

NATIONAL TECHNICAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

**Overview of the Environment Assessment
and Compendium in The Gambia**

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BACKGROUND

- The Gambia is one of the pilot countries for the Programme on Statistics and Data under 10th Tranche of the UN Development Account.
- The Programme's Environmental Pillar aims at strengthening capacity to measure and monitor SDG indicators in environment statistics.

BACKGROUND – Cont.

- Thus contributes to the implementation of the **UNSD** capacity building efforts in the development of environment statistics in *Africa*.
- And backs **GBoS'** drive for production of relevant and quality *Env. Stats*

ENVIRON. STATS ASSESSMENT IN THE GAMBIA

PURPOSE

- To support the development of environment statistics in The Gambia
- through the implementation of the Framework for Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) 2013.
- To strengthen environmental statistical capacity at the national level, including for monitoring of the SDGs, based on national priorities.
- To assist in the development of the first National Compendia of Environment Statistics

METHOD

- 5th Feb, 2018: National workshop with environment statistics producers and users
- 6th – 8th Feb, 2018: Office visits to take stock of existing data and methodology used and access the data gap for international comparisons. (see mission's agenda)
- 9th Feb, 2018: Presentation of results and discussion on workplan on the compendium and action plan
- It was conducted using the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT).

RETIONALE

- In many countries a significant amount of environmental data is often available.
- However, what is available and the agency/unit holding the data is often not widely known; and

RETIONALE

- data is often not readily accessible for the following reasons:
 - Data storage is often 'personalized' and institutional memory by producers of the data held can be minimal;
 - Data is often scattered across several Ministries;
 - There is often no common dissemination platform or medium;
 - Data is held in a variety of formats: ad hoc reports, paper based files, excel sheets with varying table structures;
 - Lack of a central hub.

RESULTS

- Capacity gap in statistical production
- Recruitment of a consultant to develop an Action Plan and Compendium
- Inclusion of statistics in the ANR's agenda

**ENVIRON. STATS COMPENDIUM OF
THE GAMBIA**

INTRODUCTION

- The ongoing environmental challenges faced by modern societies, such as population pressure, energy issues, sustainable development and climate change has increased the demand for ES.
- The environment is ever more present in public policies and development plans.
- The realization that human wellbeing and development depend on the environment has led to an increasing emphasis on environmental and sustainability concerns.
- Of paramount importance to these actions is the regular production of ES of the highest quality.
- Furthermore, it can be used as input and support for fact-based policymaking.

Cont.

- ES represent a new and emerging domain which is typically endowed with limited resources and is challenged by an institutional setup and inter-institutional coordination that are still in development.
- The Compendium is based on the structure of the FDES 2013
- The FDES 2013 is a flexible, multi-purpose conceptual and statistical framework that is comprehensive and integrative in nature.
- It marks out the scope of environment statistics and provides an organizing structure to guide their collection and compilation and to synthesize data from various subject areas and sources, covering the issues and aspects of the environment that are relevant for analysis, policy and decision making.

CONTENT

*The **Compendium** is structured in six sections following the components of the FDES 2013:*

- **Environmental conditions and quality**
 - ✓ mean temperature, maximum temperature, minimum temperature, mean relative humidity and rainfall (Source: DWR)
 - ✓ Forest area, Community forest management stage (Source: DoF)
- **Environmental resources and their use**
 - ✓ Imports and Exports by quantity (Metric tonnes) (Source: MoTIE)
 - ✓ Crops – Production, Area harvested and yield (Source: PSU-MoA)
 - ✓ Livestock herd and poultry (Source: PSU-MoA)
- **Residuals**
 - ✓ Imports and use of Ozone Depleting Substance Alternative (Source: NEA)
 - ✓ Consumption of CFC (Source: NEA)
 - ✓ Pesticide / Chemical imported (Source: NEA)

CONTENT

➤ Extreme events and disasters

- ✓ occurrence of extreme events and
- ✓ disasters with focus on their impacts on human well-being and the infrastructure of the human sub-system.
- ✓ The most common data providers are national authorities responsible for disaster management and, insurance companies.
- ✓ **Unfortunately, there is a data gap regarding FDES Component 4 for The Gambia at the time.**

➤ Human settlements and environmental health

- ✓ source of light, main cooking fuel toilet facility, method of solid waste disposal, regularity of collection of solid waste and main source of water (Source: 2013 PHC, GBoS)

➤ Environmental protection, management and engagement

- ✓ Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other Global Environmental Conventions Signed (Source: NEA and MoECNR)
- ✓ Policy frameworks and legislations (Source: NEA)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**