

COP27 OUTCOME:

Resolving Climate Finance and Establishing Loss & Damage fund

December 2022



The Government of The Gambia with support from UNDP has made commitments reflected in the Long-Term climate change Strategic Plan (LTS) to pursue increased financing for local players thereby improving the processes and capacities required to access funds and technical support for mitigation and adaptation of climate change impacts.

Prior to the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, The Gambia delegation led by H.E, Vice President of the Republic of The Gambia, Badara Alieu Joof, held with UNDP's support, a Pre-COP meeting on the 28th of October 2022. This national pre-COP session allowed the delegation members to discuss the country's current climate context, deliberate over how to approach negotiations and agree on key areas of national priority to be highlighted ahead of COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh. The meeting was attended by Rohey John Manjang Minister of Environment, Climate Change & Natural Resource, Fatou Kinteh Minister of Gender, Children & Social Welfare, Abdoulie Jobe Minister of Petroleum & Energy, Ebrima Sillah Minister of Transport, Works & Infrastructure, several members of the UN Country Team, Development partners and the UNFCCC focal person, Alpha Jallow.

At the Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (**COP 27**), a significant breakthrough on the loss and



R-L: H.E Vice President, Badara Joof. Hon. Abdoulie Jobe, Minister of Petroleum & Energy. Hon Ebrima Sillah, Minister of Transport, Works & Infrastructure

damage fund to compensate developing countries for the irrevocable impacts of climate change was established. The prospect of protecting the most vulnerable communities led to this historic decision, which was preceded by tough political debates and settlements reached across significant areas of climate action. For the first time, countries agreed on the need for financing to respond to loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. Whilst the fund is yet to be provided, its effectiveness will depend on each individual country's strategies and mechanisms to respond to and meet the most urgent needs of its peoples.

As a developing country experiencing the adverse effects of climate change, the loss and damage fund came as great news for financing of climate actions in The Gambia. However, the coast is still not clear, with developed countries looking to avoid responsibilities on who bears the compensation cost, and other COP27 outcomes such as transition to renewable energy falling on deaf ears.



Top from left: UNCDF Sira Foon, Gvt. Rep, UNFPA Rep. Rose Sarr, Timothy French Development Agency, IOM Rep. Fumiko Nagano, WFP Rep Yasuhiro Tsumura, Hon Ebrima Sillah MOICI, Hon. Abdoulie Jobe MoPE, Regional Governor.
 Bottom from left: FAO Rep, Ms Moshibudi Rampedi, Hon. Kinteh, Minister of Gender, UN Resident Coordinator, Seraphine Wakana, VP Badara Joof, UNDP RR, Aissata De, Minister of MECCNAR, Rohey John-Manjang, Chairman, Mansakoko Area Council, Landing B. Sanneh

The Gambia Delegation – Meetings & Outcomes



L-R Hon Musa Drammeh of Fisheries & Water Resources and VP Badara Joof

At COP27, The Gambian delegation held a series of bilateral meetings with different development partners to discuss the achievement of the country’s Long-Term Strategy, LTS.

The meeting with the Commonwealth Secretary General in particular, presented an opportunity for The Gambia to benefit from the commonwealth programmes initiated on: Training for women on entrepreneurship, Skills training for youth development, Access to ocean incubators funding and the Digital Economy.

Recommendations for Mitigation & Adaptation of Climate Change

During deliberations on mitigation at COP27, developed and climate-vulnerable countries pushed for a strong outcome to accelerate efforts to reduce carbon emissions by 2030, calling this “the critical decade.” The urgent and immediate need for action to mainstream and accelerate innovative climate change adaptation approaches globally was reiterated.

The Gambia was applauded during a bilateral meeting with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) for its Ecosystem based Adaptation Project (EbA). It is identified as a model for Natural Based Solutions and could attract additional resources for the Green Climate Fund to proceed to the project's phase 2. The EbA project aims to build climate-resilient ecosystem services in urban and peri-urban communities thereby limiting the impact of climate change.



Vice President. Badara Joof at Sharm El-Sheikh

Climate Finance

Climate finance was a crucial part of COP27, the final agreement indicated that *“US\$4 to \$6 trillion a year needs to be invested in renewable energy until 2030 and this includes investments in technology and infrastructure in order to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.”*

Meanwhile, the Gambian delegation met with the African Development Bank AfDB, for NDC and LTS implementation support. This was promising as the bank:

- Has tasked a multidisciplinary team with mapping out NDC and LTS financial needs for its partners, The Gambia inclusive, and compiling a pool of knowledge on lessons from African Countries.
- Is currently funding an Integrated Green Transport Strategy under the Ministry of Transport which could be linked to the Transport intervention under the LTS.
- Could provide funding to support the development of a LTS Investment plan. Considering that in 2017, the country developed its Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR with a USD300 million investment portfolio.

UNDP's support to The Gambia following COP27

UNDP continues to support national efforts to ensure that conversations initiated during the COP continue. The



L- R Hon Minister of Environment, Climate Change & Natural Resources Rohey John Manjang and VP Badara Joof

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources was supported in convening a post-COP27 dialogue with key stakeholders to share the outcomes of the COP27 deliberations and strategize on next steps. In this post-COP27 dialogue, the Government of The Gambia shared that it is continuing its discussions with donors, such as, IDB to secure climate mitigation financing and is also building a solid case as to why The Gambia would be an ideal recipient of the loss and damage fund once it becomes operational.

UNDP is following up with these developments, to provide technical and strategic support where needed. Furthermore, UNDP will continue its support to Government to turn plans into actions.

Already, UNDP is assisting national stakeholders to implement climate mitigation actions through;

- Renewable energy – Replacing the heavily fuel generators with solar plants to provide sustainable clean energy to rural Gambia, thus reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions emanating from traditional generators. UNDP is also providing off-grid communities with solar energy that would have otherwise been electrified by traditional high GHG emission sources.
- Reforestation efforts – Thus far, UNDP has collaborated with volunteers in the North Bank to plant 26,000 trees and 2,000,000 mangrove propagules to increase national carbon sinks. There are plans to continue these reforestation efforts in areas hard hit by deforestation and desertification.
- Clean cooking initiative – UNDP has provided 1000s of energy efficient cookstoves. It is estimated that the initiative is reducing emissions by 11.98 ton CO₂ a month.
- Waste management – UNDP is supporting municipalities in better managing waste and recycling and composting activities. With open burning of waste being prevalent in The Gambia, waste disposal is a significant contributor to national emission.