

PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: GAMBIA
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL:
FINAL
YEAR OF REPORT: 2020



United Nations
Peacebuilding

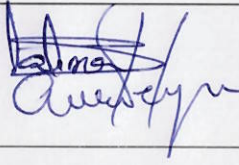
Project Title: Increased Women and Youth Participation in decision-making processes and as agents of community conflict prevention	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: PRF 00113368	
If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund	Type and name of recipient organizations: (Convening Agency) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (Convening Agency) United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
Name of Recipient Fund:	
Date of first transfer: 12 TH December 2018 Project end date: 31 st December 2020 Is the current project end date within 6 months? Yes	
Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows: <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	
Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):	
Recipient Organization	Amount
	\$ 930,000.00 (UNFPA)
	\$ 370,000.00 (UNICEF)
	Total: \$ 1,300,000.00
Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 93%	
ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE	
Gender-responsive Budgeting:	
Indicate dollar amount from the project document to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: \$604,907.00	
Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: \$451,589.79	
Project Gender Marker: 2	
Project Risk Marker: 1	
Project PBF focus area: 3	

Report preparation:

Project report prepared by: Fatima Sonko

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.*
- *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

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):

The implementation of the women and youth project has been progressive from 2018-2020. All project preparatory and planned activities with implementing partners have been concluded for implementation in the 4th quarter of 2020 as this is the final report for the women and youth project. Collaboration and partnership between the implementing agencies and the partners has been strengthened with review meetings, orientation and reflection sessions to identify best practices and lessons learned from 2019 activity implementation. Capacity of implementing partners were also assessed and relevant training identified to support effective and efficient programme implementation and management. A baseline study was completed in the 2nd quarter of 2020, which even though was conducted late into the project, helped in strengthening the project indicators and informed strategic planning for the rest of the project implementation and beyond.

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), the National Working Group on Women, Youth, Peace and Security, National Youth Parliament were established and strengthened.

Overall, assessments and interactions with partners and participating communities indicate a high understanding of the importance of participation of women and youth in decision making and the practising of basic principles of peacebuilding to enhance social cohesion. This has also been reflected in the baseline study report.

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):

The civic dialogue sessions with local traditional authorities, shared learning sessions, biannual sitting of the children national assembly will be implemented in the fourth quarter, The end project evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project in December.

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 contributed immensely to the advancement of women and youth political awareness and the promotion of their participation in processes and bodies within communities. It has availed the marginalized groups (youth and women) the platform to have direct space for engagement with authorities. This has facilitated the promotion of social accountability and transparency, built a responsible citizenry, and promoted tolerance for sustainable peace. In communities where the project was implemented there is evidence of attitudinal change in the perception towards leadership, and elected representatives. Young women and men have begun demonstrating understanding that they elect their leaders and can hold them accountable for their actions and inactions. The targeted communities have also expressed understanding of the rights of youth and women, and why it is important that they participate in the development and decision making processes in their communities. The involvement of women and youth in social discuss and political participation has improved as many begin to request for space for active participation and representation at all levels. The project has also contributed towards increased capacity of decentralized structures in conflict prevention, integration of peacebuilding initiatives into structures, activities and the establishment of early warning systems to monitor and create opportunities for dialogue and engagement.

A national early waring training manual was developed by WANEP Gambia through support from the project, this was the outcome of a 14-day training of trainers on early warning, peacebuilding and mechanisms for effective dispute resolution. A pool of 25 national trainers, 10 females and 15 males have been capacitated with the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct and facilitate trainings on early warning, peacebuilding and effective conflict resolution across the country. The training manual contains guidance to help build the capacity of national trainers and facilitators to conduct standard training sessions on conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The project increased capacity of the structures such as VDC's and WDC's to continue managing communal conflict such as land dispute, family and personal minor dispute. In most cases, decentralized structures such as VDCs, are the first point of contact when conflict emerge in a community. The 14 decentralized structures (VDCs) pledged to give women and youth decision-making positions as they are going through the process of restructuring with the support of UNICEF and the Department of Community Development. The Children National Assembly and Mothers' clubs continue to participate in community regional and national discussions on advancing the voices of children. The Children National Assembly delivered a declaration to Honourable Minister of Women, Children and Social Welfare, reflecting issues on children and adolescent across the country raised during regional consultations.

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 web-links to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):

The project has had a 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 understanding as few of them mentioned;

"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 have 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"*

Fatoumata Jabbie a female representative from Tinkinjo stated "our representatives must be responsive to our needs and demands. We no longer live in times that we are scared of people we elect into office"

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 a 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 for 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 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmmzqiqBy0_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=SmmzqiqBy0_g

Local authorities were open to the discussion and participated willingly and provided information on the structure and composition of the VDC and WDC to cement the development cycle, as evidenced in the below quotes

Chief Katamina districts “Our challenge here is that the Ward Development Committee (WDC) is not functional. Given the importance of the structure, its dysfunctional nature limits the participation of youth and women in the governance of their locality. We will engage the ward Councillors to see how we can help restructure the WDC and get it functional. Anything Activista can do with your partners to facilitate this will be appreciated”.

The project has contributed positively on people’s lives particularly in communities where caste system is deeply rooted. During implementation, in Upper River Region, the project was able to mobilize communities and organize dialogue and get the people to talk to each other on critical issues such as sharing communal facilities (mosque, cemetery etc). In one of the community dialogue, an old man said *“We inherited these communal values and also thought that that is how it should be. But these discussions have thought me good lessons that all people are the same and we should live together in peace”*. Another youth said *“We the youth really struggle to interact with each other or even marry because of the caste system we find in our society. We need these kinds of dialogue to help educate us especially our parents and community elders”*.

For the Children National Assembly, the members had opportunities where they were able to engage with high level policy and politicians to share with them issues affecting children in The Gambia. The Speaker said *“It’s a great opportunity to seat in the National Assembly and in the Speaker’s chair while very important personalities listen to us children talk about issues affecting us”*. Another Honourable member said *“I feel very motivated to continue speaking for my fellow children in places like the National Assembly and in the regions with Governors, Area Councils and other important people. Without the Assembly, I would not have the chance to talk to such people and they listen”*.

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)

The project under outcome 1, has contributed in the active participation of youth and women in politics and decision making at community level and creating space for stronger social cohesion among community members irrespective of religion, tribe and political affiliation. 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 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 capacity of 50 aspiring female candidates has been built ahead of the 2021-2023 electoral cycle to increase women participation in decision making processes and also serve as agents of community conflict prevention. Current and former female National Assembly members are serving as mentors to young women aspiring to elected leadership positions, a strong network of women has been built nationwide, and these women have pledged to support each other regardless of their political affiliations through the mentorship programme. This further strengthens and promote the participation of women and youth in decision-making and peacebuilding efforts. 100 women from mother's 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.

Early warning tools were developed, which will be used by community monitors for early warning reporting. The capacity of a pool of trainers on early warning peacebuilding and dispute management processes was carried out. 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.

A consultancy for the review of the 2020 draft constitution on marginalized groups including women and youth participation and inclusivity was carried out under the project in collaboration with the International Republican Institute. The consultancy identified the opportunities and gaps within the constitutional draft for the creation of a participatory and inclusive governance system from a gender and youth perspective. The Draft 2020 constitution was not passed by the National Assembly, however women civil society groups and women activists/leaders will be mobilized beyond the project to advocate on the progressive sections of the draft constitution identified through the consultancy such as the mandatory 14 seat quota for women representation at the National Assembly. This will enhance women and youth representation in key decision making processes and ensure that their rights and interests are reflected in other legal instruments if the constitution passes through.

The project mobilized children and youth into organized platforms such as the Children National Assembly that comprised of 105 children and adolescent (56 females and 49 male). The platform engaged decision-making mechanism from community to National level where it organized its biannual sitting in the chambers of the National Assembly. The children also conducted school based and community engagement to increase awareness on critical issues affecting their lives including promoting peace, human rights using the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Children's Act 2005, promoting education especially for girls. The U-Report platform mobilized and engaged more than 10,000 adolescents and youth in decision making processes. The platform was used to educate adolescents and youth in preventing and responding to COVID-19, Sustainable Development Goals and human rights instruments. Community radio talk shows were maximized particularly during COVID-19 to reach out to people with messages on peace, domestic violence, child abuse, exploitation and neglect and encouraged parents to support their children at home with alternative learning opportunities particularly the Ministry of Education online learning opportunities

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, activities included mobilizing and sensitizing women on critical issues affecting children including COVID-19 measures, they also focused on preventing child marriages and Gender based violence in communities. The women mentorship programme and training on peacebuilding and leadership provided women the platform and opportunity to learn, motivate and share their experiences in peacebuilding and leadership. The project has increased gender equality and youth inclusion and responsiveness through the various platforms established. The Children National Assembly has 56 females and 49 males with female Speaker. U Report has more than 11,000 registered members as of November 2020, out of this, 52 percent are female and 48 percent male reporters. The other initiatives such as community engagement gave youth the opportunity to dialogue with decision-makers and the initiative renewed commitment from decentralized structures (VDC) to consider giving youth decision-making positions when restructuring.

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 the effective 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 was 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.

In the various regions 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. Most of the leaders have shown the willingness to promote the right of women and young people to participate in decision making processes.

Town hall meeting engagements availed young men and women the opportunity to interact with their elected representatives with the view to create room for effective representation between and among elected representatives and electorates. This created an avenue for networking and effective participation of women and youth in decision making process. The interparty youth capacity building trainings on policy advocacy availed young people including persons living with disability the opportunity to understand key issues around policy formulation, the steps in policy identification and advocacy. 350 young men and women politicians were capacitated across seven regions, this provided them with the requisite knowledge and skills to enhance their participation in decision making processes especially at the grassroots level and within their political parties.

Civic dialogue sessions on peacebuilding with national and regional political parties, brought together influential political party leaders. The party leaders recognised and committed to further enhancing the participation and representation of women and youth for example upholding the 30% representation for women in promoting peacebuilding and social cohesion within their political parties.

Over 300 VDC and WDC members were trained in all regions where the project was implemented including 570 community members sensitized on the Local Government act and the Role of Women and Youths in the decentralization processes. These trainings enhanced the understanding of the community, VDC and WDC members on the importance of youths and women in the decentralization process and peace building at grassroots levels. This would further enable them ensure the representation of women and youths in key decision making processes within the VDC's and WDC's.

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 and women empowerment at local Government level continues to be challenging due to sociocultural practices that limits women participation in community decision making processes. For example, in Lower River Region, Central River Region and Upper River Region, 1,125 women in Mothers' clubs has increased capacity and started applying their skills in settling minor conflicts both in school and community. While for the Children National Assembly, 56 female children and adolescent and 49 males benefited from the project and are utilizing their skills and knowledge to continue rising the voice of children and adolescent. On the U Report, 52 percent of 11,000 registered members are female whilst 48 percent male participated in various information sharing platforms such as polls on Sustainable Development Goal and COVID-19's impact on education. The project however

engaged elected women and youth councillors who participated in decision-making processes during strategic planning and resource management. This is encouraging progress for the project and advocacy to get more women and youth to participate in decision making responsibilities. Political party leaders through dialogue sessions have also committed to increase youth and women representation within their political parties.

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><u>Monitoring:</u> Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)</p> <p>During the reporting period, two remote monitoring due to COVID-19 restrictions was carried out and two physical onsite monitoring of activities were carried out.</p>	<p>Do outcome indicators have baselines? yes</p> <p>Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection?</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 selected communities</p>
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	<p>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>Evaluation: Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? No</p>	<p>Evaluation budget (response required): The initial project budget for the end project evaluation was \$20,000.00, however taking note of the current realities and the fact that the baseline study costed \$27,665.00. The end project evaluation budget has been revised to \$30,000.00</p> <p>If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations (<i>1500-character limit</i>): The Terms of reference has been developed for the end project evaluation once approved, a consultant will be recruited to carry out the end project evaluation.</p> <p>The evaluation will consist of literature review, individual consultations with stakeholders implementing the project and Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) with beneficiaries. This process will identify any challenges encountered during implementation as well as assess the project results. Upon completion of data collection and analysis, a debriefing meeting with preliminary findings and recommendations will be held with key partners for their comments</p>
<p>Catalytic effects (financial): 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: Italian International Development Cooperation Fund</p> <p>Amount: \$2,000,000.00</p> <p>Recipient Agency (UNICEF)</p>
<p>Other: 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>	<p>The Mothers' clubs, Children National Assembly would need continuous capacity building (child-friendly conflict analysis skills, peace monitoring skills, mediation skills and early warning) in order to continue engaging various stakeholders including decision-makers and local authorities so that peace and conflict prevention is integrated into everyday live.</p>

PART IV: COVID-19

Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 1) Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

\$25,000.00 was projected to be used for the purchase of PPE's and sanitary materials, however after a critical review of the project budget balance this could not be achieved. Implementing partners were advised to use part of their approved activity funds to purchase face masks and hand sanitizers with a reduced number of participants per session for the physical meetings in order to adhere to the WHO precautionary measures. Approximately \$1,735 was used by implementing partners on PPE's and sanitary materials for the in person activities.

- 2) Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications:

COVID-19 did not significantly affect the overall project budget but rather gave opportunity to maximize the use of technology for implementation of activities, as some activities such as dialogue sessions, the celebration of the international peace day was conducted virtually. For activities where people were expected to converge, WHO precautionary measures were strictly observed. In some instances, the number of people per session was reduced to enable proper physical distancing measures.

- 3) Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

- Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications
- Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery
- Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management
- Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma
- Support the SG's call for a global ceasefire
- Other (please describe):

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*)

The trained decentralized structures from the beginning of the project has enable the structures to participate in COVID-19 response. For example, they participated in social protection interventions including beneficiary identification and distribution of relief.

While for the children and adolescent, they utilized community radio educating communities on the impact of COVID-19 on education, health and child protection.

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)
Outcome 1 Youth and women participate in decision-making and early warning processes at national, regional and community levels that promote peace,	Indicator 1.1 % of VDCs/WDCs that meet the 30% quota for women's representative	No	Yes		With the review of the Local Government Act, it is anticipated that the quota approach will be included in the reversed Act. The review is expected to end in 2021.	

inclusiveness and national ownership.	Indicator 1.2 # of women and youth trained on early warning systems who also serve as community monitors	0	10	13		
	Indicator 1.3 % of women who believe women should be given equal opportunities to participate in politics	0	30	00	This will be determined after project evaluation.	To be determined after the end of project evaluation
Output 1.1 Women and youth are engaged, equipped to and supported to participate in political decision	Indicator 1.1.1 # of surveys and needs assessment conducted	0	2	1	Conducted the baseline survey	An end line survey was planned however due to the delay in conducting the baseline study, the end-line survey was not relevant as an end project evaluation will be conducted

making processes at all levels	Indicator 1.1.2 # of youth mobilized and sensitized on the importance of participation in decision making processes	0	2000	1565	During this reporting period due to COVID-19 restrictions, mobilization and sensitization was not possible for face to face meetings. The radio and technology was used to reach out to youth and women.	The variance is due to COVID-19 restrictions which stalled the implementation of face to face meetings, however radio and virtual meetings were used.
	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		

	Indicator 1.1.4 # of youth engaged in mentorship programmes with Village Development Committees/War Committees in target regions.	0	50	150	A Children's National Assembly has been established with a membership of 105-15 from each of the 7 regions. The Assembly has 56 female and 49 male.
	Indicator 1.1.5 # of youth trained and participating in decision making processes	0	20	77	
Output 1.2 Women are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political	Indicator 1.2.1 # of women trained and participating in decision making processes	0	50	111	

<p>decision making processes at all levels</p>	<p>Indicator 1.2.2 # of functional community based early warning system in target regions</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>
	<p>Indicator 1.2.3 # of WIPNETs and Mother's Clubs established and promoting peace in target regions</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>30</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>
<p>Output 1.3 Women and youth are supported to participate in ongoing national processes including legal, legislative,</p>	<p>Indicator 1.3.1 # of youth trained and participating in decision making processes</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>77</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>

constitutional and other transitional reforms at all levels	Indicator 1.3.2 # of child/youth friendly educative materials used by young people in their advocacy processes	0	3	2	The variance will be completed before end of project evaluation. Already developed one (Child-friendly TRRC Act).
	Output 1.4 Indicator 1.4.1 # of women and youth that participated in legal transitional reforms	0	400	660	
	Indicator 1.4.2				

Outcome 2 National and local leaders including elected representatives promote women and youth participation in decision making and peacebuilding for social cohesion	Indicator 2.1 Legislation enacted that prescribes 30% quota of representation of women in electable offices (i.e, National Assembly, Area Councils and Municipal Councils)	No	Yes	N/A	The decentralization Act is under review. It is anticipated that there will be provision for 30% quota of women representation	
	Indicator 2.2					
	Indicator 2.3					

<p>Output 2.1 National and local leaders including political parties recognize and accept the importance of youth and women's participation in decision making</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.1 # of local leaders mobilized and sensitized on the importance of women and youth participation in decision making</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>400</p>	<p>755</p>		
<p>Output 2.2 National and local leaders promote and facilitate the involvement of women and youth in ongoing national processes and reforms</p>	<p>Indicator 2.1.2 # of community dialogue sessions supported</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>42</p>		
	<p>Indicator 2.2.1 # of national leaders sensitized on the need for youth and women inclusion in ongoing legal reform processes</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>400</p>	<p>275</p>	<p>During COVID-19, all sensitization activities were done using technology and radio.</p>	<p>The variance is caused by restrictions of COVID 19 on activities implemented during the year.</p>

		0	10	18		
Output 2.3	Indicator 2.2.2 # of national leaders sensitized on the need for youth and women inclusion in the ongoing legal reforms processes					
	Indicator 2.3.1					
Output 2.4	Indicator 2.3.2					
	Indicator 2.4.1					
	Indicator 2.4.2					

Outcome 3	Indicator 3.1							
	Indicator 3.2							
	Indicator 3.3							
	Indicator 3.1.1							
Output 3.1								

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 Outcomes, 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)
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.							
Output 1.1:	Youth are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making processes at all levels						
Activity 1.1.1	Evidence generation for programming e.g. research, surveys etc	\$68,000			\$49,643		
Activity 1.1.2	Social mobilization and capacity building for youth networks and organisations	\$80,000			\$80,000		
Activity 1.1.3	Establish/strengthen children and youth parliament	\$25,000	\$30,000		\$26,246	\$30,000	
Activity 1.1.4	Support young people to promote participation in politics and decision making processes	\$40,000			\$46,806		
Activity 1.1.5	Promote use of technology and innovations for information sharing by youths	\$50,000	\$45,794		\$51,377	\$45,794	
Subtotal		\$263,000	\$75,794	50%	\$254,081	\$75,794	
Output 1.2:	Women are engaged, equipped and supported to participate in political decision making processes at all levels						
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			\$70,254		
Activity 1.2.2	Support the establishment of community based early warning systems	\$30,000	\$50,000		\$24,212	\$50,000	
Activity 1.2.3	Support women including mothers clubs to promote dialogue and conflict mediation at all levels	\$40,000	\$40,000		\$25,102	\$40,000	
Subtotal		\$150,000	\$90,000	100%	\$119,568	\$90,000	
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						
Activity 1.3.1	Support women, youth and children to effectively participate in legal and transitional reforms processes	\$30,000	\$30,000		\$20,386	\$30,000	
Activity 1.3.2	Support the production of youth and child and youth friendly tools.	\$15,000	\$15,000		\$15,597	\$15,000	

Subtotal	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$35,983	\$45,000	75%	\$35,983	\$45,000
TOTAL \$ FOR OUTCOME 1:	\$458,000	\$210,794	\$409,632	\$210,794	75%	\$409,632	\$210,794
OUTCOME 2: National and local leaders including elected representatives promote women and youth participation in decision making and pre-empting for 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							
Activity 2.1.1	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$46,116	\$30,000		\$46,116	\$30,000
Activity 2.1.2	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$20,023	\$25,000		\$20,023	\$25,000
Subtotal	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$66,139	\$55,000	65%	\$66,139	\$55,000
Output 2.2: National and local leaders promote and facilitate the involvement of women and youth in ongoing national processes and reforms							
Activity 2.2.1	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$42,026	\$35,000		\$42,026	\$35,000
Activity 2.2.2	\$15,359	\$15,359	\$13,810	\$15,359		\$13,810	\$15,359
Subtotal	\$50,359	\$50,359	\$55,836	\$50,359	65%	\$55,836	\$50,359
TOTAL \$ FOR OUTCOME 2:	\$105,359	\$90,000	\$121,975	\$90,000	65%	\$121,975	\$90,000
Project personnel costs if not included in activities above	\$140,000	\$45,000	\$79,915	\$45,000		\$79,915	\$45,000
Project operational costs if not included in activities above	\$87,800		\$123,743			\$123,743	
Project M&E Budget	\$28,000		\$11,497			\$11,497	
Baseline & Enfranchise	\$30,000		\$27,665			\$27,665	
Evaluation	\$20,000		\$0			\$0	
SUB-TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:	\$869,159	\$346,794	\$774,427	\$346,794	70%	\$774,427	\$346,794
Indirect support costs (7%)	\$60,841	\$24,206	\$60,841	\$24,206		\$60,841	\$24,206
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:	\$930,000	\$370,000	\$835,268	\$370,000	70%	\$835,268	\$370,000

92.71%

Annexe 1: Links

Peace Hub the Gambia is a peacebuilding and social cohesion network, established in 2020 by a youth beneficiary of the Women and Youth PBF project, Peace Hub was created by Bakary Sonko to create a conducive environment for young people in peacebuilding, promote social cohesion and reconciliation, as well as strengthen The Gambia's Transitional Justice processes. Below is a link on his story.

<https://gambia.unfpa.org/en/news/meet-bakary-sonko-representation-how-young-people-can-contribute-sustainable-peace>

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>



TITLE: Training core team

Date: 16th -19th May, 2020.

Venue (s): President International Award (PIA)

Attendance: 15 Participants

Peace Ambassadors - The Gambia Facilitators: Fabakary Kalleh, Momodou Juju Jallow, Bubacarr Sambou

Introduction

As part of the UNFPA Peace Building Project, the aim is to train a team of trainers that will serve as core team members of the KANDA training, these people are the ones that will go back to the targeted communities to identify the” KANDAS” and in turn train them on conflict mapping, analysis and resolution skills.

The KANDA concept is mainly centered on how the society is able to settle their differences without the matter reaching the courts or police. It is a way of using traditional means of solving minor conflicts without necessarily involving the police. In this regard, it will lighten the load of cases going to the police stations and the courts. Looking at our society set up, the moment an issue gets to the courts or police most often than not, it ends up bringing more division within the parties involved. The main principle of the KANDA concept is using the knowledge and experience of the people to solve their conflicts themselves.



Group picture Core Team Training



OBJECTIVES:

- To ensure that traditional rulers as well as influential people in societies are equipped with conflict resolution skills.
- To pave a way for the smooth running of the Transitional Justice process most especially the reconciliation process.
- To enable traditional rulers to regain back their lost glory in terms of governance and problem solving.

Male	Female
11	4
TOTAL	15

Average duration per session: 6 Hrs

Below is the training agenda

Time	Activity
9:00-9:05	Arrival and Registration of participants
9:05-9:15	Introduction of training, project and participants
9:15-9:20	Pre test
9:20-15:00	Day 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The main principles of Kanda training ▪ Peace education ▪ Problem identification tool ▪ Conflict analysis tools ▪ Engagement with the community ▪ Reporting
Time	DAY2 Activity
9:00- 9: 05	Arrival and Registration of participants
9:05 – 9: 15	Recap of day one's session
9;15 – 9:20	Pre test
9:20 - 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of the Kanda ▪ Kanda training ▪ Identifying the targets ▪ Kanda engagement ▪ Individual interaction ▪ Community engagement ▪ Monitoring ▪ Focus Group Discussion ▪ Key Informant ▪ Seasonal Calendar ▪ Priority ranking ▪ Vulnerability assessment



OVERVIEW

We were able to implement the training in PIA successfully; this was made possible with the timely coordination and cooperation of the project team both at administrative and field level, and facilitators from different institutions.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

Presentations: The sessions were all “learner centered” with the facilitators giving lead presentations on the topics and allowing discussions from the participants. Facilitators also guided the discussions interjecting, where and when necessary to allow equal participation maintaining the context.

Group discussions: Participants were divided into groups to discuss about selected topics and later do a brief presentation. This also helped some of them to develop their presentation skills.

Demonstrations/role plays: The pre and post-tests were conducted with practical demonstrations for example, questions were translated in the local languages and those that choose “yes” for an answer will move to the right side of the hall and those that choose “no” move to the left. This activity also serves as an Ice breaker.

Questions and answers: This gives the Participants the opportunity to clear out their doubts and present a uniform and tailor-made message to the audience.



Participation & focus



Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia
CHALLENGES



Physical distancing was an issue because participants couldn't do some of the exercises which were needed, it was only explained to them.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Peace Ambassadors - The Gambia (PAG) wishes to thank all the participants for their cooperation throughout the duration of the training. Special thanks to all the facilitators and co-coordinators for their time, patience and co-operation in making the core team training an informative and successful experience for all involved, and UNFPA Gambia for initializing and sponsoring this project.

The knowledge gained from the training would be valuable for the participants: this will surely be put into practice as promised by the participants which will contribute to the socio-economic and political development by resolving conflicts within our communities in a traditional way.





TRAINING REPORT

TITLE: Training of KANDA (Opinion Leaders within the Communities)

Date: 29th - 30th May, 2020.

Region: Upper River Region (URR)

Venue (s): Kantora, Wuli East & West, Sandu, Fuladu East, Jimara, Tumana & Regional Education Directorate - RED 6 (Stakeholders).

Attendance: 50 Participants

Peace Ambassadors – The Gambia Facilitators (Faculty members): Yankuba Manjang, Musa Jarra, Aminata Manneh, Bubacarr Sambou, Modou Cham, Matarr Saidykhan, Muhammed M. Jallow, Lamin Fatty, Ousman Faal, Ensa Man Gibba, Burama Fadera, Binta Bah, Momodou Jujou Jallow and Fatou Manneh.

INTRODUCTION

Personality influence is a very strong and powerful tool in changing and moulding behaviours of people in any community. Public icons and role models are people who are very popular with others; they are looked at as sources of inspiration. These opinion leaders believe and ideas lead the views and influence the behaviours of others and even the norms of communities. Therefore, if they become educators and advocates of good governance, other people will easily benefit, which is an important instrument in building a better democratic society. This is a model that identifies and train popular influential people in the community in governance and accountability.

This concept referred to as “KANDA” offer training for opinion leaders and encourages them to uphold the principle of accountability in their various communities. It also equips them with the relevant skills of conflict resolution and peace building. There were seven trainings conducted, six at district level with the traditional leaders and one at the Regional Educational Directorate with stakeholders.





2.1 Sex of participants: 39 males, 11 females with the following breakdown;

Site	Male	Female
Kantora	5	2
Tumana	5	2
Fulladu East	5	2
Jimara	5	2
Wuli East & West	6	2
Sandu	6	1
Stakeholder	7	0
Total	39	11

Average duration per session: 6 Hrs

Below is the training agenda;

DAY 1
Arrival and Registration of participants
Introduction of training, project and participants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace and Conflict • What is Peace? • What are the Types of Peace? • What is conflict? • Problem identification. • Problem Ranking
DAY 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap of Day 1 • Conflict Mapping. • Conflict Analysis • Solutions
Closing of session

OVERVIEW

Peace Ambassadors - The Gambia on the 29th and 30th May, 2020, conducted trainings with the chiefs and selected opinion leaders in all the Districts of URR. The trainings focused on the preparation of the influential elders on peace and conflict resolution and mediation skills. This is part of the “KANANDA” program where influential community leaders are targeted and given the skills to be able to address problems in their societies.

The sessions were chaired by different facilitators in the different districts. The facilitators introduced the team and the concept of the training. They explained the arrangement for the training as each participant shall be responsible for mobilizing at least five other people to participate in addressing some of their societal problems.



Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia



The facilitators then started the presentation by first introducing Peace Ambassadors - The Gambia as a peace education and advocacy organization existing in The Gambia since 2001. They also took the participants through some interventions that PAG did in The Gambia, Senegal and Guinea Bissau since inception. This part also talks about PAG partnerships with UNFPA as project funders, under its peace building fund.

The facilitators took participants through the training outline informing them that the training is going to be in three phases. The first phase looked at introduction and understanding of conflict and conflict analysis; the second phase looked at identification of conflicts in their communities and the third phase mapped out plans of addressing the identified problems.

UNDERSTANDING CONFLICT:

In this phase, the presentation focused on understanding conflict and its dynamics and also explained to the participants some conflict analysis tools such as the conflict map, conflict tree and the onion. The presentation was followed by some interaction in a form of experience sharing.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS

This phase engaged the participants in identifying problems that they believe are major issues in their communities that needed urgent actions.

The following problems are being identified:

- 1. Caste System:** The communities have big concerns about the growing problems around the issue of caste system where some members of mainly Sarahuleh communities are referred to as the slaves. According to some explanations, this practice has been existing since time immemorial but has never been problematic. It only began to be problematic when some members of the community returned from studying abroad with new ideologies that this nomenclature is degrading and must stop. They began to revolt against the system which has been met with resistance by the structures. This transformative conflict has brought about division in both the slave clan and the communities. This has further created other conflicts related to land, politics and even education.
- 2. Land Conflicts:** According to the participants, there are land problems that surfaces usually around the beginning of the rainy season. The problem is usually not about selling of land but people encroaching into the lands of others by exceeding the boundaries. However, in some districts, participants raised concerns that government intrude in their lands without following due process.
- 3. Cattle Pathways:** Participants identified this as a problem because during the rainy season, a lot of problems are reported to the chiefs caused by cattle entering people's farms. This is caused by people stubbornly cultivating on lands that are supposed to be left for cattle rearing.



4. **Divorce Problems:** Participants reported that divorce problem is becoming a big concern for their communities. This is mainly coming from women who will request from their husbands to let them go because they can't stay in the marriage. Some will terminate their marriage and remarry in the same communities which sometimes cause conflict between families as most of them have preplan for a divorce. *(Coincidentally, as the session was ongoing in one of the districts, a vehicle arrived fully loaded with a woman's luggage who was just divorced by her husband).*
5. **Teenage Pregnancy and Rape:** The participants raised concerns about the proliferation of rape and teenage pregnancy. According to them, the problem still persists because of the attitude of the community towards the crimes. Whenever rape is committed both the perpetrator and the victim's families quickly resort to negotiation to end it without getting to the courts. If the consequences are not felt, it will be difficult to address the problem. In addition to that, in some communities, teenage pregnancy is a major concern because they reported that girls willing submit themselves to men without the knowledge of their parents.
6. **Politics:** Concerns raised around politics are that people nowadays find it very difficult to associate with each other as a result of belonging to different political parties. The issue of politics has been so personalized and associated with ethnicity that people don't tolerate others from a different political party. Sometimes, this results to insults, disrespect to one another's status etc.
7. **Community Leadership:** Participants raised issue on high level disregard for their community leaders, as a result their community disputes are hardly been settling by the community VDCs, Alkalos, and Chiefs.
8. **Sport Violence:** It's a seasonal issue that happens during the district football tournaments between communities. Often, teams would cry foul play or unfair refereeing which will result to violence. This has resulted to building rivalry between some communities.
9. **Indiscipline of Young People.** The level of indiscipline exhibited by young people is unprecedented. This was blamed on the law that prohibits corporal punishment; it was reported in some communities that some girls discontinue their education and got married against the will of their parents.
10. **Family Dispute:** Disputes are reported to have existed between members of the same families that went to the extent of stop talking to each other. The participants reported that most of these problems are fueled by people in the diaspora's influence through the social media most especially WhatsApp.



Group work & participation

PRIORITY RANKING OF THE PROBLEMS

After discussing briefly about all the above-mentioned problems, the next activity was priority ranking of the problems where the participants placed stones in a form of voting as to which problem is more pressing than the other. The results of the voting on the problems are indicated on the table below.

No	ISSUE	Kantor a	Jimara	Tuman a	wuli	Sand u	Fuladu	Stakeho lders	Total	Position
1	Caste System	22	23		2	18	5		70	2 nd
2	Land problem	4	0	8	11	16	18		57	3 rd
3	Animal pathways	7	15						22	7 th
4	Divorce / Marital	9	0		16	18	7		50	4 th
5	Teenage Pregnancy/Rape	10	0	15					25	6 th
6	Politics	18	30	15		10	11		84	1 st
7	Community Leadership	0	2		25				27	5 th
8	Sport Violence					8			8	10 th
9	Indiscipline				21				21	8 th
10	Family Dispute			10			8		18	9 th

Note: The reason why the stakeholders vote column appears to be empty is because we presented these issues from the communities which they unanimously agreed are problems.

This ranking has placed Caste System and Politics at the top of the various community priorities. If solutions to the problems in URR are to be dealt with, priority should be given to the issue of caste system and political differences.

After all the engagements were done successfully, participants were reminded that they have a task of each putting five (5) other people on board to get them to their level in the engagement of the communities.



The final closing statement was given by the Chiefs/ Alkalos of the various districts who express happiness that PAG chose their districts to conduct such a very important engagement. This they believe will help them greatly in their dealings with problems of the district. They concluded by expressing appreciation to UNFPA for choosing to fund this engagement.

CHALLENGES

- The training would have been more interactive with practical exercises but due to the COVID-19 social distancing measures, some of the practical aspect of the trainings were omitted.
- Some participants in some of the districts could not freely express themselves due to the influence of the District Chiefs.
- Late disbursement of funds has also caused delay in the implementation of the training.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants from the various communities made the following recommendations:

- Such important trainings should not be a one of, but should be regularly happening in the communities.
- Some participants recommended for the project to look at the possibilities of video recording and publishing such trainings for the benefit of those who could not attend the trainings.



Participation & Interview (KANDA)



TRAINING REPORT

TITLE Sensitization of regional media practitioners on peace-building and support to produce youth-generated social media content

Date: 29th May to 26th June 2020.

Venue (s): Upper River Region (URR) & West Coast Region (WCR)

Attendance: 60 Participants

Peace Ambassadors – The Gambia and Gambia Press Union (GPU): Mr. Fabakary Kalleh, Sang Mendy and Bubacarr Sambou

INTRODUCTION

A three-day Regional Media Practitioners training was conducted in two (2) Separate Regions, Upper River Region (URR) and West Coast Region, for 60 people. Participants were drawn from different media houses that are both Print and Electronic. Some of the notable institutions represented were GRTS, Paradise FM, Foroyaa, Taxi FM, Hill Top FM, Taranga FM, DHK FM, Choice FM, Kaira FM, Brikamaba Community Radio, Daily News and some freelance Journalists.



Media training group picture URR



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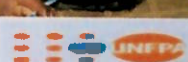


Sensitisation of Regional media practitioners on peacebuilding and support to produce youth generated social media content.

Theme: Support young people to promote participation in politics, conflict resolution and decision making processes.

Date: 24 - 26, June 2020

Venue: West Coast Region



#GMBYouth4Peace
#GMBWomen4Peace
#UNPeaceBuilding



Peace Ambassadors The Gambia

#DeliveringForTheGambia
#GivePeaceAChance

WEST COAST PICTURES



Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia



Sex of participants: 30 males, 22 females with the following breakdown;

Site	Male	Female
Upper River Region	20	10
West Coast Region	18	12
Total	38	22

Average duration per session: 7 Hrs

Below is the training agenda

Time	Activity
Day 1	
9.00- 9.05	Arrival and Registration of participants
9.05 – 9.15	Introduction of training, project and participants
9.15 – 13:30	Session 1: Peace & Conflict Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is conflict? - What are the types of conflict? - What are the sources of conflict? - What is peace? - What are the types of peace? - Role of the media in peace building
13.30 – 14.30	Break
14:30-16:00	Session 2: Role of the media in peace-building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the types of media? - What are the functions of the media? - What is the most common type of media? - What are the advantages of the radio? - What are the ethics of media practitioners? - Why is access to information very important?
Day 2	
09:00—09:30	Recap session
09:30-13:30	Conflict Analysis tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conflict mapping - ABC Triangle - Onion - Conflict Tree
13:30-14:30	Break



Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia



14:30-16:00	Application of the conflict tools on real conflicts in URR Among the conflicts identified by the participants are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caste system - Land conflicts - Marital Conflicts Inheritance
Day 3	
09:00-09:30	Recap session
09:30-14:00	Hostile Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is hostile environment? - The New Media Ecosystem - Basic Precautions - Tips on covering organized crimes - Tips for covering natural disaster - Covering riots & civil disturbance - Precautions to take when covering riots - Covering epidemics - How to do in general - Responsibility of the media houses - Useful tools/safety Apps for journalist
14:00-15:00	Closing

OVERVIEW

We were able to implement the trainings in both halls successfully; this was made possible with the timely planning, coordination and cooperation of the project team both at administration and field level.

The training started with a brief informal opening ceremony where the lead Facilitators took turns to urge the participants to take up these trainings seriously as conflicts and the role of the media have always been a personal, local, national and global issue with greater effects on individuals and communities. Mr stated that “in order to build peace, we have to build a qualitative human relationship”. This opened discussion, where the journalist talked some of the difficulties, they face in order to get information due to the misconception society have about journalist.

Day 2 of the training marked the day participants were taught on both the theoretical aspects of conflict analysis tools and how to put it into practice on real life situations. Thus, the participants were divided into three different groups to apply such conflict analysis tools on real and prominent conflicts in URR and WCR. All the groups highlighted among others, the **Caste system, land conflicts, political and marital conflicts** as the most predominant conflicts in these regions. Subsequently, the participants applied the different conflict analysis tools on each issue they were about to discuss, thereby showing their understanding of what was taught to them.



Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia



During the conclusion of the training, participants urged their colleagues to use the knowledge gained in their field of work, in order to inspire and motivate their community and family members to be peaceful and nonviolent in their actions and reactions towards issues. To the delight of the Facilitators, the participants confirmed that they are working on forming a journalist association that would serve as a branch of Gambia Press Union (GPU) in URR. The participants expressed their delight and confirmed it is as a result of this training that they were inspired to form such an association.



Focus group discussion

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At all the trainings, participants applauded the training as a right approach towards peace building among people. They accepted that, such approaches are one of the most effective ways to provide sustainable peace in URR, WCR and The Gambia as a whole. They gave full assurance to utilize the knowledge gained from the trainings to participate in peace and peace building initiatives through their line of work. They also expressed their sincere thanks to the UNFPA for funding the activity.

CHALLENGES:

In following the WHO guidelines of physical distancing, the project team had to hire two halls instead of one in both regions. Which brought in an exceed in the original budget expenditure.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Participants from the various communities made the following recommendations:

- Such important trainings should not be a one of, but should be regularly happening in the communities.

Prepared by: Momodou Juju Jallow

Program Manager



**Peace Ambassadors -
The Gambia**

Peace Ambassadors – The Gambia





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



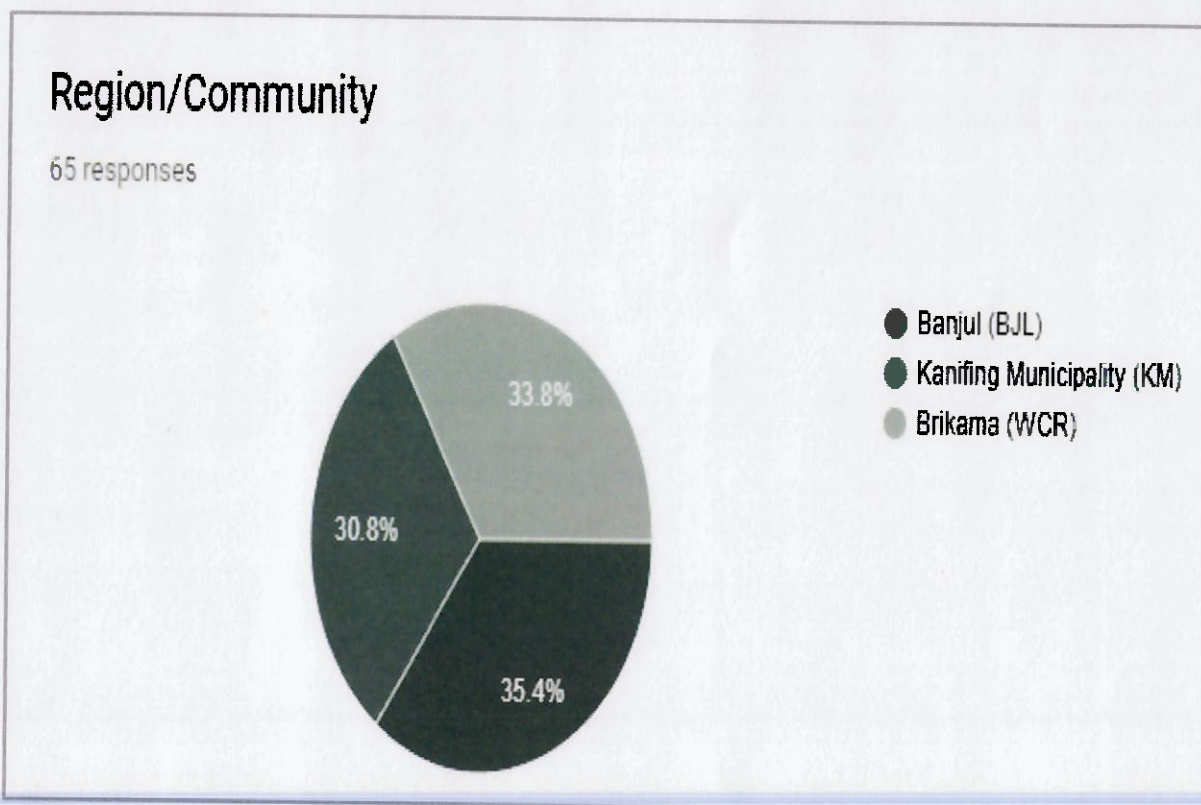
Background

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.

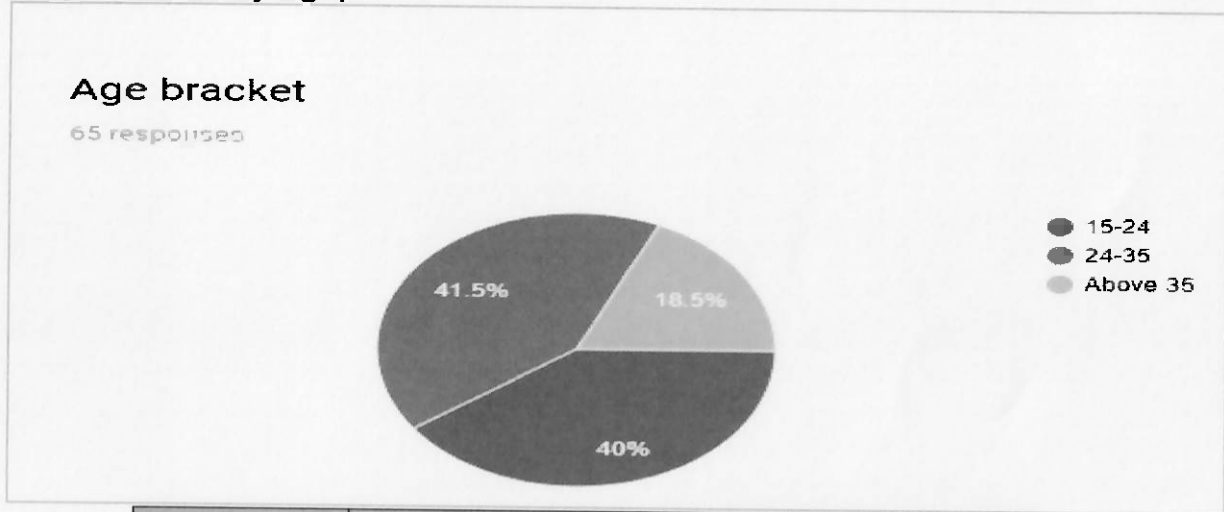
Summary report

The chart below shows the number of participants per community.



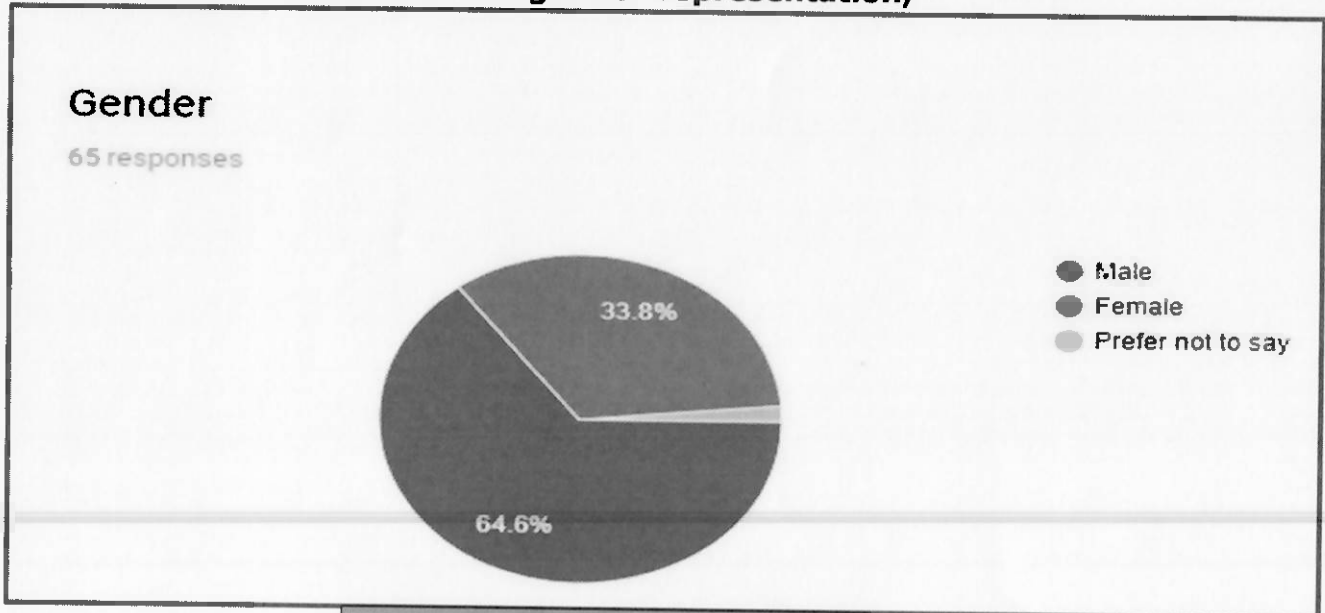
Region/Community	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Banjul	23	35.4%
Brikama	22	33.8%
Kanifing	20	30.8%

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%

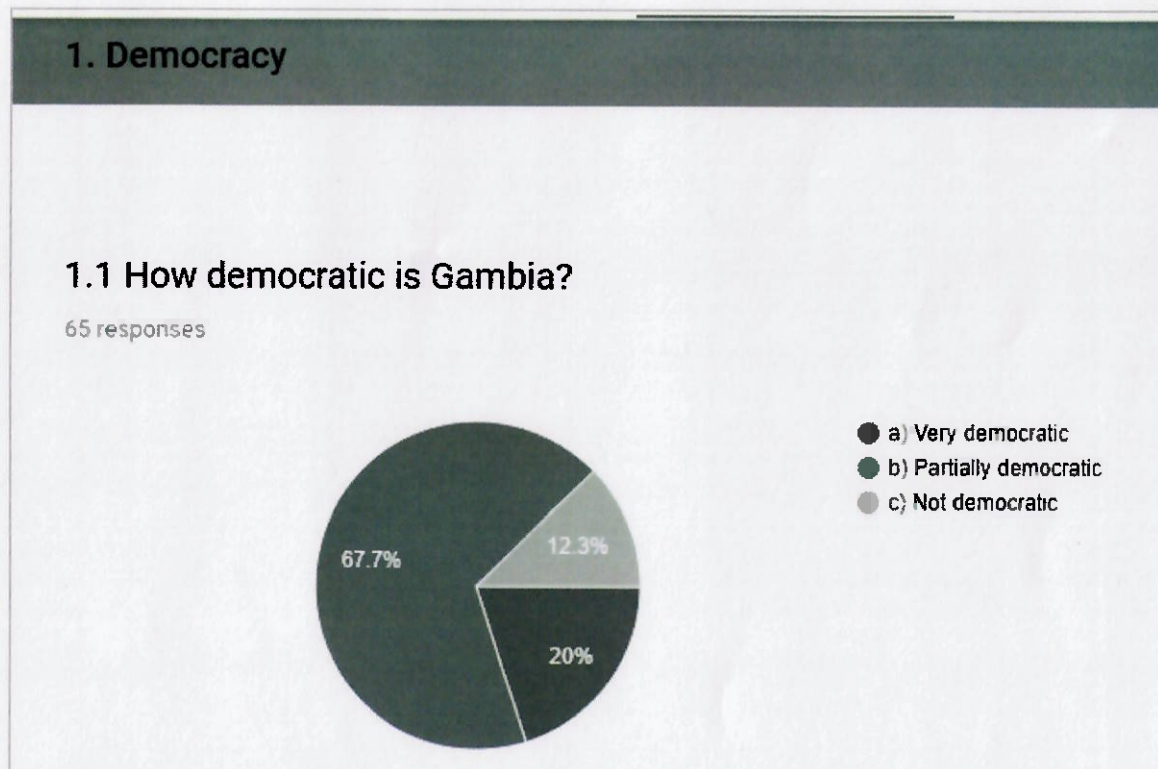
The chart below shows the gender representation;



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.

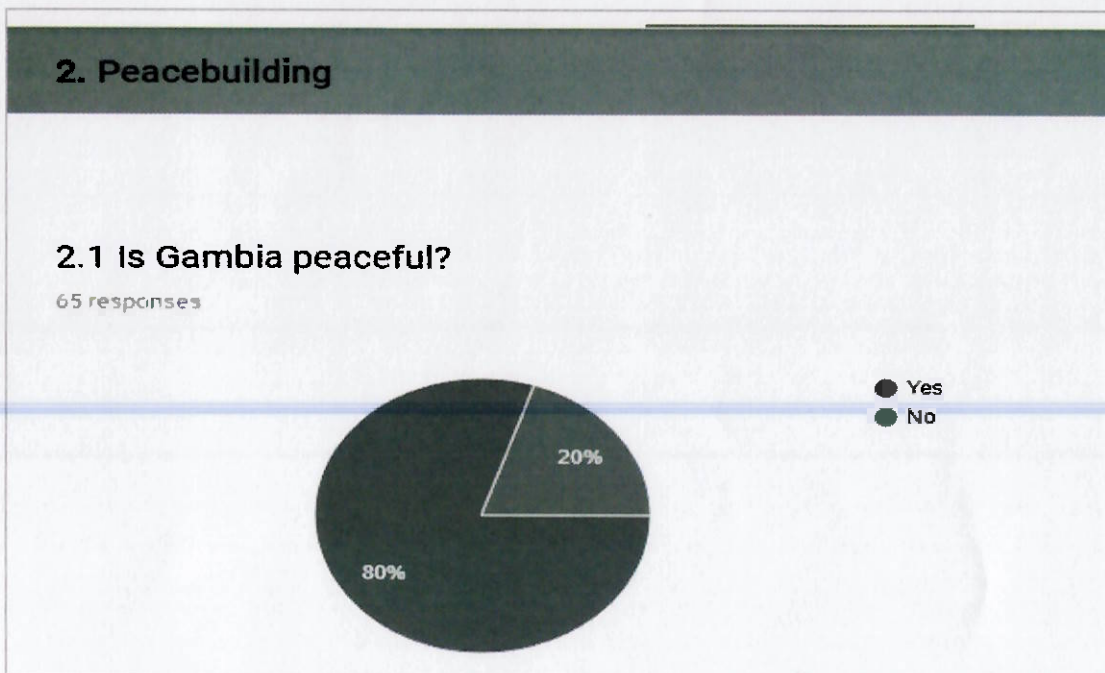
Those who believed that the Gambia is "Partially democratic" cited below as their reasons:

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.

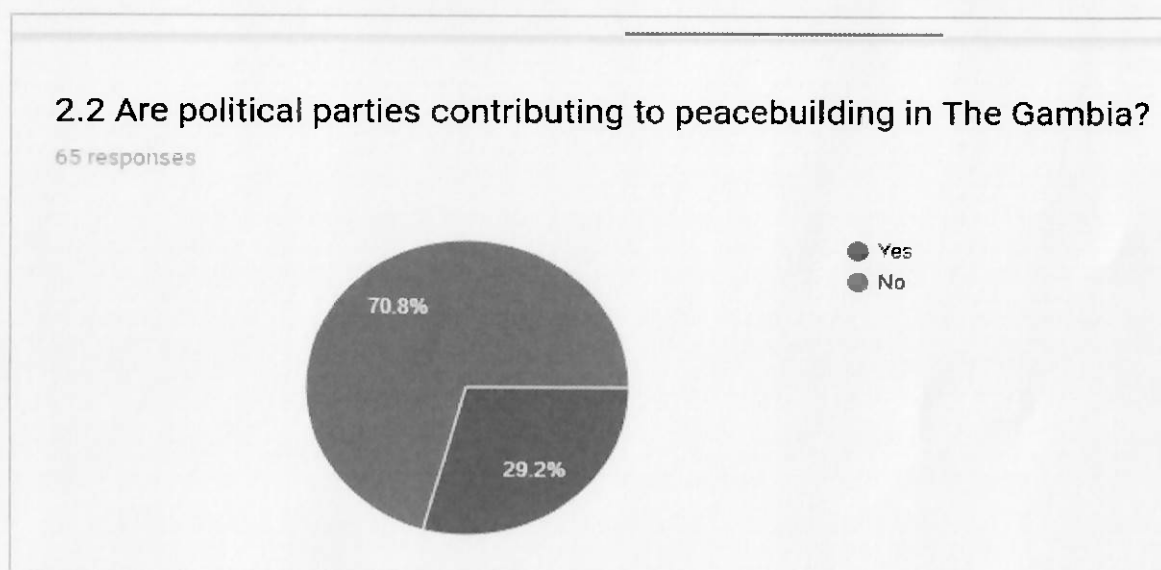
Those who believed that the Gambia is "Peaceful" cited the following reasons:

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.

--END--



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?
<p>Chapter 1: The Republic and Sovereignty of the People</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>We propose that, there should be an additional clause to bar the President from declaring the country as a religious state.</p>
<p>ChapterII: The Constitution and the Law</p>	<p>This chapter is okay as it is.</p>	
<p>Chapter III: National Values and Principles</p>	<p>This chapter is okay as it is.</p>	
<p>CHAPTER IV: CITIZENSHIP</p>		
<p>Citizen by birth</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>S.10: Citizen by Descent</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>Dual citizenship 17. 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>
<p>CHAPTER V: LEADERSHIP AND INTEGRITY</p>		
<p>Financial probity of public officers S. 25. (1) (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'): Financial probity of public officers 25. (1) (b) in the case of an 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. Or to remove civil society.</p>
<p>CHAPTER VI: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS</p>		
<p>Freedom of expression S.44. (2) The right to freedom of expression does not extend to - (c) the uttering of abusive or threatening</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>We propose that this subsection (S.44 (2)(c) be deleted.</p>

<p>speech or writing that causes feelings of ill-will, disaffection or hostility;</p> <p>Rights of children 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>We propose that this subsection reads as thus: (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>Right to fair labour practices 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>We propose this section to be written as thus: (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>Economic and social rights</p> <p>60. (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.</p> <p>(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>We propose this section to be written as thus:</p> <p>Economic and social rights</p> <p>1. Every person and employee has the right -</p> <p>(a) to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care; (b) to work, and shall receive equal pay for equal work without distinction of any kind.</p> <p>(c) to accessible and adequate housing, and to reasonable standards of sanitation;</p> <p>(d) to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality;</p> <p>(e) to clean and safe water in adequate quantities; and</p> <p>(f) to social security.</p> <p>(g) to rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and periods of holidays with pay, as well as remuneration for public holidays.</p> <p>(2) A person shall not be denied emergency medical treatment.</p>
<p>Right to development</p> <p>64. (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>We propose the insertion of the word 'youth' immediately after the word 'women' in subsection 64(2)</p>

<p>a right to development, and to the enjoyment of economic, social, cultural and political development.</p> <p>(2) Women, children and persons with disabilities shall be given special consideration in the application of the rights referred to in subsection (1).</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>The proposed new subsection would read as thus:</p> <p>(2) Women, youth, children and persons with disabilities shall be given special consideration in the application of the rights referred to in subsection (1).</p>
<p>CHAPTER 7: REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE</p> <p>S.73: The right to be registered and to vote ...</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>Subsection 73(4)</p> <p>4) The registration of voters shall cease two months before any public election.</p>
<p>Section 82: Political Parties</p> <p>(2) Every political party shall—</p> <p>(g) ensure that at least ten percent 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>The registration shall all persons who will be 18 years on the date of the election.</p> <p>New provision to read as thus: Political Parties</p> <p>82.</p> <p>(2) Every political party shall—</p> <p>(g) ensure that at least thirty percent</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>CHAPTER VIII: EXECUTIVE</p>		
<p>Qualifications for election as President</p> <p>91. (1) Subject to section 92, a person is qualified for election as President if he or she</p> <p>—</p> <p>(b) has, on the date of nomination for election of President, attained the age of thirty years;</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 propose an amendment to this subsection 91(1) (b)</p> <p>The new provision to read as thus:</p> <p>91. (1) 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, attained the age of 21 years;</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Qualifications for election as President</p>	<p>We are of the view that 12 years</p>	<p>We propose for amendments to</p>

<p>91. (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>subsections 91 (f) and (g) and added a new subsection</p> <p>The amendments to read as thus:</p> <p>(f) holds a minimum of an undergraduate degree plus one year work experience after the date of attaining that degree; or</p> <p>f) holds a diploma plus two 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 three years' work experience after the date of attaining that certificate.</p>
<p>Disqualifications for election as President</p> <p>92. (1) 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>Disqualifications for election as President</p> <p>92. (1) A person is disqualified for election as President if he or she –</p> <p>(f) has been adjudged, within three years immediately preceding the date of nomination for election as President, to have uttered any statement to cause feelings of ill-will, disaffection or hostility between different classes or ethnic groups of The Gambia;</p>
<p>Qualifications and disqualifications of Ministers</p> <p>114. (1) 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>Qualifications and disqualifications of Ministers</p> <p>114. (1) 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>CHAPTER IX</p>		
<p>Establishment and composition of the National Assembly</p> <p>134. (1) There is established the National Assembly of The Gambia.</p> <p>(2) The National Assembly shall comprise the number of persons specified in Schedule 2, representing the constituencies therein specified.</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>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</p> <p>Schedule 2 (d) to read as thus:</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 National Youth Council, 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>Section 142(4)(a) to read</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 National Youth Council</p>		<p>CHAPTER X: JUDICIARY</p>
<p>We are fine with this chapter</p>	<p>CHAPTER XI: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND DECENTRALISATION</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>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>We propose an amendment to this subsection to read as thus:</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>We are fine with this chapter</p>	<p>Chapter 12</p>
<p>CHAPTER XIII: PUBLIC FINANCE</p>		

<p>Section: 236. (1) (b) (iii)</p> <p>236. (1) 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>237.</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>243 (2)</p> <p>243.</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 (i) any other independent body created under this Constitution</p>
<p>245. (1) 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>246. (1) 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>We propose an amendment to this Section to read thus: 246. (1) Within a year of the coming into force of this Constitution, an Act of the National Assembly shall set limits on – (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>Establishment and composition of the Commission</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>Chapter 15 (The Public Service)</p>	<p>Chapter 14</p> <p>We see this to be not youth friendly and recommend it to be more youth friendly by having a youth rep in the commission.</p>	<p>We propose that the compositions of the commission should consider youth representation.</p>
	We are fine with this chapter	

Chapter 16 (National Security)	We are fine with this chapter	
Chapter 17 (National Youth Development) S296. 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.	The section is not specific on who the government will consult with on behalf of the youth 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. We are fine with this chapter	We propose an Amendment to this section 296 to reflect as follows: The Government shall, in any matter concerning the development of policies and decision making relating to or affecting the youth specifically, consult the youth, through the national youth council and give due considerations to their opinions on such policies and decisions.
Chapter 18 (The National Council for Civic Education)	We are fine with this chapter	
Chapter 19 (Amendment of this Constitution)	We are fine with this chapter	
Chapter 20 (Miscellaneous)	We are fine with this chapter	
<u>WE PROPOSE THAT A CHAPTER BE ADDED BEFORE CHAPTER 18 TO INCLUDE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL IN THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION AS STATED BELOW:</u>		
THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL		
Establishment and composition of National Youth Council		
<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.