



Progress report on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Within CRR North

INTRODUCTION

Kuntaur Area council is one of the smallest among all the councils with a population of 99,108 (2013,census). It has 333 villages spread within the five districts which is further divided into 10 wards. As council performs oversight functions of government, Kuntaur Area Council in 2019 developed its first development blue print; strategic development plan(2019-2022) for the LGA aligned to the NDP(2018-2021) and the SDGs 2030. The implementation of these plans was through a multi sectoral approach involving key players like government/sectors, GAMWORKS, donor agencies, CSOs, philanthropies etc. The plan identifies five priorities for the area, key among which includes:

1. Provision/Extension of Utilities and Services to Communities (Water, Electricity, Waste collection)
2. Empowerment of Communities especially Women and Youths for Income Generation and Sustainable Livelihoods
3. Addressing the Health and Safety Needs of Communities
4. Development of Feeder/Access Roads and other transport means to facilitate access to Farmlands and Social Facilities
5. Strengthening Administrative, Management and Operational Capacity of Council to Provide Services to Communities

Achievements from the plan

- Ten boreholes were provided across the LGA
- Achieve 6.6% of electricity with a possibility to scale up to 12% by 2022
- Waste collection system in place
- A standard multi purpose center establish
- Creation of sustainable livelihood across the LGA
- Support health service delivery
- Feeder roads developed
 - I. Kaur Jimbala- 9km
 - II. Kaur- Simbara Boarder- 8km
 - III. Kerr Gebbi- Baati Ndar-Chamen- Buduck-Nyangabantang- 38km
- Staff trained
- Implemented the IFMIS

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

End poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG 1)

The Kuntaur LGA is one of the poorest in The Gambia. Poverty headcount in the LGA is 72.4 percent, which is well above the national, rural and urban averages of 48.6 percent, 69.9 percent and 31.6 percent respectively. Out of the five districts in the Kuntaur LGA, Nianija stands out as the poorest, registering a headcount of 86.1 percent. This is followed by Upper Saloum and Lower Saloum districts which record poverty headcounts of 75.4 percent and 73.6 percent respectively. Given that the intensity/depth and severity of poverty are well above the national averages, the Kuntaur LGA needs quick interventions to improve living conditions and bring down poverty levels.

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote Sustainable agriculture. (SDG2)

Like many rural areas in The Gambia, the primary economic activity in the Kuntaur LGA is agriculture. The LGA has huge potential in rice cultivation due to its large area of arable land and availability of fresh water for all year-round production in 2019 a Needs Assessment for Rice Production in CRR - North was conducted by the Regional Agriculture Directorate which shows that there are eight existing tidal irrigation schemes which cover a total land area of about 441 hectares

The assessment further indicates that the LGA also has an estimated 4,750 hectares of underdeveloped land that could be utilized (through tidal schemes) for all year rice production. This is an indication that if properly harnessed, the CRR region has the potential of becoming the food basket for the nation but we are constrained to do so

Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all age (SDG3)

Background Information

- There are nine (9) Public Health Facilities, Fourteen (14) Community Clinics, Three (3) Private Clinics, Two (2) Service Clinics and Bansang Hospital which is being run by a Board.
- Under five Mortality in the two LGAs Janjanbureh and Kuntaur measured 67 and 79 per 1000 respectively, these are exceeding proportions when measured against the national threshold of 56 per 1000 (GBoS, DHS 2019/2020)
- Anaemia in Children in the two LGAs is 77% and 60% respectively, these proportions are exceedingly high when measured against the national threshold of 44% (GBoS, DHS 2019/2020)
- Fertility rate stood at 5.7 and 6.7 per woman and this is equally on the high side when measured against the national threshold of 4.4 births per woman (GBoS, DHS 2019/2020)
- Neonatal Mortality is 38 per 1000 in the Kuntaur LGA against the national figure of 31 per 1000 (MICs, 2018).

Recommendations

- ❑ Advocate and mobilize resources to ensure availability of PHC services in the new 8 PHC circuits in CRR covering 73 PHC villages.
- ✓ Redemarcation of PHC villages
- ✓ Advocacy for posting of more Nurses and Midwives
- ✓ Training of Community Health Workers (VHWs, CBCs and VSGs)
- ✓ Mobility (Motor Cycles) to enhance service delivery and supervision
- ✓ Provision of Essential drug (Dispersible Amoxicillin , Coartem, paracetamol and ORS) for the
- ✓ Community participation and inter-sectoral collaboration
 - Village Health Services
- ✓ Strengthened Integrated Community Case Management in the Village Health Services to ensure effective diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia Malaria and Diarrhoea.

❑ **HIGH NEONATAL AND UNNECESSARY MORTALITY RATES**

- ✓ Advocate for availability of one CEmONC centre in the North most preferably Kaur
- ✓ Strengthen the implementation of the EHSSRP through the RBF approach in all Public Facilities and Community Clinics in CRR
- ✓ Advocate for postings of more Nurses and Midwives to improve on skilled delivery
- ✓ Scaling up the Kabilo Mbaama to other district in the CRRN
- ✓ Community engagement and behavioral change communication to promote institutional delivery.
- ✓ Community engagement to promote key household practices like cord care and hygiene promotion at household level .

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning Opportunities for all (SDG4)

While the national Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) at primary level is 86.8 percent, the Kuntaur LGA only recorded 43.8 percent. The findings of the IHS further reveal that adult literacy rate in the LGA is the least when compared to other LGAs. The adult literacy rate in the Kuntaur LGA is 22.8 percent, which is well below the national average of 50.8 percent. To improve educational outcomes in the LGA, there is need to design a special educational programme for the LGA. Not limited to the provision of a standard library, teachers' quarters, the LGA is in need of a multipurpose Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) center where youth and women can acquire skills for a sustainable livelihood. This will be of great benefit if a TVET institution is created within the LGA.

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (SDG6)

Given its crucial contribution in promoting healthy lives, access to safe drinking water is a key determinant of good health. About 86.1 percent of households in The Gambia have access to improved and safe drinking water source. When compared with other LGAs, the Kuntaur LGA records the least at 66 percent, which is below the **national, urban** and **rural** averages of 85 percent, 90.1 percent and 79.4 percent respectively.

LGA	BASIC DRINKING WATER	BASIC SANITATION	BASIC HYGIENE
NATIONAL	85	47	31
BANJUL	100	56	52
KANIFING	98	63	34
BRIKAMA	86	53	31
KEREWAN	88	41	45
MANSAKONKO	72	25	31
KUNTAUR	66	13	29
JANJABUREH	69	26	18
BASSE	84	50	24

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (SDG13)

Climate change is a threat especially on vulnerable communities. It has greatly affected the biodiversity of the LGA. In recognition of this fact the council with the National Environment Agency is implement GEF6 Project to combat the impact of climate change for sustainable livelihood.

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (SDG15)

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS ON FOREST COVER IN CRR/NORTH IN THE PAST DECADE

- Every year 6% of virgin forest covers are diminishing either by forest fire, poor agricultural practices, illegal logging, charcoal burnings, honey collections (using fire) transhumance (foreign herders), and other land uses eg new settlements
- A study indicates that between 1998 to 2010 the country has lost 97000 hectares of forest to other land uses. It further indicates a drastic drop in density of remaining forest by plummeting from 107 trees/hectare in 1998 to dwindling 43 trees/hectare in 2010.
- Forest fires were unarguably identified as the biggest drive to this menace national forest assessment (NFA 2010).
- **CRR North** is the most vulnerable within regions in the country it's relatively high temperatures quickly dehydrate the biomass immediately after the rain season

- Forest fires affect an average of 43000 hectares of forest in CRR/NORTH annually

CHALLENGES

- inadequate resources and mobilization of communities
- lack of commitments and awareness by the peoples
- strengthening the institutional collaborations to take up the cooperative responsibilities
- improper monitoring and coordination of land use policy
- reluctant to report the culprits or suspects when there is a fire outbreak

Recommendations

- Introduction of community forestry concept to the (Cfc) to rural Gambia community
- Early and control burning on the fire hotguy out zones.
- creation of regional/district fire commite

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize through Partnership (SDG17)

Collaboration and partnership with government, UN agencies(UNCDF) is a key priority of KTRAC in the attainment of all our development targets. As a deprived council with a small revenue based partnerships and support is a prerequisite for the attainment of the goals.

CHALLENGES

- LOW REVENUE BASE OF THE COUNCIL
- THIN HUMAN RESOURCES TO MOVE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FORWARD
- LACK OF SUITABLE EQUIPMENT
- OUTBREAK OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDAMIC
- WEAK DECENTRALISED LEVELS
- LOW COMMUNITY SENSITISATION
- INADEQUATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
- FEW INTERVENTION BY DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES WITKIN THE LGA

RECOMMENDATIONS

- BUDGETARY SUPPORT
- PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL
- EMPOWER THE COUNCIL TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS
- DECENTRALISED STRUCTURES TO BE EMPOWERED THROUGH FUNDING
- GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT COUNCIL'S DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES
- PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STRENGTHEN TECHNICAL,
- ADMINISTRATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY OF COUNCIL TO DELIVER ON
- ITS MANDATE
- FUNDING OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTEENTION