

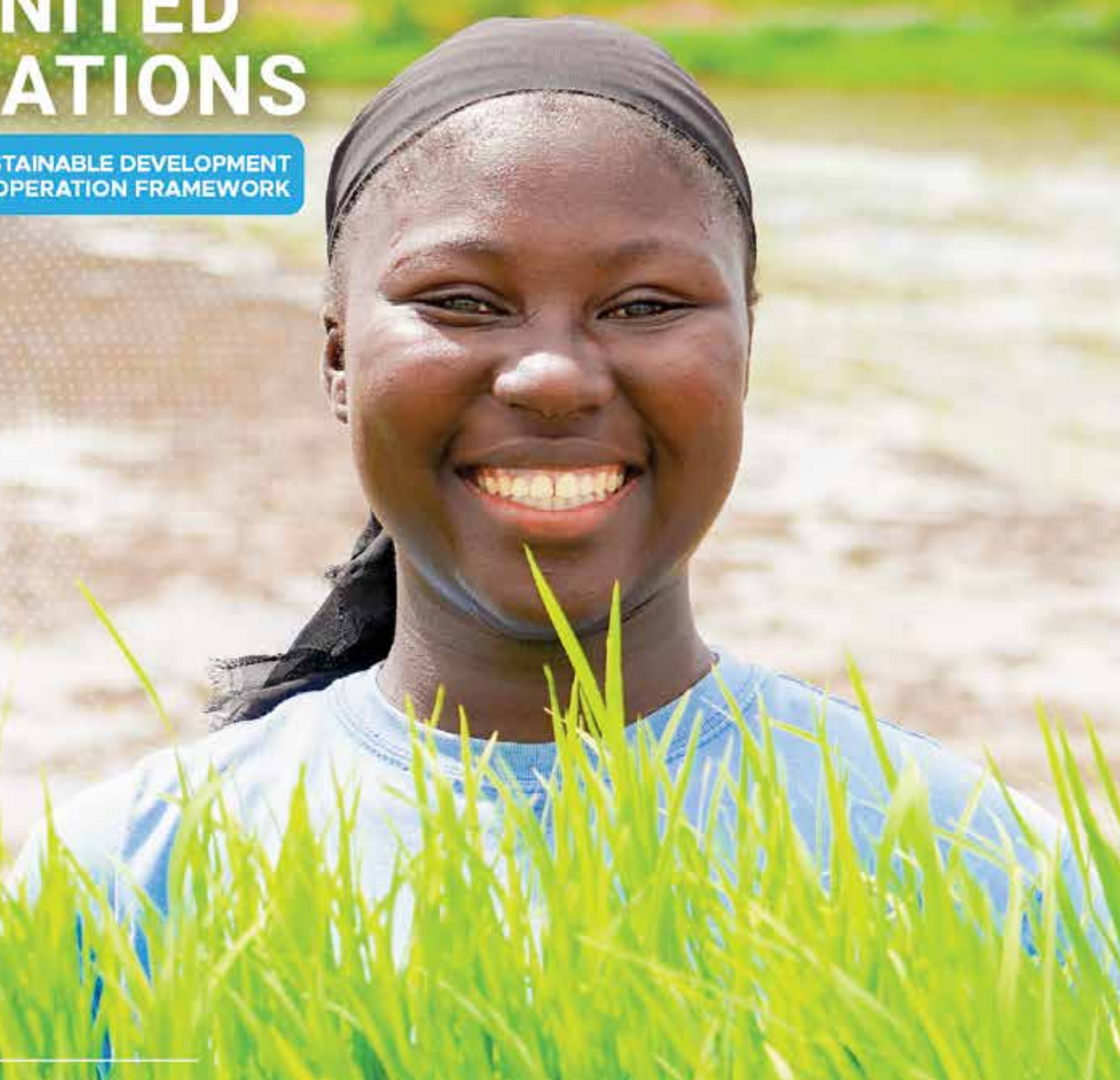


**UNITED NATIONS
THE GAMBIA**



UNITED NATIONS

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK**



**THE GAMBIA
2024-2028**

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Fatou Badjie of Maruo Farms working on one of the rice fields of the farm that supplied rice to WFP's school feeding programme.



VISION STATEMENT

By 2030, an inclusive, resilient, and prosperous Gambia, where all people live a dignified life, enjoy equitable access to quality services while ensuring environmental sustainability, and consolidating gains in democratic governance



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

FOREWORD

It is with pride and a profound sense of responsibility that we unveil the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for The Gambia, spanning 2024-2028. This pivotal blueprint delineates the conjoined aspirations and pledges of the United Nations system and the Government of The Gambia, drawing us closer to the ideals of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. This framework amplifies our shared dedication to bolstering The Gambia's green growth-centric National Development Plan.

Since 2017, The Gambia has journeyed a transformative path, anchoring its strides in democracy, upholding the rule of law, fostering good governance, and championing human rights. Yet, as with all journeys, challenges persist. Factors such as persistent poverty, widening inequality, the ramifications of climate change, and the far-reaching socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately bear down on our most vulnerable.

In navigating these challenges, the United Nations and the Government of The Gambia renew our mutual commitment to forge a brighter, more equitable future aligned with the SDGs. Driven by the resounding ethos of 'leaving no one behind', the UNSDCF delineates the holistic and integrated support that the UN system and the government of The Gambia is poised to deliver across developmental, humanitarian, and peacebuilding terrains, contributing to the realisation of the aspirations of the government's green growth focussed National Development Plan.

Inspired by the government's National Development Plan, the UNSDCF prioritises three intertwined strategic objectives:

1. Advocating for green, resilient, and inclusive livelihoods.
2. Championing human advancement, societal inclusion, and governance centred around the citizenry.
3. Augmenting innovative, cohesive development financing and partnerships.

The Government of The Gambia reiterates its commitment to strong leadership and ownership in implementing the priorities outlined in this framework. We will continue to invest in good governance, social services, economic growth and environmental sustainability to create positive change in the lives of all Gambians.

The United Nations stands resolute in its commitment to channel its collective expertise and resources, in concert with the Government and diverse partners, towards materialising The Gambia's development aspirations. We remain poised to leverage the unique strengths of the UN system, acting as a catalyst for progress across the humanitarian-development-peace continuum.

We look forward to a strengthened partnership between the United Nations system and the Government of The Gambia throughout the implementation of this cooperation framework. Together, we can realise our joint vision of a prosperous, just, and resilient future for the Gambian people, leaving no one behind.



Ms. Seraphine Wakana

**UNITED NATIONS
RESIDENT COORDINATOR**



Dr. Mamadou Tangara

**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION AND GAMBIANS ABROAD**



UNITED NATIONS

IN THE GAMBIA




**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURES

UNITED NATIONS IN THE GAMBIA

We, the undersigned, commit to work together in pursuing the strategic priorities laid out in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2028, towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. In line with the Green Recovery-Focused National Development Plan, our ultimate objective is to collectively improve the quality of life of all people living in The Gambia.

 <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p>	<p>Ms. Moshibudi Rampedi FAO Representative</p> 	 <p>Investing in rural people</p>	<p>Ms. Haoua Sienta Country Director</p> 
 <p>International Labour Organization</p>	<p>Mr. Dramane Haidara Director, Dakar Office</p> 	 <p>IOM UN MIGRATION</p>	<p>Mr. Emmanuel Murwisi IOM Chief of Mission</p> 
 <p>International Trade Centre</p>	<p>Mr. Ashish Shah Director of Country Programmes</p> 	 <p>UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER</p>	<p>Mr. Robert Kotchani Regional Representative for West Africa</p> 



Ms. Sira Ndow

UNAIDS Country Director

Sira Hoveja Ndow



Impact Capital
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Mr. Mourad Wahba

UNCDF OIC, New York

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Ms. Mandisa Mashologu

UNDP Resident Representative

Mandisa Mashologu



Ms. Ngone Diop

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Mr. Dimitri Sanga

Director, Dakar Regional Office

Dimitri Sanga



Ms. Ndeye Rose Sarr

UNFPA Representative

Rose Sarr



Ms. Mariavittoria Ballotta

UNICEF Representative a.i.

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Mr. Amado Philip de Andres

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**Ms. Ifeoma Esther
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Director/ Representative Ghana
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Ifeoma Charles Monwuba



Ms. Miranda Sanda

WFP Country Director

Miranda Sanda



Dr. Desta Tiruneh

WHO Representative

Desta Tiruneh



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), hereafter the Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), was crafted under the guidance of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Government of The Republic of The Gambia. It is anchored in the National Development Plan (NDP), adheres to the 2030 Agenda and UN Charter principles, and is devoted to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UNSDCF, formulated in collaboration with stakeholders across development, humanitarian, and peace sectors, emphasises human rights-based strategy and endorses gender equality and people-focused practices. The UNSDCF considers potential conflict occurrences, ensuring comprehensive and integrated analysis to tackle root causes, risks, and vulnerabilities at all tiers. It also champions a comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive approach, reflecting a profound commitment to leaving no one behind.

The following are the UNSDCF objectives:

- Guiding the United Nations' collective response to assist The Gambia in tackling national priorities and closing gaps in its SDG journey, enabling economic evolution.
- Offering chances to remodel economic policies around sustainability and drives a comprehensive, diverse, and job-focused economic transformation that enhances citizens' rights and well-being and safeguards the planet.
- Promoting partnerships and catalysing transformative change with the government, civil society organisations (CSOs), and the private sector.
- Translating the shared commitment of leaving no one behind into meaningful, people-focused actions, underscoring inclusivity and support for the vulnerable.
- Providing the UNCT with appropriate tools to facilitate the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the National Development Plan in The Gambia's context.

The Framework serves as a guide and "umbrella" from which all UN agencies derive their respective Country Programming Instruments and strategies, thus ensuring alignment of all UN support with the Government's development priorities. In this respect, the development of the Framework considered various UN agencies' strategic plans and other relevant programming instruments.

The UNSDCF builds on the Common Country Analysis (CCA), the UNDAF evaluation report and the National Development Plan (NDP). These documents provided critical insights into the root causes of problems, delineating stakeholders' roles across development, humanitarian, human rights, and peace sectors. They delved into inequalities, discrimination, marginalisation, and exclusion, simultaneously identifying various groups' social, political, and economic development capacities and impediments.

The UNSDCF outlines three strategic priorities for the UN in The Gambia:



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: GREEN, RESILIENT, AND INCLUSIVE LIVELIHOODS

The strategic priority of Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Livelihoods focuses on ensuring that women, children, displaced people, youths, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in rural and urban disaster and conflict-prone areas are resilient to climate-related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) systems. The desired outcome is that by 2028, these vulnerable groups will enjoy resilient and inclusive livelihoods.

The theory of change associated with this outcome emphasises the provision of adequate and sustainable WASH systems, nutrition and health services for children, pregnant and lactating women, and girls, as well as support for smallholder farmers and fisherfolks in adopting climate-smart and sustainable agriculture practices. Additionally, enhancing the

capacities of government institutions and other stakeholders to effectively mitigate, prepare, respond, and reconstruct in the face of disasters is crucial to achieving the desired outcome.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE-CENTERED GOVERNANCE

OUTCOME 2.1

By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia participate in functional, accountable and transparent institutions implementing relevant reforms resulting in the efficient delivery of public services

The first component of Strategic Priority 2 focuses on governance and institutional strengthening for effective public service delivery. The intended outcome is to have marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia actively participating in functional, accountable, and transparent institutions, resulting in the efficient delivery of public services.

The theory of change for this outcome highlights the need to strengthen legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks related to constitutional, security sector, transitional justice, anti-corruption, and land reforms. Leveraging digitalization for effective service delivery, as well as enhancing the proficiency and competence of vulnerable and marginalized groups to influence decision-making processes at different levels, are also important strategies outlined.



OUTCOME 2.2

By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia enjoy efficient social and economic inclusion, right-based human development for reduced poverty and inequality

The second component of Strategic Priority 2 aims to achieve efficient social and economic inclusion for marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia, leading to reduced poverty and inequality. The desired outcome is focused on human development that is rights-based, inclusive, and gender-responsive.

The theory of change associated with this outcome emphasizes the provision of sufficient, inclusive, and quality basic services at institutional and community levels for the most vulnerable and marginalized groups. Additionally, access to livelihood programs, decent jobs, and employment in formal and informal sectors is crucial for inclusive, gender-responsive economic growth and human development. Improving access to finance, entrepreneurship support, and skills acquisition for new production methods and product development also plays a significant role in achieving this outcome.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Strategic Priority 3 focuses on innovative and integrated development financing and strategic partnerships. The desired outcome is to have a broadened, inclusive, and coordinated partnership landscape, along with increased development financing for human development in The Gambia.

The theory of change associated with this outcome emphasizes the establishment of integrated and coordinated partnerships shaped by participatory policies, innovative resource leveraging and mobilization mechanisms, and inclusive, gender-sensitive financing strategies. Connecting the government, communities, and partners through digital technology, data, and information sharing, as well as accessing people-centered solutions and non-traditional sources of funding, are important strategies outlined to achieve the desired outcome.

The strategic priorities above provide a comprehensive roadmap for the UN in The Gambia to help the government to create an inclusive, resilient, and prosperous Gambia by 2030 by focusing on green, resilient, and inclusive livelihoods, human development, social inclusion, people-centered governance, and innovative development financing and strategic partnerships.

Furthermore, the CF outlines the engagement strategy, assumptions, and risks associated with the implementation of the strategic priorities.

ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS:

The theory of change highlights certain assumptions and risks that need to be considered for successful implementation of the strategic priorities. The assumptions include the prevalence of peace and stability, strong political will from the government and stakeholders, sufficient resources, effective coordination mechanisms, capacity of the government to formulate and implement policies, and a coordinated approach by the United Nations.

On the other hand, the identified risks include global economic shocks, external shocks such as pandemics, climate shocks, internal political instability, and violent extremism and regional instability. These risks could potentially hinder the achievement of the cooperation framework priorities outlined in the theory of change. Mitigating these risks and developing strategies to enhance resilience are important considerations for stakeholders.

The UNSDCF implementation commits to inclusivity, focusing on resilience, access to essential services, and ensuring no one is left behind. The strategy sets clear objectives, targets, and monitoring methods, promoting evidence-based decision-making and enhanced accountability.

The Joint National-UN Steering Committee, headed by the Secretary-General, the Head of the Civil Service of the Government of The Gambia, and the UN Resident Coordinator, will oversee the UNSDCF implementation. The Committee will include the UNCT, the government and its entities, CSOs, and the private sector. Other structures will encompass the UNCT and the respective UN Agencies' members.

The UNSDCF will be implemented under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, through Joint Workplans (JWPs) overseen by inter-agency Results Groups

established for each of the three strategic priorities identified. This will be supported by the Data, M&E and Learning Working group and other thematic groups, overseen through a strategic annual dialogue with the government.

The Business Operations Strategy (BOS) is a key part of the UNSDCF, with the UNCT committed to implementing the UN Secretary General's efficiency agenda using the BOS. The BOS includes regular coordination with UN entities and partners, joint planning and implementation of activities, shared data and information systems, comprehensive review of processes, identification and elimination of bottlenecks, streamlining and automation of processes, and more.

The UNSDCF theory of change acknowledges The Gambia's vulnerability to risks. The UNCT will continue to monitor the risks identified in the UNSDCF theory of change, including global economic shocks, pandemics, climate shocks, internal political instability, and violent extremism. The Data, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Group (DMEL) will reinforce all these actions with evidence gathered during their quarterly meetings.

Each Results Group (RG) will conduct an annual Performance Review under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator. This review will involve stakeholders and take place in the final quarter of each year of UNSDCF implementation to assess achievements, challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned. Considering this evaluation and the evolving national circumstances, the RGs will suggest amendments to the UNSDCF and the Joint Work Plan (JWP) for the subsequent year.

A final independent evaluation of the UNSDCF will be carried out in the penultimate year of the Cooperation Framework's implementation, leading to the preparation of the new programming cycle. The evaluation will be undertaken by an independent consultant or a team of consultants per the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) guidelines.

The UNCT will organise based on the "needs-based, tailored country presence" principle, per the UN Development System repositioning resolution. The UNCT, consisting of resident and non-resident entities, will pledge to contribute to at least one of the Cooperation Framework Outcomes. The UNCT will seek expertise from the broader UN System at sub-regional, regional, and global levels to ensure the successful implementation of the UNSDCF.



Women Farmers harvesting rice at a rice field.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

BOS	Business Operation Strategy
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CPIMS	Child Protection Information Management System
CRVS	Civil Registry and Vital Statistics
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRPD	Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities
DSW	Department of Social Welfare
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GFD	Gambia Federation of the Disabled
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
GoTG	Government of The Gambia
GPAY	Gambia Programme of Action for Youth
GWG	Gender Working Group
HDP	Humanitarian-Development-Peace
HRBA	Human Rights Based ability
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework
JWPs	Joint Work Plans
JWPs	Joint Work Plans
LNOB	Living No One Behind
MDAs	Ministries, Department and Agencies
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NSS	National Statistical System
NDP	National Development Plan
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	Operation Management Team
OPD	Organization of Persons with Disability
PCG	Programme Coordination Group
PWDs	Persons With Disability
RGs	Results Groups
RF NDP	Recovery-Focused National Development Plan
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SWAP	
TVET	Technical, Vocational Education and Training
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOC	Theory of Change
UNSDCF	United National Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UN	United Nations
UNISS	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
VoTs	Victims of Trafficking
VDC	Village Development Committee
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WDC	Ward Development Committee
WAEMU	West Africa Economic and Monetary Union
WFP	World Food Programme



1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

5 GENDER EQUALITY

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

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**THE GAMBIA'S
DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT**

The Gambia faces various economic, political and socio-economic development challenges in pursuing the 2030 Agenda.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



01

CHAPTER ONE

COUNTRY PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA


POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND INCLUSIVE ELECTIONS

The Gambia's transition to democracy began in 2016 when the former President relinquished power following an electoral defeat. Since then, the country has made significant strides towards establishing democratic governance. Peaceful and credible presidential and legislative elections in December 2021 and April 2022 indicate that the political transition is advancing well. However, there is still room for improvement, particularly in ensuring inclusive representation.

During the legislative elections in 2022, only 8 percent of candidates were women and only 3 of the 19 women who stood were elected. This indicates a certain stagnation regarding women's political empowerment in the country. Furthermore, representatives of minority groups, including persons with disabilities and Christians, were not elected to the National Assembly, underscoring the need to ensure that no one is left behind in the political process.

To strengthen democracy and promote inclusive governance, the government, political parties, and civil society must work together to address barriers to political participation and encourage greater representation of women and minority groups in elected positions. Conducting inclusive civic education and raising awareness about the importance of diverse and inclusive representation can be instrumental in achieving this goal.

ELECTION LAWS AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM



Pictorial of Gambian youth shining light on the need for equality across all sectors.

While The Gambia has made progress in its political transition, challenges remain in its legal and constitutional framework. The 1997 Constitution, amended by the former President to enable anti-democratic practices, continues to be the supreme law of the land. A new Constitution that reflects the aspirations of the Gambian people was drafted but failed to pass through the National Assembly in 2020, due to the presidential term limits among others.

The government's commitment to re-launching the constitutional review process in 2023 is a positive step forward. This presents an opportunity to address critical electoral and democratic reforms, such as mandating a quota system for women's representation in the National Assembly. To ensure the success of this process, engaging Gambian citizens throughout the country and in the diaspora, as well as collaborating with the National Assembly, civil society, as well as traditional and religious leaders, will be imperative.

Additionally, general legal reform is needed to align the Gambia's laws with international human rights standards and enable the legal system to prosecute crimes uncovered by the Truth, Reconciliation & Reparations Commission (TRRC). Strengthening the Law Reform Commission and enacting essential laws, such as the Anti-Corruption Bill and the Whistle-blower Protection Bill, will contribute to a more just and accountable society.

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

The Gambia faces economic challenges that hinder its development path. The reliance on agriculture and tourism, which are vulnerable to economic and climate shocks, as well as the limited size of the private sector poses food security and economic development concerns, exacerbated by recent flash floods and climate change impacts. Rising sea levels and

environmental degradation also threaten the livelihoods of coastal communities.

In response to economic challenges, the government must prioritise targeted investments in agriculture, infrastructure, and renewable energy to improve food security, mitigate climate impacts, and foster sustainable growth.



ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Gambia experiences frequent flash floods and climate-related shocks, underscoring the urgency of addressing environmental and climate change issues. Rising sea levels, salinity intrusion, over-fishing, and sand mining negatively impact ecosystems, agriculture, and food security.

Efforts to combat these challenges, such as marking transhumance corridors promoting sustainable agriculture and implementing local conventions for resource use, require broader application and support from the United Nations and other international partners.



HUMANITARIAN, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND PEACE AND SECURITY

The country faces a looming food security crisis due to international conflicts, poor harvest, inflation and climate shocks. Vulnerable groups, such as women, children, and the elderly, are at greater risk of food and nutrition insecurity, necessitating urgent humanitarian assistance.

The Truth, Reconciliation & Reparations Commission (TRRC) has made significant strides in investigating human rights abuses from the former regime, but the slow implementation of its recommendations has drawn criticism. To sustain peacebuilding efforts, The Gambia must strengthen human rights institutions and effectively prosecute crimes.

Peace and security remain central to The Gambia's transition. The reform of the security sector, particularly the army, is vital for lasting stability. While ECOMIG has played a crucial role, its continued presence and the involvement of the Senegalese contingent in cross-border conflicts present challenges that require careful management.

The Gambia's transition towards peace, democracy, and sustainable development showcases commendable progress while presenting remaining challenges. Political reforms, constitutional review,

and inclusive governance are essential for consolidating democratic gains and ensuring the representation of all citizens, especially women and minority groups.

Addressing economic challenges, particularly food and nutrition insecurity and environmental degradation, requires targeted investments and sustainable development strategies. Efforts to combat climate change and protect the environment must be scaled up through international cooperation and support.

Humanitarian assistance and a focus on human rights are crucial for vulnerable populations affected by the food crisis and human rights abuses. Implementing TRRC recommendations, legal reform, and anti-corruption efforts are essential for fostering a just and accountable society.

Finally, reforming the security sector and thoughtful management of ECOMIG's presence are vital for ensuring stability and social cohesion. By addressing these multidimensional challenges with dedication and support from national and international partners, The Gambia can continue its path towards lasting peace, democracy, and sustainable development.



The United Nations remains steadfast in its commitment to addressing the multifaceted challenges of our time, including economic disparities, climate change, human rights violations, and the imperative for national peace and security.

Ms. Seraphine Wakana
UN Resident Coordinator

Women and children benefitting from routine medical check ups through the SOS mobile clinic in partnership with UNFPA



SOCIAL CONTEXT

The Gambia faces significant social challenges that hinder its progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Poverty remains a pervasive issue, with nearly half of the population living below the poverty line. Rural areas, in particular, bear the brunt of poverty, facing limited access to basic services and economic opportunities. Quality education and healthcare services are also areas of concern, with inadequate infrastructure, limited resources, and low enrollment rates affecting the population's well-being. Gender equality is another critical aspect that requires attention, as women and girls face discrimination and unequal access to opportunity in many aspects of society.

Youth unemployment and underemployment also represents significant social and economic challenges in The Gambia. Insufficient job opportunities for young

people hinder their ability to contribute to the country's development to social unrest and migration. Addressing youth unemployment requires targeted strategies, such as promoting entrepreneurship, skill development, and investment in sectors that create sustainable employment opportunities.

To overcome these development challenges, The Gambia need to diversify its economy, strengthen democratic institutions, initiate poverty reduction measures, improve education and healthcare access and services as well as mainstreaming gender equality throughout its policy designs and implementations. International support and partnerships can play a crucial role in supporting The Gambia's efforts to achieve sustainable and inclusive development aligned with the goals of the 2030 Agenda.

SDG PROGRESS

The Gambia must urgently build capacity to monitor all SDG targets and indicators. According to the 2020 VNR report, The Gambia only has data on one-third of the total SDG indicators (78 out of 230 indicators).

The country has no data to measure SDGs 10 and 12, only 8 percent of the data to measure SDGs 11 and 15, and less than a third of the data to measure SDGs 1,8,

14 (See 2021 UN Gambia CCA Report for more information).

According to the 2021 Sustainable Development Report, The Gambia will only meet two SDGs (SDG 13 and 16). The report says the country has made minimal progress toward four SDGs (SDGs 1, 4, and 15), and there has been no progress toward SDGs 2,3,6,7,8,9,and 11.



Figure 1: Summary of The Gambia’s Progress on SDGs according to the 2021 Sustainable Development Report¹

The Gambia has made moderate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and addressing key development challenges identified in the Common Country Analysis (CCA). The transition from authoritarian rule to a democratic government in 2016 has provided new opportunities for sustainable development and improved governance. However, significant challenges remain.

¹ Source : <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/static/profiles/pdfs/SDR-2021-gambia-the.pdf>



In terms of SDGs, The Gambia has shown positive progress in SDG 13 (climate action) and moderate improvement in SDGs 1 (no poverty), 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), and 15 (life on land). These achievements reflect efforts to promote environmental sustainability, improve access to education, empower women and girls, and protect terrestrial ecosystems. However, major challenges persist in several other SDGs.



SDG 2 (zero hunger) presents a pressing issue in The Gambia, with limited agricultural productivity and vulnerability to climate change impacting food security. Enhancing agricultural practices, improving infrastructure, and addressing climate change impacts are crucial for ensuring access to sufficient and nutritious food for all.



Healthcare access and quality remain challenges in SDG 3 (good health and well-being). Maternal and child mortality rates, prevalence of communicable diseases, and inadequate healthcare infrastructure hinder progress in this area. Strengthening healthcare systems, improving access to essential services, and addressing health disparities are essential for achieving this goal.



SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) poses challenges in terms of access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities, particularly in rural areas. Investments in water and sanitation infrastructure, promotion of hygiene practices, and equitable access to clean water are necessary for achieving this goal.



Access to reliable and affordable energy, especially in rural areas, is a challenge in SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy). Expanding access to clean and sustainable energy sources, such as renewable energy, is crucial for economic development, and improved education as well as healthcare services.



SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) requires addressing high youth unemployment rates and promoting economic diversification. Job creation, support of entrepreneurship, and improved labor market policies are key areas for intervention.



Enhancing infrastructure, promoting innovation, and attracting investments are crucial for advancing SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure). The Gambia needs to improve transport, energy access, and digital connectivity to support economic growth and sustainable industrialization.



Reducing inequalities (SDG 10) is an important priority, particularly in terms of income inequality and disparities in access to basic services. Empowering marginalized groups, implementing social protection measures, and reducing inequalities in service access are essential steps.



SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) highlights challenges in urban planning, housing, and disaster resilience, particularly in coastal areas vulnerable to climate change impacts. Improving urban infrastructure, land-use planning, and disaster risk reduction measures are crucial for creating sustainable and resilient cities.



The Gambia faces challenges in SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), particularly in waste management, unsustainable resource use, and sustainable tourism. Promoting sustainable production processes, waste management strategies, and responsible consumption patterns are key actions required.



SDG 14 (life below water) emphasizes the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. The Gambia needs to address overfishing, pollution, and the degradation of coastal ecosystems. Enhancing marine conservation efforts, promoting sustainable fishing practices, and reducing coastal pollution are necessary for preserving marine ecosystems and supporting coastal communities.

In general, The Gambia faces various gaps and challenges in achieving the 2030 Agenda/SDGs. Among them, we can highlight: Limited institutional capacity, inadequate financial resources, weak infrastructure, poverty, food insecurity, water scarcity, energy access, unemployment, income inequality, urbanization issues, environmental degradation, climate change impacts, coastal erosion, biodiversity loss, governance issues such as corruption, and human rights concerns pose significant obstacles.

Opportunities exist for The Gambia to make progress towards the 2030 Agenda/SDGs. The country has established policies, strategies, and frameworks to guide sustainable development, climate resilience, and human rights. Efforts have been made to strengthen governance, rule of law, democratic institutions, and peace-building processes. Partnerships with the private sector, civil society, development partners, and donors are being pursued to address development priorities and promote sustainable development.

However, in order to successfully address the identified gaps and challenges, The Gambia requires sustained political commitment, effective coordination mechanisms, increased investment in critical sectors, public-private collaborations, improved data collection and monitoring systems, and capacity building initiatives. It is crucial to empower and engage all stakeholders, including marginalized groups, in decision-making processes and implementation efforts.

In conclusion, while The Gambia has made progress in certain areas, significant efforts are still needed to overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities for achieving the 2030 Agenda/SDGs, promoting human rights, and upholding international norms and standards in the country. By addressing the identified gaps and challenges through targeted interventions, mobilizing resources, enhancing institutional capacity, and fostering partnerships, The Gambia can make significant strides towards sustainable development and the realization of the 2030 Agenda.



SDG GOALS

MACRO-LEVEL TRENDS IMPACTING SDG PROGRESS IN THE GAMBIA

The 2022 CCA identified the following four macro-level trends that will significantly impact The Gambia's future: (a) Demographic Dynamics, (b) Economic Projections, (c) Environmental Vulnerabilities, and (d) Political Transition.

The CCA used a strategic foresight analysis involving a combination of Horizon Scanning, Scenario Planning, and the Delphi method to model the possible future scenarios of the country's development and its implications on the SDGs (See Table 1 below). The possible scenarios are briefly discussed below.

Macro-Level Trends	Scenario A	Scenario B	SDGs Impacted (Scenario A)	SDGs Impacted (Scenario B)	Recommendations
Demographic Dynamics: Youth Bulge and Urbanization	Harnessing the Demographic Dividend	The Youth and Gender Quandary	SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 8	Several SDGs hindered	Invest in health, education, gender equality and employment for the youth
Economic Projections: Growth and Diversification	Inclusive Economic Growth	Economic Vulnerability	SDGs 1, 8, 9	SDGs 1, 10, and others slowed	Promote economic diversification through diverse sector investment
Environmental Vulnerabilities: Climate and Biodiversity	Resilient, Sustainable Development	Environmental Crisis	SDGs 13, 14, 15	SDGs 1, 2, 3, and others threatened	Strengthen climate resilience with mitigation and adaptation strategies
Political Transition: Democracy vs Instability	Democratic Consolidation	Political Instability	All SDGs, especially 16	Progress on SDGs impeded	Consolidate democratic institutions with transparency, accountability, and the rule of law.

Table 1: Possible Scenarios in The Gambia's Pursuit of SDGs

This strategic foresight analysis, applied to The Gambia, provides two potential future scenarios under four critical macro-level trends: demographic dynamics, economic projections, environmental vulnerabilities, and political transition.



Ndumbah Saho, Director at the ministry of public service presenting on behalf of the Government during the UNCT configuration dialogue on the CF

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK: GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

SCENARIO A: INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Through a focus on economic diversification and the cultivation of the private sector, The Gambia creates a platform for inclusive economic growth, thus positively steering SDGs associated with poverty reduction (SDG 1), employment quality (SDG 8), and economic evolution (SDG 9).

SCENARIO B: ECONOMIC FRAGILITY

The Gambia amplifies its economic vulnerability, impairing progress towards SDGs 1 (poverty reduction) and 10 (reduced inequalities) by neglecting economic diversification and private sector development.

POLITICAL TRANSITION: DEMOCRACY VS. INSTABILITY

SCENARIO A: DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION

The consolidation of democracy positively affects all SDGs, particularly SDG 16 (peace, justice, and robust institutions), as The Gambia commits to strengthening institutions, augmenting transparency, and enforcing accountability.

SCENARIO B: POLITICAL DISRUPTION

The Gambia fails to consolidate democratic institutions, champion transparency, uphold accountability, and enforce the rule of law triggering political instability and significantly delaying The Gambia's journey towards achieving all SDGs.

These scenarios highlight how The Gambia's trajectory may evolve and the potential impact on the country's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The CCA proposes a comprehensive roadmap for The Gambia to navigate these scenarios effectively. This includes investing in SDG data to gain vital insights, reducing remittance costs to enhance the country's most reliable source of development finance, managing population growth sustainably, and improving women's reproductive health and other services.

Moreover, deepening democracy, fostering private sector growth, investing in climate change resilience and sustainable food systems, prioritising inclusivity, and empowering women and children are crucial steps.

These measures serve as catalysts for progress, fostering economic development, addressing urbanisation issues, strengthening governance, creating job opportunities, adapting to climate change, and safeguarding the welfare of all citizens.

The CCA also demonstrates that The Gambia can forge a path towards sustainable development, ensuring that no one is left behind on the journey towards achieving the SDGs by implementing these policies and focusing on the eight most vulnerable groups, who are women, children, youth, migrants, people living with HIV/AIDS, people with disabilities, the elderly and other key populations.

DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS: YOUTH EXPANSION AND URBANISATION

SCENARIO A: CAPITALISING ON DEMOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES

The Gambia diversifies its economy and spurs private sector growth by exploiting demographic dividends, realising positive outcomes on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as poverty alleviation (SDG 1), the promotion of decent work opportunities (SDG 8), and the progression of economic development (SDG 9).

SCENARIO B: THE DILEMMA OF YOUTH AND GENDER

The Gambia fails to address youth unemployment and gender disparities leading to poor healthcare, education, gender equality, and youth employment, blocking the fulfilment of several SDGs.

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS: CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY

SCENARIO A: RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Investing in resilience strategies and promoting sustainable practices, The Gambia improves SDGs on climate action (SDG 13), aquatic life (SDG 14), and terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15) through fortifying climate resilience with mitigation and adaptive approaches.

SCENARIO B: ENVIRONMENTAL CALAMITY

The Gambia fails to reinforce climate resilience and implement viable mitigation plans leading to an environmental crisis that threatens SDGs on poverty eradication (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2), and the promotion of health and well-being (SDG 3), among others.



CAUSES OF INEQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY OR DISCRIMINATION

Opportunity inequality is a complex socio-economic, cultural, political, and infrastructural issue. The CCA conducted an independent analysis of discrimination causes in The Gambia. This analysis illuminated the implications of inequality for access to electricity, clean fuels, bank accounts, basic water and sanitation, societal attitudes towards violence against women, completion of secondary and higher education, women's access to sexual and reproductive health, and children's nutrition.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

Wealth disparity, a significant socio-economic factor, contributes substantially to inequality in The Gambia. The CCA's discrimination analysis revealed that only 19 percent of households in the bottom 40 percent of wealth distribution own bank accounts. Similarly, a mere 13 percent of these households have electricity access, and only 32 percent have basic sanitation. Poverty intensifies the inequality cycle, with no households in the bottom 40 percent of wealth distribution having access to clean fuels, electricity or essential amenities that can significantly enhance life quality. This wealth disparity inevitably results in unequal access to resources and opportunities.

CULTURAL FACTORS

Cultural norms and societal attitudes significantly contribute to discrimination, particularly regarding gender. For instance, 84 per cent of women with lower education, having four or more children under five years of age living in rural areas justify their partners beating them. This acceptance and normalization of domestic violence against women reinforce patriarchal power dynamics and hinder women's empowerment and development opportunities. The CCA found that three-quarters of women have undergone female genital mutilation, despite 92 per cent of Gambian women knowing that FGM is illegal in The Gambia.

GENDER

The analysis indicates that women face cross-sectorial inequality and discrimination due to gender barriers. The prevalence of attitudes condoning violence against women, especially in rural areas and among women with lower education and large families, highlights gender discrimination. Moreover, gender disparities are also visible in the context of access to modern contraception and skilled birth attendance, with women having more children being the furthest left behind. This indicates the gender roles and expectations, along with the lack of access to sexual and reproductive health services, are significant contributors to inequality.

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

There is a strong correlation between education levels and access to opportunities. Individuals with lower levels of education have lower access to bank accounts, internet use, and are more likely to condone domestic violence. There is a significant gap in the completion of secondary and higher education between rural women and other groups. This suggests that educational inequalities significantly contribute to the overall inequality of opportunity.

The gender education gap further underscores cultural inequality causes. Only 5 per cent of rural women have completed secondary education, and none of the poorer women have completed higher education. This societal bias towards men's education restricts women's advancement opportunities, contributing to economic inequality.

AGE AND RURAL/ URBAN DISPARITIES

Another contributing factor is age, which seems to play a role in digital inequality, with individuals above 35 years having less access to the internet. Moreover, rural households tend to have lower access to opportunities compared to urban households, indicating a geographical factor to the inequality.

HEALTH

Inequalities in health are particularly visible in children's nutrition levels, with poorer boys having more siblings being more likely to be stunted or wasted. This suggests that the wealth of a household, as well as family size, play significant roles in determining a child's health and nutritional status, thereby impacting their future opportunities.

POLITICAL FACTORS

Political will and policymaking significantly influence inequality by addressing or perpetuating it. For instance, a lack of focus on comprehensive reproductive health policies can result in unequal access to sexual and reproductive health services. Only 27 per cent of women with four or more children under five years of age have access to modern contraception. Only 71 per cent of poorer women aged 25 – 34 years with lower education and three or more children under five years of age have access to skilled birth attendance during childbirth.

Political decisions also affect the distribution and accessibility of basic services like electricity, clean fuels, and internet. The digital divide in The Gambia, where only 12 per cent of poorer households above 35 years old with lower education use the internet, exemplifies the role of political factors in causing opportunity inequality.

INFRASTRUCTURAL FACTORS

Infrastructural factors are crucial in causing inequality, particularly regarding access to basic services and utilities. A robust infrastructure is needed to ensure equal access to electricity, clean fuels, safe drinking water, and sanitation facilities. These disparities impact life quality and limit the opportunities available to households and communities.

CONCLUSION

Opportunity inequality is a multifaceted issue with roots in socio-economic, cultural, political, and infrastructural factors. Like many countries, the Gambia experiences pronounced inequality, as revealed

by the CCA Opportunity Inequality analysis. Addressing these root causes is vital for achieving opportunity equality.

Efforts should be made to reduce wealth disparities, challenge harmful cultural norms, make political decisions that prioritize equality, and invest in infrastructure development. Achieving these goals will require concerted

efforts from governments, non-governmental organizations, and households.

By focusing on these critical areas, we can start to disrupt the inequality cycle and work towards a more equitable world where no one is left behind, aligning with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Students all smiles as they attend a UNFPA gathering for Gambian young people.

PATHWAYS FOR SUPPORTING SDGS IMPLEMENTATION

While The Gambia faces various challenges and gaps in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as highlighted in the preceding section, the following are pathways to support SDG implementation and accelerate progress in the country:

1. STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS

The Gambia has made significant strides in democratic consolidation since the transition from authoritarian rule in 2016. However, there is a need to strengthen governance structures and institutions further. This includes improving transparency, accountability and combating corruption. The government should continue to enhance institutional capacity, promote good governance, and establish effective anti-corruption mechanisms.

2. MOBILISING FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Adequate and sustainable financing is crucial for SDG implementation. The Gambia needs to mobilise financial resources from domestic and international sources to support priority sectors. This includes attracting investment, improving domestic resource mobilisation, and leveraging development partnerships and donor support. The government should prioritise resource allocation to critical areas such as education, healthcare, infrastructure development, and environmental sustainability.

3. ENHANCING DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING

Accurate and reliable data is essential for tracking progress and making informed policy decisions. The Gambia should work towards improving data collection systems, strengthening statistical capacities, and establishing robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks. This will enable better tracking of SDG indicators, identifying gaps, and evidence-based policymaking.

4. PROMOTING INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

Addressing inequalities and promoting inclusivity are key pathways for SDG implementation. The Gambia should prioritise policies and interventions that target marginalised groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, and rural communities. This involves promoting gender equality, ensuring equal access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, and reducing regional disparities.

5. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Gambia is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, coastal erosion, and droughts. Prioritising climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability is crucial for achieving the SDGs. The government should develop and implement robust climate change adaptation strategies, promote renewable energy sources, strengthen natural resource management, and enhance resilience to climate-related hazards.

6. STRENGTHENING HEALTH AND EDUCATION SYSTEMS

Improving healthcare and education are critical pathways for SDG implementation. The Gambia should invest in healthcare infrastructure, enhance the quality and accessibility of healthcare services, and prioritise preventive healthcare measures. Similarly, efforts should be made to improve the quality of education, strengthen teacher training, and ensure inclusive and equitable access to education at all levels.

7. PROMOTING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND JOB CREATION

The Gambia must diversify its economy and create employment opportunities, especially for its growing youth pop-

ulation. This requires supporting entrepreneurship, fostering innovation, and promoting private-sector development. The government should create an enabling business environment, provide access to finance and business development support, and enhance vocational training programs to equip the youth with relevant skills.

8. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

The Gambia should foster partnerships and collaborations among government agencies, civil society organisations, development partners, and the private sector. This involves leveraging various stakeholders' expertise, resources, and technical assistance to support SDG implementation. The government should actively engage in regional and international cooperation, exchange best practices, and learn from the experiences of other countries in SDG implementation.

These pathways guide the United Nations and its partners in Gambia to work collaboratively towards achieving the SDGs.

Accordingly, the UNCT in The Gambia, after extensive consultations with the government and at least 132 other organisations, identified the following three strategic priority areas as the most optimum way to ensure that the UNSDCF pursues the pathways identified above in an integrated way that is in line with the 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships).

01

**PROMOTING GREEN,
RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE
LIVELIHOODS:**

This strategic priority involves enhancing climate resilience, improving food systems, and mitigating vulnerability to shocks, particularly for the most marginalised and vulnerable individuals, such as women, children, displaced people, youths, and people with disabilities. By fostering sustainable livelihoods that are resilient to climate-related and other shocks and ensuring access to sustainable food, health, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) systems, the UNSDCF aims to support the implementation of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (life on land) among others.



Poultry Farmer in Njau displaying eggs harvested in the community farm supported by the UN.

02

**FOSTERING HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL
INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE-
CENTERED GOVERNANCE:**

This strategic priority addresses weak governance, inadequate transparency, and a lack of accountability. By enhancing the capacities of marginalised and vulnerable individuals to participate in accountable and transparent institutions and by ensuring the efficient delivery of public services, the UNSDCF supports the achievement of SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). Additionally, by promoting social and economic inclusion and focusing on rights-based, inclusive, and gender-transformative human development, the UNSDCF also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).



A student enjoying a WFP school meal during break.

03

**INNOVATIVE AND
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
FINANCING AND STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIPS:**

This strategic priority targets the challenges of a narrow and fragmented partnership landscape, lack of sustainable financing, and limited stakeholder participation. By fostering a more inclusive partnership landscape and sustainable financing for human development, and by leveraging digital technology for information sharing and accessing non-traditional sources of funding, the UNSDCF aims to support the achievement of SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Moreover, focusing on people-centered solutions and broadening the scope of participatory policies indirectly supports other SDGs.



UN RC with ministers of Health and Digital Economy during a dialogue with government.

THE GAMBIA'S NATIONAL VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

THE GAMBIA NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) 2023-2027

The Gambia National Development Plan (NDP) for 2023-2027 is a grand blueprint to shape The Gambia's future. It is all about ensuring the country continues growing in the right direction. The plan is anchored around one big goal - to keep building on the country's democratic governance, push forward with a green economy and social changes, and ensure The Gambia can bounce back from any shocks or crises.

The plan has the following three strategic objectives:

- 01** First, ensuring that households and communities in The Gambia can handle any unexpected shocks, like the impact of climate change or economic fluctuations.
- 02** Second, the plan aims to continuously move forward, addressing any remaining gaps in governance and in the economic and social transformation of the country.
- 03** Third, promoting accountability, fostering partnerships, and securing the resources necessary to deliver these outcomes.

The NDP is built on seven pillars, each representing a specific area of focus:

- 01** Resilience to Shocks and Crises: The Gambia is prepared to face any unforeseen challenges that might arise.

- 02** Governance Reforms: The government of The Gambia is operating optimally for its citizens.

- 03** Macroeconomic Stability and Growth: Maintain and enhance the stability and growth of Gambia's economy, a critical aspect of everyone's prosperity.

- 04** Human Capital Development: Investing in the people of The Gambia, ensuring access to quality education and health care for all.

- 05** Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change: Balance agricultural needs and the use of natural resources with environmental preservation and addressing climate change.

- 06** Empowerment, Social Inclusion, and Leaving No One Behind: Promotes equality, ensuring everyone has equal opportunity, and no one is marginalised.

- 07** Energy, Infrastructure, and Connectivity: Keeping The Gambia powered and connected with a robust infrastructure.

Each pillar has detailed outcomes and program priorities associated with it. For example, under 'Governance Reforms', the plan aims for a new constitution, improved local governance, and fair elections, among others. For 'Macroeconomic Stability and Growth', the focus is to enhance public finance management, facilitate a growth-led private sector, and diversify the tourism sector. Under 'Human Capital Development', the objective is to improve access to quality education and healthcare as well as enhance nutrition for women and children.



UNITED NATIONS
THE GAMBIA



Gambian youth who presented their contribution to each SDG during the UN International Youth Day Celebrations 2023.



02

CHAPTER TWO

UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THE 2030 AGENDA

2.1 OVERARCHING THEORY OF CHANGE

The United Nations in Gambia, in collaboration with the government and 132 diverse entities from sectors such as government, civil society, international organisations, media, academia, and the private sector, devised a theory of change to assist the government in realising the 2030 Agenda during a three-day workshop that facilitated a robust exchange of expertise and experiences.

Following thorough discussions, the workshop outlined a vision for the UN development system in The Gambia - fostering a prosperous, resilient, and inclusive nation by 2030. This vision paints a society where everyone enjoys a dignified life and equitable access to quality services, contributes to environmental sustainability, and advances human rights and democratic governance.

The realisation of this vision depends on several assumptions. These include peace and stability, strong political will, resource availability, effective coordination, governmental policy development capacity, and the UN's commitment to coordination. However, The Gambia's exposure to risks, including global economic shocks, pandemics, climate shocks, internal political instability, and violent extremism, is also recognised.

Considering these challenges, a shared understanding of The Gambia's barriers to sustainable development identified three areas for UN focus. These areas aim to support the government's National Development Plan (NDP) 2023-2027 in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

01 Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Livelihoods: Developing sustainable farming and fisheries, enhancing climate resilience, and improving health and sanitation service accessibility.

02 Human Development, Social Inclusion, and People-centered Governance: Fortifying the legal, policy, and regulatory frameworks; harnessing digitalisation for effective service delivery; empowering marginalised groups in decision-making; improving equitable access to social services and improving human development, job availability, and entrepreneurship support for youth and women.

03 Innovative and Integrated Development Financing and Strategic Partnerships: Establishing integrated partnerships bolstered by innovative resource leveraging, participatory policies, and digital connectivity.

To effectively translate its vision into action, the UN development system in The Gambia has devised a comprehensive engagement strategy. This strategy serves as a roadmap to guide the attainment of the vision's goals.

At the heart of the engagement strategy is the advocacy for robust coordination mechanisms, promoting alignment among various stakeholders, including the United Nations and its agencies, governments, and civil society organisations. Recognising the power of collective action, the strategy underscores the importance of a cohesive and coordinated approach from the United Nations to catalyse impactful, sustainable development initiatives.

Furthermore, the strategy emphasises community engagement. It underlines the necessity of active local community involvement in decision-making, planning, and implementation processes tied to these initiatives. By leveraging the insights, perspectives, and experiences of the communities they serve, the strategy aims to ground development efforts in the realities and aspirations of the beneficiaries.

UNSDCF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: GREEN, RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE LIVELIHOODS

Outcome 1.1: By 2028, women, children, displaced people, youths and PWDs, particularly in rural and urban disaster, conflict-prone areas, are resilient to climate-related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, WASH, and health systems, including education and social protection.

This priority tackles The Gambia's key challenge - deprivation of sustainable livelihoods, food security, climate stability, affordable clean energy, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Systems, and healthcare for marginalised, vulnerable people in disaster-prone areas. This outcome aims to improve their lives significantly, enhancing their resilience and inclusion in The Gambia's socio-economic fabric.

THE THEORY OF CHANGE

The following pathways will be pursued to effect the desired change: If marginalised and vulnerable groups like women, children, displaced people, youths, and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in disaster-prone areas have access to sustainable WASH systems; if children, pregnant and lactating women, and girls receive adequate nutrition and health services; if smallholder farmers and fisherfolk adopt climate-smart, sustainable agriculture and natural resources management practices; and if the capacities of government institutions and stakeholders are enhanced to timely mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Then, marginalised and vulnerable Gambians will experience resilient and inclusive livelihoods.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

The UNSDCF Strategic Priority 1 aligns seamlessly with The Gambia's National

Development Plan (NDP) objectives and pillars. Specifically, it resonates with NDP Strategic Objective 1 - strengthening resilience to manage shocks and crises from climate change, economic fluctuations, and pandemics. It aligns with the following NDP pillars:

- Pillar 1: Resilience to Shocks and Crises
- Pillar 5: Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change
- Pillar 7: Energy, Infrastructure, and Connectivity

Correspondence with Global & Regional Frameworks & Agendas
Strategic Priority 1 corresponds with global and regional frameworks and agendas, including:

- Commitments of the Food Systems Summit
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- Resilience Pillar of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS)
- African Union's Agenda 2063 and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- International Health Regulations (IHR 2005)

Synergy with SDG Goals and Targets
Strategic Priority 1 aligns with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets. It impacts multiple goals, including Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6), Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7), Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10), Climate Action (SDG 13), Life Below Water (SDG 14), Life on Land (SDG 15), and Partnerships to achieve the Goals (SDG 17). Efforts to promote sustainable and resilient food systems, provide adequate nutrition and health services, ensure access to clean water and sanitation, and mitigate climate change contribute to these goals. The focus on reducing inequalities and fostering partnerships further bolsters the SDGs.

UN CONTRIBUTION

The UN commits to adopting a multifaceted strategy for The Gambia, focusing on sustainable development and resilience enhancement among marginalised, vulnerable communities. These endeavours will cater to marginalised, vulnerable groups in disaster-prone areas, ensuring access to water, sanitation, hygiene, health services, education, and social protection.

Working closely with The Gambia's government, the UN will ardently support climate-responsive strategies in line with the Paris Agreement, aiming to nurture a climate-resilient society through net-zero emissions by 2050. The partners plan to mobilise resources, catalyse private investments, and form strategic alliances for environmental initiatives. The UN will work with the Government and other partners to ensure Gambia's health and social systems are well prepared and ready to respond timely and effectively.

The UN will also strengthen the government's capacity to formulate effective policies while promoting risk management and sustainable farming. This strategy enhances productivity and strengthens community resilience, particularly against climate-induced shocks. Recognising the pivotal role of disaster management, the UN will aid in implementing the Sendai Framework in The Gambia, establishing a comprehensive disaster risk management system covering preparedness, response, and post-disaster reconstruction.

UNSDCF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE- CENTERED GOVERNANCE

This priority acknowledges The Gambia's significant challenges in governance, social inclusion, and diversified economic growth, in which certain population segments are marginalised, and public services are not adequately delivered. The main sustainable development issues addressed here are the country's fragile institutions, inadequate transparency and accountability, and the lack of sustained economic growth.

Outcome 2.1: By 2028, marginalised and vulnerable people in The Gambia participate in functional, accountable, and transparent institutions for the efficient delivery of public services and good governance.

The desired outcome is for marginalised and vulnerable people in The Gambia to actively participate in functional, accountable, and transparent institutions, resulting in the efficient delivery of public services. This development would significantly improve the lives of marginalised and vulnerable people by fostering their inclusion and empowerment, enhancing their access to quality public services, and ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes.

THE THEORY OF CHANGE

The theory of change illustrates the following causal links: If legal and regulatory frameworks are strengthened; If government institutions leverage digitalisation effectively; If marginalised groups are competent to influence decision-making processes; Then the country will experience a more effective, efficient, transparent, and modern public service delivery.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Strategic Priority 2.1 aligns closely with The Gambia's National Development Plan's (NDP) priorities and pillars. The

strategic objective of consolidating gains and addressing critical development gaps in governance and economic and social transformation (SO2) is mirrored in this strategic priority. Furthermore, this priority intersects with multiple NDP pillars, including Macroeconomic Stability and Growth (Pillar 2), Governance Reforms (Pillar 3), Human Capital Development (Pillar 4), Empowerment, Inclusion, and Leaving no one Behind (Pillar 6), and Energy, Infrastructure, and Connectivity (Pillar 7). It also aligns with the sectoral strategic plans such as the National Health Policy 2021-2030 and other overarching social services strategic documents.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GLOBAL & REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

This strategic priority also corresponds with numerous global and regional frameworks and agendas, emphasising its relevance to broader development goals. These include the Digital Transformation Agenda (ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda),

Outcome 2.2: By 2028, marginalised and vulnerable people in The Gambia enjoy efficient social and economic inclusion and right-based human development for reduced poverty and inequality.

Governance and Security Pillars of the UNISS Strategy, Convention on the Rights of the Child, African Union's Agenda 2063, International Labour Organization's Decent Work Agenda, and United Nations Convention against Corruption, Global Compact for Migration, among others.

SYNERGY WITH SDG GOALS AND TARGETS

Strategic Priority 2.1 aligns with various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For instance, the aim to ensure no poverty (SDG 1), good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), and clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), reduced inequality (SDG 10), directly intersects with the priority's focus on human development and social inclusion. Furthermore, the priority's emphasis on people-centred governance resonates with the goal of achieving peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16).

UN CONTRIBUTION

The UN will prioritise strengthening The Gambia's legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks while also aiming to leverage digitalisation for efficient government service delivery and the empowerment of vulnerable groups in participatory decision-making. In addition, the UN will work on enhancing the government's capacities to effectively handle development challenges, protect human rights, and ensure access to justice. The UN will collaborate with national stakeholders to support transitional justice, peacebuilding, and socio-economic development, tackling youth marginalisation and resource-based conflicts. The UN will focus on institutions to fight corruption, enhance human rights, realise security sector reforms, implement TRRC recommendations, maintain electoral management credibility, promote decentralisation and accelerate gender-sensitive budgeting. By partnering with civil society and government, the UN will encourage political engagement and peacebuilding at the community level for women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

Human Development and Social Inclusion are pivotal to The Gambia's development trajectory. The focus is to address the issues of inequitable and undiversified economic growth, which have led to persistent poverty, low productivity, and limited human capital development. It will further address gender equality, inclusion, and protection of marginalised and vulnerable groups in urban and rural communities. This transformation aligns with the vision of an inclusive and equitable society where everyone can thrive and contribute to the nation's prosperity.

THE THEORY OF CHANGE

This theory of change provides a comprehensive plan to address these challenges through a rights-based, inclusive, and gender-responsive approach. The pathway is articulated as follows: If the most vulnerable and marginalised groups have access to sufficient, inclusive and quality basic services at the institutional and community levels; If there is access to livelihood programmes, decent jobs and employment in formal and informal sectors leading to inclusive, gender and youth responsive economic growth and human development; If access to finance, entrepreneurship support and skills acquisition for new production and value addition methods and product development for expanded market opportunities have improved; Then they will experience social and economic inclusion, leading to reduced poverty and inequality.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Strategic Priority 2.2 aligns perfectly with The Gambia's National Development Plan, particularly with the objectives under Strategic Objective 1 (SO2), Pillar 2 (Macroeconomic Stability and Growth), Pillar 3 (Governance Reforms), Pillar 4 (Human Capital Development), Pillar 6

(Empowerment, Inclusion and Leaving no one Behind), and Pillar 7 (Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity). Each of these pillars seeks to address the issues of governance, economic growth, and social transformation, which are central to Strategic Priority.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GLOBAL & REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

Strategic Priority 2.2 also corresponds to numerous global and regional frameworks and agendas. Key among these is UNESCO's Education 2030 Framework for Action, ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda, WHO's UHC 2030 for universal health coverage, Global Compact for Migration, the African Union's Agenda 2063, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Each of these frameworks echoes the strategic priority's objectives of ensuring access to essential services, promoting inclusion, and enhancing human development.

SYNERGY WITH SDG GOALS AND TARGETS

This strategic priority aligns with several Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). The actions and outcomes articulated under Strategic Priority 2.2 contribute towards attaining these goals, thereby driving The Gambia's overall progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UN CONTRIBUTION

The UN will aim to elevate social and economic conditions in The Gambia by ensuring access to basic services, creating jobs for marginalised groups such as women, youth, migrants, children, and PWDs, and combating gender inequality and violence against women. Gambia's progress to Universal Health Coverage will be enhanced through strengthening the health systems, with emphasis on Primary Health Care, and health promotion

The strategy to mitigate poverty will entail improving education enrolment and graduation rates, emphasising girl-child education to address issues like child marriage. Additionally, it will involve reducing unemployment through job creation, supporting MSMEs, and imparting vocational education in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, ICT, and construction. Efforts will also be made to encourage youth involvement in decision-making and skill-enhancement programs. Initiatives to advance gender equality will include advocating for legislation against harmful practices like FGM, aiding GBV survivors, and promoting women's economic empowerment through capacity building and access to public procurement contracts. To protect children, the UN will curb violence and exploitation against children and adolescents, counter harmful practices, and promote child registration in the CRVS system. In managing the economy, the focus will be on promoting green recovery, inclusive economic growth, diversification, and private sector development to develop a resilient, diversified economy that empowers impoverished and marginalised communities.



UNSDCF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

Outcome 3.1: By 2028, the country will experience a broadened, inclusive and coordinated partnership landscape, and increased development financing

The current development partnerships have not fully met people's needs, particularly the vulnerable ones in urban and rural areas, and their ability to shape responsive and sustainable development policies. An expanded partnership framework and innovative financing are expected to lead to a more resilient and inclusive socio-economic environment, thus significantly improving the lives of marginalised and vulnerable people in The Gambia.

THE THEORY OF CHANGE

The priority pivots around broadening and coordinating partnership landscapes and leveraging innovative financing strategies for human development. If integrated and coordinated partnerships are established, guided by participatory policies, innovative resource leveraging, and inclusive financing strategies, and if the government, communities, and partners are interconnected through digital technology, data, and information sharing, and have access to people-centred solutions and non-traditional sources of funding, then the country will witness a more inclusive partnership landscape and sustainable financing for human development. This approach marks a significant shift towards more participatory, collaborative, and innovative mechanisms in The Gambia's development financing strategy.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP)

Strategic Priority 3 aligns with The Gambia's National Development Plan, particularly with Strategic Objective 1 (SO3), to strengthen accountability, build partnerships, and robust and sustainable resource mobilisation strategies. Moreover, it aligns with NDP Pillar 7: Energy, Infrastructure, and Connectivity, emphasising sustainable development through innovative and integrated solutions.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GLOBAL & REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

Strategic Priority 3 aligns with several global and regional frameworks and agendas. These include the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, The Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and the Accra Agenda for Action. These frameworks

share the common goal of enhancing development finance, promoting partnerships, and leveraging innovative financing strategies, which are the main focuses of Strategic Priority 3.

SYNERGY WITH SDG GOALS AND TARGETS STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 ALIGNS WITH

Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and Goal 17 (Partnerships to achieve the goals, specifically Target 17.16 and 17.18). The actions outlined in Strategic Priority 3 aim at stimulating innovation, promoting sustainable industrialisation, and developing reliable infrastructure. At the same time, they are also designed to foster global partnerships to achieve these targets, reinforcing the interconnectedness of the SDGs.

UN CONTRIBUTION

The UN plans to mobilise development finance through innovative digital technology and data management. This initiative aims to enhance SDG financing, strengthen public-private partnerships, and increase the role of the private sector. The UN will use its coordination capabilities to involve government, development partners, and other stakeholders, focusing on unlocking private capital and foreign investment for SDGs. The UN's support will concentrate on identifying opportunities for structural transformation, advocating for sustainable financing policies, and improving data for better policy-making and effective migration governance.



2.2 CROSS-BORDER AND REGIONAL COOPERATION

The Gambia, largely surrounded by Senegal, heavily relies on regional cooperation for migration, economic development, and security. Its involvement in organisations like ECOWAS and WAEMU facilitates trade, reduces barriers, and promotes investment. Regional cooperation also helps address security threats like transnational crime and terrorism through joint operations and information sharing. However, border disputes, trade imbalances, and coordination gaps affect the effectiveness of these initiatives.

In addition, the CCA and the UNSDCF theory of change acknowledge The Gambia's exposure to risks, including global phenomena such as economic shocks, pandemics, climate shocks and violent extremism. The UNSDCF is designed to maximise The Gambia's ability to address these issues, furthering regional collaboration for sustainable development by, among other things, aligning with regional and global frameworks such as the Africa Agenda 2063, the UNISS and others.



UN RC & IOM a.i Chief of Mission visiting the Tabanding Border Post manned by officials of the Gambia Immigration Department





UN RC & Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation & Gambians Abroad signing the new UNSDCF



03

CHAPTER THREE

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

3.1 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK GOVERNANCE

3.1.1 PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE UNSDCF IMPLEMENTATION

Guiding Principle	Explanation
Integrated programming	- Programming in line with the 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships).
Partnership and Cooperation	- Engagement of government, civil society, international organisations, media, academia, and the private sector in developing the UNSDCF.
National Ownership and Alignment with National Development Priorities	- Alignment of the UNSDCF with The Gambia's National Development Plan (NDP) objectives and pillars.
Human Rights-Based Approach	- Emphasis on human rights and democratic governance in the UNSDCF, empowering marginalised groups and advancing human development outcomes for youth and women.
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	- Recognition of the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment, though not explicitly mentioned in the provided text.
Leave No One Behind	- Focus on addressing the challenges marginalised, and vulnerable populations face, particularly in disaster-prone areas, in the UNSDCF.
Results-Based Management and Accountability	- Establishment of clear outcomes, targets, and pathways for achieving sustainable development goals in the UNSDCF, promoting accountability and evidence-based decision-making.

Table 2: Seven Guiding Principles of the UNSDCF Implementation

The following seven principles will guide the implementation of the UNSDCF, (a) fostering national ownership, (b) integrated programming, (c) a human rights-based approach, (d) gender equality, (e) national ownership, and alignment with national priorities, (f) inclusivity, and (g) results-based management (See Table 2 above). The UNSDCF underscores the government's pivotal role in sustainably steering development. It exemplifies multi-stakeholder collaboration in a mutual commitment to the 2030 Agenda. Aligning with national objectives, this framework leverages efforts from diverse sectors for sustainable development, in line with the government's National Development Plan (NDP) 2023-2027. The execution of the UNSDCF will stay rooted in a human rights-based approach to development, emphasising human rights advancement, democratic governance, empowering

marginalised groups, and enhancing outcomes for women and youth. The UNSDCF execution will strongly adhere to the principles of gender equality and women's empowerment.

The UNSDCF implementation, acknowledging the challenges faced by vulnerable populations, commits to inclusivity, focusing on resilience, access to essential services, and ensuring no one is left behind. Incorporating a results-oriented management and accountability framework, the strategy sets clear objectives, targets, and monitoring methods, promoting evidence-based decision-making and enhanced accountability.

3.1.2 OVERALL COORDINATION

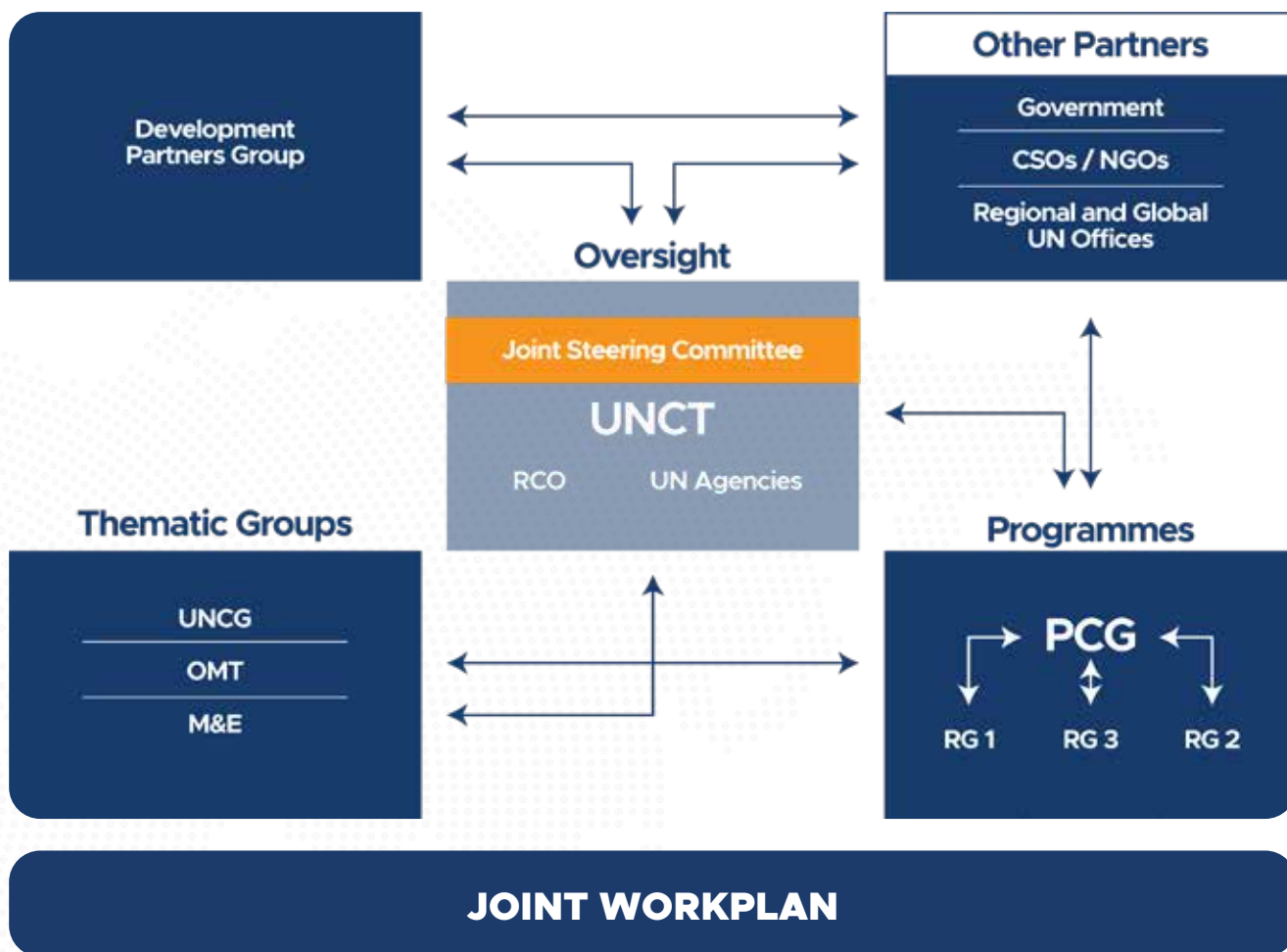


Figure 2: Organogram of roles and responsibilities

3.1.3 JOINT NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordination, the Cooperation Framework will be implemented by the UN through Joint Workplans (JWPs) overseen by inter-agency Results Groups established for each of the three strategic priorities identified. This will be supported by the Data, M&E and Learning Working group and other thematic groups, overseen through a strategic annual dialogue with the government.

A Joint Steering Committee (JSC), co-chaired by representatives from the government and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, will oversee the implementation of the UNSDCF. The JSC, holding the highest authority in managing the UNSDCF, will consist of Heads of Agencies from UN entities, the Permanent Secretaries of their respective central Ministries, representatives from the private sector, two representatives from TANGO, a representative from the Gambia Federation for the Disabled (GFD), and the co-chair of the Development Partners Group (DPG).

For inclusivity and adaptability, the JSC will review its membership annually. Moreover, the JSC will establish clear Terms of Reference (ToR) at its inaugural meeting and review them at the start of every new year, ensuring effective leadership and guidance. The Joint Steering Committee, as the managing body for the UNSDCF, will be responsible for policy direction and oversight in implementation. Agreeing on priorities with the government through this Committee is a prerequisite for successful resource mobilisation with Development Partners. As an oversight body, it will also endorse modifications in UNSDCF outcomes and outputs due to emerging priorities.

3.2 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

3.2.1 UN COUNTRY TEAM (UNCT)

The UNCT, led by the UN Resident Coordinator, will oversee the implementation of the UNSDCF in The Gambia, utilising

a range of resident and non-resident UN entities. The UNCT will be governed by the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF), the corporate framework that strengthens management effectiveness and accountability within the UNCT team.

Element	Explanation
UNCT Meetings	Meeting scheduling, frequency, and notification procedures. Development and distribution of meeting agendas and supporting materials.
Meeting Conduct	Rules of conduct and decorum for UNCT meetings. Protocols for addressing agenda items, raising questions, and making motions.
UNCT Working Groups	Establishment, purpose, and composition of UNCT working groups. Appointment or election of working group members and chairpersons.
UNCT Decision-Making	Criteria for evaluating and making strategic decisions. Process for reviewing and approving joint programs, budgets, and policies.
UNCT retreat	Criteria for deciding the dates of 2 UNCT annual retreats to enable sufficient planning.
Record Keeping and Documentation	Requirements for maintaining official UNCT records and documentation. Archiving and retention policies for meeting minutes, etc.

Table 3: Minimum Elements to Include in UNCT SoPs

Within the first quarter of starting the UNSDCF, the UNCT will establish standard operating procedures (SoPs) covering the five areas illustrated in Table 3 above. The UNCT may include any other issue they deem fit to include in the SoPs. The UNCT will hold 2 UNCT retreats annually. The UNCT will agree on the dates no later than January 31 of every year. The Communications and Programmes Advocacy Officer in the RCO will be responsible for taking UNCT meeting minutes.

3.2.2 POLICY/ PROGRAMME COORDINATION GROUP (PCG)

The PCG will be composed of programme heads from the respective agencies and chaired by a head of agency. The Programme Coordination Group will provide

quality assurance on the work of the RGs and technical advice to the UNCT and the Joint National Steering Committee. The PCG will also identify joint programmes and ensure overall UN programming and implementation synergies. To this end, a team chaired by the PCG chairperson and comprised of the three Result Group Leads, the chairperson of the UNCG, OMT Chairperson, and the chairperson of the Disaster Risk Management group will be responsible for making recommendations regarding joint work programming to the RC. The team will recommend joint programmes emanating from all calls for applications, including applications to trust funds.

The PCG will meet at least once every quarter. The Data and M&E officer in the RCO will write PCG meeting minutes.

3.2.3 RESULTS GROUPS

A Results Group will be established for each of the four UNSDCF Outcome Areas to provide UN leadership, coordination and accountability for the respective interventions designed and implemented towards the defined targets. The lead

agency heads of programmes will chair Results Groups. Result Group chairpersons will automatically be ex-officio UNCT members. RGs will meet at least quarterly to:

- 01** Formulating the Outcome indicators and collaborative outputs statements in the Joint Annual Workplans.
- 02** Monitor the progress of UNSDCF implementation; and
- 03** To lead the end-of-year reporting to the UNCT against key deliverables and results contained in the Joint Annual Workplans based on the UNSDCF Results Framework.

Other Result group tasks will be determined by Terms of References which the UNCT will revise every two years. The Result Group chairpersons will report their results and progress to the PCG Chairperson who will, in turn, report to the UNCT.

3.2.4 UN THEMATIC AND WORKING GROUPS

Thematic and Working Groups	Explanation
Data Monitoring and Evaluation and Learning (DMEL) Group	Responsible for the UNSDCF M&E system, supports independent evaluations, and provides data generation and analysis support for statistical development initiatives.
Communications Group	Responsible for advocating for the UNSDCF's objectives, facilitating effective dissemination of key messages, and conducting strategic communication planning.
Disaster Management Working Group	Responsible for disaster preparedness and response.
Gender Working Group	Responsible for ensuring mainstreaming of gender equality in implementing the Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).
Disability Working Group	Responsible for promoting disability rights in implementing the UNSDCF.
Operations Management Team (OMT)	Responsible for ensuring quality operational support and the implementation of the Business Operations Strategy (BOS).

Table 4: Existing Thematic and Working Groups

The existing Thematic and Working Groups (TGs) will be retained (See Table 4 above). They may be streamlined and combined to enhance effectiveness and reduce transaction costs. Like the RGs, TWGs will provide coordination and accountability for implementing the interventions to achieve the set outputs and outcomes. Thematic Group's tasks will be determined in Terms of References which the UNCT will revise every two years. These groups are inclusive, welcoming membership from UN bodies even if they are not physically present in the country.

During the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) implementation phase, RGs and TGs will meet at least every two months. Their responsibilities are multifaceted and will include:

- 01** Regularly updating the Common Country Analysis (CCA)
- 02** Designing, monitoring, and reporting on progress towards the strategic priority outcomes and outputs of the UNSDCF
- 03** Making annual adjustments to the UN joint work plan

- 04** Creating funding frameworks for the development of annual or biannual Joint Work Plans (JWPs)
- 05** Orchestrating and tracking interventions
- 06** Drafting reports in accordance with the output-level monitoring framework
- 07** Reviewing the results achieved each year in relation to the Theory of Change (ToC)

The RGs and TGs will submit reports to the PCG every quarter. The Data, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (DMEL) Thematic Group will have a significant role to play, working with the RGs and TGs to provide technical support and ensuring that the UN's priorities are based on a comprehensive analysis of its comparative advantage and the UNSDCF's ToC.

3.3 RESOURCING THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

In line with the new Funding Compact agreed upon by the UN system and Member States, the UNCT will advocate for increasing contributions to pooled funds to improve the UN System's pri-

oritised integrated support to address underlying vulnerabilities and risks. This will include mapping possible funding sources, including public and private, national and international finance beyond traditional donors, entailing exploring how to leverage existing financing mechanisms to complement new funding opportunities.

3.4 JOINT WORK PLANS (JWPs)

UN entities working in The Gambia will align their programme plans with the UNSDCF, incorporating sub-outputs contributing to their programmes' UNSDCF outcomes and indicators. These plans will merge into a Joint Work Plan (JWP) detailing each entity's sub-outputs and resources towards UNSDCF outcomes. The JWP will be developed in collaboration with all UN Country Team (UNCT) members, regardless of their physical presence, to reduce fragmentation, avoid duplication, and improve the coherence and synergy of collective programming.

The JWPs will encapsulate UNSDCF outcomes and outputs, funding framework, resources, SDG targets, indicators, commitments to gender equality, human rights, disability inclusion, and other system-wide indicators while ensuring that the contributions of each UN entity align with the UNSDCF Theory of Change. Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), gender equality, human rights, disaster risk reduc-

tion, and other cross-cutting themes will be incorporated into the JWP formulation process, influencing programme design and resource allocation. Endorsed by the UNCT and JSC, the approved JWPs will form the foundation for the annual Performance Review. This evaluation will be adapted to the changing national context and will directly inform the production of the annual UN Country Results Report for the government. Joint Work Plans (JWPs) will operationalise the UNSDCF by outlining annual activities using the

UNINFO platform. This online tool supports planning, monitoring, and reporting for Joint Work Planning. These plans will be used to monitor and ensure accountability of overall UN work, specifically the alignment of UN Agencies' work towards the agreed Outcomes. Furthermore, JWPs will be designed to be "user-friendly." They will be organised by result area will government participation, encouraging agreement on priorities and coherence, and fostering national ownership.

3.5 BUSINESS OPERATIONS STRATEGY (BOS)

The UNCT reiterates its commitment to implementing the UN Secretary General's efficiency agenda using the BOS. In line with corporate policies, the UNCT will ensure the timely submission of its BOS plans.

Objective	Actions
Integrated Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular coordination with UN entities and partners - Joint planning and implementation of activities - Shared data and information systems
Streamlining Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensive review of processes - Identification and elimination of bottlenecks - Streamlining and automation of processes
Standardisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) - Alignment with UN system-wide policies and guidelines - Regular updates of SOPs
Performance Monitoring and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of performance indicators and benchmarks - Ongoing monitoring and evaluation against KPIs - Internal audits and assessments for improvement
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting training needs assessments - Providing relevant training programs - Encouraging staff professional development
Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing a communication and information-sharing platform - Participation in joint learning events - Documentation and dissemination of best practices

Table 5: Six Guiding Principles of the BOS Implementation



A young woman demonstrating her newly learned skills as a beneficiary of a fully funded training programme by ITC.

In addition, BOS implementation will be adapted to fit The Gambia's unique operational context. Table 5 above summarises the six guiding principles for the UN's implementation of the efficiency agenda in The Gambia. The strategy incorporates an integrated approach, merging coordination with UN entities and partners, collaborative planning, process optimisation, SoP development aligned with UN-wide policies and performance monitoring using defined Key Performance Indicators. Further, the approach boosts capacity through tailored training programs and promotes a culture of col-

laboration and knowledge sharing via a dedicated communication platform and shared learning event.

In collaboration with the local government and other stakeholders, the UNCT will ensure national ownership and synchronisation with national priorities, per the UN's principles. Additionally, we will uphold the principles of inclusivity and sustainability in all operations, in harmony with the UN's overarching mission of peace, human rights, and sustainable development promotion.

3.6 DERIVATION OF UN AGENCY COUNTRY PROGRAMMING INSTRUMENTS FROM THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

All UN agencies working in The Gambia will synchronise their initiatives with the CF, ensuring aligned coordination, management, and reporting mechanisms.

The CF's execution will be channelled through the country-specific programme instruments of various UN entities derived directly from the CF. These instruments will converge into a comprehensive Joint Work Plan (JWP). This JWP will detail the anticipated programmatic sub-outputs and the resource contributions from each participating UN entity towards the CF's objectives.

Crafted in collaboration with all UNCT members, regardless of their physical presence, the JWP aims to minimise fragmentation, circumvent redundancy, and amplify the coherence and synergy of collective UN programming efforts. These Joint Work Plans will undergo rigorous discussions within and among Results Groups. This ensures the identification of and response to any potential gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for synergistic collaborations and joint initiatives.

Furthermore, these Joint Workplans will encapsulate various facets, including CF outcomes, outputs, financial frameworks, resources, SDG targets, indicators, gender equality, human rights, disability inclusivity, and other pivotal system-wide markers. Each UN entity's contributions, both in terms of sub-outputs and resources, will be meticulously aligned with the CF's overarching theory of change.





A Gambian entrepreneur in action at his welding workshop.



Children all smiles as a team of UN staff visit during a project implementation phase.



04

CHAPTER FOUR

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING PLAN

4.1 MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT WORK PLANS

The UNCT in The Gambia will use UNINFO to constantly supervise UNSDCF implementation to enhance comprehension of the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions. Further, UNINFO will help monitor activities to assist groups at risk of marginalisation since all UN entities will document their contributions to the UNSDCF on UNINFO quarterly. The UNCT will create a costed, multi-year Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan.

This plan will be executed by the Data, Monitoring, and Evaluation Learning group (DMEL) in collaboration with the Results Groups (RGs) and Thematic Groups (TGs).

To track the progress of the UNSDCF, the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) will conduct annual reviews, which will provide a chance to modify the UNSDCF, if needed, assuring its relevance in the face of national changes.

4.2 MONITORING RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Constant risk and opportunity monitoring will be integral to the Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) lifespan because The Gambia confronts multiple, intertwined, and mutually reinforcing sustainable development risks. Risk and opportunity monitoring will commence with the CCA, incorporating foresight analysis to assist the UNCT and the government in understanding potential risks and opportunities.

Furthermore, the UNSDCF theory of change acknowledges The Gambia's vulnerability to risks. The UNCT will continue to monitor the risks identified in the UNSDCF theory of change, including global economic shocks, pandemics, climate shocks, internal political instability, and violent extremism. The Data, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Group (DMEL) will reinforce all these actions with evidence gathered during their quarterly meetings.

4.3 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND THE COUNTRY RESULTS REPORTING

Each Results Group (RG) will conduct an annual Performance Review under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator. This review will involve stakeholders and take place in the final quarter of each year of UNSDCF implementation to assess achievements, challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned.

Considering this evaluation and the evolving national circumstances, the RGs will suggest amendments to the UNSDCF and the Joint Work Plan (JWP) for the subsequent year. The PCG Chairperson will present the proposed changes to the UNCT during the November UNCT meeting, ensuring UN support's continued relevance and effectiveness to the country.

4.4 EVALUATION PLAN

A final independent evaluation of the UNSDCF will be carried out in the penultimate year of the Cooperation Framework's implementation, leading to the preparation of the new programming

cycle. The evaluation will be undertaken by an independent consultant or a team of consultants per the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) guidelines.





Engineer, CEO & Co- founder of Mak3D, the only 3D company in The Gambia poses for a picture as part of international Women's Day

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: THE LEGAL ANNEX TO THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

1. Whereas the Government of The Gambia (the “Government”) has entered into the agreements listed below with the United Nations, including its Funds, Programmes and other subsidiary organs, and other organizations of the United Nations system (“UN System Organizations”), which are applicable to their programme activities in The Gambia (the “UN Agreements”) under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (the “Cooperation Framework”);

2. Whereas the UN Agreements, together with the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946 (the “General Convention”) and/or the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947 (the “Specialized Agencies Convention”) as applicable, form the primary existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government and each UN System Organization for supporting the country to deliver on the Cooperation Framework, and are non-exhaustive and without prejudice to any other legal instruments the Government may enter into, including additional agreements with UN System Organizations for the purpose of their activities in the country:

a) With the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a basic agreement to govern UNDP’s assistance to the country, which was signed by the Government and UNDP (the “Standard Basic Assistance Agreement” or “SBAA”), which is one of the predecessor legal entities of UNDP (the “Basic Agreement”) on 24th February 1975. This Cooperation Framework, together with a joint results group work plan specifying UNDP programme activities further to this Cooperation Framework (which shall form part of this Cooperation Framework and is incorporated herein by reference), constitute together a “project document” as referred to in the SBAA. The implementing partner and UNDP will sign a project agreement containing the specific arrangements for each project further to the relevant project document.

b) With the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), a Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government of The Gambia and UNICEF on 27th February 1995.

c) With the World Food Programme (WFP), a Basic Agreement concerning assistance from the World Food Programme concluded by the Government and WFP on 13 June 1970.

d) With the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), an agreement concluded by an exchange of letters, which entered into force on 6 November 2014, pursuant to which the standard basic assistance agreement between the Government and the United Nations Development Programme shall mutatis mutandis apply to UNFPA in the country.

e) With the International Labour Organization (ILO), in addition the Specialized Agencies Convention and its Annex I, concerning the ILO, the Standard Technical Assistance/Cooperation Agreement signed on 2 June 1965.

f) With the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), an Agreement for the establishment of the FAO Representation in The Gambia was concluded between the Government and FAO on 26 January 1978.

g) With the World Health Organization (WHO), a Basic Agreement for the Provision of Technical Advisory Assistance signed by the Government and WHO on 21 July 1971.

h) With the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of The Gambia and the International Organization for Migration [IOM] concluded between the Government and IOM on 19 October 2001.

i) With the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), a memorandum of understanding between the Government of The Gambia (GoTG) and UNCDF on the 26th October 2018.

j) With the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the Agreement between the United Nations represented by the United Nations Office for Project Services and the Republic of the Gambia Concerning the Establishment of an Office in Banjul was concluded on 26 February 2020

k) With the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), assistance to the Government shall be provided on the basis of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement signed by UNDP

l) With the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), assistance to the Government of The Gambia shall be provided and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of ECA’s governing organs

m) With the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of UNESCO's governing structures.

n) With the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of The Gambia through the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (MoTIE) and The Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) to provide technical support signed in 2016.

o) With the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in accordance with the mandate established by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993

p) With the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), UNAIDS is a Joint and co-sponsored programme of the United Nations system established by ECOSOC resolutions 1994/24 and 1995/2. The World Health Organization (WHO) is one of its co-sponsoring organizations and provides administration to it. Consequently, UNAIDS is covered under the terms and conditions of the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies through the World Health Organization.

q) With the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) [With the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Agreement Establishing IFAD, which the Republic of the Gambia acceded to on 13 December 1977 and which confers upon it and the representatives of its Members, its President and its staff, the privileges and immunities necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with IFAD.

3. With respect to all UN System Organizations: Assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions, decisions, rules and procedures of each UN System Organization.

4. Without prejudice to the above, the Government shall:

(i) apply to each UN System Organization and its property, funds, assets, officials and experts on mission the provisions of the General Convention and/or the Specialized Agencies Convention; and

(ii) accord to each UN System Organization, its officials and other persons performing services on behalf of that UN System Organization, the privileges, immunities and facilities set out in the UN Agreement applicable to such UN System Organization.

5. United Nations Volunteers performing services on behalf of a UN System Organization shall be entitled to the privileges and immunities accorded to officials of such UN System Organization.

6. Any privileges, immunities and facilities granted to a UN System Organization under the Cooperation Framework shall be no less favourable than those granted by the Government to any other UN System Organization signatory of the Cooperation Framework.

7. Without prejudice to the UN Agreements, the Government shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against any of the UN System Organizations and their officials, experts on mission or other persons performing services on their behalf, and shall hold them harmless in respect of any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under the Cooperation Framework, except where it is mutually agreed by the Government and the relevant UN System Organization(s) that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that UN System Organization, or its officials, or persons performing services.

8. Nothing in or relating to this Cooperation Framework shall be deemed:

(i) a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of any UN System Organization; or

(ii) the acceptance by any UN System Organization of the jurisdiction of the courts of any country over disputes arising from this Cooperation Framework, whether under the General Convention or the Specialized Agencies Convention, the UN Agreements, or otherwise, and no provisions of this Cooperation Framework shall be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, that is inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 2: CF THEORY OF CHANGE

VISION: BY 2030, AN INCLUSIVE, RESILIENT, AND PROSPEROUS GAMBIA, WHERE ALL PEOPLE LIVE A DIGNIFIED LIFE, ENJOY EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY SERVICES WHILE ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSOLIDATING GAINS IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

ASSUMPTIONS

- Peace and Stability
- Strong Political Will
- Availability of resources
- Effective coordination mechanisms are in place
- Capacity of the government to formulate and implement policies
- Absence of public health emergencies and other shocks
- UN Integrated and coordinated approach
- Community engagement

Strategic Priority 1: Green, Resilient and Inclusive Livelihoods

OUTCOME 1.1: By 2028, women, children, displaced people, youths and PWD particularly in rural and urban disaster and conflict prone areas are resilient to climate related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, health and WASH systems

IF women, children, displaced people, youths and PWD in rural and urban disaster and conflict prone areas are provided with access to adequate and sustainable WASH systems

IF children, pregnant and lactating Women, and Girls particularly in rural and urban disaster and conflict prone areas are provided with adequate nutrition and health services

IF small holder farmers and fisher folks particularly in rural and peri-urban areas are equipped to adapt climate resilient agriculture and natural resource management practices, and

IF capacities of government institutions and other stakeholders to integrate, preparedness, respond & reconstruction to disasters in a timely manner are enhanced

RISKS

- Global Economic shocks
- External shocks (Pandemic) Climate shocks
- Internal political instability
- Violent extremism and regional instability

Strategic Priority 2: Human Development, Social Inclusion and People-centered Governance

Outcome 2.1: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia participate in functional, accountable and transparent institutions implementing relevant reforms resulting in the efficient delivery of public services

IF the legal, regulatory and policy frameworks especially related to constitutional, security sector, transitional justice, anti-corruption and land reforms are strengthened

IF key government institutions leverage digitalization for effective service delivery to the populace, and

IF vulnerable and marginalized groups are proficient and competent to influence participatory decision-making processes and structures at national, sub-national and community levels

Strategic Priority 3: Innovative and Integrated Development Financing and Strategic Partnerships

Outcome 3.1: By 2028, the country experience a broadened, inclusive and coordinated partnership landscape, and increased development financing

IF integrated and coordinated partnerships are established and shaped by participatory policies, innovative resource leveraging and mobilization mechanisms, rights inclusive and gender sensitive financing strategies, and

IF the government, communities and partners are connected through digital technology data, information sharing and have access to people-centered solutions and non-traditional sources of funding

OUTCOMES

OUTCOME THEORY OF CHANGE (IF...)

THEN

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Policy Support

Advocacy and Strategic Communication

Resource Leveraging and Mobilization

Partnership & Coordination

Capacity Development

Social Change and Behavioural Change

Data Evidence generation and Knowledge management

Gender Mainstreaming Strategies

Equity and Social Inclusion

South-South Cooperation

Innovation and Digitalization

ANNEXES

ANNEX 3: CF RESULTS FRAMEWORK

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: GREEN, RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE LIVELIHOODS

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PRIORITIES

NDP Strategic Objective 1 (SO1): Build Household and Community resilience to address shocks and crisis arising from climate change, economic volatility and to counter the effects of disease pandemics (Covid-19)

NDP PILLAR 1: Resilience to Shocks and Crisis

NDP PILLAR 5: Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change

NDP PILLAR 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity

GLOBAL & REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

- Commitments of the Food Systems Summit
- Climate Change (COP 27)
- Resilience Pillar of the UNISS Strategy
- Global compact for migration

SDG GOALS AND TARGETS

SDG Goal 2: Zero Hunger (Target 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4)

SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being (Target 3.2,3.3, and 3.7, 3.8, 3c)

SDG Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation (Target 6.1, 6.2)

SDG Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy (Target 7.1, 7.2, 7.3)

SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality (Target 10.2, 10.7, and 10 C)

SDG Goal 13: Climate Action (Target 13.1, 13.2, 13.3)

SDG Goal 14: Life Below Water (Target 14.1, 14.2, 14.4, 14.6, 14.b, 14.c)

SDG Goal 15: Life On Land (Target 15.1, 15.2, 15.3,

SDG Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals (Target 17.16, 17.18)

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
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SDG Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals (Target 17.16, 17.18)

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: GREEN, RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE LIVELIHOODS

<p>OUTCOME 1.1: By 2028, women, children, displaced people, youths and PWD particularly in rural and urban disaster, conflict-prone areas are resilient to climate related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, WASH, and health systems, including education and social protection.</p>	Percentage of stunted children under 5 years disaggregated by sex	18% (2019-20, DHS) 19% (2018, MICS)	14.7%	DHS/ MICS	<input type="checkbox"/> Availability of funding <input type="checkbox"/> Political stability <input type="checkbox"/> Absence of public health emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Continuity of severe climate events <input type="checkbox"/> Political will <input type="checkbox"/> UN integrated and coordinated approach <input type="checkbox"/> Communities' acceptance
	Percentage of pregnant women receiving at least four antenatal visits	78.5% (2019-20, DHS)	85%	DHS	
	Exclusive Breastfeeding rate	54% (2019-20, DHS) 55% (2018, MICS)	61%	DHS/ MICS	
	Percentage of household members with an improved drinking water source located on premises, free of E. coli and available when needed.	33.8% 49.8% 1.9% (2018, MICS)	National- 40% Urban- 55% Rural- 15%	MICS	
	-National -Urban -Rural				
	Minimum Acceptable Diet for children 6-23 months	14%	18%	DHS	
	Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (MDD-W)	52.2%	56%	CFSVA	
	Life expectancy	63.4 years	66.3 years	Population and Housing Census	
	% of households adopting emergency livelihood based coping strategy	9% (NFSS) 13.2% (CFSVA)	8%	CFSVA, NFSS	
	Proportion of international health regulations (IHR) events detected and responded timely	70% (2021)	100%	IHR report	
% of household with acceptable food consumption score	75.4%	77%	NFSS		
Renewable/clean energy as a proportion of the national energy mix	0% (2020)	47% (2030)	The Gambia's communications and biennial update reports to the UNFCCC by MECCNAR and NEA		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
	Number of Social Safety Net Programs using the National Social Registry	3	8	National Social Protection Annual Report	
	Percentage of households/individuals in need receiving regular cash or kind in an inclusive manner segregated by age and gender.	40% of extremely poor HH	75% of extremely poor and food insecure HH	Social Safety Net Project Report, National Social Protection Annual Report, Emergency Response Reports	
	Functional national coordinated cash transfer mechanism in place	No	Yes	National Social Protection Annual Report	
	Existence of updated National Social Protection Policy	No	Yes	Revised National Social Protection Policy	
	National greenhouse gas emissions	13,314 GgCO2e	6,617 GgCO2e (2030)	The Gambia's communications and biennial update reports to the UNFCCC by MECCNAR and NEA, National GHG Inventory Reports	
	Anticipatory action framework in place that includes sexual and reproductive health and gender equity	No	Yes	UNFPA	
	Country readiness assessment to provide Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for sexual and reproductive health in Crisis Situations	No	Yes	UNFPA	
	Number of people reached with at least basic safe drinking water	Total : 250,795 (2022, Field Report)	Total : 375,795 Children- 56,369 Youths-93,948 PWD-4,885 Female - 191,655 Male-184,140	Field Report, Department of Water Resources - WASH database	
OUTPUT 1.1.1: Women, children, displaced people, youths and PWD, particularly in rural and urban disaster and conflict prone areas, have access to sustainable WASH systems	Number of people reached with at least basic Sanitation	Total : 14,065 (2022, Field Report)	Total : 21,098 Children-2,109 Youths-3,516 PWD-182 Female- 10,760 Male-10,338	Field Report, Department of Water Resources - WASH database	

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
	Number of people reached with basic hygiene disaggregated by sex	Total : 189,836 (2022, Field Report)	Total : 284,754 Children-42,713 Youths-71,188 PWD-3,701 Female- 145,225 Male- 139,529	Field Report, Department of Water Resources - WASH database	
OUTPUT 1.1.2: Targeted children, Pregnant and Lactating Women, and Girls particularly in rural and urban disaster and conflict prone areas receive adequate nutrition and health services.	Percentage of children under 5 who are underweight disaggregated by sex	12% (2019-20, DHS) 13.9% (2018, MICS) 5% (2019-20, DHS) 6.2% (2018, MICS)	9% Female- 5% Male - 4%	DHS/ MICS	
	Percentage of children under 5 who are wasted disaggregated by sex	5,230 (3,234 F, 1,996M; COVID)	4% Female - 2% Male - 2%	DHS/ MICS	
	Number of people benefited from vaccination during crisis disaggregated by age and vaccine type	Children (9-18 months) Measles Vaccination - 109,559 (2022)	Children (9-18 months) Measles Vaccination Measles - 125000	HMIS	
	Number of targeted Pregnant and Lactating Women, and Girls who received adequate and timely specialized nutritious food to prevent moderate acute malnutrition.	6,000	30,000	WFP annual report	
	Number of affected people served with nationally recommended health service package (psychosocial mental health immediate support)	8,988	10,000	WHO/IOM	
	Number of health care workers capacitated to provide quality integrated SRHR services including nutritional assessment.	50	200	Sector Reports	
	Number of health workers and managers trained on epidemic/ disaster preparedness and response	50	100	IOM Report	
	Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)	MAM Mortality rate=3%	Mortality rate=0%	WFP	
	-MAM (mortality rate, default rate etc.)	Recovery rate rate= 70% Default rate=9%	Recovery rate rate= 75% Default rate=0%	Partner Programme Reports -National Nutrition Agency, Ministry of Health	
	-SAM (total number of children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment, cure rate, defaulter rate, death rate)	SAM Total number of children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment = 4,200 (2021) Cure rate= >75% Defaulter rate= 10% Death rate=<5%	SAM Total number of children 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment = 2,100 Cure rate= 90% Defaulter rate=<10% Death rate=<5%		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
<p>OUTPUT 1.1.3: Small holder farmers and fisher folks particularly in rural and peri-urban areas adopt climate smart resilient, sustainable agricultural and natural resources management practices.</p> <p>OUTPUT 1.1.4: Government institutions and other stakeholders' capacities are strengthened to mitigate, and adapt to climate change, and respond to disasters in a timely manner</p>	Area of land/hectare under sustainable irrigation and natural resources management	14,806.27	20,000	FAO/MoA/MoFWR-NAM/MECCNAR	<input type="checkbox"/> Availability of funding <input type="checkbox"/> Political stability <input type="checkbox"/> Absence of public health emergencies <input type="checkbox"/> Continuity of severe climate events <input type="checkbox"/> Political will <input type="checkbox"/> UN integrated and coordinated approach <input type="checkbox"/> Communities' acceptance
	Number of climate smart agricultural and fisheries value chain supported, strengthened and functional	5	10	FAO/MoA/MoFWR-NAM	
	Number of people (small-holder farmers, fisher folks and other community members) directly benefitting from initiatives to protect nature (esp. Climate smart technologies) and promote sustainable use of resources	55,000	200,000	FAO/JNDP/-MoA/MoFWR-NAM/MECCNAR	
	Number of small holder farmers with access to climate risk finance services disaggregated by sex	6000	49906	WFP	
	Number of policies/strategies developed to strengthen capacities of institutions to promote climate smart agriculture and natural resources management	11	10	FAO/MoA/MoFWR-NAM/MECCNAR	
	Number of contingency and adaptation plans operationalized.	2	20	NDMA	
	Number of people assisted during crisis disaggregated by type of assistance (including cash, food, NFI, health support, education support)	90,178	150,000 Female- 76500 Male - 73500	NDMA, WFP, IOM, UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, WHO etc. annual reports	
	Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.	11 deaths	5	NDMA, situational report	
	Number of integrated chemicals and waste management systems and solutions developed and implemented	2	5	United Nations in The Gambia reports, including those that are agency-specific, Government of the Gambia national reports	
	Number of people disaggregated by sex who have benefited from clean energy solutions, including improve cooking stoves, green mini grids and operational/functional	6,900 (improved cookstoves distributed to 4,450 women) Green Mini Grids = 0	(Benefitting 8,900; 5,450 women; 3,450 men)		
Number of operationalized national and sub-national strategies and plans to support resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related shocks	8 (6 national and 2 sub-national)	13 (6 national, 7 sub-national)	FAO/MoA/MoFWR-NAM/MECCNAR		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
	Number of operationalized national strategies and plans to support digitalization of educational systems	1 sub-national	6 (1 national, 5 subnational)	National reports, UNESCO	
	Number of people having access to educational curricula and cultural heritage practices integrating Disaster Risk Reduction	0	300 teachers and 5000 students	Ministry of Basic and secondary education, National Center for Arts and Culture, UNESCO activity report	
	Number of people having access to forecasting and early warning information on water-related natural disasters.	Non available	At least 80% of population of Upper River, Lower river and Banjul areas	NDMA, UNESCO activity report	

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE-CENTERED GOVERNANCE

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

NDP Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): Consolidate gains and address critical development gaps in governance and in economic and social transformation.

NDP PILLAR 2: Macroeconomic Stability and Growth

NDP PILLAR 3: Governance Reforms

NDP PILLAR 4: Human Capital Development

NDP PILLAR 6: Empowerment, Inclusion and Leaving no one Behind

NDP PILLAR 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity

GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

- Transforming education
- Digital transformation
- Governance Pillar of UNISS Strategy
- Security Pillar of the UNISS Strategy
- Convention on the rights of the child
- Global compact for migration
- Universal health coverage

SDG GOALS AND TARGETS

SDG Goal 1: No Poverty (Target 1.1,1.2, 1.3,1.4, 1.5)

SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being (Target 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.7, 3.8)

SDG Goal 4: Quality Education (Target 4.1, 4.2)

SDG Goal 5: Gender Equality (Target 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)

SDG Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation (Target 6.1, 6.2, 6b)

SDG Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3,8.5, 8.7,8.8)

SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (9.3, 9c)

SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality (Target 10.2, 10.7, and 10 C)

SDG Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (Target 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.4,16.6, 16.9, 16B)

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
STRTEGIC PRIORITY 2: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE-CENTERED GOVERNANCE					
OUTCOME 2.1: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia participate in functional, accountable, and transparent institutions for the efficient delivery of public services and good governance.	Constitutional, legal, policy and strategy reforms (promoting rule of law, human rights, and good governance) established	Draft constitution	3 (Reparations Bill, Anti-Corruption Bill; "Implementation strategy for the National Migration Policy")	Ministry of Justice/ National Gazette	Full Collaboration and cooperation of all partners
	Existence of an Anti-corruption Commission mechanism is in place	No	Yes	Ministry of Justice reports/ National Gazette	
	Level of public satisfaction with national and local government	39% (year:2022)	45%	Afrobarometer	
	Corruption Score	34/100 (year:2022)	45/100	Corruption Perception Index by Transparency International	
	Percentage of TRRC recommendations implemented	10.9% (29/265) TRRC recommendation	20% (82/265 TRRC recommendations)	MOJ/NHRC reports on TRRC recommendation	
	Proportion of women, young people and persons with disabilities represented in elected and appointed positions	Cabinet : W - 4/23 D- 0/23, Y - 0/23 National Assembly: W 6/58 D- 0/58, Y - 11/58 Local Councils: W 11/20 D- 4/120, Y - 40/120	Cabinet : w- 7/23, D- 2/23, Y- 1/23 National Assembly: W-17/58, D-5/58, Y- 15/58 Local Councils: W- 36/120, D- 8/120 Y-44/120	Independent Electoral Commission report/ National Youth council report	
	Number of electoral reforms that promote equitable distribution of electoral units.	0 (year: 2022)	2	Independent Electoral Commission report; Parliament	
	Voter turnout disaggregated by sex.	Presidential - 89% (year: 2021) National Assembly - 47% (year: 2022) Local Council Election-41% (year: 2023)	Presidential - 90% National Assembly - 55% Local Council Election-46%	Independent Electoral Commission report	

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
OUTPUT 2.1.1: The rights of vulnerable and marginalized people are protected by expanding Civic space and access to justice, as well as strengthened rule of law, human rights, security sector and equity.	Number of panels, networks and strategic dialogues held for youth and number of OSC, or youth leaders involved	02 (Biennial sessions of Regional Youth Banjul Forum)	04	UNESCO/UNCT report on activity	Peace and stability.
	Number of legal reforms supported by the UN	10	5	UNCT annual report	
	Number of legislations enacted promoting rule of law, human rights, and good governance	Legislations 34 (2017-2022)	15	Ministry of Justice reports/National Gazette	
	Revised draft constitution submitted to the National Assembly	No	Yes	Ministry of Justice reports	
	Number of people with particular attention to the marginalized groups accessing legal aid disaggregated by sex and disability	M- 577 F-314	M- 667 F -376	National Agency for Legal Aid Case log	
	Number of security sector reform strategies and policies formulated	3(SSR policy, SSR strategy & security strategy)	6 (Communication strategy, Coordination and implementation strategy)	Security sectorial reports	
	Existence of a reparation's commissions	No	Yes	Ministry of Justice	
	Proportion of victims awarded reparation	0%	90%	Ministry of Justice	
	Number of civil society organizations, including women's organizations, using innovative mechanisms, open platforms, and dialogues networks to engage in national peace and local governance and decision-making processes.	1	5	TANGO and CSO Annual Reports	
	Number of measures to strengthen accountability and transparency in public service delivery	Anti-Corruption Bill (2019)	2 1)Anti-corruption Act Local government/ad ministrative Acts	TANGO, CSOs, NHRC reports, and Afrobarometer survey report.	
	Number of security personnel with technical knowledge/skills enforcing effective service delivery	101	300		
	Number of security institutions with transparent and accountable income generating ventures	1	5	Sector reports	
	Existence of legislation on policy criminalizing migrant smuggling	No	yes	Sector reports	
Number of migrant smugglers and human trafficking prosecuted	Human Trafficker =3 Migrant smugglers =0	15 75	Sector reports		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
<p>OUTPUT 2.1.2: Capacities of key government institutions at national and subnational levels enhanced for effective service delivery and access to justice & human right leveraging on digitalization and innovation</p>	Number of institutions supported to develop results-based programming systems	0	10	Sector reports	<p>Strong political will Political instability</p>
	Number of policies, strategies and plans developed, reviewed, or adopted to support results-based management	6	8	Sector report	
	Number of institutions with technical knowledge/skills enforcing effective service delivery	428 (2022 (UNCT annual report))	50% increase yearly	UNCT annual report	
	Availability of a national policy framework	No	Yes	Sector reports	
	Number of structures and mechanisms with technical capacity and digital solutions to improve access to justice	2	3	Sector report	
	Existence of a functional national observatory for demographic dividend	No	Yes		
<p>OUTPUT 2.1.3: Women, young people and other vulnerable groups are proficient and competent to influence participatory decision-making processes and structures at national, sub-national and community levels.</p>	Availability of safe and ethical information management systems for gender-based violence	No	Yes		
	Number of registered voters aggregated by sex	962,157 (2021) (545,318 women, 416,839men)	1,058,373(10% increased)	IEC report on election registration.	
	Percentage of women, young people, and persons with disability in leadership positions	36% women (year: 2021) 25% youth 2%PLD	10% women 10%youth 4%PLD (increased)	Global gender gap report	
	Number of political parties with policies on the quota system for inclusive participation/nomination of women, youth, and people with disability.	0	7	Interparty Committee report	
	Availability of a legislation guaranteeing representation of women, young people, and persons with disabilities in elected, appointed positions and decision making.	No	Yes	National Gazette	
	Youth Employment rate (YER) Youth unemployment rate (YUR) Not in employment, education, or training (NEET)	YER 20.60% (2022) YER (Male) 19.5% YER (Female) 21.60% YUR 10.50% (2022) NEET 56.8% (2022) NEET (Male) 43.10% (2022) NEET (Female) 47.30% (2022)	YER 30% YER (Male) 29% YER (Female) 31% YUR 8% NEET 40% NEET (Male) 35% NEET (Female) 40%	Labour force survey GBOS	
<p>OUTCOME 2.2: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia enjoy efficient social and economic inclusion, right-based human development for reduced poverty and inequality</p>					

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
	Percentage of people below poverty line (USD1.25 per day)	53.4% (2021)	48%	IHS	
	Proportion of children experiencing at least one multidimensional deprivation	90% (2018) (cumulative)	70% (cumulative)	GBOS (MODA Report)	
	Real GDP growth rate	4.3% (2022)	6.0%	GBOS (National Accounts)	
	GINI coefficient index	0.388	0.3000	IHS	
	Percentage of children in Grade 1 with ECE experience disaggregated by sex.	69% (2022, EMIS)	89%	Education Management Information System (EMIS)	
	Secondary school completion rate	Completion Rate: M – 38.4%, F – 44.9%, T – 41.8% (2022, EMIS)	Completion Rate: M – 60%, F – 60%, T – 60% (2022)	EMIS	
	% ECE centers with safe drinking water	ECE – 62 % (2022, EMIS)	70	EMIS	
	% ECE centers with adequate separate toilets	ECE – 42 % (2022, EMIS)	50	EMIS	
	Maternal mortality rate	289/100,000 (2019-20, DHS)	213/100,000	DHS/ MICS	
	Skilled birth attendant rate	84% (2019-20, DHS)	90%	DHS/ MICS	
	Infant mortality	42/1,000 (2019-20, DHS)	21/1,000	DHS/ MICS	
	Contraceptive prevalence rate	19%	24%	DHS/ MICS	
	% of children 0 – 11 months vaccinated with three doses of DPT	92% (2019-20, DHS)	98%	DHS	
	Prevalence of FGM/C for women 15 – 49 years	73% (2019-20, DHS)	70%	DHS	
	Universal health coverage index	48	50	UHC Report	
	Proportion of persons living with HIV receiving anti-retroviral therapy	30% (Global fund report 2021)	80%	Ministry of Health Global fund report	
	Percentage of women and girls (age 15-49) who have experienced any physical violence by a husband or anyone else since age 15	46%	30%	DHS	
	Percentage of women aged 15-49 years who have ever experienced any sexual and/or emotional violence by a husband or anyone else	9%	3%	DHS	
	Proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or in a union before the age of 18 year	23.1%	19%	DHS	

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
<p>OUTPUT 2.2.1: Vulnerable and hard-to-reach children, women, youths, elderly, migrants including people with disabilities have access to sufficient, inclusive and quality basic services at the institutional and community levels</p>	Unmet needs for family planning	24%	10%	DHS	Data availability, management, and analysis
	Percentage of young women and men aged 18-29 who experienced sexual violence by age 18, by sex and age	0.4% (2021)	0.1%	MICS, DHS, UNICEF -CRAVE database	
	Proportion of ECD school infrastructure meeting the minimum standards	56% (2022)	70%	Sector report	
	Proportion of communities within 2km access to Lower Basic Education	80	98	NDP Annual Reports Ministry of Education's Annual Sector Reports	
	Number of youth and women including victims of trafficking completing TVET and apprenticeship programmes	1,349	5,000	EMIS	
	Number children provided with basic learning materials annually	12,000 (2022)	15,000	Sector report	
	Availability of a revised Education policy reflecting Transforming Education Summit (TES) commitments	No (2022)	Yes	Sector report	
	Number of disability friendly toilets constructed in school, health facilities and in communities	21 (2022)	100	Sector report	
	Number of communities, schools & health centers provided with access to safe drinking water source	21 (2022)	60	Sector report	
	Number of adolescent girls provided with menstrual hygiene support	250 (2022)	120000	Sector report	
	Percentage of enrolment in TVET and STEM programs	N/A	30%	Sector report	
	Number of secondary health facilities providing emergency obstetric and newborn service	23	30	Health Sector Reports	
	Number of functional regional TVET centers	3	14	Sector report	
	Percentage of service delivery points reporting no stockout of at least 3 modern methods in the last 3 months.	75.6%	80%	RHCS Survey, 2022.	
	Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by health, social work, or justice/law enforcement services	802 (2021)	2000	MICS, DHS, MoGCSW- Directorate of Children	
Percentage of service delivery points that did not experience stockout of any method in the last three months.	15.6%	50%	RHCS Survey, 2022		
Birth registration rates for children under 5 years	58%	80%	DHS / MICS		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
<p>OUTPUT 2.2.2: The poorest individuals and communities have access to gender responsive and inclusive livelihoods regional and national programmes, decent jobs, and employment in formal and informal sectors</p>	Proportion of physical and/or psychological trauma (including Gender-based Violence) survivors receiving integrated services (legal, social, psychological, and medical services)	10%	40%	GMIS Centre	
	Country has operationalized in/ out of- school comprehensive sexuality education following international standards	No	Yes	IP Annual Reports	
	Out of school Comprehensive Sexuality Education operationalized following international technical and programme guidance	No	Yes		
	Existence of school health and nutrition policy	No	Yes		
	% of live births delivered in a health facility	83.8	100	Ministry of Health's Annual Sector Reports	
	Number of improved policies, strategies, legislative frameworks, guidelines that promote job creation and livelihood opportunities.	5	7	Sector rep Report on the status of Gambian female artist to boost economic and social status for empowerment (NCAC and UNESCO)	Investment climate (development partners, government, private sector, IFIs)
	Number of youth and women owned businesses with access to finance	1,917	5,000	Sector report	
	Number of beneficiaries with technical and (entrepreneurship skills) disaggregated by sex	5,316 Male: 3136 Female: 2180	11,254 Male: 6000 Female: 4000	Sector report	
	Number of jobs created (informal, semi-formal or/and formal)	0	Returnees: 1254 (Male: 1204 and Female: 50) 10,000 (60% women)	Sector report	
	Number of people benefiting from enhanced livelihoods services	92,908	200,000 (60% women)	Sector report	
	Percentage of informal businesses that are formalized	24	50	Sector report	
	Number of livelihoods programmes implemented in the poorest communities	2	3	Sector report	
	Number of women owned business enterprises supported in procurement processes	150	300		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
OUTPUT 2.2.3: Youth, smallholder farmers, micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) have access to finance, entrepreneurship support and skills acquisition for new production methods and product development for expanded market opportunities and productivity	Number of business support organizations (BSOs) with improved services	16	16	Sector report	
	Number of MSMEs supported with improve business operations and performance disaggregated by gender, age, migrant status, and disability	6814 Returns: 5411	3754 Returns: 1190 (Male: 1,143 and Female: 47)	Sector reports	
	Number of youths, small holder and MSMEs with access to finance to improve their businesses.	5875	12,000	Sector reports-GIEPA	
	Number of processing and value addition schemes	0	10	Sector reports	

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

NDP Strategic Objective 3 (SO3): Strengthen accountability, build partnerships, and put in place robust and sustainable resource mobilization strategies for enhanced delivery and development outcomes.

NDP PILLAR 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity

GLOBAL & REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS & AGENDAS

- Digital transformation
- SDG financing

SDG GOALS AND TARGETS

SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (9.5, 9.b)
SDG Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals (Target 17.16, 17.18)

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

OUTCOME 3.1 By 2028, broadened, inclusive and coordinated partnership landscape, and increased development financing	Tax revenue rate (% of GDP)	18.2%	20%	Ministry of Finance / Central bank of The Gambia	Assumptions : -Effective coordination by government -Internal political stability -Increased political will and capacity of the
	ODA/GDP ratio	41%	Decrease by at least 5%		
	Volume of green finance received by the country	USD 12.08 million (2023)	At least USD 20 million		

RESULTS	INDICATORS	BASELINES	TARGETS	SOURCE/ MOV	ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS
<p>OUTPUT 3.1.1: Integrated and Coordinated partnerships shaped by participatory policies, innovative resource mobilization mechanisms, human rights, and gender-sensitive financing strategies</p> <p>OUTPUT 3.1.2: An integrated and coordinated partnership system is in place for the effective implementation of the NDP</p> <p>Output 3.1.3: Leveraged digital technology and effective data management (credibility, accessibility, real time)</p>	Development Corporation Forum established and holding regular biennial sessions.	No	Yes, two meetings annually		<p>government to formulate and implement policies</p> <p>Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Global Economic shocks -External shocks (Pandemic) Climate shocks -Internal political instability -Peace and security -Violent extremism and regional instability
	Number of multi-stakeholder dialogues on financing and strategic advocacy in relation to the priorities of the cooperation framework (dialogues with the private sector, TFPs, etc.)	Once a year	30%		
	Existence of a gender-sensitive revised national policy on decentralization and devolution of powers	No	Yes, Four meeting annually	NDP	
	Number of SMEs and MSMEs provided with technical and financial support	20%	50% increase	NDP/ World Bank	
	Existence of a pool of diverse partners	No	Yes	Sector Report	
	Participatory development finance and partnerships policies (including diaspora) developed	No	Yes	NDP	
	Mechanism for monitoring public and private finance leveraged for the SDGs ((a) public / (b) private)	None	1	NDP	
	Availability and operationalization of an updated National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) III	NSDS II	NSDS III	NDP	
	Number of tools introduced that support innovative financing and accountability, including those related to digital financing, for gender equality	0	2	UN	
	Number of surveys, studies and evaluations conducted to strengthen data and information sharing and inform development financing	4	6	UN	
Number of government MDAs with effective information management systems integrated into a centralized information platform.	0	10	NDP		
Existence of a national digitalized One Stop Centre for development financing and investment	No	Yes	Ministry of Finance		
Existence of a national integrated payment gateway platform	No	Yes			

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ANNEX 4: ALIGNMENT OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK WITH THE NDP, THE SDGS AND THE COMMON AGENDAS

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITY	CF Outcome	NDP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE AND PILLARS	SDG GOALS & TARGETS	OTHER GLOBAL AGENDAS
<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: GREEN, RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE LIVELIHOODS</p>	<p>OUTCOME 1.1: By 2028, women, children, displaced people, youths and PWD particularly in rural and urban disaster, conflict prone areas are resilient to climate related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, WASH and health systems, including education and social protection.</p>	<p>NDP Strategic Objective 1 (SO1): Build Household and Community resilience to address shocks and crisis arising from climate change, economic volatility and pandemics (Covid-19)</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 1: Resilience to Shocks and Crisis</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 5: Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity</p>	<p>SDG Goal 2: Zero Hunger (Target 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4)</p> <p>SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being (Target 3.2, 3.3, and 3.7, 3.8, 3c)</p> <p>SDG Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation (Target)</p> <p>SDG Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy (Target)</p> <p>SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality (Target 10.2, 10.7, and 10 C)</p> <p>SDG Goal 13: Climate Action (Target)</p> <p>SDG Goal 14: Life Below Water (Target)</p> <p>SDG Goal 15: Life On Land (Target)</p> <p>SDG Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals (Target 17.16, 17.18)</p>	<p>Commitments of the Food Systems Summit</p> <p>- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including COP27 resolutions</p> <p>- Resilience Pillar of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) - Global Compact for Migration</p> <p>- The Paris Agreement on Climate Change - African Union's Agenda 2063</p> <p>- African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)</p> <p>- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction</p> <p>- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</p> <p>- The New Urban Agenda (Habitat III)</p> <p>- SDG Goal 15: Life On Land (Target)</p> <p>- The Rome Declaration on World Food Security</p>
<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND PEOPLE-CENTRED GOVERNANCE</p>	<p>OUTCOME 2.1: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia, participate in functional, accountable and transparent institutions for the efficient delivery of public services and good governance</p>	<p>NDP Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): Consolidate gains and address critical development gaps in governance and in economic and social transformation.</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 3: Governance Reforms</p>	<p>SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality (Target 10.2, 10.7, and 10 C)</p> <p>SDG Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (Target 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.9, 16B)</p>	<p>- Digital Transformation Agenda (ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda)</p> <p>- Governance Pillar of UNISS Strategy</p> <p>- Security Pillar of the UNISS Strategy</p> <p>- Convention on the Rights of the Child</p> <p>- UN Secretary General's Call to Action on Human Rights</p> <p>- African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance</p> <p>- African Union's Agenda 2063</p> <p>- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</p> <p>- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p> <p>- New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants</p> <p>- International Labour Organization's Decent Work Agenda</p>
<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIPS</p>	<p>OUTCOME 2.2: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia enjoy efficient social and economic inclusion, right-based human development for reduced poverty and inequality</p>	<p>NDP Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): Consolidate gains and address critical development gaps in governance and in economic and social transformation.</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 2: Macroeconomic Stability and Growth</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 4: Human Capital Development and Leaving no one Behind</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 6: Empowerment, Inclusion and Connectivity</p>	<p>SDG Goal 1: No Poverty (Target 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5)</p> <p>SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being (Target 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.7, 3.8)</p> <p>SDG Goal 4: Quality Education (Target 4.1, 4.2)</p> <p>SDG Goal 5: Gender Equality (Target 5.2, 5.3, 5.4)</p> <p>SDG Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation (Target 6.1, 6.2, 6b)</p> <p>SDG Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3, 8.5, 8.7, 8.8)</p> <p>SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</p> <p>SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality (Target 10.2, 10.7, and 10 C)</p>	<p>- Transforming Education Agenda (UNESCO's Education 2030 Framework for Action)</p> <p>- Digital Transformation Agenda (ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda)</p> <p>- Global Compact for Migration</p> <p>- Universal health coverage (WHO's UHC 2030)</p> <p>- African Union's Agenda 2063</p> <p>- The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)</p> <p>- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</p> <p>- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p> <p>- New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants</p> <p>- International Labour Organization's Decent Work Agenda</p>
<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: INNOVATIVE AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND PARTNERSHIPS</p>	<p>OUTCOME 3.1: By 2028, broadened, inclusive and coordinated partnership landscape, and increased development financing</p>	<p>NDP Strategic Objective 3 (SO3): Strengthen accountability, build partnerships, and put in place robust and sustainable resource mobilization strategies for enhanced delivery and development outcomes.</p> <p>NDP PILLAR 7: Energy, Infrastructure and Connectivity</p>	<p>SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</p> <p>SDG Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals (Target 17.16, 17.18)</p>	<p>- Digital Transforming Agenda (ITU's Connect 2030 Agenda)</p> <p>- SDG financing (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)</p> <p>- UN Secretary General's Call to Action on Human Rights</p> <p>- African Union's Agenda 2063</p> <p>- African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)</p> <p>- The Nairobi Outcome Document of the Second High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation</p>

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ANNEX 5: COOPERATION FRAMEWORK MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING PLAN

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS/ SUPPORT	FREQUENCY	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
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DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH

Baseline data collection per Cooperation Framework outcome and output indicator	Ensure baseline data and target values are fully provided at the beginning of Cooperation Framework including all relevant disaggregation	UNCT	M&E Group	Once					
Support the conduct of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of the SDGs	Monitor progress towards achievement of SDGs, document challenges and devise actionable recommendations	UNCT/ RCO	M&E Group	Bi-annual					
Develop and update the cooperation framework risk management plan	Monitor and mitigate the impact of risks. Improve the overall efficient implementation of the CF.	UNCT	OMT	Annual					
Review and update Common Country Analysis	Strengthen situational monitoring through reflection on the changes in Country context, operating environment	RCO	PCG, RGs, Other Thematic/ Working Groups	Annual					
Assessment of UN institutional commitments on gender and human rights, including Gender Scorecard, Gender Parity Strategy, and PSEA Action Plan	Ensure gender and human right baseline data and targets are fully provided at the beginning of the Cooperation Framework, including relevant agency disaggregation	RCO	Results Groups, M&E Group, Gender Working Group, OMT, Disability Working Group	Annual					

PLANNING AND MONITORING

Develop and monitor Joint Work Plans	To operationalize the Cooperation Framework, identify opportunities to enhancing multi-agency collaboration, e.g. through joint programmes.	RCO	Results Groups, M&E Working Group	Rolling basis					
Convene Results Groups meetings	Discuss progress, challenges, opportunities, and new learning, as well as how to adapt implementation of joint workplans.	Results Groups Chairs	RCOs, PCG	Quarterly					

PLANNING AND MONITORING

Collate, analyse and prepare the UN annual results report	Provide overview of Cooperation Framework achievements at the outcome level, key challenges, risks and key adaptations	RCO	Results Groups, M&E working group	Annually					
Annual Performance Reviews of CF strategic priorities	Reflect upon the overall progress towards strategic priority outcome (s) and devise strategies to accelerate the implementation of SP annual work plan interventions	RCO	Results Groups, M&E working group	Annually					
Collate, analyse and prepare institutional reports on gender and human rights, including the annual Gender SWAP report, and PSEA report	Provide overview of progress towards achievement of relevant commitments and action plans, identify key challenges and recommendation	RCO	Gender Working Group, Disability Working Group, OMT, Other thematic/ working groups	Annually					
DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS/ SUPPORT	FREQUENCY	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Conduct joint field monitoring visits to supported joint programmes/ interventions in a specific geographic area or a specific sector.	Monitor the progress of implementation, identify and document challenges on the ground, develop recommendations. Increase accountability of the UN before government/ national stakeholders.	RCO/ UNC	M&E Working Group, UN entities	Annually					

EVALUATION

Conduct an Evaluability Assessment of the UNSDCF	Determine the extent to which the cooperation framework can be evaluated in a reliable and credible fashion and thus inform the feasibility, scope, approach, and value for money of an evaluation. Moreover, it will check the coherence of the CF and mechanisms for availability of data and information for future	RCO	RGs, MSE working group	Once					
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EVALUATION

Conduct Joint programme and thematic evaluations	assessments and evaluations Assess systematically the relevance, cohesiveness, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of joint programmes and common themes of interest under the Cooperation Framework	RBM, UN SDG Team Strategic Priority Groups	OMT	Bi-annual		
Evaluation of agencies' Country Programming Instruments	Ensure the accountability of each agency's contribution to Gambia's development and peace building, as well as their contributions to Cooperation Framework outcomes, and reflect lessons learned.	Independent evaluation team	PCG, RGs, Other Thematic/ Working Groups	Penultimate year of agencies' programme cycles		
Conduct final independent evaluation of the Cooperation Framework	Evaluate the Cooperation Framework its relevance, cohesiveness, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability considering the SDGs and RF-NDP	Independent evaluation team	Results Groups, M&E Group, Gender Working Group, OMT, Disability Working Group	Penultimate year of the Cooperation Framework		

LEARNING

Technical training for the M&E Working Group and Result Group chairs on UNINFO	To ensure accurate understanding of reporting requirements and methodologies using UNINFO	RCO	M&E Working Group, RGs	Bi-annually		
Combined technical training for the M&E Working Group on guiding principles for monitoring techniques	To ensure that data needed to report on Cooperation Framework indicators related to the guiding principles is gathered as planned and progress against indicators is accurately assessed.	M&E Working Group	RCO, RGs	Annually		

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVE	LEAD	CONTRIBUTORS/ SUPPORT	FREQUENCY	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Establish a learning mechanism to document, analyse and share emerging lessons learnt throughout the implementation cycle of the Cooperation Framework.	To improve performance by ensuring that lessons learnt and best practices and shared among agencies and key stakeholders and are incorporated into the programmes cycle	M&E Working Group	PCG, Results Groups, RCO	First year of implementation					



As shown in the table on the previous page, the UN in the Gambia will support key NDP Strategic Objective and Pillars. This will further strengthen the continued relevance and contribution of the UNCT to the socioeconomic development of the country. In addition, the Cooperation Framework will service as the vehicle to accelerate the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The CF is further aligned with other global agendas such as the food systems, the transforming education, climate change and environment, digital transformation, SG's Call to Action and Common Agenda, SDG financing, etc. Through the CF, the UN Gambia is committed to the guiding principles of Human Rights Based Approach, the LNOB and the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE).



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