



# Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)

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## GAMBIA, THE

### Core details

**Population:**

1,776,103

**WTO accession:**

23 October 1996

**Poverty head count (%):**

48.4

**Share of international non-oil trade (%):**

0.75

**Per capita growth rate (%):**

3.2

**Value of non-oil goods traded (in US\$ million):**

15

**WB Trading Across Borders rank:**

N/A

**Employment in non-traditional export sectors:**

N/A

The Gambia became an Integrated Framework (IF) beneficiary in 2006, and undertook preparations for a Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS), "*From Entrepôt to Exporter and Eco-Tourism*" [1], which was validated in July 2009. At the same time, the IF National Steering Committee (NSC) was established.

### Main Projects Ongoing

**Description of the projects (objectives and interventions):**

#### Tier 1 Project

Under the EIF, The Gambia's Tier 1 project, "Support to National Implementation Arrangements (NIAs)", was approved in December 2009. The project objective was to build the capacity of the National Implementation Unit (NIU) and trade-related institutions to assist in the implementation of the DTIS Action Matrix. This would help to deal effectively and efficiently with trade policy development and implementation, trade integration and facilitation for the greater benefit of The Gambian economy.

The Gambia's Tier 1 project has been extended into phase 2 with approval from the EIF Board in July 2013, after a satisfactory Tier 1 Mid-term evaluation. The Tier 1 phase 2 project (August 2013 to July 2015) will continue supporting Aid for Trade (Aft) programmes, implementation of the National Export Strategy (NES) and the Medium Term Programme (MTP), as well as sustaining the institutional capacities of line Ministries to ensure the continued undertaking of the trade development agenda.

## Tier 2 Projects

The Gambia's Tier 2 project "Sector Competitiveness and Export Diversification Project" (SCEDP) was approved by the EIF Board in January 2012 and has been under implementation since June 2012 by ITC. The project aims to strengthen targeted sectors' competitiveness, promote new business opportunities in domestic, regional and international markets and generate additional incomes as well as create employment. The project targets agri-sector-specific support for cashew nuts, groundnuts and sesame as well as inclusive tourism. Key focus is on finding new export opportunities, product diversification, improved value addition, quality enhancement and strengthened sector support institutions.

The second Tier 2 project on "Trade Facilitation through increased logistics infrastructure and services at the Banjul International Airport" was approved by the EIF Board in April 2013. The project's objective is to promote trade facilitation and reinforce logistics infrastructure and services at Banjul International Airport through improved institutional arrangements, building human capacity and providing support services to ensure transparent, secured and competitive airport services that are available to exporters and smallholder businesses. The project will contribute to improved livelihoods in the tourism, horticulture and fisheries export sub sectors, through reduction in cargo handling time and increase in cargo handling capacity.

### Main progresses to date:

## Tier 1 Project

Trade has been mainstreamed into the Programme for Accelerated Growth and Employment (PAGE 2012-2015), which succeeded the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (PRSP II). Specifically, trade is included in PAGE Pillar 1 (Accelerating and Sustaining Economic Growth) with key focus areas on trade facilitation, improvement of the investment climate and quality control systems, and in sub-Pillar 3 (Improving Competitiveness). These Pillars have been harmonized with the National Trade Policy (NTP) and the MTP to ensure a consistent strategic focus throughout the Government agenda. Through the PAGE, the Government envisions an open and liberal trading environment in order to better integrate The Gambia into the global economy and transform the country into a transit hub and a gateway to the region.

Moreover, key sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, tourism, transport and services have also incorporated trade into sector programmes and budgets.

The NES, the NTP and the MTP were elaborated with support from the EIF NIU and validated in 2012 to improve the business environment, trade facilitation and quality control, and to attract private investment in the productive sectors for an export-led growth. Additionally, the AfT Ministerial Committee was established with support from the EIF NIU to coordinate and mobilize AfT resources for the implementation of trade-related policies and activities in the PAGE, DTIS, NES, NTP and MTP.

Through the AfT Ministerial Committee, the National Task Force and other thematic groups, the EIF Programme is supporting the implementation of the NTP and the trade component of PAGE which corresponds to 13 strategic areas. The business sector thematic group is led by Ministry of Trade, Industries and Employment (MOTIE).

The Mainstreaming Trade and Trade-Related Issues Committee or the National Trade Negotiations Committee and the NSC, which includes the Government and the private sector, serve as a platform for the public-private sector dialogue on trade and trade mainstreaming issues, and support the implementation of DTIS Action Matrix priorities.

On the government-donor coordination, the National Ministerial Committee (NMC) on AfT was set up in 2011 to serve as a platform for Government-donor consultations on trade. The EIF NIU is providing support to annual meetings of the NMC and the donor round table. As of September 2012, Turkey undertook the role of EIF Donor Facilitator.

The Gambia's [DTIS Update \(DTISU\)](#) [2] was completed by UNCTAD as the Main Implementing Entity (MIE) and validated in January 2013. Based on suggestions from stakeholders at the validation workshop, it was revised and finalized in April 2013. The 2013 DTISU focused on measures to strengthen The Gambia's participation in regional and global markets through creating the foundation for improved value addition and processing in key sectors of the economy such as fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture, transportation, telecommunication and tourism.

As part of the DTISU process, a joint study was published by UNCTAD and EIF focused on the role of women in the fisheries sector in The Gambia. The Joint Study, "[The Fisheries Sector in The Gambia: Trade, Value Addition and Social Inclusiveness, with a Focus on Women](#)" [3], shows that trade policies in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have to be inclusive in addressing gender inequalities if they are to reduce poverty. The study was launched on 6 March 2014, ahead of the International Women's Day celebrations on 8 March 2014.

Under the EIF Phase 1 Tier 1 project, fourteen sub-grants were funded and implemented by different line Ministries and stakeholders, supervised by the EIF NIU. These small sub-grant programmes aimed at building trade-related capacities and improving productivity in prioritized areas identified in the DTIS Action Matrix. Main sub-grants include, among others, strengthening the Fisheries Department on the Strategic Fisheries Action Plan; strengthening the Association of Gambian Horticultural Producers and Exporters; The Gambia Ports Authority; the National Agricultural Research Institute; the National Cashew Farmers Association; the National Women Farmers Association; the Association of Small Enterprises in Tourism and Gambia is Good; the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) Association; and provision of mid- and annual trade statistics.

A communications strategy is under implementation to strengthen the engagement of stakeholders and partners in project implementation and monitoring. The communication strategy is also being used to promote trade mainstreaming and to engage different stakeholders in delivering the programme with a particular focus on the Tier 2 projects on cashew nuts, ground nuts and sesame, and on trade facilitation.

On 19 June 2014, The Gambia hosted the 17th Session of the EIF Board Meeting, the first EIF Board Meeting to take place in an LDC. The Board Meeting helped EIF Board Members to witness the EIF in action on the ground and to increase their knowledge on projects under implementation as well as facilitate their interaction with the EIF national stakeholders.

## Tier 2 Projects

The Tier 2 project, SCEDP was approved and has been under implementation since June 2012. The SCEDP supports the agri-sector in cashew nuts, groundnuts and sesame to increase sales by 3 per cent based around new export opportunities, product diversification, improved value addition, quality enhancement and strengthened sector support institutions. This will in turn contribute to increasing the revenues of farmers, producers and exporters of the agricultural products.

The project interventions consist of sector-specific support for cashew nuts, groundnuts and sesame and cross-cutting assistance in the areas of trade information and inclusive tourism. Project interventions and outputs include:

- Sectoral strategies (sesame, cashew nut and ground nut) have been formulated and are being implemented.
- Quality of sector products has been enhanced and market opportunities in domestic and international markets are being created.
- Accurate and up-to-date trade information is being provided by MOTIE.
- A comprehensive feasibility study with an action plan for inclusive tourism in The Gambia has been conducted and validated and a project on "Inclusive tourism development in The Gambia" has been developed.
- The Gambia Standards Bureau has developed and published the first 10 national standards, including one on groundnuts and another one on general principles of food hygiene. Draft regulations on control of pre-packages have been developed and list of equipment recommended for the Weights and Measures Department.
- 44 inspectors have been trained in quality control techniques for groundnuts. Aflatoxin monitoring equipment was also provided to selected collection points.
- 15 Master Trainers (5 per sector) and 120 core trainers (40 per sector) have been trained. 20 Farmer Field Schools per sector have been set up. A set of training materials was developed and published, including Core Training manuals, Training manual for Master Trainers, Good Agricultural Practices for the production of high quality Groundnut, Sesame, Cashew; Quality Assurance and Food Safety in Groundnut, Sesame and Cashew.
- The development of The Gambia Trade Information Portal was completed and relevant contents have been uploaded. Company profile compilation form has also been developed.
- A total of 27 officials from 19 different Government ministries and agencies, the Chamber of Commerce and sector associations have been trained and their skills have been enhanced in market research and analysis leading to the development of Market Pointers.
- MOTIE trade information staff have been coached, improving their skills in trade information processing and management.
- The Gambia Trade Information Network has been officially established among 20 relevant private and public sector institutions through the signing of the Protocol of Cooperation, already developed for formalizing the Network. As part of promoting trade information exchange, computers have been provided to seven key cooperating institutions of The Gambia Trade Information Network.
- With ITC support, The Gambia has also developed a separate communications strategy for the Tier 2 nuts project to raise awareness on benefits of cashew nuts as a new crop and to ensure that project benefits are widely spread out to beneficiaries. A number of communication activities have also been undertaken aimed at raising awareness of this project and the programme in-country, including quarterly newsletters for SCEDP and dissemination of publicity material to key stakeholders, including [The Gambia Trading Stories film chapter](#) [4].

Another Tier 2 project was approved in April 2013 aimed at improving trade facilitation and increased logistics infrastructure and services at the Banjul International Airport. The project objectives are being implemented through improved institutional arrangements, building human capacity and providing support services to ensure that transparent, secured and competitive airport services are available to traders. A 50% reduction in air cargo handling time and an increase in the capacity of handling diverse cargo is to be achieved through training on IATA Cargo Management, Air Cargo Operations, Cargo Accident Investigation and Prevention and Cargo Revenue Management.

The project is also enabling the Banjul International Airport to meet international safety and security standards in handling cargo and passenger travel, thereby increasing the number of airlines serving and accepting cargo from The Gambia. To increase

international exports from SMEs, 100 SMEs are to be trained as a pilot group in accessing the improved airport facilities.

## Outlook:

The second phase of The Gambia's Tier 1 project, is being implemented with a focus on several actions, including:

- Reviewing the MTP (2013-2016) to include DTISU priorities.
- Implementing the DTISU Action Matrix (2013) and the priority activities of the PAGE and the MTP.
- Updating and implementing the trade strategy in a satisfactory manner.
- Further mainstreaming and implementing trade in key sector programmes (tourism, transport, agriculture, fisheries, legal, finance and communications).
- Strengthening public/private consultation on a yearly basis.
- Establishing a semi-annual Government/donor forum on trade and a putting a full AfT coordination mechanism in place.
- Elaborating a consolidated capacity-building plan for MOTIE, NSC members and other stakeholders in the areas of project management, trade mainstreaming, trade policy development and negotiation as well as cross-cutting issues.
- Transforming the NIU into a Project Implementation Unit and integrating it into the main functions of MOTIE.
- Strengthening the NSC as a national platform for the trade policy dialogue and AfT coordination with the participation of four stakeholder groups.
- Carrying out the mid-term evaluation of the SCEDP Tier 2 project.
- Effectively implementing The Gambia airport Trade Facilitation Tier 2 project.

## Results

The EIF and partners have worked to raise The Gambia's standard of living especially for the rural communities, with support going to new drought resistant crops such as cashew and sesame and making market connections for farmers. These home-grown agricultural produce have also been catalytic in supporting the growing tourism sector in The Gambia, with increased locally grown produce from Gambian farmers being sold to hotels and restaurants.

Additionally, 450 farmers have also been trained on pest management practices and horticultural production techniques. The EIF is also supporting The Gambia Competition Commission to create a level trading field for all businesses and to ensure that farmers, producers, traders and entrepreneurs from the grassroots up also thrive in their businesses.

## Links

The Gambia, Ministry of Trade, Regional Integration and Employment  
<http://www.motie.gov.gm/> [5]

## State of implementation

TIER 1 OUTCOME AND INDICATORS					
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Sufficient institutional and management capacity built in The Gambia to formulate and implement trade-related strategies and implementation plans					
Outcome 1 indicators	Baseline	'10	'11	'12	
O1.1: Support to NIAs (Y/N)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
O1.2: DTIS Action Matrix (Date) 2007	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
O1.3: Fiduciary capacity (1-5)	3	2	2	2	2
O1.4: Trade strategy updated (Y/N)	No	No	No	No	Yes

O1.5: Trade Strategy quality (1-5)	5	5	5	1
O1.6 Trade strategy implemented (1-5)	5	5	5	3

<b>Outcome 2:</b> The Gambia mainstreams trade into its national development strategies and plans				
<b>Outcome 2 indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>'10</b>	<b>'11</b>	<b>'12</b>
O2.1: Trade in the National Development Plan (1-5)	2	2	2	1
O2.2: Trade in Productive Sector Strategies (Y/N)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
O2.3: Public-Private Dialogue (1-5)	2	2	1	1

<b>Outcome 3:</b> Coordinated delivery of trade-related resources (funding, TA, etc.) by donors and implementing agencies to implement The Gambia's priorities following the adoption of the DTIS Action Matrix				
<b>Outcome 3 indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>'10</b>	<b>'11</b>	<b>'12</b>
O3.1: Annual joint sector implementation overview (Y/N)	No	No	No	Yes
O3.2: Frequency of Government-Donor consultation in trade (1-5)	5	3	2	1
O3.3: UN-CEB Cluster activities based on DTIS Action Matrix (Y/N)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
O3.4: Joint donor initiatives in trade (Y/N)	No	No	No	Yes

<b>Outcome 4:</b> The Gambia secures resources in support of initiatives that address DTIS Action Matrix priorities				
<b>Outcome 4 indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>'10</b>	<b>'11</b>	<b>'12</b>
O4.1: Medium-term Programme (1-5)	5	5	5	1
O4.2: Government budget contribution (Y/N)	No	No	No	Yes

O4.4: Number and amount of projects funded from DTIS Action Matrix (in US\$ million)	1	2	5	5
		(1.2)		(15.8)

## Financial information

### DTIS Update

Starting date / End date  
15/12/2011  
Approved Budget  
197,950  
Board Approval Date  
15/12/2009  
Disbursement  
197,950  
Expenditure Reported  
193,553  
MOU Approval Date  
07/12/2011  
MOU Expiry Date  
28/02/2013  
Phase:  
Completed

### NIA Support

Starting date / End date  
22/01/2010  
Approved Budget  
1,500,000  
Board Approval Date  
15/12/2009  
Disbursement  
1,275,000  
Expenditure Reported  
1,175,347  
MOU Approval Date  
07/01/2010  
MOU Expiry Date  
31/08/2015  
Phase:  
Implementation

### Sector Competitiveness and Export Diversification Project (SCEDP)

Starting date / End date  
18/01/2012  
Approved Budget  
2,355,517  
Board Approval Date  
18/01/2012  
Disbursement  
2,355,517  
Expenditure Reported  
1,751,522  
MOU Approval Date  
05/03/2012  
MOU Expiry Date  
31/12/2015  
Phase:  
Implementation

## Trade Facilitation Through Increased Logistics Infrastructure and Services at the Banjul International Airport)

Starting date / End date

10/05/2013

Approved Budget

2,494,200

Board Approval Date

04/04/2013

Disbursement

1,512,000

Expenditure Reported

1,336,553

MOU Approval Date

06/05/2013

MOU Expiry Date

30/04/2016

Phase:

Implementation

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