The Gambia

The Gambia is a low-income country and a least developed country (LDC) with a GNI of 680 USD per capita (2017) and a population of 2.1 million inhabitants (2017). In the 2018 Monitoring Round, The Gambia reported on 63 million USD in development co-operation flows.

1. National development planning and results orientation

Overall quality of national results framework
High-quality, inclusive and results-oriented development strategies are critical for countries’ ownership over their development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The quality of national development planning in the Gambia is high (95%).

The national development strategy and results framework...

... defines priorities, targets and indicators

... includes budget or costing information

... aligns to SDGs

Regular progress reports are available

2. Multi-stakeholder engagement

Recognising that successful development efforts require the inclusive and equitable participation of all actors, the 2030 Agenda calls for collective action by the whole of society. Global Partnership monitoring examines the engagement of civil society and the private sector from both the perspective of the government and representatives of these stakeholder groups.

Quality of public-private dialogue
Government representatives perceive the quality of public-private dialogue as weak, SMEs as weak, large private sector firms as weak and trade unions as weak.

Enabling environment for civil society organisations...

... was not assessed by government representatives, civil society organisations and development partners in the 2018 Monitoring Round in the Gambia.

Major development partners in the 2018 Monitoring Round (by reported disbursements in 2017)

- IFAD: 11%
- Islamic Development Bank: 33%
- African Development Bank: 47%
3. Quality and use of public financial management systems

Strengthening public financial management systems
Strong public financial management (PFM) systems are an essential element of good governance and vital to achieving development goals. The Gambia did not assess progress in the quality of its PFM systems.

- **Budget**: 23% (2018) vs 49% (2016)
- **Procurement**: 23% (2018) vs 46% (2016)
- **Auditing**: 23% (2018) vs 52% (2016)
- **Financial reporting**: 23% (2018) vs 45% (2016)

Development partners’ use of country systems
Development partners’ use of these systems to deliver co-operation both lowers transaction costs and helps to accelerate their strengthening. In the Gambia, use of country PFM systems decreased from 22% in 2016 to 20% in 2018. Further, legislative oversight of the budget has improved. The share of development co-operation recorded on budgets subject to parliamentary scrutiny increased from 0% in 2016 to 45% in 2018.

- **Disbursements as scheduled**: 70% (2018) vs 70% (2016)
- **Medium-term predictability**: 70% (2018) vs 70% (2016)

4. Predictability and forward planning

High-quality and timely information on development co-operation helps governments in planning and managing resources for results and can guide development partners in coordinating their support with other providers, as to avoid fragmentation and duplication of efforts. Annual predictability of development co-operation is low, with 61% of co-operation disbursed as scheduled. Medium-term predictability was not assessed in the Gambia in the 2018 Monitoring Round.

- **Predictability of development co-operation**: 66% (2018) vs 100% (2016)

5. Mutual accountability mechanisms

Mutual accountability underpins the efforts of development actors to meet joint commitments, improve how they work together and increase their development effectiveness. Mutual accountability mechanisms are made up of multiple, reinforcing components that can help enhance transparency and accountability at country level. Global Partnership monitoring defines and assesses mutual accountability against five components. The Gambia has four out of five components in place.

- **Component 1**: Comprehensive policy framework for development co-operation
- **Component 2**: Country-level targets for government and development partners
- **Component 3**: Regular joint assessment of progress
- **Component 4**: Assessments are inclusive and involve non-state actors
- **Component 5**: Timely, publicly available results of assessments

Declaration: This document was prepared based on data collected from voluntary reporting to the 2018 Monitoring Round of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation. The information provided does not necessarily represent the views of OECD, UNDP or the Government of the Gambia. For ease of reference, the term ‘country’ is used to refer to developing countries and territories that reported to the 2018 Monitoring Round. Participation in this process and mention of any participant in this document is without prejudice to the status or international recognition of a given country or territory.