

Network of N.C.C.I.Y.F.F + 10 The Gambia

Network Of National Coordinating Committee of the International Year of Family Farming +10)- The Gambia (Network N.C.C.I.Y.F.F. +10)



National Action Plan The Gambia (NAP-The Gambia) Of The UNDFP 2019 -2028

Validated on the 16 October 2019

The plan is yours so make use of it !!!

No one should be left behind!!!!



SUMMARY

1. INTROUCTION
2. The UNDF National Action Plan – The Gambia.
3. BACKGROUND OF THE NETWORK OF NCC-IYFF+10 The GAMBIA
4. PROFILE OF FAMILY FARMING IN THE GAMBIA
 - BACKGROUND AND RATIONAL
 - Challenges facing (African) family farmers
 - Concept of Family Farming of Modernizing Family Farming
5. ANALYSIS OF COUNTRY CONTEXT
6. POLITICAL AND POLICY IMPERATIVE FOR FAMILY FARMING
7. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS
 - Agriculture and Farming in the Gambia
 - The structure of the agriculture
 - The Gambian Family – Characteristics, Structure and Role
 - Social Organization of farm Production
8. THE POLICY ENVIRONMENT AND DRIVE
9. THE DECADE OF FAMILY FARMING CONCEPTUALIZATION IN THE GAMBIA
 - Strategic Direction and Orientation for Family Farms
10. THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN GLOBAL OBJECTIVE
 - Monitoring and Coordination Institution (The Network of NCC-IYFF +10 The Gambia)
 - OBJECTIVES, MISSION, MANDATE AND CHALENGES
11. The National Action Plan of the Decade For The Gambia UNDF 2019 to 2028
 - Pillars
 -
12. Strategic Implementation and Cost
13. ANNEX
 - The process of elaboration, validation and launching
 - The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia Legal document

ABBREVIATION

GG	THE GAMBIA GOVERNMENT
UNDPFF	United Nations Decade of Family Farming
IYFF	International Year of family Farming
N-NCC-IYFF +10	Network of National Coordination Committee of The International Year of Family Farming + 10
NARI	National Research council
NAPDFF	National Action Plan of Decade of Family Farming
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
WRF	World Rural Forum
FOs	Farmers' organizations
NDP	National Development Plan
GAMIS	Gambia Agricultural and Market Information System
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
MOFEA	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
NEA	National Environment Agency
UN	United Nations
GBOs	Gambia Bureau of Statistic
TANGO	The Association of Non-Governmental Organization
GCCI	Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
LGAF	Land Governance Assessment Framework

INTRODUCTION

The **UNDFE Global Action Plan 2019 - 2028** officially approved in Rome recommends that governments, public entities and agencies develop national plans in an inclusive manner, involving family farmers and other key stakeholders including the National Committees for Family Farming. The milestone is 100 UNDFE National Action Plans developed, being essential for the UNDFE to reach the grass roots and have a positive impact. It is recommended that the National Plans are structured around all or part of the 7 pillars of the Decade that have been set out in the UNDFE Global Action Plan 2019 - 2028.

The Global Action Plan also contains a series of indicative actions that could be taken as a reference for the development of the UNDFE National Plan. The establishment of global and biannual objectives that can be updated at the end of each two-year period is also recommended to reflect the progress made. This document is only an extract and an example of a UNDFE National Action Plan. There is not a unique way to formulate and to restructure a UNDFE National Plan 2019 - 2028. It should be suitable for the different contexts, the diversity of family farming systems in the world and the different policy approaches developed in each country and region.

The UNDFE National Action Plan – The Gambia Methodology.

In the framework of the National Validation Workshop of the Decade on October 15 - 16, 2019, the Network of National Coordination Committee of the International Year of Family Farming + 10 (Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia) presented the National Action Plan of the Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028.

The plan is conceived for ten years, in correspondence with the UNDFE 2019-2028, and it is the result of an extensive process of discussion among public, agricultural sector institutions, civil society, especially FOs, local governments, private sector, consumers, labour union, transporters, Bankers Association, academia and international cooperation agencies. During the formulation, technical and financial support was provided by, the Network of National Committee of Family Farming, WRF, FAO, Action Aid the Gambia, National Agricultural Research Institute and IFAD funded projects in the Gambia.

The Plan aims to strengthen Family Farming by the development of an enabling environment for its sustainable development, the improvement of family farmers' livelihoods, the promotion of territorial governance and the reduction of environmental vulnerability. To achieve so, the following areas of work are set: **1.-** Extension services, capacity building and research on sustainable agriculture; **2.-** Capacity building of FOs for the management of productive systems, access to markets and rural development; **3.-** Promotion of resilience and modernization of sustainable Family Farming systems; **4.-** Differentiated incentives, financing, credit and insurance for FF; **5.-** Marketing and access to markets; **6.-** Communication services and infrastructure for production; **7.-**

Access and tenure of Land; 8.- Access to social services; 9.- Equal participation and empowerment of women and youth in economic and productive activities.

It is worth highlighting the important role that the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 the Gambia played in the process, as it is mentioned in the very Plan, with many stakeholders in various sectors. The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 developed jointly numerous multi-stakeholder regional and national workshops to define and agree on the priorities of the plan. In this policy achievement, family farmers' organizations as well with their cooperatives have definitely strengthened their participation in decision- making and in the institutional mechanisms set for the monitoring and implementation of the Plan.

BACKGROUND OF THE NETWORK OF NCC-IYFF+10 The GAMBIA

The **NFF/NCC-IYFF+10** has benefited in 2014 from the support of IFAD through WRF, to conduct the campaign to celebrate the International Year of Family Farming. The following activities were conducted: the meeting of the National Committee, workshops on policy review, facilitating the participation of Farmers' Organizations in policy dialogues both at national and international levels, exchange visit in Senegal as well as a knowledge sharing workshop at the national level, a study tour conducted with youth in Victoria, Spain, and institutional support provided to the working group. The funding amounted to US\$ 25,000. In 2015 and 2016 it benefited from IFAD funding (US\$ 100,000) for the dissemination of the Voluntary Guidelines (VG) on the Responsible Governance of the Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries in collaboration with IPAR (Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale) in Senegal, enabling to create awareness on the Voluntary Guidelines as well as on the Land Governance Assessment Framework (LGAF). Journalists, parliamentarians, youth, farmer leaders, both women and men, were indeed sensitized to establish an inclusive dialogue on land policies and laws.

From 2014 to 2016 the following results have been achieved: the seed Policy and Act have been approved, and a corresponding Seed Secretariat has been created; the Government agreed to establish a Land Commission and undertake a remapping of agricultural, pastoralism, fishing and forestry areas at the National Assembly; the Government is currently working on revisiting the Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy (ANRP) national framework in order to harmonize policies across the agricultural sector (Fisheries, Livestock, Forestry, etc.); the Network has established linkages between financial institutions to increase investment in Family Farming and add value across different crop chains, from production to distribution; the Seed Council is in place, with two representatives from Farmers' Organizations. The Network of National Coordination Committee for the International Year of Family Farming +10 (**Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia**) was the first established NCC and officially recognized by the Gambia Government as an Institution for influencing policy through inclusive dialogue.

AIM and OOBJECTIVES OF The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia

1. Establish a permanent policy dialogue platform with the Gambian Government and development partners (Public, Private, and Producers Partnership) to deal with issues related to land governance, natural resources management, marketing, food security, and investment in the small and medium scale agriculture, forestry, apiculture, pastoralism, and fisheries sectors.
2. Promote and defend the fundamental importance of investing in Family Farming in order to generate an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development model in the Gambia, by sensitizing government authorities and private sector actors as to the strategic role that family farming can play in the GNAIP and other government plans, policies and programmes;
3. Inform and train members of farmer federations and producer organizations to enable them to better defend family farmers' interests, based on relevant experiences of members of **NFF/NCC-IYFF+10** and other development actors, including other countries' national family farming organizations and committees
4. Encourage and support the structuring of farmer and agricultural producer organizations as well as policy dialogue mechanisms in each of the country's eight local government areas, for family farmer participation and active involvement in the formulation and implementation of agricultural and rural development policies and programmes;
5. Promote solidarity links between farmers' organizations and agricultural producer members of **NFF/NCC-IYFF+10**, such as through the pooling of financial resources for common investment projects, including for collective acquisition of processing machinery and equipment to add value to family farming production;
6. Mobilize financial and human resources in order to strengthen producer organizations' capacities to collectively negotiate better conditions with private actors at different stages of product value chains, such as for the acquisition of inputs at preferential interest rates or the sale of production at better prices
7. Work in closer collaboration with other countries' National Coordination Committees and their respective members to enhance mutual learning on participatory policy dialogues for ensuring investment in family farming

The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia will pursue its mission and mandate with focus on the signing of MOU with relevant stakeholder to support the investment and protection of Family Farming. The Network main strategies are to guaranty special financing mechanism in favour of Family faming, linking the Families farming with Market and modernizing the sector through cooperative system and Semi-enterprise system. A strong partnership will be built between UNDP, World Bank, African development Bank, IFAD and FAO funded programmes as well other bilateral institutions in The Gambia. Alliance building will be another tool to ensure the establishment of peer pressure group for lobbying and advocate policies in favour of Family farming. At the end the project a peer group will be established to advocate for social protection and insurance law in favour of family Farming. The Network will expand the Direct Investment Mechanism to enable 500 families Farming to have access to favourable and motivating finance.

WHO WE ARE (A SWOT ANALYSIS)

The **Network of NCC-IYFF+10 –The GAMBIA** is a legally registered Network' movement with representation from across all regions and districts as well sectors in the Gambia. It is a membership based association with a total of over three hundred and sixty-five member organizations (currently being updated). The governance structure is composed of a General Assembly with an elected National Executive Committee headed by a president, and has a secretariat managed by a National Coordinator and supported by two other staff and volunteers. In view of the demographic structure of the country, the **Network of NCC-IYFF+10 –The GAMBIA** can also be considered a youth movement capable of advocating on behalf of young Gambian farmers and influencing policy.

The Platform however, does not have an appointed coordinator currently and due to weak incentive mechanisms, staff motivation is only through their personal commitment to the work they do. Although the **Network of NCC-IYFF+10 –The GAMBIA** is recognized and reckoned in many national project documents, they are often relegated and sidelined during budget elaboration and implementation.

The Network is a major mobilizing force that needs to be encouraged especially with the requisite budget support by development partners.

MANDATE

To economically and socially empower farmers through production, processing and marketing (value addition) of agricultural commodities and through strengthening their organizations

VISION

A sustainable and productive agriculture sector with farmers taking lead roles in decision making and policy formulation

MISSION

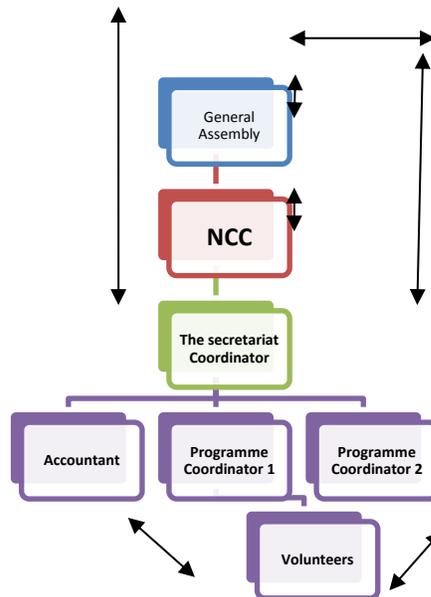
To play our role as a vehicle for advocacy, informing, harnessing and lobbying to influence government, private sector and donor efforts and initiatives for the benefit of farmers

General Assembly is constituted by delegates from families, Farmer Organizations (FOs), NGOs, Government, FAO, the Private Sector, Donors and other partners.

National Coordinating Committee: 18 members with the attribution of working on the strategy orientation for Family Farming, supporting the implementation of programmes and projects at the national level, and approving the work plan and budget of the working groups

Secretariat: constituted of 7 members (National Coordinator, Finance administrator, Office Administrator, Programme Officer, Youth and Women Desk officer, communication officer, Cleaner and 7 Volunteers for data collection at field level)

THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (CHART)



Coordinating Committee (Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia) and its Nexus in the Family Farming

In consonance with the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 66/222, the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 was formally inaugurated after elaborating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in November 2014. The premise of the Network is to create a platform for knowledge management and inclusive policy Dialogue among stakeholders in the Gambia. Basically, the committee aims to promote policy dialogue and sustainable development of agricultural systems to enhance human security based on family units.

The Network has a membership of 16 organisations drawn from government, civil society, farmer organisations, private sector and international development partners it serve as platform to implement activities to monitor and advocate policies in favour of FF. The Network will work with the Secretariat of the National Farmers Platform to pursue the vision of the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia and deliver on the strategic objectives and ensure accountability of members.

THE NETWORK OF NCC EXPERIENCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Entity’s previous experience in similar projects:

From November 2013 to February 2015, IFAD support through the World Rural Forum (WRF) has enabled CSOs, Private Sector, Public services, farmers and producers in the Gambia to establish a National Coordinating Committee (Network-NCC) in collaboration with other stakeholders with a view to implementing the IYFF-2014. After the establishment of the Network of NCC, the following activities were implemented: sensitization to review the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) policy, study tour in Senegal, training on Seed policies, launching of the National Committee, and training for a journalist on Land Advocacy, meeting of the National Committee, and financial support to families to establish a small processing unit.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The implementation of the project has enabled the **Network of NCC** to push the Gambian Government to adopt the Seed Policy and Seed Act. Alliance partners and the **network of NCC-IYFF+10** have representatives at the recently created National Seed Council. Farmer Organizations now have seats in most of the government's projects and programmers' Steering Committees. Having developed a pilot project to invest directly in family farming, the members of the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 and others have identified the need to establish a Network of Family Farming to represent and work closely with small farmers, both in rural and urban settings. This Network intends to pursue the review of both the Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy (ANR) as well as the second generation of the Gambia's National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP 2016-2025).

The Network of Family Farming-National Coordinating Committee of International Year of Family Farming (NFF-NCC-IYFF+10 the Gambia) is a membership organization established by family farmers with the support of WRF and other member institutions of the IYFF-2014 National Coordination Committee. Lobbying and advocacy on policies conducted by members of the NFF from all sectors and their experts has enabled the network to achieve the review of ANRP as well as the approval of a new Seed Policy and Act.

The Network is pursuing to mobilize funding to channel investments directly into Family Farming activities. The Gambian Government has recognized the Network of Family Farming as a key platform representing the country's small and medium -scale farming sector. The Network's activities mobilization have indeed emphasized to the government the crucial and multifaceted role that family farming can have in the country's development strategy, if and when the sector is adequately supported.

Whether providing nutritious food to cities and the countryside (thereby reducing dependency on food imports and internationally volatile food prices), generating employment in the countryside (thus also avoiding excessive migratory pressures towards cities), or contributing to the sustainable management of natural resources (through native seed and seedling conservation and exchange, agroforestry systems, crop-livestock integration, among others), a family farming sector that is well-targeted by policies can indeed make a fundamental contribution to achieving sustainable development, including many of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

PROFILE OF FAMILY FARMING IN THE GAMBIA



Figure 2: Community Store: Families save and receive food & seed stock

Family farming is perhaps an emerging concept yet an old practice that dates back many centuries, and passed down through ancestral lines in the Gambia and elsewhere in Africa and other parts of the world. Family farms are operated units that derive most labor and enterprise from the farm family. It is a farming system and the most common operational model in the world by which family units collectively source/select seeds, clear their lands, plant crops, harvest and even market their produce through family support mechanisms. These support systems have proved resilient over the years and dominate agriculture across the world, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Figure 1: A woman's voice on modernizing family farming and

In the Gambia for example, the practice of family farming relied majorly on traditional systems and methods of production, including crops, livestock, fishing, backyard gardening and horticulture, fruit tree orchards etc., and does also provide safeguards for the family in trying times. This is clearly manifested during the beginning of the rainy season (especially in the Gambia), when small groups of families can be found sorting seeds especially groundnut at the (Bantaba) villages squares and other public spaces.

Unlike large farms, small farms have lower labor-related transaction costs and more family workers per hectare, each motivated to work and support the other. Family farm units are also informal cooperatives that maintain societal fabrics within families and in communities hence nurturing the inherent traditional bonds by supporting their members towards achieving common but differentiated objectives, from provision of seeds right through marketing. Although these prospects exist for the performance of family farms, land as a major production factor encounters intense pressure due largely to poor governance.

Thus, developing countries continue to witness a dramatic increase in cross-border acquisition of arable land by foreign companies, investment funds and governments. This problem is reinforced by inadequate and ineffective national regulatory frameworks that are often non-committal and not legally enforceable, and therefore do not secure tenure rights of farm families who depend on land for their livelihoods, and more critically, protect women's equal rights to own and use land. The degrading environment and poor soil conditions accentuated by effects of climate variations, as well as low financing by governments and donors are critical constraints that farm families also contend with.

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE OF FF

The topic of family farming has been gaining prominence in the academic, policy and donor communities in recent years. Small farms dominate the agriculture landscape in the developing world, providing the largest source of employment and income to the rural poor, yet smallholders remain highly susceptible to poverty and hunger, (IFPRI 2020 Discussion Paper 40, 2005). In sub-Saharan Africa, almost 239 million people face serious consequences related to food insecurity and malnutrition. Family farming is an effective model that can provide solutions to overcome this challenge. It is recognized as a way of life that contributes to the intergenerational transmission of knowledge, preservation of the environment, natural resources and cultural heritage. However, sustainable investments to fund agriculture and agricultural policies in favour of family farmers are still lagging, (AMARC and FAO, 2014).

With the advance of globalization and greater integration of agricultural markets, the need for increases in agricultural productivity for family farms is particularly pressing. Raising productivity and output of small farmers would not only increase their incomes and food availability, but also stimulate the rest of the economy and contribute to broad-based food security and poverty alleviation. Family farms account for majority of farms in the world and have contributed to the socio-economic and environmental sustainability of rural areas. They are diverse in terms of size, activities they engage in, availability of resources, degree of market integration, competitiveness etc. They largely depend on organic agriculture founded on sustainable practices based on scientific disciplines of agro-ecology that is proven effective in achieving ecological, agronomic and socio-economic intensification for smallholder farming. Family farms operate in different economic, agro-ecological and social contexts, ensuring food security while meeting rising societal expectations for food safety, quality, value, origin and diversity of food, and thus contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. (www.fao.org/family_farming, accessed, 5/6/2014).

It is also documented that organic farming, a key concept of family farming, delivers a wide range of benefits, including higher production yields and improved food security, sound plant and animal management, conservation of traditional community knowledge, and social and cultural development. The majority of smallholder farmers in Africa

produce food organically, due to their dependence on the use of local resources without relying on chemical inputs. In comparison to conventional farming methods, organic farming not only increases agricultural productivity, but also helps safeguard entire ecosystems and protect biodiversity by improving environmental resilience to drought, unseasonal rainfall, and other climate change-related phenomena.

Despite the achievements and potential of family farming in terms of production, economic and environmental benefits of small farm agriculture, the 1960s saw looming new challenges of, for example, unmarked population growth, hunger and famine that threatened parts of the world, especially East Asia. The launch of the Green Revolution as a means to combat these challenges also ended with mixed results for countries and regions that adopted the innovation. Whilst the Green revolution encouraged massive public investments in modern scientific research for agriculture and led to dramatic yield breakthroughs in the industrial countries and large farm holdings on the one hand, it is argued that it also resulted in environmental degradation, increased income inequality, inequitable asset distribution, displacement of small farm holders and worsened absolute poverty on the other, (*International Food Policy Research Institute, IFPRI, 2002*). Climate change is a serious phenomenon also threatening livelihoods in Africa and especially of poor and vulnerable farmers.

The Gambia as part of the Sahel region has been experiencing recurrent shocks and crisis (crop failures and food price hikes) as a result of climate change in the last decades, highlighting the human vulnerability and food insecurity affecting mostly women and children. Pests and disease infestations for crops and livestock are also not uncommon, evidenced by an outbreak of the cattle disease (CBPP - Cattle Bovine Pleuro pneumonia) in the Gambia in 2012.

The purpose of this proposal is therefore to promote and sustain the concept of family farming vis-à-vis its science, practice and impact on rural people, communities and ecosystems. It further aims to ignite fresh dialogue and impetus to stimulate active policies for sustainable development of agricultural systems based on farm families, communal units, cooperatives and family institutional strengthening, while respecting the integrity of the environment and biodiversity conservation.

These high sounding notes will remain rhetorical and hold hostage massive reduction of global poverty, until and unless a more reliable investment into appropriate agricultural technology, improving water and land use and distribution, and creating the right incentives for developing country smallholder farmers, are brought to bear and put at the fore of development planning, practice and funding.

In order to unlock the full potential of family farming, issues of women and youth are worthy of consideration especially in policy decisions that affect them. Traditionally African women and men have different roles in the family which negatively impact resource access and ownership for women. Studies have shown that women can increase their farm yields by about 20 – 30 percent and lift about 100 – 150 million people out of hunger, if given the right access to and ownership of land and other resources/inputs like their men counterparts, (*FAO publication 2012: enduring farms..*). On the other hand, the

unattractive nature of farming due to climatic conditions and various other factors push majority of young people into the cities adding pressure on the already over-stretched social amenities and services. This trend can be reversed if agriculture is made more lucrative by creating the enabling environment, through modernizing and mechanizing family farming to appeal to the conscience of young generations.

CHALLENGES FACING (AFRICAN) FAMILY FARMERS

Although family farming is hailed for its potential to increase productivity and broadly the capacity to enhance food security for all, it is not without problems. The following are among the key challenges facing the continent in its efforts to deliver on family farming in the region.

LOW FINANCIAL INVESTMENT AND SUPPORT - Despite farmers accounting for over 55% of the population in Africa, support and investment in them remain low. The inputs from governments often benefit commercial farmers over small scale farm families. In the Gambia for instance public budget allocation to the agriculture sector has been abysmally low at less than 3% for many years in the past and still struggling to achieve the Maputo commitment of 10% of national budget.

INCOHERENT AGRICULTURAL POLICIES – The lack of and sometimes conflicting policies pitched at high nodes result in poor strategies and interpretation challenges especially for poor farmers.

UNFAIR PRICES AND ACCESS TO MARKETS – Poor infrastructure e.g. road conditions limit farmers access to markets and they also receive low prices for their agricultural commodities as they are excluded from participating in setting/determining farm gate prices for their produce.

LACK OF COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION - Most farmers are unaware of national agricultural policies. Family and small-scale farmers should be more involved in the formulation of policies as they are fully conscious of their own needs and the challenges they face.

LACK OF TECHNOLOGY AND KNOWLEDGE - More investments should to be made in technology and access to the latest machinery to help farmers reach their full potential. Additionally, farmers need to keep up to date with new farming methods especially in light of climate change.

CLIMATE CHANGE - Climate change phenomenon presents huge challenges and manifests itself in successive and alternate droughts and floods in the Gambia, for example. It is imperative therefore to introduce farming systems that are sustainable and can adapt to changes in climate.

URBAN MIGRATION - Stable and predictable investment be made in youth by making family farming more attractive to younger generations.

Concept of Family Farming

The concept of family farming covers various elements. From a **sociological** perspective, family farming is associated with family values, such as solidarity, continuity and commitment; in **economic** terms, family farming is identified with specific entrepreneurial skills, business ownership and management, choice and risk behaviour, resilience and individual achievement. It also builds an **organizational** model which charts a command and control structure for the team and clearly defines roles and responsibilities of members of the farm family unit based on (often unwritten) rules. The structure enables team members to agree on vision and goals and policies to guide interaction in working and family relations while building the requisite human capital. Family farming is often more than a professional occupation because it reflects a lifestyle based on beliefs and traditions about living and working together.



Figure 3: Family farming in practice using draught animals

EXPERIENCES/EXAMPLES OF GOOD FAMILY FARMING PRACTICES

CASE STUDY 1: THE GAMBIA – A FAMILY POULTRY FARM

THE STORY OF JEWOH JALLOW

“My name is Jewo Jallow and I am 46 years old. I live in Demba Kunda village, Niamina West district, with my husband and 5 children (3 boys and 2 girls). All the children are going to school”, Jewo confirmed. “I started poultry farming in 2012 following my visit to the poultry farm of Miss Fatou Fatty of Dankunku village which is about 3 km from my own village. Fatou’s story strongly motivated me so much that I had to start my own project immediately with support from my children (who have distinct roles in the enterprise), and encouragement from my husband who lives away and only visits from time to time.



As a start, I constructed a small house for keeping the birds. When the house was completed I bought 50 chicks of broilers from Senegal at a cost of D5000.00 including the cost of feed. In the process of breeding them, I lost 15 due to disease. However I was

able to maintain the remaining 35 birds and after selling them, I realized D6000.00 in total income, thus made a profit of D1000.00”

Jewo continued; “the second time I bought 75 chicks of broilers at a cost of D3000 and 4 bags of feed at D4000 giving a total cost of D7000.00. Due to my limited knowledge on poultry management, I lost more than half of birds I initially bought. This second time around was indeed a huge loss as I had realized only D4000.00 which did not even cover the investment cost” According to Jewo she had support from Action Aid The Gambia in 2013 through their Apex (Umbrella body). She was given 100 chicks of broilers, 2 bags of feed and medication at a total cost of approximately D11, 700. She was also provided technical assistance through linkage with the livestock services. “This third time was quite a success for me” Jewo continued.

“I gained D14, 700.00 from the sales, thus realizing a profit margin of D4, 000.00. From this amount, I bought a donkey at D3000.00 for on-going farm work and deposited D5000.000 at Trust Bank limited as savings. From the balance of money gained, I have already bought 50 chicks which I am now raising in preparation of the Muslim month of Ramadan (period of high demand for poultry meat) with a view to providing meat for people in the community. It is my hope and wish to expand the project annually”, concluded Jewo.

CASE STUDY 2: INDIA – THE MULTIPLE BENEFITS OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

“Sukomol and Alpana Mondal live with their two sons on a 0.7 hectare farm in India. Due to health issues, they went into debt and were in crisis. In 2006, the Mondals decided to make a switch to an integrated farming system. With local training support, coordinated by DRCSC, a Christian Aid partner, the Mondals constructed a pond and a new drainage system consisting of a main channel through the rice field with smaller channels around the perimeter linking to the pond. The earth was used to raise the level of several of their plots. A gradual transition was made to organic paddy cultivation using Sustainable Rice Intensification methods. Native species of carp and catfish were introduced in the pond and channels, and crops such as cowpea and bitter gourd grown on trellises over the water. The water from the pond is used to irrigate a winter paddy crop as well as the vegetable plot. The effects of flooding and water-logging (major problems in this region) are lessened by the use of raised beds.

More than 20 different crops are now being grown, including various spices, vegetables, oilseeds and pulses. ‘Live fences’ of mango, banana and coconut trees were also planted around the farm’s edge. The Mondals also introduced vermi-composting, began to save more seeds, and increased the number of livestock they kept. This diversified system makes them more resistant to external shocks. Five years on, the Mondals’ situation has been transformed. They have managed to pay off two thirds of their debt. Their income has increased due to surplus vegetables, spices, fruits, seeds and seedlings. They no longer use chemical inputs, which has lowered production costs. In the first two years, there was a decrease in rice yields but production is now back up to pre-transition levels. The family diet has improved due to steady supply of rice, fruit, fish and vegetables throughout the year”, (www.fao.org, *Small holders and family farmers. Accessed 5/6/2014*)

ANALYSIS OF COUNTRY CONTEXT

The Gambia is a small sub-tropical and Sub-Saharan country on the West Coast of Africa lying between latitudes 13 and 14 degrees north of the Equator. It extends inland for about 400 kilometres (km) along the banks of the River Gambia at widths varying from 24 to 28 km, covering a land area of 10,689.28 km² (approximated to about 11,000 km²)¹. It is bordered on the North, South and East by the Republic of Senegal and on the West by the Atlantic Ocean. The Gambia is divided into six agricultural regions: Upper River Region (Basse); Central River Region –South (Sapu); Central River Region – North (Kuntaur); Lower River Region (Mansa Konko); North bank Region (Kerewan), and West Coast Region (Yundum).

POLITICAL AND POLICY IMPERATIVE FOR FAMILY FARMING

The 1997 constitution provides for the conduct of free and fair elections as a value and tenet of good governance and democracy. It further guarantees the participation of all citizens in the public affairs of the country including development planning and practice as espoused in the national development blue print:

...“VISION 2020, The Gambia Inc” and National Development Plan 2021...

"To transform The Gambia into a financial centre, a tourist paradise, a trading, export-oriented agricultural and manufacturing nation, thriving on free market policies and a vibrant private sector, sustained by a well-educated, trained, skilled, healthy, self-reliant and enterprising population and guaranteeing a well-balanced eco- system and a decent standard of living for one and all under a system of government based on the consent of the citizenry." The NDP 2021 aimed focus on the Agricultural transformation Programme.

As an expressed aspirations and socio-economic development strategy of the Gambian people, Vision 2020 seeks to empower the people in order for them to realize their fullest potentials in a free and competitive environment. In a drive to transform the economy, the government of the Gambia considers the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) sector as the prime and dominant sector with the highest employment potential and huge ability to contribute to GDP. Considering the undesirable environmental problems arising from economic development actions, the vision 2020 also aims to primarily conserve and promote the rational use of the nation’s natural resources and environment for the benefit of the present and future generations in consonance with sustainable development goals.

Notwithstanding however, vision 2020 acknowledges that the development of the ANR sector continued to suffer from unsatisfactory land tenure system, lack of a national policy focus and strategy, as well as the political will to transform the sector.

¹ GBoS (2014); The Gambia 2013 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Results

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS

The Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS) Census (2013) Preliminary Results put The Gambia's population at 1,882,450 (49.5% males and 50.5% females) and a population density of 176 persons per km², thus making it the 73rd most densely populated country in the world and 10th in Africa. The population growth rate between 2003 and 2013 was 3.3% per annum, thus putting pressure on sustainable use of the relatively fixed land mass to prevent or protect against land degradation. Demographically, The Gambia has a youthful population with the national life expectancy of 58.8 years in 2012². Approximately 41% of the population is under 15 years of age, while 3.5% is 65 years and above (2003 Census). The total number of households in the 2013 Census is 229,500, an increase of 45.7% in ten years. The 2013 Preliminary Census figures indicate an average household size of 8.2 persons at the national level. Thus the Gambia is considered to be among the poorest countries in the World.

The Gambia's population comprises 5 major ethnic groups: Mandinka (40%), Fula (19%), Wollof (15%), Jola (11%) and Serahule and about half a dozen other smaller groups (Creole/Akus, Manjagoes, Bainunkas and Balantas) making up the remaining 15%, (GBOS, 2013 Census), each with its distinct farming systems or trade relative to the other.

From the perspectives of Gambians, socio-economic poverty is manifested in: (a) food insufficiency, (b) inadequate shelter, and (c) inadequate access to safe water, health facilities and quality education. Fish is the main source of animal protein for the average Gambian family and fish and fish products account for approximately 15 per cent of merchandise export earnings (ENDA, 2007). The seemingly lucrative fisheries sub-sector suffers from inadequate regulatory framework to protect it from foreign intrusion exacerbated by the free market systems of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Other major contributors to the economy are the industry and services sectors.

AGRICULTURE AND FARMING IN THE GAMBIA

The Gambia is primarily an agricultural country with groundnuts as the main cash crop. The farming economy is the only means of income creation for majority of rural families most of whom live below the poverty line. Agricultural lands are probably the most important natural assets in The Gambia since the economy and majority of the population are dependent on agriculture. About 54% of the land area in The Gambia is good quality arable land (5,500 square kilometres), out of which about 39% is currently cultivated by subsistence farmers. Nearly 810 sq. km. (81,000 hectares) are irrigable, most of which is found in the Central River Region (CRR) and Upper River Region (URR). Agriculture contributes significantly to the foreign exchange earnings required to secure supplementary food supplies from external sources; makes up about 30% of the country's GDP; employs about 75% of the active labour force and provides two-thirds of total

² UN Human Development Report 2013 – The Gambia

household income. The agricultural sector is the most important sector of the Gambian economy and remains the prime sector to raise income levels; for investment to improve food security and reduce levels of poverty for rural households. However, agricultural production is highly seasonal and rain-fed and the fortunes of the sector have generally followed rainfall patterns from year to year. Rainfall in The Gambia is erratic and lasts for only three months. Although endowed with adequate surface and underground water, the percentage of arable land under irrigation has been estimated between 3% and 6%, (MOFEA & MoA, 2012; WFP, 2011).

THE STRUCTURE OF THE AGRICULTURE ECONOMY

The Gambia's agricultural sector is made up of four sub-sectors namely; (i) crop (groundnuts 23% & other crops 43%) (ii) Livestock (24%), (iii) Fisheries (3%) and (iv) Forestry (3%); supported by Research & Development and agricultural extension and services.

The country's agriculture is largely based on smallholder farms characterized by low input and output technologies, thus agricultural production is based on subsistence, traditional and rudimentary extensive farming systems. Majority of individual and household farm-holdings are less than 2 hectares in size. Even though farmers are gradually turning towards the use of more modern inputs such as improved seeds, the hoe and cutlass remain the main farming tools. Irrigation agriculture is at best rudimentary in The Gambia. Irrigation is practiced only by the few private farms, big vegetable gardens and at agricultural research centres.

Climate: The climate is largely semi-arid with one wet season followed by a seven month dry season. The rainy season commences from June and continues to October. Average daily temperatures are 28.2° C in the dry season and 28° C in the rainy season. Low levels of soil moisture prevailing in September and October, can adversely affect crop harvests.

Agro-ecological zones: Based on the rainfall pattern, there are 3 major agro-ecological zones in the Gambia namely: Sahelian, Sudan-Sahelian and Sudan-Guinean zones. **The Sahelian Zone** has a Sahelian micro-climate with open dry season savannah vegetation. Rainfall is unpredictable and less than 600-mm annual total, with an effective crop-growing season of less than 79 days. Soils have low water retention capacity and this is a high-risk area for long-duration crops. Thus early maturing, short-duration and drought tolerant crops are cultivated in this zone. Cassava, sesame and cowpea are the main produce with millet grown only occasionally because of the risk that birds would consume the crop.

The Sudan-Sahelian Zone lies within the 600 to 900 millimeter rainfall area. With a longer growing season, 79 to 119 days, the up-land areas are well suited to groundnut,



Figure 4: Water irrigation reservoir in a women's vegetable garden

cotton and sorghum. The flood plains along The Gambia River and associated lowland valley systems are an excellent rice growing catchment under tidal swamp irrigation. **The Sudan- Guinean Zone** lies within the 900 to 1200 mm rainfall isohyets. The growing season is 120-150 days and in normal seasons full crop water requirements are met throughout the growing season. In some lowland areas the long dry season results in increased salinization of The Gambia River and an emphasis on saline tolerant rice varieties. The principal crops cultivated in this agro-ecology are early millet, groundnut, rice (rain-fed upland and lowland, irrigated lowland, mangrove and mangrove salt-tolerant), maize, vegetable, sesame and cowpea. (www.accessgambia.com).

Note: You may observe that these scenarios have changed significantly in recent times due perhaps to climate (change) variations and changing weather conditions.

THE GAMBIAN FAMILY – CHARACTERISTICS, STRUCTURE AND ROLES

The traditional extended family is the most common type of family structure in the Gambia. It is a symbolic unit and plays a central role in Gambia society. Generally, Gambian families are large with high dependency ratios especially in the rural areas, (www.accessgambia.com).



Figure 5: Typical Gambian family setting

The Gambian society is patriarchal in which the man always heads the household and succession to this role is by the male children except by default. Assuming the leadership role of the household often comes much later in life as it is

not uncommon to find grandfathers living in their children's houses while they continue to head the family. Although the father is normally the head of the family, the role and responsibilities of running the household rests with the wife. In instances where a man has multiple wives and several children, they would pool their time, efforts and resources for the general betterment of the household. It is vitally important as tradition demands, for the young ones to show respect to elders and listen to their advice and words of wisdom.

The **village** is the lowest government structure in the country and the **village chief** or '**Alkalo**' in Gambian language is the oldest man from the founding family of the village. His role is of decision maker and resolving disputes. The Alkalo is often assisted by heads of what is known as Kabilos or clans – the sub-division in the village.

The Kabilos/clans are composed of compounds which are further made up of sub-units called Sinkiro or Dabada depending on the source of the statistics. This localized family make-up is fairly typical among different groups. This scenario is however, losing ground as more women and children get educated and earn income, and thus contribute to decision making in the house, hence changed the traditional roles wives (women) and children have played in the past.

SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF FARM PRODUCTION

GENDER DIVISION OF LABOUR

Apart from pump irrigated rice (mostly controlled by men), traditional lowland swamp or river-bank rice is mainly women's responsibility, but with variation among ethnic groups, particularly in terms of control of produce.

Among the Mandinka both '*kamangyango*' and '*maruo*' rice production is carried out by women farmers. The female *sinkiro* head (normally the first wife) controls the maruo rice. Men rarely help women with their crops and women return the favour and do not assist men with their upland crops, even during the busy weeding and harvesting periods. However, women also cultivate upland fields in some parts of the country, e.g. URR-North and among the wolof community. Within the Jola community women are the principal rice growers. The majority of maruo rice is controlled by a male sinkiro head.

Among the Wolof and Fula, who have only begun growing rice in the past two decades, the gender division of labour and control of the rice crop tends to be more flexible. Rice is still mainly grown by women but men are likely to contribute. The maruo rice crop tends to be managed by the male sinkiro head.

Agriculture is communally organized among Gambian farmers. It is therefore important to develop a basic understanding of Gambian rural families in analyzing the farming systems that have developed over the years.

Compound: A family unit consisting of dwellings and a private yard. Smaller subdivisions of the compound are the Dabada and/or Sinkiro.

Dabada: Dabada is defined as the farm production unit in which two or more individuals (within the same compound) cultivate farms, outside the communal farm, for their own individual needs.

Sinkiro: Sinkiro refers to the cooking and consumption group within or outside the compound. Sinkiros provide basis for the compound's organization of storage, processing and consumption of foods. The women in the Sinkiro group are responsible for cooking on rotational basis. In many cases, the Dabada unit coincides with the Sinkiro, as members not only work together, but may also eat together.

Two types of farm units are common: the communal farm called Maruo and the individual or private farm known as Kamanyango. *Maruo* consists of a set of fields on which all members of the compound unit, usually men and women separately, cultivate together to provide the bulk of food required for the subsistence of the compound members. The compound head makes allocation of food and produce from the granary to each participating family according to its needs. *Kamanyango farm* - individual members

(male or female) of the compound can clear land and create private farms (Kamanyango) on which they work to produce food and other crops to provide for the extra needs of their immediate families and to supplement the main portion received from the central pool. The Compound head may assign certain days in the week or hours of the day for communal work, to ensure that both the interest of compound and those of its individual members are catered for.

Land Tenure: In The Gambia, each village has an identifiable area of land that falls within the jurisdiction of its own headman (Alkalo). The land is usually not legally registered. Families or individuals in a village establish claim over a piece of land by tracing their decent, more often patri-linearly to the first settlers.

The **Alkalo** has the power to allocate land to compounds in the village. Any compound head has the right to clear un-claimed land within the village's area of jurisdiction. The piece of land is thereafter held in perpetuity by the compound that first cleared it. The inheritance laws provide for the transfer of compound land to the next eldest male member of the family in case the compound head dies; thus stabilizing the degree of land fragmentation that is allowed to occur.

There are 3 main avenues for a woman to obtain land (alluvial rice land or swamp): (i) through her spouse, the fields so acquired have usually been worked by her mother in-law; (ii) the compound can give pieces of land to daughters as part of their marriage dowries, in which case, this plot of land is usually removed from that of the original compound owners; and (iii) rice land can be acquired on loan from friends in other compounds who have excess land. The system is thus flexible enough to supply land, especially rice land, required by the women of a farming village, (www.accessgambia.com/information).

THE POLICY ENVIRONMENT AND DRIVE

Recognizing the challenges associated with agricultural development and indeed the opportunities that exist, the Gambia government prepared a long-term development strategic plan called "The Gambia Incorporated Vision 2020" in 1996. This plan aims to transform the country into a middle income, export oriented nation by 2020, with the ANR sector identified as top priority. Accordingly, series of medium-term programmes and strategies, supported by relevant national policy frameworks, have been prepared to address priorities and expectations for improving ANR sector performance. The government in its budget support commitments and efforts to fulfill the Maputo Declaration has allocated 7.09% to the ANR sector in the 2012 budget and pledged to progressively increase this over the years.

A New Vision for the ANR Sector sharpened focus on transformation of the sector from a traditionally low output, subsistence economy with centralized structures, to a modern,

market oriented sector with efficient value chains, diversified production base and effective decentralized structures. During the 2014 President’s dialogue with the farmers’ tour, an Executive Directive “Vision 2016” called for actions to increase rice production and reduce rice imports to zero levels by 2016.



Figure 6: Food Aid distribution scene

The Farmers Organizations and its partners should take advantage of this pronouncement and scale up their mobilization efforts of farmers to engage government to support smallholders with the right policy framework and farm inputs, and safeguard the rights of their members to land and other natural resources.

Strategic Direction and Orientation for Family Farms

The strategy will strengthen the operational capacity of the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Network secretariat and its members in order to deliver effectively on its priority commitments and strengthen its programmes. The next two years (the duration of the project) will be spent on piloting model family farming schemes with selected farm families to test ANR activities and enhance their awareness about ANR and related national policies, processes, implications and the impacts of policies in practice. The first quarter of the first year of pilot will be spent on creating a baseline and in consultation with pilot participants elaborate the proposed activities and agree on implementation schedules. This will also be the period for launching the initiative and creating much needed awareness among Gambia citizens and stakeholders.

A number (5 Pillars and 2 crosscutting) will be supported across the country, with different intervention models which will be evaluated at the end of the project period with a view to possibly expanding and replicating the activities.

THE DECADE OF FAMILY FARMING CONCEPTUALIZATION IN THE GAMBIA

Gambian in alliance with others plaid a key role in the formulation of lobbying and advocacy in getting the United Nation declaration of family farming 2019 – 2028, this present document has been a foundation to develop the Global Action Plan of The United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDF) 2019 – 2028 Launched May 2019 at FAO headquarter.

THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY OF THE DECADE OF FAMILY FARMING

Strengthening and ensuring inclusive and participatory dialogue on policies and the modernization of family farming in 2018 / 2019 for incorporating Family Farming Direct Investment Programmes into The Gambia National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP) to ensure the implementation of the National Development Plan (2030) in favour of Family Farming *using the* Direct Investment Mechanism (DIM) a simplified model for the financing and monitor of Families farming

In reintroducing the concept of family farming, while attempting to attract young people into agriculture, series of awareness raising programmes will be undertaken with stakeholders to spur interests of the younger generation. Different farming options will be tried with the various trial families depending on niche/competency approaches. Training will be conducted for participating farm families and relevant infrastructures developed based on type and need of the family. In view of climate related constraints especially low precipitation (limited rainfall), water harvesting or trapping technologies will be explored with family members and the required structures built to enhance water availability for homestead gardens and orchards where applicable.

The Background Information about the Decade UN official document from the Seventy-second session Agenda item 25: Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2017

On the report of the Second Committee (A/72/426) **72/239. United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028):**

The General Assembly of UN,
Recognizing the success of the International Year of Family Farming, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/222 of 22 December 2011 and implemented in 2014, which raised the profile of the role of family farming, pastoralism and smallholder farming in contributing to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition,

Welcoming the fact that many countries have made significant progress in developing public policies in favour of family farming, including the formation of national committees for family farming, and making financial inclusion policies for smallholder farmers, such as small-scale credit loans, and recognizing the role that family farms play in improving nutrition and ensuring global food security, eradicating poverty, ending hunger, conserving biodiversity, achieving environmental sustainability and helping to address migration,

Recalling the creation of the Family Farming Knowledge Platform, and recognizing that sharing knowledge and data contributes to policy dialogue and policymaking to address the specific needs of family farms,

Recognizing the important role of science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship in supporting smallholders, including pastoralists and family farmers, in particular women and youth in rural areas, and in that regard highlighting the importance of innovation-driven development and support to mass entrepreneurship and innovation, and welcoming new sustainable agricultural technologies that can contribute to the transition of smallholders from subsistence farming to innovative, commercial production, helping them to increase their own food security and nutrition, generate marketable surpluses and add value to their production,

Recognizing *also* the close links between family farming, the promotion and conservation of historical, cultural and natural heritage, traditional customs and culture, halting the loss of biodiversity and the improvement of the living conditions of people living in rural areas,

Stressing the role of different forest types, including boreal, temperate and tropical, in supporting family farming,

Reaffirming the importance of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture farms for food security and nutrition,

Noting the convening of the thirty-first session of the Regional Conference for Europe of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Voronezh, Russian Federation, in May 2018, with a focus on agricultural, food security and nutrition issues, including their links to climate change,

Mindful of the guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84 of 24 May 1989,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centered set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement (1) and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2) that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, Recalling the proclamation of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, (3) based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition (4) and the Framework for Action, (5)

Recalling *also* that nearly 80 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas and work in agriculture, and that devoting resources to the development of rural areas and sustainable agriculture and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by, inter alia, improving the welfare of farmers,

The **UNDIFF Global Action Plan** officially approved in Rome recommends that governments, public entities and agencies develop national plans in an inclusive manner, involving family farmers and other key stakeholders including the National Committees for Family Farming. The milestone is 100 UNDIFF National Action Plans developed, being essential for the UNDIFF to reach the grass roots and have a positive impact.

It is recommended that the National Plans are structured around all or part of the 7 pillars of the Decade that have been set out in the UNDIFF Global Action Plan. The Global Action Plan also contains a series of indicative actions that could be taken as a reference for the development of the UNDIFF National Plan. The establishment of global and biannual objectives that can be updated at the end of each two-year period is also recommended to reflect the progress made.

This document is only an extract and an example of a UNDIFF National Action Plan. There is not a unique way to formulate and to restructure a UNDIFF National Plan. It should be suitable for the different contexts, the diversity of family farming systems in the world and the different policy approaches developed in each country and region.

The National Action Plan of The Gambia of the UNDIFF 2019-2028

The plan is conceived for ten years, in correspondence with the UNDIFF 2019-2028, and it is the result of an extensive process of discussion among public agricultural sector institutions, civil society, especially FOs, local governments, academia and international cooperation agencies. During formulation, technical and financial support was provided by, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Network of the National Committee of Family Farming, the WRF, FAO and IFAD.

The Plan aims to strengthen Family Farming by the development of an enabling environment for its sustainable development, the improvement of family farmers' livelihoods, the promotion of territorial governance and the reduction of environmental

vulnerability. To achieve so, the following areas of work are set: 1.- Extension services, capacity building and research on sustainable agriculture; 2.- Capacity building of FOs for the management of productive systems, access to markets and rural development; 3.- Promotion of resilience and sustainable FF systems; 4.- Differentiated incentives, financing, credit and insurance for FF; 5.- Marketing and access to markets; 6.- Communication services and infrastructure for production; 7.- Access and tenure of Land; 8.- Access to social services; 9.- Equal participation and empowerment of women and youth in economic and productive activities.

It is worth highlighting the important role that the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia played in the process, as it is mentioned in the very Plan, with the National Private Sector and the Civil Societies Organizations on the lead. Government bodies and the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia developed jointly numerous several stakeholders' regional and national workshops to define and agree on the priorities of the plan. In this policy achievement, family farmers' organizations have definitely strengthened their participation in decision- making and in the institutional mechanisms set for the monitoring and implementation of the Plan.

Since 2013, members and their federations have been advocating and promoting the visibility of family farming and its crucial role in food security and food safety in the Gambia. In November 2013, stakeholders recognized the need to establish a national coordination committee for the International Year of Family Farming - IYFF 2014. In 2014, the NCC-IYFF-2014 pushed for the approval of a National Seed Policy, and its corresponding Act in the National Parliament. Having developed a pilot project to invest in Family Farming, the members of the NCC-IYFF+10 and others have identified the need to set up a Network of Family Farming. The network will pursue the review of the ANR (Agriculture and Natural Resource policy) and of the second edition of the Gambian National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP 2016-2025) during years 2017 and 2018.

From November 2013 to February 2015, IFAD support through the World Rural Forum has enabled farmers and producers in the Gambia to establish a National Coordinating Committee (NCC) in collaboration with other stakeholders with a view to implementing the IYFF-2014. After the establishment of the NCC, the following activities were implemented: sensitization to review the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) policy, study tour in Senegal, training on Seed policies, launching of the National Committee, and training for a journalist on Land Advocacy, meeting of the National Committee, and financial support to families to establish a small processing unit.

The implementation of the project has enabled the NCC to push the Gambian Government to adopt the Seed Policy and Seed Act. Alliance partners and the network of NCC-IYFF+10 have representatives at the recently created National Seed Council.

Farmer Organizations now have seats in most of the government's projects and programmers' Steering Committees. Having developed a pilot project to invest directly in family farming, the members of the NCC and others have identified the need to establish a Network of Family Farming to represent and work closely with small farmers, both in rural and urban settings. This Network intends to pursue the review of both the Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy (ANR) as well as the second generation of the Gambia's National Agricultural Investment Plan (GNAIP 2016-2025).

The Network of Family Farming-National Coordinating Committee of International Year of Family Farming (NFF-NCC-IYFF+10) is a membership organization established by family farmers with the support of the World Rural Forum (WRF) and other member institutions of the IYFF-2014 National Coordination Committee. Lobbying and advocacy on policies conducted by members of the NCC-FF from all sectors and their expertise has enabled the network to achieve the review of ANRP as well as the approval of a new Seed Policy and Act.

The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 is pursuing to mobilize funding to promote and guarantee direct investment into Family Farming activities (horticulture, livestock, fisheries, agriculture, skill development, agriculture entrepreneurship). The Gambia Government has recognized the Network of Family Farming as a key platform representing the country's small and medium -scale farming sector. The Network of NCC-IYFF's mobilization of activities have indeed emphasized to the government the crucial and multifaceted role that family farming can have in the country's development strategy, if and when the sector is adequately supported.

Whether providing nutritious food to cities and the countryside (thereby reducing dependency on food imports and internationally volatile food prices), generating employment in the countryside (thus also avoiding excessive migratory pressures towards cities), or contributing to the sustainable management of natural resources (through native seed and seedling conservation and exchange, agroforestry systems, crop-livestock integration, among others), a family farming sector that is well-targeted by policies can indeed make a fundamental contribution to achieving sustainable development, including many of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

VALIDATION AND LAUNCH OF THE NAP OF THE GAMBIA FOR-UNDF

First the concept will be launched across the country and during the first quarter of year one (1). A participatory projects analysis will be conducted with site communities to help identify potential pilot participants for subsequent selection and engagement. This launching will aim at creating awareness and sharing ideas with farm families through critical analysis of old systems and defining new areas to better improve the practice. During the pilot phase further analysis will be conducted to identify resources requirement and prepare appropriate action plans for implementation and mobilization of the needed funding. The participatory processes during this period will endeavor to

articulate and document as much information as possible in terms of project needs, main areas of concern for the family with a view to providing relevant information to feed into the design of the programme structure and template for expansion and or replication.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS CREATION

Series of sensitization campaigns and outreach programmes will be undertaken at national, regional and local community levels during this phase of the project. These sensitization activities will be aimed at reaching out to as many of the citizens as is possible to attract interest and buy-in from all sectors of the Gambian society. Various channels of communication such as media including TV and radio (national and community radios), interface meetings, traditional media, e.g. ‘Kanyeleng’ groups and etc., will be harnessed to achieve this object.

NETWORKING AND ALLIANCE BUILDING

Farm families will be mobilized and supported to organize into relevant cooperative alliances, while encouraging them to forge networks with farmer interest groups across the country and beyond under the guidance of the national farmers platform. The requisite capacity building of network members will be undertaken leveraging various forms including on-site training, farmer field days, exchange visits and tours in order to educate and increase capacity of farm families within the networks. Network capacity strengthening will also involve skills development in policy advocacy and influencing, leadership and group management especially of women and youth, fundraising, institutional and cooperative development and management, and enterprise development as well as sustainable farming practices in the face of climate change.

ADVOCACY AND POLICY WORK

Farm families and other community members will be mobilized and organized and given the right training and orientation to lobby and influence policies at national and decentralized levels. They will be linked with regional farmer groups and associations, for influencing ECOWAP and ECOWAS protocol to facilitate movement across borders and marketing of their farm produce and other agricultural commodities. The linkage with regional agricultural bodies will also enable them raise their voice in trade related international debates.

At national level the focus will be on budget allocations to the agriculture sector, particularly for support to family farming and engage in expenditure reviews with relevant ministries and departments for effective tracking and accountability of fund and resource flows to farm families. At the same time issues of agricultural insurance and credit bank for agricultural investment financing and marketing will be negotiated with Government and the private sector while pushing for increased private sector participation in this prime sector. More so, the advocacy will be directed at improving the

agriculture information system to continuously inform farmers about their right to know and participate in price determination for their products and availability of inputs for timely access.

EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE DECADE BY 2028

Inclusive Policies Dialogue to influence financial institutions to establish Direct Investment in favour of Family Farming (**IDP-DIFF**) in **The Gambia Agricultural Transformation Programme (GATP)**

MONITORING & EVALUATING (M & E) PERFORMANCE

The complexity of managing agriculture and farming, particularly of family farms requires application of adaptive approaches to Programme and project management especially in an extremely changing environment. In this pilot phase, the National Platform and members will develop baselines and appropriate indicators to facilitate process evaluation in order to track performance at output level and achievement of established milestones and targets.

The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia through its secretariat will work closely with the relevant stakeholders (CSOs, Farmers' Organizations, Private Sectors, Service Providers, Consumers, as well Transporters...) to constantly monitor implementation and provide progress reports on quarterly and annual basis. Mid-term and end of project reviews will be conducted and reports prepared and shared with all stakeholders. Project management committee meetings to report/review progress will be held regularly, and complemented with community outreach meetings, exchange visits, workshops and inter project meetings to share best practices.

In order to ensure that the project is on track and guarantee that various activities are undertaken as specified in the plan, frequent and timely visits will be undertaken jointly by staff of the Platform's secretariat and partners. They will routinely gather information on all aspects of the decade to make sure implementation is going by the commitments set at project initiation. They should provide regular monitoring reports about the progress and the problems encountered by the project if any, and also the steps taken towards proven solutions offered on the ground. The frequency of visit by project staff can be reduced as experience is garnered by implementing communities.

Data collection will be through the use of participatory Monitoring and Evaluation techniques that will emphasize participation of project participants and stakeholders to continually analyze and learn from.

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Risks are situations in a Programme cycle that can negatively affect realization of set objectives. They are always potential in programming efforts and therefore important that these are anticipated and mitigating mechanisms put in place to reduce their impact. The Platform will review each objective by merit, identify and analyses the potential risk and then consider the level of the risk in terms of magnitude. This will be categorized as Significant, Moderate and Acceptable and defined in sync with traffic light signs (RED, YELLOW & Blue) respectively, and as well determine the likelihood of the particular risk happening. This will also be defined in terms of RED, YELLOW and BLUE. Then a plan of action agreed will be developed ultimately depending on the gravity of the risk identified.

Date of launch or creation of the Network of NCCFF: Established in 2013, officially recognized by the Gambian Government in February 2016 as a network to promote policy dialogue and protect the interests of Family Farming in the Gambia (see the Certificate of Cooperation by the National Register of Companies and Associations). The Network has become an autonomous institution to be a platform for all stakeholders focusing on policy dialogue with an inclusive approach due to the effort of proactive Gambians to ensure the country not to be left out in the international arena.

The Implementing Lead Institution of The DECADE 2019-2028 is the Network of NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia of the :

Overall goal of the national action plan for the decade:

The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 will play a key role to implement the decade in The Gambia, having experiences to influence and lobbying policies to support Family Farming in The Gambia. The Network of NCC-IYFF+10 has served as platform for policy dialogue in The Gambia through an inclusive dialogue as its main approach. The FAO declared that family farmers are an important part of the solution to a world free of hunger and poverty. It also stressed that there is plenty of evidence to show how **poor family farmers can quickly grow their production potential in an environment where favorable policies are effectively implemented**. This commitment to the growth of family farming and its contribution to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals is the key to respect the Decade of Family Farming.

Strengthening and ensuring Inclusive and participatory dialogue on policies and the modernization of family farming by 2028

OBJECTIVES TO IMPLEMENT THE NAP OF THE GAMBIA:

- **Establish** a permanent policy dialogue platform with the Gambian Government and development partners (Public, Private, and Producers Partnership) to deal with issues related to land governance, natural resources management, food security, and investment

in the small and medium scale agriculture, forestry, pastoralism, and fisheries sectors.

- **Promote** and defend the fundamental importance of investing in Family Farming in order to generate an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development model in the Gambia, by sensitizing government authorities and private sector actors as to the strategic role that family farming can play in the GNAIP and other government plans, policies and programmes;
- **Inform** and train members of farmer federations and producer organizations to enable them to better defend family farmers' interests, based on relevant experiences of members of **NFF/NCC-IYFF+10** and other development actors, including other countries' national family farming organizations and committees
- **Encourage** and support the structuring of farmer and agricultural producer organizations as well as policy dialogue mechanisms in each of the country's eight local government areas, for family farmer participation and active involvement in the formulation and implementation of agricultural and rural development policies and programmes;
- **Promote solidarity** links between farmers' organizations and agricultural producer members of **NFF/NCC-IYFF+10**, such as through the pooling of financial resources for common investment projects, including for collective acquisition of processing machinery and equipment to add value to family farming production;
- **Mobilize** financial and human resources in order to strengthen producer organizations' capacities to collectively negotiate better conditions with private actors at different stages of product value chains, such as for the acquisition of inputs at preferential interest rates or the sale of production at better prices.
- **Work** in closer collaboration with other countries' National Coordination Committees and their respective members to enhance mutual learning on participatory policy dialogues for ensuring investment in family farming.

OBJECTIVES to be achieved:

The overall objective of the Decade of Family Farming is to contribute to the international community's efforts to end poverty in all its forms, reduce inequality and combat climate change, while ensuring that no one gets left behind.

The specific objectives include:

- Contributing to efforts to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- Increasing the visibility and recognition of the important role that family farming

plays in feeding the world population, creating jobs, building peace, and combating climate change, among other issues.

- Promoting better public policies in favor of family farming and creating, strengthening and promoting mechanisms and spaces for political dialogue, including National Committees for Family Farming.
- Increasing collaboration between different stakeholders that operate in the rural areas, strengthening agreements between consumers, farmers' organizations, research centers and others.
- Encouraging research centers to include family farming among their priorities.
- Ending discrimination in all forms against women and girls in rural areas, promoting their empowerment by increasing their access to information, productive and financial resources and decision-making processes.
- Promoting an environment that encourages youth to work in family farming, so that they can remain in the countryside and become agents of sustainable development.

Challenges:

In this situation, challenges are numerous due to an **inconsistency** between **policies and programmes** implementation, rather than to addressing the root cause of poverty and malnutrition. Since before and after independence we are addressing the syndrome of poverty and malnutrition. It is in our interest to revise our development approach and commitments. Institutional reform as well as human transformation for pro-activeness productive should be the engine of our new vehicle of self-reliance de progress.

- Absence of harmonized policies
- Lack of synergy between projects and programmes
- Weak sustainable strategy plan for ensuring continuity of projects and Programme the E.g. the RDP project, the LHDP etc...
- Weak dialogue and consultation between project implementation Units to avoid duplication and overlapping
- However it is important to note in the country only project occur continuity (from LADEP to PIWAM the NEMA and phase II) but still question mark what Impact it has on Families to take them from A to B. if those beneficiaries and The Gambia Government can handle the project after end of funding from IFAD.

THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN GLOBAL OBJECTIVE

Strengthening and ensuring Inclusive and participatory dialogue on THE DECADE FOR THE MODERNIZATION of family farming by 2029

The National Action Plan of the Decade For The Gambia UNDF 2019 to 2028.

Which concrete public policies wish you like to change/improve/implement in your country?

Besides public policies, which other actions/elements needed to be changed/ improved in your country?

How could your organization/ institution/ government contribute to this?

Pillar 1. Develop enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming.

Harmonization of Land policy and ANR

Review of the Gambia National Agricultural Investment Plan (in progress)

The strategy of the implementation of the National Development Plan of the new government (in progress)

Establish a fair Market trade policy on export and import of Agricultural and Animal Products

Investment policy on family farming established and operational at all level

Review and implement the legislative framework and public policies as well as establishing a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

*Human resources mobilization

* Organizing Policy Dialogue workshop and Caravan

* To engage the Ministry of Agriculture to jointly develop a cabinet paper as well as a stakeholders position paper

* Establish monitoring/Evaluation tools at every implementation stage.

Pillar 2. Improve socio-economic inclusion, resilience and well-being in rural households and communities.

- The social protection Bill and advocate for the establishment of an Agricultural Insurance scheme
- The Protocol documents for the implementation of Projects and programmes between Gambia Government and Donors to be known by all the stakeholders

- (The ANR document and the National Development Plan (NDP))
- Taking into account the social and economic strategy to financially support FF
- Institutional strengthening and Support giving to NCC-IYFF+10 and their farmers cooperatives

*Develop contractualization between family farmers and buyers

*Food value chain and the food supply system

* Involving all stakeholders on policies debate at high level

*Reinforcing the existing linkage between sectors

Pillar 3. Promote sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

- The amendment of the community forestry act
- The fishing policy review taking into account FF and their cooperatives
- Re-orientation of the projects and programmes development approach focus on FF
- The transparent contract agreements are known by Stakeholder for the implementation of Projects and programmes.
- Adequate financing to improve the production and productivity of the FF
- The environmental governance systems focus on giving responsibilities to FF.
- The capacity building and knowledge sharing well set to promote and built endogenous knowledge.
- The review of the Licensing system of the natural resources exploration (forestry, fisheries, etc...)

*Organizing awareness creation workshops and both using the all the Media channels interpretation of documents into local language

*Capitalization and sharing knowledge on best practices

*Advocacy and lobbying strategies developed to enable inclusive dialogue on issues related to Agriculture and Natural resources governance system,

*Developing monitoring and evaluation simplified tools

Pillar 4. Strengthen the multi-functionality of family farmers and their capacities to promote climate change mitigation and food systems that safeguard agricultural biodiversity, environment and culture

- To promote and defend the fundamental importance of investing on family farming in order to generate an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable

- Review of the National Environment Agency Act to ensure the partnership with Family Farming
- The protection of Family Farming vis-à-vis to the rules and regulations for attracting investors to come into our development.
- Favoring FF in order to control Investors coming into the country so that to protect the conservation of our forest cover
- Developing partnering between the NAM agricultural selected committee and the NCC-IYFF +10 technical working group.
- Mobilize communities for rehabilitation and conservation of our environment best practice utilization of our resources.

Pillar 5. Strengthen family farmers’ organizations and their capacities to generate knowledge and to provide inclusive services in rural areas:

- Modernization of our extension services (in progress)
- The outreach communication system with farmers to be improved
- Farmer to extension workers ratio
- Farmer field school field

Transv. Pillar 1. Support youth and ensure the generational sustainability of family farming.

- The National youth policy and the Women’s bill
- Harmonization of Land policy and ANR
- Youth and women access and ownership to Land
- Building training centers of excellence for professional training
- Land compensation scheme established

Transv. Pillar 2. Promote gender equity in family farming and rural women’s leadership role

- The review of the second generation of the GNAIP as well the implementation strategy of the NDP
- The Women bill reviewed and adopted taking into account the gender equity in Family Farming
- To engage the three Ministries (MOA, MOYS, MOWSAF) to jointly develop a cabinet paper as well as a stakeholders position paper

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF THE DECADE

Among the expected results we can mention:

- Substantial contribution to the implementation and scope of the 2030 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the

Sustainable Development Goal number 2 and other related Goals and Targets.

- Increased agricultural productivity and incomes of family farmers, particularly women, indigenous peoples, pastoralists and fishermen.
- Increased sustainable food production and resilient agricultural practices that contribute to ecosystem maintenance, strengthen the ability to adapt to climate change, extreme weather events, droughts, floods and other disasters; and to progressively improve soil and land quality.
- Increase in rural employment and reduction of rural-urban migration and between countries, especially young men and women.
- Design and implementation of laws and programs focused on family farming, paying special attention to access to productive resources and to the improvement of infrastructures and services in rural areas.
- Progressive recognition of the equal status of rural women as well as the progressive increase in rural women's access to land and other productive resources, investment, credit, training and information.
- Family Farms on resilience to have very good environmental governance system

STRATEGIC PILLARS and Policies Action of The Gambia NAP

Gambia	Which concrete public policies wish you like to change/improve/implement in your country?	Besides public policies, which other actions/elements needed to be changed/ improved in your country?	How could your organization/ institution/ government contribute to this?
Pillar 1. Develop enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming.	<p>Harmonization and Developing of Land policy and ANR</p> <p>Review of the Gambia National Agricultural Investment Plan (in progress)</p> <p>The strategy of the implementation of the National Development Plan of the new government (in progress)</p>	<p>Establish a fair Market trade policy on export and import of Agricultural and Animal Products</p> <p>Investment policy on family farming established and operational at all level</p> <p>Review and implementation of legislative framework and public policies as well as establish a monitoring and evaluation mechanism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Human resources mobilization * Organizing Policy Dialogue workshop and Caravan * To engage the Ministry of Agriculture to jointly develop a cabinet paper as well as a stakeholders position paper * Establish monitoring/Evaluation tools at every implementation stage.
Pillar 2. Improve socio-economic inclusion, resilience and well-being in rural households and communities.	<p>The social protection Bill and advocate for the establishment of a Agricultural Insurance scheme</p> <p>The Protocol documents for the implementation of Projects and programmes between Gambia Government and Donors to be known by all the stakeholders (The ANR document and the National Development Plan (NDP)</p>	<p>Taking into account the social and economic strategy to financially support FF</p> <p>Institutional strengthening and Support giving to NCC-IYFF+10 and their farmers cooperatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Develop contratualization between family farmers and buyers *Food value chain and the food supply system * Involving all stakeholders on policies debate at high level <p>Reinforcing the existing linkage between sectors</p>
Pillar 3. Promote sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.	<p>The amendment of the community forestry act</p> <p>The fishing policy review taking into account FF and their cooperatives</p> <p>Re-orientation of the projects and programmes development approach focus on FF</p>	<p>The transparent contract agreements known by Stakeholder for the implementation of Projects and programmes.</p> <p>Adequate financing to improve the production and productivity of the FF</p> <p>The environmental governance systems focus on giving responsibilities to FF.</p> <p>The capacity building and knowledge sharing well set to promote and built endogenous knowledge.</p> <p>The review of the Licensing system of the natural resources exploration (forestry, fisheries, etc...)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Organizing awareness creation workshops and both using the all the Media channels interpretation of documents into local language *Capitalization and sharing knowledge on best practices *Advocacy and lobbying strategies developed to enable inclusive dialogue on issues related to Agriculture and Natural resources governance system, *Developing monitoring and evaluation simplified tools
Pillar 4. Strengthen the multi-functionality of family farmers and their capacities to promote climate change mitigation and food systems that safeguard agricultural biodiversity, environment and culture	<p>To promote and defend the fundamental importance of investing on family farming in order to generate an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable</p> <p>Review of the National Environment Agency Act to ensure the partnership with Family Farming</p>	<p>The protection of FF vis-à-vis to the rules and regulations for investors coming into our development.</p> <p>Favoring FF in order to control Investors coming into the country so that to protect the conservation of our forest cover</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Developing partnering between the NAM agricultural selected committee and the Network of NCC-IYFF +10 technical working group. *Mobilize communities for rehabilitation and conservation of our environment best practice utilization of our resources.
Pillar 5. Strengthen family farmers' organizations and their capacities to generate knowledge and to provide inclusive services in rural areas.	<p>Modernization of our extension services (in progress)</p>	<p>The outreach communication system with farmers to be improved</p>	<p>Farmer to extension workers ratio</p> <p>Farmer field school field</p>
Transv. pillar 1. Support youth and ensure the generational sustainability of family farming.	<p>The National youth policy and the Women's bill</p> <p>Harmonization of Land policy and ANR</p>	<p>Youth and women access and ownership to Land</p>	<p>Building training centers of excellence for professional training</p> <p>Land compensation scheme established</p>
Transv. Pillar 2. Promote gender equity in family farming and rural women's leadership role	<p>The review of the second generation of the GNAIP as well the implementation strategy of the NDP</p>	<p>The Women bill reviewed and adopted taking into account the gender equity in Family Farming</p>	<p>To engage the three Ministries (MOA, MOYS, MOWSAF) to jointly develop a cabinet paper as well as a stakeholders position paper</p>

Strategy Implementation of the GNAP of the UNDF 2019 to 2028

Pillar 1: Develop enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming

Strategic Pillars	Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget	Relevant Actors	Timeline
Pillar 1. Develop enabling policy environment to strengthen family farming.	To capacities farming family for the attainment of food self-sufficiency, increase income for the improvement of standard of living for family farming.	1. Organize and engage farmers through proper communication and awareness creation	1. Adequate sensitization of farming communities through conduction of meetings, seminars, workshops, radio talk shows and tradition drama.	\$1,200,000	1. Famer organizations 2. Farm families 3. Public sectors 4. Private sectors 5. NARI 6. NGOs 7. Network_N CC-IYFF	2020 -2028 Sensitization - March to May
		2. Engage all stakeholders and needy family farms for efficient and effective monitory and evaluation through a participatory approach.	2. (i)Training/capacity building of stakeholders and farmers.(ii)development of monitoring tools and reporting templates.(iii)establish a strong co-coordinating team	\$1,000,000		Production time- June to December
		3. Adaption of Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) for increased production, processing/ value addition and marketing	3. (i) Farmer training in good agricultural practices (ii) introduction of innovating technologies (tools etc.) to be adopted by family farmers. (iii) Create exposure through exchange visits, field trips, field days for learning and sharing among farmers (iv) establishment of farmer field schools and innovation platforms.	\$1,200,000		

Pillar 2: Improve socio-economic inclusion, resilience and well-being in rural households and communities

Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget US \$	Relevant	Timeline
<p>To modernize agriculture by diversification and all inclusive</p> <p>To commercialize agricultural production to increase household production</p> <p>To promote value addition in agricultural products to raise more income ease marketing</p> <p>To increase the easy access to land among family members.</p> <p>To engage young people into family farm practices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Capacity building in modern agricultural techniques (smart agriculture) ❖ Provide modern agricultural farm implements ❖ Improve farmer extension ratio ❖ To improve access to (mobility) ❖ To enhance access to land ❖ Strengthening the GAMIS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Conduct training of trainers (TOTs) for farmer groups. ❖ Provide forestry fisheries, livestock, Apiculture farm implements and inputs on timely bases. ❖ Train and employ more extension officers /workers. ❖ Provide mobility for agriculture extension workers. ❖ Develops land ownership reform policy for easy access to land. ❖ 	<p>\$1,300,000</p> <p>\$3,500,000</p> <p>\$1,300,000</p> <p>1,300,000</p> <p>\$1,350,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Department of Agriculture ❖ FAO ❖ IFAD ❖ NGOs supporting farming ❖ Family Farmers ❖ NCC IYFF+10 the Gambia ❖ MOYS/NYC ❖ Ministry of Fisheries ❖ AU/IBAR 	<p>November 2020 to November 2028</p>

Pillar 3: Promote sustainability of agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries

Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget USA \$	Relevant	Timeline
To address sustainable promotion of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and pastoralism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formulate Agricultural, Forestry, Fisheries and Pastoralism Policies were not available - Review policies where available in line with Family Farming (FF) practices - Develop and promote family farming friendly-laws - Enhance FF access to microfinance facilities, implements and inputs - Enhance income status of FF - Mainstream FF in subsequent NDP, Sector Strategies, and Projects - Develop communication Strategy to raise awareness on FF - Enhance the resilience of vulnerable FF (physically challenged, women and elderly) - Enhance sustainable use of agriculture, forestry and marine resources - Enhance transparency and accountability in FF to ensure value for money - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance auditing and evaluation exercises - Consultation with stakeholders - Cabinet Paper to be developed by lead Ministry - Engage National Assembly to formulate laws for FF - Sensitize populace on family farming friendly-laws - ICT - Provide Guarantee Fund to enable producers and buyers timely access to finance for supply of appropriate implements and inputs to FF - Train local craftsmen in the production of appropriate implements/gears - Diversify income generation through small/large ruminants production - Establish/join cooperatives - FF to be mainstreamed in next NDP, Sector Strategies and Projects - Sensitisation workshop - Engage print and electronic media outlets, and traditional communicators for outreach purposes - Provide appropriate technologies to meet needs of differently abled FF - Supply labour saving devices to minimize domestic drudgery - Provide special assistance to vulnerable FF particularly at lean seasons and post-disasters - Promote climate smart-agricultural practices and mixed farming - Produce artificial pastures - Punitive measures for indiscriminate exploitation of resources - Develop a results matrix - Conduct regular monitoring - Farm visits - Provide feedback 	6,650,700	FOs, NGOs, Government Departments, Services' Providers, Private Sectors, UN agencies in The country, World Bank and ADB funded projects Network of NCC-IYFF+10	2020 -2028

Pillar 4: Strengthen the multi-functionality of family farmers and their capacities to promote climate change mitigation and food systems that safeguard agricultural biodiversity, environment and culture

Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget USA \$	Relevant	Timeline
<p>-Promote multiple productive activities that maximise the use of family labour</p> <p>-Encourage the preservation of agro-biodiversity, the environment and the continuation of traditions that form part of cultural identities</p> <p>-Modernize family farming, improve communication outreach and strengthen Research-Extension-Farmer linkage</p>	<p>-Capacity-sharing and development on how to cope with climate change, how to link to government programmes for mitigation, adaptation, restoration and resilience and how to develop climate resilience plans</p> <p>-Strengthen existing Farmer field schools</p> <p>-Mechanised farming across the value chain</p> <p>-Market and access roads</p> <p>-Collective marketing</p> <p>-Access to Inputs (seeds, fertilisers, feed, vaccines, agro-chemicals etc)</p> <p>- Provide mobility for extension service delivery</p> <p>-Capacity building for researchers and extension agents</p> <p>-Network of family farms, IPs and use of social media</p> <p>-Integration of crop-livestock systems (Appi-aquaculture)</p> <p>- Provide support to strengthen and facilitate integrated and multi-sectoral research based on the local, traditional and indigenous knowledge of family farmers</p> <p>- Establish multi-sectoral/multi-actor coordination mechanisms</p> <p>- Strengthen local institutions, systems and mechanisms assessing and addressing challenges, needs and opportunities of family farming, and link them to rural and urban development strategies</p> <p>- Develop capacities of young family farmers on technical, organizational skills and innovation practices interconnecting locally specific (traditional) knowledge with new solutions</p> <p>- Develop communication and awareness-</p>	<p>-Climate- smart-agriculture</p> <p>-Weather information</p> <p>-Conservation agriculture</p> <p>- Adopting Agro ecologically-Based Innovative Farming</p> <p>-Formation of agricultural cooperatives</p> <p>-Provision of impact infrastructure (irrigation facilities, cold rooms, Drying facilities etc)</p> <p>-Training on quality, certified seed production</p> <p>-Training of farmers</p> <p>-Provision of mobility</p> <p>-Direct marketing and short supply chain (creating infrastructure to serve local/farm gate vending)</p> <p>-Create aggregation and collection centres</p> <p>-Training and capacity development for FF through e.g. farmer to-farmer learning exchanges, exchange good practices, farmer field schools, etc)</p>	7,350.000	<p>MOA</p> <p>UN agencies</p> <p>MoFisheries</p> <p>DoF</p> <p>Research</p> <p>GBos</p> <p>Tango</p> <p>NEA</p> <p>MOECCWL</p> <p>Local Gov.</p> <p>Women’s Bureau</p> <p>Ministry of Youths</p> <p>FOs</p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>Network-NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia</p>	2020-2025

	<p>raising tools to promote youth engagement in family farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote knowledge-sharing and strengthen communication, ICTs capacities of farmers - Support Value-adding activities at farm level - Increased access of women in family farming to natural resources, landed assets, information, infrastructure, financial services and better access markets - Facilitate access to public, social and cultural services to enhance well-being, equity and improve prosperity FF communities - Facilitating and strengthening access to finance, revolving funds, microcredit and formal bank credit - Mobilize funds to support Agricultural research 				
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Pillar 5: Strengthen family farmers’ organizations and their capacities to generate knowledge and to provide inclusive services in rural areas.

Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget USA \$	Relevant	Timeline
To empower the farmer organizations with capacity to promote food self-sufficiency through skills and information development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Use of outreach programs; ➤ Organize advocacy and popularization of the FF at the grass root and partners levels; ➤ Sensitization and awareness creation from the regional and district level; ➤ Training and counseling on modern farming techniques; ➤ Institutional coordination administrative strengthening on family farming, ➤ Promote partnership with the micro-finance institutions such as banks on access to credits. ➤ To have simplified observatory to monitor and collect data on FF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Empower the FO with farm inputs, ➤ Training ➤ Study tours ➤ Promote increase in production and productivity, ➤ harmonize Observatory of Family Farming (ECOWAS, UEMOA, ROPPA, FAO) 	6,200.000	DoA, DLS, FAO, ROPPA, ECOWAS, EU, EC, WFP, AAITG, Projects, UNDP, IFAD, FOs, NGOs, AU/IBAR, Cooperatives	January to December 2020

Transversal Pillars 1: Support youth and ensure the generational sustainability of family farming

Transversal Pillars 2: Promote gender equity in family farming and rural women’s leadership role

Objectives	Strategy	Action	Budget USA \$	Relevant	Timeline
Promote youth empowerment initiatives and entrepreneurship in FF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provision of farming equipment. ➤ Conduct trainings. ➤ Create market opportunities. ➤ Create enabling environment; ➤ Support active farmers including youth and women. 	<p>Promote the availability of farming equipment;</p> <p>Organize training opportunities for increase in knowledge generation.</p>	7,700,000	FOs, NYC, Songhai Gambia Initiative, DoA, DLS, Youth Associations, among others.	January to December 2020

To promote gender equity in family farming and rural women leadership role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To advocate for women access and ownership to productive land; ➤ Establish partners with the Ministry of Women and Children affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase awareness on gender in family farming; ➤ Conduct trainings and consultations on gender mainstreaming 		MOWCA, Women Bureau, FOs, Rural women group, women activists, WRWF forum, women councilors among others.	January to December 2020
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Total budget for the Gambia National Action Plan for the UNDF 2020 -2028: \$39, 050,700

1. Financing of National Plan for Family Farming

- Through building partnership with donors and partners as well as local projects from the ministries of agriculture, trade, youth and sports, women and children as well Ministry of finance (Government funds, Area councils and municipalities, Family Farms owners, Eco-tourism paid visits, Levy on imported goods)
- **Contributions** from the Members of the family farm associations, other farmer organizations, UN Agencies, regional and global partners (Donors, FAO, IFAD, World bank, AU/IBAR, African Development Bank funded projects)
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2. Sustainability of the National Plan for Family Farming

Promotion of ownership, development of project proposals and action plans for increase in sustainable measures and establishing initiatives that can better managed towards food, nutrition and income security (Reliable weather information for rural communities, Develop clear, attainable, simple and sustainable road map and visions, Translate into the languages of Family Farmers, Mainstream gender issues in the plan, Mainstream National Action Plan FF in the NDP, Vigorous sensitization, awareness raising, Decentralized development interventions (bring the city to the village)

3. Monitoring and evaluation of the National Plan for Family Farming

Establish a team that will take charge of monitoring and evaluating progress so far made in partnership with donors, partners and organizations (Base line data, Knowledge management system, Centralized Data collection and depository, Community based indicators)

4. Inter-institutional Coordination

We work through collaboration and building synergy towards the inter-institutional coordination. Put mechanisms in place by using the multi-stakeholder approach and networking:

- Building the capacity of The NETWORK of National Coordination Committee of International Year of Family Farming +10 The Gambia (**Network NCC-IYFF+10 The Gambia**) to continue playing the Multi-actor convergence, review sessions and planning
- Information/results sharing
- Work through collaboration and building synergy towards the inter-institutional coordination. Put mechanisms in place by using the multi-stakeholder approach and networking (Multi-actor convergence, review sessions and planning, Information/results sharing)

Conclusion

No institution can claim the ownership of the Decade is a collective responsibility and sharing of Task to guarantee the welfare and security of our Nation led by Family Farming to supply the food system and care the environment. Therefore alliance building among institutions in the Gambia will be at the center to develop and implement project and programmes for the Decade of Family Farming.

The existence of appropriate, well-adapted, productive and technical models of various dimensions was highlighted, as well as ways to describe and implement the pillars and crosscutting issues. Comprehensive information system related to land tenure, investment in agriculture, market access and food security are needed. These information systems should lead to policy proposals, while taking stakeholder diversity in the territories into account. The idea is not simply to conduct research for its own sake, but rather to generate innovations and process that foster family farming.

Family farming is one of the players in the future of agriculture and feed the world care for the environment.