



Global Alliance for Resilience - AGIR Sahel and West Africa



“The Gambia National Resilience Priorities” Report (NRP-AGIR)

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Abbreviations & Acronyms

AAITG	– ActionAid International The Gambia
AGIR	– Global Alliance for Resilience (French acronym)
ANR	– Agriculture and Natural Resources
CAADP	– Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CID	– Country Inclusive Dialogue
CILSS	– Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CRSA	– Climate-Resilient Sustainable Agriculture
CSA	– Climate-Smart Agriculture
ECOWAS	– Economic Community of West African States
EU	– European Union
FAO	– Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FASDEP	– Food and Agriculture Support Development Project
FBO	– Farmer-Based Organization
GNAIP	– Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan
GSP	– Global Support Program
NaNA	– National Nutrition Agency
NAP	– National Adaptation Plan
NAOSU	– National Authorizing Office Support Unit
NDMA	– National Disaster Management Agency
NGO	– Non-Governmental Organization
NRP	– National Resilience Priorities
PIWAMP	– Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project
SLMP	– Sustainable Land Management Project
UEMOA	– West Africa Monetary Union
UNDP	– United Nations Development Program
WFP	– World Food Program

Executive Summary

The Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) in the Sahel and West Africa was launched on the 6th December, 2012 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso through the adoption of a common declaration namely the “Ouagadougou Declaration”. The Alliance draws its origins from the common understanding of peoples of the Sahel and West Africa as well as their partners on the structural and chronic nature of the causes and crises of food security in the Sahel and the West Africa region. The main objective of AGIR is to eliminate chronic hunger and malnutrition in the Sahel and West Africa in 20 years from the start of implementation.

The AGIR process in The Gambia was conducted through a National Inclusive Dialogue Process where all stakeholders (ex. The Ministry of Agriculture as the lead institution in the formulation of this process, NaNA, NDMA, Department of Social Welfare, FAO, UNDP, WFP, EU NAOSU Office, National Farmers’ Platform, Action Aid International The Gambia, Gambian farmers, Local Government Authorities, etc.) Involved by working to end hunger and malnutrition took part in the dialogue and formulation of actions. The process consists of four Pillars (Pillar 1 – Social Protection, Pillar 2 – Food and Nutrition Security, Pillar 3 – Food Production and Generation of Income for Farmers, and Pillar 4 – Governance). Some Gambia government policy and strategic documents currently in use were used to find out the root causes (structural and cyclical) of food and nutrition crises through exhaustive review and analysis of those policy and strategic documents. The documents used in the analysis were the National Social Protection Policy (2015 – 2025), The National Nutrition Security Policy and Strategic Plan (2010 – 2020), the ANR Policy (2009 – 2015), GNAIP document (2011 – 2015), and the National Disaster Management Act (2008).

In the review and analysis of the existing government documents, overviews of actions already taken by The Gambia government are highlighted. Priority targets and vulnerable zones in terms of hunger and malnutrition are identified, described, and characterized. The content of the NRP – AGIR process describes the target populations and zones in The Gambia that are vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition and selected national priorities contributing to reducing hunger and malnutrition are also identified.

Funding of the AGIR program is a top priority for The Gambia government. Therefore, the document looks at the projected funding requirements for each Pillar, identifies existing funding amount currently available for the activities under each Pillar, determines the funding gap, and finally notes the fund-raising activities of The Gambia government to bridge the funding gap. For an effective implementation of AGIR to take place in The Gambia, the governance aspect of the program is identified. For example, effective coordination between the different government institutions and the international development partners is vital in the effective implementation of the program. The AGIR process ends with a national validation workshop where all stakeholders contributed, by providing comments and suggestions, in making the document a robust one.

1. Introduction/Preamble

1.1 Brief background on the origins of the Alliance

The Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) in the Sahel and West Africa was launched on the 6th December 2012 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso through the adoption of a common declaration namely the “Ouagadougou Declaration”. The Alliance draws its origins from the common understanding of peoples of the Sahel and West Africa as well as their partners on the structural and chronic nature of the causes and crises of food security in the Sahel and the West Africa region.

During a high level consultative meeting held in Brussels on the 18th June 2012 on food insecurity in the Sahel, political decision makers of Sahelian and West African countries as well as their partners from the international community unanimously agreed upon the chronic and structural nature of factors underlying food and nutrition crises which affect the resilience of most vulnerable households and families in the Sahel and West Africa.

They agreed to unite their efforts around a partnership for resilience entitled “Global Alliance for Resilience – AGIR Sahel and West Africa, with the goal of “*structurally reducing in a sustainable manner, food and nutritional vulnerability which would be accompanied by appropriate Sahelian and West African policies*”. The main purpose of the Alliance, in the long term, is to permanently end the cycle of hunger and malnutrition.

In order to consolidate such a partnership, and following series of consultations held by a closed Technical Working Group and the validation of the Senior Group of Experts (SGE-AGIR), a regional roadmap was adopted on the 9th April 2013 by all stakeholders of the AGIR during the closed meeting of the RPCA. Based upon the principle of subsidiarity between national and regional levels, stakeholders of the Alliance agreed that the roadmap should be stepped down to country levels in "Country Resilience Priorities" (**CRP- AGIR**) through participatory processes known as “Country Inclusive Dialogues (**CID - AGIR**)” which would include all stakeholders involved in resilience.

1.2. “National Inclusive Dialogue” process

Phase 1: Formalization-Establishment of the Multi-sectoral and Multi-actor Executive Platform and organization of the national launch workshop.

Process/Procedure

The initiative for the formalization or establishment of the Stakeholders Dialogue Forum/Platform of the Process will be the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture.

- (a) Undertake a quick review of existing frameworks and mechanisms of dialogue in the country. This review identifies the best framework that form the backbone of dialogue forum/platform of AGIR.
- (b) Build from existing multi-actors platform in the country to accelerate the procedures of establishing the platform.
- (c) Inform (through correspondence) all stakeholders (i.e. sectoral Ministries concerned with resilience, agricultural professional organizations, civil society and the private sector, NGO and other organizations in charge of gender, local governments, technical and financial partners, etc and request their active participation in the process through the designation of a resource person (thematic leader) to work with National focal point with technical support and guidance of the consultant in the whole AGIR process. The thematic leaders have a fair understanding about agriculture and AGIR issues in the country.
- (d) Convened an initial meeting for general information on the process.
- (e) Elaborate the Terms of Reference for the multidisciplinary team of resource persons/thematic leaders in charge of working on drafting the NRP report with the National Consultant.
- (f) Organize a national inauguration workshop for the Stakeholders forum/Platform
- (g) Organize national launch workshop
- (h) Embark on mass sensitization and awareness creation.
- (i) Conduct policy analysis and drafting NRP
- (j) Production of draft NRP and circulate for 5 months .
- (k) National validations conducted recently in September, 2016 which was shortly preceded by sectoral validation
- (l) The National focal institution shall prepare a cabinet paper for the Council of Ministers.

Expected Outcomes

- (1) Stakeholder Dialogue Forum/Executive multi-sectoral and multi-actor Platform in place and its ToR validated by stakeholders.
- (2) Launch national workshop of the process. Roadmap for conducting the process and a distribution of roles and responsibilities developed and defined, and roles and responsibilities of actors in charge of conducting the process are clearly defined.
- (3) Information note for the government submitted to the Council of Ministers.
- (4) Composition of the multidisciplinary team of resource persons and its ToR developed and validated.

Phase 2: Integrated Review/Analysis of existing policies & programs

Process/Procedure

Based on the Analytical Grid:

1. Review the various policies and programs (including the NAIP) and other initiatives in the light of the fundamental bases of the Alliance (Target populations; Specific Objectives, Expected Results; etc.);

2. Identify priorities contributing to resilience and assess their level of implementation;
3. Identify additional elements not taken into account that could constitute resilience priorities (with regard to the fundamental bases of the Alliance) as integrated programs;
4. Examine the state of implementation of the identified resilience priorities. Examination of the modalities for establishing the Multi-sectoral and Multi-actor Executive Platform (ToR, activities, roles and responsibilities, etc.) as well as the launching of the process.

Expected Outcomes

The main anticipated outcome is an overview of resilience priorities, including the following key information: Policies/Programs concerned, resilience priorities (those already taken into account and additional priorities), contribution to the specific objectives/pillars of AGIR, targeted vulnerable groups (AGIR targets), location (in relation to vulnerability maps), duration (beginning, end of the process), expected key results, and implementation state which includes total budget, funding obtained and sources, and funding sought (i.e. gap).

Phase 3: Formulation (NRP-AGIR The Gambia) of National Resilience Priorities.

Process/Procedure

Based on these results, the next step will be the actual formulation of the NRP-AGIR through the completion of all the elements explained above. When the Phase 2 results are validated, I will organize, in consultation with the Focal Point, a Restricted Technical Working session, in the format of a 4 – 5 day workshop with a maximum of 15 to 20 experts representing all stakeholders.

Expected Outcomes

Resulting from this Phase 3, a preliminary document will be produced for subsequent adoption by all stakeholders. It will be structured according to NRP-AGIR Template and will contain the following key information: root structural and cyclical causes of food and nutritional crises, target priorities (populations and zones), objectives (General Objectives; Specific Objectives) and expected results, national priorities contributing to results, key indicators/Table of results (Results/indicators, Verifiables, Hypotheses or risks), funding (total, funding obtained (amount and donors), funding gap (amount and potential donors), overall funding plan, etc.), roles and responsibilities: i) Structure/organization responsible for the implementation/leadership and accounting of results; ii) Implementation partners (roles and responsibilities), and Mechanisms for co-ordination and monitoring/evaluation (in line with AGIR principles).

Phase 4: Validation/Adoption of the NRP-AGIR report

Process/Procedure

This is the final stage of the process of which the objective will be to examine and validate the NRP-AGIR report and engage the process for its adoption by appropriate bodies.

Based on the preliminary report validated by the Platform-Framework during Phase 3:

1. Organize a National Inclusive Consultation of all stakeholders in the form of a workshop lasting a maximum of two days – This meeting will be chaired by the Minister of Agriculture and bring together participants of a high decision-making level.
2. Share the working paper with all participants at least fourteen (14) working days before the National Consultation.

Expected Outcomes

The main expected outcomes of the National Consultation are the following:

1. Adoption and validation of the **NRP-AGIR** report.
2. Validation of the operational framework for funding, implementation, and monitoring-Evaluation, accompanied by a roadmap for accelerated implementation.
3. The process of official adoption of **NRP-AGIR** engaged.
4. Submit the final **NRP** report to the Council of Ministers for final adoption before forwarding a copy of the document to **CILSS**.

2. Root causes (structural and cyclical) of food and nutritional crises

2.1 Exhaustive review/analysis of the deep-rooted causes (social crises, natural disasters, structural and circumstantial causes) of food and nutritional insecurity

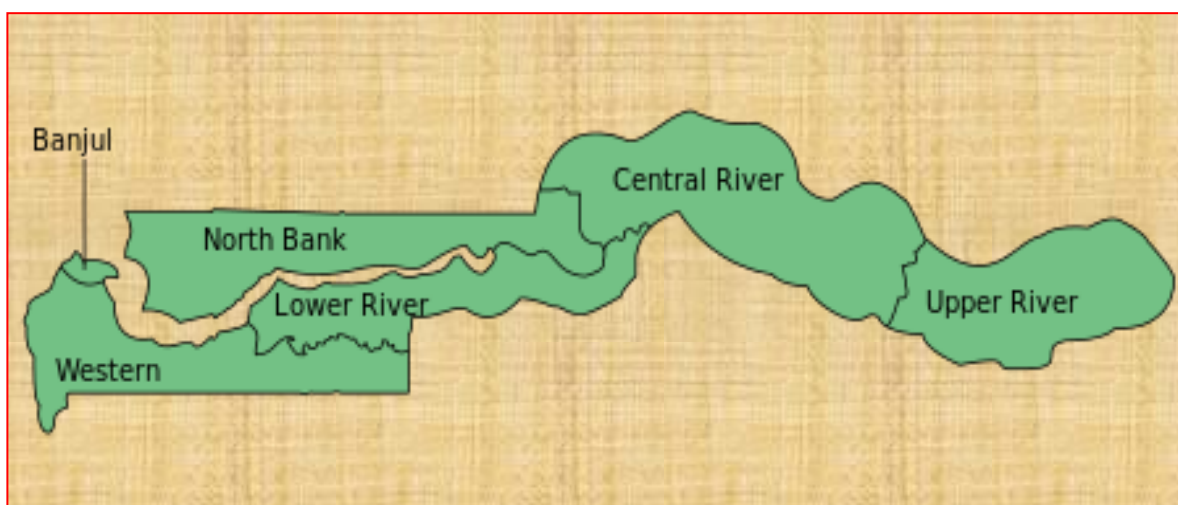
The vulnerability of food systems in the Sahel and West Africa depend more on the conditions of the agro-forestry-pastoral production system than on food trade, although the latter is also a significant determinant. In terms of production, the climatic conditions of semi-arid nature, characterised by high spatial and temporal variability in rainfall do not make it possible for the majority of farms - still totally dependent on rainfall – to ensure sufficient availability of food on a regular basis. In terms of trading, volatility of prices of these products, with a strong upward trend, consistently reduces access to food for many people. The recurring trade disruption not only has the effect of removing a large number of consumers from the food markets, but can also inhibit many farmers and pastoralists' willingness to grow for the market; thus increasing risks of decline in food availability levels.

The agriculture sector of The Gambia is characterized by subsistence-based rain-fed mixed-crop (mainly groundnuts, coarse grains, rice and cassava) farming, traditional livestock rearing, semi-commercial groundnut and horticultural production, small cotton and a large artisanal fisheries sub-sector (The Gambia CSA Document, 2015). This type of farming system is carried out mainly by small-scale resource poor farmers who use labor-intensive traditional production practices on less than one-hectare average farm size plots (usually fragmented). The farming system, in general, results in low outputs and causes a gradual decline in soil fertility. With all the efforts by Gambian farmers to sustain their lives and livelihoods, climate change comes in to exacerbate those conditions. One of the ways to minimize the impacts of climate change on the economy of The Gambia is through climate change adaptation which is also one of the cornerstones of the **AGIR** program.

In The Gambia, six Regions of agriculture climate change adaptation are to be considered (see Map 1 below), based on the availability of types of crops mainly grown in that region, annual rainfall amounts, and daily temperature regimes:

- 1) **Greater Banjul Area – GBA** (Banjul¹): Very little agriculture production takes place in this area. The main agriculture-related activity is fishing and oyster harvesting. The annual rainfall amount is around 1,000mm. Temperature ranges between 23°C and 35°C;
- 2) **West Coast Region – WCR** (Brikama): Fruit and horticultural production are the main agriculture activities in this territory. Rainfall is over 1,000mm per year (the highest in the country because of the existence of dense vegetation in this territory). Temperature ranges between 25°C and 40°C;
- 3) **North Bank Region – NBR** (Kerewan): Characterized by extensive mangroves, woodland, rice, and upland cereals (corn, millet, and sorghum) production. The daily temperature ranges between 25°C and 45°C. The annual rainfall is around 700mm (considered the driest Region of The Gambia);
- 4) **Lower River Region – LRR** (Mansakonko): Savannah woodland, mangrove belts, upland cereal production, and livestock production. Daily temperatures range between 30°C and 45°C. Annual rainfall is about 800mm;
- 5) **Central River Region – CRR** (Janjangbureh): Rice and upland cereal production and animal husbandry. Temperature ranges between 35°C and 45°C. Rainfall ranges from 800mm to 1,000mm annually;
- 6) **Upper River Region – URR** (Basse): Rice, upland cereal, and animal production. It has the largest number of livestock (i.e. cattle in the country) population. Temperature could range between 35°C and 45°C. Rainfall ranges from 800mm to 1,000mm annually;

Map 1: Regions of agriculture climate change adaptation in The Gambia.



Administrative Map of The Gambia.

Analysis of the Vulnerability of the Regions to Climate Change Impacts

The Gambia is among those countries most vulnerable to climate change impacts (The Gambia CSA Document, 2015). As a low-lying country, climate change poses major development challenges as productive sectors such as agriculture, forestry, wildlife (would be affected by erratic rainfall) and tourism would be adversely affected by rises in sea level. Table 1 below provides vulnerability analysis for each of the 6 Regions of agriculture climate change adaptation in The Gambia.

Table 1: Analysis of the Vulnerability of the Regions to Climate Change Impacts in the Gambia

Region	Degrees of exposure to CC	Degree of sensitivity to CC impacts	Adaptive capacity	Resulting vulnerability
<i>Greater Banjul Area (GBA)</i>	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sea level rise 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Low-lying coast ● Heavy sand mining and high loading of sediments in drainage areas 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High level knowledge on CC information ● Some amount of resources (from climate change projects) to adapt to CC impacts 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flooding of drainage systems and homes ● Inadequate availability of medical resources to treat disease outbreak during flooding
<i>West Coast Region (WCR)</i>	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Saline water intrusion in rice growing fields near the mangrove areas ● Occasional 	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medium vegetative cover 	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medium accessibility to climate change information through radio and TV information 	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Occasional flooding of rice fields ● Limited anti-saline water intrusion structures

	flooding of rice fields		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum amount of resources to adapt to CC impacts 	built in rice fields
North Bank Region (NBR)	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less vegetative cover • Frequent drought • Low underground water table 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil erosion and sedimentation • Insufficient drinking water for livestock during the dry season • Saline-water intrusion in rice fields 	Low: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate knowledge on CC information • Minimum amount of resources to adapt to CC impacts 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of upland crops and livestock as a result of drought • High soil erosion and sedimentation • Low rice production as a result of saline-water intrusion in rice fields
Lower River Region (LRR)	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low rainfall amount • Low vegetative cover • Saline-water intrusion in rice fields 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient forage for livestock • Low rice production 	Low: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level knowledge on CC information • Minimum amount of resources to diversify livestock production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum amount of resources to reduce occurrence of bushfires. 	High: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of upland crops and livestock as a result of drought • Increase in bush fires • Low rice production as a result of saline-water intrusion in rice fields
Central River Region (CRR)	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less vegetative cover in some areas. • Low rainfall 	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient forage for livestock grazing 	Low: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level knowledge on CC information. • Minimum amount of resources to diversify livestock production and combat saline water intrusion in rice fields 	Medium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of upland crops and livestock as a result of drought. • Increase in bush fires
Upper	Medium:	Medium:	Low:	Medium:

River Region (URR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less vegetative cover in some areas • Low rainfall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient forage for livestock grazing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level knowledge on CC information. • Minimum amount of resources to diversify livestock production and introduce irrigation agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of upland crops and livestock as a result of drought • Increase in bush fires
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Because of the daunting challenges of erratic rainfall and saline-water intrusion in crop growing areas of The Gambia, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approaches are thus key prerequisites for developing adaptation strategies that take all relevant sectors and stakeholders and the complex relationships among them into account. The following are the key adaptation measures that are pertinent to the water resources status and management functions (Source: (1) National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) and (2) NAP-GSP countries): Flow regulation to increase fresh water flows, Embankment/dikes to protect sensitive areas, Resettlement of people or relocation of activities away from the flood plains, Changes in pumping policies of fully penetrating aquifers along the coastline in order to reduce the risk of saline intrusion, increase water column in wells due to decrease in recharge; artificial recharge (by ponding)/ improve management of urban storm-water runoff and promote collection of rain water; and licensing and permits for withdrawal of river water for irrigation.

Two fundamental factors – irregular production and recurrent market disruptions- are exacerbated by economic underperformance that has increased the incidence of poverty in the context of accelerated urbanisation in which a growing proportion of the population depends on markets for their food access. This extremely rapid growth of cities has also had a negative impact on the bonds of social food solidarity that were used to protect many people against hunger.

Repetitive food crises in the Sahel and West Africa have thus many environmental, economic, social, technical, financial and political determinants. Their combined effects prevent to ensure, at all times and in any places, insufficient availability of food. So, a large number of households fail to have permanent access to these products.

Undernourishment resulting from these recurrent food crises systematically leads to, at times, fatal degradation of the nutritional status of the populations. Such degradation impacts more vulnerable people such as children, breastfeeding mothers, pregnant women and the elderly. However, these are all categories of persons belonging to poor households that are threatened by undernourishment and its corollary, malnutrition.

In West Africa and the Sahel, the number of people thus exposed to food and nutritional crises represents more than 10% of the regional population. This insecurity does not threaten only

their health; it also undermines their productive and income generation capacities. Without such core capacities, these vulnerable populations have become less able to resist, respond, recover and adapt sustainably to the food and nutritional shocks.

Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the States, their public development partners and national, regional and international non-state actors have always fought, jointly or separately, this insufficient resilience to such shocks. At the country level, structures such as Food Security Commissions have been mobilised to regulate food availability and stabilise access to food for the poor households. Food aid has often come from development partners involved in supplying food stocks and reserves. These actions of the States and their partners aim at stabilising availability of food at satisfactory levels.

According to The Gambia European Union (EU) Country Office Report (2016), The Gambia faces chronic food insecurity and stunting rates, linked to malnutrition and a declining ability of vulnerable rural communities to cope due to recurrent drought crises. There is therefore a need to take this into account by designing a program that takes resilience building and adaptation strategies on board. In this context, early warning information systems already being produced by government agencies, international organizations, and NGOs need to be standardized and better coordinated to improve efficiencies in decision-making. There is also a need for social safety nets for the most vulnerable, as well as the introduction of climate smart agriculture and suitable irrigation and water control systems.

Action Aid International The Gambia's (AAITG) work on building the resilience of communities started in 2011 following the disaster on drought. The organization first intervened with a response mechanism in the form of food relief called food-for-work. In the aftermath of the flash floods in 2012, communities were supported to re-construct houses, toilets and a hand pump well. The organization following the disaster response intervention decided to support communities on resilience building to mainly prepare them for anticipated disasters in the wake of climate change. Sensitisation and capacity-building on DRR, climate change and resilience building were also conducted. Community support on land reclamation - access roads, gabion construction and dykes, bunds and spillways were initiated. Community support on food security resilience projects – seed and cereal banking, seed provision were introduced. The introduction of Climate-Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA), a resilient-building technology that enhances women's access to and ownership of land, livelihood diversification, soil conservation, sustainable water management, agro diversification, market access, FBO support was also introduced in these communities.

The primary Chosso (a local Gambian acronym which means community indigenous climate system knowledge) of the Nema Project in The Gambia target group comprises an estimated 88,062 poor people (about 11,007 households) benefitting directly from tangible Natural Resources (NR) investments in soil, water and trees, as well as through resilience, capacity, and improved knowledge management. These comprise 41,107 rural poor people already engaged in Nema activities and 46,955 rural poor people expected to participate in the enhancement activities

through Chosso. Many of these and other people will also benefit from capacity building (individual and group management, and climate change adaptation skills) and access to greatly improved climate risk and hydrological information services. Beyond Nema, smallholders, livestock operators and river fishers throughout the sector stand to benefit indirectly from advances in the scientific and technical understanding of climate change for The Gambia and in the generation of cost-effective responses on -farm and at community and watershed levels.

Since the beginning of the millennium, ECOWAS and UEMOA countries have been much engaged in development dynamics, while building on the humanitarian mechanisms they have regularly used to alleviate the impact of food crises occasionally. The Union's Agricultural Policy (PAU) and the ECOWAS Common Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) have thus been brought to the baptismal front to increase the agro-forestry-pastoral productivity on a sustainable basis and develop markets for agro-forestry-pastoral products. Furthermore, these countries and their RECs have developed, with CILSS assistance, other action and reflection platforms to better manage food crises for the vulnerable populations. This is the case of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) whose audience has been extended to all regional partners.

The most important achievement of this reflection and action platform remains the Charter for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises. This Charter provides "a strategic framework for food crisis management" based on respect for the dignity of those affected and the right to food for all. This strategic framework was strengthened by the Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR)- Sahel and West Africa. All regional stakeholders in this Alliance (ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS, Peasant Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, Private Sector, and Development Partners) have thereby undertaken to provide the vulnerable groups and areas with the support needed to strengthen their resilience to deal with food and nutrition crises.

The Global Alliance for Resilience (AGIR) – Sahel and West Africa should allow countries to acquire greater capacities for the benefit of the vulnerable groups in terms of (i) anticipating shocks that may provoke crises, in order to avoid being affected, (ii) resistance to such shocks when they occur, (iii) post-shock recovery and (iv) adapting to the changing conditions of food availability and accessibility.

The regional roadmap of the Alliance is in line with the agenda of the regional policies, namely the ECOWAP and the PAU. Indeed, far from being a distinct or additional initiative, the work of the Alliance seeks to support the efforts made in the context of those policies to achieve the food and nutritional goal of eradicating hunger in West Africa and the Sahel, in the next 20 years. In so doing, the Alliance does not exclude any lever that may relieve people from undernourishment and malnutrition, both on ad-hoc and sustainable basis. Humanitarian logics and development dynamics are thus expected to converge to eliminate any outbreak of food and nutritional vulnerability.

It is the responsibility of States in the Sahel and West Africa to design, adopt, initiate, implement, monitor and evaluate, based on their specificities, actions that the Alliance will support to achieve the desired levels of resilience. At each State level, such actions will be part of a coherent overall framework that federates the Country's Resilience Priorities (CRPs) in a planning document mutually agreed upon.

The definition and adoption of such priorities should then take place in the context of broadly inclusive dialogue to facilitate the participation of all stakeholders in the food and nutrition systems of countries concerned. This Country Inclusive Dialogue (CID) is standardized to facilitate the necessary involvement of all stakeholders and designed according to a multi or cross-sectoral approach and building on existing policies, programmes and projects.

2.2 Overview of actions already planned by The Gambia (policies, programmes, strategic plans etc.)

The Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan (GNAIP): 2011 - 2015

The Gambia National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP) is the medium-term (2011-2015) strategic plan of the Government of The Gambia (GOTG) towards achieving the vision for the agricultural and natural resources (ANR) sector and food security in the country within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa (NEPAD) Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). It is aligned fully with the national goals of Vision 2020, and supports the realization of main national strategic programmes, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (PRSP II 2007-2011) and the ANR Sector Policy (2010). The proposed interventions are expected to achieve at least eight percent growth in the agricultural sector in The Gambia and this combined with accelerated non-agricultural growth could stimulate the level of growth needed in the sector to transform the country's rural areas and to significantly reduce poverty levels.

The GNAIP formulation process was highly consultative and participatory from the grassroots at village level to the highest level policy making body at national level through district, regional and national consultative meetings. There were also consultations with ECOWAS and its specialized institutions to ensure that the document is consistent with the CAADP pillars.

The overall goal of GNAIP is achieving an increased contribution of the ANR sector to the national economy by improving productivity through commercialization and active private sector participation predicated on a sound national macroeconomic framework aimed at enhanced growth and poverty reduction. To meet this goal, the development objective of GNAIP is increased food and nutritional security and household incomes including for vulnerable households through increased ANR production, productivity and marketed output, based on sustainable use and management of natural resources in support of national goals of poverty reduction and improved livelihoods. GNAIP has six strategic programs and one of those is **Programme 4: National Food and Nutritional Security** which has the objective to improve national and household food security and adequate nutritional levels, including during periods of disaster, with attention to targeting the most vulnerable groups and households of rural and urban communities. This will be achieved through two components: (i) National Food Security; and (ii) Disaster Risk Management.

Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Policy: 2009 – 2015

Since the macro-economic problems which the PRSP II aims to address are largely rural and agrarian in nature, the ANR sector possesses strengths that have positioned it to be central to the country's economic growth in the achievement of the Vision 2020 objectives and the aspirations of the MDGs "... to half the proportion of the poor and those who suffer from hunger by 2015 and 2020, respectively." A clear policy framework is therefore necessary to provide a logical basis

for the planning, support to, and management of the ANR sector to contribute meaningfully to national priorities.

National Disaster Management Act (2008)

The National Disaster Management Act (2008), among its functions, has charged the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) to coordinate requests for aid, especially food aid, and control and direct the allocation of such aid provided by The Gambia government and/or international donors and non-government agencies; establish and maintain relations with international relief organizations in order to facilitate accessing of their resources in the event of a disaster; develop strategies and policies for the prevention of, preparation for, response to, mitigation of, and recovery from disasters.

The Gambia National Social Protection Policy (NSPP): 2015 - 2025

The Gambia's first National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) (2015 – 2025) was designed to contribute towards the alleviation of poverty and vulnerability in the country, in line with the government's Vision 2020 and the 2012-2015 Program for Accelerated Growth and Employment (PAGE). The NSPP was developed through participatory national and regional consultations with key ministries, sub-national governments, community leaders, development partners, civil society, the private sector, and local communities.

Based on existing widespread poverty and multidimensional vulnerability in The Gambia, as well as gaps in the provision of social protection, the government recognizes that its social protection system requires modernization and expansion in order to provide more reliable and effective protection from multifaceted shocks and stresses and to build people's resilience to adversity and hardship. Thus, the NSPP defines a comprehensive and cross-cutting social protection reform agenda and proposes a set of priority actions to guide the gradual establishment of a coherent social protection system in The Gambia.

The long-term vision (2015 - 2025) for social protection is to establish, by 2025, an inclusive, integrated and comprehensive social protection system that will effectively provide protective, preventive, promotive, and transformative measures to safeguard the lives of all poor and vulnerable groups in The Gambia and contribute to broader human development, greater economic productivity, and inclusive growth.

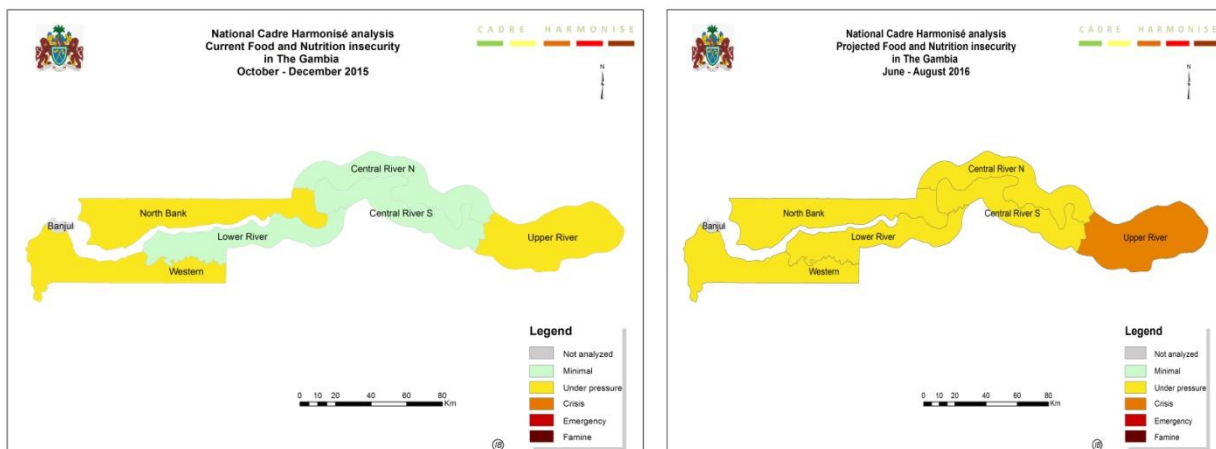
National Nutrition Policy (2010 – 2020)

The Gambia is faced with the “double burden malnutrition” as the country tries to contain under-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies on one hand and the growing incidence of diet-related non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension, and some forms of cancers on the other hand. It is based on these dietary challenges that The Gambia government came up with the revised National Nutrition Policy (NNP) (2010 – 2020) to address the major nutritional problems in The Gambia. The policy is accompanied by a Strategic and Action Plan which if properly

implemented can significantly reduce the burden of malnutrition among the vulnerable groups in particular as well as the general population. The policy also takes into consideration the MDGs, the Poverty Reduction and Strategy Paper (PRSP), Vision 2020, and other sectoral policies.

3. Priority targets and vulnerable zones

3.1 Description/characterization of target populations (vulnerable households, families), if possible with some statistical references on the size and evolution of these groups



Steps are being taken in the health sector to improve maternal and infant mortality as well as malnutrition to realize the MDGs (1 and 4). Maternal mortality ratio though still high, declined from 1050/100,000 in 1990 to 730/100,000 in 2001 due to the numerous safe motherhood interventions undertaken by the health sector. Furthermore, infant mortality rates declined to 75/1,000 in 2006 from 84/1,000 in 1993 and 167/1,000 in 1983 while overall life expectancy has increased from 57 in 1993 to 63.4 years in 2003. Currently, the crude birth rate is 46 per 1000 population while the total fertility rate is 5.4 births per woman. With such a high fertility level, the total population structure is youthful. For instance, nearly 44 percent of the population is below 15 years and 19 percent between the ages 15 to 24. Average life expectancy at birth is 64 years overall (GBOS, 2003 Census). According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) in 2005/2006 Report, at national level, 7.3 percent and 29 percent of under-five children are wasted (i.e too thin for their height) and stunted (i.e too short for their age) respectively which is an indication of chronic malnutrition. In addition, 19.9 percent of infants have low birth weights, 20.3 percent of under-five children are moderately underweight and four percent severely underweight. This situation is due primarily to inappropriate child feeding practices, particularly early end to breastfeeding. It is also caused by inadequate complementary feeding after six months. Micronutrient deficiencies (i.e deficiencies in Vitamin A and Iodine, respectively) are also important contributory factors. Limited access to food – in terms of both quality and quantity, in particular for pregnant and lactating mothers is also contributing to infant malnutrition.

Other vulnerable groups include the elderly and adolescents, especially the urban poor, although very little data is available on their situation. Results from the VAMU survey revealed that over 50% of households in the urban areas of Banjul and Kanifing Municipality were experiencing some form of food insecurity. The study also found 9% of urban women to be undernourished.

3.2 Characterization of target vulnerable zones

In 2006, it was reported that 46 percent of rural households fell below the food poverty line, compared with 15 percent in peri-urban and 4 percent in the Greater Banjul Area. The estimated per capita consumption of cereals in the country is about 175 kg of which 117 kg is rice and 58 kg coarse grains (millet, maize and sorghum). According to the Food Security Situation and Response Strategies to Food Crisis Situation, household food security is eroded severely due to low, erratic and unevenly distributed rainfall resulting in low productivity and production. Consequently, rural farmers are compelled to sell their produce immediately which results in income loss and lowering food stocks which cannot take them through the hungry season. Banjul (the capital city of The Gambia) and Kanifing Municipality are prime areas for obesity, diabetes, heart diseases, etc as a result of insufficient food and poor food consumption. For example, a 2005/2006 health facility survey showed hypertension (24.2%) and diabetes (2%) to be prevalent in these two urban areas among adults.

4. Content of the NRP-AGIR

4.1 Target populations and zones

Pillar 1: The target populations and zones are employed persons, the unemployed, those impacted by HIV/AIDS, extremely poor individuals and households, pregnant women, lactating mothers, widows, vulnerable children, the elderly, the chronically ill, vulnerable women and youth, refugees and migrants, prison inmates and their families who live in The Gambia, and persons with disabilities.

Pillar 2: The target populations are maternal parents, infants and young children, communities and households, the socio-economically deprived and nutritionally vulnerable, the elderly, HIV/AIDS patients. The policy implementation covers the whole country.

Pillar 3: The target populations are the ones that depend on the ANR sector for their livelihoods and the private sector operators engaged in the sector. These include but not limited to rural farmers, fisherfolks, forest wood dealers, urban farmers, etc. who mostly reside in the rural and urban communities of The Gambia. Other target populations (ex. low-wage earners, the disabled employees, etc.) include government and non-government institutions that are critical for the development of the sector and consumers.

Pillar 4: The central government and non-government institutions involved in food production and nutrition security, Regional, municipal, and local governments (which include Regional Governors' offices, Municipalities, Local Area Councils, District Chieftaincies, and village leaderships).

4.2 Objectives:

Overall objective

Pillar 1: To facilitate the reform of the national social protection system by ensuring more efficient and effective use of resources, strengthened management and administrative systems, and greater progress toward a more inclusive form of social protection that makes basic income and social services available to The Gambia's poorest and most vulnerable people – gradually expanding access to the entire population.

Pillar 2: Address the major nutritional problems in The Gambia.

Pillar 3: Increased food and nutritional security and household incomes for vulnerable households and all stakeholders in the agriculture and natural resources value-chain through food production and productivity based on sustainable use and management of natural resources in support of national goals of poverty reduction and improved livelihoods.

Pillar 4: Strengthen the effective governance of all food and nutritional security policies and programs in The Gambia.

Specific objectives (quantified as possible) & Expected results

Pillar 1: (i) Address gaps in coverage and align programs more effectively in order to meet the varied needs of the population.

(ii) Provide guidance to increase the coordination of interventions through the adoption of a systematic and harmonized mechanism that identifies beneficiaries, exchanges information (eg. MIS), and monitors program impact.

(iii) Strengthen capacity at the national, sub-national, and local level for policy formulation, coordination, implementation, and monitoring, while continuing to decentralize social welfare and rehabilitation (psychosocial and disability) services.

(iv) Identify and create fiscal space for the sustainable (i.e. long term and predictable) financing of social protection and allocating a specific budget for social protection.

Pillar 2: (i) To reduce the prevalence of malnutrition among women of child-bearing age.

(ii) Improve the nutritional and health status of infants and children

(iii) Promote the utilization of diverse and safe foods of high nutritional value

(iv) Increase awareness on causes, consequences, and prevention of micronutrient malnutrition in the general population.

(v) Contribute towards ensuring that food produced and/or consumed by The Gambian population is of high quality and safe.

(vi) Ensure that stakeholders appreciate the importance of a good nutritional status in both the management and prevention of infectious diseases.

(vii) Increase awareness of the risk factors and major determinants of diet-related non-communicable diseases.

(viii) Establish an effective nutritional care and support system for the socio-economically deprived and nutritionally vulnerable groups.

(ix) Increase awareness on the relationship between nutrition and HIV/AIDS.

(x) Improve timely access to adequate food by people in emergency situations.

(xi) Make nutrition information available to all stakeholders for appropriate decision-making, planning, policy development, and programming.

(xii) To create an enabling environment for human nutrition research

(xiii) Inform and educate The Gambian population on the need for and importance of good nutrition through effective information and communication mechanisms.

(xiv) To coordinate investment in nutrition

(xv) Ensure that nutrition is mainstreamed in key development policies and programs

(xvi) Recruit and retain professional staff for the nutrition sector

Pillar 3: (i) To increase food security and income generating capacities of the population, especially women and youth, through the use of sustainable land and water management practices.

(ii) Improve livelihoods and food security, and reduce poverty of populations that depend on The Gambia's other shared natural resources (including rangelands, forests, fisheries, parks and wildlife) through sustainable management and use of these resources.

(iii) Transform the agricultural sector from a traditional subsistence economy to a modern market-oriented commercial sector with well integrated food chains and a viable agro-processing private sector, resulting in increased incomes of agricultural value chain actors (including farmers, input suppliers, processors, traders and exporters).

(iv) Improve household food security, including during periods of disaster, with attention to targeting the most vulnerable groups and households of rural and urban communities through social safety net mechanisms.

(v) Achieve increased and sustained agricultural production and productivity by introducing agricultural practices through people-centred learning processes that enhance and conserve local natural resources and the environment, and help smallholder farmers to adapt to climate change.

(vi) Strengthen existing early-warning and response mechanisms

Pillar 4: (i) Strengthen political commitment in food and nutrition security

(ii) Enhance coordination of food and nutrition security in The Gambia

(iii) Develop a food security policy for The Gambia

(iv) Ensure overall food and nutrition policy implementation and review

(v) Advocate for increased support for food and nutrition security in The Gambia.

4.3 Selected national priorities contributing to results (description of the content of the strategic pillars)

Pillar 1: The contents of the AGIR priorities are somewhat related to the specific objectives of The Gambia National Social Protection Policy because the policy supports the extreme poor and other vulnerable groups in attaining an improved standard of living and enhanced human development by providing predictable, long-term income support. Please see Annex 2 for a detailed explanation of AGIR Priorities compared to the targets of Pillar 1. The policy needs to increase capacity building of staff and secure additional funding for effective implementation of the policy.

Pillar 2: The contents of the AGIR priorities are strongly related to the targets of The Gambia National Nutrition Policy which are embedded in these Themes. See Annex 2 for a more detailed comparison between the priorities of AGIR and the targets of Pillar 2.

Theme 3: Food and Nutrition Security at National, Community and Household Levels

Theme 5. Improving Food Standards, Quality and Safety

Theme 8: Caring for the Socio-Economically Deprived and Nutritionally Vulnerable

Theme: 10. Nutrition in Emergency Situations which includes social safety nets (ex. cash transfers).

Theme 11. Nutrition Surveillance

Theme 15. Mainstreaming Nutrition into Development Policies, Strategies and Programmes

Theme 16. Policy Implementation Framework

Pillar 3: The contents of the AGIR priorities are strongly related to the GNAIP and ANR targets of which the key impact performance indicators are to increase overall national food and nutrition security through increased sustainable levels of self-sufficiency in food production. See Annex 2 for a detailed explanation. The strategic objectives of AGIR are also linked to the GNAIP specific objectives.

Pillar 4: The contents of the AGIR priorities are strongly related to the contents (in terms of specific objectives) of all the four documents (ANR Policy, GNAIP, Social Protection Policy, and National Nutrition Policy) that address the issues of food and nutrition security and social protection. See Annex 2 for a more detailed explanation. Despite all these efforts by these policy documents, there is still the need to synergize and collaborate to know who is doing what at the different stages of policy implementation. In short, there is the need to strengthen coordination and synergize among the policy implementation stages.

4.4 For the overall objective and each specific objective (strategic pillar), describe the indicators of impact, verifiable evidence, assumptions and risks, as follow:

(1)= Overall and specific objectives (strategic pillars)

(2)= Performance indicators/process

(3)= Results indicators (impacts)

(4)= Verifiable elements

(5)= Assumptions and risks (for achievement of results)

PILLAR	Overall Objectives	Specific Objectives	Performance Indicators/Process	Results Indicators (Impacts)	Verifiable Elements	Assumptions & Risks
1 (Social Protection)	To facilitate the reform of the national social protection system by ensuring more	(i) Address gaps in coverage and align programs more effectively in order to meet	The Gambia National Social Protection Policy was developed through participatory national and	At the end of the implementation period, the expected impacts would be to have a	Priority target groups have been identified through the policy consultations and they include extremely poor	Following the implementation of reforms, it is expected that The Gambia will have a modern social

	<p>efficient and effective use of resources, strengthened management and administrative systems, and greater progress toward a more inclusive form of social protection that makes basic income and social services available to The Gambia's poorest and most vulnerable people – gradually expanding access to the entire population.</p>	<p>the varied needs of the population. (ii) Provide guidance to increase the coordination of interventions through the adoption of a systematic and harmonized mechanism that identifies beneficiaries, exchanges information (eg. MIS), and monitors program impact. (iii) Strengthen capacity at the national, sub-national, and local level for policy formulation, coordination, implementation, and monitoring, while continuing to decentralize social welfare and rehabilitation (psychosocial and disability) services. (iv) Identify and create fiscal space for the sustainable (i.e. long term and</p>	<p>regional consultations with key ministries, sub-national governments, community leaders, development partners, civil society, the private sector, and local communities. Feed backs were received from the stakeholders and incorporated in the draft policy document that was validated by all stakeholders. The policy document was submitted to the Cabinet and it was approved in February, 2016. The policy was developed with support from UN partners.</p>	<p>modern social protection system in place that will be able to offer more predictable, reliable, and sustainable support to assist its population in coping with shocks, while contributing to poverty reduction and building long-term resilience to risks.</p>	<p>individuals and households, vulnerable children, the elderly, people with disabilities, the chronically-ill, individuals and families affect by HIV/AIDS, etc.</p>	<p>protection system in place, and will thereby be able to offer more predictable, reliable, and sustainable support that not only helps its population cope with shocks but also contributes to poverty reduction and builds long-term resilience to risks.</p>
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		predictable) financing of social protection and allocating a specific budget for social protection.				
2 (Nutrition)	Address the major nutritional problems in The Gambia.	<p>(i) To reduce the prevalence of malnutrition among women of child-bearing age.</p> <p>(ii) Improve the nutritional and health status of infants and children</p> <p>(iii) Promote the utilization of diverse and safe foods of high nutritional value</p> <p>(iv) Increase awareness on causes, consequences, and prevention of micronutrient malnutrition in the general population.</p> <p>(v) Contribute towards ensuring that food produced and/or consumed by The Gambian population is of high quality and</p>	The revised policy was subjected to a series of regional consultations by the Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) in all the seven Administrative Regions.	The revised National Nutrition Policy (2010 – 2020) seeks to address the major nutritional problems in The Gambia.	Mainstreaming nutrition into development policies, programs, and strategies.	If the policy and the strategic plans are properly implemented, there would be a significant reduction in the burden of malnutrition among the vulnerable groups in particular as well as the general population

		<p>safe.</p> <p>(vi) Ensure that stakeholders appreciate the importance of a good nutritional status in both the management and prevention of infectious diseases.</p> <p>(vii) Increase awareness of the risk factors and major determinants of diet-related non-communicable diseases.</p> <p>(viii) Establish an effective nutritional care and support system for the socio-economically deprived and nutritionally vulnerable groups.</p> <p>(ix) Increase awareness on the relationship between nutrition and HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>(x) Improve timely access to adequate food by people in emergency situations.</p> <p>(xi) Make</p>				
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		<p>nutrition information available to all stakeholders for appropriate decision-making, planning, policy development, and programming.</p> <p>(xii) To create an enabling environment for human nutrition research</p> <p>(xiii) Inform and educate The Gambian population on the need for and importance of good nutrition through effective information and communication mechanisms.</p> <p>(xiv) To coordinate investment in nutrition</p> <p>(xv) Ensure that nutrition is mainstreamed in key development policies and programs</p> <p>(xvi) Recruit and retain professional staff for the nutrition sector</p>				
3 (Food)	Increased	(i) To increase	The GNAIP	The proposed	The GNAIP	Overall, the

<p>Production & Income Generation)</p>	<p>food and nutritional security and household incomes for vulnerable households and all stakeholders in the agriculture and natural resources value-chain through food production and productivity based on sustainable use and management of natural resources in support of national goals of poverty reduction and improved livelihoods.</p>	<p>food security and income generating capacities of the population, especially women and youth, through the use of sustainable land and water management practices. (ii) Improve livelihoods and food security, and reduce poverty of populations that depend on The Gambia's other shared natural resources (including rangelands, forests, fisheries, parks and wildlife) through sustainable management and use of these resources. (iii) Transform the agricultural sector from a traditional subsistence economy to a modern market-oriented commercial sector with well integrated food chains and a</p>	<p>formulation process was highly consultative and participatory from the grassroots at village level to the highest level policy making body at national level through district, regional and national consultative meetings. There were also consultations with ECOWAS and its specialized institutions to ensure that the document is consistent with the CAADP pillars.</p>	<p>interventions are expected to achieve at least eight percent growth in the agricultural sector in The Gambia and this combined with accelerated non-agricultural growth could stimulate the level of growth needed in the sector to transform the country's rural areas and to significantly reduce poverty levels.</p>	<p>programmes are primarily based on interventions and approaches that have proven successful under ongoing or past programmes and projects in the country. However, the GNAIP design is characterized by a number of features that can be considered innovative in the context of The Gambia, but which have been successfully implemented in other countries of the sub-region. These include: (i) support to social protection and safety nets; (ii) building a sound Food Security and Nutrition Information System (FSNIS); (iii) support to producer organizations including organizational and institutional apex body strengthening; (iv) community-based approaches to natural resource management; (v) developing value</p>	<p>risks related to the implementation of the GNAIP programmes can be regarded as low to moderate as: (a) the programmes will be implemented through existing structures and experienced partners; and (b) most interventions are based on proven approaches and/or focus on areas of intervention that are/were successfully supported by ongoing or past programmes and projects. However, a number of risks have been identified that could potentially limit meeting programme objectives. These relate to: (i) socio-political and economic environment;</p>
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		<p>viable agro-processing private sector, resulting in increased incomes of agricultural value chain actors (including farmers, input suppliers, processors, traders and exporters).</p> <p>(iv) Improve household food security, including during periods of disaster, with attention to targeting the most vulnerable groups and households of rural and urban communities through social safety net mechanisms.</p> <p>(v) Achieve increased and sustained agricultural production and productivity by introducing agricultural practices through people-centred learning processes that enhance and conserve local</p>			<p>chains in new niche markets; (vi) climate change adaptation and mitigation measures which are mainstreamed throughout the programmes; (vii) new financial mechanisms for smallholders; and (viii) overall institutional arrangements/inter-ministerial collaboration which represent a complete new way of doing business and will require commitment by all government agencies and development partners to collaborate in a well coordinated manner.</p>	<p>(ii) commitment by Government and development partners; (iii) governance; (iv) capacity of Government institutions and implementing partners/service providers; (v) private sector interests; (vi) access to finance and markets; (vii) impact of climate change; and (viii) gender, youth and vulnerability aspects. Adequate measures to mitigate the identified risks have been incorporated in the programme design.</p>
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		<p>natural resources and the environment, and help smallholder farmers to adapt to climate change.</p> <p>(vi) Strengthen existing early-warning and response mechanisms</p>				
4 (Governance)	Strengthen the effective governance of all food and nutritional security policies and programs in The Gambia.	<p>(i) Strengthen political commitment in food and nutrition security</p> <p>(ii) Enhance coordination of food and nutrition security in The Gambia</p> <p>(iii) Develop a food security policy for The Gambia</p> <p>(iv) Ensure overall food and nutrition policy implementation and review</p> <p>(v) Advocate for increased support for food and nutrition security in The Gambia.</p>	All the reviewed policies and programs in this AGIR process have gone through comprehensive national consultations, with participation from international development partners like UNDP, FAO, The EU, etc. until the final policy and strategic plan document was produced.	The impacts include a reliable and robust social protection for the most vulnerable population and food and nutrition security programs for the entire population.	Increase in food production by about 8% that would lead to an increase in the country's GDP, increase in awareness of the value of consuming nutritious foods, and providing a comprehensive and modern social protection for the whole population, most especially the most vulnerable population.	Assumptions include uninterrupted funding for the implementation of all these policies and programs, full political support, and an effective coordination mechanism in the implementation phases. Risks range from an unreliable funding window to low capacity of government institutions to fully implement these policies and programs.

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5. NRP-AGIR funding

PILLAR NUMBER	Policy and Timeframe	Funding Source	Total Cost (US \$)	Funding (US\$) already secured (amount/source)	Funding gap (US\$) (amount/source)	Funding plan
1 (Social Protection)	The Gambia National Social Protection Policy (2015 – 2025)	The Gambia national budget	30,000,000	2,510,490 from The Gambia government, UNICEF, UNDP	27,489,510 from The Gambia government and donor partners	Increase The Gambia's currently inadequate social protection spending Allocate a specific budget for social protection Identify and create fiscal space for the sustainable (i.e. long term and predictable) financing of social protection programs by the government and donor partners.
2 (Nutrition)	National Nutrition Policy (2010 – 2020)	The Gambia International donors	26,311,062.00	5,245,056.00 (The Gambia government and international donors)	21,066,005.00 (from The Gambia government and international donors)	Nutrition budgeting and costing in government budget. Resource mobilization with both traditional and non-traditional donors.
3 (Food Production & Income-generation)	ANR Policy (2009 – 2015) GNAIP (2011 – 2015)	The Gambia government. Commercial Banks Non-bank financial institutions Development partners.	296,700,000.00	95,720,000.00 (The Gambia government, beneficiaries, MFIs, commercial banks, non-bank financial institutions, private sector, development partners.	200,960,000.00 (The Gambia government, commercial banks, private sector, development partners).	Funds from existing projects and programs implemented by government or outside the government.
4 (Governance)	All Policies	The Gambia government and	35,301,106.20	10,590,331.80	24,710,774.40	Increase government budget and aggressively lobby for international donor

nce)	and program documents reviewed for this Report.	her development partners.				funding.
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6. Organization of implementation

Date	Activity/ies	Responsibility	Stakeholders
7-7-15	Briefing for the Ministry of Agriculture on the outcome of the methodological training	AGIR Focal Point The Gambia	National Consultant & Farmer Representative.
8- 15-7-15	Development of contract agreement for the National Consultant	AGIR Focal Point	Technical support from AGIR Technical Unit
8-7-15	Presentation of back –to-office report –hard copies	AGIR Focal Point	Shared copies with all members of thematic groups.
8-12-7-15	Creation of special account for AGIR with PS and AGIR Focal Point The Gambia as signatories	PS Agriculture and AGIR Focal Point	AGIR Technical Unit, CILSS
13-7-15	Official inauguration of the multi-stakeholders dialogue platform by the Permanent Secretary, MoA.	AGIR Focal Point /National Consultant AGIR.	AGIR Technical Unit, donor partners in the country
13-7-15	Signing contract with the National Consultant	Permanent Secretary,/Ministry of Agriculture & National Consultant	AGIR Technical Unit / donor partners in the country
15-7-15	Official launching of Country Inclusive Dialogue(pending availability of partners like CILSS, UMOA, ECOWAS)	AGIR Focal Point ,Ministry of Agriculture, National Consultant & thematic group leaders	AGIR Technical Unit, donor partners in the country
20-22-7-15	Step down training for members of Multi-stakeholders dialogue forum	AGIR Focal Point /Ministry of Agriculture / National Consultant	AGIR Technical Unit, donor partners in the country
23 to 26-7-15	Integrated Review/Analysis of Existing Policies & Programmes by Focal Point, Thematic Group Leaders and Consultant.	AGIR Focal Point /Ministry of Agriculture / National Consultant/Thematic Group Leaders. Pillar 1 : Department of Social Welfare.	AGIR Technical Groups /donor partners in the country. UNICEF, UNHCR, Child Protection Alliance, Gambia Red Cross Society, Women’s Bureau, National Association of

March, 2016	Regional workshop for priority identification	AGIR Focal Point /National Consultant/moderators of thematic groups	Local Government Authorities, producer organizations Municipalities, traditional leaders, women and youth representation, and Non Government organisation.
March , 2016	Back to office report	AGIR Focal Point /National Consultant	-
10 to 17th April, 2016	Compilation of draft National Resilience Priorities and present to the AGIR Focal Point,The Gambia.	National Consultant	AGIR Focal Point,The Gambia/ AGIR Technical Unit, CILSS
20 May 2016	Share the draft National Resilience Priorities with AGIR Technical Unit, Donor partners within the country and government Non Government institutions and farmer organization for comments	AGIR Focal Point	National Consultant
3 to 6th May , 2016	Internal Review of draft country resilience priorities by Multi –stakeholders Dialogue Forum	AGIR Focal Point , The Gambia/National Consultant	AGIR Technical Unit, CILSS.
22nd August, 2016	National validation of the draft National Resilience Priorities	AGIR Focal point , The Gambia/National Consultant	AGIR Technical Unit, CILSS.
September, 2016	Presentation of final National Resilience Priorities to Cabinet	Ministry of Agriculture	AGIR Focal Point/National Consultant
	Coordination Monitoring & Evaluation	Ministry of Agriculture through designated AGIR Focal Point	National Consultant

7. References

Climate-Smart Agriculture in The Gambia: Current Status and Support Needs to Better Integrate CSA into the GNAIP (2015)

European Union (EU) Country Office Report (2016),

National Adaptation Plans Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP)

National Disaster Management Agency Act (2008)

National Nutrition Policy (2010 – 2020)

The Gambia Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy (2011 – 2015)

The Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan (2011 – 2015)

The Gambia National Social Protection Policy (2015 – 2025)

8. Annexes

8.1 Annex 1: Baseline indicators

Pillar 1

There is currently an on-going social protection reform which includes the validation and adoption by Cabinet of the National Social Protection Policy in 2016. This Policy ensures more efficient and effective use of resources, strengthen management and administrative systems, and greater progress toward a more inclusive form of social protection that makes basic income and social services available to The Gambia's poorest and most vulnerable people – gradually expanding access to the entire population. Capacity building, capacity enhancement, and adequate financial resources for the staff to implement this Policy remain a daunting challenge.

Preventative social protection – in the form of social security and social insurance – safeguards populations against the impacts of shocks to employment and health, the risk of disaster, and other vulnerabilities. Despite the high prevalence of shocks affecting people in The Gambia, social insurance mechanisms remain very limited and they are primarily only accessible to a tiny minority of workers in formal employment (an estimated 10% of employees). Protective social protection, particularly non-contributory social assistance, is the most prevalent type of social protection support in the country. There is a wide range of social transfers (both cash and in-kind) and social services implemented by state agencies and NGOs. Food security and nutritional transfers are more widespread due to ongoing food insecurity in The Gambia. For example, emergency-based food transfers are regularly distributed in the wake of disasters to protect food consumption and prevent malnutrition, and are often accompanied by nutritional support for young children and lactating and pregnant mothers.

Pillar 2

Steps are being taken in the health sector to improve maternal and infant mortality as well as malnutrition to realize the MDGs (1 and 4). Maternal mortality ratio though still high, declined from 1050/100,000 in 1990 to 730/100,000 in 2001 due to the numerous safe motherhood interventions undertaken by the health sector. Furthermore, infant mortality rates declined to 75/1,000 in 2006 from 84/1,000 in 1993 and 167/1,000 in 1983 while overall life expectancy has increased from 57 in 1993 to 63.4 years in 2003. Currently, the crude birth rate is 46 per 1000 population while the total fertility rate is 5.4 births per woman. With such a high fertility level, the total population structure is youthful. For instance, nearly 44 percent of the population is below 15 years and 19 percent between the ages 15 to 24. Average life expectancy at birth is 64 years overall (GBOS, 2003 Census). According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) in 2005/2006 Report, at national level, 7.3 percent and 29 percent of under-five children are wasted (i.e too thin for their height) and stunted (i.e too short for their age) respectively which is an indication of chronic malnutrition. In addition, 19.9 percent of infants have low birth weights, 20.3 percent of under-five children are moderately underweight and four percent severely underweight. This situation is due primarily to inappropriate child feeding practices, particularly early end to breastfeeding. It is also caused by inadequate complementary feeding after six months. Micronutrient deficiencies (i.e deficiencies in Vitamin A and Iodine, respectively) are also important contributory factors. Limited access to food – in terms of both quality and quantity, in particular for pregnant and lactating mothers is also contributing to infant malnutrition. Adequate financial resources to implement this Pillar in The Gambia is quite inadequate.

Pillar 3

A specific project to be highlighted regarding AGIR in The Gambia is the Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP), funded by the GEF. It aims at contributing to the realization of optimal global environmental benefits, including reducing land degradation, conserving biodiversity and improving the adaptive capacities of Gambian farmers to respond to climate change. The SLMP is an on-going project that expires in 2016. Since its official inception in 2007, the project planted a total of 4, 800 tree species (Acacia, gmelina, Mango, Cashew and Eucalyptus) in three Regions (Lower River Region, North Bank Region and West Coast Region) of the country and another set of 6, 342 tree species (Acacia, Mango, Eucalyptus, Cashew, Mahogany, Dimba and Gmelina) had been transplanted in Central River Region (South), Central River Region (North) and Upper River Region, respectively. This means that a total of 11,142 different tree species have been transplanted successfully in 18 Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP) sites throughout the country. The aim of this tree planting exercise is to increase farmers' income and also increase their adaptive capacities in a changing climate. The trees also serve as mitigation pathways in reducing the effects of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the environment.

Besides, in terms of watershed development to increase rice production at the project intervention sites, PIWAMP has constructed a total of 12,066 m of dike length as at end of June, 2012 out of an annual target of 10,000 m, representing over 120% of the annual target. The dikes impound rain water and prevent salt-water intrusion in low-lying rice fields so that farmers can expand their land area under rice production. The dike construction serves as an adaptation measure. In all these project intervention sites, women also actively participate in both tree planting and rice cultivation exercises. In tree planting, women farmers prefer fruit tree seedlings such as mango and cashew at the top of the list for extra income-generation, as opposed to men farmers who would rather have timber product trees first for extra income-generation. The construction of conservation bunds and diversions on the upland fields reduce soil erosion by increasing water infiltration in the soil for increased crop production and preventing flooding of the villages and settlements as well. PIWAMP has also provided rice seeds to farmers countrywide on loan to assist the beneficiaries in connection with 2011 poor harvest due to drought. For example, PIWAMP purchased 53.5 tons of rice seed and distributed to about 45 intervention sites as support for the failed 2011 cropping season. The FASDEP Project, *Nema* (Resilient) Project, and Gambia Agriculture Commercialization and Value Chain Project(GCAV) are into similar activities in different parts of the country.

The Gambia signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992 and ratified it in 1994 and has since developed and submitted various strategic documents that include First and Second National Communications (the Third National Communications is currently under draft), the National Adaptation Program of Actions (NAPA), the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) and the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

The government of The Gambia prepared and submitted its National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to the secretariat of the UNFCCC in December, 2007. Agriculture and food security were identified as key priority areas in The Gambia NAPA. Consequently, The Gambia NAPA identified projects to reduce the agriculture sector's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and to improve the livelihood and food security situation of the population which depend on it directly or indirectly. Regarding agriculture, some of the areas identified in the NAPA are:

- Diversification and intensification of agriculture production;
- Processing;
- Marketing;
- Establishing irrigation schemes;
- Promoting crop diversification;

- Enhance crop breeding and adoption of appropriate cultivars;
- Establishing food processing plants;
- Improve storage facilities ;
- Promote the use of post-harvest technologies;
- Restore degraded grazing land;
- Promote and integrate crop-livestock systems; and
- Promote the cultivation of high-yielding rice.

Current Status/ Diagnosis of Climate Change Adaptation in Administrative Regions of The Gambia

Table 1: Current Status/ Diagnosis of Climate Change Adaptation in Administrative Regions of The Gambia

Administrative Regions	Progress observed	Difficulties encountered	Needs for support at the local level
<i>Greater Banjul Area (GBA)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continues to build new and improved drainage systems • Beach nourishing and construction of sea wave breakers are continuing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient capital and financial resources • Lack of modern technology in building new sea wave breakers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More financial resources to come from many sources • More technical support and capacity building for local civil engineers
<i>West Coast Region (WCR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly radio programs on CC impacts and adaptation • New agriculture projects are established to help in saline-water dike construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost incurred in running the radio shows • Slow start of the new agriculture projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve maintenance and provide new equipment for community radio stations at the local level • Expedite start of new agriculture projects
<i>North Bank Region (NBR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly radio programs on CC impacts and adaptation • Planting of trees is an on-going activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdated community radio equipment • Low-level of training for community radio staff • Operating cost of community radios is high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbish community radio equipment • Provide more training for community radio staff • Provide more funding to increase the number of trees planted per year
<i>Lower River Region (LRR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many CC sensitization activities conducted at the local level • Many agriculture projects are implemented in the territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitudinal change toward bush fires is a challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More funding to carry out many CC sensitization programs and training of CC field staff
<i>Central River Region (CRR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many CC sensitization activities conducted at the local level • Many agriculture projects are implemented in the territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitudinal change toward bush fires is a challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level participation of farmers in CC adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More funding to carry out many CC sensitization programs and training of CC field staff

		activities.	
<i>Upper River Region (URR)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many CC sensitization activities conducted at the local level • Many agriculture projects are implemented in the territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitudinal change toward bush fires is a challenge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient and untimely availability of livestock vaccines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More funding to carry out many CC sensitization programs and training of CC field staff

Pillar 4 (Governance)

Social Protection (Pillar 1): Develop robust anti-discrimination policies and legislation, awareness-raising, and social development campaigns to address discriminatory norms and practices and protect people from the risk of social exclusion. After years of policy campaigns, the government has recently adopted a much-needed Bill to counter gender-based violence. The Gambia government is yet to endorse the Draft Disability Bill and National Minimum Wage legislation.

Nutrition (Pillar 2): The two-tier institutional arrangement was legislated for the implementation of the National Nutrition Policy. The two bodies are the National Nutrition Council made up of the Vice President of The Gambia, Cabinet Ministers, the Chairperson of NaNA Board and the Executive Director of NaNA. Another institutional arrangement is the setting up of NaNA as an agency that has in its administration the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director, Director of Finance, Evaluation, Research, and Development Unit, etc. The Technical Advisory Committee at the central level comprising of heads of government Departments/Units of key sector institutions, relevant NGOs and private sector representatives that provide technical support to NaNA and ensure sectoral and institutional linkages and collaboration. At the Regional level, NaNA works with Regional Technical Advisory Committees for effective coordination and monitoring of nutrition and nutrition-related interventions. At the community level, NaNA works through and with existing local government and community-based structures to implement the policy.

Food Production and Income Generation (Pillar 3): The ANR sector is multi-disciplinary in nature as it is multifunctional in operation. The successful implementation of the Policy therefore depends on the effective cooperation and response of all the stakeholders – public, private, and development partners. For example, the Ministries of Agriculture; Forestry and Environment; Fisheries and Water Resources through the ANR Working Group at the National Environment Agency have oversight responsibility for coordinating the implementation process, and performs this function through arrangements that enable all the relevant stakeholders to carry out their respective functions. The arrangements are established at national level for inter-ministerial and other stakeholders’ coordination through to the Regions in the country where various issues are addressed in a participatory way with all relevant stakeholders.

The sustainability of the GNAIP processes and benefits is facilitated through several mechanisms:

GNAIP coordination and management structures work directly through existing government entities including decentralized structures at regional, ward and village levels which are strengthened. This ensures coordination among interventions at all levels and minimizes the operational costs and

bureaucratic procedures compared to creating new parallel structures. Mainstreaming GNAIP through existing structures builds national ownership and capacity, notably to coordinate and harmonize activities at the respective levels, and reinforce sustainability of interventions.

High attention is given to ensuring active engagement of national stakeholders at all levels in planning, implementation and monitoring of GNAIP programmes, including notably government, private sector, farmer organizations, NGOs and other development partners. Emphasis is given to effective targeting across all programmes to ensure reaching appropriate beneficiaries, particularly ensuring inclusion of women, youth and other vulnerable groups.

While government mainly has a coordinating and supervising function, the GNAIP programmes are primarily implemented by private sector stakeholders which strengthen to ensure sustainability of interventions (including small-scale producers and processors, commercial farmers, agro-processors, inter-professional associations, cooperatives, financiers, traders, transporters as well as input suppliers and service providers). Specifically, to promote effective management and sustainability of production, processing and marketing activities, beneficiaries are supported to organize themselves into groups and register as farmer organizations which are self-governed and self-financed.

At the institutional and legal level, the government of The Gambia is committed to the global and regional agenda to move away from traditional (mostly sectoral) to an integrated approach to water resources management, and is implementing the National Water Policy (adopted in 2007) through the development of appropriate legal and institutional arrangements, water resources management tools for domestic and agriculture use and wide ranging human resources capacities necessary for the application of IWRM in The Gambia.

In that respect, the government has adopted in 2009 The Gambia IWRM Roadmap as a milestone towards a future IWRM Action Plan for the Country. It is setting the path for The Gambia to revise the legal and institutional framework to facilitate efficient, effective and equitable water resources management throughout the country and support economic growth and improve livelihoods so as to reduce poverty. To this end, the Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Natural Resources (MECCNAR) is implementing a National Water Sector Reform Project to implement the IWRM Roadmap. So far, this initiative has enabled to prepare a legislative briefing paper and an outline of the first draft water bill; as well as to prepare the first set of institutional options for Water Resources Management Agency (WRMA) and to develop a draft organizational development plan for WRMA. These were discussed at a stakeholder consultative workshop held on 20 June 2013. Following agreement on the preferred institutional arrangement, a Cabinet Paper was drafted and was approved by the Cabinet. A National Climate Change Policy was drafted and approved by the Cabinet in 2016. The second GNAIP document is currently being drafted.

Despite all these efforts by these policy documents, there is still the need to synergize and collaborate to know who is doing what at the different stages of policy implementation. In short, there is the need to strengthen coordination and synergize among the policy implementation stages. Financial resource mobilization for, capacity building, and capacity enhancement of the staff to implement all these Policies need to adequately provided.

8.2 Annex 2: Priorities of AGIR compared with the Targets of each of the four Pillars

Priorities of AGIR	Targets of Pillar 1	Targets of Pillar 2	Targets of Pillar 3	Targets of Pillar 4
<p data-bbox="103 331 333 1394">Vulnerable farmers poorly connected to the market, often in situation of insecure land tenure, exposed to climate hazards, faced with the continuing degradation of natural resources and lack of access to basic social services, agricultural services (including financial facilities) with few opportunities for diversification, and locked in the vicious circle of poverty and debt;</p> <p data-bbox="103 1437 333 1533">Agro-pastoralists or pastoralists,</p>	<p data-bbox="356 296 719 916">The target populations and zones are employed persons, the unemployed, those impacted by HIV/AIDS, extremely poor individuals and households, pregnant women, lactating mothers, widows, vulnerable children, the elderly, the chronically ill, vulnerable women and youth, refugees and migrants, prison inmates and their families who live in The Gambia, and persons with disabilities.</p>	<p data-bbox="741 296 1135 549">The target populations are maternal parents, infants and young children, communities and households, the socio-economically deprived and nutritionally vulnerable, the elderly, HIV/AIDS patients.</p>	<p data-bbox="1158 296 1572 954">The target populations are the ones that depend on the ANR sector for their livelihoods and the private sector operators engaged in the sector. These include but not limited to rural farmers, fisherfolks, forest wood dealers, urban farmers, etc. who mostly reside in the rural and urban communities of The Gambia. Other target populations (ex. low-wage earners, the disabled employees, etc.) include government and non-government institutions that are critical for the development of the sector and consumers.</p>	<p data-bbox="1594 296 2134 587">The central government and non-government institutions involved in food production and nutrition security, Regional, municipal, and local governments (which include Regional Governors' offices, Municipalities, Local Area Councils, District Chieftaincies, and village leaderships).</p>

<p>artisanal fishermen, faced with the same constraints and risks as vulnerable farmers, and also facing the erosion of their productive assets (livestock) or of fisheries resources;</p> <p>Working poor in urban and rural areas, faced with unemployment and job insecurity and at risk of exploitation by criminal and terrorist networks.</p>				
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8.3 Annex 3: Methodological Workshop on Capacity Building for the Conduct of Country Inclusive Dialogue Process (CIDP) and the Preparation of Country Resilience Priorities Documents (AGIR CRPs): Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; 2nd & 3rd July, 2015.

A two-day (2nd and 3rd July, 2015) methodological workshop on capacity building for the conduct of Country Inclusive Dialogue and the preparation of Country Resilience priorities documents was organized in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, by CILSS for AGIR (a French Acronym for Global Alliance for Resilience) Focal Points and Consultants from five West African countries (The Gambia, Cape Verde, Nigeria, Mauritania, and Liberia). The workshop was officially opened by the CILSS Executive Secretary who gave a brief background to the official launching of AGIR in the Sahel and West Africa on 6th December, 2012 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The AGIR document, according to the CILSS Executive Secretary, was validated in Cotonou, Benin and the main objective of the whole AGIR process is to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations in the Sahel and West Africa in order to achieve “zero” hunger in 20 years.

The Coordinator of the CILSS AGIR Technical Team highlighted the technical aspects of the AGIR process in the Sahel and West Africa. He pointed out that the objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacities of the country Focal Points and Consultants so that the AGIR process at the country level could be increased and enhanced. The increase and enhancement of the AGIR process could be realized through the conduct of country-inclusive dialogue to determine country resilience priorities. On 2nd July, five powerpoint presentations were made by the CILSS AGIR Technical Unit staff on how to: (1) set up a multi-sector and multi-stakeholder dialogue and steering framework/platform, (2) organize the national kick-off workshop, (3) make an integrated analysis of existing policies and programmes, (4) organize a Restricted Technical Working Session to formulate Country Resilience Priorities, and (5) organize an inclusive National Consultation to validate Country Resilience Priorities. After each

presentation, trainees asked questions and sought for clarifications on each presentation topic. The questions were adequately addressed and clarifications were given by the presenters, respectively.

On the last day (3rd July) of the training, country Focal Points and Consultants were asked to make powerpoint presentations on their respective country roadmaps and potentials/constraints of the AGIR process. The Gambia's Focal Point made a presentation on The Gambia AGIR roadmap where he highlighted the start of the AGIR process and the challenges encountered during the start of the process. He also gave a list of both state and non-state stakeholders who will be involved in the AGIR process at the national level and a time-line scenario of how the AGIR process will be carried out in The Gambia, leading up to the final production of The Gambia AGIR document. The Gambia AGIR Consultant, on the other hand, gave a brief on the potentials/constraints on how to achieve the AGIR process in The Gambia. One of the potentials highlighted was the political support from The Gambia government in establishing AGIR in The Gambia. One constraint, on the other hand, was how the political impasse between The Gambia government and the European Union (EU), the major funder of the AGIR process, will play out in the realization of the whole AGIR process in The Gambia. After The Gambia presentations, trainees and CILSS AGIR Technical Unit staff made comments and suggestions on the two presentations.

Comments/Suggestions:

Road Map: (1) Involve many international donors in the AGIR process, (2) The Gambia should produce her AGIR document by end of December, 2015 so that CILSS can start collective fund-mobilization in earnest. (3) The political impasse between The Gambia government and the EU will not stop the AGIR process in The Gambia because EU will channel AGIR funding through CILSS which will in turn disburse the funds to The Gambia AGIR. (4) After the Regional workshops, work closely with the national Farmers' Platform to incorporate comments in the AGIR draft document before launching the national workshop. In this way, The Gambia farmers' views and comments can be fully captured in the AGIR document.

Potentials/Constraints: (1) Identify and align national policies and programmes which could be in line with the AGIR process. (2) Address the issue of stakeholder coordination to clearly define roles and responsibilities since many stakeholders will be involved in the AGIR process. (3) Use the EU document called Agriculture for Food Production and Development to support the AGIR process. (4) Empower The Gambia government institution in the AGIR process that is responsible for nutrition. (5) Reliable statistical data generation and availability in The Gambia is a potential challenge to move The Gambia AGIR process forward.

Conclusions

AGIR countries should push CILSS AGIR Technical Unit at all times in the technical aspects of the AGIR process. Countries like Mauritania, Liberia, and Nigeria will be visited soon in order to “fast track” their country AGIR process since these countries are bit behind schedule in the AGIR process. The Gambia will also be visited in the near future to engage the political and administrative leadership of the government in order to realize the objectives of the AGIR process. A document, AGIR Regional Roadmap, was distributed among the trainees to serve as a reference.

The workshop was officially closed by the CILSS AGIR Technical Team Coordinator. The next AGIR meeting will be held in Milan, Italy from 26th to 30th October, 2015. This workshop was facilitated by the CILSS AGIR Technical Unit and the Sahel & West Africa Club Secretariat and funded by the EU.

A three-person Facilitation Team

- Mr. Issa MARTIN BIKIENGA, AGIR Technical Unit Coordinator
- Mr. AbdouLaye Oudagoua, AGIR Technical Unit Staff
- Mr. Sibiri Jean Zoundi, OECD Staff

List of Gambian Participants

- Mr. Sheriff T.J. Sanyang - The Gambia AGIR Focal Point
- Dr. Sidat Yaffa – The Gambia AGIR National Consultant
- Mr. Mohammadou Fayinkeh - The Gambia National Farmers' Platform



Executive Secretary of CILSS.



L – R: Mr. Muhammadu Fayinkeh, Mr. Sheriff T. J. Sanyang, and Dr. Sidat Yaffa at the AGIR Training Workshop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. 2 & 3 July, 2015.

8.4 Annex 4: The Gambia AGIR Action Plan Framework

The Gambia AGIR Action Plan Framework					
Plan	Action	Activities	When?	Who is involved?	Expected Outputs
1	Sustainably improve agricultural and food production, the incomes of vulnerable households, and their access to food.	<p>(a) Enhance capacity of AGIR Focal Point, National Consultant, and Thematic Area Leaders on the AGIR process.</p> <p>(b) Validation of AGIR strategy.</p> <p>(c) Implementation of AGIR strategies in all country development agenda including GNAIP, Vision 2016, and other measures to increase food production and incomes of vulnerable households and their access to food.</p> <p>(d) Identification of research entry points.</p> <p>(e) Use and expand on CSO experiences and research</p> <p>(f) Evaluation of all resilience innovation initiatives, including cost and benefits analysis.</p>	2015 - 2020	<p>Regional AGIR Secretariat through their Technical Team.</p> <p>MoA.</p> <p>Other AGIR stakeholders notably, Department of Agriculture, FAO, CSOs, and farmer organizations in The Gambia.</p> <p>UTG and NARI.</p>	<p>Target toward achieving food self-sufficiency in The Gambia.</p> <p>A national road-map on strengthening resilience in The Gambia.</p> <p>Effective platform for donor coordination.</p> <p>Enhance the capacities of UTG and NARI staff on climate resilience research.</p>

<p>2. Improve social protection for the most vulnerable households and communities in order to secure their livelihoods.</p>	<p>(a) Support the development of country-owned and country-led systemic approaches to social protection.</p> <p>(b) Use and expand adaptive social protection as a core contributor to national resilience strategies in particular, by focusing on the resilience agenda.</p> <p>(c) Enhance coordination of support between stakeholders, by maximizing their contribution to resilience building.</p> <p>(d) Capacity building and technical support for the development of country programs of social protection by taking examples from the EU Expert Facility for Social Protection.</p>	<p>2015-2020</p>	<p>Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Youth and Sports, UNICEF, UNHCR, Child Protection Alliance, Gambia Red Cross Society, Women's Bureau, National Association of Cooperative Credit Unions, VISACA Apex, AAITG, The Gambia Police Force, TANGO.</p>	<p>The Gambia's progress on design and implementation of country-owned and led comprehensive social protection systems.</p> <p>A holistic approach to DRR, CCA, and Social Protection is applied within national resilience frameworks.</p> <p>Report on progress towards greater coordination of support between The Gambia government and the stakeholders.</p> <p>Donor expertise support on the development of country-owned systematic approaches to social protection.</p>
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3	<p>Strengthen the nutrition of vulnerable households</p>	<p>(a) Systematic support in food and nutrition resilience in programming and implementation in the country, especially at the local level.</p> <p>(b) Enhance capacity in effective governance of food and nutrition resilience.</p> <p>(c) Support individual rights to nutritious food availability and affordability.</p> <p>(d) Support CSOs, farmer organizations, women and youth groups in their strive at achieving the availability of nutritious food at all times.</p>	2015-2020	<p>National Nutrition Agency,</p> <p>Ministry of Youths and Sports,</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture,</p> <p>National Food Safety & Quality Agency,</p> <p>GAFNA,</p> <p>Women's Bureau,</p> <p>NFPG,</p> <p>NACOFAG,</p> <p>NEA,</p> <p>FAO,</p> <p>WFP,</p> <p>MRC.</p>	<p>The Gambia government and stakeholders to reflect on incorporating resilience issues in terms of food nutrition.</p> <p>Technical support from donor agencies to assist incorporating food nutrition in The Gambia's development plans.</p> <p>Decrease in maternal and child death and malnutrition.</p> <p>Realization of healthy and productive Gambian citizens.</p>
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4.	<p>Strengthen governance in food and nutritional security, social protection, and food security and income-generation.</p>	<p>(a) Capacity enhancement on land rights, especially at the farm level.</p> <p>(b) Review of current land laws of The Gambia by taking into account equitable distribution of farm lands.</p> <p>(c) Strengthen and enhance food safety and nutrition laws of The Gambia.</p> <p>(d) Strengthen and enhance social protection laws and policies.</p>	2015-2020	<p>Office of the Vice President,</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.</p> <p>NDMA,</p> <p>NaNA</p> <p>GAFNA,</p> <p>WFP,</p> <p>NEA,</p> <p>EU Delegation,</p> <p>NAOSU,</p> <p>UNHCR,</p> <p>Women’s Bureau,</p> <p>NFPG</p> <p>NACOFAG,</p> <p>FAO,</p> <p>WFP,</p> <p>UTG,</p> <p>Local Government Association (LGA),</p> <p>AAITG,</p>	<p>Increased land ownership by women.</p> <p>Increase in food production.</p> <p>Availability of safe and nutritious foods.</p> <p>Availability of a robust social protection laws and policy.</p>
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8.5 Annex 5: Regional Consultations about the AGIR Process

The Gambia AGIR Focal Point, the National Consultant, and the Thematic Leaders of all four Pillars went around the country from 1st to 6th March, 2016 to engage the farming communities and Regional Governors' Office and Local Government Authority officials about formulating the AGIR NRP document. The concept and objectives of AGIR were explained to the participants so that they have a fair understanding about the purpose of our meetings with them. After introduction by the Focal Point, the National Consultant asked the participants questions that are listed below. The reasons for these questions were to gauge their fair understanding of the four Pillars of AGIR and also to hear from them their thinking on how each Pillar could be analyzed and solutions proposed to effectively implement the four Pillars.

At each of the consultations, four questions were asked of the meeting participants that center on Pillars 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the AGIR process. These four questions were: (1) What do you think are your social protection needs and threats? , (2) What are your nutrition needs and threats?, (3) What are your food security and income-earning needs and threats?, and (4) What do you think could be done to effectively implement Pillars 1, 2, and 3 of the AGIR process? Irrespective of the farming communities or Local Government Area authorities, many answers were given for each question but the most-outstanding answers for each question were:

Question 1:

Needs

- A reliable social protection network for all Gambian citizens
- Adequate workers' compensation
- Improved general welfare of prison inmates and their families, mothers, children, infants, the elderly, and health-compromised citizens.

Threats

- Low and poor salaries for workers
- No new policy for welfare recipients, especially prison inmates and their families
- Less support for food assistance for the most-vulnerable citizens of the country.

Question 2:

Needs

- Healthy and nutritious foods for all families
- More sensitization on the importance of nutritious foods

Threats

- Over-cooking or under-cooking of foods, especially vegetables
- Low knowledge on the nutritive value of food crops, especially vegetable crops
- Traditional taboos preventing pregnant women eating eggs and children eating meat
- High poverty levels that prevent citizens accessing and affording nutritious foods
- High consumption of poor or unhealthy imported foods

Question 3:

Needs

- Land ownership policies
- Affordable and timely availability of agriculture inputs
- More efficient and adequate extension services
- More irrigation schemes, especially vegetable irrigation
- Reliable marketing services
- Available easy-affording farming loan schemes
- Processing and storage facilities

Threats

- Insufficient market outlets
- Insufficient processing and storage facilities for farm produce, especially at the village level
- Unavailability, untimely, and high-cost of farm inputs such as chemical fertilizers
- Climate change and climate variability impacts
- Pest and disease infestation of crops and livestock
- Soil infertility
- Unavailability or late arrival of good seeds

Question 4:

Needs

- Robust policies on nutrition, social welfare, and agriculture production

Threats

- Insufficient legislation and enforcement of social protection, nutrition, and agriculture laws and policies
- Poor coordination of government policies and interventions.

Regions and communities visited during the nation-wide consultations

REGION	VILLAGE or TOWN	DISTRICT or OFFICE
West Coast Region	Kangwally	Foni Bondali District
Lower River Region	Buiba Mandinka	Jarra Central District
Central River Region (CRR)- South	Galleh Manda	Lower Fulladu West
Upper River Region	Giroba Kunda	Fulladu East District

North Bank Region	Kerewan	Lower Baddibu District
Lower River Region	Sankandi	Kiang West District
Lower River Region	Mansakonko	Governor's Office
Central River Region	Janjangbureh	Governor's Office
Upper River Region	Mansajang Kunda	Governor's Office. This activity could not take place because the Governor and his staff had some official engagements at the time of our visit.
West Coast Region	Brikama	Governor's Office. This activity could not take place because the Governor and his staff had some official engagements at the time of our visit.
North Bank Region	Kerewan	Governor's Office. This activity could not take place because the Governor and his staff had some official engagements at the time of our visit.
Banjul City Council	Banjul	Mayor's Office
Kanifing Municipal Council	Kanifing	Mayor's Office

