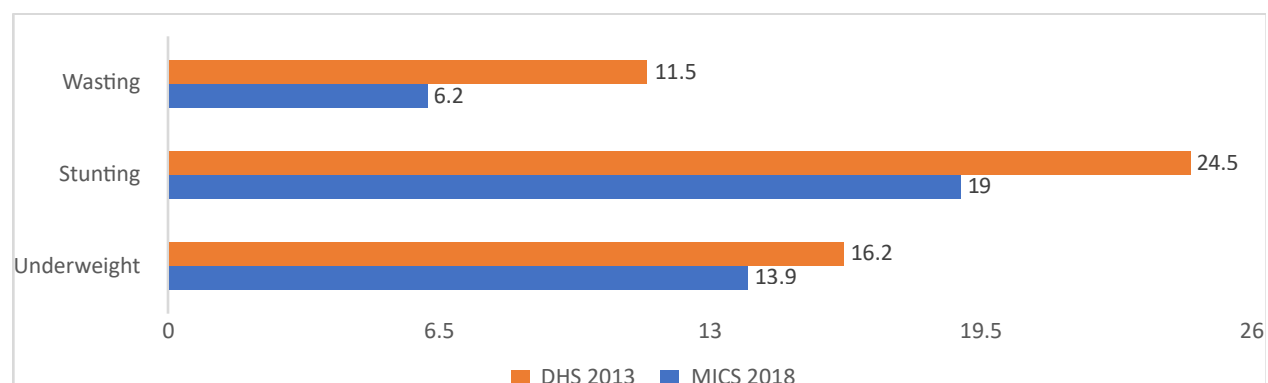
chain development, including promotion of agri-business and agro-processing; rebuilding and revitalizing the agricultural market infrastructure through cooperatives and commodities exchanges; quality assurance mechanisms development to strengthen access to export markets; increased production and productivity using sustainable land and water management practices to address hunger and food security needs; research and development and extension to ensure that farmers have access to the latest technologies, irrigation, seeds and other inputs to enhance productivity; promotion of climate smart agriculture to build resilience; pest and disease control, reduction of post-harvest losses, as well as inputs management. Increased support will be provided to the livestock sector through promotion of value chains; development of feed resources; and disease control.

Fisheries is a key sub-sector affecting food security and Government plans to promote a vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector through research, sustainable management and utilization of the fisheries resources that would enhance employment and create livelihood opportunities, generate income and foreign exchange earnings, and contribute to food, and nutrition security. In this regard, key interventions will address institutional development (human, policy and legislative, systems and tools); enhance fisheries infrastructure; and the improvement of value chains for fisheries and aquaculture.

Prevalence of Undernourishment

This is an area where the country has registered good progress as shown in Figure 4.7 below. The prevalence of undernourishment; is a composite indicator measured by; underweight, stunting and wasting. As illustrated below, the prevalence of underweight declined from 16.2% in 2013 to 13.9% in 2018. Similarly, both stunting and wasting declined from 24.5% in 2013 to 19.0% in 2018 and 11.5% in 2013 to 6.2% in 2018 respectively.

Figure 4.7 Prevalence of undernourishment



Source: GDHS 2013 and MICS 6 2018

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Introduction

Although The Gambia registered significant achievements of improved access to basic health services across the country, Primary Health Care (PHC) substantially deteriorated overtime and is no longer adequately serving the population. There is considerable growth in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), high Out of Pocket Expenditures for healthcare, serious challenges relating to maternal and women’s health, and skilled health personnel are inadequate.

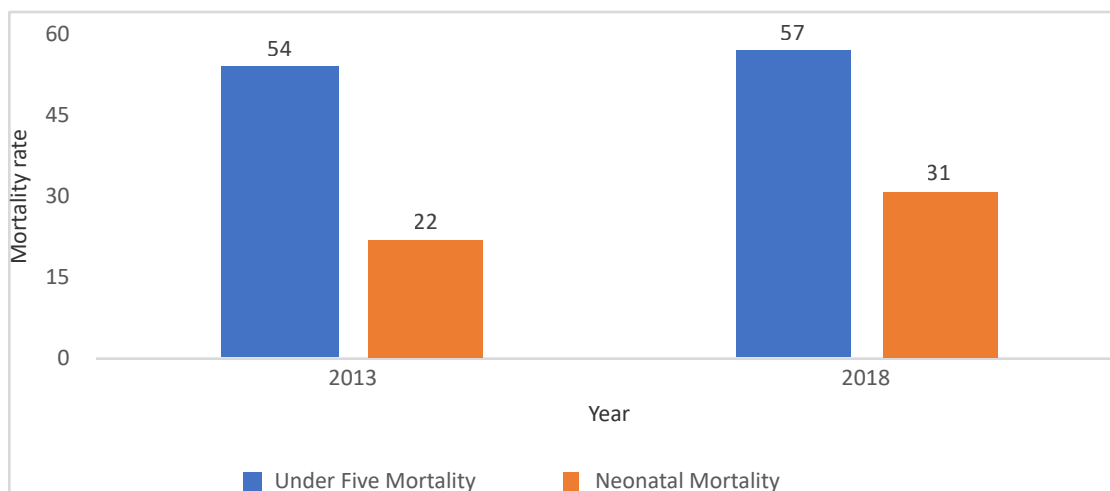
To address these issues and other challenges, government will make major efforts to revitalize the Primary Health Care system, by building, re-orienting and re-aligning the health system in the Gambia towards UHC, with an emphasis on PHC, and maintaining effective systems to ensure improved financial protection and affordability for the most vulnerable populations, including women, children and the youth while intensifying focus on quality and equity.

Four main outcomes are to be achieved during the next 4 years focusing on reducing maternal, newborn mortality, reducing the burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, and ensuring that the country has appropriately skilled health personnel in place. The weak health governance and partnership framework will also be addressed, as well as enhanced nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) outcomes.

Childhood Mortality

This is another area in which the country has not made progress. As shown in Figure 4.8 below both under five and neonatal mortality increased between 2013 and 2018.

Figure 4.8 Under five and neonatal mortality

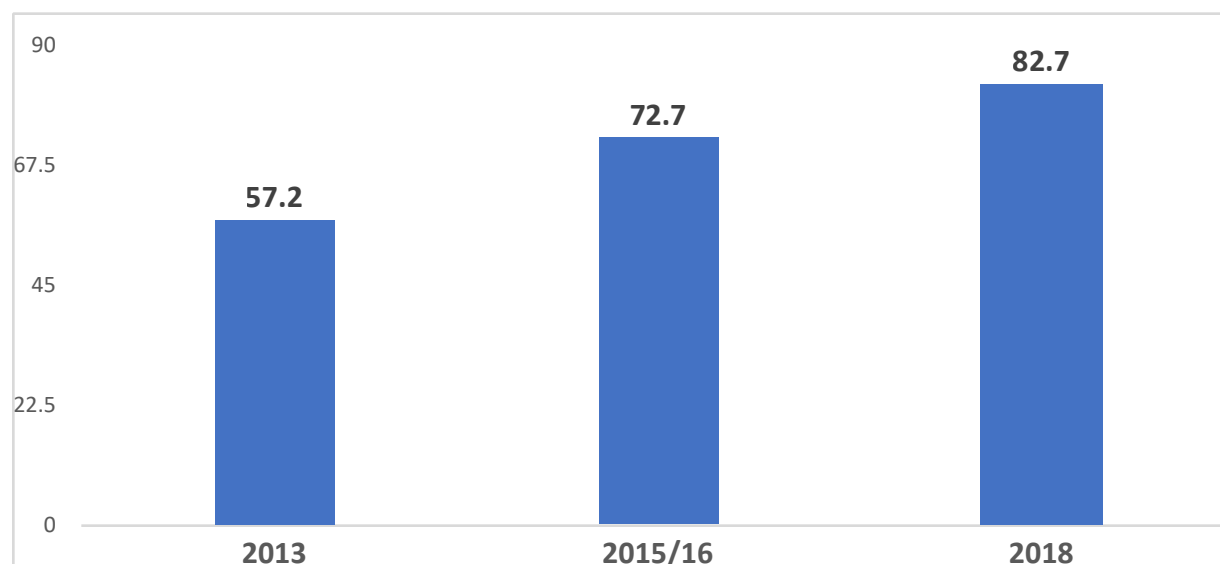


Source: GDHS 2013 and MICS 6 2018

Skilled attendance at delivery

Attendance of births by skilled workers has been a success story for the country's primary health care programme and now even though the concept of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) has been discontinued and now they are called Community Birth Companions (CBCs), transitioning them into escorts for women giving birth has ensured that a lot of women give birth at health facilities. As shown in Figure 4.9 below, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel has been increasing since 2013; from 57.2% in 2013 to 82.7% in 2018.

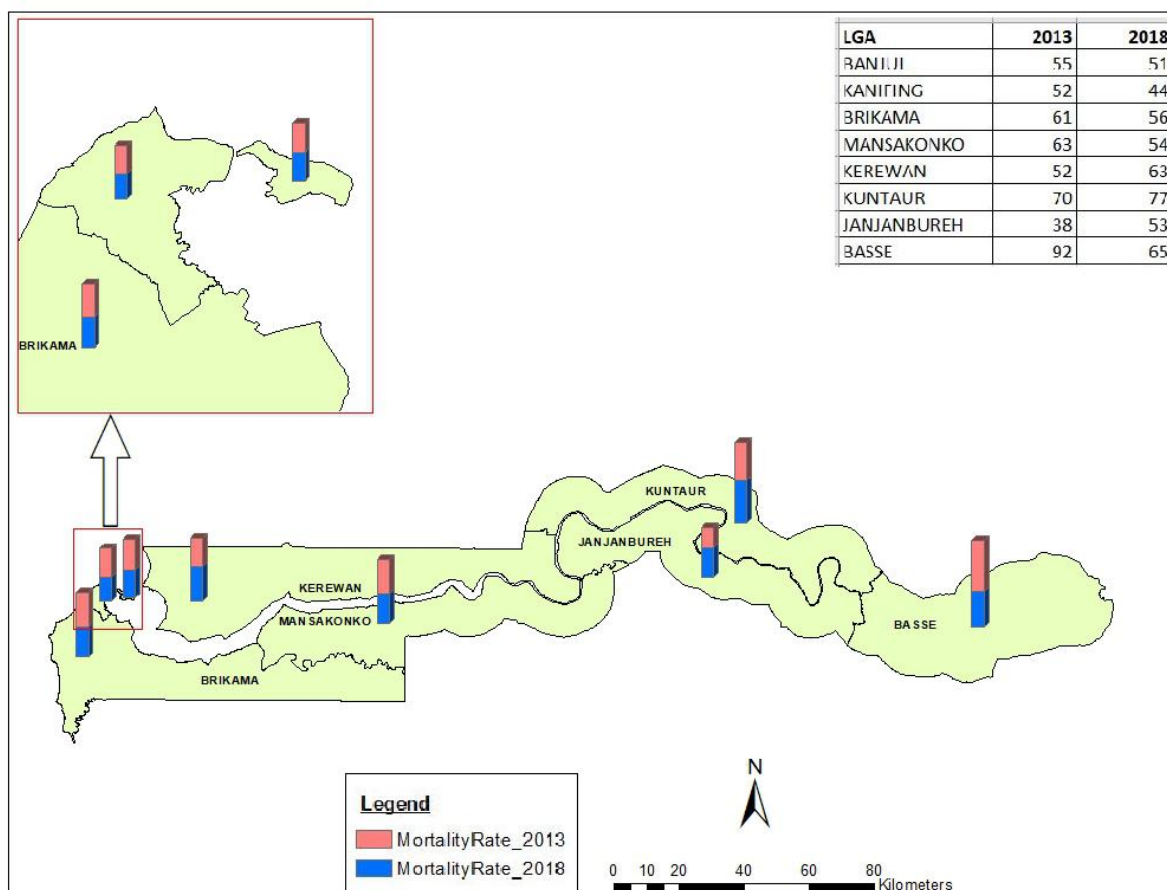
Figure 4.9: Proportion of women attended by skilled health personnel



Source: GDHS 2013, IHS 2015/16 and MICS 6 2018

Figure 4.10 below shows map of The Gambia showing under five mortality rate by LGA. The data shows that under five mortality has decreased in all the LGAs except in Kantaur and Janjangbureh, which are the poorest regions in the country according to 2015/2016 IHS. A significant decrease has been observed in Base from 92/1000 to 62/1000

Figure 4.10: Map showing under five mortality rate by LGAs



Source: GDHS, 2013 and MICS6, 2018

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The Gambia made advances in realizing the SDG targets on education but significant challenges remain. Under the new national development plan, government will prioritize further investments to develop the country's human capital through ensuring quality health and education, and making basic social services accessible and affordable to all and improving social and child protection systems for the most vulnerable.

This includes (i) enhancing access to early childhood education, (ii) improving quality learning, with special emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Health, Agriculture and special needs at the basic, post-secondary/tertiary and higher education levels, promote TVET and other skills enhancing initiatives to match the job market; and (iii) take measures to enhance access to non-formal education in order to build a more skilled and productive workforce. Figure 4.11 below shows the percentage distribution of the youth (15-35)

years Not in Employment Education or Training (NEET), unemployment rate for the working age population (15-64) years and for the youth (15-35) years at national level and by place of residence. NEET is higher for males than females, unemployment rate for the working age population is higher for females (55.3%) than males (44.7%) and youth employment is higher for females (55.0%) than males (45.0%). It is observed from the chart that NEET is higher in the urban than in rural areas. However, the unemployment rate for both the working age population and the youth is higher in the rural than in the urban areas again highlighting the rural urban disparity.

Figure 4.11: Young people not in Training or Education (NEET), Unemployment Rate (15-64) years and Youth (15-35) years and by Place of Residence

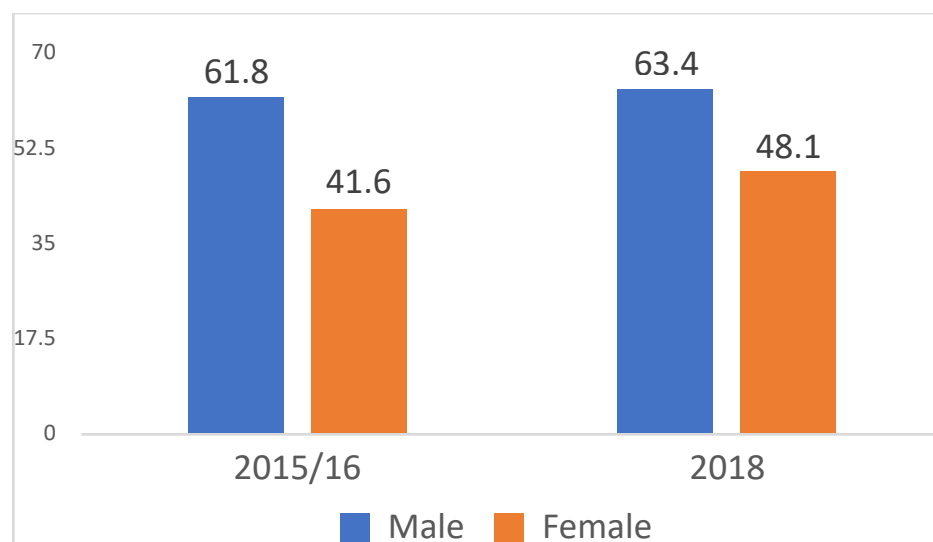
Figure 4.11: The Gambia Workforce Unemployment



Literacy

Figure 4.12 below shows the proportion of the population that were literate in 2015/16 and 2018. The data shows that for both periods the literacy rate is higher for males than females. But in 2018, an increase in the proportion of women who are literate was observed and the increase was higher than that of their male counterparts.

Figure 4.12 Literacy rate by sex



Source: HIS 2015/16 and MICS 6 2018

NB: In 2015/16 the literacy rate is for the population 15 years and over and in 2018 literacy was tested for the population 15 – 49 years

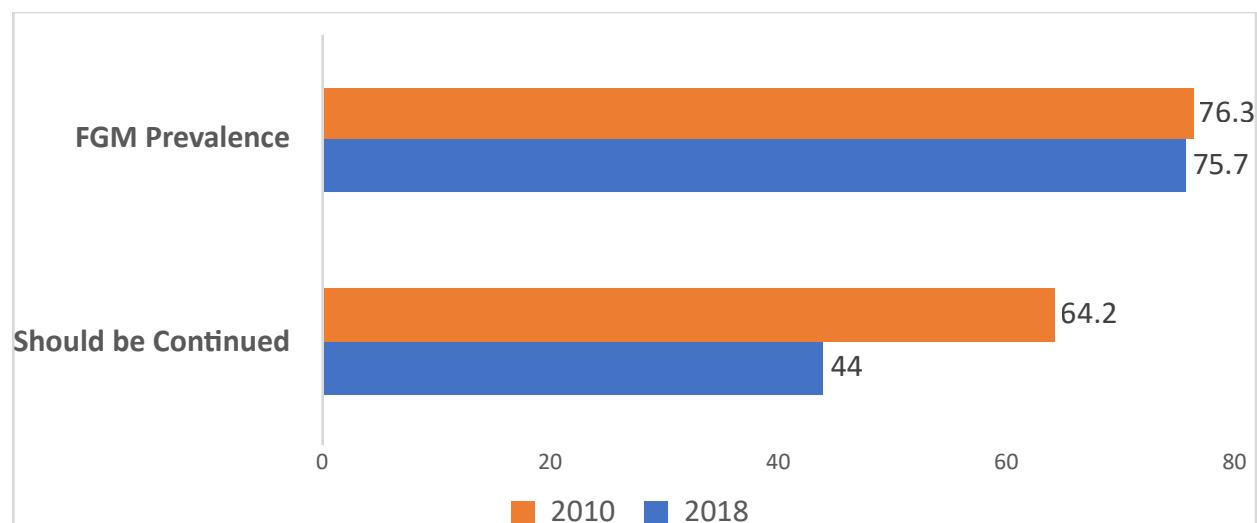
Goal 5: Advance Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls

In addition to the creation of the Ministry for Women, Children and Social Welfare, significant steps are being taken for the empowerment of women through several legislative acts, as well as vigorous efforts to ensure gender parity in primary education. Despite these efforts, the welfare of women of The Gambia continues to lag significantly behind that of men. In its new development plan Government is determined to promote gender equity, equality and empowerment of women and girls for sustained socioeconomic development.

Key measures planned include gender mainstreaming; capacity development of women entrepreneurs; establishment of a fund to improve access to finance; legislative reforms and advocacy for enhanced representation and participation in decision making; gender based violence reduction programmes; and doing away with harmful traditional practices such as FGM and early marriage. The practice was outlawed in the country about three years ago but the cultural belief in support of the practice still persists. As shown in figure 4.13 below, the

proportion of women aged 15 – 49 years who have undergone FGM declined slightly from 76.3% in 2010 to 75.7% in 2018. Despite the prevalence still high, a decline has been observed for the proportion of the women who reported that the practice should be discontinued from 64.2% in 2010 to 44.0% in 2018.

Figure 4.13: Prevalence of FGM and whether it should be continued or not



Source: MICS4 2010 and MICS 6 2018

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

High population growth rate and urbanization has weakened the ability of water and sanitation services to keep pace with demand. Poor maintenance culture of water systems further complicates this. Other factors include inadequate investment and funding; weak institutional capacities and poor coordination and low hygiene and sanitation practices. The proportion of the population with access to pipe borne drinking water increased in urban areas but decreased in rural areas. Furthermore, national coverage of improved sanitation has dropped and per capita waste generation is above the capacity of the municipal councils resulting in severe challenges in waste management.

Therefore, in the national development plan, Government focuses on improving access to safe drinking water and affordable sanitation and good hygiene practices at all levels. Key measures/ interventions are being taken to ensure equitable access to safe and affordable water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion to communities across the country will include:

Mobilizing resources through bilateral, multilateral organizations and public private sectors for the construction, rehabilitation and upgrading of water supply systems, sanitation facilities, solid waste management and sewerage. This will improve access to affordable water supply, sanitation

and enhance environmental protection for communities and institutions thus ensuring a healthy population, improved productivity and enhanced socioeconomic well-being of the population.

Also, the Government is strengthening community structures for effective maintenance and sustainable management of water resources and sanitation facilities using Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) approach as well as strengthening of Social Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) approach for sanitation and hygiene promotion at all levels. However, due to changes in the way and manner in which the indicator is measured, current estimates are lower than previously reported. Because of the safely managed component in the measurement of the indicator, the proportion of households that have access to improved water source was 85.8% in 2010 (MICS4, 2010), 89.8% in 2013 (GDHS, 2013) and increased slightly to 90.4% in 2018 (MICS6, 2018).

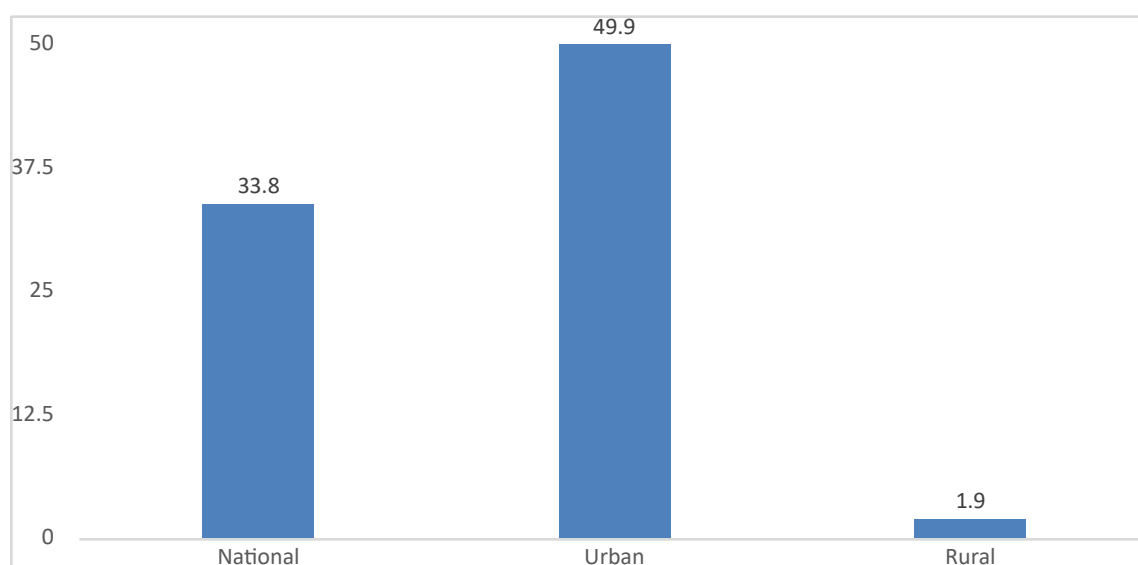
Despite the proportion of households that have access to improved water source is 90.4% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018), the data shows that only 4.1% and 13.8% of households in the poorest and second poorest quintiles have their main source of drinking water on their premises. As a result, it took 30 minutes (to and from the facility) for 62.2% of the poorest households and 62.3% of the second poorest households to reach their main source of drinking water.

On the other hand, it took 9.9% of households in the poorest quintile and 9.8% in the second poorest quintile (to and from the facility), more than 30 minutes to reach their main source of drinking water. These two categories of households have the highest proportion of the time spent to reach a water facility compared to the other households in the other socio-economic status (Middle, Fourth and Richest). As most of these households have to travel to and from their water sources might have contributed to low proportion of household that have access to safely managed drinking water.

For access to improved sanitation, the country has a long way to go in achieving access to improved sanitary facility because of how the indicator is measured. Even if the toilet is an improved facility once it is shared with other households is not regarded as improved sanitary facility. This is a big challenge considering the nature of households in the country where in most communities households in a compound do share toilets. The proportion was 76.3% in 2010 (MICS4 2010), dropped to 39.8% in 2013 (GDHS, 2013) and increased to 47.1% in 2018 (MICS 6 2018). Currently, the indicator is measured differently and stood at 30.9% (MICS 6 2018) which is use of basic sanitation services and the presence of handwashing facility with soap and water. This could also be a challenge as toilet facilities are shared in most communities and most of the time there is no handwashing facility and where it is present, both soap and water might not be available at the facility. There is the need for health education to urge the population on the provision of handwashing facilities with soap and water in their sanitary facilities.

As indicated earlier, access to water is measured as the percentage distribution of household members with an improved drinking water source located on premises, free from E-Coli and available when needed. Figure 4.14 below shows that based on this new indicator, only 33.8% of household members have access to safely managed drinking water with, the proportion being higher in the urban (49.9%) than in the rural areas (1.9%). Thus, the country still has a long way to go in ensuring universal access as it is not just a matter of physical access but also management of water at the household level which requires a lot of health education as well as change in behaviour and practice of water storage and management at household level.

Figure 4.14: Use of Safely Managed Drinking Water Services



Source: MICS6 2018

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Modern, reliable, and efficient energy and infrastructure services spur growth, catalyze economic transformation, and contribute to a high standard of living as well as contribute to poverty reduction. However, currently the country faces major challenges with respect to energy and infrastructure, which is hampering growth prospects. Therefore, the NDP seeks to address the energy crisis.

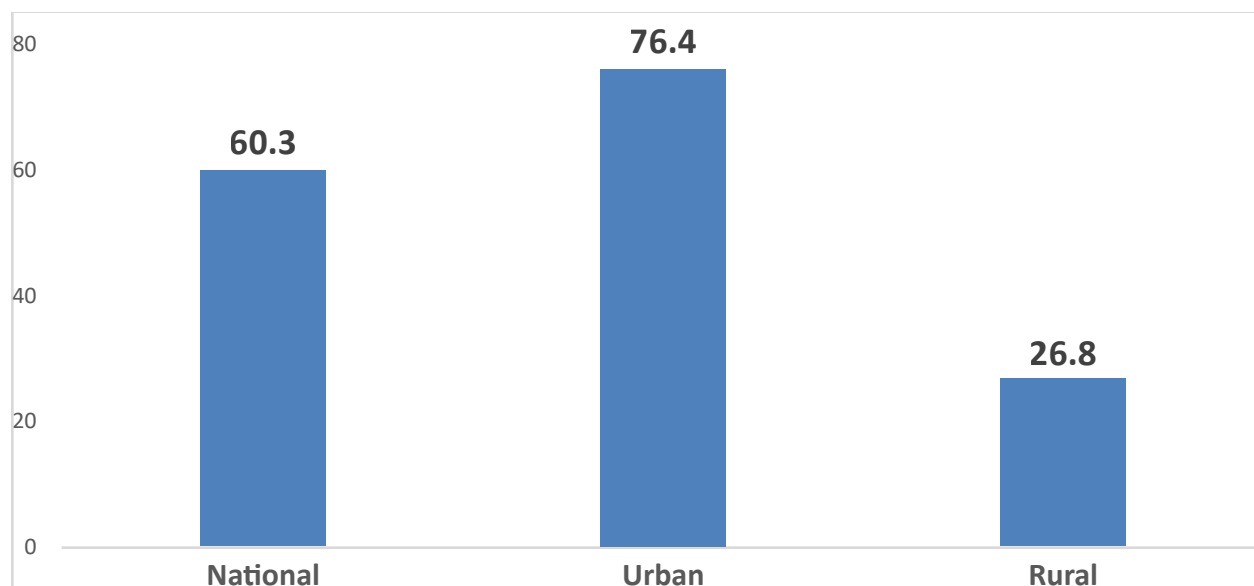
The NDP goal for energy and infrastructure is therefore to ensure sustainable and improved energy, petroleum, and transport sectors for a revitalized economy and well-being. To achieve this goal, Government focuses on improving the policy and regulatory environment to attract investments, improve access to electricity and enhance household energy security and ensure

secured petroleum resources to support national development. The country will also enhance its renewable energy targets and harness the existing potentials of renewable energy

Access to Electricity

Access to electricity is still relatively low particularly in the rural areas and thus it is one of the four components of the PACD programme. There is a slight increase in access to electricity from 59.0% in 2017 (MIS 2017) to 60.3% in 2018 with huge urban (76.4%) rural (26.8%) differentials as shown in Figure 4.15 below. However, given the enormous potential of electricity serving as an engine of economic growth, increasing access to electricity is a major pillar of the NDP. Of this clean energy; mainly solar accounts for just over 2% in 2019 but given the abundance of sunshine in the country, this is an area with huge potentials and government is taking appropriate policy measures within the context of the review of the 2017 energy roadmap to harness this potential.

Figure 4.15 Access to electricity, National and by Place of Residence



Source: MICS6 2018

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

GDP fluctuated in the past 4 years; 6.2 % (provisional) in 2019, 7.0% in 2018, 4.8% in 2017 and 1.9% in 2016 (GBoS 2018) mainly driven by tourism, rain-dependent agriculture and remittances, However, it is also highly vulnerable to external shocks. The collapse of Thomas Cook in late 2019 and the COVID-19 outbreak have dealt a heavy blow to the tourism sector leading to loss of revenue and jobs. Preliminary estimates by the Ministry indicate that initial growth estimate for the service sector will decline from 3.5 % to 0.6 % due to the virus, with

tourism (Hotels and Restaurants) estimated to contract to -19.5 % from 4.5 % as initially estimated.

The initial macroeconomic impact analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic indicates significant downturn in GDP growth, significant shortfalls in tax and non-tax revenues, increased health expenditure and tighter fiscal conditions. The revised growth estimates by the MoFEA indicate that direct effect on growth in 2020 will be equivalent to the loss of 3.5 percentage points compared to initial estimates – from 6.2 % to 2.7 %. This was further reviewed downward to 0.5% after confirmation of COVID 19 cases in the country. It is estimated to worsen to a negative growth of about 3.8% if the pandemic is not contained at the end of the fiscal year. This estimate is based mainly on temporary shocks associated with the closure of airports, flight cancellations and reduction in tourist arrivals in 2020 (MoFEA).

On the fiscal front, the COVID-19 pandemic will widen the fiscal deficit is expected to rise from projected 1.5% to 2.1% of GDP in 2020. An estimated GMD2.7 billion is expected to be lost from revenue collections if the pandemic remains uncontained over the fiscal year. However, inflow of assistance and budget support from development partners will help moderate the impact on the budget.

Public debt levels remain high at 89.1% of GDP in 2018 and 80.1 % in 2019 (Debt bulletin; 2018/19). Interest payments still accounted for 23.3% of recurrent expenditure in 2018 down from 34.5% in 2017, leaving limited fiscal space for public investment and improved service delivery.

Goal 9. Build Resilient Infrastructure, Promote Sustainable Industrialization and Foster Innovation

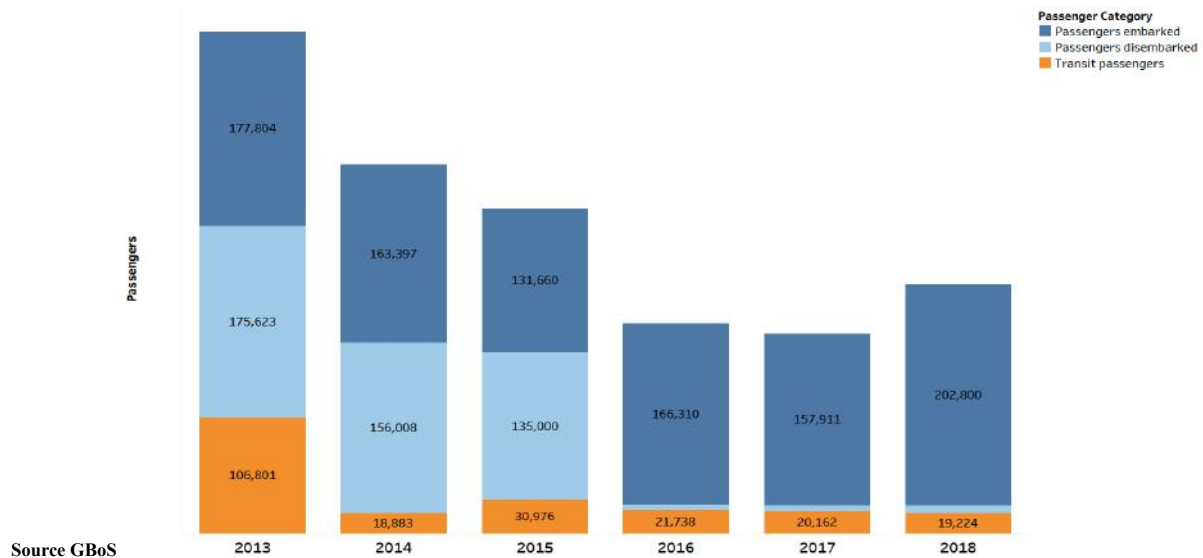
Government's strategy for improving infrastructure is to drive a vibrant private sector with significant growth in manufacturing, industry and trade contributions to economic growth and employment. The key interventions will diversify local production by introducing high value products for both export and the domestic market; create market linkages focusing on building the quality infrastructure and hard infrastructure for agricultural products; enhance capacity for custom clearance and establishment of Single Window Custom Clearance system; diversify service export and strengthen trade in services data management; improve trade and investment negotiations; enhance consumer welfare.

Government is also striving to harness the benefits of ICT in all sectors of the economy for equitable development. Measures include: improving regulatory services and polices; establishing a National ICT Agency; establishing a National Data Centre to strengthen e-government; upgrading the Telecoms Access Network (Last Mile Connectivity); establishing a National Technology Park to spur research and development; increasing roll out of regional ICT centers to enhance connectivity to schools and communities; achieving digital switch over and analogue switch off; and strengthening cyber-security and enhancing postal service delivery.

Figure 4.16 below shows the number of passengers that either embarked or disembarked or were in transit at the Banjul International Airport from 2013 -2018. The number of embarked passengers is more than the number of disembarked and transit passengers for all the years. An increase of 28.0% is observed in the number of embarked passengers from 157,911 in 2017 to

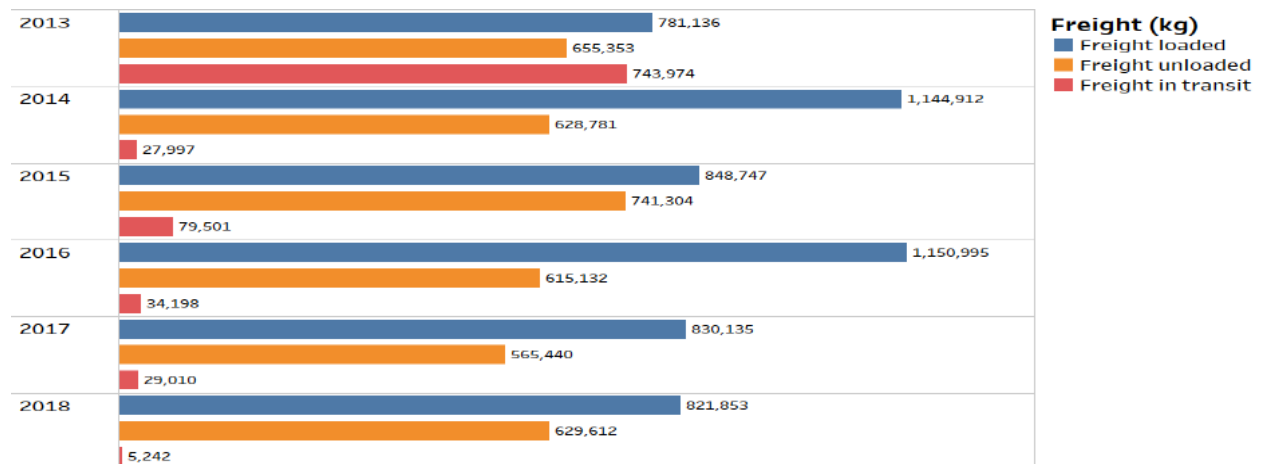
202,800 in 2018. Likewise, the number of disembarked passengers has increased from 5,426 in 2017 to 6,543 in 2018 while the number of transit passengers decreased by 4.7% from 20,162 in 2017 to 19,224 in 2018.

Figure 4.16: Number of Passengers by Type at Banjul International Airport, 2013 - 2018



A total number of 1,451,465 kilograms (kgs) of freight was handled at the Banjul International Airport in 2018 which is 55,890 kgs more than 2017 (1,395,575 kgs). However, there was a huge decrease in the tons of freight on transit from 29,010 kgs in 2017 to 5,242 kgs in 2018. The same is observed in the kgs of freight loaded, where it drops by 81% in 2018. For the freight unloaded, an 11 % increase from 2017 to 2018 was observed (see Figure 4.17).

Figure 4.17: Freight (Kg) at Banjul International Airport, 2013 - 2018



Goal 10. Reduce Inequality Within and Among Countries

Though reducing inequality is not explicitly expressed in the NDP as a priority area, several aspects of the national development plan are aimed at reducing inequality. There is specific focus on empowering women and girls, harnessing the demographic dividend by focus on enhancing the participation of youth in national development as well as efforts to fight poverty which have proven ineffective with poverty levels remaining unchanged in the past decade.

Also, there is a rising rural poverty and a growing gap between rural and urban Gambia with regards to access to health, education, and basic services. Therefore, Government plans to act decisively to address poverty, particularly rural poverty, and close the growing gap in access to basic services between the predominantly urban western part of the country, and the rural poor predominantly found in the east of the country

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

The country's housing infrastructure especially in the rapidly growing urban areas remains a huge challenge and so government's interventions in the NDP involves construction and rehabilitation of some basic social services such as roads, drainages, markets and waste management programmes in selected slums in the urban area

The Public transport infrastructure is also in a poor state and given that the country is virtually divided into two halves by the river that runs right through it, roads, and bridges are a major priority. In the NDP there are plans to increase the primary road network in good condition (paved), increase operational capacity of air transport facilities, the number of new roads constructed and the number of new bridges constructed. There is an updated National Transport Policy and plans are in place to enact a national public buildings and facilities policy.

Implementation national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030

The Gambia adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), which provides strategic guidance for the implementation of DRR programmes. The DRR policy (2013) is guided by HFA but since the Sendai framework for DRR succeeds the HFA the Gambia has plans to review the policy to incorporate the Sendai Framework for DRR. Nonetheless, National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) recognizes the importance of aligning its policies and programmes in line with international best practices and thus its work plans and activities are all guided by the Sendai Framework for DRR until such a time when the policy is revised to incorporate the Sendai Framework for DRR.

As part of the ongoing decentralization and capacity building process, the National Environment Agency (NEA) has established regional offices, as well as an Agriculture and Natural Resources Working Group (ANR-WG) in all the regions of the country. To gain more from this

decentralization process, Government will undertake capacity building for the relevant institutions and staff. This will involve the training of inspectors, programme officers, members of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and other relevant multi-sectoral taskforces. Institutions that are expected to collaborate within the scope of environmental management, such as the security forces will also be included in the capacity building to improve their understanding of environmental issues and therefore improve enforcement. Training on community based forest enterprise development using market analysis and development.

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

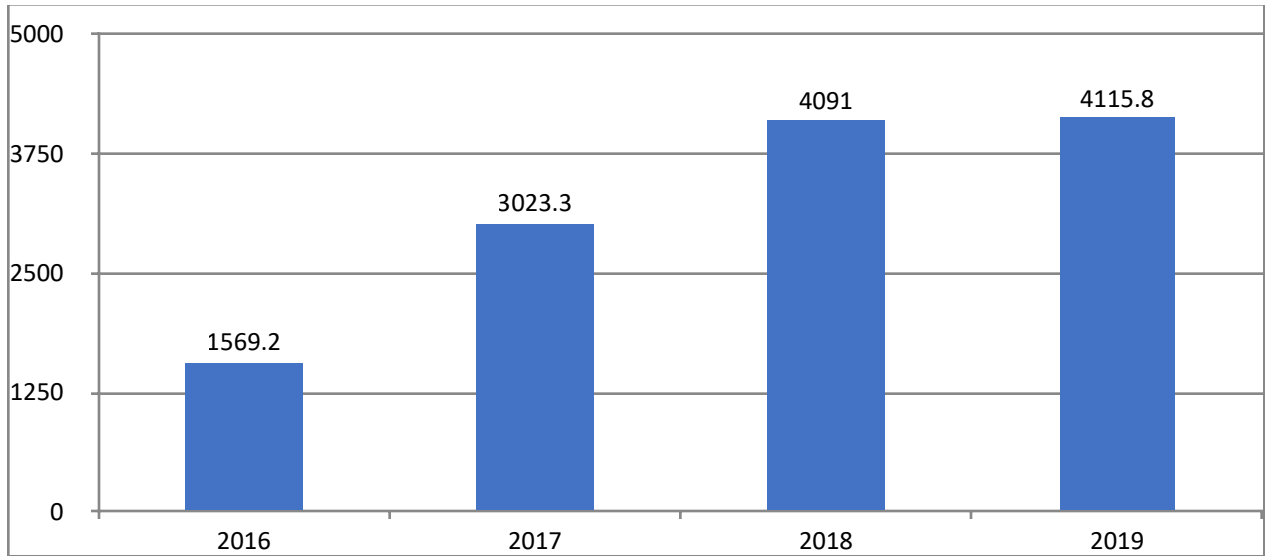
This goal does not directly relate to any of the country's development priorities. However, aspects of it that are relevant such as environment and waste have been treated in the respective areas in the relevant aspects in other goals and indicators.

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Government aims to ensure that the country's environment and natural resources are sustainably managed and conserved to increase resilience for the benefit of all. There is strong emphasis on strengthening environment and Climate Change-friendly policies, programmes and awareness at all levels for enhanced resilience building through the use of Early Warning; sustainable management of natural resources, and appropriate land use. Opportunities to tap resources from the multilateral climate funds in order to launch the country on a low carbon growth trajectory will be vigorously pursued.

Due to the effects of climate change, the incidence and severity of disasters; continue to be on the rise during the past few years and between 2016 and 2019, the number of people affected by disasters almost tripled (See figure 4.18).

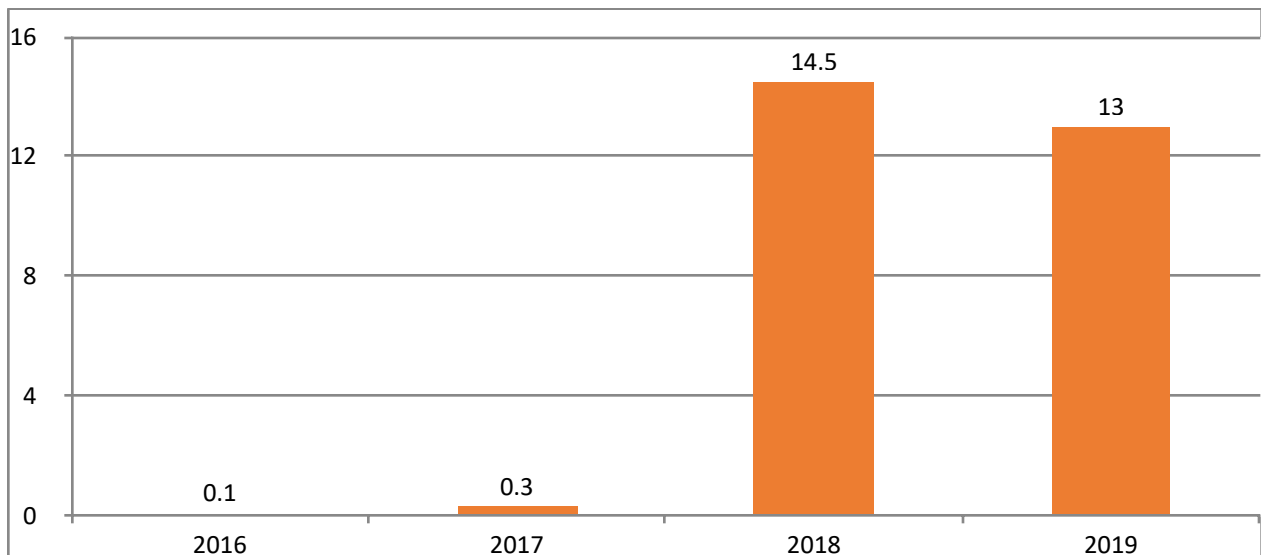
Figure 4.18 Persons affected by disasters per 100,000 population



Source: NDMA

Figure 4.19 shows the number of deaths from disaster per 100,000 population from 2016-2019. The data shows that the number of deaths range from 0.1 in 2016 to 13 per 100,000 in 2019. However, due to capacity gap, the disaster-related deaths in 2016 and 2017 were underestimated as deaths from fire incidents and accidents were not included in the calculation.

Figure 4.19 Disaster-related Deaths per 100,000



Source: NDMA

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Government has renewed its efforts to promote a vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector through research, sustainable management and utilization of the fisheries resources that would enhance employment and livelihood opportunities, income and foreign exchange earnings, food and nutrition security. In the medium term, the goal is to promote a vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector through research, sustainable management and utilization of the fisheries resources that would enhance employment and livelihood opportunities, income and foreign exchange earnings, food, and nutrition security. The Fisheries Policy, Act, and regulations will be revised which will hopefully increase the contribution of fisheries to GDP as well as production of fish resources. A planned increase in budgetary allocation to aquaculture development will lead to increase in quantities of fish resources exported

Goal 15. Protect, Restore and Promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The Gambia is susceptible to the vagaries of the environment and climate change, e.g. droughts and flooding, which cause much damage to coastal ecosystems, farmlands, settlements, and livestock. The major issues affecting the environment sector are land degradation, coastal erosion, loss of forest cover, biodiversity loss, ineffective waste, and pesticides management. Deforestation through illegal logging and bushfires, sand mining, illegal settlements and other uncontrolled activities are the main contributing factors in a situation already made precarious by climate change.

The impact of Climate Change (CC) has emerged as one of the most significant external factors hindering the performance of the growth-driving sectors, especially agriculture, tourism and industry, which have the greatest impact on the economy.

Climate change issues have been identified as one of the key enablers of the NDP and so Government will ensure that Gambia's environment and natural resources are sustainably managed and conserved to increase resilience for the benefit of all. Government will undertake major efforts to access climate change financing through the use of a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy that will lead to the development of viable project proposals and also build capacities.

Goal 16. Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Governance is at the core of this new Government's agenda and so its vision for the "new Gambia" is a country that upholds the highest standard of governance, accountability and

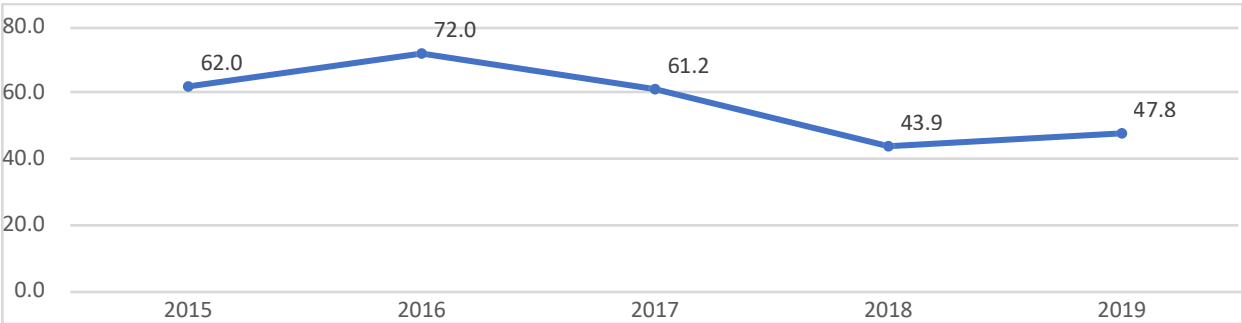
transparency; where social cohesion and harmony prevails among communities; citizens enjoy a standard of living and access to basic services to enable them to lead decent and dignified lives; youth, women, children realize their full potential, and a nurturing and caring environment exists for the vulnerable; there is an enabling environment for our private sector to thrive; and the environment is nurtured and preserved for future generations”.

Governance has been a huge challenge for the country following 22 years of misrule which ended in 2016. As a result, governance reforms were the cornerstone of the country’s development agenda and to date a lot of progress has been realized. The goal of government is to “deliver good governance and accountability, social cohesion, and national reconciliation and a revitalized and transformed economy for the well-being of the population of The Gambia”. Government’s plans to achieve this through enhanced good governance and freedom of expression, improved access to quality justice establishing and strengthening democratic institutions and mechanisms.

The Government has taken the bold step towards the institutionalization of anti-graft mechanism through the National Assembly in December 2019 by tabling the Anti-Corruption and Freedom of Information bill for enactment into law. Undoubtedly, both bills if enacted will lead to the establishment of institutions that will directly contribute to the attainment of SDG 16.5 that relates to substantially reducing corruption and bribery in all their forms.

As shown in figure 4.20 below, the proportion of unsentenced detainees as a proportion of total prison population increased from 62.0% in 2015 to 72.0% in 2016 but declined to 61.2% in 2017 and further declined to 45.9% in 2018 though it increased slightly to 47.8% in 2019.

Figure 4.20: Unsented detainees as a proportion of total prison population



Source: Ministry of Interior

Goal 17. Strengthen the Means Of Implementation and Revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

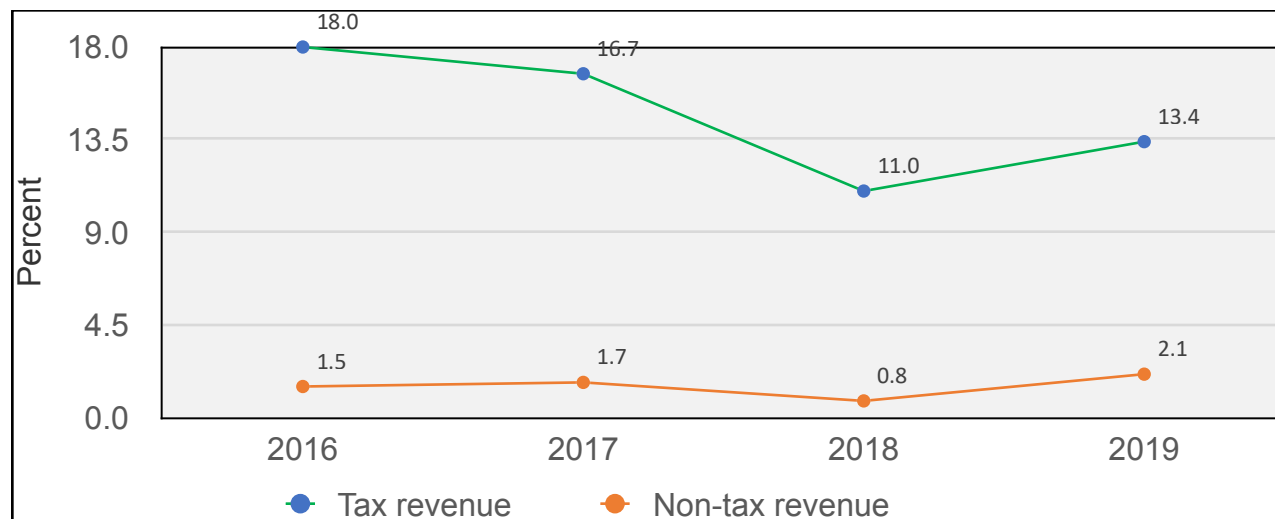
To meet the financing needs of the NDP, government is pursuing three interlinked strategies: Concessionary financing; domestic resources mobilization; and innovative financing

instruments. Because of the state of the economy, external support will be vital to enable The Gambia to meet the financing needs of the NDP. Limited fiscal space due to high debt servicing means that government has to rely on grants and loans of a highly concessionary nature in order to avoid further exposure and increasing the fiscal risks and vulnerability of the economy. Government will work with both traditional and non-traditional partners to secure the necessary financing.

Reliance on domestic resourcing is becoming increasingly important for meeting the financing needs of developing countries. Already The Gambia relies heavily on taxation to finance government expenditure. However, because of the debt servicing obligations, government has been unable to allocate significant resources to finance development. In the context of the NDP, three measures will be adopted to increase government’s contribution to implement its development agenda: Continue the path of prudent fiscal management, sound monetary policy and structural reforms which is expected to rationalize the budget.

Figure 4.21 below shows the annual proportion of tax and non-tax revenues to GDP. The proportion of the tax revenue declined from 18.0% in 2016 to 16.7% and 11.0% in 2017 and 2018 respectively. The proportion has increased to 13.4% in 2019 as oppose to tax revenue. The non-tax revenue has registered a marginal increase from 2016 to 2019. It has increased from 1.5% in 2016 to 1.7%, 0.8% and 2.1% in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.

Figure 4.21: Total government revenue as a proportion of the GDP by source



Source MoFEA

(h) Means of implementation

Introduction

The means of implementation is at the heart of the attainment of the Agenda 2030. The Government recognizes the interdependency between, financial resources, technology

development and transfer, and capacity building. Within the framework of the AAAA, Government has been working on reforms to enhance domestic resource mobilization and the linkage between budgets and plans. This report has indicated the progress made in the area of access to ICT, including mobile Internet access. The Government is leveraging on improvements in ICT to enhance access to services, including e-Government. Through the use of technology, Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) has strengthened and improved revenue mobilization. The GamTaxNet has improved domestic tax revenue collection whilst the Automated System for Custom Data (ASYCUDA)++ enhanced better customs and duties collection. The Authority has started the process to migrate to ASYCUDA World. In addition, there has been a good level of infrastructural development in the ICT and Integrated Financial Management systems through which, the country is poised to successfully implement a Treasury Single Account (TSA). The Government embarked upon a capacity needs assessment and developed a capacity building strategy to strengthen the implementation of the NDP and the attainment of the SDGs.

Resource Flow

The implementation of reforms which include the introduction of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) which was piloted in few institutions but now rolled out to all Ministries purposely to foster accountability and transparency

in the use of public resources is important for the implementation of the SDGs. The use of the IFMIS also improved efficiency in the financial services delivery of the government as it relates to the ongoing upgrade of the IFMIS accounting system to EPICOR 10 to strengthen the linkage between planning and budgeting, Government asset and contract management, as well as human resource management.

Another reform programme is the Programme Based Budgeting (PBB) which helps in creating strong linkages between budget and planning and ensures that the variance is minimised between budget and planning. Also, a liquidity and cash management Committee were formed to determine and monitor the monthly Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) and the status of Net Domestic Borrowing (NDB) of the country and how it is trending. In addition, the Gambia Strategy Review Board (GSRB) was formed in 2019 whose mandate is to prepare a comprehensive statement of Aid Policy, prepare development assistance frameworks, maintain donor profiles and undertake resource mobilization, appraise public programmes and projects including those funded by development partners, participate in drawing up Financing Agreements, assist in preparing work plans for donor funded projects. The board also maintains a database of all external funds, ensure that donor funds are used in accordance with donor procedures, monitor progress on the implementation of donor funded projects and programmes, monitor evaluation and audit of donor funded projects, and report on donor commitments and disbursements.

The Gambia as a developing country with little natural resources relies mainly on taxes to generate domestic revenues. However, a great proportion of domestic revenue generated goes towards recurrent expenditures while the development expenditure is financed mainly from loans and grants. The Gambia government has a strong interest to increase financial flows for much

needed investment in the country to achieve agenda 2030. The alignment of the NDP to the SDGs emphasizes the central role of domestic resources in financing development along with foreign direct investment, public private partnerships, Official Development Assistance (ODA) and remittances.

Concerning the implementation of more effective taxation policies, the government is confronted with challenges related to the structure of its economy; in terms of the importance of the informal sector, and the reliance on a limited set of tax revenues; with heavy dependence on direct taxes. Other challenges include, development of appropriate policy measures aimed at encouraging both domestic and foreign investments to promote an investment friendly environment and enhance channeling of savings into productive investments. There is also need for government to create adequate incentives that promote investment in sectors that are considered as priorities for national development and can contribute to the attainment of the SDGs.

Recently, and following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic resource mobilization has increasingly become as an important way of reducing over dependence on volatile aid flows and therefore increase the level of predictable financial resources available to the finance development programmes and projects. However, The Gambia; like other developing countries, encounters several challenges to effectively mobilize domestic and international resources to support the development process. This includes the existence of a large informal sector, economic governance challenges inherited from the previous regime, weaknesses in tax policy regimes, inadequate legal systems, and underdeveloped financial systems.

In its quest to improve domestic resource mobilization, The Gambia adopted policy measures aimed at mobilizing domestic public and private savings and channeling those savings into the most productive investments. The coexistence of a formal and informal financial sector, underdeveloped financial intermediation systems, inefficient taxation mechanisms and difficulties in putting in place institutional mechanisms to harness the developmental potential of remittances are only some of the constraints to effective domestic resource mobilization. With regard to the low levels of financial intermediation in particular, The Gambia government is committed to support the development of better performing domestic financial sectors through the use of technology to mobilize savings that escape from the formal financial sector and which – among other things – can facilitate access to financing for credit-constrained micro and small enterprises.

Challenges

The Gambia is still faced with a debt sustainability challenge with total public and publicly guaranteed debt as percentage of GDP at 81.2 % as at end period 2019. Thus, the need to strengthen the management of aid resources to ensure that debt is maintained at sustainable levels is still a priority. While the 2020 budget aims to stabilize the domestic public debt, building on the strong domestic revenue performance and appropriate tax policy measures, with additional resources channeled toward public investment and social spending to achieve Agenda 2030. However, weaknesses were identified in the revenue administrative processes such as

inaccurate taxpayer registration database and inadequate documented procedures and internal controls (The Gambia Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool, TADAT, Performance Assessment Report, 2018).

While the recent Extended Credit Facility (ECF) programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will assist in catalyzing the much-needed resources from other international partners to enable The Gambia to fulfill its economic potentials, more efforts will be continue to be placed on strengthening revenue mobilization, Public Financial Management(PFM) and the governance of SOE, while improving on public investment and the procurement process. The Gambia is committed to broadening its reforms to cover gender-based budgeting and in addressing climate change-induced economic challenges.



CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The VNR has given The Gambia an opportunity to engage different stakeholders, Private sector, CSOs, Development Partners, Vulnerable Groups, Citizenry in the review and implementation of the SDGs. Some of the key lessons learnt include the need to raise the level of awareness about the agenda 2030 and to strengthen the NSS to adequately support review of the SDGs.

From the VNR, it is evident that if the SDGs are to be achieved, new and innovative approaches must be adopted. During the consultations, it was found out that many initiatives exist that can be scaled up and replicated to accelerate the implementation of the Agenda 2030. A practical example is the use of recycled plastic bottles to build houses. This innovation by a civil society organization, which trains and employs locals, has the potential to help address environmental issues, enhance sustainable settlements, and creating employment having multiplier effects. With Government collaboration, the Accelerator Lab has already started the process of solutions mapping and experimentation of innovations that exist.

Recognizing the existing inequalities, especially between urban and rural areas, and vulnerable groups such as women, the Government has embarked on PACD programme. This initiative which is being piloted this year in 75 communities focuses on addressing the disparities between urban and rural areas in terms of access to basic social services (Water, Electricity, Road Infrastructure, and Women Economic Empowerment). This programme apart from addressing SDG 10 on inequalities, it is going to create a platform that will address poverty and all other SDGs.

As part of its efforts to accelerate implementation of the SDGs inline with the ‘decade of action’, Government will continue to deepen private sector participation through sustained engagement using the existing SDG institutional arrangements and partnerships. This will help to mobilize private sector resources, both technical and financial, accelerate the rate of implementation as we enter the ‘decade of action’. Coordination with Civil Society and NGOs will be further strengthened to leverage their capacities as well as enhance the alignment of their interventions with the Agenda 2030.

During the VNR consultation process, it has been observed that there has been inadequate awareness of the SDGs. To address this, Government and stakeholders will continue engagement, advocacy, and sensitization at all levels. This will help to ensure no one is left behind, including those in the hard to reach areas, thus enhancing ownership and making the review processes of the SDGs more participatory.

The Government will ensure the mainstreaming of the SDGs into policies and strategies in National, Sectoral and Sub-national levels. Government will engage local authorities using their regional development plans to implement initiatives such as Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR).

This will form the basis for tracking progress at all levels. The awareness raising campaign will be continuous and will incorporate the use of the media, traditional communicators, distribution of Publicity materials in local languages and incorporation of SDGs in School Curriculum.

Following the presentation of the VNR, Government in partnership with all stakeholders, will develop a plan to disseminate the VNR report and the recommendations received during its presentation at the HLPF. Government will use this opportunity to review and update the joint SDG road map, with a view to incorporating feedback received from the VNR consultations and the HLPF. This will help in The Gambia's effort to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs during the Decade of Action.

The data gathering process to update progress on the status of the SDGs was not an easy task due to a number of constraints encountered which included the absence of a national system of data and information storage and retrieval as data and information is all over the place. There is an apparent weakness in the coordination between and among sectors in the NSS. In addition, there is inadequate online data systems; few sectors have data on their websites, and for those that have, most websites are not updated. This leads to reliance in most cases on reports kept in old fashioned way (hard copies). There are also challenges with data disaggregation; SDG indicators have new disaggregation demands that call for changes in data collection designs and methodologies (age disaggregation; children, youth, elderly, disability, vulnerability, marginalization, geographical, LNOB).

Apart from censuses most surveys and studies are externally driven. This makes availability of consistent data and determination of trends difficult. To address this, there is need for sustainable funding, enhance coordination within the NSS and enhance collection and management of administrative data.

Another challenge encountered was that the way and manner in which some data are collected and kept is not adequate for the measurement of the SDG indicators. There is a distinction between data and indicators; most indicators need to be computed from existing data and therefore the need for the adoption of the SDG meta data for proper national indicator definitions and computation mechanisms.

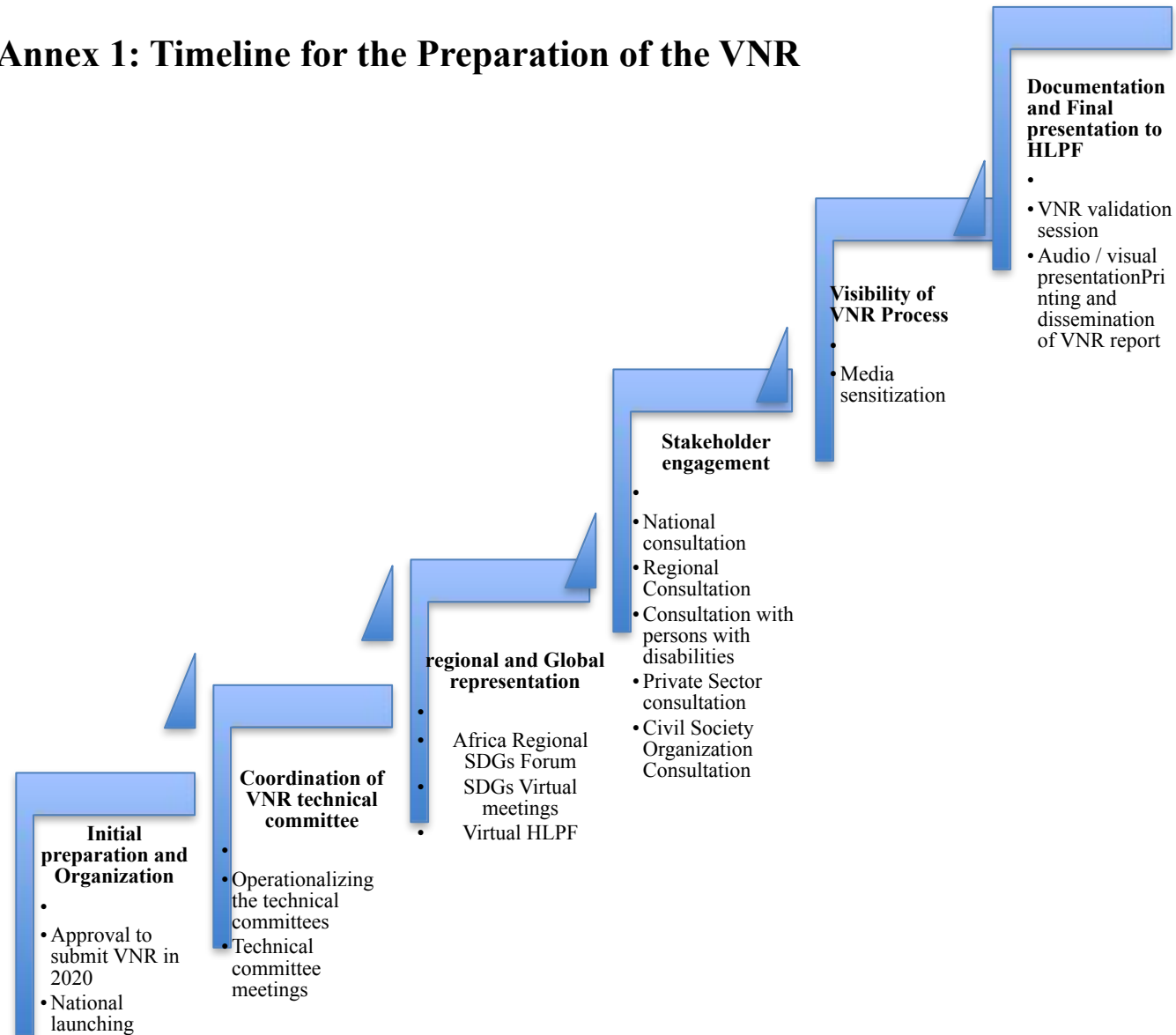
There is also the need for institutionalisation of data/information needs for SDG monitoring that defines roles and responsibilities for collection, analysis, storage and retrieval, creating a repository of data/information. This means having in place a ONE-STOP-SHOP and enhanced data capacity development at institutional and technical levels as well as ensuring availability of financial resources as part of a national system of consistent collection and retrieval of SDG related data to facilitate SDG reporting.

To adequately build upon the experiences in this first VNR of the implementation of the Agenda 2030, The Gambia can benefit from further capacity building especially for the local and regional

Governments as well as support to the implementation of the NSDS II. Capacity building needs will include mainstreaming and integration of the SDGs into the national development agenda , monitoring and evaluation capacities, policy analysis, data and statistics and resource mobilisation. However, given the challenges in coordination, there is need for capacity building for Public Sector officials on critical skills in coordination, inter-ministerial development planning and implementation of Programmes and Projects. Equally, The Gambia will require heavy investments in; Science, technology and innovation to accelerate achievements of the SDGs.

Annexes

Annex 1: Timeline for the Preparation of the VNR

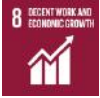









Annex 2: Summary of SDG Indicators



Summary of Indicators Covered: Data Availability as at: June 11th, 2020

	SDGs	No of Indicators (Tier I&II)	Gambia Coverage	% coverage
	c	12	3	25.0%
	2. End hunger, achieve food security & improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	14	7	50.0%
	3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	28	14	50.0%
	4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	12	9	75.0%
	5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	11	7	63.6%
	6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	11	8	72.7%
	7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	4	3	75.0%



	8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	16	4	25.0%
	9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization & foster innovation	12	4	33.3%
	10. Reduce inequality within and among countries	14	0	0.0%
	11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	13	1	7.6%
	12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	12	0	0.0%
	13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	6	2	33.3%
	14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	9	2	22.2%
	15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	13	1	7.6%



	16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	23	5	21.7%
	17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	20	8	40.0%
	TOTAL	230	78	33.9%



Annex 3: Impact of COVID-19

The Gambia confirmed her first COVID-19 case on 17th March, 2020 and as at 8th June, 2020 there are 28 confirmed cases and 1 death. In the government's efforts to curb the spread of the virus, a State of Public Emergency has been in effect since March 27th, 2020 and is in place until the end of June. The limited time allowed for local markets to operate is impacting local businesses as a result of reduction in activity and the subsequent loss of earnings as well as local people that earn their living on a daily basis. Presented in this section is the impact of COVID-19 based on initial socio-economic impact assessment conducted in the Gambia.

Government Revenue and Macroeconomy


Government revenue is expected to fall in 2020, as projected by the IMF, but to rebound in 2021. Slower growth in tourism will be made up with increases in remittances, investments (in the ICT sector) and a rebound in trade (especially re-export trade). Direct Budget support from partners should help the government to reduce its deficit whilst also allocating more spending to education, health and social protection. The 2021 elections should lead to an increase in spending, leading to an increase in inflation in 2021 (and a larger depreciation in the Dalasi than in the recent past). Trade balance is expected to close this year, but return to its pre-crisis trend, but slower. Remittances are expected to be much lower in 2020, but expected to bounce back with the economy in 2021. Also, remittances are expected to fuel investments in the real estate sector as has been the trend. The tourism sector was the first to be hit during this pandemic. The sheer speed and breadth of the pandemic's effect on the sector has shown the sector's importance to the country, not only directly but also indirectly.

Effects on the Progress towards the NDP and SDGs

The COVID-19 pandemic will stragulate development efforts and wash away gains made in recent years and tourism is likely to fall off its track. Given that most resources will be diverted to fighting the pandemic, this means that proper implementation of the NDP in its last 2 years will be a challenge which will eventually result to the fall in some of the achievements made thus far on the SDGs.

i. Education

The first steps taken by the government of The Gambia after the first case in country were the banning of public gatherings and the closure of all schools including universities. It has now been nearly 3 weeks since schools at all levels were closed. During this period, schools and government institutions have been attempting to find a solution to this challenge; how to teach students who are not allowed to go to the school. The Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MoBSE) has started classes, on television and radio for certain subjects at most levels.



Although commendable, MoBSE's approach risks further exacerbating inequalities that exist in the education sector. Students from wealthier (more advantaged) backgrounds are more likely to complete school and perform better in exams. Students from the rural areas and public schools are more likely to have these deficiencies. These inequalities may further entrench if the current situation persists and those disadvantaged are not able to get the same access to the content provided by MoBSE on the television and radio.

The effects on education will not be as severe in the medium-term. Steps currently being taken by both education ministries to resolve the challenge of school closures, coupled with schools reopening before end of year would mean the time lost would not be so great. Students currently in the final year of their cycles would be most adversely affected, mostly those in grades 9 and 12.

The time lost due to COVID-19 could be regained with extra sessions added in the next academic calendar for all levels. An increase in dropouts should be expected especially within the groups of girls and persons with disabilities. At the tertiary level, the most likely to be affected are those in the vocational and technical fields, but similar to the basic and secondary cycle, the time lost will not be too great. MoBSE, MoHERST, UNICEF, World Bank (WB) and other development agencies should look into ways to mitigate this.

ii. Health

The arrival of the COVID-19 to the country's shores exposed the shortcomings in the nation's healthcare system. The country has a low ratio of health professionals per 1000 people, limited expertise and a shortage of basic equipment for conducting basic tests and treatment. Over the past twenty years, PHC system has been slowly losing its effectiveness and the added burden of dealing with the COVID-19 has put further strain on the healthcare system, both for its workers and current (and potential) patients. A breakdown in the PHC would affect women and children under 5 the most, those most likely to use it.

The current singular focus on containing and eradicating COVID-19 has led to a situation where, "nothing else matters". This singular focus has led to resources, both labor and capital, being diverted to one cause; ending the pandemic. In the case of women, the cumulative effects of lack of basic healthcare (especially at PHC level), and inability to earn income through petty trading and the increased childcare demands due to school closures, can have serious psychological effects on them.

COVID-19 will put strain on the health system, further showing the frailties of the healthcare system. With the entire health sector and government focused on containing and preventing the disease, other vulnerable groups such as those with chronic illnesses, People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) and tuberculosis are expected to have less attention and time devoted to them. Currently Antenatal Care (ANC) services offered by public health facilities have been reduced.



iii. Nutrition

The COVID-19, increased pressures on several pre-existing conditions with acutely malnourished children being nine times more likely to die and experiencing pulmonary complications. Malnutrition, both undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are high among women of reproductive age 15-49 years and children under five years of age and therefore is a public health challenge in The Gambia. Despite recent gains, the MICS 2018 showed that malnutrition rates continue to be high in The Gambia with stunting at 19.0%, wasting at 6.2% and underweight at 13.9%.

iv. Agriculture and Food Security

The reported disruptions of the agricultural value chain caused by the restrictions, business closure, and restriction of movement will not only continue to affect the overall food supply chain if the crisis persists but will translate into more serious consequences as the timing of the COVID-19 in The Gambia has coincided with the preparation of the main agriculture season. Therefore, further consequences are expected on the local food production as the capacities of vulnerable producers to engage production will be affected.


Fortunately, the timing of COVID-19 has given Government a chance to increase its focus on Agriculture. This is the period when farmers are preparing to clear their fields in anticipation of rains in June/July. The current crisis has the possibility to reduce the stock of basic food commodities, reduce food security and increase malnutrition. The depth of the challenge facing the country with regards to food security will depend on the ability of the country to import the basic food commodities consumed and the ability to meet a shortfall with domestic production if bottlenecks in the importation of these products is experienced.

The March 2020 Cadre Harmonize (CH) concluded that 81,976 persons were in crisis (phase 3), with approximately 401,967 people identified as experiencing food and nutrition stress before the pandemic. With the negative impact of the pandemic across various sectors, and the early onset of the lean it is estimated that 176,586 people are already in crisis with an additional 555,988 people under pressure, based on CH projections and further analysis on urban vulnerability.

Tourism

The tourism sector was the first to be hit during this pandemic. The sheer speed and breadth of the pandemic's effect on the sector has shown the sector's importance to the country, not only directly but also indirectly.

With COVID-19 hitting the elderly more, the industry's most common and loyal customers, it will be a while before this age group will be ready to travel abroad. The industry should be ready for lower revenues in the next season across the board. The slow pick up



in tourism may tour operators, who are likely to slash prices to entice more travelers, hotels and other formal businesses within the sector will experience a squeeze in margins. This will trickle down to Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), who are expected to bear the brunt of this in the form of lower tourist expenditures.

Communications Infrastructure

COVID-19 has increased the usage of information communication through telecommuting and access to virtual learning platforms etc., but it has also exposed the country's weak communications infrastructure. The poor quality of the network, the lack of full coverage across the country and the high prices have negatively impacted access. This needs to be addressed as soon as possible by greater investment both by Government and Global Systems for Mobile communication (GSM) operator's through upgrading the country's IT infrastructure.

Trade & Transport

In line with IMF's projections for 2020 and 2021, it is also expected that with the trade deficit closing for this year, then expanding in 2021 and beyond. Slower growth in the tourism industry will have significant effects on the economy and the Dalasi. A pickup in remittances is expected and increased investments in other sectors to make up for the loss in output in the tourism sector.

With trade picking up again and borders being reopened, the medium and larger firms should see an increase in revenue as more demand picks up. The limited exposure of MSMEs in the export market means the effects of COVID-19 and the resulting growth effects are muted for these enterprises.

The national state of emergency has affected drivers engaged in the transportation of people and goods. Cross border transport of goods, driven by re-export trade, fell with border closures and transportation of goods within the country has also fallen as a result of the restrictions.

v. Vulnerable groups

COVID-19 has led to a slowdown in the economy, an increase in vulnerable households due to reduced incomes, and increased food insecurity. In addition to the steps taken by government and its partners to contain the spread of the virus, ensuring that society still



functions is also necessary. Those made vulnerable by the pandemic could be negatively impacted by the containment measures by the Government. The most obvious groups affected include daily income earners: petty traders (mostly women), day laborers (mostly men) and commercial drivers. Contractual workers whose contracts are expected to expire during this pandemic also face job security issues given that their contracts are likely not to be renewed. Their vulnerability is related to a lack of income brought about by the restrictions and resulting slowdown in economic activity. This current situation could drive households headed by those in this group below the poverty line. In addition to lower/ no income is an increase in psychological stress brought about by uncertainty. For head of households in this group, the stress of continued expectations of providing for the family in this current climate can potentially lead to stress expressed in other negative behaviors.

Women are especially at risk due to a convergence of a number of stressors; reduced income (if a petty trader), increased burden of childcare (due to school closings) and increased burden of caring for sick household members especially those with chronic non-communicable diseases may increase the burden in the health systems thus, resulting to a reduction in the quality of healthcare.

Steps Taken

Declaration of a State of Public Emergency since March 28th, 2020 and which has been extended on three occasions until end of June
Development of The Gambia COVID-19 Plan which outlines the preparedness and the effective response plan aligned to national disaster plans.

The closure of all schools and universities However, MoBSE has provided alternative learning opportunities using TV and Radio platforms.

closure of land borders and air space and a mandatory 14-day quarantine for all individuals entering the country

Food support for 84% of household in the country.

Annex 4: Matrix on Implementation Status of SDGs

Goal/Target	Indicator(s)	Progress/Status	Challenge(s)																								
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere																											
End poverty by 2030	1.1.1 Percentage of population below the international poverty line by age, sex	<p>Percentage of the population living in poverty (\$1.25) per person per day</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>National</th> <th>Banjul</th> <th>Kanifing</th> <th>Brikama</th> <th>Rural</th> <th>Urban</th> <th>Source</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>48.1%</td> <td>15.5%</td> <td>23.9%</td> <td>57.5%</td> <td>64.2%</td> <td>33.4%</td> <td>IHS 2015/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015/ 16</td> <td>48.6%</td> <td>10.8%</td> <td>17.3%</td> <td>51.2%</td> <td>69.5%</td> <td>31.6%</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three LGAs registered some improvements in reducing poverty between 2010 and 2015/16 and they are Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama. Banjul and Kanifing are entirely urban settlements and Brikama LGA is a predominantly urban settlement. Poverty has increased in the following LGAs Mansakonko, Kuntaur, Janjanbureh and Basse and remains flat in Kerewan between 2010 and 2015/16 (IHS 2015/6). All these five LGAs are predominantly rural. Extreme poverty has increased in the following: LGAs: Mansakonko, Kuntaur, Janjanbureh and Basse between 2010 and 2015/16. Whilst in Kerewan it remains flat (IHS 2015/16) 35.9 % of the rural population cannot meet the required daily minimum calories of 2400 per person even if they limit their consumption to just food (IHS 2015/16) Extreme poverty was estimated at 21.3%in 2010 and 20.8 % in 2015/16, showing a decrease of 0.5 percentage points (IHS 2015/16). 	Year	National	Banjul	Kanifing	Brikama	Rural	Urban	Source	2010	48.1%	15.5%	23.9%	57.5%	64.2%	33.4%	IHS 2015/16	2015/ 16	48.6%	10.8%	17.3%	51.2%	69.5%	31.6%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising level of rural poverty
Year	National	Banjul	Kanifing	Brikama	Rural	Urban	Source																				
2010	48.1%	15.5%	23.9%	57.5%	64.2%	33.4%	IHS 2015/16																				
2015/ 16	48.6%	10.8%	17.3%	51.2%	69.5%	31.6%																					



1.2. By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	■ N/A	
	1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	■ N/A	
1.3. Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	■ N/A	



<p>1.5. By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters</p>	<p>1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="695 201 772 228">Year</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="793 201 1178 228">Number of deaths per 100,000:</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="793 256 1289 284">Number of affected persons per 100,000</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="793 311 1289 339">Number of missing persons per 100,000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 423 772 451">2016</td> <td data-bbox="793 423 842 451">0.1</td> <td data-bbox="884 423 1003 451">1569.2</td> <td data-bbox="974 423 1003 451">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 479 772 506">2017</td> <td data-bbox="793 479 842 506">0.3</td> <td data-bbox="884 479 1003 506">3023.3</td> <td data-bbox="974 479 1003 506">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 534 772 561">2018</td> <td data-bbox="793 534 856 561">14.5</td> <td data-bbox="884 534 1003 561">4090.1</td> <td data-bbox="974 534 1003 561">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 589 772 617">2019</td> <td data-bbox="793 589 856 617">13.0</td> <td data-bbox="884 589 1003 617">4115.8</td> <td data-bbox="974 589 1003 617">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="695 1312 884 1339">Source: NDMA</p>	Year	Number of deaths per 100,000:				Number of affected persons per 100,000				Number of missing persons per 100,000			2016	0.1	1569.2	0	2017	0.3	3023.3	0	2018	14.5	4090.1	0	2019	13.0	4115.8	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1696 201 1892 706">Due to limited capacity, disaster-related deaths in 2016 and 2017 were underestimated. Death figures from fire and accidents were missing in the calculations.
Year	Number of deaths per 100,000:																														
	Number of affected persons per 100,000																														
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2017	0.3	3023.3	0																												
2018	14.5	4090.1	0																												
2019	13.0	4115.8	0																												



	<p>1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising level of rural poverty 												
	<p>1.5.3 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gambia has also adopted and is implementing a national DRR strategy and policy that is aligned to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 													
<p>1.a. Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement</p>	<p>1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Education expenditure</th> <th>Health expenditure</th> <th>Social protection</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>12.5%</td> <td>6.2%</td> <td>0.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>12.6%</td> <td>6.5%</td> <td>0.1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source : Budget estimates MoFEA</p>	Year	Education expenditure	Health expenditure	Social protection	2017	12.5%	6.2%	0.1%	2018	12.6%	6.5%	0.1%	
Year	Education expenditure	Health expenditure	Social protection												
2017	12.5%	6.2%	0.1%												
2018	12.6%	6.5%	0.1%												



<p>implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions</p>	<p>1.a.3 Sum of total grants and non-debt-creating inflows directly allocated to poverty reduction programmes as a proportion of GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 													
<p>Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security & improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>															
<p>2.1 End hunger and ensure access by all people - the poor, and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round</p>	<p>2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Source/Year</th> <th>Stunting</th> <th>Underweight</th> <th>Wasting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>GDHS 2013</td> <td>24.5%</td> <td>16.2%</td> <td>11.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MICS 2018</td> <td>19.0%;</td> <td>13.9%;</td> <td>6.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Source/Year	Stunting	Underweight	Wasting	GDHS 2013	24.5%	16.2%	11.5%	MICS 2018	19.0%;	13.9%;	6.2%	
Source/Year	Stunting	Underweight	Wasting												
GDHS 2013	24.5%	16.2%	11.5%												
MICS 2018	19.0%;	13.9%;	6.2%												
	<p>2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Moderate or severe</th> <th>Severe only</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014-2016</td> <td>52.7%</td> <td>54.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-2019</td> <td>23.6%</td> <td>24.6%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(FAO, State of Food Security and Nutrition)</p>	Year	Moderate or severe	Severe only	2014-2016	52.7%	54.3%	2017-2019	23.6%	24.6%				
Year	Moderate or severe	Severe only													
2014-2016	52.7%	54.3%													
2017-2019	23.6%	24.6%													



<p>2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.</p>	<p>2.2.1. Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24.5% in 2013 (GDHS, 2013) Stunting 19.0% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) 	
	<p>2.2.2. Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 6.2% in 2018 (MICS, 2018) ▪ 10.1% (GDHS, 2013) 	
	<p>2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15 to 49 years, by pregnancy status (percentage)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 56.8% (using a hemoglobin cutoff of 11g/dl) (MNS, 2018) 	



2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment	2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size	■ N/A	
	2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status	■ N/A	



2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly	2.5.1. Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	2.5.2. Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not at risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
2.a. Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development	2.a.1. The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	2.a.2. Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 753,000,000 (MoFEA) 	



2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies	2.b.1.Agricultural export subsidies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information,	2.c.1. Indicator of food price anomalies	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th data-bbox="697 198 785 230">Year</th><th data-bbox="785 198 1684 230">Food price Inflation</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td data-bbox="697 321 785 354">2017</td><td data-bbox="785 321 1684 354">7.4%</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="697 376 785 409">2018</td><td data-bbox="785 376 1684 409">6.5%</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="697 431 785 464">2019</td><td data-bbox="785 431 1684 464">7.7%</td></tr></tbody></table> <p data-bbox="697 928 928 961">Source GBoS, 2019</p>	Year	Food price Inflation	2017	7.4%	2018	6.5%	2019	7.7%	
Year	Food price Inflation										
2017	7.4%										
2018	6.5%										
2019	7.7%										
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages											



<p>3.1: By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births</p>	<p>3.1.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ MMR was 433 per 100,000 live births (GDHS, 2013)	<p>There has been paucity of data on maternal mortality in The Gambia. Before the DHS 2013, the only available data on maternal mortality was from the 2001 maternal mortality, neonatal mortality and contraceptive use prevalence survey and the MMR was 730 per 100,000 live births.</p>
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	<p>3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel</p>	<p>Source/Year Proportion of birth attendance</p> <p>GDHS, 2013 57.2%</p> <p>MICS 6, 2018 82.7%</p>	<p>This increase may be due to community birth companions (formerly Traditionally Birth Attendants) not allowed from assisting during delivery but rather serve as escorts taking women in labor to the nearest health facility to be delivered by skilled birth attendants</p>
<p>3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live</p>	<p>3.2.1 Under 5 mortality rate</p>	<p>Year/Source` Under 5 mortality rate</p> <p>GDHS, 2013 54 per 1000</p> <p>MICS 6, 2018 57 per 1000</p>	



<p>per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births</p>	<p>3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate)</p>	<p>Source/Year Neonatal mortality rate) GDHS, 2013 22 per 1000 MICS 6, 2018 31 per 1000</p>																															
<p>3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases</p>	<p>3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male < 15 year</td> <td>159</td> <td>159</td> <td>166</td> <td>177</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male > 15 years</td> <td>837</td> <td>843</td> <td>853</td> <td>800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female < 15 years</td> <td></td> <td>854</td> <td>134</td> <td>161</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female > 15 years</td> <td></td> <td>1098</td> <td>1105</td> <td>1117</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Key populations</td> <td>N/A</td> <td>N/A</td> <td>N/A</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source (Spectrum modelling, NAS)</p>		2016	2017	2018	2019	Male < 15 year	159	159	166	177	Male > 15 years	837	843	853	800	Female < 15 years		854	134	161	Female > 15 years		1098	1105	1117	Key populations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	2016	2017	2018	2019																													
Male < 15 year	159	159	166	177																													
Male > 15 years	837	843	853	800																													
Female < 15 years		854	134	161																													
Female > 15 years		1098	1105	1117																													
Key populations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A																													



3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population	Year	Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population
	2016	116
	2017	117
	2018	108
	2019	116
	Source: (HMIS, MoH)	



	<p>3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population</p>	<p>Year Malaria incidence per 1,000 population</p> <p>2016 76</p> <p>2017 35</p> <p>2018 41</p> <p>2019 23</p> <p>Source: NMCP</p>	
	<p>3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	<p>3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable</p>	<p>3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	



diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being	3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate	■ N/A	
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol	3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders	■ N/A	
	3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol	■ N/A	



<p>3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents</p>	<p>3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Deaths</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>138</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>129`</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: (GBoS Transport Statistics Report)</p>	Year	Deaths	2015	126	2016	79	2017	138	2018	129`	<p>Data on death due to traffic injuries is not available. Death due to traffic accidents is what is available. It is the absolute numbers and not the rates</p>
Year	Deaths												
2015	126												
2016	79												
2017	138												
2018	129`												
<p>3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes</p>	<p>3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37.6% (MICS 6, 2018) 	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>										
	<p>3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10–14 years; aged 15–19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 67 per 1000 15 - 19 years (MICS 6, 2018) 	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>										



<p>3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all</p>	<p>3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
	<p>3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1.2% health expenditure as a proportion of total household expenditure (IHS, 2015/16) 	
<p>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of</p>	<p>3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	

deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination	3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older	<p>For the population age 15-49</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women 0.4% • Men 18.9% (MICS 6, 2018) 	This indicator is measured in the country for the first time
3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that	3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national programme	<p>TC.6: Pneumococcal (Conjugate) immunization coverage 3.b.1; Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of Pneumococcal (Conjugate) vaccine (PCV3) at any time before the survey -94.0%</p> <p>TC.10: Measles immunization coverage 3.b.1; Percentage of children age 24-35 months who received the second measles containing vaccine at any time before the survey- 67.1%</p> <p>(MICS 6, 2018)</p>	This indicator is measured in the country for the first time



die diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all	3.b.2 Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors	■ N/A	
	3.b.3 Proportion of health facilities that have a core set of relevant essential medicines available and affordable on a sustainable basis	■ N/A	



<p>3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States</p>	<p>3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 5.91 (The Gambia Health Services Assessment Report 2019) 	
<p>3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks</p>	<p>3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>			



<p>4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes</p>	<p>4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex</p>	<p>Percentage of children who successfully completed three foundational reading tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age 7-14: 12.4%• Age for grade2/3: 2.7%• Attending grade 2/3: 5.2% <p>Percentage who successfully completed four foundational numbers tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age 7-14: 8.6%• Age for grade2/3: 1.7%• Attending grade 2/3: 3.7% <p>(MICS 6, 2018)</p>	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
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	<p>4.1.2 Percentage of children in the population who completed: a) Grade 6; b) Grade 9; c) Grade 12</p>	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>G6(7--12 yrs) Total</td> <td>75.4%</td> <td>78.7%</td> <td>82.1%</td> <td>88.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>74.7%</td> <td>77.40%</td> <td>79.70%</td> <td>84.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>76.0%</td> <td>80.00%</td> <td>84.30%</td> <td>92.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G9(13-15 yrs) Total</td> <td>61.0%</td> <td>58.9%</td> <td>59.5%</td> <td>59.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>60.8%</td> <td>57.5%</td> <td>57.5%</td> <td>56.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>61.2%</td> <td>60.20%</td> <td>61.40%</td> <td>61.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G12(16-18 yrs) Total</td> <td>36.6%</td> <td>37.7%</td> <td>39.3%</td> <td>41.90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>37.1%</td> <td>37.7%</td> <td>38.4%</td> <td>40.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>36.1%</td> <td>37.70%</td> <td>40.2%</td> <td>43.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	G6(7--12 yrs) Total	75.4%	78.7%	82.1%	88.2%	Male	74.7%	77.40%	79.70%	84.00%	Female	76.0%	80.00%	84.30%	92.2%	G9(13-15 yrs) Total	61.0%	58.9%	59.5%	59.0%	Male	60.8%	57.5%	57.5%	56.4%	Female	61.2%	60.20%	61.40%	61.4%	G12(16-18 yrs) Total	36.6%	37.7%	39.3%	41.90%	Male	37.1%	37.7%	38.4%	40.1%	Female	36.1%	37.70%	40.2%	43.7%	
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<p>4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education</p>	<p>4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex</p>	<p>For 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional, and learning: 67.0% (MICS 6, 2018)</p>																																																			
	<p>4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 74.6% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) 																																																			



<p>4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university</p>	<p>4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 										
<p>4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and</p>	<p>4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill</p>	<p>Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Gender For the youth (15-24 years),</td> <td style="text-align: center;">General population (15 -49 years)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Men</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17.4%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Women</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7.3%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6.0%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: MICS 6, 2018</p>		Gender For the youth (15-24 years),	General population (15 -49 years)	Men	17.4%	17.3%	Women	7.3%	6.0%	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
	Gender For the youth (15-24 years),	General population (15 -49 years)										
Men	17.4%	17.3%										
Women	7.3%	6.0%										



<p>4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with</p>	<p>4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated</p>	<p>A. Net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls divided by net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys</p> <p>School Level Ratio</p> <p>Primary/LBS 1.06</p> <p>Lower Secondary/UBS 1.30</p> <p>Upper Secondary/SSS 1.11</p> <p>B. Net attendance ratio (adjusted) for the poorest quintile divided by net attendance ratio (adjusted) for the richest quintile</p> <p>Primary/LBS 0.75</p> <p>Lower Secondary/UBS 0.46</p> <p>Upper Secondary/SSS 0.27</p> <p>C. Net attendance ratio (adjusted) for the poorest quintile divided by net attendance ratio (adjusted) for the richest quintile</p> <p>Primary/LBS 0.86</p> <p>Lower Secondary/UBS 0.61</p> <p>Upper Secondary/SSS 0.40</p> <p>Source: MICS 6, 2018)</p>	
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<p>4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy</p>	<p>4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex</p>	<p>For the population 7 -14 years</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Reading</th> <th>Numeracy</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>11.1%</td> <td>6.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>13.5%</td> <td>10.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>12.4%</td> <td>8.6%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: (MICS 6 2018)</p> <p><u>Overall Literacy Rate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male: 61.8%, Female: 41.6% (IHS 2015/16) for the population 15 years and above • Male: 63.4%, Female: 48.1% (MICS 6, 2018) for the population 15-49 years 		Reading	Numeracy	Male	11.1%	6.8%	Female	13.5%	10.1%	Total	12.4%	8.6%	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
	Reading	Numeracy													
Male	11.1%	6.8%													
Female	13.5%	10.1%													
Total	12.4%	8.6%													
<p>4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for</p>	<p>4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment</p>	<p>N/A</p>													

4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)	Proportion of schools with access to	2016	2017	2018	2019
		Electricity				
		Early Childhood Development	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Lower Basic Education	33.0%	36.0%	35.0%	35.0%
		Upper Basic Education	48.0%	51.0%	49.0%	50.0%
		Senior Secondary Education	66.0%	66.0%	58.0%	61.0%
		Internet for pedagogy	NA	NA	NA	NA
		Computers (Lab) for pedagogy				
		Early Childhood Development	NA	NA	NA	N/A
		Lower Basic Education	18%	20	21	21%
		Upper Basic Education	36.0%	39.0%	38.0%	40.0%
		Senior Secondary Education	61.0%	61.0%	61.0%	61.0%
		Adapted infrastructure & materials for disabilities				N/A N/A N/A
		N/A				
		Basic drinking water				
		Early Childhood Development	63.0%	65.0%	61.0%	58.0%
		Lower Basic Education	80.0%	84.0%	84.0%	84.0%
		Upper Basic Education	90.0%	90.0%	85.0%	88.0%
		Senior Secondary Education	89.0%	90.0%	72.0%	64.0%
		Single sex basic sanitation facilities				



<p>4.b By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States</p>	<p>4.b.1 Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States</p>	<p>4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country</p>	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4">Pre-primary (ECD)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>70.0%</td> <td>71.0%</td> <td>74.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Primary (Lower Basic School):</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>89.0%</td> <td>87.0%</td> <td>88%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Lower Secondary (Upper basic School)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>95.0%</td> <td>94.0%</td> <td>95.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Upper Secondary (Senior Secondary):</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>98.0%</td> <td>97.0%</td> <td>97.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	2017	2018	2019	Pre-primary (ECD)					70.0%	71.0%	74.0%	Primary (Lower Basic School):					89.0%	87.0%	88%	Lower Secondary (Upper basic School)					95.0%	94.0%	95.0%	Upper Secondary (Senior Secondary):					98.0%	97.0%	97.2%	
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Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls			
5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yes. Gender Policy (2010-2020), Employment Policy (2020-2025), The 1997 Constitution, Women’s Act 2010, 	
5.2: eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 26.0% of ever-married women report having experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence from their spouse ▪ 12.0% report having experienced one or more of these forms of violence in the past 12 months. ▪ Among ever-married women who had experienced spousal violence (physical or sexual) in the past 12 months, 24.0% reported experiencing physical injuries <p>(GDHS, 2013)</p>	
	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	N/A	



<p>5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation</p>	<p>5.3.1 - Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18</p>	<p>Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18</p> <p>Age</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Before age 15</td> <td>8.6%</td> <td>7.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Before age 18</td> <td>46.5%</td> <td>25.7%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: MICS 4, 2010 and MICS 6, 2018</p>	Before age 15	8.6%	7.5%	Before age 18	46.5%	25.7%	
Before age 15	8.6%	7.5%							
Before age 18	46.5%	25.7%							
	<p>5.3.2. Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Year/source</td> <td>The proportion of women who have undergone FGM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MICS 4 2010</td> <td>76.3 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MICS 6 2018</td> <td>75.7 %</td> </tr> </table>	Year/source	The proportion of women who have undergone FGM	MICS 4 2010	76.3 %	MICS 6 2018	75.7 %	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This is an indication that FGM is still widely practiced in The Gambia despite the enactment of the law banning the practice. 44.0% of women reported that the practice should still be continued (MICS 6 2018)
Year/source	The proportion of women who have undergone FGM								
MICS 4 2010	76.3 %								
MICS 6 2018	75.7 %								



<p>5.4: Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate</p>	<p>5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in politics, economic and public life</p>	<p>5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) National Parliament (b) Local governments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remained the same from 10.0% in 2016 (45 Male 5 Female) to 10.3% in 2019 (52 Male 6 Female) (National Assembly of The Gambia) • 13.8% (144 Male and 23 Female) (GALGA) 	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
	<p>5.5.2. Proportion of women in managerial positions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased from 0.8% in 2012 (GLFS, 2012) to 17.9% in 2018 (GLFS, 2018) 	



5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences	5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	■ N/A	
	5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education	• N/A	



5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws	5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
5.b: Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communication technology, to promote the empowerment of women	5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Male 85.1% ▪ Female 74.1 <p>(MICS 6, 2018)</p>	



<p>5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels</p>	<p>5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Women's Bureau in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance Economic Affairs have initiated a process to put in place a system to track and make allocations of public funds to gender equality and women's empowerment 	
<p>Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>			
<p>6.1. By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all</p>	<p>6.1.1- Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2018 is 33.8% (MICS6, 2018). 	<p>This is the first time the indicator is measured in The Gambia therefore progress cannot be measured for now</p>



<p>6.2. By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations</p>	<p>6.2.1 - Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">30.9% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018).	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
<p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and</p>	<p>6.3.1 Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A	



<p>minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</p>	<p>6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 50.0% (Source: ECOWAS Water Observatory Database, 2018) 	
<p>6.4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</p>	<p>6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 78.0% (Source: ECOWAS Water Observatory Database, 2018) 	
	<p>6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	



6.5. By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100)	■ 30% (Global Baseline Survey, The Gambia Report, 2017))	
	6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin with an operational arrangement and plan for water cooperation	■ 97% or 10,368km ² (Global Baseline Survey, The Gambia Report, 2017))	
	6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	■ N/A	



<p>6.a. By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies</p>	<p>6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GMD79.9 million (ECOWAS Water Observatory Database, 2018) 	
<p>6.b. Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management</p>	<p>6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 40.0% (ECOWAS Water Observatory Database, 2018) 	
<p>Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p>			



7.1 - By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59% in 2017 (MIS, 2017) and 60.3% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) Rural 26.8%, Urban 76.4% (MICS 6, 2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a wide disparity in access to electricity between rural and urban areas
	7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.6% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This indicator is measured in the country for the first time
7.2 - By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable energy 2% in 2019 <p>Source: Ministry of Petroleum and Energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy intensity 0.51 <p>Source: SE4ALL (2012)</p>	
7.3. By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all			



<p>8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries</p>	<p>8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A	
<p>8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high value added and labour intensive sectors</p>	<p>8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



<p>8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</p>	<p>8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in nonagriculture employment, by sex</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Male 64.9 %■ Female 35.1% <p>(GLFS, 2018)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ This is the first time the indicator is measured in The Gambia therefore progress cannot be measured for now
<p>8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in</p>	<p>8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead</p>	<p>8.4.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
<p>8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and</p>	<p>8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	<p>Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18</p> <p>For youth (15- 35 Years):</p> <p>Working age population (15- 64 Years)</p> <table data-bbox="695 402 968 657"><tr><td>Total</td><td>41.5%</td><td>35.2%</td></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>45.0%</td><td>44.7%</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>55.0%</td><td>55.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Urban</td><td>30.6%</td><td>23.4%</td></tr><tr><td>Rural</td><td>69.4%</td><td>76.6%</td></tr></table> <p>Source: (GLFS 2018)</p>	Total	41.5%	35.2%	Male	45.0%	44.7%	Female	55.0%	55.3%	Urban	30.6%	23.4%	Rural	69.4%	76.6%	
Total	41.5%	35.2%																
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Female	55.0%	55.3%																
Urban	30.6%	23.4%																
Rural	69.4%	76.6%																



<p>8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training</p>	<p>8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 56.8% in 2018■ Male: 44.7%; Female 56.3% (GLFS, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ This indicator is measured in the country for the first time
<p>8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms</p>	<p>8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 24.7% and 3579 (MICS 6, 2018)	<p>Baseline data for 2015 was not available</p>



8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment	8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status	■ N/A	
	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	■ N/A	
8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate	■ N/A	



8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	8.10.1 (a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults and (b) number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	N/A	
8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries	8.a.1 Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements	N/A	



<p>8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization</p>	<p>8.b.1 Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy</p>	<p>There is no separate youth employment policy. It is part of the national employment policy.</p>	
<p>Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization & foster innovation</p>			
<p>9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all</p>	<p>9.1.1 Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
	<p>9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes by mode of transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The volume of passengers improved marginally from 2016 to 2018. Air passenger was 171,055 in 2016, 163,337 in 2017 and 209,343 in 2018 while freight was 1,766, 127kg; 1,395,575kg and 1,451, 465kg for the same period respectively. <p>Source: (Transport Statistics Report, GBoS, 2018)</p>	



9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries	9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita	N/A	
	9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	The proportion was 8.3% in 2012 (GLFS 2012) and 2.3% in 2018 (GLFS 2018)	
9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	9.3.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added	N/A	
	9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit	N/A	



<p>9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities</p>	<p>9.4.1 CO₂ emission per unit of value added</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the</p>	<p>9.5.1 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending</p>	<p>9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
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<p>9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States</p>	<p>9.a.1 Total official international support (official development assistance plus other official flows) to infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
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<p>9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities</p>	<p>9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020</p>	<p>9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2G – 96% ▪ 3G - 75% ▪ 4G- 30% <p>(PURA, 2018)</p>	
<p>Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries</p>			



<p>10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average</p>	<p>10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status</p>	<p>10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard</p>	<p>10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality</p>	<p>10.4.1 Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
	<p>10.4.2 Redistributive impact of fiscal policy²</p>	<p>N/A</p>	



<p>10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations</p>	<p>10.5.1 Financial Soundness Indicators</p>	<p>(2016) 37.3% (2017) 36.04% (2018) 32.0% Source: Gambia Data Portal (www.gambia.opendataforafrica.org)</p>	
<p>10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions</p>	<p>10.6.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations</p>	<p>N/A</p>	



10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements	10.a.1 Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff	N/A	
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<p>10.b Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes</p>	<p>10.b.1 Total resource flows for development, by recipient and donor countries and type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct investment and other flows)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent</p>	<p>10.c.1 Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p>			
<p>11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums</p>	<p>11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons</p>	<p>11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries</p>	<p>11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
<p>11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage</p>	<p>11.4.1 Total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by source of funding (public, private), type of heritage (cultural, natural) and level of government (national, regional, and local/ municipal)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



<p>11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations</p>	<p>11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="695 201 772 228">Year</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="793 201 1157 228">Number of deaths per 100,000:</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th data-bbox="793 256 871 284">Number of affected persons per 100,000</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="793 311 1255 339">Number of missing persons per 100,000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 423 772 451">2016</td> <td data-bbox="793 423 842 451">0.1</td> <td data-bbox="884 423 1003 451">1569.2</td> <td data-bbox="968 423 1003 451">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 479 772 506">2017</td> <td data-bbox="793 479 842 506">0.3</td> <td data-bbox="884 479 1003 506">3023.3</td> <td data-bbox="968 479 1003 506">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 534 772 561">2018</td> <td data-bbox="793 534 856 561">14.5</td> <td data-bbox="884 534 1003 561">4090.1</td> <td data-bbox="968 534 1003 561">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 589 772 617">2019</td> <td data-bbox="793 589 856 617">13.0</td> <td data-bbox="884 589 1003 617">4115.8</td> <td data-bbox="968 589 1003 617">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="695 1203 806 1230">(NDMA)</p>	Year	Number of deaths per 100,000:				Number of affected persons per 100,000	Number of missing persons per 100,000		2016	0.1	1569.2	0	2017	0.3	3023.3	0	2018	14.5	4090.1	0	2019	13.0	4115.8	0	<p>The number of affected persons attributable to disasters per 100,000 persons has been increasing from 818 in 2016 to 1,705 in 2017 and to 2,328 in 2018 (NDMA)</p>
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	<p>11.5.2 Direct economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management</p>	<p>11.6.1 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	<p>11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in</p>	<p>11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	



<p>particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p>	<p>11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning</p>	<p>11.a.1 Number of countries that have national urban policies or regional development plans that (a) respond to population dynamics; (b) ensure balanced territorial development; and (c) increase local fiscal space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards</p>	<p>11.b.1- Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Gambia has a collection of policies - Flood Response Plan 2017; The Gambia National Disaster Contingency Plan on Drought 2019-2021; and a National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework that is in line with the Sendai framework 	<p>The number of affected persons attributable to disasters per 100,000 persons has been increasing from 818 in 2016 to 1,705 in 2017 and to 2,328 in 2018 (NDMA)</p>



<p>plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels</p>	<p>11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
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Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



<p>12.1 Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries</p>	<p>12.1.1 Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p>	<p>12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
	<p>12.2.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	



<p>12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses</p>	<p>12.3.1 (a) Food loss index and (b) food waste index</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly</p>	<p>12.4.1 - Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The Gambia has subscribed to various international treaties: Basel Convention, Bamako Convention, Stockholm Convention and Rotterdam	<p>There is no data on the rest</p>



<p>reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</p>	<p>12.4.2 (a) Hazardous waste generated per capita; and (b) proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
<p>12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>	<p>12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
<p>12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle</p>	<p>12.6.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



<p>12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</p>	<p>12.7.1 Degree of sustainable public procurement policies and action plan implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
<p>12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature</p>	<p>12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



<p>12.a Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production</p>	<p>12.a.1 Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in watts per capita)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</p>	<p>12.b.1 Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities</p>	<p>12.c.1 Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts						
13.1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	13.1.1 - Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	Year	Number of deaths per 100,000:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency and intensity of disasters has increased in recent years (period under review) 	
			Number of affected persons per 100,000			
			Number of missing persons per 100,000			
		2016	0.1	1569.2		0
		2017	0.3	3023.3		0
2018	14.5	4090.1	0			
2019	13.0	4115.8	0			
Source: NDMA						



	<p>13.1.2 - Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Flood Response Plan 2017, The Gambia National Disaster Contingency Plan on Draught 2019-2021 (NDMA) 	
	<p>13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Seven regional disaster contingency plans have developed and are being reviewed to align to the Sendai Framework 	
<p>13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>	<p>13.2.1 Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Gambia had developed an ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) since 2015. The country have also started the process of developing it's Long-term Low Emission and Climate Resilience Vision and a National Adaptation Plan. 	



	13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas emissions per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning	13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development			
14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution	14.1.1 (a) Index of coastal eutrophication; and (b) plastic debris density	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	



<p>14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>	<p>14.2.1 Number of countries using ecosystem-based approaches to managing marine areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The Gambian is a signatory to the Ramsar Convention and it is implementing Ecosystem Based Approach through management of protected areas and Other Area Based Conservation Measure such as Niimi Biosphere Reserve 131,000ha (DPW)	
<p>14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels</p>	<p>14.3.1 Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



<p>14.4. By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</p>	<p>14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) for pelagic species: 50,000 – 60,000 MT, excluding Bonga (<i>Ethmalosa fimbriata</i>) which alone has an MSY of 10,000 MT.■ MSY for demersal species is considerably lower, estimated to be between 8,000 – 9,000 MT <p>(DoF)</p>	<p>The Gambia has limited capacity to carry out scientific surveys of fish stocks. Current estimates are based on past scientific surveys carried out by the FAO in conjunction with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).</p>
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<p>14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</p>	<p>14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 66,416ha (All protected areas qualify to be Marine Protected Areas include 6 community PA and 5 Co-managed PA)▪ 92,546ha (9.25%) (DPW)	
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<p>14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation</p>	<p>14.6.1 Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism</p>	<p>14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>14.a Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries</p>	<p>14.a.1 Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets</p>	<p>14.b.1 Degree of application of a legal/ regulatory/ policy/ institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of “The future we want”</p>	<p>14.c.1 Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	



Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss			
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
	15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Gambia (island with gallery forest vegetation type), Barrow Kunda (Rhizophora racemosa mangrove within the brackish), Chamen (R. racemosa mangrove within the brackish water), Demba Kunda (thick woodland forest), Kas wolof (secondary vegetation woodland forest), Badari (shrub forest cover) 26,150 ha represent terrestrial and freshwater (as define by coastal and marine zone report) (DPW) 	



<p>15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally</p>	<p>15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world</p>	<p>15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
<p>15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their</p>	<p>15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity</p>	<p>NA</p>	



biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development	15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index	N/A	
15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species	15.5.1 Red List Index	N/A	
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed	15.6.1 Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits	N/A	



15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	15.7.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked	N/A	
15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species	15.8.1 Proportion of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species	N/A	



<p>15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts</p>	<p>15.9.1 (a) Number of countries that have established national targets in accordance with or similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in their national biodiversity strategy and action plans and the progress reported towards these targets; and (b) integration of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems, defined as implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 194 countries develop National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan which include national commitment to achieve targets (DPW) 	
<p>15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems</p>	<p>15.a.1 (a) Official development assistance on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and (b) revenue generated and finance mobilized from biodiversity-relevant economic instruments</p>	<p>N/A</p>	



<p>15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation</p>	<p>15.b.1 (a) Official development assistance on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and (b) revenue generated and finance mobilized from biodiversity-relevant economic instruments</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities</p>	<p>15.c.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked</p>	<p>N/A</p>	



Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels			
16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
	16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months	For 15-49 Years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1.2% (GDHS, 2013)	
	16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	



16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90.3% (aged 2 -14) in 2010 (MICS 4 2010); 89.2% (aged 1 – 14) in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) 	<p>The age bracket used is different from the SDG target.</p> <p>The high proportion of child being punished is due to the cultural norms regarding child discipline</p>
	16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
	16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	



16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 62.0% in 2015, 72.0% in 2016, 61.2% in 2017, 43.9% in 2018, 47.8% in 2019 (MoI) 	
	16.3.3 Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows,	16.4.1 Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	



strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime	16.4.2 Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments	■ N/A	
16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months	■ N/A	
	16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months	■ N/A	



<p>16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels</p>	<p>16.6.1 Primary government expenditure as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)</p>	<p>Year Primary government expenditure as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)</p> <p>2016 55.0%</p> <p>2017 110.0%</p> <p>2018 54.1%</p> <p>(MoFEA)</p>	
	<p>16.6.2 Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</p>	<p>16.7.1 Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	



	16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance	16.8.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	<p>Year/source Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age</p> <p>MICS 4 2010 52.5%</p> <p>MICS 6 2018 57.9%</p>	The low coverage is due to the use of a manual system that cannot determine whether real time data has all been reported, low community awareness of the importance of birth certificates, the law is not enforced.



16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements	16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
	16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Access to Information bill 2019 has been prepared▪ The draft 2020 Constitution	The bill is yet to be passed into law since 2019. The draft constitution has been gazetted



<p>16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime</p>	<p>16.a.1 Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development</p>	<p>16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ N/A 	
<p>Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</p>			



17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection	17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	Year	Tax revenue		Non-tax revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tax revenue as a proportion of GDP is still low and will be further exacerbated by COVID-19.
		2016	18.0%	1.5%		
		2017	16.7%	1.7%		
		2018	11.0%	0.8%		
		2019	13.4%	2.1%		
Source: Approved budgets MoFEA						



17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	Year	Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	
	2016	60.7%	
	2017	46.6%	
	2018	60.0%	
	2019	60.0%	
Source: (MoFEA)			



<p>17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries</p>	<p>17.2.1 Net official development assistance, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income (GNI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ NA	
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<p>17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources</p>	<p>17.3.1 Foreign direct investment (FDI), official development assistance and South-South cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 17.7M USD (2017); and 28.76M (2018) (source: CBG) 	
	<p>17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (2018) \$271 Million ▪ (2017) \$226.7 Million ▪ (2016) \$205.6 Million <p>Source: Report of 2nd Diaspora Finance Technical Round Table (DFTR 2), 2019</p>	
<p>17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress</p>	<p>17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 106.0% (2019), MoFEA/GBoS) 	



17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	17.5.1 Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for developing countries, including the least developed countries	NA	
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<p>17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism</p>	<p>17.6.1 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ 2% is just broadband access (PURA Annual Report 2018)	
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<p>17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology</p>	<p>17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the internet</p>	<p>Women and men 15 – 49 years who used the internet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Women during the last 3 months 42.1%■ At least once a week during the last 3 months 36.6%■ Men during the last 3 months 59.6%■ At least once a week during the last 3 months 53.0% <p>(MICS6, 2018)</p>	<p>This indicator is measured in the country for the first time</p>
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<p>17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation</p>	<p>17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, SouthSouth and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ NA	
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<p>17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, nondiscriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda</p>	<p>17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ NA	
<p>17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020</p>	<p>17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	



<p>17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access</p>	<p>17.12.1 Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ NA	
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17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence	17.13.1 Macroeconomic Dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development	17.14.1 Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	
17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development	17.15.1 Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ N/A	




<p>17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries</p>	<p>17.16.1 Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the sustainable development goals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ N/A	
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<p>17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships</p>	<p>17.17.1 Amount in United States dollars committed to public-private partnerships for infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and</p>	<p>17.18.1 Statistical capacity indicator for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ N/A 	
<p>17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and</p>	<p>17.18.2 Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Gambia has a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics II (NSDS II) which is in line with the principles of Official Statistics (GBoS) 	



<p>timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts</p>	<p>17.18.3 Existence of a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A National Strategy for the Development of Statistics II NSDS (2018 – 2022) exists and being implemented but not fully funded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Limited funding for the NSDS from the national budget
<p>17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries</p>	<p>17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The data provided below is support provided to the National Statistical office and not the entire National Statistical System \$963054 (2017), \$702,093 (2018), \$1,564,144 (2019) (GBoS and PCU) 	
	<p>17.19.2 Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a) 2013 Population and Housing Census , Source: GBoS • b) Death Rates 2016 (20.0%), 2017 (20.9%), 2018 (21.5%) Source: Registrar of Births & Deaths, MoH • Birth registered: 52.5% in 2010 (MICS 4, 2010), 57.9% in 2018 (MICS 6, 2018) 	



The acronyms and abbreviations below are some of the sources in the matrix

CBG: Central Bank of the Gambia

DoF: Department of Forestry

DPW: Department of Parks and Wildlife

FAO: Food and Agricultural Organisation

GBoS: Gambia Bureau of Statistics

GDHS: Gambia Demographic and Health Survey

HMIS: Health Management Information System

IFMIS: Integrated Financial Management Information Survey

MICS: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

MIS: Malaria Indicator Survey

IHS: Integrated Household Survey

MoBSE: Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education

MoFEA: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

MoH: Ministry of Health

NAS: National Aids Secretariat

NDMA: National Disaster Management Agency

NMCP: National Malaria Control Programme

PCU: Project Coordination Unit, MoFEA

PURA: Public Utility and Regulatory Authority