

**RECOVERY FOCUSED
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

(RF-NDP) 2023 - 2027



Annual Progress Report (APR)- 2023

Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA),
The Quadrangle,
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Special acknowledgment goes to the multilateral and bilateral partners for their continued support towards national development.

Executive Summary

Introduction

This is the first annual progress report of the Recovery Focused National Development Plan (RF-NDP) 2023-2027. The report documents the achievements and progress made in the year 2023 and also provides recommendations with the view to strengthening the implementation of the RF-NDP.

The report assesses progress by pillar, financial performance, and institutional framework for coordination monitoring and evaluation.

Implementation Progress (Achievements and Challenges)

Under pillar 1, the programme is constrained for the year under review because implementation of the second phase of the project has not yet started. Instead, the bridging phase is ongoing focused on completing of the remind activities under phase one pending the finalization of the project document phase 2. The implementation of the PACD phase one (2021/22) achieved great successes and in view of this achievements during the pilot phase, the government is committed to scaling up the PACD to reach more communities and deliver greater services that would have positive impact on the lives and livelihood of the people. A new PACD Phase 2 project document has been developed by a team of experts from government and other relevant stakeholders which is expected to start being implemented in 2024.

Under pillar 2, though slow progress has been made towards the adoption of a new constitution, key milestone registered in includes the consultations on its re-introduction with relevant stakeholders. Prior to the conduct of the elections, the IEC conducted stakeholder engagement with a view to harmonizing the legal framework dealing with elections and took steps to facilitate the delimitation of some new electoral boundaries to promote equal representation in the electoral process. The electoral activities continue as an election bill has been drafted and referred to the National Assembly for consideration. However, due to inadequate resources to carry out more sensitizations and the limited capacity of Independent Electoral Commission to conduct referendum, hindered progress towards its adoption.

Also, limited progress has been made in the areas of decentralisation of land administration; e-land banking; strengthening of the housing unit at Department of Physical Planning; capacity building of actors; development of a national housing policy; formulation of a regulatory framework for real estate development in The Gambia; instituting the new urban Agenda in Africa; establishing planning and coordination mechanisms; strengthening the institutional capacity of the Department of Lands and Survey and the Department of Physical Planning and Housing and Local Government Authorities (LGAs). Additionally, no progress was made in

development of national programme for Low Income Housing in The Gambia; the process has not even started.

Harmonising policies and regulatory frameworks for decentralisation and local governance is a challenge due to the in-existence of a revised Local Government Act to support the decentralization and sound public finance management reforms at the local Councils. The other challenges were inadequate knowledge and skills in programme-based budgeting, financial management, procurement and property valuation.

The realisation of policy and institutional reforms to ensure rule of law, respect for human rights and equitable access to justice faced challenges as the justice delivery institutions are confronted with both human and financial resource constraints in rolling out sub-regional offices to all the LGAs. Another challenge was non availability of land in an ideal location to establish regional offices to facilitate coverage and access to their services.

One of the factors hindering progress for the implementation of the TRRC recommendations is lack of a monitoring and evaluation framework for the post TRRC implementation plan making it difficult to track and report on the progress.

Factors that inhibited progress in the security sector reform include but not limited to inadequate capacity, equipment, mobility, infrastructure as well as budget allocation to facilitate the operation of the security institutions. Also, absence of data management system to ensure timely reporting was a challenge.

Under Pillar 3, the real GDP growth as at end December 2023 fell below the 7.0 per cent target. The current growth in the agriculture and fish production sector is not sufficient to achieve the country's food self-sufficient objective. Moreover, the sector is prone to climate-related events. Lack of proper jetty for the fisheries sector also affects fisheries production.

The Government of The Gambia has shown commitment to achieving sustained electricity generation and supply in 2023. The manufacturing sector, despite having great potential for anchoring growth and diversification, is facing viability challenges including high cost and erratic electricity supply, multiplicity of taxes, and competition from imports. Recovery of the sector in the medium term is expected to remain volatile.

The debt level remains high due to the scaling up of infrastructure projects and preparations for the hosting of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) conference. Headline inflation in the Gambia remained persistently elevated more than expected during 2023. The inflationary pressures were driven mainly by exchange rate depreciation and rising international commodity prices, particularly food and energy.

Under pillar 4, progress was made with regards to early childhood development, school infrastructure meeting the minimum standards, existence of a language policy, and building and revitalization of some centres in Kanilai, Ndemban, Mansakonko, Sapu, Wassu and Mbuguma.

The challenges faced in achieving equitable access to quality and relevant education for all include inadequate school feeding, lack of replacement of donkey(s) in case of death which is a means of transportation for pupils in hard to reach areas, shortage of textbooks in schools especially in the Lower Basic Schools (LBS), inadequate qualified teachers in some schools particularly in the rural areas especially at hard to reach communities, limited financial resource constraint the conduct of monitoring visits and provision of adequate teaching and learning materials.

One of the challenges that hinders the assessment of quality, accessible, and affordable health care services delivered for all during the year under review is the lack of updated data on progress due to delays in conducting timely relevant surveys notably the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) among others. Another daunting challenge that affects the progress in this outcome is the lack of funds.

The assurance of improved nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age is hindered by inadequate investment in nutrition. There is no updated data to measure progress in this area.

Under pillar 5, the agricultural sector shows promising annual growth, but further effort and support is required. Rice production has significantly increased though it still falls short of meeting the domestic demand. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is actively working to enhance both agricultural production and productivity.

The interventions and recommendations of the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), facilitated through project funding has contributed to the increased yield for rice. Furthermore, private sector participation in rice cultivation has also resulted in an expansion of irrigated land, demonstrating the potential for greater collaboration between public and private entities.

There has also been a noticeable increment in poultry importation due to high demand and cost of local production. However, the sub-sector requires increased investments to address existing gaps and enhance productivity. Vegetable production is thriving, but needs more investment to minimize the post-harvest losses

Funds have been secured for the development of a comprehensive National Water Policy that seeks to address critical water shortages, quality standards, and infrastructure development.

Under pillar 6, women's representation in Cabinet, National Assembly and Local Government Council remains the same. However, progress is being made in the areas of awareness creation on women's rights and empowerment.

The number of youth owned business with access to finance has substantially increased. This success reflects successful efforts to empower young entrepreneurs, enabling them to start and expand their businesses, which is vital for economic growth and job creation. Additionally, the number of youth that graduated from entrepreneurship trainings increased substantially.

Under pillar 7, there has been a significant increase in passenger volume by mode of transport in the maritime and river subsectors. With regards to the National Multi-modal Transport System (NMTS) initiative, a concept note has been developed and the Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure (MoTWI) conducted a study tour to Senegal to share and learn best practices.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy in its commitment to achieve universal access to electricity by end 2025, installed Solar Home Systems, Green Mini-Grids in off-grid rural communities and other thermal systems. With regards to access to clean cooking solutions, the Ministry in collaboration with private companies such as DELAQUA and C-QUEST CAPITAL provided clean cookstoves in Lower River Region (LRR) and the distribution is ongoing in North Bank Region (NBR), West Coast Region (WCR), Upper River Region (URR) and Central River Region (CRR).

The African Development Bank, through the Africa Legal Support Facility, provided an advisory support service for the procurement of 30MW dual fuel generator and conducted a comprehensive review of all the legislations that have an impact on the petroleum sector.

The Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy (MoCDE) is on track to ensuring the existence of a second undersea fibre optic cable. Recruitment of a transaction advisor to oversee the deployment of the cable is at an advanced stage.

The National Roads Authority continues to encounter delays such as inadequate funding from government, relocation of existing services on the roads, road encroachment, compensations of affected landowners which often affects the timely implementation of both urban and rural roads.

The challenge in attracting Public Private Partnership (PPP) for the financing of the dry port continues to affect the realization of this milestone. Due to budgetary constraints, it has become necessary for Government to look for PPP arrangements to implement it.

Financial Performance

In the fiscal year 2023, the total donor commitment to The Gambia amounted to three hundred and thirty-seven million nine hundred and sixty-four thousand, six hundred and eighty-four United State Dollars and sixty-one cents (US\$337,964,684.61) The total disbursement was two hundred and seventy nine million, six hundred and ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and eighty-six United State Dollars and thirty-two Cents (US\$279,699,886.32) indicating 83.0 per cent achievement in the budget execution during the year under review. This commitment comprised of twenty-three million, one hundred and thirty-four thousand, five hundred and thirty-seven United States Dollars and sixty-three cents (US\$23,134,537.63) in loans and two hundred and ninety-eight million, eight hundred and thirty thousand, one hundred and forty-six United States Dollars and ninety-eight cents (US\$298,830,146.98) in grants.

Institutional framework for coordination monitoring and evaluation

The establishment of a strong institutional framework ensured that all stakeholders play their role in the implementation of the RF-NDP for a strong accountability and results. Government, Civil Society Organizations, the private sector and development partners all have a role to play, and the extent of their close collaboration will determine the achievement of the objectives of the plan.

The M&E processes are an integral part of implementing the RF-NDP. An M&E plan including a results matrix was developed where each pillar has a set of outcomes, indicators (disaggregated to appropriate level) with baselines and targets to facilitate the tracking and reporting of the plan.

Conclusion

The report underscores significant achievements in various sectors but also highlights the need for targeted actions to overcome persistent challenges. Strategic investments, enhanced capacity-building efforts, data availability and robust policy reforms are essential to sustaining progress and achieving the Recovery Focused National Development Plan's objectives. The required resources to effectively carry out these activities outlined here must also be available as and when needed.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ADRS	Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AfDB	Africa Development Bank
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ANR	Agriculture and Natural Resources
APR	Annual Progress Report
BADEA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
BIA	Banjul International Airport
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
CBG	Central Bank of The Gambia
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
CREG	Centre of Excellence in Generational Economics
CR-ITMP	Climate Resilient-Integrated Transport Masterplan
CRR	Central River Region
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCF	Development Cooperation Forum
DD	Demographic Dividend
DDMI	Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DVOR	Doppler Very High Frequency Omni Range
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ERMS	Electronic Record Management System
EU	European Union
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FLAG	Female Lawyers Association Gambia
FSQA	Food Safety Quality Authority
FY	Fiscal Year
GABECE	Gambia Basic Education Certificate Examination
GBA	Greater Banjul Area
GBoS	Gambia Bureau of Statistics
GCAA	Gambia Civil Aviation Authority
GDDI	Gender Demographic Dividend Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GFRC	Gambia Fire and Rescue Service
GIMES	Gambia Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System
GLF	Government Local Fund

GLFS	Gambia Labour Force Survey
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
GTboard	Gambia Tourism Board
Ha	Hectare
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information Communication Technology
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IDA	International Development Association
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management Information System
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISO	International Organisation for Standardization
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LBS	Lower Basic School
LGA	Local Government Authority
LRR	Lower River Region
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCC	Millennium Challenge Corporation
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoCDE	Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoFEA	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
MoGCSW	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare
MoPE	Ministry of Petroleum and Energy
MoPS	Ministry of Public Service
MoTWI	Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSMEs	Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
MT	Metric Tonnes
NAATIP	National Agency Against Trafficking in Person
NALA	National Agency for Legal Aid
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NBR	North Bank Region
NEDI	National Enterprise Development Initiative
NEET	Not in Employment, Education or Training
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NMTS	National Multi-modal Transport System
NPCS	National Population Commission Secretariat
NTA	National Transfer Account
NTTA	National Time Transfer Accounts
NYSS	National Youth Service Scheme
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

OPEC	Organization for the Petroleum Exporting Countries
PACD	Programme for Accelerated Community Development
PBB	Programme-Based Budgeting
PFM	Public Finance Management
PIA	President's International Award
PLR	Policy, Legal and Regulatory
PMO	Personnel Management Office
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PS	Permanent Secretary
PURA	Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
PwDs	Persons with Disabilities
RAI	Rural Access Index
RF-NDP	Recovery Focused National Development Plan
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SFD	Social Fund for Development
SIG	School Improvement Grant
SPA	Strategy for Poverty Alleviation
SSS	Senior Secondary School
SWEDD	Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend
SWG	Sector Working Group
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TDA	Tourism Development Area
TRRC	Truth Reconciliation and Reparations Commission
TSA	Tourism Satellite Account
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
UBS	Upper Basic School
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
URR	Upper River Region
US\$	United States Dollar
UTG	University of The Gambia
VDC	Village Development Committee
WACOMP	West Africa Competitiveness Programme
WALIC	West Africa Livestock Innovation Centre
WASSCE	West African Senior School Certificate Examination
WCR	West Coast Region
WDC	Ward Development Committee

Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Background and Purpose

The Annual Progress Report (APR) assesses the progress of implementation of the Recovery Focused National Development Plan (RF-NDP) 2023 – 2027 annually. The 2023 APR reports on the progress of implementation of the RF-NDP during the first year. The process was jointly undertaken by the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), Office of the Vice President and the Directorates of Development Planning, Economic Policy and Research, Aid Coordination, Budget, Loans and Debt Management – Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA). The overall objective is to review and assess the progress made towards the realization of the RF-NDP targets in 2023, identify challenges, and recommend measures to enhance implementation in the subsequent years of the Plan.

1.2 Overview and Context

The RF-NDP comprises:

- A plan framework that outlines the goal, three strategic objectives, seven pillars, and an accountability framework.
- A Financing Strategy which spells out the resource requirements (including gross costs, available funding, and the estimates of the funding gaps for all the pillars, outcomes, and programme priorities, including flagship projects). The Financing Strategy is based on three broad sources of funding, namely: (i) domestic resources (public and private); (ii) International resources (public, private, and philanthropic); and (iii) Innovative financing mechanisms.

The Financing Strategy outlines two funding scenarios for the RF-NDP, namely: 1) an Optimistic Scenario which assumes that resources will be secured to finance all the planned actions outlined in the plan; and 2) Conservative Scenario that considers the challenging international and domestic context and therefore envisages funding for only the top priorities of the Plan.

For the optimistic scenario, the Estimated Total (Gross) Cost of the RF-NDP without considering available funding is US\$ 3.5 billion. Available funding based on a mapping of existing and pipeline projects was estimated at US\$ 703.134 million; and the funding gap estimated at US\$ 2.80 billion.

Regarding the conservative scenario, the gross cost of the RF-NDP without considering available funding is US\$ 2.8 billion; Available funding based on a mapping of existing and

pipeline projects was estimated at US\$ 598 million; and the funding gap was estimated at US\$ 2.213 billion.

Twelve Flagship Projects that will have a catalytic impact on the successful implementation of the RF-NDP, were identified. These are:

1. Programme for Accelerated Community Development (PACD) Phase 2
2. The Gambia Transitional Justice Programme
3. Enhancing Efficiency, Professionalism and Performance in the Public Service
4. Improve Land Governance, Physical Planning, and Development Control
5. Macroeconomic Management
6. Achieving Universal Health Coverage/Construction/Renovation of Health Facilities
7. Promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Education
8. Rice Self-Sufficiency – Rice Value Chain Development
9. Youth Empowerment and Entrepreneurship
10. Universal Energy Access and Renewable Energy
11. Rural and Urban Road Construction
12. Inclusive Digital Infrastructure

1.3 Methodology

The preparations of this report followed a participatory approach involving all relevant stakeholders. To ensure uniformity in reporting, templates were developed by the Core Team and reviewed by Sector Working Group (SWG). Following the adoption of the template, it was circulated to SWG members for use in data collection. A template for reporting on allocated and disbursed funds as of December 2023 for projects was shared with project managers. The information collected from SWG members and project managers was rigorously scrutinised using the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMIS) and Meridian at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs.

The Core Team was assigned the responsibility of drafting the report. After a draft report was produced, it was shared with stakeholders from the different Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs); SWG members; civil society; private sector; and multilateral and bilateral partners including the United Nations Country Team and European Union Delegation in The Gambia) for their inputs (review and comments). To validate the content of the report, the draft was shared with sectors for their feedback which was incorporated into the report, thus finalising the process.

Chapter 2: Assessment of Progress by Pillar and Outcome

2.0: Overall assessment of Progress and achievements

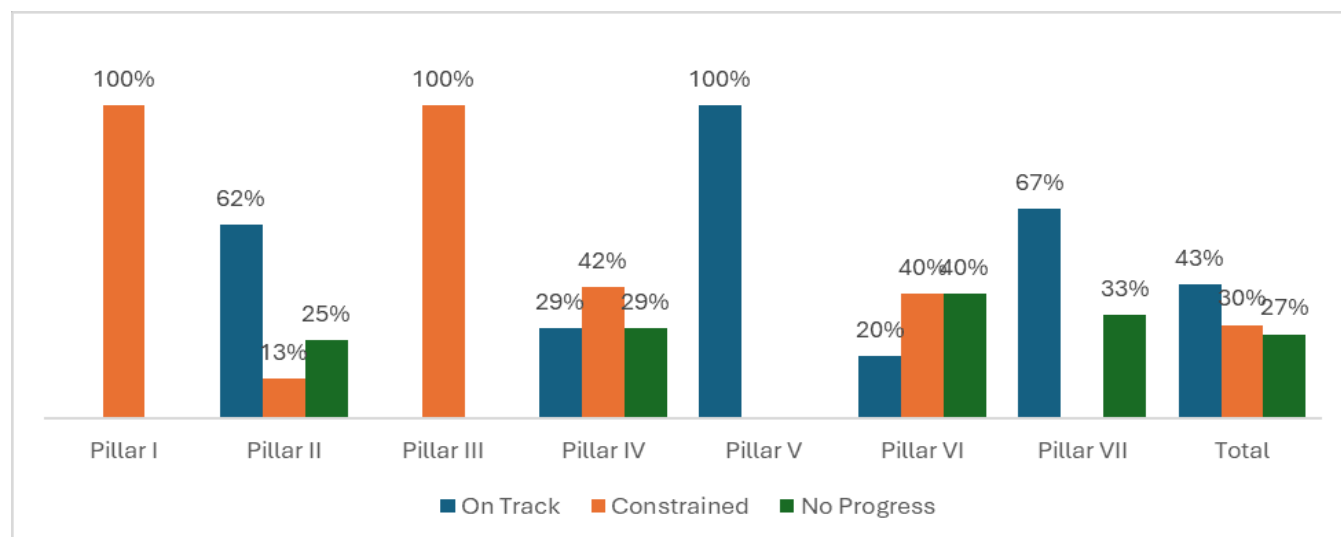
This chapter presents the overall assessment of progress for the first year of implementation of the RF-NDP as well as reports on the achievements and progress for each of the Pillars. The assessment of progress is at the outcome level, through a bottom-up process, based on review of progress made at the target/results level.

Table 1.0: Overall assessment of progress and achievements by pillars

Pillar	Description	Progress on the Outcomes			Total
		On Track	Constrained	No Progress	
I	Building Community Resilience to Shocks and Crises	0	1	0	1
II	Governance Reforms	5	1	2	8
III	Macroeconomic Stability and Inclusive Growth	0	3	0	3
IV	Human Capital	2	3	2	7
V	Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change	3	0	0	3
VI	Empowerment, Social Inclusion- Leaving No One Behind	1	2	2	5
VII	Energy, Infrastructure and Information Communication Technology (ICT) Connectivity	2	0	1	3
Total		13	10	7	30

A comparison of the overall progress among the seven pillars is presented in Figure 1. Out of the thirty (30) outcomes of the RF-NDP, thirteen (13) are on track, ten (10) are constrained and seven (7) registered no progress as at end December 2023 of the year under review.

Figure 1. Overall assessment of progress and achievements by pillars



2.1 Pillar I: Building Community Resilience to Shocks and Crisis

The need to strengthen resilience to address shocks and crises is a key priority for government; the main outcome of this pillar is “*Community level resilience to shocks and crisis enhanced*”. Government, in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), piloted a Programme for Accelerated Community Development (PACD) which aimed to address the rural-urban inequalities and disparities. The programme focuses on the provision of access to basic services, infrastructure, and the creation of a local economy to improve the socio-economic conditions of rural communities. As part of efforts to support communities to build resilience to shocks and crises, the government has initiated a second phase of the PACD, building on the achievements and lessons learnt from the pilot phase. The key interventions of the PACD are the following:

1. Small-scale rural infrastructure for improved access to potable water, energy (off-grid) and youth empowerment.
2. Community food security (labour-saving devices, year-round integrated food production schemes) and environment schemes.
3. Sustainability of services and assets.

The underlying theory of change of PACD is that improving rural infrastructure and providing tools needed for economic empowerment, particularly of women, will lead to improved social well-being through enhanced access to clean water, electricity, and food security.

During the Pilot Phase, 16 boreholes fitted with solar powered pumps that fill overhead tanks from which water is distributed to water points at selected locations in different communities were installed and it served 31 communities. Also, in the PACD Pilot Phase, 10 communities with a population of 2,500 households were connected to the national electricity grid through the rural electrification project.

The pilot phase also provided labour-saving devices such as tractors and post-harvest threshing and milling machines to enhance food security, reduce the work of women and children, and supported economic development. As a result, 19 tractors and 19 labour saving devices such as coos-milling machines, power tillers, and threshing machines were provided to 38 communities, benefiting 2,650 households. These labour-saving devices have reduced drudgery and generated income for the beneficiaries.

The PACD strategy also includes introduction of improved livestock breeds of goats and cows for milk production which have the potential to improve food security and support economic development. In the pilot phase, 12 Saanen goats were procured to the West Africa Livestock Innovation Centre (WALIC) for research and multiplication, and is expected to be disseminated to rural communities during the PACD phase 2 implementation period. Also, a 5-hectare field was fenced at WALIC, and pasture seeds were provided for the production of pasture for animal feed.

Box 1.1: Building Community Resilience to Shocks and Crises			
Outcome	Dashboard		
	<i>(i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)</i>		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress
Community level resilience to shocks and crises enhanced		✓	

Under this pillar, the programme is constrained for the year under review because implementation of the second phase of the project has not yet started instead the bridging phase is ongoing focused on completing of the remind activities under phase one pending the finalization of the project document phase 2.

Progress made towards achieving the outcome - Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones.

Table 1.1: 2023 progress on community level resilience to shocks and crisis enhanced

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Number of communities provided with electricity	10	54	12
Number of communities provided with clean water	31	120	The process has not yet started
Number of youth access to finance (land, equipment, tools)	0	480	The process has not yet started
Number of hectares of land provided with irrigation for pasture growth and exotic animal breeding	5 hectares	10 hectares	The process has not yet started
Number of Communities provided with dairy livestock (goats and cattle)	0	750	The process has not yet started
Number of Communities provided with Labour saving Devices	38	207	The process has not yet started

Source(s): Department of Strategic Policy and Delivery (2022, 2023)

Building on the successes of the pilot programme, the PACD aims to achieve outcome of this pillar by significantly improving the living conditions of the rural population and encouraging the active engagement of local actors in initiatives that could enhance the economic and the social development of their communities. The pilot phase successfully demonstrated that PACD has the potential to make a significant contribution towards building community resilience to shocks and crisis. During the bridging phase which focused on completing the remaining activities under phase one, some of the progress registered includes the provision of electricity to additional 2 communities making it 12. In view of the successes achieved in the pilot phase, government is committed to scaling up the PACD to reach more communities and deliver greater impact. Another key milestone achieved in 2023 is the development of the PACD Phase two project documents by a team of experts from government and other relevant stakeholders.

In the new project document, the scope of the programme is now expanded to cover a larger number of communities especially hard to reach communities. The Programme has five components as follows:

- a. Improving access to portable water
- b. Rural Electrification.
- c. Youth Empowerment
- d. Food Security (Post-harvest, Processing Equipment and livestock)
- e. Sustainability

2.1.1 Factors hindering progress

Based on the final evaluation report of the pilot phase, some of the factors that affected implementation include, inadequate training and capacity of implementing partners, and untimely distribution of PACD project benefits to communities (tractors and labour-saving devices) which was due to delays in procurement processes.

Recommendations on the outcome

Community level resilience to shocks and crisis enhanced	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government should accelerate efforts to secure financial resources for the implementation of the second phase • Timely procurement and distribution of project benefits (Labour-saving devices) • Train implementing partners before the start of the PACD phase 2 	

2.2 Pillar 2: Governance Reforms

This pillar seeks to create the enabling conditions for good governance, including the protection of human rights, rule of law as well as political, electoral, land, climate and security sector governance. Government therefore, under this Plan, made deliberate efforts to consolidate the gains made in democratic governance by addressing its shortcomings which include improving the country’s legal and regulatory frameworks, access to justice, constitutional democracy, transparency, accountability, government effectiveness and regulatory oversight.

Box 2.1: Governance Reforms			
	Dashboard (i.e. Rating on Progress towards outcomes)		
Outcome	On Tack	Constrained	No Progress
A new Constitution adopted, and legal reforms undertaken		✓	
Regular, transparent, inclusive, free, and fair elections	✓		

Climate and Climate Change Governance is enhanced.	✓		
Policies and regulatory frameworks for decentralization and local governance enhanced and harmonised	✓		
Policy and Institutional reforms to ensure rule of law, respect for human rights and equitable access to justice			✓
A reconciled society in which victims are fully paid their reparation dues	✓		
A reformed security sector and adequately capacitated security sector institutions in terms of policies, infrastructure, equipment, and mobility			✓
An efficient, motivated, accountable and results- oriented public service	✓		

There is significant achievement registered during the year under review. Overall, 62.5 per cent of the outcomes are on track while 25 per cent registered no progress and 12.5 per cent showed constrained. The Pillar is therefore rated as being on track.

2.2.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 2.1: 2023 progress on a new constitution and legal reforms undertaken

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of a new constitution	No	Yes	Consultations on the re-introduction of the new Constitution concluded
Existence of an Anti-corruption Commission	No	Yes	An act establishing Anti- Corruption Commission enacted in December 2023
Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) Scores (World Bank)	3.1	4.0	3.1
Mo Ibrahim Governance Index score	55.3 (2021)	60.0	No updated data available
Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)	37.0 (2021)	60.0	37.0

Source(s): World Bank (2023), Mo Ibrahim Governance Foundation (2021); Transparency International (2023)

A key milestone registered on the re-introduction of the new constitution was consultations with relevant stakeholders. The stakeholders consulted were Political Leaders, Inter Party Committee members, National Assembly members, Civil Society Organisations, Religious Leaders among others.

The proposed new Constitution was planned to be submitted to Cabinet by the end of April 2024. It will then be gazetted for 100 days before tabling it at the National Assembly and that will be followed by the commencement of the referendum process in December 2024.

For the Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) Scores and the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), there has been no progress as the status remained the same.

Progress registered under this indicator was the enactment of an Anti-Corruption Act, 2023 which led to the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Commission in December 2023 to provide the needed legal framework for the Commission.

Table 2.2: 2023 progress on regular, transparent, inclusive, free, and fair elections

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Voter Turn-out -Presidential -Parliamentary	89.3% (2021) 51.2%	95% 89%	The status remains the same as the indicators are measured based on election cycles
Local Government Elections -Mayoral -Councillorship	34% 29% (2018)	50% 50%	47.0% 41.0%
Availability of Balanced Electoral Boundaries	No	Yes	Election Bill submitted to National Assembly for enactment
Harmonious Regulatory Framework	No	Yes	Election Bill submitted to National Assembly for enactment

Source: *Independent Electoral Commission (2023)*

Local Government elections for Ward Councillors, Mayors, and Chairpersons were conducted in April and May 2023, a total of 120 Ward Councillors, 2 Mayors, and 6 Chairpersons for the eight Local Government Areas in The Gambia were elected during these elections. The 2023 Local Government elections results showed a 41 per cent voter turn-out for Councillorship elections and 47 per cent for Mayoral and Chairpersons elections which indicated an increase over that of the 2018 Councillorship elections which accounted for 34 per cent and 29 per cent for Mayoral and Chairperson elections respectively.

Prior to the conduct of the elections, the IEC conducted stakeholder engagement with a view to harmonizing the legal framework dealing with elections and took steps to facilitate the delimitation of some new electoral boundaries to promote equal representation in the electoral process. An election bill has been drafted and referred to the National Assembly for consideration.

Table 2.3: 2023 progress on climate and climate change governance

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of Climate Change Act	No	Yes	Recruitment of the consultant to develop a new Climate change Act is in progress.
Existence of a National Waste Management Act	No	Yes	The bill is now awaiting approval by the Legislature

Existence of Water Act	No	Yes	The bill was reviewed by Cabinet which has requested for the removal of the two authorities
Existence of revised Forest Act	No	Yes	Legal Analysis of the 2018 Act completed
Existence of revised Biodiversity and Wildlife Act	No	Yes	The 2013 bill still awaiting approval by the Legislature

Significant progress has been registered in several key legislative areas on climate governance, demonstrating a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and regulatory reforms.

Substantial strides have been made in advancing the National Waste Management Act. The bill, which aims to establish a comprehensive framework for waste management and recycling, has been approved by Cabinet. It is now awaiting approval by the legislature. This critical piece of legislation is designed to address the growing waste management challenges, promoting sustainable waste practices, reducing environmental pollution, and enhancing public health. Once enacted, the National Waste Management Act will provide clear guidelines and standards for waste management operations across the country, fostering a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

Similarly, significant progress has been made on the Water Act. This legislation, also approved by the Cabinet and awaiting legislative approval, is set to overhaul water management practices in the country. The Water Act is designed to ensure sustainable water use, protect water resources, and enhance water quality for all. By establishing a regulatory framework for water conservation, usage, and distribution, the Water Act will address critical issues related to water scarcity and pollution among others. The enactment of this law will be a major step forward in ensuring the sustainable management of the country's water resources, providing a reliable and safe water supply for future generations.

Table 2.4: 2023 progress on policies and regulatory frameworks for decentralization and local governance enhanced and harmonized

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Enactment of a Revised Local Government Act	No	Yes	Regional Consultations conducted
Proportion of Local Councils Operating on a Programme-Based Budgeting	0	100%	The process has not yet started
Number of Local Councils with Qualified Budget officers	0	8	1
Number of Local Councils with Functional Internal Audit Units	0	8	5
Number of Councils with Functional Procurement Units	0	8	7
Existence of a Property Valuation Mechanism	No	Yes	The process has not yet started

Existence of a Civil Society Governance and Management Strategy	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
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Source(s): Directorate of Public Finance Management (2023); Ministry of Lands, Regional Government and Religious Affairs (2023); Non-Governmental Organisation Affairs Agency (2023)

The process of reviewing the existing Local Government Act has started as consultations were conducted in all the regions of the country in 2023 but national-level consultation is yet to be carried out. However, the consultation is stalled because of the Local Government Commission of Inquiry as the findings of the commission will be useful for the revised Act.

The ongoing Public Finance Management (PFM) reforms in the eight Local Government Areas are meant to build the capacity of LGAs on Programme-Based Budgeting (PBB), Public Procurement, and Auditing to increase efficiency, transparency, and accountability in delivering their mandate. The 2023 assessment revealed that seven LGAs (Kuntaur, Banjul, Kanifing, Brikama, Kerewan, Mansakonko and Basse) have established procurement units, five LGAs (Kuntaur, Banjul, Kanifing, Brikama and Mansakonko) have established Internal Audit Units and one LGA (Banjul) has a qualified budget officer to support the said reforms. However, the adoption of the PBB and recruitment of qualified budget officers remains a challenge in almost all Local Councils.

Table 2.5: 2023 progress on policy and institutional reforms to ensure rule of law, respect for human rights, and equitable access to justice

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of Regional Headquarters with functional sub-offices for:			
National Human Rights Commission (NHRS)	0.0%	100%	0.0%
Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat (ADRS)	37.5%	100%	0.0%
National Agency for Legal Aid (NALA)	0.0%	100%	0.0%
National Agency Against Trafficking in Person (NAATIP)	0.0%	100%	0.0%
Office of the Ombudsman	50%	100%	62.5%

Source: NHRC, ADRS, NALA, NAATIP & Office of the Ombudsman

The Judiciary in 2023, disposed of 5,273 cases out of a total of 11,449 cases, representing 46 per cent of overall cases which shows that still more effort is needed in case management. The other activity the Judiciary embarked on was the training of 20 legal practitioners on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) for out of court settlements on civil dispute to help reduce the pressure on the courts.

In 2023, the Office of the Ombudsman was the only justice delivery institution that rolled out one sub-office to the regions (WCR). The rest of the said institutions such as NHRC, ADRS, NALA and NAATIP were unable to roll out sub offices to any of the regions. This is because these institutions are confronted with both human and financial resource challenges in rolling out sub-regional offices.

Table 2.6: 2023 progress on reconciled society in which victims are fully paid their reparation dues and transitional justice attained

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
A post-TRRC implementation plan and prosecution strategy adopted	No	Yes	A post-TRRC implementation plan devoted and launched
Existence of a social service mechanism for victims and victim groups	No	Yes	Medical board is established for urgent medical attention
% of TRRC Recommendations implemented	0%	100%	7.4%
Existence of a Victims' reparation fund	No	Yes	An act establishing Victim reparation fund was passed at National Assembly in December 2023
Proportion of Victims Compensated	0%	100%	The process has not started

Source: Ministry of Justice & National Human Rights Commission

The recommendations of the Truth Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) implementation plan (2023-2027) was launched in May 2023. The implementation plan contained all the recommendations of the TRRC (263 out of 265) with an estimated cost of 150 million USD. Sixty-one (61) governmental and non-governmental institutions are responsible for the implementation of the Plan.

Additionally, the Government has established a Post TRRC Secretariat for the Steering Committee headed by a Special Adviser whose role is to advise the Honourable Minister of Justice and manage the day-to-day administrative and technical activities of the secretariat. The other structures or platforms created to increase collaboration, engagement, and partnership in implementing the TRRC recommendations were the Partnership Platform, Victim Town Hall, and Civil Society Organization (CSO) Platform. A medical board is also established to provide urgent medical support to victims. It is one of the interim measures put in place by the Government ahead of full operationalization of the Reparation Commission and it is being funded by the Government.

The NHRC being the body mandated to monitor the implementation of the TRRC report, reported in 2023 that the Government has fully implemented 7.4 per cent of the 163 TRRC recommendations. The Post TRRC Secretariat indicated that as of May 2023, 6 out of the 263 TRRC recommendations have been fully implemented, 165 continue to be implemented and 91 recommendations have not started.

Furthermore, the Victim Reparation Act which establishes the Victim Reparation Commission was passed by the National Assembly in December 2023 and this demonstrates the Government's commitment to human rights, the rule of law, and justice. Also, the Government has allocated GMD60 million in the 2024 national budget earmarked for the reparation fund.

Finally, to ensure a full, independent, and impartial prosecution of all perpetrators between July 1994 and 2017, the Government has validated and gazetted the Special Accountability Mechanism and Special Prosecutor’s Office Bills in 2023.

Table 2.7: 2023 progress reformed security sector with adequately capacitated security institutions

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of an internal security policy	No	Yes	Zero draft of Policy available
Existence of gender sensitive recruitment and human resource management strategy for security agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Law Enforcement Agency • Gambia Armed Forces • Gambia Police Force • Gambia Immigration Department • Gambia Fire and Rescue Services • State Intelligence Services • Gambia Prison Services • Financial Intelligence Unit 	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of an asset disposal policy	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of a joint training institution for the armed and security forces	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Number of security agencies with planning units	4	8	4
Number of cases of major offences reported <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murder • Rape 	363 (2021)	133	74
	24	10	12
	61 (2021)	33	43
Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	57% (2021)	10%	52%
Number of fire and rescue fatalities reported	48	15	67
Cases of drug trafficking reported	243 (2020)	110	107
Number of road accident cases reported	1218 (2021)	650	683
Number of fatal accidents	155 (2021)	23	78

Source(s): Ministry of Interior; Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2021)

The initiative to develop an Internal Security Policy were undertaken through a nation-wide consultation conducted between November and December 2023. This resulted in the development of a draft Internal Security Policy which is currently awaiting validation.

As part of the ongoing efforts to reform prison services and address issues such as overcrowding and the relocation of Mile 2 Central Prison, a draft prison bill was produced, and submitted to the Ministry of Justice in 2022 for enactment.

In 2023, the number of unsentenced detainees as a proportion of the overall prison population improved slightly from 57 per cent to 52 per cent. Specifically, the total number of reported major offences was 74, which is below the national target of 133. There were 12 murder convictions, exceeding the target of 10, and 43 cases of rape, surpassing the target of 33. These statistics indicate both progress as well as the need for continued focus within the realm of prison reform and service delivery.

The Gambia Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) drafted a Cabinet Paper for the passing of the GFRS Act at Cabinet to enhance their service delivery. The number of fire and rescue facilities in 2023 was 67 which is above the target of 15.

In 2023, cases of drug trafficking reported by the Drug Law Enforcement Agency were 107; below the target of 110. The number of road accidents reported in 2023 was 680 which is above the target of 650. The number of fatal accidents reduced from 155 (2021) to 78 (2023), which is also above the target of 23 intended to be achieved before the end of the RF-NDP period.

Table 2.8: 2023 progress on an efficient, motivated, accountable and results- oriented public service

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of a standardized policy formulation framework for sectors	No	Yes	A study was conducted leading to the development of the guideline on policy formulation
Conduct survey on civil service turnover rate	No	Yes	Questionnaires for the survey already developed
Existence of a new pay policy	No	Yes	A new pay and grading structure developed
Existence of a public service performance management system	No	Yes	A performance management policy developed and validated
Number of MDAs using Electronic Record Management System (ERMS)	5	23	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ministries ● Agencies 	0	20	0
Existence of a Public Sector Human Resources Capacity Development Policy	No	Yes	A committee has been setup to review and update the training policy.

A study was conducted in 2023, leading to the development of a standardized template for policy formulation as a guiding framework for MDAs in the development of their respective policies. This template is currently awaiting validation and will subsequently be presented to Cabinet for approval. A questionnaire for a survey on civil service turnover was developed and has been approved by the senior management of Ministry of Public Service (MoPS). A new Pay and Grading Structure, intended to serve as the de facto pay policy was developed in 2022 but due to financial constraints, it has not been implemented yet. Regarding the existence of a public service performance management system, progress registered during the year under review includes the formulation and validation of a performance management policy in 2023. Progress on the Public Sector Human Resources Capacity Development Policy was also significant in 2023 and included the setting up of a committee to review the outdated 2010 Training Policy, the result of which will be used to develop a new Public Sector Human Resource Capacity Development policy.

2.2.2 Factors hindering progress

A new constitution and legal reforms undertaken

Undoubtedly, the adoption of the new constitution will create an enabling environment for legal reforms needed, but the protracted delay of its adoption is a key factor hindering progress. The Anti-Corruption Commission is delayed in its operationalization due to competing Government commitments, including institutional reforms and transitional justice processes. The other challenges are the lack of resources and logistics, inadequate sensitization on the draft Constitution and limited capacity of the IEC to conduct referendum.

Regular, transparent, inclusive, free, and fair elections

A key challenge hindering progress was the relatively low voter turn-out experienced in both Parliamentary and Local Council elections in 2022 and 2023 respectively. It is widely believed that the low voter turnout was due to voter apathy. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, negatively impacted on the conduct of the 2021 Presidential election. Its effects included disruption in the supply chain of electoral materials and services. Furthermore, the cost of elections increased as a result. There is no progress on CPIA and CPI as the status remained the same.

Climate and climate change governance enhanced

There are still areas where progress is constrained under this outcome. These are caused by factors such as limited resource allocation, capacity building needs among others.

Policies and regulatory frameworks for decentralization and local governance enhanced and harmonised

One of the factors hindering progress is the non-availability of a revised Local Government Act to support the decentralization and sound PFM reforms at the local councils. The other

challenges are limited knowledge and skills in PBB, financial management, procurement and property valuation within councils.

Policy and institutional reforms to ensure rule of law, respect for human rights and equitable access to justice

The justice delivery institutions are faced with both human and financial resources challenges in rolling out sub-regional offices to all the LGAs. Another challenge identified was non availability of land in ideal locations to establish regional offices to facilitate coverage and access to their services.

A reconciled society in which victims are fully paid their reparation dues

One of the factors hindering progress for the implementation of the TRRC recommendations is lack of a monitoring and evaluation framework for the post TRRC implementation Plan. As a result, it will be difficult to track and report on the progress. Also, the Victim Reparation Commission is yet to be operationalized and as result no victim is compensated. The other challenges are inadequate finance, technical and institutional capacity to implement the said plan.

Reform security sector and adequately capacitated security sector institutions in terms of policies, infrastructure, equipment and mobility

Challenges hindering progress include inadequate capacity, equipment, mobility, infrastructure and budget allocation to facilitate the operation of the security institutions. Also, the absence of data management system to ensure timely reporting is a constraint.

An efficient, motivated, accountable and results-oriented public service

Some of the challenges hindering progress include the unavailability of baseline data to assess attrition rates in the civil service, the non-implementation of the new pay and grading structure due to budgetary constraints, the lack of office space for a new Performance Management Unit under Personnel Management Office (PMO). Also, insufficient buy-in from MDAs impedes the successful implementation of the ERMS.

2.2.3 Recommendations on the outcomes

<p>A new constitution and legal reforms undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educate and sensitise all the stakeholders on the adoption of the new constitution to pave way for necessary legal reforms• Commit resources to conduct more sensitization on the new constitution• Enhance the capacity of the IEC to conduct referendum• Prioritize the allocation of financial resources to operationalize the Anti-Corruption Commission and enable it to fulfil its mandate effectively

Regular, transparent, inclusive, free, and fair elections

- Enactment of the draft Elections Bill to ensure support for the electoral reform processes of the IEC
- The need to conduct both Presidential and Parliamentary elections concurrently, with Mayoral and Councillorship, and strengthen civic education and voter registration in order to improve voter turn-out

Climate and climate change governance enhanced

- More diligence required for wider stakeholder consultation and document review for the development of the Climate Change Bill
- Provision of enough resources as well as streamlining the bureaucratic processes of enacting the Climate Change Bill
- Facilitate mobilization of resources and expedite the process for enactment of the Forestry Act
- Implementation of the regulatory mandate of the Department of Water Resources

Policies and regulatory frameworks for decentralization and local governance enhanced and harmonised

- Revise the existing Local Government Act to align with the ongoing legal and administrative reforms in LGAs
- Institutional capacity building, recruitment of qualified budget officers, development of audit charter and manual, and training of staff on PBB to achieve the desired PFM reforms
- Provide resources to establish the property valuation mechanism and civil society governance and management strategy and capacity-building support

Policy and institutional reforms to ensure rule of law, respect for human rights and equitable access to justice

- Provide adequate financial resources to facilitate the rolling out of sub-regional offices for the above-mentioned justice delivery institutions
- Recruitment of additional staff to man these offices
- Provide land in ideal locations to establish sub-regional offices for the said institutions

A reconciled society in which victims are fully paid their reparation dues

- Develop monitoring and evaluation framework for the TRRC recommendations implementation plan to facilitate accountability and reporting

- Mobilise adequate finance to facilitate the implementation of the post-TRRC recommendations
- Build institutional and technical capacity to fully operationalize the post-TRRC implementation plan

Reform security sector and adequately capacitated security sector institutions in terms of policies, infrastructure, equipment and mobility

- Allocate sufficient financial and material resources while enhancing the institutional capacity of security agencies
- Create a centralized data management system for timely access to information among security agencies
- Install CCTV cameras in strategic locations to aid the Police Traffic Unit
- Accelerate pre-trial proceedings for individuals in remand
- Encourage the Judiciary to use custodial sentences judiciously

An efficient, motivated, accountable, and results-oriented public service

- Prioritize the rollout of the ERMS to other MDAs to enhance service delivery
- Adequate budgetary allocation to facilitate the development and implementation of a new pay policy

2.3 Pillar 3: Macroeconomic Stability and Inclusive Growth

Achieving macroeconomic stability and inclusive growth is a top priority of the Government as sound monetary and fiscal policies are important for poverty reduction, social equity, and economic growth. The goal of this pillar is to provide a stable economic environment conducive to foster strong, sustainable, and private sector-led economic growth for job and wealth creation which will ultimately lead to improvements in standards of living.

To achieve macroeconomic stability, the Government continues to monitor the performance of key sectors such as services and agriculture, as the country strives to expand and diversify the economy. Government also continues to monitor and design appropriate measures in response to changes in economic output, inflation, interest rates, foreign exchange rates and the balance of payment.

Box 3.1: Macroeconomic Stability and Inclusive Growth

Outcomes	Dashboard		
	<i>(i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)</i>		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress

Enhanced fiscal and monetary policies, public financial management, inclusive growth, and poverty reduction		<input type="checkbox"/>	
A private sector-led growth with enhanced trade and services, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and increased employment		<input type="checkbox"/>	
A competitive and diversified tourism sector contributing to overall Inclusive growth, job creation and poverty reduction		<input type="checkbox"/>	

All the outcomes under this pillar are constrained. Additionally, implementation of some of the activities under the outcomes have not yet started due to resource constraints.

2.3.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 3.1: 2023 progress on enhanced fiscal and monetary policies, public financial management, inclusive growth, and poverty reduction

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Real GDP growth	5.3% (2021)	≥7.0%	5.3%
Percentage of people below the absolute poverty line estimated at GMD 2,236.85 per person per month	53.4% (2020)	≤48.0%	No updated data available
Revenue share of gross domestic product (GDP)	11.8%	≥17.0%	19.9%
Overall fiscal deficit as a share of GDP	5.7%	≤ 3.0%	3.1%
Debt to GDP ratio	82.8%	<70.0%	74.5%
Annual Inflation	13.7% (Dec 2022)	<10%	17.3%
Net Domestic Borrowing as a share of GDP	0.79%	≤ 1.0%	0.47%
Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) financing of fiscal deficit as % of last year tax revenue	25.4%	0.0%	9.8%
Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) economic management (1=low to 6=high)	2.7	≥ 3.5	No updated data available
CPIA macroeconomic management (1=low to 6=high)	3	≥ 4.0	No updated data available
CPIA fiscal policy rating (1=low to 6=high)	2.5	≥ 3.5	No updated data available
CPIA debt policy rating (1=low to 6=high)	2	≥ 3.2	No updated data available
Gross external reserves (months of import cover)	6.5 months	≥ 4 months	6.8 months
CPIA quality of budgetary and financial management rating	3	≥ 4.0	No updated data available

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020, 2023); Economic Policy and Research Directorate (2023); World Bank (2023)

The Gambian economy sustained strong growth in 2023 despite high inflationary and exchange rate pressures. GDP was estimated to have grown by 5.3 per cent; slightly below the budget projection of 5.6 per cent. The underperformance was on account of a lower-than-expected

outturn in Government construction due to lower-than-expected disbursements in project grants. The domestic revenue outturn rose from GMD14.5 billion (11.8% of GDP) in the 2022 Fiscal Year (FY) to GMD17.8 billion (12.4% of GDP) in FY 2023, reflecting an over performance of 22.8 per cent Y-o-Y. Both Tax and Non-tax revenue collections contributed to the increase of domestic revenue collection. The estimated domestic revenue for the year amounted to GMD17.3 billion (11.8% of GDP), but the actual outweighed the projection by 6.7 per cent.

The budget deficit (including grants) improved significantly by 36 per cent from a deficit of GMD6.9 billion (5.7% of GDP) in 2022 to a deficit of GMD4.4 billion (3.1% of GDP) in the same period of 2023. The huge reduction in the deficit was due to a large grant disbursement received by Government towards the end of the year. The public debt (as % of GDP) threshold as end of December 2023 was missed, in contrast to last year, when it was on track. Headline inflation remained persistently elevated during 2023 reaching a decade-high of 18.5 per cent in September 2023 before gradually sliding down and ending the year at 17.4 per cent.

The targets on Net Domestic Borrowing as a share of GDP and CBG financing of the fiscal deficit were met at the end of December 2023, due to higher-than-expected grant disbursement.

Table 3.2: 2023 progress on private sector-led growth with enhanced trade and services, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and increased employment

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Trade balance as a share of GDP	-34.2%	≤ -20%	No updated data available
Value of total exports as a share of GDP	2.4%	25%	No updated data available
Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	National: 9.1% Male: 12.9% Female: 5.0% (2022-23)	National:14.0% Male:17.0% Female:10.0	No updated data available
Informal sector employment	62.8% (2022-23)	58.0%	No updated data available
Percentage of adults using formal accounts	19.0% (2019)	70.0%	No updated data available
Existence of the National Local Content Act	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Development of a National Laboratory Policy	No	Yes	Availability of zero draft policy

A functional National Quality Centre	No	Yes	Two centres completed
Number of Accredited laboratories	0	3	0
Number of Accredited certification schemes	0	4	0
Manufacturing share to GDP	2.0% (2021)	15.0%	No updated data available
Number of people newly employed	National: 18,168 Male: 10,713 Female: 7455	150,000	No updated data available

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2023b, 2023c); Ministry of Trade, Regional Integration and Employment (MoTIE)

The West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) provided funding for the development of the national laboratory policy and a national assessment of laboratories in the country has been completed. A zero draft of the national laboratory policy had been finalized and shared with stakeholders for comments.

Additionally, progress is being made towards the establishment of a national quality centre. WACOMP, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)/Global Environment Facility (GEF)-UNIDO/GEF6 project and the Ministry of Trade provided funding for two laboratories namely: the National Lighting Testing Laboratory and the National Reference Food Testing Laboratory which are at the completion stage, the lighting test centre is fully equipped and the equipment for the food lab is being procured.

Progress is being made towards the improvement of the manufacturing share to GDP. The Ministry is actively pursuing the construction of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) along the Trans Gambia Bridge corridor. A feasibility study has been commissioned to assess the viability of this project, and efforts are underway to mobilize resources for the necessary infrastructure. Furthermore, the Ministry plans to establish three additional agropolis, to strategically focus on value chain crops along recognized trade corridors.

The Ministry of Trade recently developed a project proposal on Green Special Economic Zones for light manufacturing and resource mobilization efforts to finance the project are at an advanced stage. The feasibility study is ongoing for the operationalization of SEZ along the Senegambia Bridge corridor and two new manufacturing companies have been established.

In terms of people newly employed, slow progress is being made towards attaining the target of 150,000 jobs by 2027. The Ministry has signed bilateral agreements with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Qatar for semi-skilled Gambians to be employed. The bilateral agreement between The Gambia and the Kingdom of Spain is under review and yet to be signed. A National

Employment Technical Committee has been established, and the ministerial sub-committee to advise on mainstreaming employment in private sector activities also established. The labour migration and management information system has been developed and will be launched in 2024.

Table 3.3: 2023 progress on a competitive and diversified tourism sector contributing to overall Inclusive growth, job creation and poverty reduction

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Tourist arrivals	182,795	336,787	206,996
Number of cultural heritage sites rehabilitated	6	12	6
Number of eco-tourism sites identified for upgrading to be more resilient and more attractive	5	11	5
Existence of a National Theatre	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of a comprehensive Tourism Development Area (TDA) land use plan	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of an inter-sectoral tourism Technical Working Group (TWG)	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Number of research conducted on target market and their needs as well as their trends at local, regional, and global levels	0	5	1
Availability of a finalised Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)	No	Yes	The process has not yet started

Source: Ministry of Tourism and Culture (2022, 2023c, 2023a, 2023b)

In 2023, slight improvement was registered in the number of tourist arrivals as the sector embarked on its post-COVID recovery agenda. The sector is continuously embarking on marketing and promotion initiatives such as Public Relations and Influencer campaigns, signing of joint promotion marketing agreements and the appointment of an additional Director of Tourism Promotion to target markets like Nigeria. Additionally, a Marketing Intelligence Committee has been established to monitor social media platforms and track competitors' activities. The Ministry has embarked on the promotion of other niche markets like Birding, Community-Based Tourism and Eco-Tourism which are gaining global recognition for travels, promotion of cultural festivals both regional and national, exploiting the rich and diverse culture of Destination Gambia and the creation of better access by constructing roads and provision of solar lights within TDA 1 to ease tourist movement.

Slight progress was also registered with regards to the conduct of research on target market and their needs as well as their trends at local, regional, and global levels. The Gambia Tourism Board and Gambia Hotel Association embarked on a study tour to Seychelles to learn about their successes in hotel conformity assessment and inspections. The target for the RF-NDP period is to cover 5 destinations, in 2023 but only, 1 country was covered. However, the GTBoard

remains committed to learning from prime tourist destinations to gain knowledge and competitive edge over its competitors.

2.3.2 Factors hindering progress

Enhanced fiscal and monetary policies, public financial management, inclusive growth, and poverty reduction

Real GDP growth was below the target of 7.0 per cent as at end of December 2023. The current interventions in the agriculture and fish production sectors are not sufficient to increase the growth rate and make the country's food self-sufficient. The agriculture sector is prone to climate-related events and the fisheries sector lacks a proper jetty which affects fisheries production.

The inability for Government to provide resources for the conduct of periodic poverty studies is the reason for the lack of updated data on poverty.

Government showed commitment to sustain electricity generation and supply but despite these efforts, generation continued to fall short of demand in 2023.

The manufacturing sector, despite having great potential for anchoring growth and diversification, is facing viability challenges such as high cost and erratic electricity, multiplicity of taxes, and competition from imports. Therefore, the sector is expected to remain weak in the medium term.

The debt level remains high due to the Government's scaling up of infrastructure projects as part of preparations for the hosting of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) conference.

Headline inflation remained persistently elevated during 2023. The inflationary pressures were driven mainly by exchange rate depreciation and rising international commodity prices, particularly food and energy. Though CBG financing of fiscal deficit improved as at end of December, and it is on track to meeting the RF-NDP target. However, there was overspending in personnel emoluments due to higher-than-expected increases in wages and salaries awarded during the second half of the year. Whereas interest payments overrun was driven by an increase in cost of domestic borrowing following several hikes in policy rates by the CBG.

Private sector-led growth with enhanced trade and services, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and increased employment

Some of the factors hindering progress include limited national quality infrastructure to support exports. Supply-side weaknesses include limited production capacity, weak trade support institutions, production and productivity and the high cost and access of formalization of businesses. Other constraints include lack of data from institutions limited capacity of local entrepreneurs, and inconsistent stakeholder participation.

Funding required for the food lab is limited as WACOMP is funding only small/light equipment and furniture. Government labs are not mandatory to be accredited, therefore, there is no commitment to provide funding for the accreditation of these labs. High energy cost, new levies introduced by Food Safety Quality Authority (FSQA), misunderstanding of the application of new digital tax, delay in clearing of capital goods and raw materials all affect manufacturing contribution to GDP. The technical nature of the newly developed labour and migration system is contributing to the slow process of capturing employment data for this reason, there is no updated data for the year under review.

A competitive and diversified tourism sector contributing to overall Inclusive growth, job creation and poverty reduction

The absence of a TSA account due to budgetary and capacity constraints continues to hinder the tourism’s share of employment. The low figure on tourism arrival is attributed to the lack of promotion for the Nigeria Market, delays in compilation of arrival statistics, air access and the absence of a comprehensive market strategy. The lack of funding caused delays in the rehabilitation of cultural heritage sites, upgrading of resilient eco-tourism sites, conduct of research on targeted markets and the construction of a national theatre.

Delayed roll out of the National Tourism Policy and Strategy slowed the setting up of the inter-sectoral tourism working group which is key to the effective coordination and implementation of tourism related activities.

Recommendations on the outcomes

<p>Enhanced fiscal and monetary policies, public financial management, inclusive growth, and poverty reduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite limited policy space, implement targeted and well-sequenced structural reforms to reverse deteriorating medium-term economic prospects and support productivity growth • Government develops and modernizes the agricultural sector in order to increase output capacity. The sector is rain-dependent which makes it vulnerable to inadequate rainfall and climate related shocks • Utilize liquidity management tools to address inflationary issues and complement decisions made by the Government, as real interest rates are negative • Conduct poverty studies every 3 years to ensure availability of updated poverty data

<p>Private sector-led growth with enhanced trade and services, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and increased employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely disbursement of funds for effective implementation of planned activities

- Increase awareness of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) on the benefits of formalization
- Establish a user-friendly online platform for MSMEs
- Increase awareness and understanding of local content for all stakeholders
- Coordinate project funds for labs in line with the lab policy under development to address duplication, wastage, inconsistency and inefficiency
- Government to make it mandatory for any lab providing testing services to be accredited to ISO 17025. Funding should be made available for this purpose
- Reduce the cost of energy and put a moratorium on the introduction of new levies to encourage the investment in manufacturing industries

A competitive and diversified tourism sector contributing to overall Inclusive growth, job creation and poverty reduction

- Government to provide funding and capacity building for the creation and operationalization of the TSA
- Enhance the capacity of Immigration and GTBoard officials at the airports in compiling and inputting data for arrival statistics
- Foster collaboration with Security Port for data sharing and harmonization to avoid the delay in the production of tourism arrival statistics
- Develop a database for the storage, analysis and reporting of arrivals for spotting trends and understanding changes in the tourism sector
- Seek alternative sources of funding like Public Private Partnerships (PPP) to fund the construction of a national theatre

2.4 Pillar 4: Human Capital

The objective of this Pillar is to address the education and health needs of the population, improve nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age and increase access to safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene as means of reducing extreme poverty and creating more inclusive societies, increases in areas such as science, education, and management, innovation, social wellbeing, equality, and productivity which contribute to economic growth and improve the quality of life for the population.

Government plans to develop appropriate population policies and strategies to harness the demographic dividend and socioeconomic benefits of migration for national development. Provision of affordable housing, urban planning and migration are also considered as priority actions under this pillar.

Box 4.1: Human Capital Development

Outcomes

Dashboard

	(i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress
Equitable access to quality and relevant education for all	✓		
Quality, accessible, and affordable health care services delivered for all		✓	
Improved nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age is assured		✓	
Increased access to safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene		✓	
Appropriate populations policies and strategies to harness the demographic transition			✓
Socioeconomic benefits of migration enhanced for National Development and adverse consequences mitigated	✓		
Quality and affordable housing for all and urban planning improved			✓

Overall, this Pillar has been rated as constrained due to lack of updated data to measure progress. The Dashboard shows that 29.37 per cent of the outcomes are on track, 42.86 per cent are constrained and 28.37 per cent shows no progress.

2.4.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 4.1: 2023 progress on equitable access to quality and relevant education for all

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Human capital index	0.42	0.5	No updated data available
Proportion of communities within 2km access to Lower Basic Education	78.0%	88.0%	95%
Proportion of schools meeting Pupil Book Ratio of 1:1	65.0%	90.0%	56.0%
Proportion of ECD school infrastructure meeting the minimum standards	56.0%	70.0%	68.8%
Existence of a Language Policy	No	Yes	Yes
Introduction of competency curricula in all schools (Nursery, Lower Basic School (LBS), Upper Basic School (UBS) and Senior Secondary School (SSS))	No	Yes	Yes
Percentage of students with five credits in West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE)	16.4%	18.5%	16.9%
Percentage of students with Aggregate ≤42 in Gambia Basic Education Certificate Examination (GABECE)	49.7%	51.7%	49.7%

Percentage of accredited institutions by level, Non-Tertiary (Technical and Vocational Education and Training-TVET), tertiary and higher education	TVET: 37.0%	TVET: 80.0%	TVET: 53.0%
	Tertiary: 10.0%	Tertiary: 50.0%	Tertiary: 10%
	Higher Education: 63.0%	Higher Education: 100%	Higher Education: 100%
Proportion of tertiary (including TVET) and higher institutions in the provincial areas	11.0%	20.0%	12.5%

Source(s): Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (2023); National Accreditation and Quality Assurance Authority (2023)

Key factors that explain the performance in the education sector include, policy advocacy on establishment of school outside 2 km radius of existing school leading to a 17 per cent increase in communities within the stated radius, continuous campaign for enrolment, donor confidence due to successful implementation of projects, curriculum review, access to qualified teachers and learning resource such as textbook, learning assessment reforms and School Improvement Grant (SIG). The number of trained teachers increased at all level; to promote quality learning environment and competition within schools; and performance in Gambia Basic Education Certificate Examination (GABECE) stayed at 49.7 per cent while West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE) increased by 0.5 per cent.

As can be seen from Table 1, slight progress was made with respect to Proportion of Early Childhood Development (ECD) school infrastructure meeting the minimum standards, existence of a language policy and introduction of competency curricula in all schools (Nursery, Lower Basic School (LBS,) Upper Basic School (UBS) and Senior Secondary School (SSS), building and the revitalization of some TVET centres in Kanilai, Ndemban, Mansakonko, Sapu, Wassu, Mbuguma among others. These led to an increase in the availability of access to TVET institutions by 2.5 per cent. Additionally, the percentage of accredited institutions by level for TVET increased by 16 per cent, higher education increased to 100 per cent (meeting the RF-NDP target 2027) whilst the tertiary education remained the same.

Table 4.2: 2023 progress on quality, accessible, and affordable health care services delivered for all

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Life Expectancy (years)			
• National	63.4	66.3	No updated data available
• Women	65.9	68.9	
• Men	60.8 (2013)	63.6	

Under 5 Mortality Rate	56/1000 (2019-20)	34/1000	No updated data available
Infant Mortality Rate	42/1000 (2019-20)	21/1000	No updated data available
Neonatal Mortality Rate	29/1000 (2019-20)	17/1000	No updated data available
Maternal Mortality Rate	289/100,000 (2019-20)	135/100,000	No updated data available
Percentage of mothers receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider	98.0% (2019-20)	100%	No updated data available
Percentage of live births delivered in a health facility	83.8% (2019-20)	95.0%	No updated data available

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2013, 2020a)

Government seeks to improve the health system through more effective delivery of health services by putting in place Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which includes the provision of quality and equitable essential health services for all, financial risk protection and equity health promotion and social determinants of health and integrated health information systems and research. The Ministry of Health set targets for: the reduction of maternal, new-born, infant, child and adolescent morbidity and mortality and improvement of adolescent and youth health; improve the proportion of mothers receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider and enhanced capacity to respond to public health emergencies.

All the indicators are assessed using data from household surveys except life expectancy which is from the population and housing census. As these surveys are conducted periodically and population and housing censuses conducted every 10 years, there is no up to data and therefore progress cannot be measured.

Table 4.3: 2023 progress on improved nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age is assured.

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Stunting rate for children under 5years	17.5% (2019-20)	14.7%	No updated data available
Underweight for children under 5years	11.6% (2019-20)	9.7%	No updated data available
Wasting rate for children under 5years	5.1% (2019-20)	5.0%	No updated data available
Prevalence of anaemia in women of childbearing age	44.3% (2019-20)	35.0%	No updated data available
Exclusive breastfeeding rate under 6 months	53.6% (2019-20)	60.0%	No updated data available
Prevalence of overweight and obesity among adults	36.4% (2019-20)	21.6%	No updated data available

Source: Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020a)

The country aims to address the triple burden of malnutrition i.e., undernutrition, overnutrition and micronutrient malnutrition. Undernutrition continues to be a major public health problem in The Gambia, especially for children under five years of age.

The data needed to assess the status of all the indicators is obtained from household surveys and as these surveys are conducted periodically, there is no up-to-date data and therefore, progress cannot be measured.

Table 4.4: 2023 progress on increased access to safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of the population with improved sources of safe drinking water	94.1% (2019-20)	100%	No updated data available
Proportion of the population using safely managed drinking water			
<i>National</i>	33.8%	35.8%	No updated data available
<i>Rural</i>	1.9%	5.0%	No updated data available
<i>Urban</i>	49.8% (2018)	52.0%	No updated data available
Proportion of the population with access to improved sanitation facilities	71.5% (2019-20)	75.0%	No updated data available
Proportion of households with handwashing facility where water and soap or detergent are present			No updated data available
• National	30.9%	75.0%	
• Rural	29.0%	50.0%	
• Urban	31.8% (2018)	80.0%	

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2018, 2020a)

The aim of this outcome is to improve access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene which is essential to people’s good health and development. Programmes are intended to enhance community engagement in sanitation issues around public places, markets, and garages through the construction of public latrines; capacity building within community structures for proper upkeep to ensure hygiene; and improving access to basic sanitation in schools and riverine communities by stopping open defecation.

Due to insufficient data, it was difficult to assess progress with respect to the proportion of the population with access to improved sanitation facilities and the proportion of households with handwashing facility where water and soap or detergent are present. Also, the proportion of the population with improved sources of safe drinking could not be assessed due to lack of updated data.

Table 4.5: 2023 progress on appropriate populations policies and strategies to harness the demographic transition.

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of a demographic dividend profile using the National Transfer Account (NTA) Model	No	Yes	Profile has been successfully developed along with Monitoring tools: Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index (DDMI) & Gender Demographic Dividend Index (GDDI)
Existence of National roadmap for harnessing the demographic dividend	No	Yes	Process has not yet started
Number of planners trained on integration of demographic variables	0	42	Process has not yet started
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR)	19.0% (2019-20)	35.0%	No updated data available
Teenage childbearing	14.0% (2019-20)	10.0%	No updated data available
Existence of integration Module and software for integration	No	Yes	Process has not yet started
Existence of Demographic Dividend and gender sensitive Budgeting	No	Yes	Process has not yet started
Total Fertility Rate	4.4 /woman (2019-20)	4	No updated data available
Existence of a functional National Observatory on Demographic Dividend	No	Yes	National Observatory established

Source(s): National Population Commission Secretariat (NPCS); Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020a)

Two of the indicators are on track to be achieved during the year under review, no progress is made towards four of the indicators; existence of national roadmap for harnessing the demographic dividend; number of planners trained on integration of demographic variables; existence of integration module and software for integration and existence of Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (DD) and gender sensitive budgeting. In 2023, the National Population Commission Secretariat (NPCS) with support from partners successfully developed the National Transfer Account (NTA) and the Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index (DDMI) profiles for The Gambia and presented to the Vice President. The result from the analysis shows a greater potential for the country to reap its demographic dividend resulting from the change in its age structure overtime. Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the University of The Gambia (UTG) and the Centre of Excellence in Generational Economics (CREG) making The Gambia a member of the NTA network of the sub-region which will eventually facilitate the country's integration into the global NTA network.

Progress cannot be assessed on three indicators: Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR), teenage childbearing and total fertility rate due to unavailability of updated data.

Table 4.6: 2023 progress on socioeconomic benefits of migration enhanced for national development and adverse consequences mitigated.

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Value of annual remittance flow (US\$)	712.5M (US\$) (2022)	1.08 billion (US\$)	737.12M (US\$)
Diaspora voting in national elections	No	Yes	No
Existence of an amended Trafficking in Person Act	No	Yes	No
Number of migrant returnees provided with return/arrival assistance by sex	National:7,774 Male: 7,550 Female: 224	National:2,700 Male: 2,623 Female: 78	National:3,452 Male: 3,314 Female: 138
Number of returnees' reintegration assistant to training programmes disaggregated by sex	National: 6,035 Male: 5,819 Female: 216	National: 2,340 Male: 2,256 Female: 84	National: 1,367 Male: 1,312 Female: 55

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020a), Independent Electoral Commission, (Reamended Trafficking in Persons Act), NAATIP; International Organisation for Migration (2023); Central Bank of The Gambia (2023)

Migration programmes and activities are implemented through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad and the Ministry of Interior (Immigration Department). There are plans to create conditions for migrants and diasporas to easily contribute to sustainable national development; enhance consular protection assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle, manage borders in integrated, secure, and coordinated ways and prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants internationally.

To this end, the intention is to minimise the push factors (adversity, structural realities) behind irregular migration; and enhance opportunities and pathways for those eligible for regular migration and reduce rural urban migration through decentralisation of basic and social amenities.

Significant progress has been made on 3 indicators: value of annual remittance flow; number of migrant returnees provided with return/arrival and number of returnees' reintegration assistant to training programmes disaggregated by sex.

There is no progress on diaspora voting in national elections and existence of an amended Trafficking in Person Act.

Table 4.7: 2023 progress on quality and affordable housing for all and urban planning improved.

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of a National Housing Policy	No	Yes	Process has not yet started
Existence of a National Programme for Low Income Housing	No	Yes	Process has not yet started

Source(s): Department of Physical Planning and Housing (2022)

On Housing, Government intends to provide affordable and quality housing for low- income earners and improve urban planning to reduce overcrowding within urban areas, reduced number of slum-like settlements, more planned and organised settlements, and reduction in house rents. Government also plans to undertake a feasibility study on the establishment of a Ministry for Urbanisation and Urban Planning to move away from the current fragmented approach to urban planning.

No progress has been made particularly on decentralisation of land administration; e-land banking; capacity building of actors; development of a national housing policy; formulation of a regulatory framework for real estate development in The Gambia; instituting the new urban Agenda in Africa; establishing planning and coordination mechanisms; strengthening the institutional capacity of the Department of Lands, Surveys and the Department of Physical Planning and Housing and Local Government Authorities (LGA). Also, no progress was made in development of National Programme for Low Income Housing in The Gambia.

2.4.2 Factors hindering progress

Equitable access to quality and relevant education for all

The challenges that hinder access, equity, retention, quality and relevance in the education sector include inadequate schools feeding; lack of replacement of donkey(s) in case of death (which is a means of transportation for pupils in hard-to-reach areas); shortage of textbooks in schools especially in the LBS; inadequate number of qualified teachers in some schools particularly in remote areas and some deprived communities; limited financial resource to conduct monitoring visits and provision of teaching and learning materials.

Quality, accessible, and affordable health care services delivered for all

One of the biggest challenges to measuring progress in this outcome is lack of updated data due to the delay in conducting timely and relevant surveys. Secondly, inadequate funding is also a major challenge for implementations of planned priorities under this outcome.

Improved nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age is assured

Inadequate investment in nutrition continues to hinder progress in this sector particularly low dietary diversity and quality of the diets due to increase food insecurity. Inadequate funding to conduct survey also hinders the assessment of progress of this outcome.

Increased access to safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene

Due to unavailability of updated data, progress cannot be determined with respect to the outcome.

Appropriate populations policies and strategies to harness the demographic transition

Challenges include the absence of data especially on unpaid domestic work resulting to NPCs not being able to develop the Gambia’s National Time Transfer Accounts (NTTA) profile which is key in explaining the country’s demographic profile, and insufficient budgetary allocation from Government Local Fund (GLF).

Socioeconomic benefits of migration enhanced for national development and adverse consequences mitigated

The challenges included high cost of remittances in some countries; financial challenges with the maintenance of the marble-voting system and absence of a legal bill on diaspora voting; some returnees continue to attempt to undertake the irregular journey again, even after receiving support.

Quality and affordable housing for all and urban planning improved

Quality and affordable housing for all has been a major challenge encountered by this sector especially the lack of decentralization of land administration, e-land banking; low capacity of the housing unit at the Department of Physical Planning and other actors; and the absent of a national housing policy and regulatory framework for real estate development in the country.

Recommendations on the outcomes

Equitable access to quality and relevant education for all
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate more resources for capacity building programmes especially for trainers and administrators • Provision of adequate learning resources and qualified teachers • Minimum infrastructure standard for all ECDs

Quality, accessible, and affordable health care services delivered for all
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provision of funds for regular conduct of the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) to enhance assessment of progress

Improved nutritional status of children under five years and women of child-bearing age is assured.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of funds for regular conduct of the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)

Increased access to safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and hygiene
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of funds for regular conduct of the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)/Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)

Appropriate populations policies and strategies to harness the demographic transition.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely funds support from the Sahel Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) + Project for implementation • Provision of funds for regular conduct of DHS/MICS

- Partnership and collaboration with key MDAs to support implementations
- Increase budgetary allocation from GLF
- Strengthen capacity in demography for the provision of timely and reliable data

Socioeconomic benefits of migration enhanced for national development and adverse consequences mitigated.

- Cost of remittance to be brought down below the target of 3 per cent by 2030
- Greater engagements with the National Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and IEC on diaspora voting
- Expand the legal efforts including the passing of anti-smuggling bill to help prevent irregular journeys
- Support youth and groups most vulnerable and likely to undertake the irregular journey or fall into the hands of smugglers or traffickers

Quality and affordable housing for all and urban planning improved.

- Enhance coordination by the concern MDAs for affordable housing scheme for all to kicks start
- Government to decentralise land administration
- Capacity building for Department of Physical Planning staff and other actors to support urban planning

2.5 Pillar 5: Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

The Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) sector is a vital driver of economic growth in The Gambia, offering livelihood opportunities for a significant portion of the population. This sector encompasses a wide range of programme activities, including crop production and livestock rearing, forestry and fisheries, each playing a crucial role in enhancing food security and employment.

The Government is committed to reinvigorating the ANR sector through strategic initiatives aimed at increasing productivity and market access with efforts being made to provide farmers with better access to improved seeds, and sustainable farming practices among others.

Furthermore, the Government is focused on enhancing the resilience of the ANR sector to climate change. This includes implementing adaptive strategies and promoting climate-smart agriculture to mitigate the adverse effects of changing weather patterns on agricultural production. Conservation of natural resources is also a key focus, with initiatives aimed at sustainable land management, reforestation, and the protection of biodiversity.

By addressing these challenges and capitalizing on the opportunities within the ANR sector, The Gambia aims to transform its agricultural landscape by ensuring food security, increasing rural incomes, and promoting sustainable economic growth. The Government's commitment to

this pillar reflects its broader vision of achieving a resilient and diversified economy that benefits all Gambians.

Box 5.1: Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change			
Outcomes	Dashboard		
	<i>(i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)</i>		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress
A modern, productive, and sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, economic growth and poverty reduction	□		
A vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector contributing to economic growth and employment creation	□		
Sustainable environmental and natural resources management, enhanced climate action, and disaster risk reduction	□		

Overall, all the outcomes under this pillar are on track to be achieved during the year under review.

2.5.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 5.1: 2023 progress on a modern, productive, and sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, economic growth and poverty reduction.

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Agriculture contribution to GDP	25.4% (2021)	30.1%	23.4%
Annual Agriculture growth rate	13.7% (2021)	10.0%	3.7%
Annual Value of rice imports (Metric Tonnes)	198,425	98,443	254,015
Annual Value of poultry imports in Gambian Dalasi (GMD)	825,065	0	1,067,315
Area of land under cultivation (Ha)			
· Rice (Ha)	44,241 (2021)	77,869	47,898
· Maize (Ha)	25,246 (2021)	40,665	26,325
Annual production (Metric Tonnes)			
· Rice (MT)	41,910 (2021)	194,674	47,410
· Maize (MT)	19,614 (2021)	81,330	21,220
Cereals yield (Metric Tons per Hectare)			
· Rice (MT/Ha)	0.95 (2021)	2.5	0.99
· Maize (MT/Ha)	0.78 (2021)	2	0.81
Volume of poultry meat produced annually Metric Tonnes (MT)	370.61 (2022)	1,150	308.85
	10,285.34	50,000	10,695.75

Volume of vegetable produced annually Metric Tonnes (MT)			
Volume of production of small ruminant meat annually Metric Tonnes (MT)	555.96	1,550	447.31
Small ruminant mortality rate	40.0% (2022)	10.0%	22.0%
Area of land under irrigation practices	8,124.08	20,000	8,413

Source(s): Data on Agriculture contribution to GDP and annual growth rate are estimates from MoFEA, Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2023b); Department of Agriculture (2023); Department of Livestock Services (2023)

Annual growth rate in the agricultural sector is increasing, however further efforts and support are required to fully meet its potential. Notably, rice production has increased though it still falls short of meeting the demand. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is actively working to enhance both agricultural production and productivity. The performance of rice and maize in terms of both increased cultivation area and production volume are largely attributed to project support to MoA. The interventions and recommendations by the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), which have been facilitated through project funding contributed to increase yield for rice. Furthermore, private sector participation in rice cultivation has resulted in an expansion of irrigated land, demonstrating the potential for greater collaboration between public and private entities.

There has also been a noticeable increment in poultry importation due to high demand and cost of local poultry production. This sub-sector requires increased investment to address existing gaps and enhance productivity.

Alternatively, vegetable production is thriving, yet it needs more investment to minimize post-harvest losses of local farmers.

Table 5.2: 2023 progress on a vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector contributing to economic growth and employment creation

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of inland Fisheries Masterplan	No	Yes	The recruitment of the consultant has been initiated and the Plan is expected to be validated by December 2024.
Existence of National Monitoring Control and Surveillance Strategy	No	Yes	The IUU Strategy is currently being developed
Number of Artisanal fish landing sites with modern postharvest management structures	11	30	13
Fisheries contribution to GDP	11.6%	15.7%	10.0%
Existence of artisanal fisheries and aquaculture insurance policy	No	Yes	A sectoral sub-committee had been constituted to spearhead the policy formulation
Degree of IWRM Implementation	31.0%	100.0%	37%
Existence of National Water Policy	No	Yes	The recruitment of the consultant had been initiated.
Proportion of population having access to early warning information	60.0% (2023)	100.0%	60%

Source(s): Data on Fisheries contribution to GDP are estimates from Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MoFEA), Department of Fisheries (2023); Department of Water Resources (2023)

Significant advancements have been made in upgrading artisanal fish landing sites with modern postharvest management structures. These improvements include the construction of new facilities for processing, storage, and distribution, which help in reducing postharvest losses and maintaining fish quality. The proportion of sites with these enhancements has steadily increased, leading to better economic returns for local fishers and improved food safety standards.

The development of an insurance policy for artisanal fisheries and aquaculture is well underway. This policy will provide financial protection against risks such as natural disasters, market fluctuations, and disease outbreaks. Consultations with stakeholders have been completed, and a draft policy is being developed. Once implemented, this insurance policy will enhance the resilience and sustainability of the fisheries sector.

Funds have been secured for the development of a comprehensive National Water Policy. This policy will address critical issues such as water allocation, quality standards, and infrastructure development. It will also outline strategies for adapting to climate change and managing water resources sustainably. The existence of this policy will provide a strong foundation for effective water governance and ensure the long-term availability of water resources for all users.

Table 5.3: 2023 progress on sustainable environmental and natural resources management, enhanced climate action, and disaster risk reduction

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Existence of National Policy on Minimum Tree Cover	No	Yes	Awaiting submission to cabinet for approval
Creation of a Climate Change Budget Code	No	Yes	A pilot lead has been hired for the budget code creation.
Existence of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Secretariat	No	Yes	Bill developed for the establishment, awaiting cabinet approval.
Hectares of Coastal and Marine Protected Areas Gazetted	64,253ha	82,753ha	64,253ha
Existence of weather-based index risk financing mechanism	No	Yes	Index product designed and validated on Groundnut, Millet, Maize, and Rainfed Rice.

Source(s): Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (2023)

Substantial strides have been made in establishing a national policy on minimum tree cover. The draft policy has been validated with consultations and reviews with diverse stakeholders. This policy: aimed at enhancing forest conservation and increasing green cover, is now poised for submission to Cabinet for approval. Once approved, it will provide a robust framework for sustainable forestry practices and contribute to national environmental goals.

Similarly, considerable advancement has been made regarding the establishment of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Secretariat. A comprehensive bill has been developed to formalize the creation of this Secretariat, which will oversee and coordinate efforts related to coastal zone management. This bill has undergone rigorous scrutiny and is currently awaiting Cabinet approval. The establishment of the ICZM Secretariat is expected to significantly bolster efforts to manage and protect coastal resources and ensure sustainable use and resilience against climate impacts.

Furthermore, an index-based insurance product has been designed and validated for key crops including groundnut, millet, maize, and rain-fed rice. This product aims to provide farmers with a reliable risk management tool tailored to the specific needs of these essential crops. In addition, comprehensive criteria have been developed for the selection of micro-insurance participants, ensuring that the most vulnerable and eligible farmers are included in the pilot phase. This initiative is set to commence during the 2024 cropping season, marking a significant step forward in enhancing agricultural resilience and supporting sustainable farming practices. The pilot phase will not only test the effectiveness of the index-based insurance product but also gather crucial data and feedback to refine and scale the programme.

2.5.2 Factors hindering progress

A modern, productive, and sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, economic growth and poverty reduction.

The agricultural sector faces significant challenges due to limited funding for the development and implementation of advanced technologies. Increased investment is essential to enhance productivity and efficiency. The lack of specific projects for poultry production, coupled with inadequate land development and limited farming equipment, further hampers progress. Addressing these issues requires dedicated projects, better resource allocation, and modern farming tools.

Several factors influence demand and supply within the sector. High taxes and restrictive government regulations hinder growth, while the market power of suppliers, availability of substitute goods, and economic cycles create additional challenges. Adaptive strategies and supportive policies are needed to stabilize the market. Furthermore, there is insufficient support for research and development, particularly for rice technologies, which limits innovation and improved crop varieties.

Other critical areas requiring attention include the need for a comprehensive horticultural survey to inform decision-making, streamlining procurement processes to avoid delays, and addressing the shortage of qualified veterinarians to manage livestock diseases. Land acquisition and tenure system issues also pose barriers to agricultural expansion, necessitating policy reforms and clear regulations to facilitate growth.

A vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector contributing to economic growth and employment creation

Limited resources at the sectoral level hinder the full implementation of key priority programmes, such as modern post-harvest management structures and insurance policies. This could compromise the sustainability and effectiveness of these initiatives. Additionally, insufficient human capacity poses a significant challenge, particularly in implementing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). Without a well-trained workforce, the full potential of IWRM may not be realized, leading to suboptimal outcomes in water resource management.

Sustainable environmental and natural resources management, enhanced climate action, and disaster risk reduction

Resource allocation remains a significant challenge, affecting the implementation of key interventions. Bureaucratic issues also pose obstacles, slowing down decision-making processes and delaying the implementation of critical interventions.

Recommendations on the outcomes

A modern, productive, and sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, economic growth and poverty reduction.

- Support development of agricultural technologies to boost productivity
- Assist MoA in addressing demand and supply factors
- Encourage local production at family farms; increase funding for maize production to make poultry feeds available
- Increase financing for land development, quality seeds, fertilizers, and equipment
- Provide affordable equipment, seeds, fertilizers, and timely ploughing services
- Enhance financial support for NARI to improve rice variety trials in different ecologies
- Increase funding for NARI to conduct maize variety trials in different ecologies
- Develop a poultry production project to boost meat productivity
- Availability of land use policy
- Support development of new technologies for increased horticultural production
- Launch a second phase of the Small Ruminant Production and Enhancement Project to address identified gaps

A vibrant fisheries and aquaculture sector contributing to economic growth and employment creation

- Significantly boost funding and resource allocation to the sector to support its growth and development
- Training to strengthen the skills and expertise of sector professionals
- Accelerate the proposed reforms in the water sector to improve the implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management

Sustainable environmental and natural resources management, enhanced climate action, and disaster risk reduction

- Expedite Cabinet Paper to secure cabinet approval promptly
- Allocate sufficient resources and technical expertise for efficient project implementation
- Improve site management through stronger surveillance and law enforcement
- Revise Insurance Act to include micro and meso risk financing mechanisms
- Promote stakeholder participation to foster inclusiveness and ownership
- Administrative reforms to improve efficiency and reduce delays in implementation

2.6 Pillar 6: Empowerment, Social Inclusion- Leaving No One Behind

This pillar seeks to empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all. Government is committed to addressing the issues of empowerment, social inclusion,

discrimination and stigmatisation of women, children, persons with disabilities, and older persons.

To address these issues and ensure the proper and effective implementation of programmes, five (5) outcomes have been identified.

Box 6.1 Empowerment, Social Inclusion- Leaving No One Behind			
Outcomes	Dashboard		
	<i>(i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)</i>		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress
Empowered Gambian women economically, socially, and politically		✓	
Children are nurtured and enjoy their full rights and potentials in life		✓	
Enhanced economic opportunities and all-round social and cultural development for youth empowerment	✓		
Inclusiveness and care for persons with disabilities and older persons improved			✓
Inclusiveness, and care for Older Persons improved			✓

There has been limited achievements registered under this Pillar in the year under review. Overall, 40 per cent of the outcomes are constrained, 20 per cent are on track and 40 per cent registered no progress.

2.6.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 6.1: 2023 progress on empowered Gambian women economically, socially, and politically

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of women representation in cabinet	14.3%	30.0%	14.3%
Proportion of seats held by women in the National Assembly	8.6%	30.0%	The status remains the same as the indicator is measured based on election cycle
Proportion of seats held by women in Local Government Councils	14.0% (2023)	30.0%	The status remains the same as the indicator is measured based on election cycle
Proportion of Women in Managerial positions	36.1% (2022-23)	38.5%	No updated data available
Proportion of victims of sexual violence reporting their cases to competent authorities	1.5% (2020-21)	25.0%	No updated data available

Source(s): Office of The President; National Assembly; Independent Electoral Commission (IEC); Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2023c) and MoTIE; and Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2021a)

The status of women representation in cabinet remains the same and is well below the recommended 30 per cent gender quota agreed during the 1995 United Nations Beijing Conference on women which The Gambia is party and signatory to. Progress cannot be assessed on the increase in women's representation in the National Assembly and Local Government Councils because this can only be determined during the next election cycle thus their representation remains the same as the baseline. Similarly, for women in managerial positions, and victims of sexual violence, updated data on these indicators is not available. These can only be provided through Gambia Labour Force Survey (GLFS) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) monitoring survey reports respectively.

Progress made in this area include women economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods, and awareness on gender-based violence including doing away with harmful traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and early marriage. For the former, the practice was outlawed in the country in 2015 but the cultural belief and the practice still persist. Notwithstanding, the government has adopted a National FGM Policy and Strategy for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation in The Gambia 2022-2026 to end the practice in the country by 2030.

Advocacy and awareness programmes on gender equality and women and girl's empowerment through the media, and extra curricula activities in schools also helped especially girls in education. Youth organizations also helped in advancing the women's and girls' empowerment. Changing institutional and policy framework changed the dynamics surrounding women issues. These include;

- Existence of the Women's Act 2010, amended in 2015 which domesticates the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and further strengthens the rights of women in society
- Existence of the Gender and Women Empowerment Policy 2010 - 2020 succeeded by the National Gender Policy 2023 - 2032
- Enactment of the Children Act 2005 amended in 2016
- Enactment of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences Acts 2013
- Existence of women empowerment organizations such as Female Lawyers Association Gambia (FLAG),
- The National Women Council
- Existence of the Women Federation
- Establishment of the Women Enterprise Funds and Act 2021
- Increase in women interest in TVET
- Increased in women representation in decision-making positions such as VDCs, WDCs and LGA Councils
- Existence of a Gender-Based Violence fund
- Existence of a Disability Fund
- Existence of a National Disability Council

Table 6.2: 2023 progress on children nurtured and enjoy their full rights

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of children under 5 who are registered at birth	59.0% (2019-20)	70.0%	No updated data available
Percentage of children attending the first grade of primary school who attended early childhood education	69.0% (2018)	89.0%	No updated data available
Number of childcare givers trained	0	300	0
Number of recreational centres built by region	0	7	0

- Source(S): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2018, 2020b); Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Welfare (2023); and Recreational centres built, MoGCSW

The latest data for children under 5 who are registered at birth is not available as this can only be provided through DHS/MICS surveys. Thus, progress on this indicator cannot be determined because these surveys are yet to be conducted. Similarly, latest data on children attending the first grade of primary school who attended early childhood education is not available because this data is from MICS and the survey is yet to be conducted making it difficult to determine progress. Furthermore, the last two indicators for this outcome remain the same.

Table 6.3: 2023 progress on enhanced economic opportunities and all-round social and cultural development for youths:

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Youth (15-35 years) unemployment rate disaggregated by sex - (LU3)	National: 38.6% Male: 31.5% Female: 44.9% (2022-23)	National: 33% Male: 26.4% Female: 39.8%	No updated data available
Unemployment rate ² , by sex, age and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) (15 years and above) - (LU3)	National: 31.6% Male: 24.9% Female: 37.9% (2022-23)	National: 25.0% Male: 20.0% Female: 33.0%	No updated data available
Youth Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) disaggregated by sex	National: 45.3% Male: 43.1% Female: 47.3% (2022-23)	National: 35.0% Male: 32.8% Female: 37.0%	No updated data available
Number of youth-owned businesses with access to finance	442	500	933
Number of youth graduating from entrepreneurship trainings (National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS), National Enterprise Development Initiative (NEDI), President's International Award (PIA), by sex)	National: 1,110 Male: 631 Female: 479	National: 1,200 Male: 680 Female: 520	National: 1,283 Male: 806 Female: 477

Number of mini stadia built by region	5	7	6
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- *Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2023c); Ministry of Youth and Sports (2023)*

Regarding the employment indicators, the baselines figures were from the 2022-23 Labour Force Survey. No labour force survey was conducted since after the last round, progress on these indicators cannot be measured. There are plans by the Gambia Bureau of Statistics to conduct a labour force survey in 2024.

The number of youth-owned businesses with access to finance showed a substantial increase of 111 per cent in 2023, rising from a baseline of 442 to 933. This surpasses the yearly target of 500, indicating significant improvement in youth access to finance for business ventures. This increase reflects successful efforts to empower young entrepreneurs, enabling them to start and expand their businesses, which is vital for economic growth and job creation.

The number of youth graduating from entrepreneurship trainings also showed an increase from 1,110 to 1,283, surpassing the target of 1,200. This shows a positive trend in enhancing entrepreneurial skills among the youth. However, the gender aspect remains constrained, suggesting that more efforts are needed to ensure equal participation and benefits for young women in these training programmes.

The number of Mini-Stadia Built: The Ministry of Youth and Sports has embarked on building mini-stadium in each region to enhance sports infrastructure. From a baseline of five, six mini-stadia have been fully built, signifying an addition of one new mini-stadium for the year 2023, and the seventh one is nearing completion. This development is crucial for promoting sports and physical activities among the youth, fostering community engagement, and providing venues for talent development.

Table 6.4: 2023 progress on inclusiveness and care for persons with disabilities and older persons improved

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Employment to population ratio	Persons with Disability: 30.5% Persons without Disability: 40.8% (2022-23)	Persons with Disability: 35.0% Persons without Disability: 45.3%	No updated data available
Special Needs Schools built by Government in regions	0	3	0
Conduct a survey of public structures accessible to PwDs	0	1	0
Provision of disability service centres	1	3	1
Number of minibuses allocated to Special Needs School	2	5	2
Number of public transport services accessible to PwDs	1	3	1

Source(s): *Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2023c) and MoTIE; Department of Social Welfare (2023b, 2023a); Gambia Transport Service Company (2023)*

The status of employment to population ratio for PwDs remains the same. Progress can only be measured when the next Gambia Labour Force Survey (GLFS) is conducted. Currently, there is no special needs school built for PwDs by government. The survey of public structures accessible to PwDs is yet to be conducted. Similarly, for the last three indicators on this outcome, no progress is registered due to the unavailability of funds.

Table 6.5: 2023 Progress on Inclusiveness, and care for Older Persons improved

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Ratification of AU protocol on the rights of older persons	No	Yes	Not Ratified yet
Existence of policy on older persons	No	Yes	No policy yet
Existence of research-based data on older persons in The Gambia	No	Yes	No research conducted yet
Availability of health insurance cover for older persons	No	Yes	Process has not yet started
Proportion of extremely poor households receiving formal transfers	16,966	36,966	There were no cash transfers from the 'NAFA' project

Source(s): *Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Welfare (MoGCSW); National Nutrition Agency (NaNA)*

The ratification of AU protocol on the rights of older persons has been approved by cabinet and now awaits ratification by the National Assembly. The indicators on existence of policy on older persons and existence of research-based data on older persons in The Gambia are not available. No progress has been registered for the indicators on older persons, although there are plans to include them in the 2025 work plan of the MoGCSW.

2.6.2 Factors hindering progress

Empowered Gambian women economically, socially, and politically

Some of the factors hindering progress under this outcome include untimely preparation of surveys; lack of a quota system for appointment; sexual harassment and gender-based violence; male dominance in decision-making; low political representation of women; low self-esteem; child marriage; religious, cultural, and traditional beliefs; limited income; and absence of infrastructural development schemes for women and girls.

Enhanced economic opportunities and all-round social and cultural development for youths

Assessing progress of the employment indicators is hindered by lack of data due to the absence of the labour force survey in 2023. As for entrepreneurship training, although it is on track, some regions are not progressing as most of the trainings are concentrated in the urban areas. It is also reported that some youth are reluctant to be trained and instead embarking on illegal migration.

Children nurtured and enjoy their full rights

Some of the factors hindering progress include limited public knowledge on child protection and the rights of the child; untimely conduct of surveys; lack of training for childcare givers; absence of recreational centres for children; and lack of tracking mechanisms for child abuse and exploitation.

Inclusiveness and care for persons with disabilities and older persons improved

Some of the factors hindering progress include attitudinal barriers such as prejudice, discrimination, and stigma; environmental barriers that limit or pose challenges in PwDs accessing schools, public facilities, and public transportation; and institutional barriers that exclude or segregate PwDs from employment, the legal system, and health service provisions.

Recommendations on the outcomes

Empowered Gambian women economically, socially, and politically
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of a quota system • Timely preparation for the conduct of SDGs surveys in 2025 or to have module in one of the surveys on victims of sexual violence reporting their cases to competent authorities • More advocacy programmes for women empowerment

Enhanced economic opportunities and all-round social and cultural development for youths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more grants and loans to the youth and ease the marching grant • Build more training centres in the regions to curb youth unemployment • Provide entrepreneurship training for more young women to close the gender gap among youth • Timely conduct of Labour Force Survey

Children nurtured and enjoyed their full rights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular conduct of DHS/MICS

Inclusiveness and care for persons with disabilities and older persons improved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular conduct of DHS/MICS • Conduct a study on public structures accessible to PwDs • Operationalize the disability funds

Inclusiveness, and care for Older Persons improved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate a policy for older persons • Conduct research on older persons

- Fast track the implementation of the indicators on older persons, key activities should be included in the 2025 work plan of the MoGCSW
- Government to provide funds to start the implementation of the National Health Insurance Scheme which older persons will benefit
- Government to provide adequate fund to expand the scope of the family strengthening programme to allow more older persons to benefit

2.7 Pillar 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Information Communication Technology (ICT) connectivity

This Pillar seeks to catalyse growth and tap into available opportunities locally as well as regional and continental development initiatives. The Pillar covers three clusters, namely: petroleum, energy, and minerals; transport infrastructure and connectivity; and ICT digitalization.

Box 7.1: Energy, Infrastructure and Information Communication Technology (ICT) connectivity

Outcomes	Dashboard (i.e. ratings on progress towards outcomes)		
	On track	Constrained	No Progress
Accessible and affordable energy for all and effective policies, legal and regulatory frameworks in place for sustainable development of petroleum and mining resources;			□
Land, river, sea and air transport expanded and strengthened for affordability, accessibility and competitiveness	□		
A digital/ICT and broadband nation attained.	□		

There is significant achievement on this pillar in the year under review. Overall, 66.7 per cent of the outcomes are on track while 33.3 per cent registered no progress.

2.7.1 Progress made towards achieving the outcome- Highlighting significant accomplishments and milestones

Table 7.1: 2023 progress on accessible and affordable energy for all and effective policies, legal and regulatory frameworks in place for sustainable development of petroleum and mining resources

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Percentage of households with access to electricity	61.2% (2019-20)	100.0%	No updated data available

Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	2.5% (2019-20)	10.0%	No updated data available
Existence of Policy, Legal and Regulatory (PLR) reforms for the downstream petroleum sector	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of policies, legislations, and regulations, for the upstream petroleum sector	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of a mines and minerals policy framework	No	Yes	The process has not yet started

Source(s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020b); Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (2023)

There has been no progress registered for this outcome during the year under review due to capacity gaps and inadequate funds. Nonetheless, the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy in its commitment to achieve universal access to electricity by end 2025, installed Solar Home Systems, Green Mini-Grids in off-grid rural communities and other thermal systems. With regards to access to clean cooking solutions, the ministry in collaboration with private companies such as DELAQUA and C-QUEST CAPITAL provided clean cookstoves in Lower River Region (LRR) and the distribution is ongoing in North Bank Region (NBR), West Coast Region (WCR), Upper River Region (URR) and Central River Region (CRR).

The African Development Bank, through the Africa Legal Support Facility, provided advisory support service for the procurement of 30MW dual fuel generator and conducted a comprehensive review of all the legislations that have an impact on the petroleum sector.

Table 7.2: 2023 progress on Land, River, Sea, and Air Transport expanded and strengthened for affordability, accessibility and competitiveness

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road	63.4% (2021)	75.0%	No updated data available
Passenger volumes by mode of transport	Air: 356,865	Air: 500,000	Air: 415,909
	Maritime/River: 3,863,738	Maritime/River: 4,500,648	Maritime/River: 3,814,623
Existence of a National Multi-modal Transport System (NMTS)	No	Yes	Hiring of a consultant to develop Climate Resilient- Integrated Transport Masterplan (CR-ITMP) Study 2025 -2050 is at an advanced stage
Existence of a Multimodal: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) for the Greater Banjul Area (GBA)	No	Yes	A study tour has been conducted by MoTWTI and stakeholders to

			Senegal to gain first-hand information on BRT system
Number of kilometres of urban roads constructed	261.56 (2021)	511.56	71.24km
Number of kilometres of rural roads constructed	64.3 (2021)	578.3	132.862km
Fourth Banjul port expansion programme implemented	No	Yes	Consultations ongoing with stakeholders and a contract is expected to be signed by June 2024.
Intermodal freight logistics terminal (Dry port) constructed	No	Yes	A contractor has already been identified for the project. Land Evaluations for pockets land around the identified zones have been carried out and final reports submitted.
Number of ferries plying the Banjul/Barra Sea route	3	4	2
A revised air transport regulatory framework	No	Yes	Validation of the bill and development of funding mechanism completed
Existence of a National Public Building and Facilities Authority	No	Yes	Bill introduced for a second reading but no progress after that
Number government office complexes constructed	0	1	0
Number of Embassy Complexes constructed	1 (2021)	4	1
Number of regional Governor's office complexes constructed	2	5	2

Source (s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2021a, 2022); Transport and Infrastructure Sector Newsletter (2024)

In 2023, there was increase in passenger volumes by mode of transport. The achievements during the year under review are 415,909 and 3,814,623 for air and Maritime/River respectively. This is attributable to Government's coordinated efforts in improving the transport sector coupled with committed and dedicated team of stakeholders.

Furthermore, MoTWI has secured funding from Africa Development Bank (AfDB) and recruitment of a consultant to developed Climate Resilient- Integrated Transport Masterplan (CR-ITMP) 2025 -2050 is at an advanced stage.

A concept note on the Multimodal Bus Rapid Transit to reduce congestion and ease traffic flow has already been developed and MoTWI in collaboration with stakeholders conducted a study tour to neighbouring Senegal to share and learn best practices.

The number of kilometres of urban and rural roads constructed during the year under review is 71.24km and 132.862km respectively. Progress towards achieving the set targets for both urban and rural roads is on track. This is attributed to Government's commitment to infrastructural development which stimulates economic growth through jobs creation and agricultural productivity.

MoTWI continues to register steady progress in the implementation of the fourth Banjul Port expansion programme. Currently, 20 per cent achievement has been registered and efforts are ongoing to implement the remaining 80 per cent. Moreover, Government in view to leveraging private resources for Port expansion through PPP, is in the process of finalizing with a private partner to operate the container terminal at the Port of Banjul and develop a Deep-Sea Port in Sanyang. Negotiations are in progress between Government and the private partner, and a contract is expected to be signed in 2024.

The implementation of the intermodal freight logistics terminal (Dry port) is 30 per cent complete. Government through MoTWI will continue to collaborate with potential partners such as the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to finance the remaining 70 per cent construction of the dry port.

Government is also committed to improving the Banjul-Barra ferry services. Contracts have already been signed to procure two additional green ferries to cater to the growing demand for services.

The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) management has validated the revised air transport regulatory framework and development of funding mechanism is ongoing.

The Ministry has developed a bill to establish a National Public Building and Facilities Authority Act. The bill was introduced to National Assembly and has progressed to the second reading.

In addition, Government has signed an MoU with a private consultant to develop a design sketch plan for the building of office complexes. This is certainly a demonstration of Government's desire to having a second quadrangle to accommodate MDAs.

In 2021, the Government inaugurated the newly built Gambian Embassy in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Rehabilitation of Gambian Embassies in Brussels and Addis Ababa are completed. There is a need for additional embassies to be constructed to reach the target of building four embassies during the plan period.

Two regional Governor offices have been built; North Bank Region (NBR) and Central River Region (CRR) and plans are in place to build additional three complexes in other regions. The

design of the Governor’s office complex in Upper River Region (URR) and the evaluation of the contract has been completed.

Table 7.3: 2023 progress on digital/ICT and broadband nation attained

Indicator	Baseline (2022)	Target @2027	Status @2023
Proportion of individuals who own a mobile phone	81.0% (2019-20)	100%	No updated data available
Existence of a second undersea fiber optic landing cable	No	Yes	Recruitment of a transaction advisor ongoing
Existence of an integrated payment gateway system	No	Yes	The process has not yet started
Existence of a national tier-4 Data	No	Yes	MoCDE is finalizing an MoU to support the deployment of the Tier 4 Data centre
Broadband internet subscription as a proportion of total internet subscription	59.0% (2021)	85.0%	No updated data available

Source (s): Gambia Bureau of Statistics (2020b); Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy (2023)

A second undersea fibre optic has been earmarked to ensure the availability of additional bandwidth to meet connectivity needs across all sectors. This will help address the first-mile redundancy constraint. Recruitment of a transaction advisor to oversee the deployment of the cable is at an advanced stage. MoCDE will also pursue the integrated payment gateway system to boost market access for traders especially Micro Small and Medium Enterprises thus ensuring seamless transactions for business and digital financial service providers.

MoCDE is currently finalizing an MoU to support the deployment of the Tier-4 Data centre. Overall, 65 per cent achievement was realized regarding broadband internet subscription as a proportion of total internet against 60 per cent baseline. This is attributed to increase in ICT infrastructure, especially in some of the rural settlements.

2.7.2 Factors hindering progress

Accessible and affordable energy for all and effective policies, legal and regulatory frameworks in place for sustainable development of petroleum and mining resources

There is inadequate capacity in the upstream and downstream petroleum sector: The Petroleum Directorate under the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy is grossly understaffed for a considerable period thus making coordination of the required outcome activities very slow. Additionally, there is no updated data on the proportion of households with access to electricity and clean fuels and technologies, therefore progress cannot be measured.

Land, River, Sea, and Air Transport expanded and strengthened for affordability, accessibility and competitiveness

Absence of data to assess the proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road: A study has not been conducted due to lack of funding which may affect the achievement of the Rural Access Index (RAI). The RAI is among the most important global development indicators in the transport sector.

The existing electrical supply system at Banjul International Airport (BIA) is not sufficient to cater for increased power demand in the terminal building and beyond. The ground based navigational aid is obsolete and has outlived its useful lifespan. Currently, the Doppler VHF Omni Range (DVOR) is not functioning, and this has the potential to affect aircraft operations at the airport.

The National Roads Authority continue to encounter delays such as inadequate funding from government, relocation of existing services on the roads, road encroachment, and compensations of affected landowners. These affect the timely implementation of both urban and rural roads.

The challenge in attracting PPP towards the financing of the dry port continues to affect the realization of this milestone.

The management of Banjul-Barra ferry crossing point also faced challenges such as inadequate ferries, and delays in getting spare parts. This contributes to loss of revenue for the sector.

Digital/ICT and broadband nation attained

The proportion of individuals who own a mobile phone was not assessed due to unavailability of data. However, the Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) collects data of persons with mobile cellular subscription which does not address the data needs of this particular indicator.

Inadequate digital skills continue to affect the country’s drive towards digitizing the economy.

In addition, low prioritization of ICT infrastructure development also affects the sector. A good number of public and private institutions have very low ICT infrastructure thus affecting effective and efficient service delivery.

Recommendations on the outcomes

Accessible and affordable energy for all and effective policies, legal, and regulatory frameworks in place for sustainable development of petroleum and mining resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government through Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (MoPE) to put in place more agile and progressive regulatory frameworks to regulate the energy sector• Strengthen the capacity gaps to enhance the existence of PLR reforms for the downstream petroleum sector• The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs to allocate resources for regular conduct of MICS/DHS

- There is need to recruit additional staff for the Directorate of Petroleum

Land, River, Sea, and Air Transport expanded and strengthened for affordability, accessibility and competitiveness

- The Directorate of Public Private Partnership, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs to create the enabling environment to attract PPP investment in the dry port
- MoTWI to engage bilateral and multilateral partners to mobilize adequate funds to build more roads
- The Ministry of Finance to allocate resources for the RAI to be conducted

Digital/ICT and broadband nation attained

- The government to prioritize scaling up of digital skills and literacy to ensure rapid adoption and utilisation of ICT solutions
- The government and its partners to invest in research and development to improve the ICT sector
- Increased prioritization of ICT infrastructure development
- The Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy needs to prioritize scaling up digital skills and literacy to ensure rapid adoption and utilization of ICT solutions

Chapter 3: Financial Performance

Overview of RF-NDP Financing

The overall financing for RF-NDP contributions from Multilateral, Bilateral, UN System Support and EU amounted to US\$347,621,454.18. Multilateral donors contributed 73.2 per cent, bilateral 7.2 per cent, UN System Support 6.6 per cent and the EU 13 per cent.

Donor Financing

3.2.1 Bilateral and Multilaterals

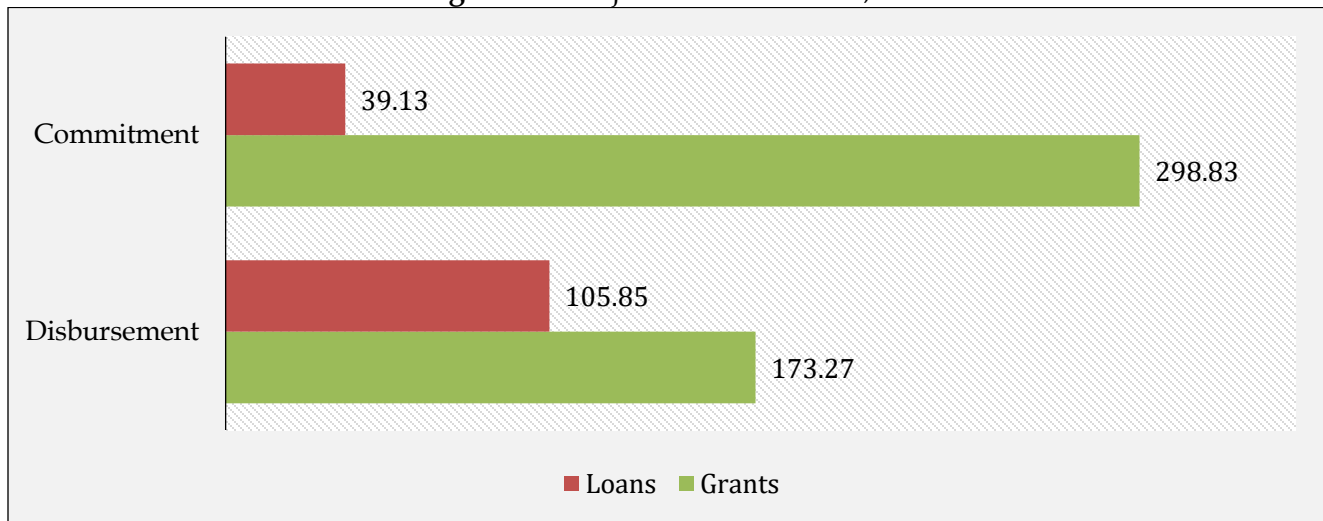
The Gambia in its stride to successfully implement its short, medium and long-term development aspirations, continue to seek the interventions of its strategic development partners (bilateral and multilaterals) in the various economic sectors. These sectors include agriculture, infrastructure, education, economic governance, among others. Such interventions seek to address both technical and financial needs to address the economic and societal pressing issues especially the provision of roads, education and health infrastructures and the cost of their corresponding services.

Currently, the total estimated total portfolio of donor interventions from 2010 to end December 2023 amounted to three billion, two hundred and fifty-seven million three hundred and twenty thousand, two hundred and twenty United States Dollars and eighty-five cents (US\$3, 257, 320,220.85) with a total disbursement of two billion, two hundred and seventy-eight million, two hundred and thirty-two thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight United States Dollars and six cents (US\$2,278,232,838.06) representing a 69.9 per cent of the total portfolio.

In the fiscal year 2023, the total donor commitment to The Gambia amounted to three hundred and thirty-seven million nine hundred and sixty-four thousand, six hundred and eighty-four United States Dollars and sixty-one cents (US\$337,964,684.61) with a total disbursement of two hundred and seventy-nine million, six hundred and ninety-nine thousand eight hundred and eighty-six United States Dollars and thirty-two cents (US\$279,699,886.32) representing 83.0 per cent disbursement. This commitment of three hundred and thirty-seven million, nine hundred and sixty-four thousand, six hundred and eighty-four United States Dollars and sixty-one cents (US\$337,964,684.61), comprised of two-three million, one hundred and thirty-four thousand, five hundred and thirty-seven United States Dollars and sixty-three cents (US\$23,134,537.63) loans and two hundred and ninety-eight million, eight hundred and thirty thousand, one hundred and forty-six United States Dollars and ninety-eight cents (US\$298,830,146.98) grants.

The total number of active projects from 2010 to date was three hundred and seventeen (317). From January 2023 to December 2023, the number of total active projects is estimated at 149. See Annex 1 of this report.

Figure 3.1: Project Portfolio Status, 2023

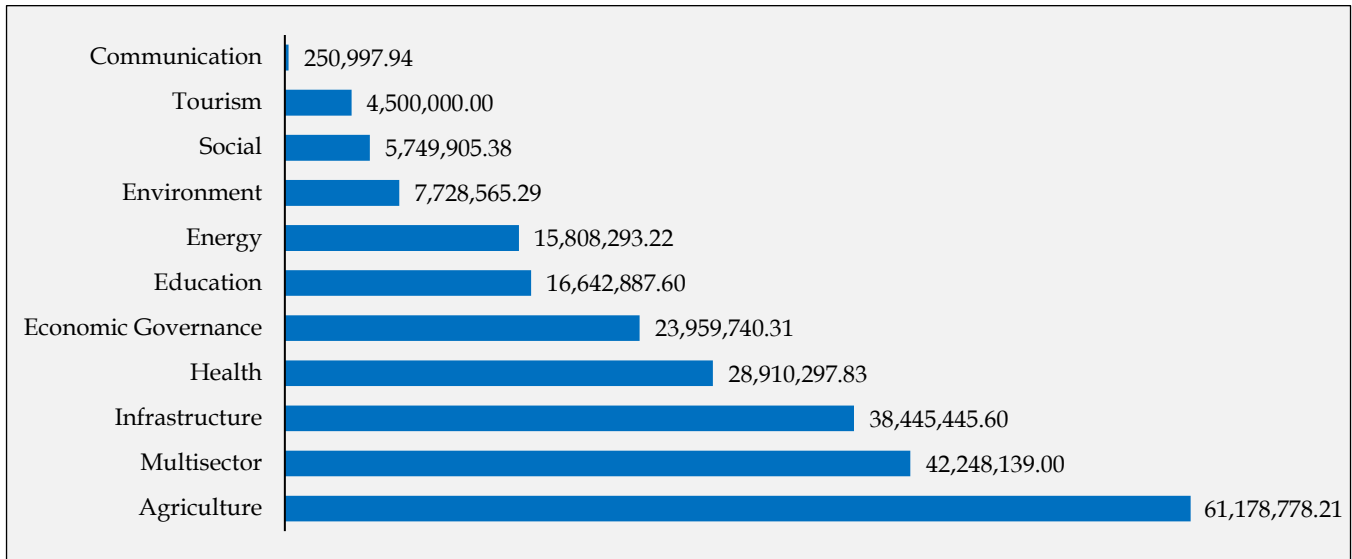


The Multilateral and Bilateral donors contributed US\$233,729,250.97 for the RF-NDP implementation of which 89.3 per cent equivalent to GMD208,774,513.44 was disbursed by Multilateral donors and US\$24,954,717.53 from Bilateral equivalent to 10.7 per cent.

Table 3.1.1: Multilateral and Bilateral support for RF-NDP Implementation

Donor Category	Donor Name	Amount disbursed in US\$
Multilateral	ADB	4,420,414.11
	BADEA	12,782,795.81
	EU	59,162,876.32
	IDA	141,785,631.59
	IMF	6,660,000.00
	IFAD	8,037,670.95
	IDB	25,750,990.51
	OPEC	565,183.61
Sub-total		254,715,148.79
Bilateral	AFD (Agency Francaise de Development.	2,221,997.98
	Eximbank of India	476,467.69
	Kuwait fund	16,245,850.43
	SFD	6,010,421.43
Sub-total		24,954,737.53
Grand Total		279,669,886.32

Figure 3.2: Multilaterals and bilateral support by sector (in US Dollars)

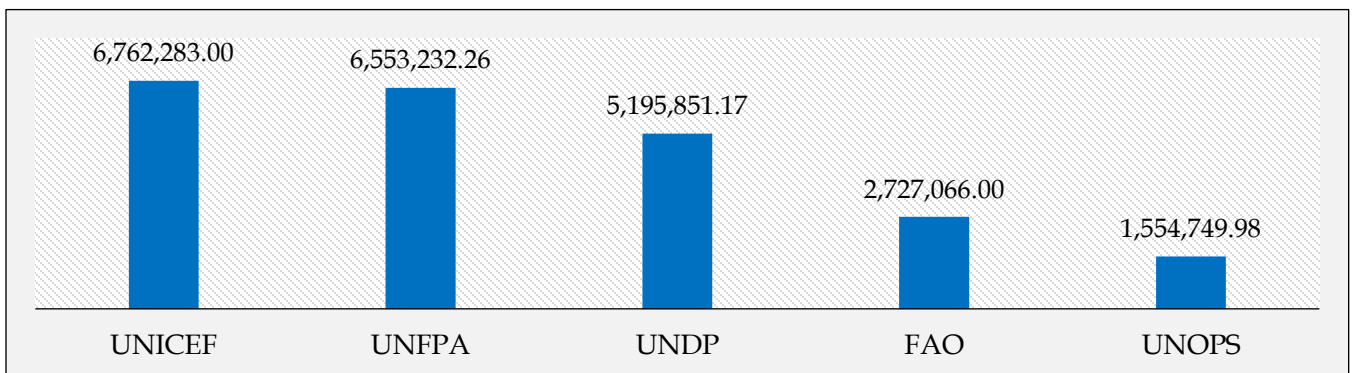


The contributions to the sectors by both multilateral and bilateral donors revealed that the greatest contributions were made to Agriculture, Multisector, Infrastructure, Health and Economic Governance whilst Energy and Education received notable disbursements. Slight disbursements were made to Environment, Social, and Tourism and a minute amount to Communications.

3.2.2 UN System Support

Figure 3.3 below presents data on disbursements from the UN system during 2023. The total disbursement for both core and non-core amounted to **US\$ 22,793,182.41** comprises funds from bilateral and multilateral partners channelled through the UN system. It is worth noting that the information provided does not have data for all the UN Agencies.

Figure 3.3: UN total disbursement (2023)



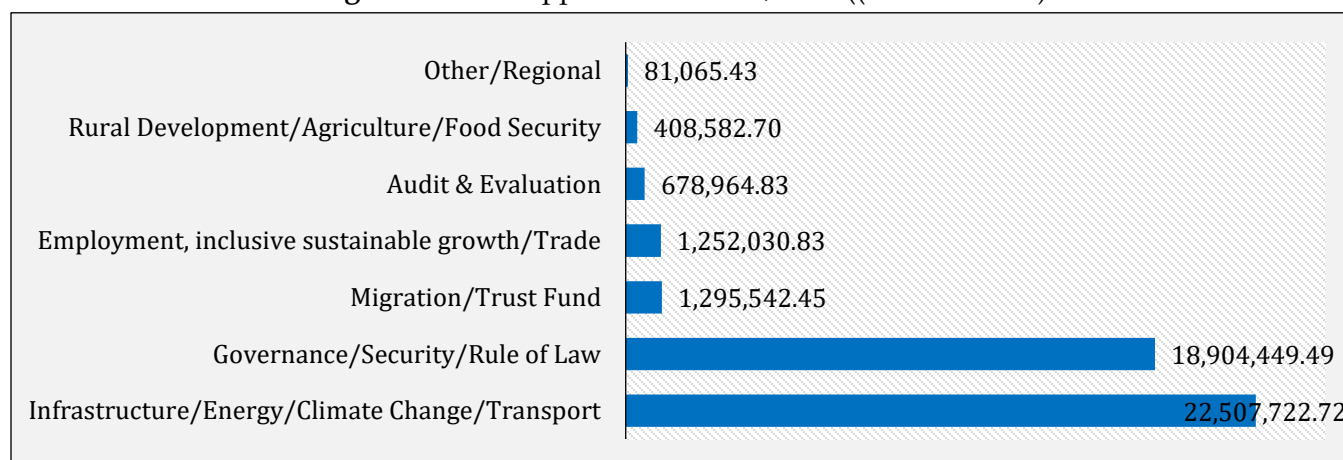
3.2.3 EU Support

European Union disbursed a total of US\$ 45,128,358.45 million towards the implementation of the RF-NDP 2023-2027 of which 49.9 per cent was allocated to Infrastructure/Energy/Climate change/Transport and followed by 41.9 per cent to Governance/Security/Rule of Law.

Table 3.1.2: Total EU disbursements by sectors (in US Dollars)

Sectors	Disbursement (2023)	% Disbursement
Rural Development/Agriculture/Food Security	408,582.70	0.90%
Governance/Security/Rule of Law	18,904,449.49	41.90%
Employment, inclusive sustainable growth/Trade	1,252,030.83	2.80%
Migration/Trust Fund	1,295,542.45	2.90%
Infrastructure/Energy/Climate Change/Transport	22,507,722.72	49.90%
Other/Regional	81,065.43	0.20%
Audit & Evaluation	678,964.83	1.50%
Grand Total	45,128,358.45	100%

Figure 3.4: EU support to RF-NDP, 2023 ((in US Dollars)



GLF budget allocations and expenditures

An analysis of expenditure on the RF-NDP initiatives reveals an amount of Ten Billion, Six Hundred and Seventy-Nine Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-Six Dalasi and forty-eight bututs (GMD10,679,888,356.48) was spent in the fiscal year 2023. This represents 52 per cent of the total Government expenditure and net lending over the period¹.

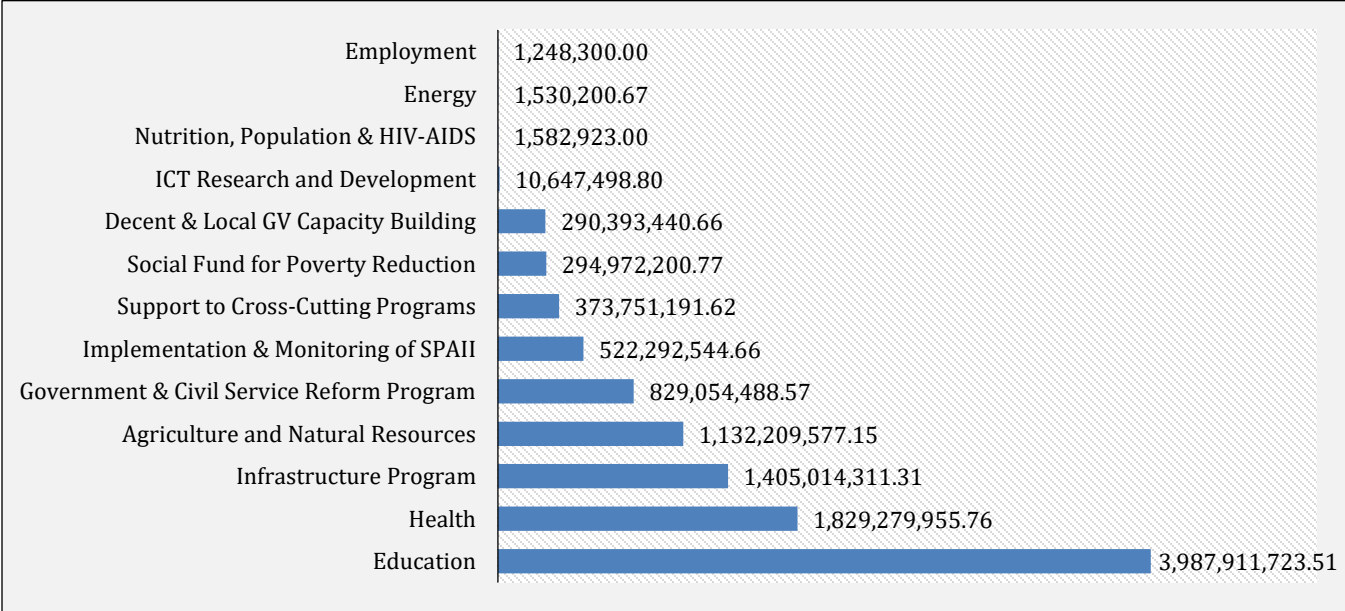
Most of this poverty reducing expenditures, (37% amounting to three billion, nine hundred and eighty-seven million, nine hundred and eleven thousand, seven hundred and twenty-three

¹ See MoFEA's End Year Budget Performance Brief 2023

dalasi and fifty-one bututs (GMD3,987,911,723.51)) was in the education sector. Expenditure included support for the school feeding programme for Basic Education, which was one hundred and twenty-three million, and five hundred and sixty thousand dalasi (GMD123.56 million), and the SIG amounting to two hundred and ten million, and three hundred and ten thousand dalasi (GMD210.31 million).

Expenditure on health amounted to one billion, eight hundred and twenty-nine million, two hundred and seventy-nine thousand, nine hundred and fifty-five dalasi and seventy-six bututs (GMD1,829,279,955.66) representing 17 per cent of poverty-reducing expenditure, while expenditure on agriculture amounted to one billion, one hundred and thirty-two million, two hundred and nine thousand, five hundred and seventy-seven dalasi and fifteen bututs (GMD1,132,209,577.15) representing 10.6 per cent of poverty-reducing expenditure. Expenditure on health was mainly support to hospitals and agencies, which usually benefit from transfers from the national budget. For agriculture and natural resources, most of the expenditure was on input subsidies which includes support for organic fertilizers and seeds for farmers. The total expenditures on agricultural subsidies for 2023 amounted to GMD664.49 million. Infrastructure spending was also high, amounting to one billion, four hundred and five million, fourteen thousand, three hundred and eleven dalasi and thirty-one bututs (GMD1,405,014,311.31) representing 13 per cent of total expenditure on the RF-NDP initiatives. Full details of the expenditure on the RF-NDP initiatives can be found in Table 3.1.1 below. Note that these expenditures only relate to those expended from locally generated Government revenues or GLF.

Figure 3.5: Total spending (in Dalasi)



Analysis of financial performance against targets

Table 3.1.3: 2023 budget analysis on RF-NDP initiatives (in Dalasi)

NDP Initiatives	Budget	Total Spending	Variance	% Variance	% of Poverty Budget
Agriculture and Natural Resources	1,149,106,801.00	1,132,209,577.15	16,897,223.85	98.53%	10.60%
Education	4,001,721,854.00	3,987,911,723.51	13,810,130.49	99.65%	37.34%
Health	1,863,318,673.00	1,829,279,955.76	34,038,717.24	98.17%	17.13%
Nutrition, Population & HIV-AIDS	1,670,000.00	1,582,923.00	87,077.00	94.79%	0.01%
Infrastructure Programme	1,406,560,848.00	1,405,014,311.31	1,546,536.69	99.89%	13.16%
Social Fund for Poverty Reduction	302,990,746.00	294,972,200.77	8,018,545.23	97.35%	2.76%
Implementation & Monitoring Of SPAII	563,965,067.00	522,292,544.66	41,672,522.34	92.61%	4.89%
Support To Cross-Cutting Programmes	384,115,766.00	373,751,191.62	10,364,574.38	97.30%	3.50%
ICT Research and Development	10,970,000.00	10,647,498.80	322,501.20	97.06%	0.10%
Decent & Local Government Capacity Building	294,977,258.00	290,393,440.66	4,583,817.34	98.45%	2.72%
Government & Civil Service Reform Programme	856,874,587.00	829,054,488.57	27,820,098.43	96.75%	7.76%
Employment	3,140,309.00	1,248,300.00	1,892,009.00	39.75%	0.01%
Energy	1,636,336.00	1,530,200.67	106,135.33	93.51%	0.01%
Total Poverty Programme	10,841,048,245.00	10,679,888,356.48	161,159,888.52	98.51%	100.00%

Source: Integrated Financial Management Information System (2023)

Chapter 4: Institutional Framework for Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation

4.1 Introduction

The institutional framework is to ensure that all stakeholders play their roles in the implementation of the National Development Plan for a strong accountability and results. Government, Civil Society Organizations, the private sector and development partners all have roles to play, and the extent of their collaboration will determine the achievement of the objectives of the plan.

This chapter provides the findings and recommendations on the review of the instructional arrangement and monitoring and evaluation framework around the RF-NDP.

4.2 Coordination arrangements for implementation

There are various committees within the institutional arrangement which aim to provide, among others, coordination, leadership, strategic guidance, oversight support, budget scrutiny, resource mobilization, monitoring of milestones, and reporting during the implementation of the plan. The relevant committees are as follows:

- i. Cabinet Sub-Committee which provides policy support and: strategic direction,
- ii. National Assembly Select Committee which provides oversight and budget scrutiny
- iii. National Technical Steering Committee provides strategic guidance and direction for the overall implementation of the RF-NDP
- iv. Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) undertakes bi-annual policy dialogue with policymakers, civil society, and private sector organization to discuss development priorities, align strategies, and coordinate efforts.
- v. Sector Working Group coordinate all sector activities relating to national development plan formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- vi. The National Monitoring and Evaluation Platform will be established to facilitate monitoring and reporting of the RF-NDP.
- vii. The Regional Technical Advisory, Ward Development Committee (WDC) and Village Development Committees (VDC) ensure regional and local development plans are aligned with national development plan as well as SDGs
- viii. Directorate of Development Planning (Secretariat) is the coordinating body for all the committees and oversees the institutional arrangements for the implementation of RF-NDP.

Table 4.1.1: 2023 Annual Review of the Institutional Framework of RF-NDP

Structure	Status	Assessment of Functionality	Key Challenges	Recommendation
Cabinet Sub-committee	Established	The committee has overseen the national launch of the RF-NDP and also reviewed and approved the roadmap leading to the resource mobilization conference	Irregular meetings	There is a need for regular meetings
National Assembly	Established	This committee has not been engaged on its oversight function of the RF-NDP	Delay in the finalization and launch of the RF-NDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a sensitization with the select committee and inform about their oversight function in the implementation of the RF-NDP.
National Technical Steering Committee	Not established	Not functional, however, there is a steering committee that coordinated the national launch and regional sensitizations of the RF-NDP and currently working on the advocacy missions, and the resource mobilization conference.	Delay in the finalization and launch of the RF-NDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expediate the setting up of the national steering committee Conduct regular meetings to assess RF-NDP implementations Continue using the Permanent Secretary's (PS) retreats and develop a follow-up mechanism to monitor progress on RF-NDP implementation.
Development Cooperation Forum	Not held	The development cooperation forum has not been organized since the launch of the RF-NDP	Delay in the finalization of the RF-NDP has a spill over effects on its institutional arrangements.	MoFEA needs to ensure that DCF is conducted before the end of 2024
Sector Working Groups	Established	Functional, they participated in the formulation of the RF-NDP, and key members were consulted in the development of the indicator metadata and the APR 2023.	The absence of incentives for SWG members resulted in low turnout during meetings rendering them ineffective	Allocate resources to facilitate quarterly meetings
National Monitoring and Evaluation Platform	Established but needs to be updated	Gambia Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (GIMES) has been developed but it is not functional	Limited capacity on GIMES and inadequate resources for an administrator to manage the system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoFEA needs to follow up with the EU to strengthen the functionality of the National Monitoring and Evaluation System. Also create a budget line for an administrator under DDP
Regional Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Established	Although TACs exist in all regions, however, they need to be engaged in their role in the implementation of the RF-NDP	The TAC members have not been sensitized about their roles	MoFEA needs to notify the TAC through the Ministry of Lands, and Regional Government on this new role.

The above assessment shows that four out of the eight RF-NDP implementation institutional structures have been established and operational during the year under review and as such there is an urgent need for the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs to ensure that the remaining structures are established and operational. These structures are key to strengthening coordination, partnership and collaboration in the implementation of the RF-NDP.

4.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation cuts across the institutional arrangement underpinning the implementation of national development plans. M&E will be conducted at executive, sectoral, and regional levels to ensure transparency and accountability in the management of national resources.

The M&E processes are an integral part of implementing the RF-NDP. An M&E plan including a results matrix was developed where each pillar has a set of outcomes, indicators (disaggregated to appropriate level) with baselines and targets to facilitate the tracking and reporting of implementation progress. A comprehensive metadata for the RF-NDP indicator framework has been developed.

Monitoring and evaluation capacity is relatively weak due to limited expertise in the civil service. To enhance monitoring and reporting, GIMES will be strengthened through EU support to facilitate real-time accurate, timely, and transparent tracking progress on development results on the RF-NDP. The support also includes technical assistance and capacity building of the Planning Cadre to ensure effective operationalization of the system.

Additionally, annual progress reviews, mid-term and end-term evaluations will be conducted by Directorate of Development Planning and supported by the Sector Working Groups.

Chapter 5: Conclusions

5.1 Summary of key Achievements, Challenges and Lessons Learned

The Annual Progress Report 2023 highlights substantial progress across several pillars, while also identifying significant challenges and areas requiring further attention.

Pillar I: Resilience to Shocks and Crises: The implementation of the PACD phase one (2021/22) achieved great successes, in view of the successes achieved during the pilot phase, the government is committed to scaling up the PACD to reach more communities and deliver greater impact. A new PACD Phase 2 project document has been developed by a team of experts from government and other relevant stakeholders and implementation is expected to start in 2024.

Pillar II: Governance Reforms: The governance sector has seen mixed results. While there have been advancements in decentralization and the rule of law, the protracted delay in adopting the new constitution has impeded legal reforms. Additionally, limited resources for sensitization campaigns and the absence of comprehensive governance data have constrained progress. Voter apathy and low turnout during elections further highlight the need for robust voter education programmes. Despite these challenges, efforts to strengthen climate governance and security sector reforms have begun, though they are hampered by resource constraints and limited capacity. Enhanced resource allocation and targeted capacity-building efforts are crucial for sustaining these initiatives.

Pillar III: Macroeconomic Stability and Inclusive Growth: Economic growth has been bolstered by infrastructural developments, particularly in the energy sector. However, real GDP growth remains below target due to insufficient interventions in agriculture and fisheries, as well as climate-related events. The manufacturing sector faces challenges such as high costs, erratic electricity supply, and competition from imports. High debt levels and inflationary pressures further strain fiscal stability. The private sector's growth is hindered by limited national quality infrastructure and high formalization costs. The tourism sector has also been affected by budgetary constraints and delayed policy rollouts. However, the number of tourist arrivals has increased due to the marketing and promotional commitment of the sector. Addressing these economic challenges requires strategic investments in infrastructure and regulatory reforms to foster a conducive business environment.

Pillar IV: Human Capital Development: Progress in human capital development is evident through various educational and healthcare initiatives. However, the quality of education and training programmes need improvement to better align with labour market demands. The healthcare sector faces challenges related to resource constraints and inadequate capacity, affecting service delivery and overall human capital growth. Continued investments in

education and healthcare, alongside policy reforms to enhance the quality and accessibility of these services, are essential for sustained human capital development.

Pillar V: Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change: The agricultural sector shows promising growth, especially in rice and maize production due to MoA support and private sector collaboration. Poultry importation has increased due to the high demand and cost of local production. Vegetable production is thriving but needs more investment to reduce post-harvest losses. The Small Ruminant Production and Enhancement Project positively impacted small ruminant production. In fisheries, artisanal fish landing sites have been upgraded, and a draft insurance policy for artisanal fisheries and aquaculture is being developed. A comprehensive National Water Policy is also in progress, addressing critical water resource management issues. Environmental management has progressed with a draft policy on minimum tree cover and the establishment of an ICZM Secretariat. An index-based insurance product for key crops is set to pilot in 2024, enhancing agricultural resilience.

Pillar VI: Empowerment, Social Inclusion and Leaving No One Behind: Women's representation in the Gambian Cabinet remained the same which is well below the 30 per cent gender quota set by the 1995 UN Beijing Conference. Assessment of progress on National Assembly representation and managerial positions could not be made due to lack of data. Despite improvements in women's economic empowerment and gender-based violence awareness, harmful practices like FGM persist although despite outlawed. Advocacy and policy changes, including the Women's Act 2010, have bolstered women's rights. For children, the lack of real time data prevents assessing birth registration and early childhood education progress. Youth economic opportunities have improved, with a significant increase in youth-owned businesses and entrepreneurship training graduates. However, gender equality in these programmes remains an issue. Inclusiveness for persons with disabilities shows no progress.

Pillar VII: Energy, Infrastructure, and ICT Connectivity: Advancements in energy access and ICT infrastructure are notable through multiple electricity and ICT infrastructure-related projects, yet challenges persist. Delays in energy procurement processes and limited ICT infrastructure development due to resource constraints and coordination issues among stakeholders need to be addressed. Developing agile regulatory frameworks and enhancing capacity in these sectors will be crucial for future progress.

In conclusion, while the report underscores significant achievements in various sectors, it also highlights the need for targeted actions to overcome persistent challenges. Strategic investments, enhanced capacity-building efforts, data availability and robust policy reforms are essential to sustaining progress and achieving the Recovery Focused National Development Plan's objectives.

Chapter 6: Way Forward

6.1 Recommendations for Policy Adjustments or Interventions

1. **Support Development of Agricultural Technologies:** Boost productivity through advancements in agricultural technologies. Increase financing for land development, quality seeds, fertilizers, and equipment to support local production at family farms.
2. **Boost Funding and Resources for Fisheries and Aquaculture:** Increase investment to enhance the sector's growth and development, including training sector professionals and implementing water sector reforms.
3. **Expedite Legal Reforms:** Accelerate the approval and enactment of critical policies such as the Climate Change Act, National Waste Management Act, and Forestry Act. Mobilize resources and streamline processes to ensure effective implementation.
4. **Enhance Decentralization and Local Governance:** Revise the Local Government Act to align with ongoing reforms. Strengthen institutional capacities by recruiting qualified budget officers, developing audit charters, and providing training on PBB.
5. **Improve Data Availability and Capacity Building:** Address the lack of socio-economic and demographic data through timely support and collaboration with key stakeholders. Increase financial allocations for the conduct of relevant surveys and ensure continuous capacity building for effective data management.
6. **Expand Legal and Support Efforts for Migration Management:** Lower remittance costs, engage more with legislative bodies for diaspora voting, and expand legal frameworks to include anti-smuggling bills. Provide greater assistance to vulnerable groups and returnees.
7. **Commit to Affordable Housing and Urban Planning:** Secure executive level commitment to kick-start the national housing policy and coordinate effectively among institutions to implement housing initiatives for low-income groups.

6.2 Strategies for Improvement Based on Lessons Learned

1. **Resource Mobilization and Advocacy:** Enhance resource mobilization efforts and conduct donor roundtable before the end of the year to secure necessary funding.
2. **Strengthen Coordination and Monitoring:** Establish regular quarterly meetings for the Sector Working Groups and ensure the operationalization of the National Monitoring and Evaluation Platform with support from international partners.
3. **Improve Project Implementation Efficiency:** Allocate sufficient resources and technical expertise to enhance the efficiency of project implementation. Strengthen surveillance and law enforcement for better site management.
4. **Foster Stakeholder Participation:** Promote inclusiveness and ownership through broader stakeholder participation in policy and project development processes. Ensure wider consultation and document review to facilitate policy enactment.
5. **Facilitate Legal and Administrative Reforms:** Streamline administrative processes to reduce delays and improve efficiency. Ensure timely enactment of policies to support the ongoing legal and administrative reforms.

These recommendations and strategies aim to address the challenges faced during the reporting period and provide a clear path forward for achieving the goals outlined in the RF-NDP.

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ANNEX 1: DONOR COMMITMENT AND DISBURSEMENT BY SECTOR

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
1	African Development Bank	Additional Financing - Rice Value Chain Transformation Programme (RVCP)	Grant	Agriculture	0.00	594,415.48
2	African Development Bank	BANJUL PORT 4 TH EXPANSION PROJECT - ADB & ADFB Grant	Grant	Infrastructure	6,639,021.19	0.00
3	African Development Bank	Climate Smart Rural Wash Development Project	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0.00	0.00
4	African Development Bank	Climate Smart Rural WASH Development Project - 201800601	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0.00	0.00
5	African Development Bank	Climate Smart Rural WASH Development Project - Additional Financing	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	8,949,000.00	1,741,736.97
6	African Development Bank	Gambia Agriculture and Food security Project	Grant	Infrastructure	0.00	1,589,371.62
7	African Development Bank	Gambia Bridge Ancila	Grant	Infrastructure	0.00	0.00
8	African Development Bank	GAMBIA STRATEGIC PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE RESI	Grant	Environment	0.00	0.00
9	African Development Bank	Green Mini- Grid Country Support Programme	Grant	Energy	0.00	0.00
10	African Development Bank	Multi-country COVID-19 Crisis Response Support Programme - The Gambia	Grant	Health	0.00	0.00
11	African Development Bank	PUBIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMIC REFORM PROGRAMME (PFM-ERP) PHASE 1	Grant	Economic Governance	6,347,129.72	6,297,199.50
12	African Development Bank	Support for National Water Sector Reform	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0	0
13	African Development Bank	Support to the Financial Intelligence Unit of The Gambia in the Implementation of the Anti-money L...	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
14	African Development Bank	SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - Digital Masterplan & Capacity Building	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
15	African Development Bank	The Gambia Electricity System Rehabilitation and Expansion Project (GESREP)	Grant	Energy	6,468,164.19	0
16	African Development Bank	Trans Gambia Corridor Project Phase1(Construction of 24KM connecting roads between Farafenni-Senoba)	Grant	Infrastructure	0	0
17	African Development Bank	Transition Support Facility (TSF)	Grant	Infrastructure	0	0
18	African Development Fund	Agriculture Value Chains Development Project Tranche 1	Loans	Agriculture	0	0
19	African Development Fund	Agriculture Value Chains Development Project Tranche 2	Loans	Agriculture	0	0

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
20	African Development Fund	Agriculture Value Chains Development Project Undisbursed Balance	Loans	Agriculture	0	0
21	African Development Fund	Banjul Port 4 th Expansion Project - ADF Grant	Grant	Infrastructure	13,278,042.37	0
22	African Development Fund	Climate Smart Rural WASH Development Project - 2018005	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0	146,476.59
23	African Development Fund	Economic and Financial Governance Operation (EFIGO)_ Phase I	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
24	African Development Fund	EUR - Natural Resource Development & Management. PJ. (OMVG)	Loans	Environment	0	0
25	African Development Fund	GAMBIA INCENTIVE- BASED RISK SHARING SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURAL LENDING ESTABLISHMENT PROJECT	Grant	Agriculture	6,616,393.44	170,950.00
26	African Development Fund	Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG Energy Project) (Tr.1 - USD Tranche)	Loans	Environment	0	967,074.60
27	African Development Fund	Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG Energy Project) (Undisbursed Portion)	Loans	Environment	0	0
28	African Development Fund	Grant in Relation to The Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG Energy Project)	Grant	Environment	0	213,760.90
29	African Development Fund	PROJECT 2- The Programme to Strengthen Resilience to Food and Nutrition Insecurity in the Sahel	Grant	Agriculture	16,454,941.62	0
30	African Development Fund	PROJECT PREPARATION ADVANCE - BANJUL PORT 4 th EXPANSION PROJECT	Loans	Infrastructure	0	0
31	African Development Fund	Rice Value Chain Transformation Programme	Grant	Agriculture	0	42,292.73
32	African Development Fund	Rice Value Chain Transformation Programme (RVCP) - TSF Pillar I	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
33	African Development Fund	SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ENDMIC RUMINANT LIVESTOCK IN WEST AFRICA	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
34	African Development Fund	The Gambia Electricity Access Project	Grant	Energy	0	647,316.67
35	African Development Fund	The Gambia Electricity Access Project (GEAP) - TSF PILLAR I	Grant	Energy	0	2,379,019.21
36	African Development Fund	The Gambia Electricity System Rehabilitation and Expansion Project- 2100155042818	Grant	Energy	10,000,000.00	0
37	African Development Fund	USD-Natural Resource Development & Management. PJ. (OMVG)	Loans	Environment	0	0
38	African Development Fund	Vulnerable Youth and Women Support Project	Grant	Youth	6,299,181.62	0
39	African Legal Support Facility	Grant Support for Advisory Services in The Oil Sector	Grant	Energy	0	0
40	Agency Francaise De Development	2023 French Budget Support to Macroeconomic Stabilization	Grant	Economic Governance	3,224,526.16	2,221,997.98

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
41	Agency Francaise De Development	Water Supply in the Greater Banjul Area (WASIB) PHASE II PROJECT	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	13,435,525.68	0
42	Agency Francaise De Development	Water Supply Project in the Greater Banjul Area (WASIB)	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0	0
43	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	BADEA Technical Assistance for Enhancement of food Security in Salinity Affected Areas in Gambia	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
44	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Gambia University Project	Loans	Education	0	969,581.63
45	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Potable Water Supply for Rural Schools in The Gambia	Grant	Education	0	79,960.00
46	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Rice Value Chain Development Project	Loans	Agriculture	0	8,246.67
47	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Technical Assistance for financing the services of an Arab expert in teaching Arabic language	Grant	Education	0	82,252.60
48	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Technical Assistance for the Renovation of The Gambia Muslim Secondary School	Grant	Education	0	0
49	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Technical Assistance for Training Arabic School Teachers During Summer Vacation	Grant	Education	0	0
50	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	The Gambia University Project Phase II	Loans	Education	16000000	0
51	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Urgent Response to Fight COVID-19 Pandemic in The Gambia	Grant	Environment	0	0
52	ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEV. IN AFRICA	Widening of Bertil Harding Highway Project - BADEA	Loans	Infrastructure	0	11,642,754.91
53	Commission of The European Communities	STATE AND RESILIENCE BUILDING CONTRACT (SRBC 4) FOR THE GAMBIA	Grant	Economic Governance	43,243,762.00	13,192,240.97
54	ECOWAS BANK FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	Regional Stabilization and Development Fund in ECOWAS Member States -The Gambia Pilot Programme	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
55	ECOWAS BANK FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	Second Phase of the Rural Electrification Project	Loans	Energy	0	0
56	ECOWAS BANK FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	The Emergency Electric Power Supply Programme to the Greater Banjul Area, The Gambia	Grant	Energy	0	0
57	EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	GAMBIA RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPONENT 4 - GERMP Investment Grant Agreement	Grant	Energy	0	0
58	EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	GAMBIA RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT	Grant	Energy	0	0
59	EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	THE GAMBIA RENEWABLE ENERGY	Loans	Energy	0	24,087,488.87
60	EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK	The Gambia Renewable Energy Component 4 (GERMP) - Loan	Loans	Energy	0	0
61	Export - Import Bank of India	Debt Restructuring 2020 Exim Bank of Indian	Loans	Economic Governance	0	45,826.87
62	Export - Import Bank of India	LOC: USD22.5million: Electrification Expansion Project for Greater Banjul Area	Loans	Energy	0	430,640.82
63	Export - Import Bank of India	Replacement of Asbestos Water Pipes with UPVC Pipes in the Greater Banjul Area in Gambia	Loans	Fisheries and Water Resources	0	0
64	IDB - Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development	ISFD - Soil Fertility Mapping Project for The Gambia under the regional soil fertility programme	Loans	Agriculture	500,000.00	0
65	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)	THE GAMBIA RAPID RESPONSE NUTRITION SECURITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
66	International Development Association	Additional Financing for the Essential Health Services Strengthening Project	Grant	Health	0	12,394,563.82
67	International Development Association	Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence Project - 2014010	Grant	Education	0	0
68	International Development Association	Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence Project - 2014153	Loans	Education	0	0
69	International Development Association	Commercial Agriculture and Value Chain Management Project - 2014009	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
70	International Development Association	Commercial Agriculture and Value Chain Management Project - 2014152	Loans	Agriculture	0	0
71	International Development Association	Economic Governance Reform Grant I	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
72	International Development Association	ECOWAS- Regional Electricity Access Project	Grant	Energy	0	2,037,874.52

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
73	International Development Association	GAMBIA ELECTRICITY RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION PROJECT (GERMP)	Grant	Energy	0	9,854,943.67
74	International Development Association	Gambia Electricity Restoration and Modernization Project	Grant	Energy	0	458,498.33
75	International Development Association	Gambia First Fiscal Management, Energy and Telecom Reform Development Policy Financing	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
76	International Development Association	Gambia Fiscal Management Development Project	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
77	International Development Association	GAMBIA FISCAL MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT 2	Grant	Economic Governance	0	7,292,539.34
78	International Development Association	Gambia Inclusive and Resilience Agricultural Value Chain Development Project	Grant	Agriculture	0	27,088,627.35
79	International Development Association	Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West and Central Africa - Series of Projects 1 (HISWACA-SOP)	Grant	Economic Governance	30,153,679.95	2,000,000.00
80	International Development Association	Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West and Central Africa Advance Agreement	Grant	Economic Governance	2,265,700.00	1,474,960.00
81	International Development Association	OMVG Interconnection Project	Loans	Environment	0	5,547,729.79
82	International Development Association	Resilience, Inclusion, Skills, and Equity Project Preparation Advance No. V4880-GM	Grant	Education	3,000,000.00	0
83	International Development Association	Second Additional Financing for The Gambia Essential Health Services Strengthening Project-173287	Grant	Health	4,330,000.00	1,030,415.51
84	International Development Association	Second Additional Financing for The Gambia COVID-19 Vaccine Preparedness and Response Project	Grant	Health	0	0
85	International Development Association	Second Advance Agreement for the proposed Sub-Saharan Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend	Grant	Multisector	800,000.00	0
86	International Development Association	Second Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence for Development Impact Project	Grant	Education	0	3,371,118.44
87	International Development Association	Second Fiscal Management, Energy and Telecom Reform Development Policy Financing	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
88	International Development Association	Second Fiscal Management, Energy and Telecom Reform Supplemental Development Policy Financing -E1340	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
89	International Development Association	Sub-Saharan Africa Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Plus Project	Grant	Multisector	24,540,340.36	1,834,000.00
90	International Development Association	Sub-Saharan Africa Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project Advance Agreement (PPA)	Grant	Multisector	0	368,354.00
91	International Development Association	The Gambia Education Sector Support Project (Additional Funds-Amendment to GPEF Grant NO.TFA 7053GM)	Grant	Education	0	0

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
92	International Development Association	The Gambia Essential Health Services Strengthening Project	Grant	Health	0	10,605,170.19
93	International Development Association	The Gambia First Boosting Resilience and Unlocking Productive Potential DPF with Cat DDO	Grant	Multisector	40,652,156.68	40,545,785.00
94	International Development Association	The Gambia Social Safety Net Project	Grant	Social	0	5,749,905.38
95	International Development Association	Third Additional financing for The Gambia COVID-19 Vaccine Preparedness and Response Project	Grant	Health	0	4,880,148.31
96	International Development Association	Tourism Recovery, Diversification and Resilience in The Gambia	Grant	Tourism	0	0
97	International Development Association	Tourism, Diversification, and Resilience in The Gambia Project	Grant	Tourism	0	4,500,000.00
98	International Development Association	West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project 2	Grant	Environment	0	0
99	International Development Association	West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project 2 - GM	Grant	Environment	47,424,000.00	1,000,000.00
100	International Development Association	West Africa Regional Communications Infrastructure Project	Grant	Infrastructure	0	0
101	International Development Association	Western Africa Regional Digital Integration Project	Grant	Communication	0	250,977.94
102	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Project - AFD	Grant	Agriculture	0	989,627.24
103	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Project (ROOTS)	Loans	Agriculture	0	904,804.90
104	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Project (ROOTS) - DSF Grant	Grant	Agriculture	0	6,143,238.81
105	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Project 2023	Grant	Agriculture	4,708,582.00	0
106	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Resilience of Organizations for Transformative Smallholder Agriculture Project 2024	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
107	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	ROOTS - RURAL POOR STIMULUS FACILITY	Grant	Agriculture	0	0

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
108	International Monetary Fund	EXTENDED CREDIT FACILITY SDR 5 MILLION TO GOVT OF THE GAMBIA	Loans	Economic Governance	6,660,185.97	6,660,000.00
109	International Monetary Fund	ON LENDING OF SDR 14,320,000 TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GAMBIA, THE SPECIAL SDR ALLOCATIONS	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
110	International Monetary Fund	ON LENDING OF SDR 4 MILLION EXTENDED CREDIT FACILITY	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
111	International Monetary Fund	ONLENDING OF CREDIT FACILITY OF SDR 5 MILLION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GAMBIA	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
112	International Monetary Fund	RAPID CREDIT FACILITY - 2015 - SDR 5.67 M	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
113	International Monetary Fund	Rapid Credit Facility - 2017 -SDR 11.66 M	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
114	International Monetary Fund	RAPID CREDIT FACILITY - 2020 - SDR 15.55 M	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
115	International Monetary Fund	RAPID CREDIT FACILITY - 2021 - SDR 10.0 M	Loans	Economic Governance	0	0
116	International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Solar Water Pumping Systems for Wassadou and Julangel	Grant	Environment	0	0
117	Islamic Development Bank	ENHANCING VALUE ADDITION IN THE GROUNDNUT SECTOR PHASE II PROJECT	Loans	Agriculture	0	812,241.56
118	Islamic Development Bank	Enhancing value in the Groundnut Sector	Loans	Agriculture	0	0
119	Islamic Development Bank	Establishing a Comprehensive Obstetric Fistula Centre in The Gambia Project	Grant	Social	0	0
120	Islamic Development Bank	Expansion of Health Facilities Project - 0056	Loans	Health	0	0
121	Islamic Development Bank	IDB-Regional Rice Value Chain Development Programme - INSTALMENT SALE	Loans	Agriculture	0	206,767.13
122	Islamic Development Bank	IsDB-DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE GAMBIA	Loans	Education	0	1,692,711.41
123	Islamic Development Bank	Istisna-a - Enhancing Value Addition in the Groundnut Sector 2GM0081	Loans	Agriculture	0	2,860,844.50
124	Islamic Development Bank	OMVG Agro-Pastoral Development Project	Loans	Environment	0	0
125	Islamic Development Bank	Recruitment of Experts for Supporting the UTG in Establishing a Computer Science MSc Programme	Grant	Education	0	0
126	Islamic Development Bank	Regional Rice Value Chain Development Programme	Loans	Agriculture	0	500,000.00
127	Islamic Development Bank	Regional Rice Value Chain Development Programme (Grant	Grant	Agriculture	0	0
128	Islamic Development Bank	Small Ruminant Production Enhancement Project - Instalment sale	Loans	Agriculture	0	973,378.76
129	Islamic Development Bank	SMALL RUMINANT PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (STEP 1)	Loans	Agriculture	0	255,918.61

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
130	Islamic Development Bank	Small Ruminant Production Enhancement Project (STEP 2) - IsFDB Loan	Loans	Agriculture	0	2,308,272.06
131	Islamic Development Bank	Small Ruminant Production Enhancement Project -(STEP 2)-IDB Loan	Loans	Agriculture	0	2,248,124.64
132	Islamic Development Bank	SOIL FERTILITY MAPPING PROJECT FOR THE GAMBIA UNDER THE REGIONAL SOIL FERTILITY PROGRAMME WEST AFRIC	Loans	Agriculture	498,871.65	0
133	Islamic Development Bank	The Development of the University of The Gambia Phase 2 Project -GMB1028	Loans	Education	0	1,195,113.61
134	Islamic Development Bank	Widening of Bertil Harding Highway Phase II Project GMB 1038	Loans	Infrastructure	15,475,480.01	7,616,164.73
135	Islamic Development Bank	Widening of the Bertil Harding Highway Project - The Gambia IsDB	Loans	Infrastructure	0	5,581,453.50
136	KUWAIT FUND FOR ARB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	THE GAMBIA SEGMENT OF OMVG INTERCONNECTION PROJECT	Loans	Environment	0	0
137	KUWAIT FUND FOR ARB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Developing Basic and Secondary Education Project	Loans	Education	0	3,290,580.29
139	KUWAIT FUND FOR ARB ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Widening of Bertil - Harding Road Project_ KFAED	Loans	Infrastructure	0	12,955,350.23
140	M. A KHARAFI AND SON	M A KHARAFI AND SONS LOAN	Loans	Infrastructure	0	0
141	OPEC FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	The University of The Gambia Project OFID	Loans	Education	0	565,183.61
142	SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	Construction of VIP Lounge Project at Banjul International Airport in The Greater Banjul Area	Loans	Infrastructure	0	2,723,322.89
143	SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	ELECTRICITY NETWORK ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	Grant	Energy	0	0
144	SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	REHABILITATION OF WATER AND SANITATION NETWORKS PROJECT	Grant	Fisheries and Water Resources	0	0
145	SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	Roads Project in The Greater Banjul Area (50 KM Urban Road prj)	Loans	Infrastructure	0	5,350,639.20
146	SAUDI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT	The University of The Gambia Project SFD	Loans	Education	0	639,782.23
147	The United States of America (The Millennium Challenge Corporation)	Millennium Challenge Corporation threshold programme	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0

Sr / No	Creditor Name	Project Name	Instrument Type	Sector	Commitment Amount 2023	Actual Disbursement 2023
148	United Nations Development Prog/System	Support to Strengthened Capacities of National Institutions responsible for economic management and...	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
149	USAID (Development Objective Grant)	Development Objective Grant (Democracy, Peace and Stability enhanced)	Grant	Economic Governance	0	0
	GRAND TOTAL				337,964,684.61	276,309,737.09
	TOTAL LOANS AND GRANTS	337,964,684.61			82%	
						279,120,892.02