

UNDP in The Gambia



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Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Development for Inclusive Growth, Employment Generation and Poverty Reduction

Start/End Date: Jan. 2017 to Dec. 2021

Total Budget: \$3,900,000

Description: The project aims to drive economic development as a means of reducing poverty and inequality of vulnerable groups, especially women and youth located in the poorest districts in Gambia

SDGs Impacted: Goals 1, 4 & 8 🌐

Outcomes/Results to Date: Supported the formulation of a national employment policy and action plan, youth policy, updating the labour Act 2007, Industrial policy, development of an aid for trade strategy, review of GIEPA Act and E-commerce platform strategy, conduct the 2nd national MSME mapping and labour force surveys. All these leading better strategic direction and performance in service delivery.

Output 1: Support the creation of an enabling environment for private sector development by supporting greater dialogue especially regarding employment, livelihood creation and entrepreneurship.

- Formulation & review of policies guided by studies-

6 policies & regulations have been completed. They are; National Standards and Regulation for Bread; The MSME Policy; Youth Policy; Labour Act 2007; National MSME Policy

Formulation of Aid for Trade Strategy; Employment Policy & Action plan, Gambia chamber of Commerce and Industry strategic plan and review of the GIEPA Act. 4 studies conducted (Gender mainstreaming; MSME mapping exercise; Labour Force Survey & feasibility for

Tech-hub E-commerce platform feasibility study undertaken)



- Provided support in policy implementation- Entrepreneurship policy specifically: i) Development of a Catalogue of Technical and Regulatory Standards; ii) Introduction of Entrepreneurship Education into the Basic Cycle Schools
 - Provided equipment
50 iPad, 5 Dell Intel 1505 laptops and
2 micro soft pro3 surface procured for GBoS to support the Labour force survey

Output 2: Developing the capacity of local entrepreneurs for improved productivity and competitiveness through training & skills development of existing interventions like Songhai and EMPRETEC

- Supported entrepreneurship skills development and youths' platforms
Launch of the Youth Connekt
Nation-wide sensitization conducted by the Youths council
Gambia- Songhai initiative supported.

238 youth and over 2300 women have been trained from the GSI on the one year and short term specialized courses offered by the Centre
Established strong partnership with Songhai Regional Centre in Benin who provided technical support
Launch of the youth App.

The PENDA platform has been supported. Held 4 committee meetings, career guidance day in which 100 secondary school students were coached.

- Supported investment/business & Export promotion through the following activities:

Review of GIEPA Investment Guide

Distribution 150 copies

41 participants trained on international export

15 businesses were provided business development services on export development.

Study tour to Rwanda to pick lessons for business and regulatory environment.

Single Window Business Registration

The launch of the business council

Establishment of the SME help desk & research Centre

Established the EMPRETEC Centre of Excellence which is now self-financing

Graduated five nationals as international ENPRETEC

trainer who can serve globally as certified trainers

To date the project has created over 3000 new jobs/livelihoods

Output 3: Support Better Policy Programming and Implementation

- Conducted financial literacy training for women
800 women trained on micro-finance & banking
All the 800 women have access to micro finance and are part of Reliance Women Empowerment Project.

- Supported income Generating skills training for the youths

142 youth trained in various livelihood enhancement skills

- Strengthened PMU established on government salaries

- Five technical staff assigned to the project management and responsible for the day-to day operations of the project
- Government provided US\$100,000 annually



Current Funding Gap: US\$850,000 (on sustainability activities beyond current available funding)

Agency/Line Ministry: Ministry of Trade Industry as lead with Ministry of Youths and Sports, Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry chair the Board of Directors/PSC.

For more information on how to engage, or to share ideas, contact Mariam Njai at: mariam.njai@undp.org / +220 3303180

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