

CDDA8; ADDIS ABABA, 28 – 30 AUGUST 2019

Presentation by the Gambia **on Plenary 8: Nature-based Solutions;**
**<<Forests and land-based ecosystems, smart agriculture and food
systems, regeneration of life in rivers, lakes and oceans and
enabling of all people to connect to nature>>**

By Alpha A.K. Jallow, the Gambia

Email: kabada2008@gmail.com/a_jallow2010@yahoo.com

Tel. +220 3048312/7524107

The country

- **Area:** 11,295 square KM
- **Population:** 1.8 million
- **Physical features:**
 - low lying;
 - divided into two parts by the River Gambia
 - flood plains all along the river
- **Climate**
 - one rainfall season (June to October); at times with long dry spells
 - Average rainfall about 700mm
 - onset of the season June 15th to June 25th across the country
 - temperatures vary between 18 and 45 across the country
- **Economy:** dependent of on rainfed Agriculture and Tourism

Climate change issues

- **The country highly vulnerable to the impacts and risks of CC;**
 - The agricultural production is rainfall dependent, **which became recently unpredictable with inter annual variabilities**
 - All the Tourism facilities are along the coastline, **hence face the risk of coastal erosion leading to destruction of properties and businesses**
 - **Rice production is also affected by salt intrusion into swamp rice fields**

What's the country doing using nature solution in response to CC

1. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Formulation of a National Climate Change Policy, which recommends the establishment of a national Climate Change Secretariat and National Climate Change Fund,
- Integrating Climate Change consideration into the National Development plan, into sectoral policies and local development plans,
- Development of a Strategic Programme for climate Resilience,
- Plan to develop a Long Tern Strategy for Climate Change up to 2050,
- Development of a Low Emission Climate Development Strategy,

What's the country doing using nature solution in response to CC continue

2. implementing projects that has nature solution

1. Large scale Ecosystem based adaptation protect (25 million dollars), it has the following outcomes:
 - Restoring degraded forests and agricultural landscapes with climate-resilient plant species that provide goods for consumption and/or sale; and
 - Facilitating the establishment of commercially viable natural resource-based enterprises
 - To be managed by community-based organizations.
 - Policy support, institutional strengthening and knowledge generation to support large-scale implementation of EbA in The Gambia.

What's the country doing using nature solution in response to CC continue

2. Enhancing the vulnerability Coastal Areas and Communities to Climate Change (9.8 million dollars),

- It included restoration of mangroves, protecting rice fields from salt intrusion, rehabilitating women vegetable gardens,
- Protecting the coastline and riverine banks from erosion
- Introducing integrated livelihood activities: Acquaculture in rice fields, providing canoes to fisher folks

What's the country doing using nature solution in response to CC continue

3. Strengthening climate services and early warning systems in The Gambia for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change – 2nd Phase. It has the following outcomes:

- The Gambia National Meteorological Services is supported in its transition to becoming a financially sustainable Meteorological Agency
- Hydro-meteorological infrastructure is upgraded / installed and maintained that will cover the full needs for 'optimal performance of EWS' as identified by recent needs assessment reports in the Gambia
- A critical mass of skilled human resources is able to operate the Gambia Early Warning System and perform medium and long-term adaptation planning beyond the project
- Efficient and effective use of hydro-meteorological and environmental information for making early warnings and long-term development plans
- It established 14 sites across the country to receive and disseminate climate information and training and sensitizing communities on climate change issues
- It make sure that seasonal forecasts reached communities and farmers and technicians through sensitization and community radios

What's the country doing using nature solution in response to CC continue

4. Other projects are

- Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change
- National Adaptation Plan in Agriculture
- ActionAid the Gambia's agroecology project

All these projects are encouraging smart agriculture by using of climate information, compost for fertilizer and planting of mangroves and trees around houses to protect them from violent winds

THANK YOU