

**PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT**  
**COUNTRY:** The Gambia  
**TYPE OF REPORT:** SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:  
**semi-annual**  
**YEAR OF REPORT:** 2020



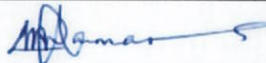

<b>Project Title:</b> Increased Women and Youth Participation in decision-making processes and as agents of community conflict prevention													
<b>Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:</b> PRF 00113368													
<b>If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund  <b>Name of Recipient Fund:</b>	<b>Type and name of recipient organizations:</b>  <b>please select</b> United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (Convening Agency) <b>please select</b> United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) <b>please select</b> <b>please select</b>												
<b>Date of first transfer:</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> December, 2018 <b>Project end date:</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2020 <b>Is the current project end date within 6 months?</b> Yes													
<b>Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project													
<b>Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):</b> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Recipient Organization</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>UNFPA</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 930,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UNICEF</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 370,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total: \$ 1,300,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 68.10%</p> <p><b>*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE*</b></p>		Recipient Organization	Amount	UNFPA	\$ 930,000.00	UNICEF	\$ 370,000.00		\$		\$		Total: \$ 1,300,000.00
Recipient Organization	Amount												
UNFPA	\$ 930,000.00												
UNICEF	\$ 370,000.00												
	\$												
	\$												
	Total: \$ 1,300,000.00												
<b>Gender-responsive Budgeting:</b>  Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: US\$604,907.00 Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment: US\$451,589.79													
<b>Project Gender Marker: GM2</b> <b>Project Risk Marker: Low</b> <b>Project PBF focus area: 2.3 Conflict Prevention/Management</b>													

**Report preparation:**

Project report prepared by: Lamin CAMARA

Project report approved by: Kunle ADENIYI

Did PBF Secretariat review the report: Yes

### **NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:**

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
- *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*

### **PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

Briefly outline the **status of the project** in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):

Despite a seemingly slow start, project preparatory activities have been completed. A PBF Project Manager has been hired from May 2020 to support implementation and coordination of all PBF Projects for UNFPA and similarly, the Gambia National Youth Council capacity has been strengthened with the acquisition of a PBF Coordinator to support them in managing the youth partners they work with. This has increased our technical oversight initiatives. The baseline study is finally completed in May 2020 and the findings has helped in strengthening the project indicators as well as inform strategic planning for the remaining part of the project. Collaboration and partnership between the implementing agencies and the partners has also been strengthened with review meetings, orientation and reflection sessions which identified best practices and lessons learned from 2019 activity implementations. Capacity of implementing partners was also assessed and training needs identified and conducted to support effective and efficient programme implementation and management.

Progress registered included the strengthening of platforms and mechanisms that facilitate dialogue sessions and improve coordination on peacebuilding, participation of women and youth in decision making and strengthened engagement for social cohesion. Structures such as the Children's National Assembly of The Gambia (CNAG) was established while the National Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security and National Youth Parliament were strengthened.

Overall, interactions with partners and participating communities indicate a high understanding of the importance of participation of women and youth in decision making and the practise of basic principles of peacebuilding to enhance social cohesion which is reflected in the baseline study report.

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**Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000 character limit):**

Covid-19 has changed the context of programme implementation and we have been able to slowly adapt to our new realities to inform programme implementation to achieve project results. In view of this, programme implementation will continue with a series of virtual interactions with partners and communities to implement outstanding project activities thus observing and respecting social distancing principles especially for activities that cannot take place virtually. The final child-friendly material is planned for the second half of 2020 to coincide with the resumption of schools.

Data will be generated and programme implementation including information sharing guided by continuous utilization of technology (U Report platform) and a new app being developed named “Suma Tyme” from UNFPA core resources to engage adolescent and youth on various issues including peacebuilding and to allow them to participate in national discourse. Mobile technology and social media platforms will continue to be used to find out whether adolescent and youth can demonstrate understanding of the different levels of decision-making process within Government including decentralized structures.

Community reflection sessions will be jointly planned between UNICEF and UNFPA to find out how project participants are utilizing knowledge and skills acquired from the project in promoting inclusion and maintenance of peace in their communities. A plan for this will be developed and shared with the PBF Secretariat

Based on Government guidance, the biennial National Youth Conference and Festival will be conducted to discuss youth issues including their leadership and participatory role in decision-making processes. The Women’s Bureau will follow up with the ten political parties that had earlier committed to develop a roadmap for the inclusion of women and youth in political decision making and leadership. Additional resources will be committed to also commit the remaining political parties that were registered after the completion of this intervention.

**FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to.** This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500 character limit):

The project has supported the institutional and capacity strengthening of the National Youth Parliament through establishing secretariats in four regions which has helped them in coordination efforts and provided space for youth leadership and participation in decision making processes at the regional level. The Gambia National Youth Council and some of its member organisations have received capacity assessment and got training which has helped in improving the operations of these organisation and has led to better reporting both financial and narrative.

The establishment of the Children’s National Assembly has helped strengthen interface between children representatives and policy makers including Cabinet Minister, National Assembly Members and Local Government Authorities.

In a few sentences, explain whether the project has had a positive **human impact**. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):

The project has positive human impact as demonstrated by comments during reflection sessions in several of the communities where it was implemented. In Jappineh, the mothers’ club members demonstrated human impact as *“I can understand that decision making is important, and everyone should be involved but due to our culture and tradition, most of the time husbands decide and we follow. Influencing such decisions is seen as disobeying culture and traditional values and women don’t want to be seen acting in such manners as you can even lose your marriage”*.

As obvious from most of the consultations conducted to enhance women's participation in decision making, most women leaders at grassroots level are only utilized as mobilizers for voters (local government and national election), cheerleaders and appointed as councillors for ceremonial purposes. However, with capacity building from this project, women are resolved to change this unfortunate status quo. A lady Councillor from Jimara in the Upper River Region said *"We have been clapping for male politicians for so long, we now have splits in our hands. It should no longer continue, because we need better representation"*

Another lady Councillor from the Central River Region explains how women especially female leaders can promote peace-building in their communities by saying *"earlier this year, in my community, a man came to seek help from me to restore peace in his home as his wives keep malice"*

As evidenced by the impact of the trainings and interactions with community members in various regions, a female teacher shared the following story: *"One member of a group was insulting the student in the other group and insisted that she will fight her. All these students walk distance to get home, who knows if they had fought what would have happened. I intervened by calling the two and spoke to them in private, then I kept one with me to stay behind while I asked the other student to go home. I even threatened them that I would report the matter to the school principal the next day if I heard they had got into any fight with each other. If it were not the training, I would ignore such matters, thinking it does not concern me not knowing such incidents can lead to serious problems where even families can be involved"*.

Another one said, *"My daughter told me that one of her classmates stopped coming to school because the parent wanted to give her hand in marriage. I mobilized the club members and went to the house of the girl and engaged both father and mother. It was tough but at the end we were able to convince them to allow the girl to continue her education"*.

The project has had some influence in the lives of the communities, institutions and beneficiaries. For instance, during the inter-party engagement conducted in 2019, it was highlighted that the inter-party committee in LRR and CRR have never had a meeting nor any inter-party interaction to bring about social cohesion but since the interaction through this project, they have started having some engagements to build peace among party members <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4YzqRbIAZ0>

Similar sentiments were also expressed by Nenneh Jallow woman at Jarra Soma [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmmziqBy0\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmmziqBy0_g)

Again, the intercultural art fair has exposed participants to other ethnic cultures. Angelic Mendy, a teacher explained that she learned that all her students should be treated equally no matter their ethnic background. *"My students have now told me to perform the cultures in the school to educate my colleague"* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmmziqBy0\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmmziqBy0_g)

## **PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME**

*Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration). Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a*

*difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.*

- *“On track” refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.*
- *“On track with peacebuilding results” refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.*

*If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.*

**Outcome 1: Youth and Women participate in decision-making and early warning processes at national, regional and community levels that provide peace, inclusiveness and national ownership**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track**

**Progress summary: (3000 character limit)**

Decentralized structures were revitalized and strengthened, (2 Technical Advisory Committees comprising 35 members each, 2 Multi-disciplinary Facilitation Teams comprising 40 members each in the two regions), District/Ward Development Committee (D/WDC) and Village Development Committees (VDCs) in LRR and CRR. During a reflection session with Department of Community Development, it was revealed that there is the need to conduct a mapping to determine their existence, functionality, governance structure etc. The mapping will inform the capacity needs in order to strengthen and improve governance modalities such as representation and term limit. As part of these efforts, training materials were developed including Interpersonal skills, Participatory Rural Appraisal and tools for developing a community Action plan. In consolidating the importance of women and youth inclusion, participation in decision making and collective action in maintaining peace and ownership at community level, the project supported the continuous participation of youth (5 representatives) and women (6 representatives) in coordination meetings, field monitoring of various community projects implemented by different Government and Civil Society Organizations, regional strategic plan development and community mobilization particularly during COVID-19 prevention and response. The capacities and mentorship for 50 aspiring female candidates was built ahead of the 2021-2023 electoral cycle in increasing women participation in decision making and also to serve as agents of community conflict prevention. This mentorship and capacity building programme has empowered women to make commitments to engage in political decision making and leadership instead of merely serving as cheerleaders. The Children National Assembly of the Gambia trained and engaged children and adolescents in participating in virtual learning sessions and providing basic information on building resilience to prevent and reduce violence during COVID-19 as schools are closed. 100 women from mother clubs where the project is implemented engaged in promoting peace and sensitizing women on their role in keeping their children safe during the COVID-19. The U-Report platform mobilized and engaged more than 10,000 adolescents and youth in decision making processes. The platform was used to find out the level of understanding of adolescents and youth in preventing COVID-19 and their perception of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education virtual learning lessons was also measured. Early warning tools were developed, which will be used by community monitors for early warning reporting. The capacity of a pool of trainers in early warning peacebuilding and dispute management processes was built. 13 women and youth were trained in WCR, URR and GBA. A youth beneficiary from the training of trainers in the month of May 2020 established ‘Peace Hub The Gambia’ a

peace building and social cohesion network, which seeks to create a conducive environment for youth and women in peacebuilding, social cohesion and reconciliation to support and strengthen the gains of the Gambia's transitional Justice processes.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:**

*(1000 character limit)*

Gender equality, women empowerment and youth inclusion were ensured under this outcome through activities focusing on women groups such as mothers club. These clubs are 100% women and they engage women in communities, female students in schools. For youth inclusion, selection is based on gender (60 percent female and 40 male) in all activities. The Children National Assembly has 56 females and 49 males representation. These includes children and youth with special needs.

**Outcome 2: National and local level leaders including elected representatives promote women and youth participation in decision making and peacebuilding for social cohesion**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track**

**Progress summary: (3000 character limit)**

Through effective continuous engagement of women and youth at community level the following were achieved in advancing community initiatives geared towards improving lives:1) 900 women and 100 youths were engaged to lead COVID-19 response efforts by working with local governments in mobilizing and sensitizing communities on the preventive measures while reminding parents and adults of their primary duties and responsibilities towards children. 2) women and youth mobilized and initiated local initiatives geared towards maintaining social cohesion and COVID-19 prevention and response activities.3) In LRR and CRR where the project is implemented 90 women and 100 youth participated in community mapping for social protection interventions and provided support towards distribution of the relief to the needed families. Current and former female National Assembly members are serving as mentors to young women aspiring to elected leadership positions. This further strengthens and promote the participation of women and youth in decision-making and peacebuilding efforts.

In the two regions (LRR and CRR) where project implementation has taken place, local leaders have been engaged on the rights of women and young people to participate in decision making processes. These included Chairpersons of Area Councils, National Assembly Members, Councillors and Chiefs and Alkalolu including the WDC and VDC. Some of the leaders have started consulting and involving youth and young women into community actions and decision making.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:**

*(1000 character limit)*

During the implementation of these activities, gender equality was based on percentage representation approach (60 percent female and 40 male). This is to give women the opportunity to participate and get involved in activities. Giving women opportunity to

participate by sharing their opinion/views is a form of empowering them. For youth, the same approach is applied just to give female youth more opportunities to participate and get involved in community actions.

**Outcome 3:**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:**  
*(1000 character limit)*

**Outcome 4:**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome:**  
*(1000 character limit)*

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

<p><b>Monitoring:</b> Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)</p> <p>A baseline survey has been conducted to guide the revision of indicator baselines at the outcome and possibly output levels as well as ensure alignment of any future project.</p> <p>A pool of media practitioners were trained to conduct community level perception polling through focused group discussions at local bantabas and street interviews in three administrative regions within the Greater Banjul Area (Banjul, Kanifing Municipality and West Coast Region). The survey captured the views of the</p>	<p>Do outcome indicators have baselines? yes</p> <p>Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? yes</p>
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<p>selected communities on democracy, peacebuilding, social inclusion and gender equity.</p> <p>Overall sixty-five (65) representatives of youth, women, migrant returnees, persons with disability and local authorities participated in the survey.</p>	
<p><b>Evaluation:</b> Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? no</p>	<p>Evaluation budget (response required): US\$20,000.00</p> <p>If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations <i>(1500-character limit)</i>:</p> <p>Consultations have commenced with the PBF Secretariat to initiate the processes for the conduct of an evaluation for the project especially in the context of Covid-19. An initial terms of reference is being drafted for review by the Secretariat to ensure compliance with PBF guidance on end of project evaluations.</p>
<p><b>Catalytic effects (financial):</b> Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project.</p>	<p>Name of funder:            Amount:</p>
<p><b>Other:</b> Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	

**PART IV: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

*Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)*

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
<b>Outcome 1</b> Youth and women participate in decision-making and early warning processes at national, regional and community levels that promote peace, inclusiveness and national ownership.	Indicator 1.1 % of VDCs/WDCs that meet the 30% quota for women's representative	TBC	TBC		Project is supporting local Government Authorities on revitalizing VDCs/WDCs through mapping, training and technical support for dysfunctional structures to be functional. This support includes the review of the Local Government Act	The baseline study report has indicated that males predominate the VDCs with 68.1% representation as opposed to women with 31.9%. This actually higher than the outcome indicator. However, since the baseline was conducted later than the project commencement, it is not clear if this was as a result of contributions from the project. The evaluation should be able to ascertain this.
	Indicator 1.2 # of women and youth trained on	11	50	24		

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Indicator Milestone</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>
	early warning systems who also serve as community monitors					
	Indicator 1.3 % of women who believe women should be given equal opportunities to participate in politics	88	90		This indicator is on track and the end project target will be ascertained by the end project evaluation	
Output 1.1 Women and youth are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making	Indicator 1.1.1 # of surveys and needs assessment conducted	0	2	1	A baseline study has been conducted and the report validated. The in-depth findings and recommendations will strengthen the indicators as well as help refocus the project implementation for the remaining duration	An endline is planned. However, since there is supposed to be an end project evaluation, guidance will be sought from the PBSO whether the endline is necessary taking into consideration that the baseline was late

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Indicator Milestone</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>
processes at all levels	Indicator 1.1.2 # of youth mobilized and sensitized on the importance of participation in decision making processes	0	2000	1601	This intervention is on track. 36 youth were mobilized and sensitized together with 24 local leaders during the reporting period	
	Indicator 1.1.3 # of institutional mechanisms supported for the participation of young people in policy dialogue and programming, including peacebuilding processes	0	3	5	This indicator has been fully achieved	
	Indicator 1.1.4 # of youth engaged in	0	50	105	A Children's National Assembly has been established with a membership of	

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Indicator Milestone</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>
	mentorship programmes with Village Development Committees/War Development Committees in target regions.				105- 15 from each of the 7 regions. The Assembly has 56 female and 49 male.	
Output 1.2 Women are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making processes at all levels	Indicator 1.2.1 # of women trained and participating in decision making processes	0	50	171	During the period under review 60 women politicians were trained on participation and leadership	
	Indicator 1.2.2 # of functional community based early warning system in target regions	0	4	4	Indicator fully achieved	
	Indicator 1.2.3 # of WIPNETs and Mother's Clubs	0	4	30	Indicator fully achieved. The WIPNETS will be further strengthened to further support	

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Indicator Milestone</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>
	established and promoting peace in target regions				women leadership and participation in decision making processes	
Output 1.3 Women and youth are supported to participate in ongoing national processes including legal, legislative, constitutional and other transitional reforms at all levels	Indicator 1.3.1 # of youth trained and participating in decision making processes	0	20	77	Indicator fully achieved. Project will further assess the level of engagement and participation of youth after the trainings. There is a need to establish what has changed	
	Indicator 1.3.2 # of child/youth friendly educative materials used by young people in their advocacy processes	0	3	2	The final child-friendly material is planned for the second half of 2020 to coincide with the resumption of schools	
	Indicator 1.3.3 # of women and youth that participated in	0	400	660	This is fully achieved. However, project will try to strengthen this	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	legal and transitional reforms				especially in the ensuing constitutional reform and electoral processes	
	Indicator 1.4.2					
<b>Outcome 2</b> National and local leaders including elected representatives promote women and youth participation in decision making and peacebuilding for	Indicator 2.1 Legislation enacted prescribes quota representation of women in electable offices (i.e. National Assembly, Area Councils and Municipal Councils)	No	Yes	N/A	Project partners will continue their advocacy at all levels to ensure that these reforms happen at all levels. Progress will be evaluated at the end of the project	
	Indicator 2.2					
	Indicator 2.3					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
social cohesion						
Output 2.1 National and local leaders including political parties recognize and accept the importance of youth and women's participation in decision making	Indicator 2.1.1 # of local leaders mobilized and sensitized on the importance of women and youth participation in decision making	0	400	779	During the period under review, 6 interface dialogue sessions were conducted each of which had the participation of 1 alkalo, 1 chief, 1 ward councillor and 1 VDC Chair	
	Indicator 2.1.2 # of community dialogue sessions supported	0	20	42	This indicator has been achieved. However, UNFPA and UNICEF have plans to conduct Community reflection sessions to find out how such initiatives and the knowledge and skills acquired from	



	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
					them have been utilized in promoting inclusion and maintenance of peace in the various communities	
Output 2.2 National and local leaders promote and facilitate the involvement of women and youth in ongoing national processes and reforms	Indicator 2.2.1 # of national leaders sensitized on the need for youth and women inclusion in ongoing legal reform processes	0	400	275	This is on track	This activity is on track. Was put on hold during the first part of the year due to Covid-19. However, activity will be conducted by the National Council on Civic Education starting in July 2020.
Output 2.3	Indicator 2.3.1					
	Indicator 2.3.2					
Output 2.4	Indicator 2.4.1					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Indicator Milestone	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
	Indicator 2.4.2					
<b>Outcome 3</b>	Indicator 3.1					
	Indicator 3.2					
	Indicator 3.3					
Output 3.1	Indicator 3.1.1					
	Indicator 3.1.2					
Output 3.2	Indicator 3.2.1					
	Indicator 3.2.2					
Output 3.3	Indicator 3.3.1					
	Indicator 3.3.2					
Output 3.4	Indicator 3.4.1					
	Indicator 3.4.2					

	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Indicator Baseline</b>	<b>End of project Indicator Target</b>	<b>Indicator Milestone</b>	<b>Current indicator progress</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)</b>
<b>Outcome 4</b>	Indicator 4.1					
	Indicator 4.2					
	Indicator 4.3					
<b>Output 4.1</b>	Indicator 4.1.1					
	Indicator 4.1.2					
<b>Output 4.2</b>	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
<b>Output 4.3</b>	Indicator 4.3.1					
	Indicator 4.3.2					
<b>Output 4.4</b>	Indicator 4.4.1					

Annex D - PBF project budget - Increased Women and Youth Participation in Decision-Making Processes and as Agents of Community Conflict Prevention

Note: If this is a budget revision, insert extra columns to show budget changes.

Table 1 - PBF project budget by Outcome, output and activity

Outcome/ Output number	Outcome: output: activity formulation:	Budget by recipient organization (not including staff, general operating costs and indirect fee) - Please add a new column for each recipient organization - UNFPA	Budget by recipient organization (not including staff, general operating costs and indirect fee) - Please add a new column for each recipient organization - UNICEF	Percent of budget for each output reserved for direct action on gender equality (if any):	Level of expenditure/ commitments in USD (to provide at time of project progress reporting): UNFPA	Level of expenditure/ commitments in USD (to provide at time of project progress reporting): UNICEF	Any remarks (e.g. on types of inputs provided or budget justification, for example if high TA or travel costs)
<b>OUTCOME 1: Youth and women participate in decision-making and early warning processes at national, regional and community levels that promote peace, inclusiveness and national ownership.</b>							
<b>Output 1.1:</b>	<b>Youth are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making processes at all levels</b>						
Activity 1.1.1:	Evidence generation for programming e.g research, surveys etc	\$68,000			\$23,149		
Activity 1.1.2:	Social mobilization and capacity building for youth networks and organisations.	\$80,000			\$110,894		
Activity 1.1.3:	Establish/strengthen children and youth parliament	\$25,000	\$30,000		\$79,448	\$45,829	
Activity 1.1.4:	Support young people to promote participation in politics and decision making processes.	\$40,000			\$16,993		
Activity 1.1.5:	Promote use of technology and innovations for information sharing by youths	\$50,000	\$45,794		\$49,018	\$30,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$263,000</b>	<b>\$75,794</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>\$279,501</b>	<b>\$75,829</b>	
<b>Output 1.2:</b>	<b>Women are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making processes at all levels</b>						we would like to utilize funds from this output to offset the over-expenditure in output 1.1
Activity 1.2.1:	Support the capacity building of women and the Women's Council to promote participation in politics and decision making processes.	\$80,000			\$43,153		
Activity 1.2.2:	Support the establishment of community based early warning systems	\$30,000	\$50,000		\$9,568	\$0	
Activity 1.2.3:	Support women including mothers clubs to promote dialogue and conflict mediation at all levels	\$40,000	\$40,000		\$28,474	\$31,087	
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$81,195</b>	<b>\$31,087</b>	



Indirect support costs (7%)		\$60,841	\$24,206		\$60,841	\$24,206
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:</b>		\$930,000	\$370,000	70%	\$614,090	\$271,274

68.10%

## **Annexe 1: Links**

Participants who have voted in the 1996 referendum explain that they voted but they did not know what they were voting. Thus, this activity provides them information on referendum and its purpose.

<https://twitter.com/ActivistaGambia/status/1263524008626176000>

<https://twitter.com/ActivistaGambia/status/1262366797480804352>

<https://twitter.com/ActivistaGambia/status/1262344801325928456>

<https://gambia.unfpa.org/en/news/advancing-women-and-youth-participation-decision-making-during-covid-19-and-beyond>

<https://gambia.unfpa.org/en/news/women-leadership-pathway-advancing-sustainable-peace-and-human-rights>

<https://twitter.com/thinkyoungwomen/status/1269959372295340032?s=21>

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# Youth Review of the Draft CRC Constitution

30th November, 2019 at GFF Football Hotel

Old Yundum

## Activity Report





## **Background**

The Gambia National Youth Council with support from UNFPA through the UN Peace building Project organized a day long Youth Review on the Draft CRC Constitution. The activity brought together 200 participants from national youth organizations, regional and district youth committees from all the 7 administrative regions of The Gambia.

The participants were divided into 20 groups and each group review one chapter of the draft constitution to identify gaps and proposed suggestions/recommendations. In the end, a position paper was produced and submitted to CRC for consideration.

# **YOUTH POSITION PAPER: ON ISSUES RELATING TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION**

**Submitted to Constitutional Review  
Commission (CRC)**

Rights stipulated in the draft Constitution	What is the concern about the provision?	What suggestions/amendments are being proposed?
<b>Chapter 1: The Republic and Sovereignty of the People</b>	This section is okay as it is. We believe there is no need to include secularism in the constitution. However, the rights of the minority must be seen to be protected.	We propose that, there should be an additional clause to bar the President from declaring the country as a religious state.
<b>ChapterII: The Constitution and the Law</b>	This chapter is okay as it is.	
<b>Chapter III: National Values and Principles</b>	This chapter is okay as it is.	
<b>CHAPTER IV: CITIZENSHIP</b>		
<p><b>Citizen by birth</b></p> <p>14. (1) Every person born in or outside The Gambia after the coming into force of this Constitution shall become a citizen of The Gambia at the date of his or her birth if, at the time of his or her birth, one or both of his or her parents or grandparents is or was a citizen of The Gambia.</p> <p>(2) A person who, prior to the coming into force of this Constitution, was a citizen by descent, is a citizen by birth.</p>	<p>We are concerned that the draft Constitution only caters for citizenship by birth (S.14.1), citizenship by registration (s.15) and citizenship by naturalisation (s.16). There is no provision for citizenship by descent. S.14(2) in fact gives automatic citizenship by birth to all those who are currently citizens by descent. We think S.14(2) will become problematic in the future as it would allow current citizens by descent, when they become citizens by birth, transfer citizenship to their children who would not have any affinity to the Gambia.</p> <p>We wish to propose that S.14(2) of the draft Constitution be removed and replaced by Section 10 of the 1997 Constitution</p>	<p>We propose that S.14(2) of the draft Constitution be deleted and replaced with Section 10 of the 1997 Constitution which reads as thus:</p> <p><b>S.10: Citizen by Descent</b></p> <p>A person born outside The Gambia after the coming into force of this Constitution shall be a citizen of The Gambia by descent if at the time of his or her birth either of his or her parents is a citizen of The Gambia otherwise than by virtue of this section or any comparable provision of any earlier Constitution.</p>

	<p><b>Dual citizenship</b>  <b>17.</b> A citizen of The Gambia by birth may hold the citizenship of any other country in addition to his or her citizenship of The Gambia.</p>	<p>We are concern of dual citizens holding public offices in the Gambia</p>	<p>We recommend that people with dual citizenship do not serve in any public office (President, Minister, Permanent Secretary, head of the judiciary, Chief Justice, Head of Public Enterprise/agencies, service chiefs, National Assembly Member, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Mayor, Chairperson of Area Council and Councillors)</p>
<b>CHAPTER V: LEADERSHIP AND INTEGRITY</b>			
<p><b>Financial probity of public officers</b>  <b>S. 25. (1)</b>  (b) in the case of a public official in the service of a Civil Society Organisation, be handed over to the organisation for the benefit, and in furtherance of the objectives, of the Organisation.</p>	<p>This provision needs to be made clearer..... 'public officials' in the service of "Civil Society Organisations" is not covered in the interpretative section of the constitution.</p>	<p>We suggest that the provision be read as follows (delete the word 'public'):  <b>Financial probity of public officers</b>  <b>25. (1)</b>  (b) in the case of an <b>official</b> in the service of a Civil Society Organisation, be handed over to the organisation for the benefit, and in furtherance of the objectives, of the Organisation. Or to remove civil society.</p>	
<b>CHAPTER VI: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS</b>			
<p><b>Freedom of expression</b>  <b>S.44.</b>  (2) The right to freedom of expression does not extend to -  <b>(c) the uttering of abusive or threatening</b></p>	<p>This subsection has the potential of undermining and restricting the enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression. It can also be used to silence dissent and prone to misuse especially against political opponents.</p>	<p><b>We propose that this subsection (S.44 (2)(c) be deleted.</b></p>	

<p>speech or writing that causes feelings of ill-will, disaffection or hostility;</p>	<p><b>Rights of children</b> 54. (2) Children under the age of sixteen years are entitled to be protected from economic exploitation and shall not be employed in or required to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.</p>	<p>This subsection S.54(2) does not protect children who are above 16 years and under 18 years. Protection from economic exploitation should cover all persons under the age of 18 years.</p>	<p><b>We propose that this subsection reads as thus:</b> (2) Children under the age of eighteen years are entitled to be protected from economic exploitation and shall not be employed in or required to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.</p>
<p><b>Right to fair labour practices</b> 58. Every person has the right to fair labour practices, including the right to form, join, participate, and organise a trade union.</p>	<p>We need to expand the right to fair labour practice to include fair remuneration, reasonable working condition and the right to strike in accordance with the labour</p>	<p><b>We propose this section to be written as thus:</b> (1) Every person has the right to fair labour practices. (2) Every worker has the right — (a) to fair remuneration; (b) to reasonable working conditions; (c) to form, join or participate in the activities and programmes of a trade union; and (d) to go on strike.  (3) A person shall not be dismissed from employment for exercising the right in 2 (d)</p>	

<p><b>Economic and social rights</b></p> <p><b>60.</b> (1) Every person has the right-  (a) to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care;  (b) to accessible and adequate housing, and to reasonable standards of sanitation;  (c) to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality;  (d) to clean and safe water in adequate quantities; and  (e) to social security.  (2) A person shall not be denied emergency medical treatment.</p>	<p>Key rights stipulated in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are the rights to work, equal pay for equal work without discrimination and rest and leisure. Section 60 as it is does not include the rights mentioned above.</p>	<p><b>We propose this section to be written as thus:</b></p> <p><b>Economic and social rights</b></p> <p><b>1.</b> Every person and employee has the right -  (a) to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care; <b>(b) to work, and shall receive equal pay for equal work without distinction of any kind.</b>  (c) to accessible and adequate housing, and to reasonable standards of sanitation;  (d) to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality;  (e) to clean and safe water in adequate quantities; and  (f) to social security.  <b>(g) to rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and periods of holidays with pay, as well as remuneration for public holidays.</b>  (2) A person shall not be denied emergency medical treatment.</p>
<p><b>Right to development</b></p> <p><b>64.</b> (1) All peoples have, and every person has,</p>	<p>Youth who constitute a greater percentage of marginalised groups are being left out in the 'special</p>	<p><b>We propose the insertion of the word 'youth' immediately after the word 'women' in subsection 64(2)</b></p>

<p>a right to development, and to the enjoyment of economic, social, cultural and political development.</p> <p><b>(2) Women, children and persons with disabilities shall be given special consideration in the application of the rights referred to in subsection (1).</b></p>	<p>consideration' referred to in subsection 64(2). It should be noted for example that a nineteen year young man could be more vulnerable than thirty year woman. He should also benefit from the special considerations stipulated in subsection 64(3):</p> <p><i>The special consideration referred to in subsection (2) shall include equality of opportunity for all in their access to basic resources, education, health services, food, shelter, employment and infrastructure.</i></p>	<p><b>The proposed new subsection would read as thus:</b></p> <p><b>(2) Women, youth, children and persons with disabilities shall be given special consideration in the application of the rights referred to in subsection (1).</b></p>
<p><b>CHAPTER 7: REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE</b></p> <p><b>S.73: The right to be registered and to vote ...</b></p> <p>4) The registration of voters shall cease six months before any public elections.</p>	<p>The cessation of the registration of voters six months before any public elections has the potentiality to exclude young people who might turn 18 years five months before a public election.</p>	<p>We propose an amendment to this subsection to read as thus:</p> <p><b>Subsection 73(4)</b></p> <p>4) The registration of voters shall cease <b>two months</b> before any public election.</p>
<p><b>Section 82: Political Parties</b></p> <p>(2) Every political party shall—</p> <p>(g) ensure that <b>at least ten percent</b> of candidates for election to the National Assembly are youth;</p>	<p>Considering that youth constitute about seventy percent of the population of The Gambia and by extension the majority in political parties, ten percent of candidates of elections to the National</p>	<p><b>The registration shall all persons who will be 18years on the date of the election.</b></p> <p><b>New provision to read as thus: Political Parties</b></p> <p><b>82.</b></p> <p>(2) Every political party shall—</p> <p>(g) ensure that <b>at least thirty percent</b></p>

	<p>Assembly is disproportionately low. This percentage, as a quota, should be increased to 'at least thirty percent' to reflect the demographic reality of the country and political parties.</p>	<p>(30%) of candidates for election to the National Assembly are youth;</p>
<p><b>CHAPTER VIII: EXECUTIVE</b></p>		
<p><b>Qualifications for election as President</b></p> <p><b>91. (1)</b> Subject to section 92, a person is qualified for election as President if he or she –</p> <p>(b) has, on the date of nomination for election of President, <b>attained the age of thirty years;</b></p>	<p>Considering that youth constitute about seventy percent of the population of The Gambia, putting the age at which one can become President of The Gambia at thirty years would significantly exclude a greater portion of the youthful population of a country whose median age is 19.9 years. We propose that the age one has to attain to become President be reduced to 21 years. (21 years is the proposed age one has to attain to become a Minister or a member of the National Assembly)</p> <p>Putting the age for presidency at the age 30, NAM at 21 shall disenfranchise young people. Thus, once one is eligible to vote at the age of 18, one should be eligible to be voted for. Thus, this eliminate the issue of minimum and maximum age limit to be a president.</p> <p>We are of the view that 12 years</p>	<p><b>We propose an amendment to this subsection 91(1) (b)</b></p> <p><b>The new provision to read as thus:</b></p> <p><b>91. (1)</b> Subject to section 92, a person is qualified for election as President if he or she –</p> <p><b>(b) has, on the date of nomination for election of President, attained the age of 21 years;</b></p> <p><b>The age for qualification for presidency, and NAM should be at 18 years. Where this is impossible, the minimum age should be align to that of NAM and Ministerial position – 21. If one is qualified to be a National Assembly Member, such individual is qualify to be a president.</b></p>
<p><b>Qualifications for election as President</b></p>		<p><b>We propose for amendments to</b></p>

<p><b>91.</b> (f) holds a minimum of an undergraduate degree plus five years' work experience after the date of attaining that degree; or</p> <p>(g) holds a minimum of a senior secondary school certificate or its equivalent plus twelve years' work experience after the date of attaining that certificate.</p>	<p>and 5 years work experience for grade 12 and undergraduates respectively has the potential to disenfranchise many young people who formed the majority of the voting population. Furthermore, the section doesn't make provision for young people with diploma qualifications including HTC and PTC. Thus we recommend for the reduction of the numbers of years require as workexperience and to also cater for those with diploma certificates.</p>	<p><b>subsections 91 (f) and (g) and added a new subsection</b></p> <p><b>The amendments to read as thus:</b></p> <p>(f) holds a minimum of an undergraduate degree plus <b>one year work experience</b> after the date of attaining that degree; or</p> <p><b>f) holds a diploma plus two years' work experience after the date of attaining that degree; or</b></p> <p>(g) holds a minimum of a senior secondary school certificate or its equivalent plus <b>three years' work experience</b> after the date of attaining that certificate.</p>
<p><b>Disqualifications for election as President</b></p> <p><b>92. (1)</b> A person is disqualified for election as President if he or she –</p> <p>(f) has, within ten years immediately preceding the date of nomination for election as President, uttered any statement to cause feelings of ill-will, disaffection or hostility between different classes or ethnic groups of The Gambia;</p>	<p>It's our contention that ten years is too long a period to serve as a disqualification for election as president, and the decision of such disqualification should be place on a competent court of law to determine.</p>	<p><b>Disqualifications for election as President</b></p> <p><b>92. (1)</b> A person is disqualified for election as President if he or she –</p> <p>(f) has <b>been adjudged, within three years</b> immediately preceding the date of nomination for election as President, <b>to have uttered any statement to cause feelings of ill-will, disaffection or hostility</b> between different classes or ethnic groups of The Gambia;</p>
<p><b>Qualifications and disqualifications of Ministers</b></p> <p><b>114. (1)</b> A person is qualified to be appointed a Minister if he or she –</p>	<p>We are of the view that 8 years proven work experience as qualification for Minister will exclude young people from securing such appointments.</p>	<p><b>Qualifications and disqualifications of Ministers</b></p> <p><b>114. (1)</b> A person is qualified to be appointed a Minister if he or she –</p>



<p>(c) has attained a qualification at tertiary education level and can speak and write the English language well;</p> <p>(d) has proven experience of not less than eight years from the date of earning the qualification mentioned in paragraph (c);</p>		<p>(c) has attained a qualification at tertiary education level and can speak and write the English language well;</p> <p>(d) has proven experience of not less than two years from the date of earning the qualification mentioned in paragraph (c);</p>
<p><b>CHAPTER IX</b></p>		
<p><b>Establishment and composition of the National Assembly</b></p> <p><b>134. (1)</b> There is established the National Assembly of The Gambia.</p> <p><b>(2) The National Assembly shall comprise the number of persons specified in Schedule 2, representing the constituencies therein specified.</b></p>	<p>Considering that youth constitute about seventy percent of the population of The Gambia, their voice and interests should be catered for in the legislative processes, just like those of persons with disabilities and women. The provisions in the current Schedule 2 have marginalised youth representation in the Legislature despite comprising the majority of the population and the vulnerable groups</p>	<p><b>We propose that Schedule 2 be amended to include '2 youth to represent the young people of The Gambia and elected by the National Youth Council</b></p> <p><b>Schedule 2 (d) to read as thus:</b></p> <p>Two (2) youth, a male and a female, elected by young people through the National Youth Council</p>
		<p>Amend Section 142(3) to insert 'National Youth Council'</p> <p>Section 142(3) to read:</p> <p>The registered voters of a constituency, administrative area, the national federation representing persons with disabilities or the <b>National Youth Council</b>, as the case may be, may initiate the recall</p>

		<p>of their member of the National Assembly by petition in writing –</p> <p>Amend Section 142(4)(a) and insert 'National Youth Council</p> <p><b>Section 142(4)(a) to read</b></p> <p>(a) verify that the petitioners are registered voters of the constituency or administrative area concerned, or are entitled, as registered voters, to vote in the federation representing persons with disabilities or <b>National Youth Council</b></p>
<p><b>CHAPTER X: JUDICIARY</b></p> <p>System of local government S.202 (2)</p> <p>Local Government Authorities established under this Constitution shall reflect the following features-</p> <p>(d) a minimum of ten percent of the members of representative bodies in the local government area shall be Youths</p>	<p><b>We are fine with this chapter</b></p> <p><b>CHAPTER XI: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND DECENTRALISATION</b></p> <p>Considering that youth form about 70 per cent of our population, we are of the opinion that this subsection should be amended to reflect that reality. Instead of a representation to be determined in terms of percentage of the total, we propose that it be stated in numbers, a male and a female youth representative.</p>	<p><b>We propose an amendment to this subsection to read as thus:</b></p> <p>d) at the minimum, a male and female youth representative shall sit in all representative bodies in the local government area</p>
<p>Chapter 12</p>	<p><b>We are fine with this chapter</b></p>	
<p><b>CHAPTER XIII: PUBLIC FINANCE</b></p>		

<p>Section: 236. (1) (b) (iii)</p> <p><b>236. (1)</b> The following principles shall guide the Government and all public institutions, including persons dealing with the Government and such public institutions, in order to ensure the proper management of the public finance system in The Gambia –</p> <p>(b) the public finance system shall be directed towards the development of The Gambia, and in particular -</p> <p>(iii) all expenditure shall be directed towards the development of The Gambia, and special provision shall be made for marginalised groups and disadvantaged areas;</p>	<p>We are of the opinion that the term 'marginalized groups' and 'disadvantaged areas' are somewhat vague and would require better clarification. Who decides who is 'marginalised' or what area is 'disadvantaged'?</p>	<p>We propose that the terms 'marginalised groups' and 'disadvantaged areas' are interpreted or further clarified in the Constitution to avoid possible abuse and favouritism by public officers in the identification of the marginalised groups and disadvantaged areas. Or that they be mentioned and interpreted in an Act of the National Assembly example an 'Equality Act'.</p>
<p>Section 237. (2) (h)</p> <p><b>237.</b></p> <p>(2) The following criteria shall be taken into account in determining the additional funding to be made by the Government to Local Government Authorities –</p> <p>(h) the need for affirmative action in respect of marginalised groups and disadvantaged areas;</p>	<p>Like in Section 236 (1) (b) (iii), we are of the opinion that the term 'marginalized groups' and 'disadvantaged areas' are somewhat vague and would require better clarification. Who decides who is 'marginalised' or what area is 'disadvantaged'?</p>	<p>We propose that the terms 'marginalised groups' and 'disadvantaged areas' are interpreted or further clarified in the Constitution to avoid possible abuse and favouritism by public officers in the identification of the marginalised groups and disadvantaged areas. Or that they be mentioned and interpreted in an Act of the National Assembly example an 'Equality Act'.</p>
<p><b>243 (2)</b></p> <p><b>243.</b></p> <p>(2) This section applies to the offices of—</p>	<p>It is our opinion that Section 243(2) does not seem to envisage future creation of Independent bodies. We are concerned that if new</p>	<p>To avoid amending the Constitution every time a new Independent Institution is formed, we wish to suggest the addition of 'paragraph j' to the list this subsection</p>

<p>(a) the President and the Vice-President;  (b) the Speaker;  (c) a judge of a superior court;  (d) a member of the Independent Boundaries and Electoral Commission;  (e) the Auditor-General;  (f) the Ombudsperson;  (g) the National Human Rights Commissioners;  (h) the Anti-Corruption Commissioners; and  (i) the Director of Public Prosecutions.</p>	<p>Independent bodies are formed they will not be mandated to access funding from the Consolidate Revenue Fund. We wish to suggest the addition of an omnibus clause which would address the issue of independent bodies whenever they are created.</p>	<p>applies  (j) any other independent body created under this Constitution</p>
<p><b>245. (1)</b> The National Assembly may, by resolution supported by the votes of not less than one half of all the members, authorise the Government to enter into an agreement for the granting of a loan out of any public fund or public account.</p>	<p>The number is small and the President often has a majority in parliament. Then all loans will be passed by the NA. We believe the threshold should be higher.</p>	<p>We propose that the percentage be changed to two-third of the votes.</p>
<p><b>246. (1)</b> An Act of the National Assembly shall set limits on –  (a) borrowings by the State;  (b) the public debt; and  (c) debts and obligations whose payment or repayment is guaranteed by the State.</p>	<p>We are concerned that this section mandates the National Assembly to pass an Act which would set the limit on State borrowings and the public debt. However, it does not set or place a time limit within which the National Assembly</p>	<p><b>We propose an amendment to this Section to read thus:</b>  <b>246. (1) Within a year of the coming into force of this Constitution, an Act of the National Assembly shall set limits on –</b>  (a) borrowings by the State;  (b) the public debt; and</p>

		should pass such an Act. We think a time limit should be specify, to obligate the National Assembly pass this Act. .	(c) debts and obligations whose payment or repayment is guaranteed by the State
248 (9) New provision or subsection		We are of the view that the Constitution only requires public consultation at the Draft Estimate level. However, being the second most important document after the Constitution, we think the public's concerns and priorities must be considered from the outset and included at the budget formulation stage.	We are proposing a new subsection, S.248(9) to read thus:  At Call Circular stage, Ministries shall consult beneficiaries on project performance of the previous year and plans for the coming year, and concerns of the beneficiaries must be reflected in each Ministry's budget.
Expenditure before annual budget is passed  249 (3) New provision or subsection.		We observed that the Draft Constitution does not place any deadline on the National Assembly within which it is to pass a budget. Fundamentally, the question we asked is this: in case there is a deadlock on the national budget between the National Assembly and the President what happens?  The Draft Constitution places no deadline on the National Assembly to pass a budget. In case there is a	To ensure there is a time limit within which the budget is passed by the National Assembly, we wish to propose a new subsection (9) in Section 249 to read thus:  249(9)  In any case if the budget is not passed three (3) months into the new financial year, the National Assembly must either adopt the previous year's budget or approve a budget agreed with the Finance

	deadlock what happens?	Minister.
<p><b>Establishment and composition of the Commission</b></p> <p>253. (1) There is established the Land, Environment and Natural Resources Commission.</p> <p>(2) The Commission shall comprise the following persons, who shall be appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the National Assembly-</p> <p>(a) a Chairperson, who is, or is qualified to be appointed as, a judge of the Supreme Court (in addition to the qualifications set out in section 255);</p> <p>(b) a Legal Practitioner of not less than ten years standing;</p> <p>(c) a person with qualification in a field of study, and not less than ten years' experience, in land administration, planning and survey;</p> <p>(d) a person with qualification in a field of study, and not less than ten years' experience, in natural resources management; and</p> <p>(e) a person with qualification in a field of study, and not less than ten years' experience, in environmental management</p> <p><b>Chapter 15 (The Public Service)</b></p>	<p><b>Chapter 14</b></p> <p><b>We see this to be not youth friendly and recommend it to be more youth friendly by having a youth rep in the commission.</b></p>	<p>We propose that the compositions of the commission should consider youth representation.</p>
	<p><b>We are fine with this chapter</b></p>	

Chapter 16 (National Security)	We are fine with this chapter	
Chapter 17 (National Youth Development)	The section is not specific on who the government will consult with on behalf of the youth	
<p><b>S296.</b> The Government shall, in any matter concerning the development of policies and decision making relating to or affecting the youth specifically, consult the youth to receive their opinions on such policies and decisions.</p>	<p>We recommend that the section specifically stipulates who will be consulted in regards to these matters. And on this we suggest that the consultation be done with youth representatives of the various regions through the NYC.</p> <p><b>We are fine with this chapter</b></p>	<p><b>We propose an Amendment to this section 296 to reflect as follows:</b>  The Government shall, in any matter concerning the development of policies and decision making relating to or affecting the youth specifically, consult the youth, <b>through the national youth council and give due considerations</b> to their opinions on such policies and decisions.</p>
Chapter 18 (The National Council for Civic Education)	<b>We are fine with this chapter</b>	
Chapter 19 (Amendment of this Constitution)	We are fine with this chapter	
Chapter 20 (Miscellaneous)	We are fine with this chapter	
<b><u>WE PROPOSE THAT A CHAPTER BE ADDED BEFORE CHAPTER 18 TO INCLUDE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL IN THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION AS STATED BELOW:</u></b>		
<b>THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Establishment and composition of National Youth Council</b>		
<p>(1) There is established the National Youth Council.</p> <p>(2) The National Youth Council shall comprise a Chairperson and female representative appointed by the President and seven other members elected by young people from the seven administrative regions. The members of the National Youth Council shall be appointed for a term of three years, subject to renewal of one more term only.</p>		

### **Qualifications and disqualifications**

The qualifications and disqualifications of members of the National Youth Council to be prescribed by an Act of Parliament.

### **Functions of the National Youth Council**

The functions of the National Youth Council are:

- (a) To inform and advise the Government on all matters affecting the youth;
- (b) To serve as the main channel of communication between the youth and the Government, and between youth groups and development partners
- (c) To register, deregister, and discipline youth groups
- (d) To conduct research on youth matters
- (e) To mobilize resources for youth empowerment and development in The Gambia
- (f) Supervise and coordinate the regional, district, ward and village youth committees as well as the national and community base youth organizations
- (g) Plan and implement national youth programmes and youth friendly centres in The Gambia and
- (h) Any other functions prescribed by an Act of the National Assembly.





# **Media Practitioners Perception Survey on Democracy, Peacebuilding, Gender Equity and Social Inclusion**

**Held in Communities of Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama**

**December 2019**

## **Activity Report**

**NYC-UNFPA PBF Media Practitioners Perception Survey 2019**



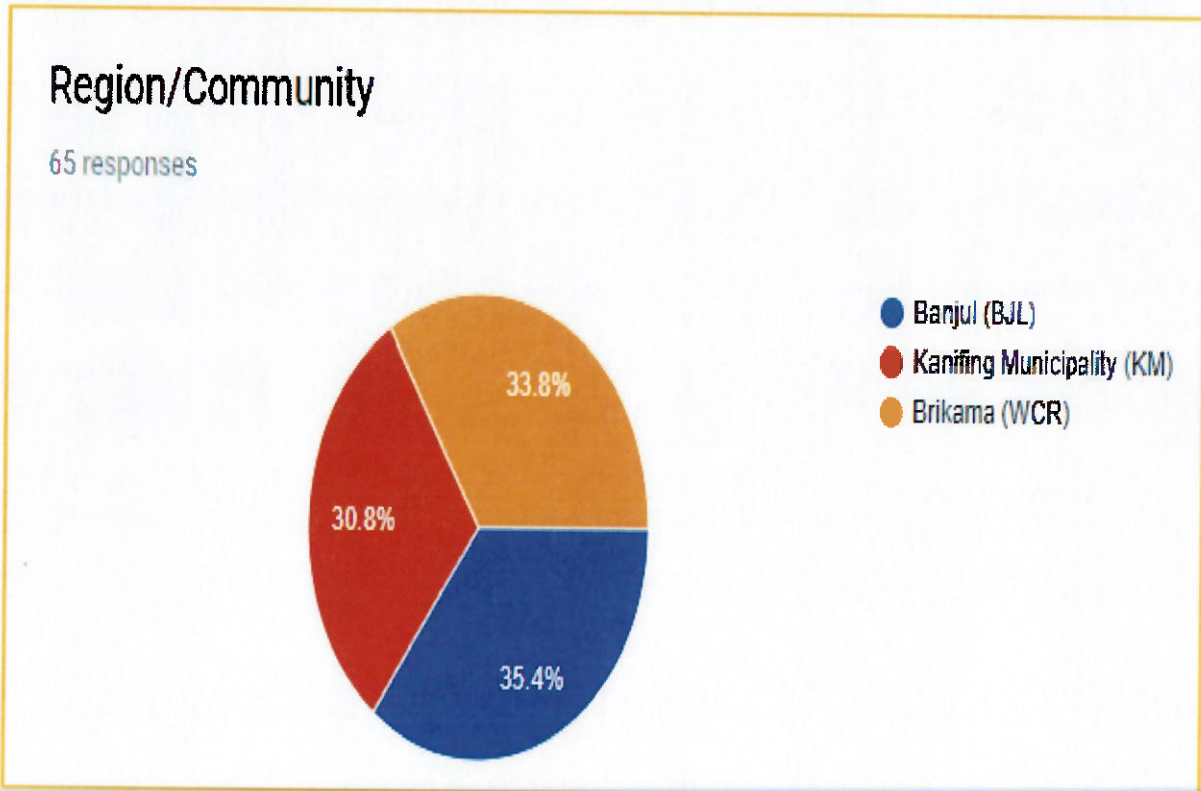
## Background

This survey was conducted by media practitioners trained by Peace Ambassadors The Gambia with the support of UNFPA through the UN Peace building Project. It covered three (3) administrative regions within the Greater Banjul Area (Banjul, Kanifing Municipality and West Coast Region) and captured the views of the selected communities on democracy, peacebuilding, social inclusion and gender equity.

Overall sixty five (65) representatives of youth, women, migrant returnees, persons with disability and local authorities participated in the survey.

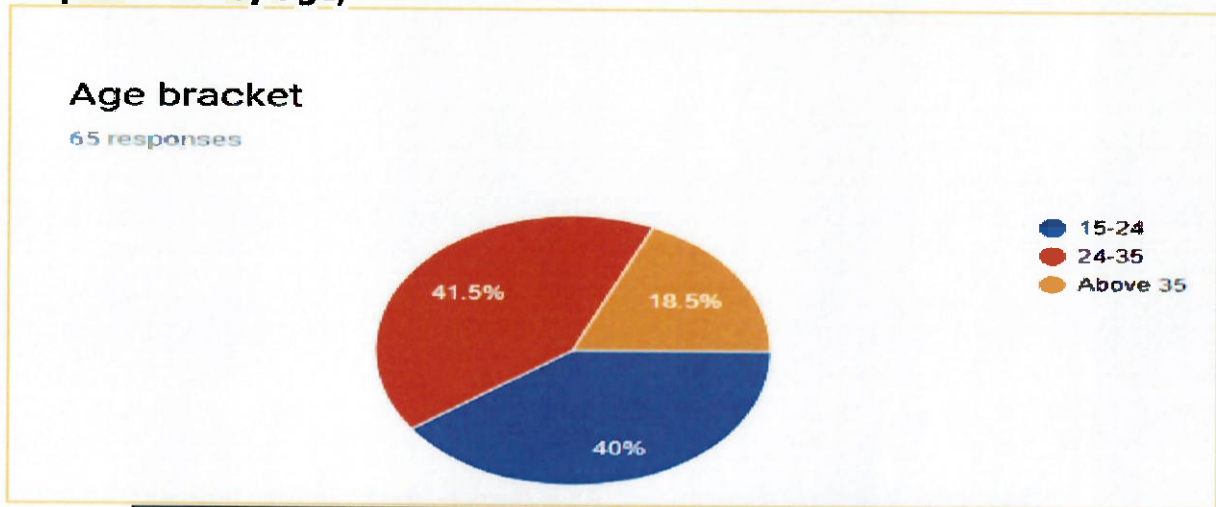
## Summary report

The chart below shows the number of participants per community.



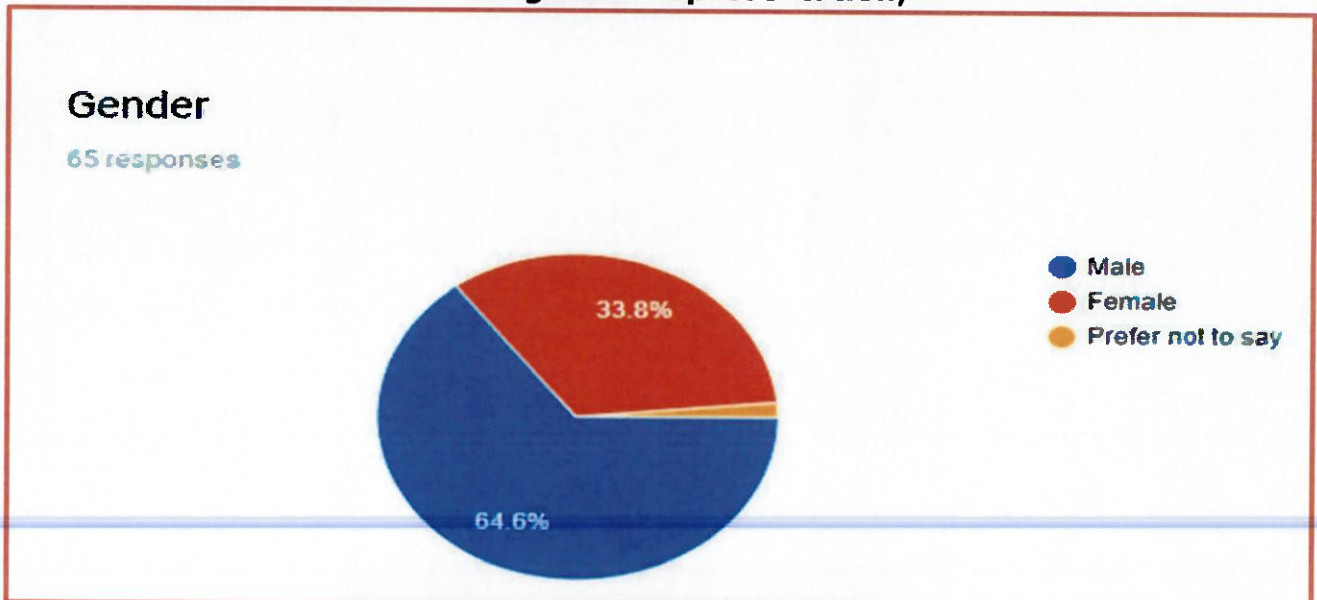
Region/Community	Number of Respondents	Percentage
<b>Banjul</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35.4%</b>
<b>Brikama</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33.8%</b>
<b>Kanifing</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30.8%</b>

In terms of age bracket, the chart below shows number of respondents by age;



Age	Number of respondents	Percentage
15-24	26	40%
24-35	27	41.5%
Above 35	12	18.5%

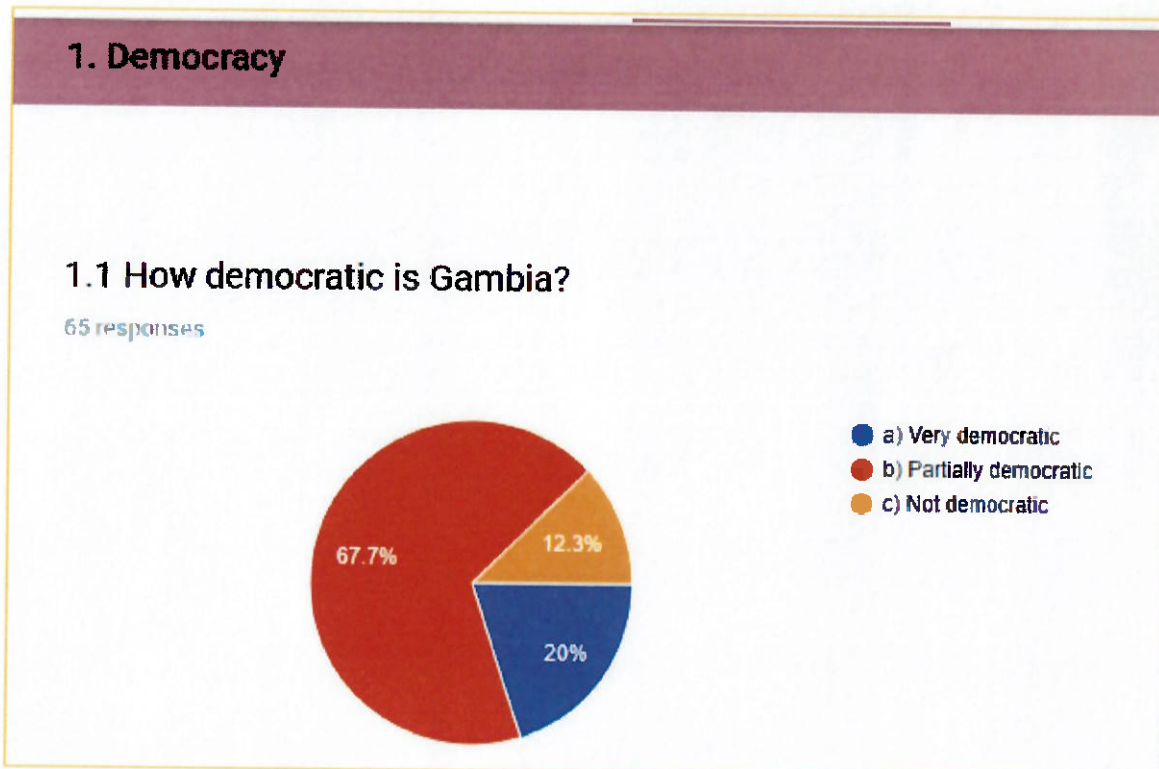
The chart below shows the gender representation;



Gender	#	%
Male	42	64.6%
Female	22	33.8%
Unidentified	1	1.5%

## The survey results:

### 1) The perceptions on Democracy.



The survey revealed that out of **65** respondents, **44** people representing **67.7%** viewed the Gambia as partially democratic, **13** people representing **20%** strongly believe that the Gambia is very democratic while the remaining 8 people representing **12.3%** said the Gambia is not democratic at all.

#### **Those who believed the Gambia is "Very democratic" cited below as their reasons:**

They observed that Citizens can now express their opinions freely and they can criticise the Government openly without any fear of being arrested or seeing as anti-Government/opposition. Some believe that for the fact that the constitution of the Gambia guarantees every citizen the rights to freedom of expression or assembly in its self is an absolute democracy. Others cited the issuance of permits to certain groups of the society to demonstrate peacefully, and the ongoing transitional justice processes such as the Janneh Commission, the Constitutional Review Commission, the Truth, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission and well as the Security Sector and Civil Service Reforms as bright examples for the Gambia's strong practise of democracy as a country.

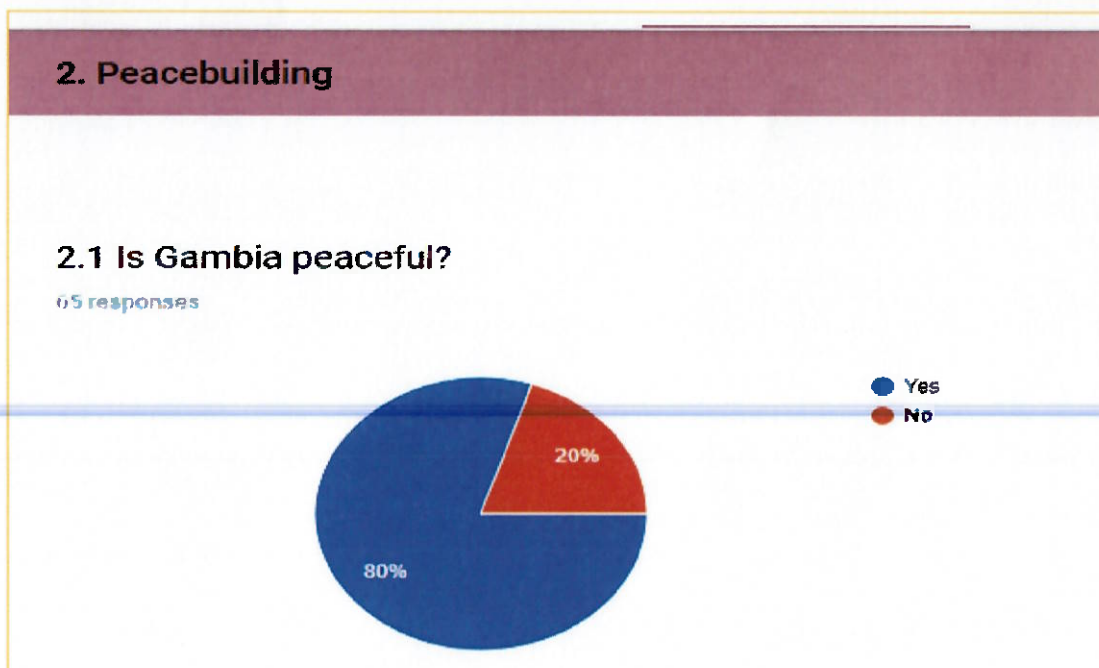
**Those who believed that the Gambia is "Partially democratic" cited below as their reasons:**

They are with the opinions that the word "democracy" is not understood by all Gambians, and as a result it's been abused by some to the extent that people now taking the law into their own hands. The continues arrest of some citizens including journalists and not independent nature of certain Government arms including the legislature and the judiciary, and continues denial of rights to participation and rights to be heard of vulnerable groups such as persons with disability, women, children and youth were noted as their main conclusion.

**Those who believed that the Gambia is "Not democratic" cited the following reasons:**

They feel that the executive particularly the President of the Republic is over empowered by the laws of the country, and can at his/her own discretion overruled certain decisions of the legislature when not in his/her favour or interest. Specifically, the issue of Public Order Act as a tool to deny citizens' rights to protest or assemble peacefully and frequent travels of public officials to outside the country and lack of reporting mechanisms to inform the citizens on reasons and outcome of their trips were also noted as justification for the Gambia's weakness in exercising democracy as a country.

**2) The perceptions on Peacebuilding.**



The survey revealed that out of **65** respondents, **52** people representing **80%** viewed the Gambia as peaceful and **13** people representing **20%** said the Gambia is not peaceful.

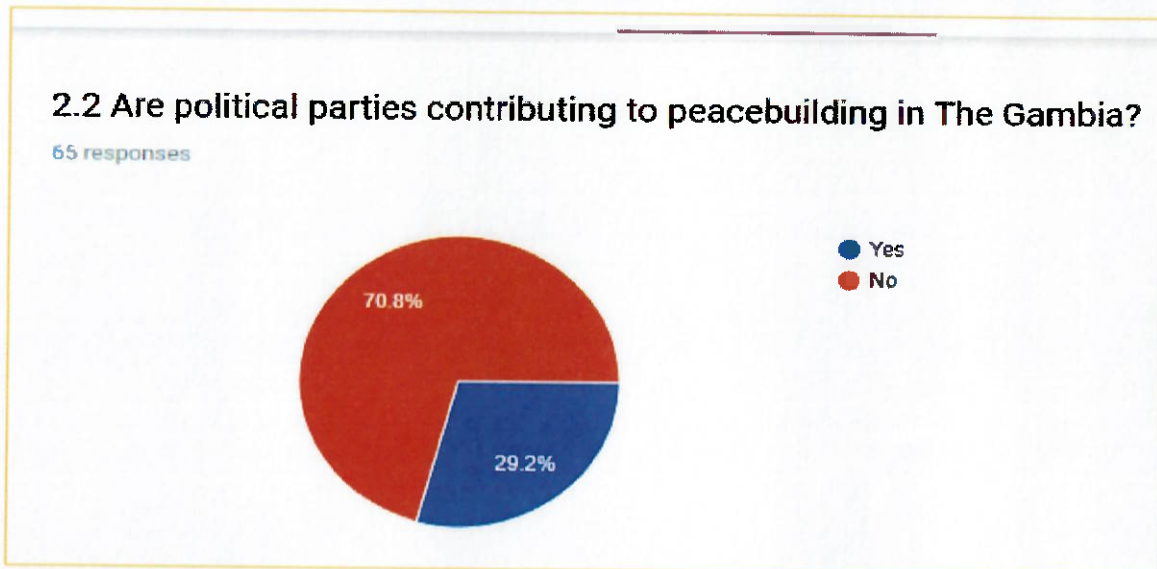
**Those who believed that the Gambia is "Peaceful" cited the following reasons:**

They are with the views that security presence can be felt every corners of the country, there is ethic and religious tolerance amongst different groups of the society, free movement of people, goods and services without much hindrance, inter-marriage and political will to create the conducive environment for all peoples in respective of their political affiliation, faith and ethnicity to co-exist were noted by the respondents.

**Those who believed that the Gambia is "Not Peaceful" cited the following reasons:**

They noted the increased in criminal activities such as stealing, burglary or robbery, killings, rape and trafficking of persons on regular basis; limited job opportunities and engagement of youth particularly those living in rural areas in viable economic activities. Personal attacks and hate speech against certain personalities and groups of society by politicians or political parties and divided security forces were observed as a threat to peace and security of the country. Specifically, the issue of "**3 Years Jotna**" and lack of government's willingness to engage them in dialogue was noted as a peace and security threat.

### 3) The perceptions on Political Parties Contribution to Peacebuilding.



The survey revealed that out of **65** respondents, **46** people representing **70.8%** viewed the Political parties as not contributing to peacebuilding in the Gambia and **19** people representing **29.2%** said they are somewhat contributing to peacebuilding in Gambia.

**Those who believed that the "Political Parties are not contributing to peacebuilding" cited the following reasons:**

They noted tribalism as a sensitive issue within the parties, and political parties putting their individual interests at the forefront in their day to day business and paying less attention to national interest. The continues attack/insults on certain political figures or leaders as well as the divided coalition 2016 was observed as not contributing to propagating peace but rather igniting possible violence and hatred amongst tribal lines and political parties. Specifically, political maturity, the limited understanding or appreciation of multi-party democracy system as well as civic education on citizens' rights and responsibility, and adherence to the electoral guidelines (rules and procedures) were highlighted as contributing factors to this.

**Those who believed that the "Political Parties are contributing to peacebuilding" cited the following reasons:**

They noted the existence of multi-party platforms or committees which are prompting peace and unity amongst various political parties; some parties preaching for peaceful co-existence and advising their members to respect diversity, adhere to rule of law, maintain calm and peace in the country during and after their political rallies; they also observed that some parties are engaging members of the "**3 Years Jotna**" in dialogue with a view to

main peace, order and national unity and some are engaging youth to advocate for peace and respect for others.

#### 4) The perceptions on the Rootcauses of Irregular Migration.

2.3 Irregular migration in The Gambia is still at an alarming rate. a) What are the root causes? Please explain:

65 responses

**The 65 respondents, perceived that the following factors are contributing to the increased of youth irregular migration in The Gambia.**

They observed that the family pressure and peer influence are the major cause of irregular migration, the mindset of the society and the youth that one can only make it outside the Gambia, the huge amount of remittance from the diaspora, increased in poverty, dependent ratio and unemployment, the poor education system, pay scale are not encouraging, and the society not empowering/patronising the services and products of skilled youth or workers and young entrepreneurs, limited support system by government and development partners, limited opportunities and Government not investing in youth economic empowerment initiatives, none existence of skills training centers or technical institutions in some parts of the country, conditions attached to existing mini grants and loans by projects in-country not favorable and funds are restricted to certain category of people in the society as a result they are pushed to leave the country in search of greener pasture elsewhere.

#### 5) The perceptions on Social Inclusion – contributing factors to the increased of youth unemployment.

### 3. Social Inclusion

3.1 According to the 2018 Gambia Labour Force Survey, youth unemployment has increased from 38% to 41.5%. a) What are the contributing factors?

65 responses

**The 65 respondents, perceived that the following factors are contributing to the increased of youth unemployment in The Gambia.**

They noted lack of enforcement of retirement age for old people to give chance to young people, skills mismatch, high taxation on companies



providing employment opportunities, Government does not have a workable strategy for employment, agriculture and fishing sectors largely occupied by none Gambians, requirement for work experience particularly for fresh graduates, limited factories and multi-national companies to employ youth, limited participation of young people in decision making processes, and young people are not willing to take certain types of jobs and skills as a result remained unemployed or underemployed.

### b) What can be done to tackle this?

65 responses

#### **The respondents suggested the following solutions to address youth unemployment.**

They suggested that the Government should promote TVET and entrepreneurship at an early stage of education to inspire self-employment as Government cannot create employment for all. Invite investors to invest in productive sectors of the economy such agriculture, ICT, hotels and food processing factories to provide employment for youth, enforce the retirement age and minimum wage so as to encourage youth employment, increase the budget allocation of the Ministry of Youth and Sports with a view to expand its services to many young people in the country, build many skills and technical training centers across the country, review the conditions of mini grants and loans to make it accessible to all young people in the country, re-visit the education system in order to make it more quality and relevant and put in place employment strategy to reduce nepotism in public and private institutions.

#### **6) The perceptions on Social Inclusion – contributing factors to the marginalisation of persons with disability in decision making processes.**

3.2 In The Gambia, persons with disabilities are generally marginalized from decision making processes. a) What are the contributing factors?

65 responses

**The 65 respondents perceived that the following factors are contributing to the marginalisation of persons with disability in decision making processes in The Gambia.**

They noted that the mindset of the society that persons with disability cannot contribute to the development of the country, their limited representation in key decision making spaces such as the National Assembly and Area Councils, the discrimination, isolation, stigma and unfriendliness of the society makes them even more vulnerable. The government often have no regard or doubt the ability of PWDs to deliver, none existence of PWDs Act, limited education and support system by government and development partners.

## **b) What can be done to improve this?**

65 responses

**The respondents suggested the following solutions to improve their inclusion and participation in decision making processes.**

They suggest the Government and development partners should give PWDs special attention and priority. Create Economic empowerment initiatives directly targeting them and when building public and private spaces including sporting facilities should be constructed in such a way that it is easily accessible to them. They should be given a certain number of seats in parliament and area councils and Government should consider appointing a special minister to look into the affairs of PWDs and ensure the PWDs Act is passed by the National Assembly.

## **7) The perceptions on Gender Equity – contributing factors to the limited participation of women in politics and decision making processes.**

### **4. Gender Equity**

**4.1 Generally, women participation in politics and in decision-making processes in The Gambia is low. a) What are the contributing factors?**

65 responses

**The 65 respondents perceived that the following factors are contributing to the limited participation of women in politics and decision making processes in The Gambia.**

They observed that the society as well as the cultural, traditional and religious believes often discourages women. In their views women tend to be shy away from politics, they are not motivated by their family and at times even by their fellow women, they lack the support systems on both sides but particularly on the side of men, generally they are used by men to campaign and vote for them, and for those married hardly gets the approval of their husbands when want to run for a political position. In certain communities, politics is viewed largely as men-show and women are only considered when it's time to vote. And some perceived that only men can effect change or lead and women are just there to follow or clap for men. In addition, most political parties in the Gambia are not gender sensitive and therefore lack the necessary mechanism to include women in their party leadership or support women to lead/participate in decision making processes.

**b) What can be done to improve this?**

65 responses

**The respondents suggested the following solutions to improve their inclusion and participation in politics and decision making processes.**

They suggested that political parties and development partners should organise capacity building for women to participate in politics and decision making beyond the ballot box, initiate civic education programs to enlighten women on their civic and political rights/duties as well as inspire them for political leadership and participation, political parties should insititute a quota system to allocate certain number of seats directly to women, government should put in place policies to empower and promote women participation and leadership at all levels of governance and women should be encouraged to run for elections including vying for presidency or become leaders in their party's executive.

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