

Migration MPTF

Annual Final Report

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Joint Programme Title:	Addressing the drivers and causes of migration-related vulnerabilities among border communities along the Trans Gambia transport corridor
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	The Gambia (North Bank Region and Lower River Region)
Project Identification Number:	00129729
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Convening Agent (Lead PUNO):	International Trade Centre (ITC)
PUNO(s) (PUNOs):	International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) United Nations' Children Fund (UNICEF)
Key Partners: <i>(include Implementing Partner)</i>	Ministry of Interior (MOI), Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (MOTIE), Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Welfare (MOGCSW), Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA), Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Gambia Immigration Department (GID), Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA), National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons (NAATIP), Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), The Gambia Songhai Initiative, The GWCC), The Gambia Youth Chamber of Commerce (GYCC), The National Youth Council (NYC)
Project Period (Start – End Dates):	<i>1 January 2022 – 31 May 2025</i>
Reporting Period:	<i>1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024</i>
Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: (breakdown by PUNO)	<i>ITC: 1,000,000 USD IOM: 700,000 USD UNDP: 400,000 USD UNICEF: 250,000 USD Total: 2,350,000 USD</i>
Total Funds Received To Date: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	<i>ITC: 1,000,000 USD IOM: 700,000 USD UNDP: 400,000 USD UNICEF: 250,000 USD Total: 2,350,000 USD</i>

Report Submission Date:	
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Executive Summary

The executive summary provides a comprehensive overview of activities implemented during the third year (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024) of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MMPTF) project. Following the approval of the annual work plan by the Project Steering Committee (PSC), Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) executed a series of planned interventions designed to enhance child protection, strengthen migration management, promote human rights, and foster economic opportunities for youth and Women. The report highlights key achievements, challenges encountered, lessons learned, and progress against established indicators.

Output 1: Strengthening Child Protection and Migration Management UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Welfare, trained 35 shelter staff (22 female, 13 male), including government social workers and CSO representatives, on case management, care planning, and minimum standards for residential care institutions. Post-training evaluations revealed significant improvements in participants' knowledge and capacity to deliver quality care services and identify risks faced by children on the move.

Building on child protection efforts, IOM advanced migration management through targeted capacity-building interventions. Three specialized trainings on the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) were delivered to frontline and second-line immigration officers, complemented by advanced training on document examination and fraud detection. These initiatives were further reinforced by the participation of senior officials from the Gambia Immigration Department and the Ministry of Interior in the 7th Border Management and Identity Conference in Bangkok. Additionally, IOM conducted a Legal Identity System Assessment and facilitated Gambian participation in a Regional Legal Identity Consultation, aimed at strengthening civil registration and identity management systems.

Recognizing the need for strong institutional coordination, IOM also facilitated Inter-Agency Border Coordination Committee (IABCC) meetings at major border posts and quarterly Thematic Working Group (TWG) meetings on Border Management. These forums fostered dialogue, reviewed workplans, and addressed shared challenges, contributing to more effective border governance and the protection of vulnerable populations.

Output 2: Promoting Human Rights and Safe Migration Complementing these governance efforts, IOM, in partnership with the National Human Rights Commission, organized the Fifth Edition of the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Human Rights Moot Court Competition. The event brought together 20 participants from ten African universities to debate migration-related human rights issues, strengthening awareness and advocacy for migrant rights. In celebration of International Migrants Day on 18 December 2024, IOM and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted a ceremony honouring Gambian migrants' contributions to national development. This was accompanied by a photo exhibition, extended to Alliance Française, that engaged civil society, youth, and returning migrants.

In parallel, the Ministry of Trade, with support from the project, developed a trade guideline for ECOWAS and AfCFTA. This guideline simplifies cross-border trade procedures and fosters regional integration. Further supporting women entrepreneurs, 25 women-led businesses were trained on the AfCFTA protocol on women and youth in trade, strengthening their capacity to engage in regional commerce.

UNICEF amplified community outreach through sensitization activities, targeting 400 community leaders and caregivers to address issues surrounding unaccompanied minors and encourage behavioural change. This was complemented by a panel discussion with 200 adolescents, organized through the Children's National Assembly, focusing on the risks of trafficking and smuggling. To sustain community-level engagement, 200 youth champions were trained on human trafficking and ECOWAS free movement protocols, enabling them to conduct peer sensitizations. Additionally, regional radio programs and ten days of community outreach activities reached over 2,000 people, reinforcing safe migration practices and embedding child protection messaging in youth and school initiatives.

Output 3: Enhancing Economic Empowerment and Cross-Border Trade. The momentum of these efforts extended to economic empowerment initiatives. IOM together with ITC supported 24 women cross-border traders from the Lower River and North Bank Regions with small grants awarded by a multi-stakeholder Grants Committee. Beneficiaries participated in entrepreneurship and skills development training facilitated by ITC, with disbursement and monitoring overseen by The HUB consultancy, set to conclude in early 2025. To improve operating conditions for women-led businesses, IOM also provided infrastructure support in Dasilami and Misera, including pavements, solar power installations, and sanitation facilities.

These efforts were complemented by structural improvements aimed at enhancing trade facilitation. The One-Stop Shop Entrepreneurship and Trade Information desk office in Farafenni, led by GIEPA and supported by UNHSTF and MMPTF, was established to provide integrated business development and trade support services. Additionally, the ongoing upgrade of the Farafenni Lumo Market is anticipated to significantly enhance cross-border trade infrastructure, facilitating better market access for local and regional traders.

Further boosting local economies, the Hospitality Training Centre (HTC) in the Lower River Region, jointly funded by UNHSTF and MPTF, was launched to offer skills development in bakery and hospitality services. Training for 40 food vendors, facilitated by GTHI and the Mansakonko Area Council, enhanced food safety, customer service, and business management capacities. These improvements were showcased through participation in national trade fairs and exhibitions, organized with the Gambia Women’s Chamber of Commerce and Women Buzz. The resulting business transactions totalling \$15,000 demonstrate the growing sustainability of women-led cross-border trade enterprises.

Annual Progress

1. Summary and Context

The three-year pilot joint programme, “Addressing the Drivers and Causes of Migration-Related Vulnerabilities Among Border Communities Along the Trans-Gambia Transport Corridor” (hereafter referred to as the “Joint Programme”), is designed to address key migration-related vulnerabilities among border communities. It aims to enhance the cross-border environment and improve trade facilitation along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor. The programme focuses on upgrading border posts in Jarra West (Lower River Region) and Upper Baddibou (North Bank Region), strengthening the capacity of border authorities, increasing awareness among women and youth of their rights, and improving skills and livelihood opportunities for women and youth in these communities.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (MOTRIE) and the Ministry of Interior (MOI), two Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings were convened — the first in January 2024 and the second in December 2025. Both meetings were well-attended, and participants provided insightful inputs that contributed to the program’s strategic direction. Notably, the PSC approved the reallocation of storage facility funds to complete the second phase of the lumo infrastructure, given that another project is now underway to build a new, larger storage facility.

Following the approval of the workplan, PUNOs continued implementation under various outputs and activities in close collaboration with government counterparts and the private sector, while also working collectively within the PUNO framework. This collaborative approach has allowed PUNOs to leverage each other’s expertise, resulting in the successful implementation of both infrastructure projects and technical support programs. These joint efforts have been critical in delivering capacity-building, entrepreneurship development, and technical assistance that directly benefit the target border communities and enhance cross-border cooperation.

While substantial progress has been made, it is acknowledged that construction works have experienced delays. These delays were primarily due to extensive consultations with stakeholders to ensure their buy-in, as well as disruptions caused by heavy rains and lengthy procurement processes. As a result, a non-cost extension was approved, moving the project completion date to May 31, 2025, to ensure the successful completion of all planned activities and full realization of program outcomes.

2. Results

During the reporting period (1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024) actions taken under each output and outcome level are highlighted below:

Outcome 1: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

Output 1.1 Better equipped border posts

Activity 1.1.4: Build on existing structures and provision of materials to manage cases of child protection along borders

To ensure improve child response for children on the move, UNICEF supported the training of staff from Care Institutions together with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare. The training focused on how to manage cases, how to plan a care and introduce them to the minimum standards of the residential care institutions. As a results of the training, 35 shelter staff (22 female, 13 male), including government social workers and CSOs, have improved knowledge and skills on providing care services in the shelter for children on the move.

Upon completion of the training, there was an evaluation to gauge their understanding to implement this in their daily tasks. Participants were able to highlight their knowledge on the minimum care standard. They were also able to explain effective intervention strategies to handle children appropriately and be more vigilant and proactive in identifying and preventing risks to children on the move.

Output 1.2: Improved knowledge and capacity of border authorities

Activity 1.2.2 Train border officials on: MIDAS use, document security, fraud detection & protection of vulnerable migrants

In 2024, IOM conducted the following three trainings on Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) in coordination with the Gambia Immigration Department (GID). The trainings contributed towards strengthening skills and capabilities of frontline and second line immigration officers on effective use of MIDAS to improve border security and operational efficiency, as well as maintenance of MIDAS equipment to ensure full ownership and sustainability of the System.

- 13 to 16 May 2024: Training on the use of MIDAS for frontline and secondary line (13 M, 9 F)
- 19 to 22 August 2024: Training on use of MIDAS for front-line officials (24 M; 6 F)
- 23 to 27 September 2024: Training of Trainers (ToT) on the installation and advanced use of MIDAS (11 M)

During this reporting period, IOM The Gambia organized a three-day advanced training on document examination and fraud detection techniques from 30 September to 2 October 2024. The training equipped border officers with in-depth knowledge and skills on the subject, thereby supporting the government's efforts to streamline border security procedures. A total of 15 participants were trained (12 M, 3 F).

In addition, IOM The Gambia, in coordination with its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), supported participation of the Government of The Gambia (represented by senior officials from the Ministry of Interior and GID) in the 7th Border Management and Identity Conference (BMIC7) held in Bangkok, Thailand, December 2024. Hosted by IOM and Asia Pacific Smart Card Association, the Conference was based on the theme of *'The Future of Borders and Borders of the Future: Accelerating Seamless and Secure Cross-Border Travel and Trade with Technological Solutions and Re-engineered Identity Management Process'* and provided the Gambian officials with an opportunity to exchange information and learn from best practices on advancing border and identity management processes. The Conference also comprised of an exhibition on cutting-edge solutions and technologies aimed at facilitation of cross-border movements while strengthening national security.

In line with IOM's Institutional Strategy on Legal Identity as well as priorities of the Government of The Gambia on Digital Transformation and Digital Identity, IOM carried out a Legal Identity System Assessment. The assessment examined key components of The Gambia's legal identity system, including civil registration, national ID systems, digital infrastructure, management and interoperability of identity databases for both citizens and non-citizens; and devised recommendations to develop more efficient and inclusive legal identity systems for all citizens and residents. Conducted in November 2024, the assessment comprised of various individual and group discussions with representatives from Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad. Ministry of Health, Ministry of Communication & Digital Economy, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Local Government and Land, Gambia Immigration Department, Gambia Bureau of Statistics, and Gambia Commission for Refugees. During the next quarter, IOM will present the draft assessment report to GID for validation before dissemination to various stakeholders.

Moreover, IOM supported participation of GID in the Regional Legal Identity Consultation for West Africa, held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast November 2024. The consultation brought together technical specialists from the region to discuss common challenges, gaps, priority needs and opportunities as well as explore partnerships to strengthen Legal Identity systems, namely civil registration, national ID cards and passport systems as well as their extensions abroad through consular representations. Anchored on IOM's Legal Identity Strategy, the consultation specifically discussed challenges that migrants in the region face regarding accessing documentary proof of their Legal Identity and good practices in enabling access to Legal Identity for undocumented migrants.

Activity 1.2.3 Strengthen inter-agency border coordination committees

IOM in close partnership with the GID, as the chair of the Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Border Management under the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM)¹, organized Inter-Agency Border Coordination Committee (IABCC) meetings inviting participants from border posts in Misera, Amdallai, Farafenni (Keur Ali), Sabi, Nyamanarr, Tabanding, Giboro, Darsilami, Kartong, and Dimbaya. The meetings were held between 11- 15 November 2024, with participation of 91 officials (79 M, 12 F) from GID, Gambia Police Force (GPF), Gambia Revenue Authority (Customs Department) (GRA), State Intelligence Services (SIS), Drug Law Enforcement Agency-Gambia

¹ The Border Management TWG functions under the overall National Coordination Mechanism on Migration, which is a government-led, inter agency platform to facilitate dialogue and cooperation among stakeholders on migration; enhance understanding on migration trends and dynamics; facilitate informed decision making and policy coherence; track progress in the implementation of migration related programmes; contribute to regional discourse on migration; and facilitate the implementation of continental and regional policies and protocols on migration at the national level. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad is responsible for convening meetings, coordinating activities of the NCM and overseeing the activities of the eight (8) thematic working groups on specific migration issues: Border Management; Communications and Advocacy; Cross-Cutting Issues; Internal Migration; Labour Migration; Migration Data, Policy and Legislation; Migration and Development; and Return and Reintegration

(DLEAG), Food Safety Authority, Planned Protection Services, Ministry of Health (MoH), Gambia Armed Forces (GAF), Department of Forestry and The Gambia Red Cross Society. The IABCC meetings are conducted on a quarterly basis to serve as a platform for stakeholders to discuss challenges, share best practices, and develop coordinated responses to border management issues. The meetings in November 2024 also included representation from regional governance authorities and structures such as Technical Advisory Groups (TAG), fostering a more integrated and participatory framework for border management.

Following the IABCC meetings, IOM also supported the GID with hosting the quarterly meeting for the TWG on Border Management on 22 November 2024. The meeting comprised of participants (20 M, 2 F) from 14 different institutions including GID, GPF, NAATIP, SIS, DLEAG, Gambia Commission for Refugees (GCR), GAF, Ministry of Interior (MOI), Gambia Red Cross Society (GRCS), National Youth Council (NYC), Department of Social Welfare (DSW), Ministry of Health (MOH), National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) and IOM. The meeting served as a platform to update the quarterly workplan of the TWG, review progress reports from IABCCs and discuss common challenges and solutions for strengthening and streamlining border management and security.

Activity 1.2.4 Train local authorities on accountability, governance, child protection & enhanced processes

To ensure that a child rights-based approach is mainstreamed in the government, law enforcement, and service providers' response to children on the move, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare (MGCSW) in conducting relevant training. On 12-13 June 2024, UNICEF supported the Directorate of Children's Affairs and Social Welfare under MGCSW to conduct a refreshment training for 40 local authorities (25 female, 15 male) in the Greater Banjul Area (GBA), including law enforcement and key stakeholders on the newest migration trends and response mechanism for children on the move.

Outcome 2: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

Output 2.1: Increased awareness among rights holders

Activity 2.1.1 Sensitize the community on the ECOWAS free movement protocol, border procedures & irregular migration, including trafficking in persons & smuggling of migrants

IOM supported the National Human Rights Commission with organizing the Fifth Edition of the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Human Rights Moot Court Competition with the key theme of Migration in December 2024. This prestigious event brought together 20 participants from ten universities across Africa, to foster dialogue on complex human rights issues in the context of migration and the role of legal advocacy. The competition showcased rigorous legal arguments based on hypothetical cases to be presented before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

On 18 December 2024, IOM in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad hosted a commemoration event for the International Migrants Day, to recognize the invaluable contributions of Gambian migrants to their communities and societies as well as implementation of the Recovery-focused National Development Plan (2022-2027). The event was held at the Ministry's premises and comprised of a photo exhibition showcasing stories of resilience and contributions of Gambian migrants. Continuing the International Migrants Day celebrations, the photo exhibition was transferred to Alliance Française de Banjul on 20

December 2024, to provide access to the public and to commemorate with CSOs, youth, academia and returning migrants.

Activity 2.1.2: Raise awareness among cross-border traders rights and opportunities under ECOWAS & AfCFTA

ECOWAS and AfCFTA Trade Guidelines

A new trade guideline for ECOWAS and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) has been developed with the support of the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, and Employment (MOTIE). The guideline has been officially endorsed and is now awaiting stakeholder validation. It is designed to simplify cross-border trade processes and improve business operations within The Gambia. This initiative represents a significant milestone in aligning The Gambia with broader ECOWAS and AfCFTA objectives, fostering economic growth, and promoting regional integration. In addition to the guide. In partnership with Ministry of Trade, 25 women led businesses were trained on the AfCFTA protocol on women and youth in trade in November 2025 to enhance their knowledge on the protocols and processes.

Activity 2.1.4: Sensitize parents, caregivers and community leaders on how to identify children on the move and protect them from violence, abuse and exploitation while referring/linking them to formal spaces

Children on the move face numerous challenges including exploitation, abuse, lack of access to social services. In its effort to protect children and prevent the prevalence of this phenomenon, UNICEF through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare conducted community sensitizations in the project targeted regions. Engaging with the communities is crucial in addressing these issues and ensuring the protection and well-being of these vulnerable children. The sensitization targeted parents, caregivers, Alkalos, Women groups and Village Development Committees where 220 female and 180 male were sensitized across the regions. During the engagement, participants reacted by raising concerns over the increasing number of children on the move specifically the unaccompanied. They highlighted the need to have a behavioural change to address the situation.

To further strengthen the work on children on the move in cross border town, UNICEF hosted a panel discussion with 200 adolescents through the Children National Assembly the Gambia (CNAG) on the risks of child trafficking and smuggling, focusing on unaccompanied and separated children. The event emphasized the theme "leaving no child behind in the fight against trafficking," highlighting the vulnerabilities of children with disabilities in migration contexts. Information on reporting trafficking and accessing government protection services was also provided.

In the efforts to improve capacities on human trafficking and ECOWAS Free movement among youth, UNICEF supported the Gambia National Youth Council in training 200 (124 male and 76 female) youth champions across 13 districts in the North Bank and Lower River Regions from April to May 2024. The training enhanced their understanding of migration, human trafficking, and ECOWAS free movement protocols. Empowered to be change agents, they will lead peer awareness sessions and collaborate with security and community leaders to prevent irregular migration and report trafficking cases.

Following the youth champion training, UNICEF supported a series of radio programs to promote safe migration, with five broadcasts in Soma, three in Kerewan, and two in Farafenni, coordinated by the Regional Youth Committee. The media engagement has an estimated number of 1,200 reached during the programs.

Additionally, UNICEF conducted 10 days community sensitization reaching 910 community members (388 female, 522 male) across the regions. The sensitization and awareness sessions were in the form of dialogues which target adolescent and youth to educate them about the rights and risks of children on the move. The engagement integrated sensitization activities into existing youth programs like the awareness and sensitization activities on the dangers and risks associated with migration that are been implemented by our Migration Information Centers (MICs) and schools which is enhancing the mainstreaming of child protection and migration issues.

Output 2.2: Strengthened protection and reporting mechanisms.

Activity 2.2.1 Train civil society partners & border authorities on the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for protection & assistance of vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking

For commemoration of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2024, IOM supported a panel discussion on 26 July 2024, bringing together 60 national authorities, civil society actors and community representatives to discuss protection of children against trafficking. Moreover, in partnership with National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons (NAATIP), IOM organized awareness raising workshops from 23 to 27 July 2024 in Soma, The Gambia. The workshops focused on strengthening identification, referral, and support mechanisms for child victims of trafficking, targeting 60 Majalis (religious schools) and communities along the Trans-Gambia corridor. Themed "Leave No Child Behind," the workshops comprised of discussions on topics such as identifying signs of trafficking, rights-based approaches to addressing the issues, available support mechanisms and role of community structures.

Similarly IOM contributed towards the UN Country Teams activities for the 16 Days of Activism 2024 campaign. This specifically included support for a workshop, organised in coordination with The Gambia Police Force Female Network (GPFFN), targeting security and the justice sector actors to enhance their understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) as well as to enhance dialogue on prevention and response efforts to addressing GBV in The Gambia. The workshop organised on 5 December 2024 also contributed towards drafting of concrete recommendations such as establishing specialized GBV units across all security agencies; conducting comprehensive trainings on GBV case management and survivor-centered practices; rolling out nationwide sensitization programs to reduce stigma and encourage reporting; allocating adequate funding for survivor support services, including safe shelters, counseling, and legal aid; enforcing strict implementation of gender-sensitive policies within security agencies and developing robust systems to track progress, identify gaps, and inform future interventions.

Utilising cost savings under this output, IOM organised the following three workshops to strengthen capacity of various stakeholders on implementation of the Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM):

- **Government counterparts (14 to 15 November 2024) (4 M, 11 F):** The workshop contributed towards improving understanding of government counterparts on commitments to the GCM, its implementation plan and identifying key gaps in terms of policy and governance on GCM and migration.
- **UN Country Team (18 to 19 November 2024) (6 M, 12 F):** The workshop brought together members of the UN Network on Migration in The Gambia to enhance their understanding of The Gambia's migration context, government's commitment to the GCM, role of UN Network on Migration, mainstreaming migration into the cooperation frameworks, M&E and Communication Plans and to identify joint programming ideas based on identification of key priority areas.
- **Civil Society (20 November 2024) (15 M, 7 F):** The consultative workshop sensitized civil society actors on their role in GCM implementation and devising concrete recommendations to implementing whole-of-society approaches to migration governance.

Activity 2.2.3: Create a safe space for women to share experiences

A Safe Space for Women has been constructed within the One-Stop Shop Entrepreneurship Centre and is directly linked to the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Center. This safe space is designed to serve as a secure, inclusive, and empowering environment where women can gather, learn, and access essential support services without fear or intimidation.

The facility includes a conference room that accommodates training sessions, awareness-raising activities, and capacity-building workshops on a range of topics including entrepreneurship, financial literacy, leadership, and GBV prevention. It also houses a dedicated administrative office to facilitate counselling services, case management, and referrals to specialized care and protection services when needed.

In addition to offering psychosocial support and professional guidance, the safe space will provide a platform for women to engage in meaningful dialogue on key socio-economic challenges affecting their lives and livelihoods. It fosters peer-to-peer learning and community solidarity, helping women strengthen their skills, build confidence, and access opportunities for personal and professional growth. The space will be fully operational in May 2025.

Activity 2.2.4: Improve the access to integrated social and child protection services and information on available safe migration options and risks of irregular migration for vulnerable children and youth

UNICEF through Peace Ambassadors The Gambia conducted regional engagements with media personnel and journalists across all the targeted regions. The program aimed to enhance media engagement in promoting youth and children's leadership and participation. The initiative addressed critical issues like children-friendly reporting, advocacy for youth leadership, and the importance of showcasing children's achievements and challenges in the media. A total of 100 media personnel i.e. 61 male and 39 female participated in the engagements.

During the engagement's the participants engaged in interactive discussions, and case study analyses. The facilitators prompted participants to reflect on their roles as journalists and their potential impact on children's lives through ethical reporting and media representation.

Outcome 3: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor demonstrate effective life skills and access to livelihood opportunities.

Output 3.1: Improved livelihood opportunities of informal cross-border traders

Activity 3.1.2 Provide entrepreneurship support for female informal cross-border traders

In June 2024, IOM concluded the transfer of small grants to 24 women cross border traders from Lower River Region (LRR) and North Bank Region (NBR). The beneficiaries were selected by a Grants Committee, comprising of various governmental and business organizations, that reviewed applications and selected 24 small businesses. ITC provided skills development and entrepreneurship trainings support to the beneficiaries while IOM processed the cash disbursement.

In October 2024, IOM contracted a consultant firm (The HUB) to monitor and evaluate efficient and effective utilisation of grants given to the women cross border traders. During the last quarter of November 2024, The HUB conducted initial site visits for inventory stocktaking and monitoring of financial record-keeping, to assess levels of financial literacy and impact of trainings provided. The monitoring activities are expected to be concluded during the first quarter of 2024.

In addition, IOM also supported strengthening of existing women-led small businesses in border communities of Dasilami and Misera. The support included construction of pavements for feed and groundnut processing units, digging of manhole for toilet facilities, provision of alternate power solutions including provision of solar power equipment.

Trade Information Office and Entrepreneurship Hub in Farafenni

In response to increasing demand from rural Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), as well as the Ministry of Trade, Regional Integration, and Employment's push to decentralize economic support services, the project implementation team, in collaboration with the UN Human Security Trust Fund (UNHSTF) project, worked closely with local government authorities to establish the first One-Stop Shop in rural Gambia. Under the leadership of GIEPA, engagements with the Governor's Office and the Area Council led to an in-kind contribution of land for the entrepreneurship hub. This local support not only optimized project resources but also fostered ownership and commitment from regional authorities.

The centre boasts a conference room, an innovation hub, shared office spaces for business support organizations, a business registration service, and a trade information desk specifically designed to support cross-border trade. Additionally, UNFPA collaborated by constructing a GBV Centre on the same site, enabling economic and social support services to be delivered in an integrated manner.

The construction of both centres utilized Compressed Stabilized Earth Blocks (CSEB), employing a cash-for-work model. This approach not only introduced environmentally sustainable building techniques but also provided local community members with income-generating opportunities while acquiring valuable skills in construction.

Output Indicator 3.2b: Number of women- and youth-friendly trade-related infrastructure (incl. storage, hygiene facilities) established

Activity 3.2.1 Establish infrastructure for storage and value addition of agricultural produce

Lumo Market for Cross border Traders

With the support of the project, the Farafenni Lumo (weekly market center) is being upgraded to enhance cross-border trade. The market, which attracts over 500 traders weekly, is undergoing infrastructural improvements, including 150 stalls, the construction of new office spaces for the local council and security services, as well as the installation of UNDP-supported storage and hygiene facilities. The construction is expected to be completed by May, after which the upgraded market will be officially inaugurated and operationalized. These enhancements will provide traders with improved facilities, thereby fostering economic growth and cross-border commerce.

Offer skills training in agriculture and entrepreneurship support for young people from border communities.

The Gambia Songhai Initiative (GSI) Agriculture Skills and Entrepreneurship Support Training – now in its 11th batch overall and 3rd for 2024 – is a comprehensive program aimed at empowering youth and women, particularly from the Upper Baddibou and Jarra West districts. Through hands-on training in sustainable agriculture and entrepreneurship, the initiative enhances participants' economic independence and social empowerment. The training is carefully structured to build practical competencies in gardening and poultry farming while also fostering essential business and leadership skills, enabling participants to improve their livelihoods and actively engage in community development.

The program, which ran from March to May 2024, was delivered in three key phases. The Market Gardening module (March 11–31) focused on sustainable vegetable production through training in bed preparation, composting, irrigation, and pest management. This was followed by the Poultry Farming component (April 1–21), which

introduced participants to brooding, feed formulation, incubation, and disease control to support egg and meat production. The final phase, Entrepreneurship Support (April 22–May 1), emphasized leadership, marketing, financial literacy, and business planning, empowering participants to establish and manage viable agricultural enterprises.

A total of 41 trainees participated in the program—28 females and 13 males—drawn from the North Bank Region (27 participants: 21 females, 6 males) and the Lower River Region (14 participants: 7 females, 7 males). By equipping these individuals with a balanced mix of technical and entrepreneurial skills, the GSI initiative contributes to improved economic resilience and self-reliance. More importantly, it strengthens their ability to access protection services, assert their rights, and contribute meaningfully to the local economy, paving the way for inclusive and sustainable community growth.

Construction of the hygiene facility at Missera Border Post

This hygiene facility project is part of a larger initiative to enhance safety, sanitation, and economic prosperity along the Trans-Gambia transport corridors. Designed to meet the diverse needs of travellers and border personnel, the facility includes separate male and female toilets, a baby changing area, shower units, and an ablution space. These features address the need for clean, safe, and accessible sanitation infrastructure, particularly for women, children, and youth, promoting their safety, comfort, and dignity in public spaces.

The facility contributes to creating a healthier, more welcoming environment for both travellers and residents. By improving hygiene standards and ensuring access to essential services, the project supports the area's transformation into a key transit hub. This, in turn, stimulates economic activities and trade, aligning with broader goals to improve the quality of life and economic prospects for women and youth in the region.

Construction of the hygiene facility has been fully completed, with all structural, water, and electrical systems successfully installed and tested. Bo-Line Construction Company led the construction, with oversight from a dedicated Design & Supervision Engineer to ensure adherence to quality standards and technical specifications. The project was executed on time and according to plan, delivering a fully functional and accessible sanitation facility that aligns with the initiative's objectives

Activity 3.3.1: Provide life skills training (incl. through sports, financial, digital skills) to women and young people

Hospitality Training Centre (HTC) in the Lower River Region

Like the OSSEC, the Hospitality Training Centre (HTC) in the Lower River Region was established through a collaborative effort involving local authorities, including the Area Council, which provided land; GALGA, which facilitated cooperation between the PMU and the Area Council; and the Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute (GTHI), which led the training programs. This initiative allowed women to earn temporary income while acquiring valuable skills in the hospitality sector.

Completed in December 2023 and officially launched in September 2024, the center is fully equipped with a teaching bakery, a professional-grade kitchen, and two classrooms featuring state-of-the-art learning materials, machinery, and tools. Jointly funded by the UNHSTF project, with MPTF covering 75% of the equipment costs, the HTC is designed to provide high-quality training aligned with industry standards and competencies.

Food Vendor Training in Hospitality

A total of 40 food vendors participated in a structured hospitality training program. The first cohort of 20 participants successfully completed food and beverage training, while the second batch of 20 food vendors is set to complete their professional training by the end of August 2024.

This training initiative was conducted in partnership with the Mansakonko Area Council and the Gambia Hotel Institute and incorporated mentorship programs for trainees. The training focused on enhancing food safety, hygiene standards, customer service, and business management skills, equipping vendors with the knowledge and competencies necessary to operate successfully in the hospitality industry

Activity 3.3.2: Establish and/or improve a youth centre in each of the priority districts

The project supported the refurbishment of both the Farafenni and Jarra Soma Youth Centres, giving the facilities a much-needed facelift and enhancing their appeal and accessibility to young people. These improvements have enabled youth to utilize the centres for a range of activities, including skills training, advocacy, and mentorship.

Since the refurbishment, the Jarra Soma Youth Centre has hosted five training sessions and several youth-focused meetings, demonstrating its renewed relevance and functionality. Meanwhile, the Farafenni Youth Centre is in the process of recruiting staff to manage and operate the facility. This effort is being jointly supported by other partners, including the Enable and Tekki Fii programs.

Activity 3.3.3: Connect women and youth to national networks and digital opportunities

Trade Fair Participation and Market Access

Through strategic partnerships with the Gambia Women's Chamber of Commerce and the Gambia Youth Chamber of Commerce, 12 cross-border traders were supported to participate in the annual Youth and Women Trade Fair. Prior to the fair, participants underwent training on packaging, marketing strategies, trade fair etiquette, and networking, ensuring they maximized their participation and business exposure.

Similarly, in collaboration with Women Buzz, another exhibition market was organized in Banjul for 20 cross-border traders. This initiative aimed to create new market opportunities, expand customer reach, and generate income to enhance business sustainability. Collectively, the two trade fairs facilitated business transactions amounting to \$15,000. Encouragingly, several participants proceeded to independently secure stalls at the GCCI Trade Fair, demonstrating the sustainability and impact of the support provided.

Results Stories

International Trade Centre, UNFPA, Mansakonko Area Council and Partners Launch Mansakonko Hospitality Training Center to Support Skills Development and Job Creation

Mansakonko, 11.09.2024 – The International Trade Centre (ITC) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in partnership with the Mansakonko Area Council, The Gambia Association of Local Government Authorities (GALGA) and the Government of The Gambia have officially launched the Mansakonko Hospitality Training Centre on 10 September 2024, in Mansakonko.

Built by ITC with funding from the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security and the United Nations Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund at a cost of six (6) million dalasi (\$87,000.00), the center aims to equip young Gambians with the relevant skills to enhance their employability while improving service delivery in the hospitality and tourism industry.

The funding covered the construction, furnishing and operationalisation of the center. Both the United Nations Human Security Trust Fund and the United Nations Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund projects aim to enhance economic and social opportunities for vulnerable groups affected by the construction of the Senegambia Bridge while addressing migration-related challenges.

The center offers in-demand courses, including Professional Cookery, Room Services and Food and Beverage Management. These courses are delivered through a partnership between the Mansakonko Area Council and the Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute (GTHI).

Since the completion of the center, over 65 young people from different communities have benefited from its training programs. In addition to receiving specialised training, the trainees underwent a two-month coaching period designed to improve their service delivery, enhance their livelihoods and create new job opportunities within the hospitality industry.

Yusupha Keita, Technical Adviser and Coordinator of Skills Development, International Trade Centre said: “The Mansakonko Hospitality Training Center represents far more than a training facility. It embodies our collective commitment to promoting human capital development, giving hope to young people & providing opportunities to people whose livelihood have been lost due to the construction of the bridge”

Hon. Landing Sanneh, Chairman of Mansakonko Area Council, shared: “The advent of the Mansakonko Hospitality Training Center will positively propel our ongoing efforts of changing Soma into a model rural green city, with exceptional local hospitality and a nature-friendly environment for all.” He added, “We are creating sustainable youth employment and local economic development through innovative quality hospitality services at the local level.”

Ms. Ndeye Rose Sarr, UNFPA Gambia Representative shared: "The Mansakonko Hospitality Training Centre's launch is a significant milestone in empowering youth, especially young women, with skills and opportunities for economic independence, addressing GBV and achieving sustainable community development. The Centre reflects UNFPA's commitment to zero GBV and ensuring that every young person has the opportunity to fulfill their potential

Hon. Mahamadou Ceesay, President of GALGA and Chair of the project’s steering committee said, “We happy to witness the launch of the Mansakonko Hospitality Training Centre, which marks its official opening to the public. We expect a great potential from this facility in providing hospitality training programs to young people thereby addressing the challenge of employment and skill acquisition.”

<https://www.intracen.org/es/node/400751>

Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Baseline	Results achieved for the reporting period (only provide data for the specified year)			Cumulative Results <i>Note: For Y1 report, this will be the same; For Y2 report, it will be Y1+Y2; and for Y3 report, it will be Y1+Y2+Y3</i>	Notes
		Y1	Y2	Y3		
OUTCOME1: Outcome 1: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.		0			0	N/A
Outcome Indicator 1a: % of targeted women, youth and children in Gambian border communities along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor reporting an improvement in conduct of duty bearers	Baseline: Highly Satisfactory (3.55%) Satisfactory (86.78%) Unsatisfactory (9.68%) Target: 70% (IOM & UNICEF)	0			0	N/A

Outcome Indicator 1b: % of trained border management personnel demonstrating an improved capacity on matters of cross border trade, migration and human rights.	Baseline: 38% Target: 70% (IOM)				0	N/A
Output 1.1: Better equipped border posts						
Output Indicator 1.1a: Number of border crossing points with enhanced infrastructure and border equipment facilities to facilitate safe and orderly flows of travellers in project region	0	1			1	The renovation work Misera along with Installation was completed in 2023.
Output 1.2: Improved knowledge and capacity of border authorities						
Output Indicator 1.2a: Number of border officials trained in MIDAS data management, document examination and protection of vulnerable migrants.	0	25		77	102	48 M, 15 F trained on MIDAS 12 M, 3 F trained on document security 3 participated in BMIC 1 participated in Regional LI consultation 13 M, 3 F consulted for LI consultations
Output Indicator 1.2b: Number of border officials with increased	0	110		40	150	

knowledge and understanding of child protection measures					110	
Outcome 2: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor claim their rights and utilise appropriate protection services and mechanisms.						
Outcome Indicator 2a: % of targeted women, youth and children in Gambian border communities along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor reporting readiness to utilise appropriate protection services and mechanisms	16.10% (6.50% male and 9.70% female)**	N/A			N/A	N/A
Indicator 2b						
Output 2.1: Increased awareness among rights holders						
Output indicator 2.1a: Number of community members (disaggregated by gender, age and district) with increased knowledge of rules,	0	106		20 200	326	20 participants (moot court competition train 200 (124 male and 76 female) human trafficking and ECOWAS Free movement

risks and rights relating to the movement of people and goods						
Output 2.2: Strengthened protection and reporting mechanisms				100	100	A total of 100 media personnel i.e. 61 male and 39 female participated in the engagement.
Output indicator 2.2a: Number of people trained/informed on the National Referral Mechanism and/or child protection services and safe migration options	0	138		60 Majalis and community representatives and 100 security sector actors	298	60 Majalis and community representatives on awareness raising activities and 100 security sector actors on GBV.
Output Indicator 2.2b: Reporting mechanisms on NTMs and/or harassment established	0	1			1	The Gender Information Management System was established in close collaboration with MoGCSW. The helpline was also launched and its operational
Outcome 3: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor demonstrate effective life skills and access to livelihood opportunities	0	0			0	
Outcome Indicator 3a: % increase in income reported by supported women and youth	Average monthly income (male D7,394 and female D3,860)	0			0	N/A

Output 3.1: Improved livelihood opportunities of informal cross-border traders				20	20	Professional Food Vendor Training provided to 20 Food vendors
Output Indicator 3.1a: Number of female informal cross border traders benefitting from entrepreneurship support	10	40		24	74	24 women given cash grants
Output 3.2: Enhanced livelihood opportunities in agriculture and agribusiness						
Output Indicator 3.2a: Number of community members (disaggregated by gender, age, and district) supported through skills training and entrepreneurship support	0	40		14 42 20	116	20 youth and Women completed Hospitality Training 42 youth and Women were trained with the support of Songhai. Additionally, fourteen (14) youth and women from the community of pakalinding
Output Indicator 3.2b: Number of women- and youth-friendly trade-related infrastructure (incl. storage, hygiene facilities) established	0	0		2	2	The one stop entrepreneurship center and hospitality training center are completed and operational
Output 3.3: Improved life skills and network access						

Output Indicator 3.3a: Number of youth-focused infrastructure (improved/established	0	0		1	1	The youth Centre completed and handed over.
Output Indicator 3.3b: Number of women and young people (disaggregated by gender, age, and district) connected to national networks and digital opportunities	0	20		18	38	10 Cross border Traders Participated in the GCCI Trade Fair and another 7 in the Women Boss organized pop up market in Banjul.

3. Partnerships

The joint programme follows a multi-stakeholder, whole-of society approach, building on partnerships with Government, civil society organisations, private sector and local authorities. Over the reporting period, the following key partners were established and strengthened.

Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment (MoTIE): MoTIE is one of the main government partners for the Joint Programme. MoTIE is the co-chair for the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) and as a result has been very involved in planning the Joint Programme launch. The Ministry is also the implementing partner and facilitators the raising awareness activities on the rights and obligations of ECOWAS and AfCFTA. Additionally, ITC is collaborating closely with MoTIE's regional integration directorate to strengthen the unit and programs.

Ministry of Interior: MoI has been leading the coordination with an oversight role in the Joint Programme. As a co-chair of the Project Steering Committee, MoI has taken a key leadership role. MoI is a key partner and beneficiary in the upgrading of the border post in Missira, introduction of MIDAS, and strengthening capacity development for border officials.

Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare: MoGCSW are the main Implementing Partner for UNICEF. The Ministry will be supporting the implementation of activities related to the creation of community child friendly spaces, leading the establishment of Regional Child Protection Committees within the two targeted regions and the overall strengthening of the child protection system.

Gambia Immigration Department: GID, established under the Immigration Act of 1965, is responsible for controlling, facilitation, monitoring, and regulating the entry, residence and exit of persons at entry points in The Gambia. GID is part of the steering committee providing operational advice and a key implementing partner for the awareness raising activities on the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol as well as the MIDAS upgrade and refurbishment work at Misera.

Kerewan Area Council

Partnered with the council to facilitate the upgrade of the Farafeni Lumo to ensure cross border Traders have access to safe and comfortable markets and hygiene facilities to facilitate Trade

Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency

The program partnered with GIEPA for the provision of Trade facilitation office at the One stop Entrepreneurship Centre in Farfeni. This help cross border Traders to be supported with access to relevant information for the cross-border trade

Gambia Songhai Initiative and PUMP

GSI and PUMP supported the project to introduce and scale up the Dual-purpose poultry Birds in the Gambia which has facilitated livelihood lifeline for youth and Women in the targeted regions.

National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons: NAATIP forms a key member of the project steering committee-providing strategic operational advice on activities relating to trafficking in person and organized crime. As a way of strengthening institutional capacity and sustainability beyond the project, NAATIP is involved in awareness raising activities with IOM and UNICEF in decentralizing the operationalization of the National Referral Mechanism on the Protection of Vulnerable Migrants including Victims of Trafficking which forms a core part of the Joint Programme.

Department of Community Development: is a key Partner for UNICEF in implementing activities targeted at the strengthening the decentralized structures for coordination of the child protection case management system. Overall, this Department provides technical support to communities, building their capacities and supporting the local governance structure.

National Youth Council (NYC): UNICEF has worked with NYC to implement awareness raising and sensitization activities on the opportunities and risks of unsafe child migration as well as informing the communities on the available child protection services along the migratory routes.

Gambia Women Chamber of Commerce: GWCC is a key partner in implementing a range of activities, including awareness raising, work addressing harassment at borders, the connection to national networks, and the provision of entrepreneurship training for women. The chamber will incorporate the cross-border training participants as members. The joint programme will work closely to strengthen the institution and improve support services offered by GWCC.

Gambia Youth Chamber of Commerce: GYCC is another key partner in implementing a range of activities including awareness raising, networking/B2B programs and provision of entrepreneurship training- Similar to GWCC, youth participants and young entrepreneurs has been connected to GYCC as members.

Local Programme Committees: The joint programme established two local programme committees in each of the two priority districts comprising of representatives from local governments, the two district chiefs, border authorities, CSOs and private sector (regional chapters of GWCC and GYCC). The main role of the LPC is to provide district-level oversight and to ensure continuous engagement of the local community and to ensure transparency. The LPCs partner closely with the joint programme during the planning stage of each of the activities and provide critical on-the-ground guidance to the programme management team.

Peace of Mind: PoM is a mental health and psychosocial support organisation that specializes in professional counselling, psychotherapy and rehabilitation programs for children and adults in The Gambia to conduct a needs-based assessment for establishing a safe space in Farafenni for victims of gender-based violence.

Woman Boss: The Woman Boss is a female-focused business support organisation that supports women and young girls through innovation, entrepreneurial learning and leadership skills that partnered with to support 10 women led enterprises through this Drill Accelerator Program.

UN Human Security Trust Fund Project: The Localizing SDGs – Improving the livelihoods of vulnerable women and youth around the Senegambia Bridge project is a two-year project is funded by the United Nations Human Security Trust Fund and implemented by ITC and UNFPA. It will support communities and people around the Senegambia bridge to cope with adverse shocks while creating pathways for women and youth to take advantage of new opportunities. The JP complements this existing initiative which supports the entrepreneurship ecosystem in the target regions along the Trans-Gambia Corridor.

Service agreement Mansakonko Area Council and Gambia Hospitality Training Institute

In the efforts to make the Hospitality training Centre sustainable and fully maximize, service agreement was signed with GTHI to operate and manage the Centre. This was a great milestone and boost to ensure youth have more opportunity to acquire marketable skills.

Implementation Agreements

Name & Type of Partner	Type of implementation agreement (please specify if any MOU or agreement was formally entered)	Relevant outcome and/or output; PUNO counterpart	Financial value (if any)
Local government and/or related entities			
<i>Name of partner</i> <i>Type of partner</i>	N/a		
<i>Name of partner</i> <i>Type of partner</i>	N/a		
Non-governmental stakeholders			

4. Cross-Cutting Issues

The Joint Programme is built on a human rights-based approach across its three key outcomes. Under outcome 1, it focuses on strengthening the capacities of duty-bearers to fulfil their obligations. Outcome 2, led by ITC and UNDP in collaboration with MoTIE, centers on raising awareness and building the capacities of rights-holders to understand and claim their rights under ECOWAS and AfCFTA frameworks. Outcome 3 provides targeted skills development, livelihoods, and entrepreneurship support to women and youth, aiming to enhance their well-being, economic resilience, and access to rights-based services. A core element of the programme's sustainability is the active involvement of beneficiaries in decision-making through Local Programme Committees, ensuring continuous consultation, transparency, and access to information throughout implementation.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are central to the programme, with deliberate efforts to address barriers to gender responsiveness and promote equal representation in activities and leadership roles, including women serving as chairpersons of both Local Programme Committees. The programme also integrates child protection measures, with specific training for border officials to enhance their ability to engage with children in ways that safeguard their dignity, resilience, and well-being. By embedding child rights considerations at all stages of implementation and monitoring, the Joint Programme contributes to long-term societal benefits, fostering inclusive development and strengthening the foundations for sustained economic growth.

Constraints, Adjustments, Lessons and Good Practices

The construction of the Farafenni Lumo market infrastructure, including hygiene and storage facilities, has encountered significant delays. These delays stemmed primarily from the need for an extended consultation process with community members to ensure the design and layout met local needs and expectations. While this participatory approach was critical in fostering local ownership and ensuring long-term sustainability, it resulted in longer-than-anticipated planning timelines. Following the consultations, the procurement process also contributed to delays due to the time required to adhere to strict compliance and transparency standards. Additionally, the onset of heavy rains in July and August further disrupted construction activities, making it impossible to meet the initially projected completion timelines.

Lessons learned from this process highlight the importance of early and proactive community engagement that is well-planned and time-bound, ensuring local input without significantly delaying project timelines. Furthermore, procurement planning should factor in contingencies for potential delays, and seasonal considerations must be

integrated into project scheduling. Future projects should also explore parallel processing — where design consultations and procurement preparations happen simultaneously — to mitigate cumulative delays. Finally, stronger coordination mechanisms with local authorities and service providers can help fast-track decision-making and responsiveness in addressing unforeseen challenges.

Conclusion and Next Steps

The third year of the MMPTF project marked significant progress in advancing child protection, migration management, human rights promotion, and economic empowerment in the targeted regions. Through strong collaboration between Participating UN Organizations, government institutions, and civil society, the project delivered impactful interventions that strengthened institutional capacities, empowered vulnerable populations, and fostered inclusive livelihood opportunities. Despite challenges encountered, the lessons learned continue to inform adaptive strategies for improved service delivery and sustainability. As the project move closer to the end , these achievements lay a solid foundation for deepening partnerships, scaling successful initiatives and addressing migration vulnerabilities.

The following actions are planned for 2024

Outcome 1: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

NA

Outcome 2: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

- Handing over of the completed Safe Space facility to GIEPA is scheduled for 23rd April 2025

Outcome 3: Outcome 3: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor demonstrate effective life skills and access to livelihood opportunities.

- During the next reporting period, IOM will conclude the monitoring and evaluation activities to assess impact of small grants provided to women cross border traders.
- Completion of the second phase of the Lumo is scheduled for 20th May 2025
- A joint monitoring visit is scheduled for 20th April to visit all project sites and interact with beneficiaries

ANNEX

Annex 3: Relevant Intervention Supporting Documents, Reports, Photos and Media Links

1. Outcomes and Outputs of the Joint Programme

Overall objective: Increased safety and prosperity of youth and women in the border communities along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor		
Outcome 1: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.	Outcome 2: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor claim their rights and utilize appropriate protection services and mechanisms.	Outcome 3: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor demonstrate effective life skills and access to livelihood opportunities.
1.1 Better equipped border posts	2.1 Increased awareness among right holders	3.1: Improved livelihood opportunities of informal cross-border traders
1.2 Improved knowledge and capacity of border authorities	2.2 Strengthen protection and reporting mechanisms	3.2: Enhanced livelihood opportunities in agriculture and agribusiness
		Output 3.3: Improved life skills and network access

2. Relevant Supporting Documents, Reports, Photos and Media Links

Outcome 1: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

Activity 1.2.2 Train border officials on: MIDAS use, document security, fraud detection & protection of vulnerable migrants

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1829098913539776950>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1863526309214695511>

<https://x.com/IOMROWCA/status/1861785622412701916>

Activity 1.2.3 Strengthen inter-agency border coordination committees

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1858839271760646187>

Outcome 2: Border authorities at key border posts of the Trans-Gambia transport corridor effectively facilitate safe and orderly migration for women and youth.

Activity 2.1.1 Sensitize the community on the ECOWAS free movement protocol, border procedures & irregular migration, including trafficking in persons & smuggling of migrants

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1869414519837254129>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1870025174067613928>

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=585614714162118&id=100081407829206&_rdrActivity

2.2.1 Train civil society partners & border authorities on the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for protection & assistance of vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1864642368529395853>

<https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/un-country-team-trains-security-sector-on-gender-based-violence>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1862437429157769467>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1859539106683858987>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1857395690214707342>

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1816854468882764269>

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/new-centre-tackles-social-economic-challenges-for-gambian-youth-and-women>

Outcome 3: Women and youth along the Trans-Gambia transport corridor demonstrate effective life skills and access to livelihood opportunities.

<https://www.intracen.org/es/node/400751>

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/gambian-women-see-new-opportunities-at-trade-fair>

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/new-centre-tackles-social-economic-challenges-for-gambian-youth-and-women>

https://x.com/ITC_Gambia/status/1834232068194062469

<https://www.intracen.org/es/node/395748>

Activity 3.1.2 Provide entrepreneurship support for female informal cross-border traders

<https://x.com/IOMGambia/status/1803029769639891442>

https://x.com/ITC_Gambia/status/1735227454883615204

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/gambian-women-see-new-opportunities-at-trade-fair>

https://x.com/ITC_Gambia/status/1826251580733366554

<https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/d2-7m-grant-to-women-cross-border-traders>

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/gambian-women-receive-40000-to-improve-cross-border-trade>

[GSI Graduates 11th Batch with Over 80 Students in Poultry Production, Vegetable Gardening, More | By The Fatu Network | Facebook](#)

https://x.com/ITC_Gambia/status/1834232068194062469

<https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/news/new-centre-tackles-social-economic-challenges-for-gambian-youth-and-women>

https://x.com/ITC_Gambia/status/1834232068194062469

Site Photos



Annex 1: Photos



