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AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT  
BANK GROUP

**PROJECT: Sustainable Land Management**  
**COUNTRY: The Gambia**

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**PROJECT APPRAISAL REPORT**

*Date: 20<sup>th</sup>, May, 2010*

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## Currency Equivalents

(June 2010)

1 UA	=	1.511USD
1UA	=	41.163 GMD
1 USD	=	27.24 GMD

## Fiscal Year

1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> December

## Weights and Measures

1 metric tonne	=	2204 pounds (lbs)
1 kilogramme (kg)	=	2.200 lbs
1 metre (m)	=	3.28 feet (ft)
1 millimetre (mm)	=	0.03937 inch (“)
1 kilometre (km)	=	0.62 mile
1 hectare (ha)	=	2.471 acres

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank
ARD	Agricultural Regional Directorate
DAS/DCD	Department of Agricultural Services / Cooperative Development
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
LADEP	Lowland Agricultural Development Programme
LD	Land Degradation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MDFT	Multi Disciplinary Field Team
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MFI	Micro Finance Institution
MIS	Management Information System
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NEA	National Environmental Agency
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
OMVG	Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Gambie
PCR	Project Completion Report
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PIWAMP	Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project
PMU	Project Management Unit
PY	Project Year
RoTG	Republic of The Gambia
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
USD	United States of America Dollar
VDC	Village Development Committee

## Grant Information

### Client's information

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**GRANT RECIPIENT:** Republic of The Gambia

**EXECUTING AGENCY:** Ministry of Agriculture

### Financing plan

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Source	Amount (USD)	Instrument
ADB / ADF	0	N/A
Global Environment Facility	4.400 million	Grant
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>4.400 million</b>	

### Timeframe - Main Milestones (expected)

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Concept Note approval	N/A
Project approval	October 2010
Effectiveness	November 2010
Last Disbursement	December 2014
Completion	June 2014

## **Project Summary**

The Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP) is an incremental financing for the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP). Therefore as PIWAMP, it is designed to have nation-wide coverage of the low and high lands that are used in agriculture production in the Gambia. It seeks to address interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity and land degradation. The main outputs of the project include operational national and regional level Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Platforms comprising a multi-level partnership of stakeholder institutions promoting SLM; an agreed SLM Investment Framework for strategic planning, prioritisation and implementation of targeted investments. At least 10 senior policy makers and technical experts with an enhanced knowledge of different tillage techniques; a minimum of 36 ward level Multi-disciplinary Facilitation Teams (MDFTs) with the skills and experience required to support rural communities in implementation and monitoring of community based watershed/landscape management plans; and at least 42 farmer centred conservation agriculture validation trials and demonstrations will be achieved by implementing the SLMP.

The SLMP will be implemented over four years with a total GEF grant of USD 4.4 million. The priority beneficiaries of the project are the poor smallholders that are dependent on traditional upland crops and lowland rice cultivation as their main source of livelihood. In the lowlands, the primary target group will be women, whereas, for the uplands, the focus is on conservation farming and men, women and youths will be the target beneficiaries. The project is expected to realise major environmental and socio-economic benefits through its investments in SLM interventions aimed at restoring, sustaining and enhancing the protective and productive functions of the lowland and upland ecosystems. The lowland and upland sustainable crop, livestock, forestry and eco-tourism activities that will be supported are expected to result in a significant increase in the returns from such livelihood activities at the community and individual household levels. This in turn will have a positive impact on food security at various levels, while also contributing to the alleviation of rural poverty. The beneficiary communities will take the lead in the participatory planning activities, thus ensuring a demand driven local planning process.

The SLMP was designed in recognition of the fact that the current extent of land degradation in The Gambia has both local and global environmental consequences. The incremental grant funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will complement the current investment in the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP) that is co-financed by the Republic of the Gambia (RoTG), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). The SLMP is aimed at ensuring that PIWAMP activities contribute to the realisation of optimal global environmental benefits, including reducing land degradation, conserving biodiversity and improving the adaptive response to climate change. The SLMP is the first request for GEF financing made by the Bank in collaboration with IFAD and is thus a learning process internally in GEF project design and the requisite procedures and requirements. It leverages additional resources to improve the environmental sustainability of the Bank's intervention including adaptation to climate change and thus contributes to global environmental benefits. The AfDB's role will be to supervise and monitor the daily implementation of the SLMP, while IFAD will be responsible for reporting on monitoring and evaluation according to GEF rules and regulations. The GEF administration fee of USD 400, 000 provided to AfDB and IFAD will cover the costs for supervision and monitoring of the SLMP.

## Result-based Logical Framework

HIERARCHY OF OBJECTIVES	EXPECTED RESULTS	REACH	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	INDICATIVE TARGETS TIMEFRAME	ASSUMPTIONS / RISKS
<p><b>Goal:</b> To address interlinked problems of rural poverty, food insecurity and land degradation</p>	<p><b>Impact :</b> Productive and protective functions of The Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystems restored, sustained and enhanced</p>	<p><b>Beneficiaries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food insecure rural households (HHs)</li> <li>• Rural poor</li> <li>• Communities adopting SLM principles</li> </ul>	<p><b>Impact Indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved ecological services and benefits</li> <li>• Reduced number of food insecure rural households HHs;</li> <li>• Reduced total number of rural poor</li> <li>• Improved enabling environment for SLM</li> </ul> <p><i>Sources:</i> Statistical year book of Gambian agriculture; State of the environment report; M&amp;E report; MTR report; PCR</p>	<p><b>Progress anticipated in the Long-term:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable natural resource management and environmental conservation restored</li> <li>• Increase in Gambia's upland and lowland ecosystem population participating in sustainable natural resource based economic activities</li> </ul> <p><b>Time Frame:</b> By 2025</p>	<p><b>Assumptions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government remains committed to protecting low &amp; upland ecosystem resources at all levels</li> <li>• Key development partners support the SLM initiative</li> </ul>
<p><b>Project Purpose:</b> To improve livelihoods through promotion of community-based watershed/landscape management approaches, enabling resource poor communities to reverse declining land productivity</p>	<p><b>Outcome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased productivity and profitability of HH crop, livestock, forestry and ecotourism based enterprises</li> </ul>	<p><b>Beneficiaries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating farmers</li> <li>• Participating villages</li> <li>• Future generations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community adoption of SLM practices and principles (targeted population 66, 000 of which 35, 970 are female)</li> <li>• Improved HH incomes for targeted 5, 500 of which 726 are headed by females.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Progress anticipated in the medium term:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 40% of the targeted 5,500 HHs utilizing natural resources in line with SLM principles</li> <li>• Average crop yields of 1235 kg/ ha increased by at least 15% in targeted areas;</li> <li>• At least 10% incremental increase in area of lowland rice production (average of 0.58 ha per holder);</li> <li>• Woodland/forest productivity increased by at least 10%;</li> <li>• 30% reduction in amount of firewood and crop residues used for fuel;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assumption:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating communities are able to identify and adopt improved upland and lowland ecosystem resource based livelihood</li> <li>• National and ARD level acceptance of, and continuing support for, community-based land use planning</li> </ul>

<p>To overcome the causes and negative impacts of land degradation on the structure and functional integrity of The Gambia's lowland and upland ecosystem resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scaling up sustainable land management technologies and adoption of community-based watershed/landscape management planning approaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating villages</li> <li>• National environment and natural resource management authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community adoption of SLM principles</li> </ul> <p><u>Sources:</u> Progress report; M&amp;E report; Special impact studies; MTR; PCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil erosion currently 12.5 tons/ha/year on average 2 % slope / degradation halted within 30% of targeted upland areas;</li> <li>• Sedimentation reduced by at least 20% in lowland rice areas</li> <li>• At least 25% increase in area with improved water management and salinity control under rice production</li> <li>• 30% improvement in vegetative cover and increased productivity in degraded woodlands and rangelands Baseline: 6 % deforestation rate annually</li> <li>• At least 30% improvement in vegetative cover and restoration in habitat diversity in areas of semi natural vegetation with potential as wildlife/nature reserves</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Timeframe:</u></b> by 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project interventions will mitigate the causes and reduce the negative impact of ecosystem degradation within both the low &amp; uplands of The Gambia.</li> <li>• An enabling environment to support community-based watershed/landscape management planning and implementation within participating villages</li> </ul>
<p><b>Input and activities</b> Creation of an improved enabling (technical, policy and institutional) environment for implementation of SLM at national, regional, district and ward levels</p>	<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common national SLM vision;</li> <li>• Coordinated and harmonized SLM investments;</li> <li>• SLM projects/programs aligned under a national platform;</li> <li>• Gambian SLM Investment Framework</li> <li>• Enhanced knowledge among senior policy makers and technical experts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Beneficiaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target communities</li> <li>• National environment and natural resource management authorities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Output indicators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National level SLM platform established with operational secretariat</li> <li>• Establishment of SLM platforms within all six ARDs in the Gambia</li> <li>• Number of harmonized SLM plans.</li> <li>• SLM Investment Framework produced and approved by government and development partners</li> <li>• Detailed recommendations for the development of a SLM Knowledge Base and Information System approved</li> <li>• International conservation agriculture study tour undertaken by senior DoSA and NARI policy</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Progress anticipated in the short term:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First national SLM forum convened within PY1</li> <li>• National secretariat and committees active by PY1</li> <li>• Shared Vision confirmed by PY2</li> <li>• SLM interventions and investments initiated by PY2</li> <li>• Six ARD platforms established by PY2</li> <li>• SLM plans harmonised by PY3</li> <li>• SLM investment framework approved by PY2</li> <li>• Recommendations prepared by PY2</li> <li>• At least 10 senior DoSA and NARI policy makers and technical experts undertake study tour by PY1</li> <li>• Revised mechanisation policy produced by PY2</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Assumptions:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willingness by national and stakeholders to coordinate and harmonise SLM interventions and investments in a multi-level partnership.</li> <li>• Willingness of MoA to host the national SLM secretariat</li> <li>• Government committed to protecting natural resources</li> <li>• Willingness of MoA</li> </ul>

<p>Facilitation of community-empowerment and participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MDFTs trained in the concepts and principles of SLM</li> <li>• Implementation of various SLM practices and related village level micro-investment proposals</li> <li>• Establishment of operational watershed/landscape management sub-committees</li> </ul>		<p>makers and technical experts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No. of MDFTs trained and providing technical support</li> <li>• No. of watershed/landscape management sub-committees established</li> <li>• Area of upland woodland/forest protected and restored through natural regeneration, enrichment planting and afforestation</li> <li>• Area of intensified parkland agroforestry systems in the upland croplands</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 MDFTs trained by PY2</li> <li>• 36 watershed/landscape management sub-committees established by PY2</li> <li>• 7920 ha of upland woodland/forest protected and restored through natural regeneration by PY4</li> <li>• 3120ha of upland woodland/forest protected and expanded through enrichment planting and afforestation by PY4</li> <li>• 1950ha of intensified parkland agroforestry systems in the upland croplands by PY4</li> </ul>	<p>to review and revise its agricultural mechanisation policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MDFTs are available within targeted Wards</li> <li>• MDFTs and ARD specialists, willing to work with rural communities</li> <li>• Selected villages participate in the proposed community based watershed/landscape management planning.</li> </ul>
<p>Project implementation and monitoring</p>	<p>Reports documenting: (i) progress with the implementation of the project's activities; (ii) the local and global environmental impact of the project; (iii) the quantity and economic value of the ecosystem services restored and enhanced as a result of the project's activities.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• M &amp; E system set-up within six months of effectiveness</li> <li>• M&amp;E reports produced annually</li> <li>• Annual audit report submitted not later than six months after the end of each fiscal year</li> <li>• Mid-Term Review by second quarter of PY3</li> <li>• An environmental impact study carried out in PY4</li> <li>• PCR produced 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of PY4</li> <li>• Communication system set-up for knowledge sharing</li> </ul> <p><u>Sources:</u> Annual progress report of National SLM platform; MoA annual report; National SLM Annual report Steering committee report; Technical committee report; M&amp;E report; Supervision reports; Project progress report; MTR; PCR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 ARD GEF focal point subject matter specialists appointed by PY1</li> <li>• M &amp; E system set-up within six months of effectiveness, PY1</li> <li>• 2 M&amp;E reports produced annually</li> <li>• Annual audit report submitted not later than six months after the of fiscal year</li> <li>• Mid-Term Review carried out and action taken on agreed recommendations by second quarter of PY3</li> <li>• An environmental impact study carried out in PY4</li> <li>• PCR produced and submitted not later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of PY4</li> <li>• Communication system set-up for knowledge sharing by PY2-4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders are motivated and staff provided necessary training and incentives</li> <li>• Participatory process of planning and implementation is assured</li> </ul>

## Project Timeframe

No.	ACTIVITIES	PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (YEARS)															
		2010			2011			2012			2013			2014			
1	Board approval, Signing of Grant	■															
2	Grant Disbursement Effectiveness	■															
3	Project Launching		■														
4	Recruitment of Field Coordinators and Accounts Clerk		■														
5	Recruitment of SLM Coordinator		■														
6	Recruitment of International TA			■													
7	Preparation of MoU with Service Providers		■														
8	Finalise Reporting and M&E arrangements		■														
9	Establishment and operation of national SLM platform				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
10	Establishment and operation of six regional SLM platforms					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
11	Formulation of SLM Investment Framework				■	■	■										
12	Development of the SLM Knowledge base and information system									■	■						
13	Community based NR/Watershed management planning			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
14	Community based SLM investments					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
15	Validation and demonstration of conservation agriculture tools and techniques						■	■	■								
16	Participatory impact M&E									■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
17	Mid-term review									■							
18	Monitoring and Reporting		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
19	Programme completion															■	■
20	Completion Report															■	■
21	Audits						■			■			■			■	■

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ADB GROUP  
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON A PROPOSED INCREMENTAL FINANCING GRANT  
TO THE GAMBIA FOR THE SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Management submits the following Report and Recommendation on a proposed incremental financing grant from the Global Environment Facility for USD 4, 400, 000 to finance the Sustainable Land Management project in the Gambia.

**I – STRATEGIC THRUST & RATIONALE**

***1.1. Project linkages with country strategy and objectives***

1.1.1 The SLMP is designed as incremental financing for the Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP), which is co-financed by the AfDB, IFAD and the RoTG. PIWAMP became operational in April 2006, with AfDB funding for 6 years and IFAD funding for 8 years. The RoTG requested the Bank and IFAD, in September 2007, to apply for incremental financing from the GEF. The Gambia is eligible for GEF grant funding, as it is a party to (i) the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (signed 12<sup>th</sup> June 1992, ratified 10<sup>th</sup> June 1994); (ii) The United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) (signed 14<sup>th</sup> October 1994, ratified 11<sup>th</sup> June 1996, entry into force 26<sup>th</sup> December 1996); (iii) the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (signed 12<sup>th</sup> June 1992, ratified 10<sup>th</sup> June 1994, entry into force 8<sup>th</sup> September 1994), and (iv) the Kyoto Protocol (ratified 1<sup>st</sup> June 2001).

1.1.2 The SLM project responds to the second of the two key pillars of the Bank's current Joint Assistance Strategy for the Gambia, which are (i) strengthening the institutional framework for economic management and public service delivery; and (ii) enhancing productive capacity and accelerating growth and competitiveness (AfDB/World Bank JAS 2008-2011). The SLMP provides incremental financing for the PIWAMP, which is included in the current JAS. It will enhance productive capacity in the agriculture sector by increasing selected crop yields, increasing the area of lowland rice production and increasing the productivity of woodland/ forests, among others. The community micro-projects targeted at improving the productivity of the agriculture sector align the project to the Bank's Medium Term Strategy, which aims to address immediate needs through selective support and a realignment of its agriculture portfolio to boost productivity. The project is also consistent with pillars 2 and 5 of the PRSP II 2007- 2011, which are related to enhancing the capacity and output of the productive sectors (agriculture, fisheries, industry, trade, tourism and infrastructure) and mainstreaming poverty related cross-cutting issues into poverty reduction, respectively. The project aims to contribute to the Government's goal of accelerated GDP growth and poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods through efficient use of the land resources and it will support provision of rural infrastructure. Furthermore, the project remains technically sound, socially attractive, economically viable and sustainable from the environmental perspective. Its implementation will enable the Bank and the RoTG to achieve the major development objective of the baseline project, PIWAMP.

1.1.3 The project responds to and is fully consistent with the environmental and rural development priorities of the RoTG. The community level and participatory approach of the SLMP represents a major advance in implementation of the Gambia Environment Action Plan (Phase I 1992-2001, and Phase II 2001-present), which aims at integrating environmental concerns into the country's overall social and economic development strategy. The decentralised implementation design also fully aligns the SLMP with the Government's Agricultural and Natural Resources Management Sector Policy

(2001-2020), which recognizes the central role of communities in management of their natural resources as the backbone of the Government's effort to develop agriculture both to meet the growing demand for food and to increase the incomes of the rural poor. The RoTG has also developed the Gambia National Agriculture Investment Plan (GNAIP) as the investment strategy underpinning the recently signed CAADP compact. The GNAIP combines policy, institutional, infrastructure and technology related measures to address the multiplicity of supply-side constraints to enhance the growth potential of The Gambia's agriculture. Improvement of water management and management of other shared resources are two of the key pillars of the GNAIP. This project supports the GNAIP through its expected outcomes of improving water management and addressing land degradation issues in the low lands and up lands with the aim of improving agriculture productivity.

## ***1.2. Rationale for Bank's involvement***

1.2.1 The SLMP is a complementary GEF component of the on-going Bank financed PIWAMP, which has the objective to significantly increase land productivity on a sustainable basis in The Gambia, hence reducing poverty and enhancing household food security. The total cost of the baseline PIWAMP is US\$ 17.5 million (UA 12.085 million). The Bank financing is in the form of a loan from the Nigeria Trust Fund (NTF), with co-financing from IFAD and the RoTG. The PIWAMP as the baseline project consists of three components: i) Watershed Management; ii) Capacity Building; and, iii) Project Management.

1.2.2 To date, PIWAMP has constructed 672 gully control structures; built 125.3 km contour bunds; improved 160 km inter-village roads; constructed 13 watering points and the formed over 50 farmer's groups. The implementation of the Bank's component of the PIWAMP is well advanced; the disbursement rate stands at 92%, with 85% physical implementation of project activities. PIWAMP is a success story and was rated as the best performing project in the recent CPPR for The Gambia.

1.2.3 The success of PIWAMP underscores the fact that land degradation in The Gambia can be addressed to avoid both local and global adverse environmental consequences. The Bank and IFAD accepted the proposal by the RoTG to request incremental financing based on the co-financing arrangement of the PIWAMP and also the eligibility of the project. The Bank is one of the key implementing partners of the GEF and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in February 2005 and a Financial Procedures Agreement (FPA) with the GEF Trustee (the World Bank) to access the GEF resources. The Bank accordingly supports countries in preparing GEF projects and supervises their implementation. The Bank's involvement seeks to achieve two-pronged objectives namely, promoting the current effort in ensuring sustainable development, while forging strong cooperation with other development partners.

1.2.4 The GEF grant for the SLM will support incremental investments in: (i) field level sustainable land management practices; (ii) enhanced institutional capacity for SLM; and, (iii) coordinated participatory planning and dialogue on improved resource management between the concerned stakeholder communities, institutions and development partners. These investments were identified during the implementation of the PIWAMP as methods for ensuring the long term conservation and sustainable use of the country's land resource base. PIWAMP focuses on upland conservation and lowland development activities driven by demand from the target communities. The demand driven approach has the unforeseen localised project approach, resulting in a seemingly fragmented benefit accrual.

### 1.3. Donors coordination

Table 1.1: Donors active in the Agriculture Sector

	Sector	Size		
		GDP	Exports	Labor Force
	Agriculture	33%	40%*	75%
<b>Players - Public Annual Expenditure (average)**</b>				
	Government	Donors	<i>AfDB</i>	26%
%	20%	80%	<i>World Bank</i>	24%
			<i>IDB</i>	24%
			<i>IFAD</i>	20%
			<i>FAO</i>	6%
<b>Level of Donor Coordination</b>				
	Existence of Thematic Working Groups			N
	Existence of SWAPs or Integrated Sector Approaches			N
	AfDB's Involvement in donors coordination			M***
* Source: Centre for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)				
** Years [2004 to 2014] *** M: member but not leader				

1.3.1 The Bank Group commenced its lending operations in the Gambia in 1974, and to-date, has approved 56 operations with total commitments, net of cancellations, amounting to UA 213.82 million. The transport and social sectors each account for about 24 %, the agricultural sector 22%, public utilities 12%, multi-sector 10%, support of the environment 6% and industry 2%. About 85% of the Bank Group's net commitments are from ADF resources, 9% from AfDB resources and 6% from NTF resources. The details of the Bank's 12 ongoing operations are provided in Appendix II excluding the three multinational agricultural projects.

1.3.2 As illustrated in Table 1.1, the AfDB is one of the main multi-lateral and bilateral donors and international development agencies that provide financial and technical support for the improved management of The Gambia's land resources. The support is mainly coordinated through a unit for all donor funded projects in the Ministry of Finance and also through co-financing of various interventions. IFAD has provided financial support for seven projects in The Gambia; five of these have been co-financed with the AfDB and the World Bank. The projects have had an agricultural focus and pursued the overall goal of alleviating rural poverty by improving household food security, especially among small-scale farmers. The World Bank has provided assistance for the establishment of a sound macroeconomic and sectoral environment. The European Union – through its 8th Development Fund, focused on decentralization (capacity-building and prioritization) and rural development, including the establishment of a microcredit policy, groundnut-sector reform, agricultural research and extension, rural infrastructure and the rehabilitation of rural roads. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) – through its Special Programme for Food Security has been active in the intensification and diversification of agriculture and water management. The interventions supported by the various donors are presented in Appendix III.

1.3.3 In addition to the development partners mentioned above, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) also provides grant and concessional resources to complement traditional development assistance by covering the additional or “agreed incremental costs” in the Gambia. GEF funding is

mainly to assist developing countries in meeting the objectives of various international environmental conventions such as the convention on biodiversity, the convention on climate change and the POPs convention. The Bank is one of the key implementing partners of the GEF and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with GEF in February 2005 and a Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee (the World Bank) to access GEF resources. The Bank accordingly supports countries in preparing GEF projects and supervises their implementation. The SLMP was prepared in response to a request received from the Republic of the Gambia, seeking the assistance of the Bank and IFAD in September 2007 to apply for incremental financing for the PIWAMP. The Bank made the request with the aim of leveraging additional resources to improve the environmental sustainability of interventions including adaptation to climate change and thus contribute to global environmental benefits. The GEF approved the grant for the SLMP in January 2010.

## II – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 2.1. Project components

Table 2.1: project components

Nr .	Component name	Est. cost (USD million)	Component description
1	SLM institutional strengthening	0.898	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establishment and operation of the Gambia national SLM platform</li> <li>▪ Establishment and operation of six regional SLM platforms</li> <li>▪ Formulation of the Gambia SLM Investment Framework</li> <li>▪ Development of the SLM knowledge base and information system</li> <li>▪ Assisting in the development of appropriate policies on agricultural mechanisation</li> <li>▪ Building the capacity of key planning and advisory support service providers</li> </ul>
2	Community based watershed/Landscape management	2.989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community based NR/Watershed management planning</li> <li>▪ Ensuring food security, addressing poverty and land degradation through community based SLM investments</li> <li>▪ Participatory impact monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>▪ Institutional capacity building for community-based watershed management planning</li> <li>▪ Validation and demonstration of conservation agriculture tools and techniques for upland farming</li> </ul>
3	Project Management	0.344	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop and execute the annual procurement plans</li> <li>▪ Implement an internal monitoring/evaluation management system;</li> <li>▪ Prepare and submit reports – quarterly, mid-term review, and project completion reports;</li> <li>▪ Monitor agreements with implementing partners</li> </ul>

2.1.1 The Component 1 activities will provide country-driven leadership in the alignment, harmonisation and coordination of SLM development efforts by the various actors, led by the Government to ensure that development assistance is aligned to The Gambia’s SLM priorities and is delivered in accordance with the devolved institutional structure. The Component 2 activities will develop the capacity of individual communities to assess the degradation status of their local natural resource, prepare watershed/landscape management plans and micro investment project portfolios in a fully participatory manner for restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive capacity and protective functions of these resources. The participatory land use planning process will involve a series of village/community level briefing/sensitisation meetings, participatory planning workshops, and discovery-based field learning exercises. Using the skills developed the communities will then implement micro-projects using investment from the SLMP.

## 2.2. Technical solution retained and other alternatives explored

2.2.1 The main alternative considered in the design of the SLMP is the baseline PIWAMP without the incremental financing. The PIWAMP did not include any activities aimed at improving the enabling (development policy, legislative and institutional capacity) environment within the framework of the government policy for decentralising responsibility for the management of the country's natural resources to local government authorities at the region and district levels. The SLMP will support the mainstreaming of SLM, using a two-tiered approach at national and regional levels, which will provide country-driven leadership in the alignment, harmonisation and coordination of SLM development efforts by various actors including the Government, International Financial Institutions, bilateral and multilateral development agencies, international and national NGOs, civil society and the private sector. The community level focus on the micro-projects will also ensure sustainability of the investments and knowledge and skills development at the local level.

## 2.3. Project type

2.3.1 The SLM project provides incremental grant financing from the GEF, and therefore, complements the investments made in PIWAMP by the Bank using NTF resources. The incremental GEF investments will ensure that PIWAMP activities contribute to the realisation of optimal global environmental benefits, including reducing land degradation, conserving biodiversity and improving the adaptive response to climate change.

## 2.4. Project cost and financing arrangements

2.4.1 The total cost of the SLM project is estimated to be USD 4.4 million. The foreign cost is estimated at 28% of the total cost. The cost estimates have been calculated on an incremental basis. Duties and taxes are included in the costs, but have been identified for financing by the PIWAMP PMU using standard government guidelines. Community-based investments in SLM are based on the assessment of the kinds of micro-projects that may be selected by village communities and rural households. The actual mix of investment portfolio during implementation will be determined by the concerned communities and rural households. However, the project has included criteria, consistent with GEF SLM investment guidelines, which will guide the selection. The following tables present the details of the estimated GEF financing.

Table 2.3: Project cost estimates by component [amounts in million USD]

Components	F.C	L. C.	Total Costs	% foreign
SLM institutional strengthening	0.483	0.415	0.898	54
Community based watershed/Landscape management	0.611	2.378	2.989	20
Project Management	0.095	0.249	0.344	28
<b>Total base cost</b>	<b>1.188</b>	<b>3.043</b>	<b>4.231</b>	<b>28</b>
Physical contingency	0.006	0.014	0.020	30
Price Contingency	0.042	0.107	0.149	28
<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>1.236</b>	<b>3.164</b>	<b>4.400</b>	<b>28</b>

Note: Exchange rates are provided in the introduction of this report (page (i)). The foreign exchange rate used for local costs is that of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009 – USD1 = GMD 26.11

Table 2.4: Sources of financing [amounts in million USD]

Sources of financing	F. C.	L. C.	Total Costs	% foreign
Global Environment Facility	1.236	3.164	4.400	28
<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>1.236</b>	<b>3.164</b>	<b>4.400</b>	<b>28</b>

Table 2.5: Project cost by category of expenditure [amounts in million USD]

Categories of expenditure	F.C.	L.C.	Total Costs	% foreign
<b>Investment Costs</b>	0.610	2.182	2.792	22
Goods				
Office and field equipment	0.077	0.051	0.128	60
Works				
Micro-projects	0.533	2.131	2.664	20
Services	0.579	0.576	1.155	50
Technical Assistance	0.238	0.055	0.293	81
Studies	0.114	0.114	0.228	50
Capacity Building	0.227	0.323	0.550	41
Miscellaneous	-	0.084	0.084	-
<b>Operating Costs</b>	-	0.285	0.285	-
Maintenance and Repairs	-	0.052	0.052	-
Salaries and Allowances	-	0.233	0.233	-
<b>Total base cost</b>	<b>1.188</b>	<b>3.043</b>	<b>4.231</b>	<b>28</b>
Physical contingency	0.006	0.014	0.020	30
Price Contingency	0.042	0.107	0.149	28
<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>1.236</b>	<b>3.164</b>	<b>4.400</b>	<b>28</b>

Table 2.6: Expenditure schedule by component [amounts in million USD]

Components	2010	2011	2012	2013
SLM institutional strengthening	0.407	0.231	0.135	0.105
Community based watershed/Landscape management	0.123	0.741	1.411	0.736
Project Management	0.089	0.063	0.084	0.108
<b>Total base cost</b>	<b>0.619</b>	<b>1.035</b>	<b>1.629</b>	<b>0.948</b>

## 2.5. Project's target area and population

2.5.1 The SLMP related interventions will be operational in all six of the Agricultural Regional Directorates (ARDs) namely, Yundum, Kerewan, Jenoi, Sapu, Kuntaur and Basse. The target groups for the SLMP will be the same as envisaged for the activities promoted by the PIWAMP, namely poor smallholders dependent on traditional upland crops such as groundnuts, millet and sorghum and lowland rice cultivation as their main source of livelihood. An estimated 164,310 people are directly and indirectly benefiting from PIWAMP interventions and this number would be covered under the SLM. Over 50% of these beneficiaries are women, based on the data collected during the implementation of the PIWAMP. Given that lowland rice cultivation is primarily undertaken by women, while men have primary responsibility for upland cropping, the primary target group for GEF supported field level SLM interventions in the lowlands will be women, whereas for those aimed at the improved management of the croplands and rangelands in the uplands the primary target will be men. The SLM planning will be undertaken on a watershed/landscape basis and will focus on the overall improved management of both lowland and upland ecosystem resources including water.

This will require a community based participatory approach involving all those who utilise the community's land and water resources to meet their household livelihood needs.

2.5.2 The SLMP will finance up to 80% of the investment requirement of a micro-project, while the beneficiaries will provide the balance 20% in cash and kind on matching grant basis. The SLMP will support the community-based watershed/landscape management planning process in selected sites, which should be: (i) representative of the different ecological zones<sup>1</sup>, the types of land degradation and land and water use problems occurring within The Gambia<sup>2</sup>; (ii) representative of the different target groups of the PIWAMP; (iii) identified by the ARDs as priority areas where there is a need to address the inter linked problems of food security, rural poverty and land degradation through the promotion of SLM in a watershed/landscape context; and (iv) areas where the communities already recognise that they have a problem and have agreed to work with PIWAMP to develop their own SLM community-based watershed/landscape management and investment plans. The level of inputs will be minimal based on the principles of conservation farming, which promotes organic inputs. Field equipment to be used by the communities will also be purchased.

## ***2.6. Participatory process for project identification, design and implementation***

2.6.1 The formulation and appraisal of the SLMP followed a stakeholder consultative process linked to PIWAMP, which ensured that the proposed investment activities are in line with national and regional level priorities, development strategies and administrative structures. The consultations held with key national and local level institutional stakeholders in the design process resulted in the focus on a two tiered SLM coordination at both National and ARD levels, which is expected to contribute to the long term sustainability of the project's investments. In addition, the community based participatory approach for the preparation of the village area watershed/landscape management plans, which was developed following extensive ARD and community level consultations, will ensure that investments reflect local level development priorities and concerns.

2.6.2 The planning and implementation of the field level SLM interventions will be driven by the communities within the selected village areas supported by the trained MDFTs and technical specialists from the PMU and ARD levels. The beneficiary communities will take the lead in the participatory planning activities, thereby ensuring that they are at the forefront within their village area when it comes to: (i) identifying the lowland and upland ecosystem issues that need to be addressed; (ii) determining the type and nature of the SLM investments required; (iii) preparing an Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB); (iv) mobilising community level cash and in-kind contributions for the agreed SLM investments; and (v) monitoring and evaluating the impact of implementing their watershed/landscape management plan. In order to facilitate effective participation of the beneficiaries, appropriate mobilization, organization and training will be conducted with the support of both PIWAMP and the SLMP.

2.6.2 The SLMP seeks to broaden and strengthen the watershed management activities of PIWAMP through the development and promotion of a community based approach to integrated watershed/landscape planning. Such an approach would enable the participating rural communities to assess the degradation status of their local natural resources (soils, vegetation, water, wildlife etc) within both their upland and lowland areas. Thereafter they would prepare their own overall

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<sup>1</sup> Each site should include both upland and lowland areas.

<sup>2</sup> The aim is that they should serve as action learning sites and subsequent demonstration 'models' for scaling up the approach across The Gambia as the financial resources become available in the future from government and other development partners.

watershed/landscape based land use and investment plans, aimed at restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive capacity and protective functions of these resources, and coping with the risks posed by climate change. The aim would be to enable communities assume direct responsibility (and ownership) for assessing the ecosystem resource management problems and deciding on the solutions.

## ***2.7. Bank Group experience, lessons reflected in project design***

2.7.1 The SLMP is designed to build on the successful experience of the PIWAMP and the previous RoTG/AfDB/IFAD funded Lowlands Agriculture Development Project (LADEP) that used simple technologies and self help labour that ensured sustainability. While LADEP focused on water retention and tidal access works aimed at increasing rice production in the lowlands, PIWAMP broadened this to include SLM related activities in the uplands. The SLMP retains the demand-driven and participatory planning approach with activities expanded to include support for a range of SLM activities related to crop, livestock and forest production within the uplands. These are in addition to the lowland rice development activities that had been the focus of LADEP.

2.7.2 The other lessons learnt from previous interventions of the Bank in the sub-region that have been integrated into the design of the SLMP include the formation of community based user groups to manage water control infrastructure installed during project implementation and also the in kind contribution of the community towards the community demand driven micro-project investments. Examples where lessons have been drawn include investments in Cape Verde and the OMVG region. The SLMP will make use of community committees in monitoring project implementation, as well as ensuring sustainability of the investments made.

## ***2.8. Key performance indicators***

2.8.1 The key performance indicators for the project will include: (i) the establishment of an operational national SLM platform, (ii) an operational national SLM secretariat; (iii) number of communities adopting SLM principles; (iv) establishment of ARD level SLM platforms within all six ARDs; (v) improved household incomes; (vi) number of harmonized SLM plans and investments; (vii) number of MDFTs trained and operational; (viii) number of watershed/landscape management sub-committees established; (ix) number of base line assessments of the village areas; (x) number of SLM micro-investment project portfolios; (xi) area of communal rangelands restored and improved; (xii) area of upland woodland/forest protected and restored through natural regeneration, enrichment planting and afforestation; (xiii) area of upland woodland/forest protected and expanded; (xiv) area of mangrove woodland protected and restored; (xv) area of lowlands where invasive aquatic weeds have been controlled; (xvi) area of wildlife habitats protected and restored; (xvii) area of intensified parkland agroforestry systems in the upland croplands; and, (xviii) number of validation trials/ demonstrations of the conservation agriculture.

# **III – PROJECT FEASIBILITY**

## ***3.1. Economic and financial performance***

3.1.1 The main benefits of the SLMP will be in the environmental and social sectors, with a substantial impact on capacity-building and gender issues. The project is expected to realise major environmental and socio-economic benefits through its investments in SLM aimed at restoring, sustaining and enhancing the protective and productive functions of the lowland and upland

ecosystems within the selected village areas. Experience from the implementation of the baseline PIWAMP has revealed a financial internal rate of return of 19% and an economic internal rate of return of 12%. The EIRR expected from the SLMP is within the same range as the PIWAMP, given that similar micro-projects will be implemented and the target communities and activities are also similar. The EIRR is sensitive to a reduction in production; i.e. a 20% reduction in production will generate an EIRR of 13%. An increase of 10% in investment cost will generate an EIRR of 17%, while a delay of 2 years in the implementation of the project will result in an EIRR of 13%. The experience gained from the national and ARD level policy, strategy and institutional framework development, and the empowerment and capacity building undertaken at the community level for planning, implementing, and monitoring of watershed/landscape management plans, will provide the basis for replicating and scaling up community-based SLM interventions across the country.

### ***3.2. Environmental and Social impacts***

#### **Environment**

3.2.1 The land resources (soil, water, vegetation and wildlife) of The Gambia provide the basis for most of the economically productive activities undertaken within the country and are the mainstay of the economy. The sustainable management of these resources is, therefore, critical to the country's future prosperity. Land degradation in The Gambia is a critical problem, which is adversely affecting the structure and functional integrity of the country's ecosystem resources. The ecosystem resources of the country's upland areas have become degraded largely due to inappropriate land management practices in the croplands, overgrazing of the rangelands, and deforestation in the forest and woodland areas. The ecosystem resources of the country's lowlands and riverine wetlands are threatened by destructive flash floods, siltation and sedimentation due to increased rainwater runoff from the degraded uplands.

3.2.2 The SLMP will support a variety of measures aimed at addressing the degradation of lowland and upland ecosystem resources. Improved watershed/landscape management plans will lead to tangible improvements within some 360 km<sup>2</sup> of land or some 3% of the total land area of the country. The national and global benefits that can be expected from this will include: (i) reversing the decline in soil productivity; (ii) restoration of vegetative cover and habitat diversity in areas of degraded lowland wetlands and mangroves, and upland rangelands and forests/woodlands; (iii) increased biodiversity (plant and animal species) within crop, livestock and forest production landscapes; (iii) reduced carbon emissions through the promotion of energy efficient stoves and switching to conservation tillage practices; (iv) increased carbon sequestration through raising soil organic matter levels and increasing the quantity of woody and other forms of biomass through the restoration of the vegetative cover in the mangrove areas, rangelands and woodlands/forests, and increased on-farm planting of trees and shrubs; and (v) improved watershed/landscape management resulting in reduced soil and water loss in the uplands with reduced sediment deposition in the lowland rice production areas.

3.2.3 The project is classified as Environment Category 2 according to the Bank Group's Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures applying a similar environment category that was validated for the baseline PIWAMP. The category 2 for this GEF supplemental project was validated by the Quality Assurance and Results Department (ORQR.3) on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Overall, the project will have positive environmental and social impacts because it will finance interventions to reduce land degradation through the promotion of SLM practices. Potential negative impacts are mainly localized, small-scale infrastructure investments associated with the implementation of participatory management plans such as water harvesting and gully stabilization structures. The mitigation measures that were stipulated in the Environmental and Social Management (and Monitoring) Plan

(ESMP) for the PIWAMP project are still valid and will be used to guide mitigation of potential environmental and social risks for the GEF supplemental project. The ESMP will also guide the environmental and social screening of all community based sub-projects, which will be identified during project implementation.

### **Climate Change**

3.2.4 The policy framework for climate change is encapsulated in the Gambia National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) which addresses the impact of climate change at national and local levels. The NAPA specifically seeks to understand the: (i) main characteristics of climate hazards; (ii) coping mechanisms to climate hazards and climate change at local and national levels; (iii) existing programmes and institutional arrangements for addressing climate change and identify and prioritise activities in relation to climate change. A potential impact of the SLMP is the inundation of flood-plain areas. The proposed adaptation measures are construction of embankments/dykes, the relocation of threatened activities and institutional reforms. Saline intrusion into aquifers is another potential impact of the SLMP; the proposed mitigation measures are relocation of abstraction points and the change in pumping policies of fully penetrating/deep wells/bore holes. Increased saline intrusion length is also possible and can be mitigated by flow regulation, licensing and permits for withdrawal of river water for irrigation. Changes in river salinity can be mitigated by flow regulation, while decreases in groundwater recharge can be mitigated by increased water columns in the wells and artificial recharge/ponding. The drought spells can be mitigated by adjusting the time of planting, growing drought tolerant crops and the use of soil moisture conservation techniques. Unseasonal rains can be mitigated by the construction of drying infrastructure.

### **Gender**

3.2.5 Women in The Gambia make up 51% of the population, the majority of who dwell in rural areas and are engaged in agriculture. They represent 50% of the agricultural labour force and produce about 40% of total agriculture production. In the area of crop production, women produce over 90% of upland rice and traditional lowland rice is also mainly their responsibility. Women contribute substantially to the production of both food and cash crops. The upland areas are owned and cultivated by men, but the supervision and day-to-day operations are carried out by women. In the low-lying areas, women manage their own land, or do so with small groups of female relatives. In the lowlands, the primary target group will be women, whereas, for upland conservation farming, it will be men, women and the youth.

3.2.6 The project's participatory assessment and planning activities will pay particular attention to ensuring the active participation of women, ethnic minorities and other disadvantaged groups (the poor, landless, youth etc). Ensuring their active involvement in the planning and implementation of the village area watershed/landscape management plans would contribute to the improved management of the local land resources and the sustainability of the proposed SLM investments. The project will ensure that women are adequately represented, and have equal opportunities to hold decision making posts. Poor representation of women in project development committees can negatively affect the access that women have to project supported investments. Consequently, the project requires that there must be adequate representation of women on the various committees and decision-making bodies involved in project activities. Appointments made under the project will give equal opportunities to women, with the aim of having at least 50% of them as members of committees.

## **Social**

3.2.7 Although macroeconomic stability has been achieved, poverty in The Gambia is widespread. Poverty is mainly a rural phenomenon, with about 50% of the rural population poor. Income distribution is skewed, with an appreciable gap between rural and urban areas. Some 37% of households and 54% of the population in the rural areas live below the food poverty line, compared to 23% and 33%, respectively in urban areas. About 91% of the extremely poor and 72% of the poor work in agriculture (PRSP). Therefore, agriculture is the prime sector for investment to improve food security and reduce poverty.

3.2.8 The lowland and upland sustainable crop, livestock, forestry and eco-tourism activities that will be supported by the SLMP and the baseline PIWAMP, will be expected to result in a significant increase in the returns realised from such livelihood activities at both the community and individual household level. This, in turn, will have a positive impact on food security at the household, community, ARD and national levels, while also contributing to the alleviation of rural poverty. The number of households that will benefit directly are estimated at about 5,500 (10% of the rural households) or 66,000 people. Subsequent replication and scaling up of the project interventions should lead to the benefits reaching a much larger number of rural households.

## **IV – IMPLEMENTATION**

### ***4.1. Implementation arrangements***

4.1.1 The SLMP will utilise the existing PIWAMP structure, which will be due for completion at the end of 2013<sup>3</sup>. Implementation will be within the decentralised administration of the RoTG, and in particular, that of the MoA. Activities will, therefore, be implemented at the national, ARD, district, ward and community levels. Field level investments in SLM will be undertaken within a minimum of 36 village areas. The area covered by an individual watershed/landscape management plan may correspond to the geographic/administrative boundaries of one village, or may be the combined area of 2-3 adjacent villages – where the nature of the land degradation problems requires the cooperation and involvement of neighbouring villages so that they can be addressed on a broader watershed/landscape basis. The average land area covered by each plan will be in the region of 10,000 ha, and the target beneficiaries of each plan will be some 100-150 farm households. The principal implementing agencies will be the PIWAMP Management Unit (PMU), the ARD Divisional Agriculture Office, and the watershed/landscape management sub-committee of the Village Development Committees in the participating villages.

4.1.2 The PMU presently comprises an Administrative and Financial Controller, an Account's clerk, an M&E Officer, an M&E Assistant, a Community Mobilisation Officer and Assistant, who are paid for by PIWAMP. GEF funds will be used to hire another accounts clerk to take day to day responsibility for the efficient management of the GEF funds. The PMU will ensure effective coordination of implementation and will ensure that disbursement, financial management and procurement follow the Bank's rules based on their positive experience with the PIWAMP. They will also ensure that the AWPB, quarterly progress reports and annual audit reports are submitted to the AfDB on schedule. The PMU will enter into a collaborative agreement with each ARD for the implementation of activities within their geographic area of responsibility. Each ARD will be responsible, in consultation with the PMU, for the identification of the village areas in which the

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<sup>3</sup> The current completion date for IFAD PIWAMP funding but staff will be expected to continue till the end of the SLMP as they are mainly MoA staff

GEF funded community-based watershed/landscape management planning activities will be undertaken.

### **Disbursement**

4.1.3 Disbursement, procurement and audits under the project will follow AfDB guidelines. Separate accounts will be maintained for GEF and AfDB/IFAD related expenditure under the PIWAMP, also separate AWPBs will be submitted along with annual procurement plans. Disbursements will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Bank's disbursement manual. Disbursements to the special accounts will be in the form of revolving funds, based on an annual work programme approved beforehand by the Bank. These accounts will be replenished by the Bank at the request of the PMU, after justification of at least 50% of the previous payment. Each request for disbursement of the revolving funds will be submitted to the Bank for approval and will cover a maximum period of six months of activities. Settlement of expenses relating to the services of consultants will be made by direct payment, in conformity with the relevant Bank regulations.

### **Financial Management**

4.1.4 The Government's accounting policies and procedures have been reviewed and found consistent with AfDB/IFAD guidelines. The SLMP will make use of the Financial and Accounting Management Manual and the Computerized Accounting and Financial Management System developed during the implementation of the PIWAMP. The Financial Management Systems of the PIWAMP have been found to be satisfactory by the Bank, and also, by the RoTG, as evidenced in the most recent Country Portfolio Performance Review in June 2009, which rated the PIWAMP performance as highly satisfactory. The SLMP accounts will be subject to the Government's usual public administration and Bank controls. Annual audits of financial accounts and biannual audits of procurements will be conducted to facilitate the preparation of the balance sheet and ensure the proper use of procurement rules and procedures. Audit reports will be sent to the Bank no later than six months after the end of the audited fiscal year. The past PIWAMP annual audit reports have been regularly submitted to the Bank and found to be compliant.

### **Procurement**

4.1.5 All procurement of Goods, Works and acquisition of Consulting Services financed by the GEF grant will be in accordance with the Bank's *Rules and Procedures for Procurement of Goods and Works* or, as appropriate, *Rules and Procedures for the Use of Consultants*, using the relevant Bank Standard Bidding Documents. The main procurement modalities will be Shopping, Short listing, Force Account and Direct Contracting especially for community micro project whose nature and type would be determined by the various communities during project implementation. The procurement modes for the various goods, works and services for the SLMP are summarised in the Table 4.1. Being mainly a community driven development project, all services to be procured for the community micro-projects will be acquired on the basis of ensuring community participation because of their local focus and specificity according to the locations. The majority of the micro projects will potentially be implemented by Government Agencies as was successfully done under PIWAMP and LADEP. The agencies have the capacity, know how and experience to undertake the envisaged projects e.g. small works and in leading farmers to participate, ensuring future maintenance and sustainability. The trainings and workshops will be conducted by specialized local and national institutions mainly from the Ministry of Agriculture and as such will also use the direct contracting method. A draft AWPB for the first year of the project has been prepared along with the procurement plan. The capacity of the PMU in the management of the project's procurement and contracts activities is deemed satisfactory as the team has performed all procurement tasks for the PIWAMP in a satisfactory manner.

Table 4.1 Procurement modes for Goods and Services (amounts in USD)

Project Categories	Shopping	Short List	Others*	Total
1. Goods				
1.1 Office Equipment	31,000	-	-	31,000
1.2 Vehicles	80,000	-	-	80,000
1.3 Motorbikes	18,000	-	-	18,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>129,000</b>	-	-	<b>129,000</b>
2. Consulting Services				
2.1 Studies	-	228,000	-	228,000
2.2 Technical Assistance	-	293,000	-	293,000
2.3 Workshops & Training	-	-	606,000	606,000
2.3 Audit	-	63,000	-	63,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>584,000</b>	<b>606,000</b>	<b>1,190,000</b>
3. Works				
3.1 Community Micro projects	-	-	2,712,000	2,712,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	-	-	<b>2,712,000</b>	<b>2,712,000</b>
4. Miscellaneous				
4.1 Staff Salaries and Allowances	-	-	233,000	233,000
4.2 Equipment O&M	-	-	52,000	52,000
4.3. Office Supplies	-	-	84,000	84,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>			<b>369,000</b>	<b>369,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128,000</b>	<b>584,000</b>	<b>3,687,000</b>	<b>4,400,000</b>

All goods and services will be financed by the GEF incremental funds

\*Others refers to direct contracting and force account which in the micro-projects will ensure community participation

## 4.2. Monitoring

<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Monitoring process / feedback loop</u>
Mid PY1	Baseline environmental survey	Baseline Survey report
Biannually	GEF Specific progress reports	Progress Reports
End of PY2	Mid-Term Review	Mid-term Review report
Mid PY4	Impact study	Impact study report
Annual	Participatory beneficiary M&E	M&E reports
Annual	Audit	Audit reports
End of PY4	Project completion study	Project Completion report

4.2.1 The logical framework and IFAD's Results and Impact Management Systems will provide the basis for monitoring and evaluation. The institutional arrangements already established by the RoTG under PIWAMP will be employed for the SLMP. The PIWAMP Management Unit will assume responsibility for production of the progress and monitoring and evaluation reports. An M&E workshop will be held to discuss the findings of the baseline study, discuss the progress and M&E report formats, review and update the logical framework to agree on the M&E indicators to be used and set out the process of mainstreaming the M&E system for SLM. The participating communities will actively participate in monitoring and evaluating the various activities in which they are involved. Each community will be assisted to: (i) develop a set of locally agreed indicators; (ii) determine the data collection methods to be used to measure the indicators; and (iii) establish the institutional mechanisms to be used for a) collecting the data, b) presenting and reviewing it within the community, and c) reporting the M&E conclusions arrived at by the community to the project. Standard formats for reporting will be developed and materials including reporting forms will be provided.

### ***4.3. Governance***

4.3.1 The National SLM Steering Committee and National SLM Technical Group will be responsible for ensuring that the incremental SLMP is implemented in line with the strategic objectives of the GEF land degradation focal area and ensure linkage with ongoing GEF and other SLM programme/project activities. The PIWAMP Project Coordination Committee (PCC) will assume responsibility for providing overall policy guidance for the SLMP and ensuring liaison with the project beneficiaries and associated agencies. It will also approve the Implementation Plan, Annual Work Plans and Budgets. The PCC is chaired by the Permanent Secretary (MoA) or his representative. Other members comprise: Executive Director of NEA (or his representative), the Director of DAS, the Director of DCD, the Director of Soil and Water Management Unit, the Director General NARI, the Executive Director of NEA, the Department of Planning, the Department Land Services, the Department of Forestry, the chairwoman of the National Women Farmer's Association, the chair of the National Farmers' Platform and two farmers (one female and one male) from each Division. The Project Co-ordinator serves as the secretary for the PCC. The PCC is expected to meet at least twice a year, quarterly if necessary.

### ***4.4. Sustainability***

4.4.1 The project will be working with existing institutions, at national and local government levels, which will continue to exist after the project. The project's institutional capacity building activities are designed to ensure that personnel in both private and public sector institutions at the national, ARD, district and ward levels will have the skills required to enable them support project initiated activities post SLMP. The establishment of the national SLM platform partnership will facilitate the financial sustainability of the project through mainstreaming the concepts and principles of SLM into the environmental management, and economic development, plans and policies of those institutions with administrative and technical responsibility for economic development, environmental preservation, and land use, within The Gambia.

4.4.2 It is anticipated that once the national and local government authorities see that combating ecosystem resource degradation through SLM offers not only environmental benefits, but also clear economic ones (at the national, regional, district, ward, community and household level), they will be prepared to allocate more of their revenue budgets to sustaining such activities. Likewise the donor community can be expected to provide additional financial support for the community-based watershed/landscape management approach of the SLMP, when they see this as an effective way of tackling the interrelated problems of land degradation, rural poverty and food insecurity.

4.4.3 The project's community-based watershed/landscape management approach will empower rural communities to take responsibility for the sustainable management of their local land resources. Engaging the different land use and management groups (farmers, herders, foresters etc) in a variety of participatory assessment and planning activities will increase the ability of the participating communities to control their own natural resources and to promote local ownership, as ultimately the sustainability of the project will depend on the extent to which benefits are captured by those who make direct use of the land resources at the local level, particularly on-site benefits.

## **4.5. Risk management**

4.5.1 It is believed that there is a causal link between land degradation, poverty and food insecurity and that it is possible to combat ecosystem degradation through the adoption of SLM practices that offer higher returns to the households that adopt them than their current ones. The link arises from the fact that degraded lands are unproductive and thus communities that would normally depend on them have increased exposure to poverty and food insecurity. Reversing the trend of land degradation increases the productivity of communities that use the lands for cultivation of subsistence and cash crops, thus reducing poverty and ensuring food security. The project's community-based watershed/landscape management planning and SLM field level investments are directed at improving peoples' livelihoods and economic well-being, while simultaneously mitigating the causes and reducing the negative impacts of ecosystem degradation. Therefore, there should be minimal risk that the selected villages will be unwilling to participate in the SLMP due to the tangible social and economic benefits their households can expect to receive as a result of their participation. In the unlikely event that such a situation should arise, the project would undertake no further activities with unwilling villages and would instead identify alternative ones willing to work with the project.

4.5.2 While it is unlikely that long term climate change will occur over the duration of the project, the declining rainfall experienced over the last 40 years has led to an increase in the frequency of droughts and irregularity of rainfall within the rainy season. There is thus a risk that extreme climatic events (drought, strong winds, and severe storm events) could occur during the life of the project. This would negatively impact on the returns expected from the proposed investments in SLM for upland and lowland crop, livestock and forest production. Although it is not possible to totally avoid such risks, the community-based land use planning approach to be adopted by the project will empower rural households through building their capacity to plan for the sustainable management of the local ecosystem resources, on which their livelihoods depend, thereby enabling them to respond to climate change and better cope with extreme events. The project will also assist in the identification and promotion of field level SLM interventions with potential for mitigating the effects of adverse climatic events (e.g. improved soil moisture conservation, better rainwater management, etc.).

## **4.6. Knowledge building**

4.6.1 The baseline environmental study and the impact studies that will be conducted during the implementation of the SLMP will assist in building of knowledge that can be disseminated in country and other projects with similar objectives within the Bank. At the national level, the various capacity building activities of SLP will increase the in-country knowledge about the SLM options for the RoTG. The national level SLM platform and the Gambian SLM investment framework the project will create an enabling technical, policy, legal, institutional and investment environment for the promotion and scaling up of successful SLM technologies and approaches. This enabling environment will form the basis for scaling up and replicating the best practices of the project with other villages/communities within The Gambia.

4.6.2 The field level activities of the project will be focused on a limited number of village areas, however it is to be expected that once the community-based watershed/landscape management approach has been validated it can be scaled up and replicated across the country as a whole. It is to be expected that lessons learnt from the establishment of the national and local level SLM platforms will be of relevance to other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa involved in the TerrAfrica program. As

one of the country partners in the TerrAfrica program, The Gambia will periodically participate in regional and continental meetings and fora organised by TerrAfrica and also contribute to the development of the TerrAfrica Sub-Saharan Africa SLM Knowledge Base. This will allow The Gambia to share the lessons learnt from project implementation with other countries enabling the successful SLM approaches and practices from the GEF component of PIWAMP to be replicated in other parts of Sub-Saharan Africa.

## **V – LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND AUTHORITY**

### ***5.1. Legal instrument***

5.1.1 The SLMP makes use of grant financing from the GEF and will be supervised and monitored by the AfDB as an implementing agency for the GEF. As such the legal framework of the SLMP will be governed by a Protocol Agreement between the Bank and the RoTG including the usual terms and conditions.

### ***5.2. Conditions associated with Bank’s intervention***

#### ***5.2.1 Conditions Precedent to the First Disbursement of the Grant.***

The obligation of the Fund to make the first disbursement of the amount of the Grant to the Recipient shall be conditional upon the entry into force of the Protocol and to the fulfillment by the Recipient of the following conditions:

- (i) The opening of two (2) special (foreign exchange and local currency) accounts in the name of the Recipient at a bank acceptable to the Fund, to receive the Grant resources, and confirmation by the depository bank of the special accounts, in a form acceptable to the Fund, that the funds in the special accounts will be segregated as special deposits for the specific purpose for which the grant is made;
- (ii) The Annual Work Plan and Budget (“AWPB”) has been submitted and is satisfactory to the Fund, GEF and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (“IFAD”);
- (iv) The expansion of the PIWAMP Project Coordination Committee (“PCC”) to include the Executive Director of the National Environmental Agency (“NEA”); and
- (v) The Recipient will formally establish a National Sustainable Land Management (“SLM”) platform under terms and conditions satisfactory to the Fund, GEF and IFAD, and will include a National Steering Committee and National Technical Committee with membership agreed with the Fund, GEF and IFAD.

#### ***5.2.2 Undertakings.***

The Recipient shall ensure that:

- (i) The PIWAMP Project Coordinating Committee responsibilities shall be increased to include oversight of the incremental GEF PIWAMP component;
- (ii) The PIWAMP PMU will keep a separate and independent set of accounts to record all transactions financed with the GEF grant. The chart of accounts, financial policies and account procedures will be standardized with those already agreed by the Recipient and the Fund for PIWAMP;

(iii) A supplementary programme implementation manual satisfactory to the Fund, GEF and IFAD shall be submitted to the Fund with copy to the IFAD, not later than six months after project effectiveness; and

(iv) A mid-term review shall be carried out during the fourth quarter of PY2 and report submitted to the Fund, GEF and IFAD not later than first quarter of PY3. Agreed recommendations shall be implemented as from the second quarter of PY3.”

### ***5.3. Compliance with Bank Policies***

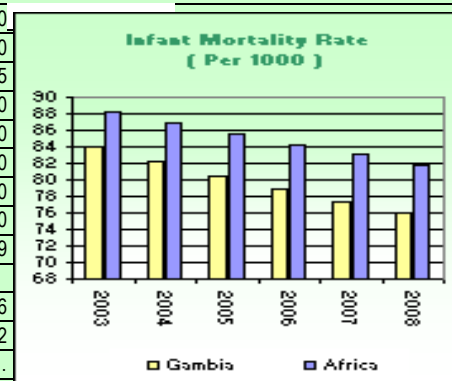
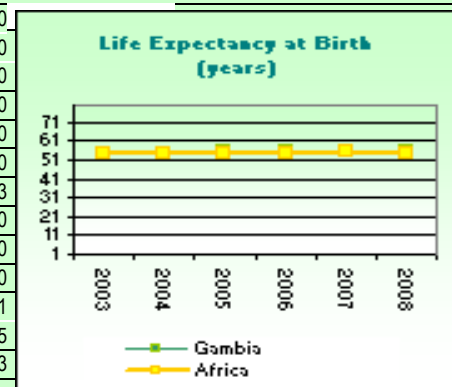
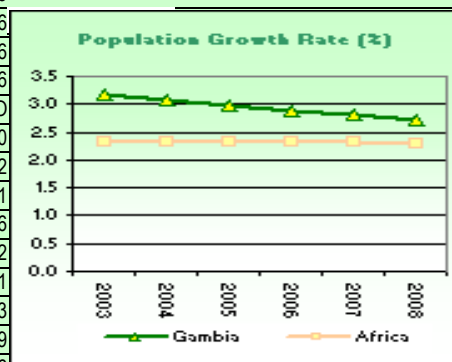
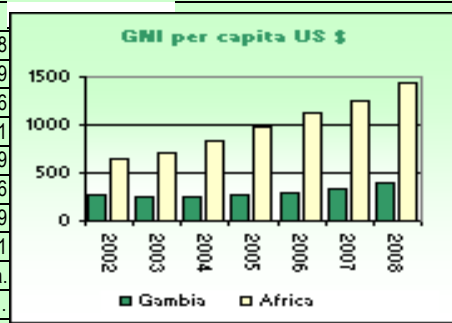
(X) This project complies with all applicable Bank policies.

## **VI – RECOMMENDATION**

6.1.1 Management recommends that the Board of Directors approve the proposed GEF incremental grant financing of USD 4.400 million to the Government of the Gambia for the purposes and subject to the conditions stipulated in this report.

## Appendix I. Gambia's comparative socio-economic indicators

	Year	Gambia	Africa	Developing Countries	Developed Countries
<b>Basic Indicators</b>					
Area ('000 Km <sup>2</sup> )		11	30 323	80 976	54 658
Total Population (millions)	2008	1.7	986	5,523	1,229
Urban Population (% of Total)	2008	57.0	39.1	44.2	74.6
Population Density (per Km <sup>2</sup> )	2008	155.3	32.6	66.6	23.1
GNI per Capita (US \$)	2008	390	1 428	2 405	38 579
Labour Force Participation - Total (%)	2008	45.7	42.3	45.6	54.6
Labour Force Participation - Female (%)	2008	46.4	41.1	39.7	44.9
Gender -Related Development Index Value	2005	0.496	0.482	0.694	0.911
Human Develop. Index (Rank among 182 countries)	2007	168	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Popul. Living Below \$ 1 a Day (% of Population)	2005	...	34.3	25.0	...
<b>Demographic Indicators</b>					
Population Growth Rate - Total (%)	2008	2.7	2.3	1.4	0.3
Population Growth Rate - Urban (%)	2008	4.2	3.3	2.5	0.6
Population < 15 years (%)	2008	42.5	56.0	40.0	16.6
Population >= 65 years (%)	2008	2.8	4.5	3.3	15.6
Dependency Ratio (%)	2008	80.0	78.0	52.8	49.0
Sex Ratio (per 100 female)	2008	98.4	100.7	96.7	106.0
Female Population 15-49 years (% of total population)	2008	23.8	48.5	53.3	47.2
Life Expectancy at Birth - Total (years)	2008	55.9	54.5	65.7	77.1
Life Expectancy at Birth - Female (years)	2008	57.6	55.5	67.6	80.6
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000)	2008	36.8	35.8	22.2	11.2
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000)	2008	11.3	12.4	8.1	10.1
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000)	2008	76.1	83.9	51.4	6.3
Child Mortality Rate (per 1,000)	2008	115.3	134.5	77.4	7.9
Total Fertility Rate (per woman)	2008	5.1	4.6	2.7	1.6
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000)	2005	690.0	683.0	450.0	9.0
Women Using Contraception (%)	2005	...	29.7	61.0	75.0
<b>Health &amp; Nutrition Indicators</b>					
Physicians (per 100,000 people)	2003	10.2	39.6	78.0	287.0
Nurses (per 100,000 people)*	2003	112.8	120.4	98.0	782.0
Births attended by Trained Health Personnel (%)	2006	56.8	51.2	59.0	99.0
Access to Safe Water (% of Population)	2006	86.0	68.0	62.0	100.0
Access to Health Services (% of Population)	2005	...	61.7	80.0	100.0
Access to Sanitation (% of Population)	2006	52.0	37.6	53.0	100.0
Percent. of Adults (aged 15-49) Living with HIV/AIDS	2005	2.4	4.5	1.3	0.3
Incidence of Tuberculosis (per 100,000)	2005	2.4	315.8	275.0	19.0
Child Immunization Against Tuberculosis (%)	2007	95.0	83.0	89.0	99.0
Child Immunization Against Measles (%)	2007	85.0	83.1	81.0	93.0
Underweight Children (% of children under 5 years)	2006	20.0	25.2	27.0	0.1
Daily Calorie Supply per Capita	2004	2 178	2 436	2 675	3 285
Public Expenditure on Health (as % of GDP)	2005	3.4	2.4	1.8	6.3
<b>Education Indicators</b>					
Gross Enrolment Ratio (%)					
Primary School - Total	2008	83.4	99.6	106.0	101.0
Primary School - Female	2008	86.4	92.1	103.0	101.0
Secondary School - Total	2008	48.6	43.5	60.0	101.5
Secondary School - Female	2008	47.5	40.8	58.0	101.0
Primary School Female Teaching Staff (% of Total)	2007	33.1	47.5	51.0	82.0
Adult Illiteracy Rate - Total (%)	2005	...	38.0	21.0	1.0
Adult Illiteracy Rate - Male (%)	2005	...	29.0	15.0	1.0
Adult Illiteracy Rate - Female (%)	2005	...	47.0	27.0	1.0
Percentage of GDP Spent on Education	2004	2.0	4.5	3.9	5.9
<b>Environmental Indicators</b>					
Land Use (Arable Land as % of Total Land Area)	2007	34.8	6.0	9.9	11.6
Annual Rate of Deforestation (%)	2005	...	0.7	0.4	-0.2
Annual Rate of Reforestation (%)	2005	...	10.9	...	...
Per Capita CO2 Emissions (metric tons)	2007	0.2	1.0	1.9	12.3



Sources: ADB Statistics Department Databases; World Bank: World Development Indicators; UNAIDS; UNSD; WHO, UNICEF, WRI, UNDP; Country Reports. Last update October 2009 Note : n.a. : Not Applicable ; ... : Data Not Available.

## Appendix II. Table of AfDB's portfolio in the country

List of active projects (loans and grants) by Sector:

### Sector: Agriculture

Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Rating	Amount (UA)	Date approved
Participatory Integrated Watershed Management	L	Highly Satisfactory	4.95 million	June, 2004
Artisanal Fisheries Development Supplementary Loan	L	Highly Satisfactory	5 million	June, 2009
Farmer managed Rice Irrigation	L	Highly Satisfactory	5 million	April, 2005
Livestock and Horticulture Development	G		4.02 million	December, 2008
<b>TOTAL APPROVALS</b>			<b>19.47 million</b>	

<sup>1</sup> L:loan, G:grant

### Sector: Social

Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Rating	Amount (UA)	Date approved
Basic Education III	L	Highly Satisfactory	10 million	September 2002
Community Skills Improvement	L	Completed	4.44 million	February, 2000
Entrepreneurship Promotion and Microfinance Development	G	Satisfactory	1.45 million	
	G		8 million	November, 2006
<b>TOTAL APPROVALS</b>			<b>23.89 million</b>	

<sup>1</sup> L:loan, G:grant

### Sector: Multi

Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Rating	Amount (UA)	Date approved
Institutional Support for Economic and Financial Governance	G	Highly Satisfactory	1.4 million	November, 2007
Poverty reduction Budget Support Program	G	Highly Satisfactory	4 million	January, 2009
<b>TOTAL APPROVALS</b>			<b>5.4 million</b>	

<sup>1</sup> L: loan, G: grant

*Note: The portfolio provided above does not include multi national projects*

### **Appendix III. Key related projects financed by the Bank and other development partners in the country**

*The African Development Bank (AfDB)* – has focused past assistance on infrastructure, social services (mainly the access of vulnerable groups to health and education services), higher agricultural productivity, small-scale enterprise development and good governance. In the agricultural sector, the AfDB co-financed with IFAD LADEP and has financed a livestock development study. It also financed the Farmer-Managed Irrigated Rice Development Project, which aimed to consolidate previous rice-development schemes of the Rice Development Project, the Small-Scale Water Control Project and the JPSP. The AfDB is co-financing with IFAD the PIWAMP. It has recently completed negotiates with the government for the implementation of the Livestock and Horticulture Improvement Project focused on diversification (peri-urban dairy, horticulture).

The key international development partners include:

*The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)* – has since 1982 provided financial support<sup>4</sup> for seven projects in The Gambia. All the projects have had an agricultural focus and pursued the overall goal of alleviating rural poverty by improving household food security, especially among small farmers and women. They are: (i) the IFAD/AfDB Jahaly and Pacharr Smallholder Project (JPSP) (the first of three to deal with the development of lowland rice); (ii) IFAD/World Bank the Agricultural Development Project II (targeted at upland groundnut farmers in the Central River AR); (iii) the IFAD Small-scale Water Control Project (targeted principally on women involved in lowland rice production); (iv) the IFAD/World Bank Agricultural Services Project (which focused on strengthening agricultural extension services, adaptive research and rural financial services); (v) the IFAD/AfDB Lowlands Agricultural Development Programme (with a focus on the sustainable development of lowland areas); (vi) the IFAD Rural Finance and Community Initiatives Project (with a focus on increasing vegetable, cassava and cereal production through strengthening extension and rural financial services); and (vii) the IFAD/AfDB Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (ongoing with a focus on improving the management of both upland and lowland areas).

*The World Bank* – through the International Development Association, has provided assistance to The Gambia for the establishment of a sound macroeconomic and sectoral environment. Recent World Bank projects have included: (i) Participatory Health, Population and Nutrition; (ii) Third Education Sector; (iii) Poverty Alleviation and Capacity-Building; (iv) HIV/AIDS Rapid Response; (v) Capacity-Building for Economic Management; and (vi) Gateway. IFAD and the World Bank have been historic partners in two rural service projects (the Agricultural Development Project II and the Agricultural Services Project). The World Bank is currently financing the Community-Driven Development Project.

*The European Union* – through the 8th European Development Fund (EDF), focused on decentralization (capacity-building, the division development fund, and prioritization) and rural development, including the establishment of a microcredit policy, groundnut-sector reform, agricultural research (ITC) and extension, rural infrastructure and the rehabilitation of rural roads. The European Union took a leadership position in assisting

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<sup>4</sup> Five of these have been co-financed with other donors notably the World Bank and the AfDB.

the Government in the decentralization process. In 1998, the Agribusiness Service Plan Association was created in order to build up the capacity of local cooperative societies. The Autonomous Credit Project and the Seed Project were financed. The 9th EDF (approximately 47 million euros (EUR) for the period 2003-07) provided support for transport infrastructure, rural development (including decentralization) and the Gambian Tourism Authority. The Support to Decentralized Rural Development Programme co-financed the VISACA network from 1994 (7th and 8th EDF), but has recently been phased out.

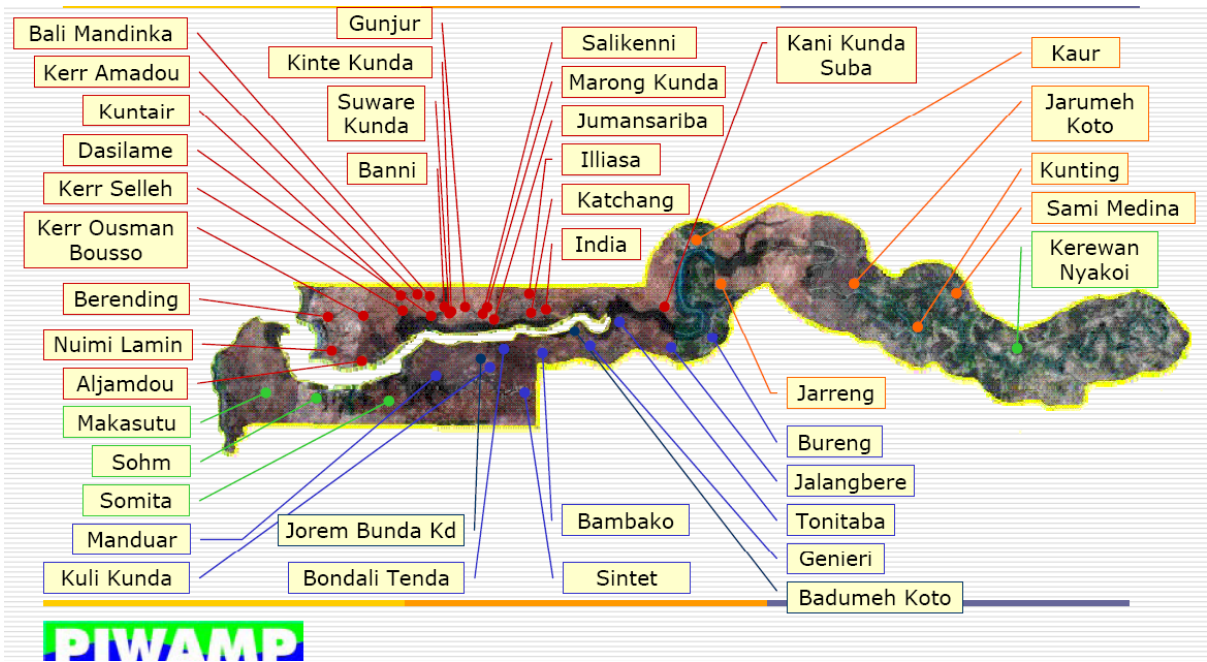
*Arab donors and development banks* – (the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Islamic Development Bank, the Kuwait Fund, the Arab Bank for the Economic Development of Africa, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) have been active in the transport, human resource development and health sectors.

*The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)* – funded the Household Food Security/Poverty Alleviation project. The resident United Nations agencies (UNDP, the United Nations Children’s Fund, FAO, the United Nations Population Fund and the World Food Programme) have agreed to harmonize their programmes and make all poverty-related interventions consistent with the PRSP/SPA-II.

*The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)* – through its Special Programme for Food Security has been active in the intensification and diversification of agriculture and water management. The aim is to increase food security through the production of short-cycle species of crops and livestock. FAO has provided support for the agricultural census, and for the formulation of a rural-sector support programme, an agricultural research strategy and a livestock master plan.

*Amongst the bilateral donors* – The **German Agency for Technical Cooperation** has provided financial support to the ITC, as well as for promoting sustainable management practices for improving the quality and productivity of the natural forests. The **Department for International Development** (United Kingdom) supported the implementation of SPA-II with a specific interest in: (a) public expenditure reviews, (b) monitoring the PRSP/SPA-II, and (c) education (basic education for all, access, and quality of teaching). **The Irish League** has provided support to the credit unions.

## Appendix IV. Map of the Project Area



Map showing potential intervention sites (depending on demand and criteria) for GEF interventions across the six ARDs