

JOINT PROGRAMME THE GAMBIA

Joint Programme Title: Support to strengthen the capacities of the Government for Policy, Planning, Statistics and Monitoring in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector.

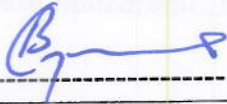

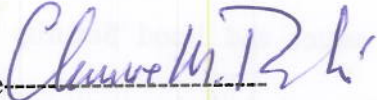
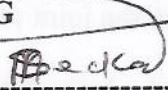
Programme Outcomes Strengthened capacities (knowledge and skills, and facilities) in the areas of agricultural statistics, policy analysis, planning, programming, monitoring and coordination.

Programme Duration: 2 yrs
Start/end dates: June 2011 –Dec 2012
Fund Management Option: Parallel
Managing or Administrative Agent: FAO

Total estimated budget*: \$728,000.00
Out of which:
1. Funded Budget:
 \$570,080.00
2. Unfunded budget: \$157,920.00

* Total estimated budget includes both programme costs and indirect support costs

Sources of funded budget:
Government _____
FAO,- \$ 384,000.00
UNDP- \$166,000.00
WFP- \$20,080 (Equipments in kind)

<p>UN Organizations</p> <p>Mr. Babagana Ahmadu</p> <p>FAO REPRESENTATIVE</p> <p>Signature: </p>	<p>National Coordinating Authorities</p> <p>Permanent Secretary</p> <p>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p>Signature: </p>
<p>Ms Chinwe Dike</p> <p>UN RESIDENT COODINATOR UNDP REPRESENTATIVE</p> <p>Signature: </p>	<p>Permanent Secretary</p> <p>MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING</p> <p>Signature: </p>
<p>Mr. Malcolm Duthie</p> <p>WFP COUNTRY DIRECTOR</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>	

3. Situation Analysis

The Gambia is a small country of 11,000sq km with a population of 1.4 million in 2004, growing at 1.9% per annum, with a population density of 128 persons per square km. About 40% of the population is concentrated in urban areas, 49% living in the rural areas, about 60% under 25 years of age. The country's economy has a narrow base with a large re-export trade comprising about 80 percent of the country's merchandise exports, and contributing about 53-60% of domestic tax. Its total trade was 106% of GDP in 2006 and presently stands at 74% of GDP. The economy is dominated by the following sectors: Services, 59 %, Agriculture 28-30 %, Tourism 12 %, Manufacturing and Construction 12 % of the country's GDP. Real GDP growth at factor cost was 7.2% in 2008 and domestic debt 32.2 % of GDP in 2008.

Poverty levels have been fluctuating in the country; 60% in 1992, 63% in 1998 and 61% in 2003, and is presently estimated at 58%. Poverty has been defined as a rural phenomenon but recent information indicates it is increasing in urban areas. About 91 percent of the ultra poor and 72 percent of the poor have agriculture as their main source of livelihood.

The Agricultural and Natural Resources sector is the most dominant of the sectors in the rural and agrarian economy of the Gambia which houses over 50 percent of the population of the country. It produces about 50 percent of the national food supplies, employs over 60 percent of the active labour force, contributes significantly to foreign exchange earnings and makes up about 30 percent of the country's GDP. It possesses tremendous potential for growth especially through establishment of agri-industries, and in producing competitive products for the high value markets of exports and the tourist and entertainment industry in country.

The Gambia is currently achieving just over 50 per cent self-reliant sufficiency in its staple food needs. National requirements for the country's major staple food rice presently stand at 160,000 metric tons while the country produces only about 7,400 mts or 4.9 per cent. Total Cereal consumption was recorded at 291,000 mts in 2007, while production was 181,400 mts the same year, leaving a gap of 108,600 mts. Such cereal gaps have always been covered mainly by commercial imports of rice and wheat flour.

The country's vulnerability to internal and external shocks from failures of food production systems and markets was seriously exposed during 2007-2008 when there was global soaring of food and fuel prices, and the country experienced devastating floods and drought which caused significant shortfalls in food production in the country. The Government was forced to divert unplanned resources to secure continuity of food supplies, and seek assistance from Donor and Development Agencies for safety nets to support vulnerable groups.

As a result, the responses of the Government and Development Partners to the crises particularly the intensive inputs (quality seeds, fertilizers, water pumps) provided to the sector, especially vulnerable groups had a noticeable effect with good harvests resulting from the support. Real GDP growth at factor cost improved from 6.1% in 2007 to 7.2% in 2008. By the next planting season when the support was not as strong as previously, the sector's performance appeared to have deteriorated and growth was projected to decline to around 3.4% in 2009.

Limited equipment and accessories for computerised work, Internet Technology (IT), Surveys and Analysis will be provided by the project in order to facilitate the training of staff in improved methods and procedures in their respective disciplines, and to carry out activities immediately after the Programme ends. Other Agencies who have indicated interest in the proposed assistance by the Programme (as stated in the section on Sustainability above) will in consultation with the Participating agencies and the MOA provide additional relevant technical inputs and supplementary facilities and materials for longer term activities in the Planning Services Unit in order to ensure sustainability of the achievements of the training from the Programme.

Government and Private Institutions operating directly in specific aspects of the Programme's activities such as an Agricultural Census, a National Agriculture Sample Survey, Market Information System and Policy analysis will participate in the project, including design of activities, preparation of Work Plans, carrying out activities, and monitoring.

FAO will coordinate the activities of Development Agencies intending or having decided to make inputs and or contributions to achieve the objectives of the Programme.

The above interventions will enhance national capacity, build and strengthening national ownership in the ANR sector's development. Finally the Programme will seek to mainstream gender in its intervention strategies, especially since women constitute about 70% of the agricultural labour force in the country.

Lessons Learned

Assistance has been provided by Agencies in the past to address similar problems in the same sector in the country. A number of strategies were applied with varying success and failures.

One strategy provided assistance through the posting of long term experts based in the Ministry of Agriculture to provide services of policy analysis, advice, and programming. A similar action was taken to post a longer term expert in statistics in the Ministry's Planning Department to strengthen the human resource base of the Department for data analysis, quality control, and programming.

In both cases, no arrangements were established for the national staff in those disciplines to work alongside the experts, receive advice or supervision in the work involved, with the expectation to take over or continue such responsibilities either during the assignment of the experts or after their departure. No clear exit strategy of the assistance was established nor a package of actions for sustainability of the results of the assistance, with the net result of negligible change in the pre-assistance situation.

A third strategy was the provision of assistance for external training in selected subject matters in the Planning Department. There was no clear post-training work plan or facilities for the staff to undertake meaningful work to apply the knowledge and skills upgraded or improved during the external training.

Two clear lessons were learnt, especially in carrying out field activities in Agricultural Surveys. One is that in adequate mobility, computer, networks and manpower may constrain collection

Operational Issues to be addressed

Inadequate Human Resource skills, and appropriate facilities for:

- Carrying out an Agricultural Census, (the last one held in 2002)
- Carrying out a National Agricultural Sample Survey to incorporate priority parameters such as poverty in the sector, and a food balance sheet for the country, especially in the light of the recent global food crisis 2007-2008, and the country's current Poverty Reduction Strategy II, and the new PRS to be prepared soon
- Setting up a Market Information System, with public and private sector participation
- Managing an improved System for a comprehensive Data Base on the ANR sector
- Preparing programme frameworks and projects to mobilize resources for the ANR sector, primarily from the Government's budget, and from other extra budgetary sources, especially from Donor countries and Funds in Trust with UN Agencies

The Joint programme will focus on the following key outcomes:

OUTCOME 1

A Revitalised Planning Services Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, upgraded to a Division, having officers with improved knowledge and skills in their respective disciplines, carrying out the established CORE FUNCTIONS of the Unit, providing services and producing information products for agricultural policy, planning, programming and monitoring in the country.

OUTCOME 2

Reliable updated agricultural statistics, data and information on the ANR sector, food and nutrition at national and household levels, and markets at national and sub regional levels are produced and made available on a continuous basis, being used and disseminated for policy advice, planning, programming, monitoring and coordination in regard to the Government's current PRS and other priority Programme and Policy Frameworks.

Sustainability of results

The assistance will be capacity development with the guidance and supervision of the international experts, in order to prepare the Ministry staff to carry out priority actions on the ANR sector as identified under the assistance requested. The trainings will be carried out in-country, and on-the-job, within the environment familiar to the recipients of the training. This approach will minimise the risk of non-return of the trainee to their post, as has been evidenced in past similar support to the Ministry. It will also add reality to the work of trainees who will be familiar with the working frameworks.

The Government is currently carrying out a reform of the public service institutions including the MOA and related Ministries. Conditions of service are being improved, especially increasing incentives which would encourage retention of Government staff in their respective disciplines for much longer periods than previously. This prospect will enable the units that would have been strengthened from the assistance to apply the improved knowledge and skills in their respective functions during and after the assistance.

in collaboration with the Programme Managing Agent (FAO), in collaboration with the Programme Coordinator prepare the Draft Terminal Statement of the project with contributions from the other consultants and experts, in a format agreed to, by the PSC. This Terminal Statement will be submitted by FAO to the PSC, and subsequently to the Government.

10. Legal Context or Basis of Relationship

This Programme document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the SBAA between the Government of The Gambia and UN Agencies, with;
UNDP, signed on _____ (date).
FAO, signed on.....
WFP signed on

Consistent with the Article III of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, the responsibility for the safety and security of the Participating Agencies, their personnel and property, rests with the Government Coordinating Agency(the MOA)

The Government Coordinating Agency with the collaboration of the Participating Agencies, shall:

- a) Put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
- b) Assume all risks and liabilities related to the security of the Participating Agencies and the full implementation of the security plan.

The Resident Coordinator reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of this agreement.

The following types of revisions may be made to this Programme document with the signature of the Representatives of the Participating Agencies only, provided that each Representative is assured that the Government has no objections to the proposed changes:

- a) Revisions in, or addition of, any of the annexes of the Programme document;
- b) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the Programme but are caused by the re-arrangement of inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation; and
- c) Mandatory Revisions, which review the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility.

10. Work Plan (See Annex C Attached)

Inputs and budgets (See Annex A attached)

Annex B
Results Matrix

JP Outputs	Participating UN Organization Specific Outputs	Responsible UN Organization	Implementing Partner	Indicative Activities for each Outcome	Resource Allocation and indicative time frame			
					Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Total
1 Updated comprehensive information on the ANR sector for policy, planning, programming and monitoring								
	<i>National sampling Frame for the Census, Methodologies and procedures for agric surveys;</i>	FAO		<i>Hold users/producers workshop; sensitization; determine elements and work plan for the surveys;</i>				
	<i>Trained staff in organizing and carrying out agricultural surveys; Processing and tabulating field statistics</i>	FAO		<i>Train Planning Department. and field staff in carrying out agric surveys ; processing, verification and tabulation of data.</i>				
	<i>Census Reports with tabulated statistics</i>	FAO		<i>Carry out census field operations; collate, verify, process data from survey; prepare reports.</i>				
				<i>Provide on the job</i>				

	in policy, planning, programming and monitoring; Reports on food and agric.; Annual sector and sub sector Results based Plans; specified programme frameworks; Monitoring Matrices for the sector;				<i>portfolio of projects; monitoring matrices</i>				
	Programme coordination and management; Improved coordination of major activities within the sector	FAO UNDP			<i>Establishing mechanisms for coordination between the Government and Development Partners for the implementation of the programme; upgrading knowledge and skills of staff of the MOA for interactions between the various units in MOA, institutions in the ANR sector, and the private sector</i>				
UN organization 1	Programme Cost **								
FAO	Indirect Support Cost**								
UN organization 2	Programme Cost								
UNDP	Indirect Support Cost								
UN organization 3	Programme Cost								
WFP	Indirect Support Cost								
Total	Programme Cost								
	Indirect Support Cost								

Annex C

TCP/GAM/32..

OUTLINE FOR A WORK PLAN FOR THE PERIOD APRIL - DECEMBER 2011

EVENTS	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	COST
ESTABLISHED ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PROJECT START UP	X									
	X									
	X	X								
	X		X							
CENSUS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	X									
	X									
	X									

	Monitoring in the ANR sector - Project Cycle Management (PCM) - Results-Based Planning at micro-meso-macro in the ANR sector - Monitoring						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ESTABLISHING A MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEM	-Recruitment of TCDC consultant and National consultant for market information system -Consult and identify CSO and donors for partnership - Assessment of Market information activities in the MOA and elsewhere, needs and requirements for an appropriate system; -User producer workshop - Developing, testing and establishing methodologies and procedures, training personnel and carrying out price survey on selected rural and urban markets on selected agric and food commodities - Developing and setting up an appropriate Market Information System for the ANR sector - Prepare technical documents; training staff for management of the MIS and monitoring progress	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DATA BASE SYSTEM	- Fielding the UNV for Data Base - Situation and Gap Analysis - User/Producers consultation Workshop	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X