

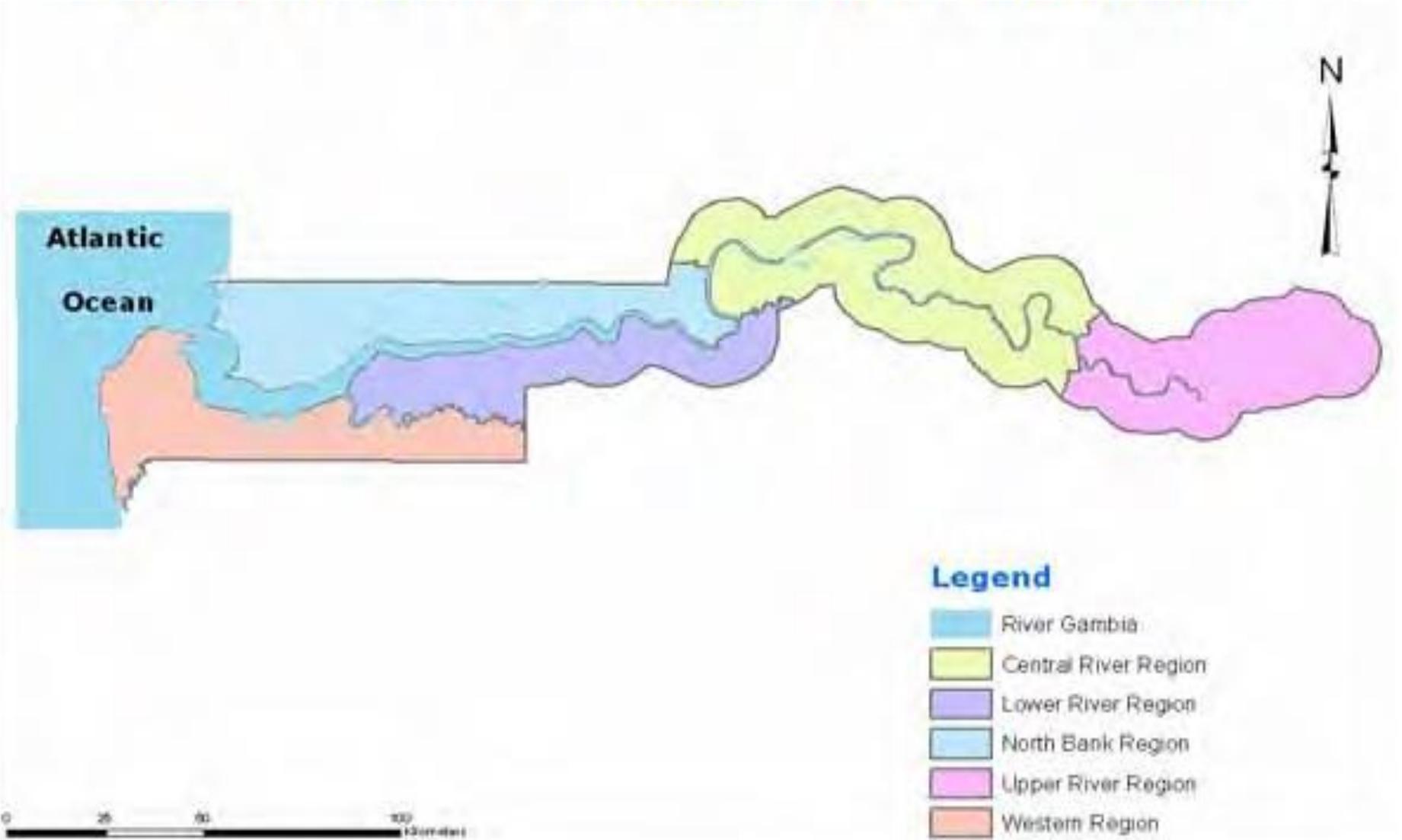
PRESENTATION ON THE RESTORATION OF FOREST AND OTHER ECOSYSTEM IN THE GAMBIA TO SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS



OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

- ❑ Country profile;
- ❑ Legal instruments and strategies developed to address the issues of Sustainable Land Management);
- ❑ Forestry Department Strategy Programme on the restoration of Forests and other Ecosystems in The Gambia and;
- ❑ Conclusion & Recommendation

Country profile



Country profile

- Divided into Six Local Administrative Regions;
- With an average population density of 176.1 per km² in 2013;
- Lies between 13.79° and 16.82° West longitude and entirely within 13° North latitude
- Estimated area of 11,000 km² and is bounded by Senegal to the North, South and East and by the Atlantic Ocean to the West;
- Has a Sudano-Sahelian type of climate characterized by a long dry season from October to early June and a short rainy season from mid-June to early October;
- Annual average rainfall ranges from 850mm to 1,200mm and average temperatures range from 18° to 33° and;
- Relative humidity is around 68% along the coast and 41% inland during the dry season and generally over 70% throughout the country during the wet season.
- Forest cover of 423,000ha

Legal Instruments and other strategies developed to address the SLM

- The Forest Act, 1998 (2010 Bill still to be approved)
- Forest policy (2010 to 2019), aims to hand over 200,00 ha of forest land to the local communities by 2019;
- Gambia Environmental Action Plan (GEAP-II, 2009-2015) calls for “the protection of existing forest and vegetative cover and the conservation of coastal wetlands;
- Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy (ANRP, 2009-2015) which amongst its four strategic objectives lists food security, the Sustainable and effective management of natural resources and led to the strengthening of the ANRWG;
- National Climate Change Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA, 2007) recognises the need to promote and strengthen integrated management of the coastal and terrestrial zones and to preserve biological diversity and ecological assets;
- Biodiversity Policy 2003 and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 1999) amongst its priorities seeks to discourage uncontrolled extension of agricultural land into virgin forests, wetlands, marginal areas and other environmentally sensitive areas and develop sound grazing management system.

Forestry Department Strategy Programme on the restoration of Forests and other Ecosystems in The Gambia

The Gambia Forest management Concept which promotes the Community forestry program (participatory involvement of rural people in forest management)

- Protection, control and develop detail marketing plan (MA&D
- Restoration of degraded forests areas in CF and forest Parks through massive enrichment planting of indigenous trees such as Khaya senegalensis, Cordylla africana, Bombax costatum etc.
- Promotion of regeneration potential of natural forests through a sound forestry management techniques

- CF overview in the Gambia

Regions	N° of demarcated CFs	Total hectares	Average hectares	Total forest area of the region (ha)	Percentage of area under CF management
West Coast Region	63	7, 774.08	123.40	86, 000	9 %
Lower River Region	54	6, 952.63	128.75	77, 000	9 %
Central River Region	166	12, 922.26	77.84	122, 000	10.5 %
Upper River Region	30	2, 902.85	97.1	85, 000	3.42 %
North Bank Region	20	1, 130.50	56.52	53, 000	2.1 %
Total	333	31, 682.32	96.72	423, 000	7.4 %

Forestry Department Strategy Programme on the restoration of Forests and other Ecosystems in The Gambia

Joint Forest Park Management

- Rehabilitation of the Forest Parks, enrichment of gallery forests for tourist attraction(Eco-tourism / rural tourism e.g Monkey Park ,Kunkiling etc.

The total ha under management is 17,982.

- **Establishment of woodlot**



AGRICULTURAL PROJECT ACROSS THE COUNTRY			
SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT		PIWAMP SUPPORT to Upland restoration	
Year	ha	Year	ha
	78	2007 to 2013	122.2

PIWAMP = Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project

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RESTORATION OF UPLAND DEGRADED AREAS

- Planting of trees on the upland to reduce soil erosion and sand deposition within the depression areas (Figures provided above)
- Trees planted to provide wind break along village boundaries, farmland and rice cultivation areas
- Trees planted on upland to improve the soil fertility and fodder for animal husbandry.



CONT.

- **RESTORATION OF MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM INTERVENTION SITES**



Supported by WAMI		Supported by CCLME			Supported by DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY			
Intervention site	ha	Region	Intervention site	ha	Region	Intervention site	ha	Region
Bali Mandinka	4	NBR	<u>Bondali Tenda</u>	17.4	WCR	<u>Kassagne</u>	5	WCR
Buram	5	WCR	<u>Sandeng</u>	17.4	LRR	<u>Katacorr</u>	5	WCR
<u>Jassobo</u>	3	LRR	<u>Bondali Jola</u>	10.5	WCR			
			<u>Jorrong</u>	10.5	WCR			
			<u>Jiffarong</u>	10.5	LRR			

WAMI = West African mangrove initiative; **CCLME** = Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem;

NBR = North Bank Region; **WCR** = West Coast Region; **LRR** = Lower River Region

CONT.

Planting of one million trees annually, declared by the head of state

- Involving the concern line of ministries, NGOs, CBOs and communities and individuals

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support the forestry institution to expand and consolidate the ecosystem restoration ;
- Strengthen the participatory approaches of the forestry institution to transfer more forest land to participating communities;
- Support the tree planting and upgrade the upland degraded areas;
- Support the bushfire management strategy plan

Conclusion

- The restoration of ecosystem in The Gambia is an integrated sustainable land management approach (Department of Forestry, Department of Agriculture, Department of Fisheries, Department of Parks and Wildlife, CBOs, NGOs etc.)