

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
The Gambia  
SUMMARY MISSION REPORT  
Date: 13 August 2019



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**Travel Authorization #:**

**Approved Mission Itinerary:**

Aissata: Banjul- Dakar- Banjul  
Abass: Banjul- Dakar- Banjul

**Inclusive Travel Dates:**

Aissata: 20.07 – 30.07.2019  
Abass Kinteh: 20.07 - 28.07.2019

**Key Counterparts in Location:**

- Amata Diabate, Resident Representative
- Nana Oumou Toure, Coordinator – Regional Platform WACA
- El Hadji Oumar Diallo, Operations Advisor

**Annexes:**

- Mission agenda
- TORs

**Purpose/Objective of Mission:**

To foster exchanges between The Gambia and Senegal on the PUDC as innovative rural transformation development model, secure political commitment and explore access to budgetary resources for replication of the government of the Gambia to deliver on key development priorities.

**Background**

The PUDC is an acclaimed Pan-African development model developed and implemented by the government of Senegal with the support from the UNDP within the context of Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE), in line with the SDGs and African agenda for development 2063. The PUDC is an integrated and systematic approach for the combination and economic use of the infrastructure and facilities throughout the country particularly rural communities faced with challenges such.

- Improve the population access to basic social economic facilities (rural roads, water services, energy and agricultural production and processing facilities);
- Strengthening the capacities of technical groups and local actors in the management, operation and maintenance of the facilities;
- Promotion of entrepreneurship and enterprise development through access to technology, and financial services;
- Develop and establish an M&E system that would provide information of the projects progress and achievements.

Following the technical visit to Senegal to explore the feasibility of the PUDC model as a potential means to fast-track rural development with the spirit of **leaving no one behind** and in response to the SDGs, this joint high level, ministerial visit gave the opportunity for greater understanding, at strategic level of the Senegal PUDC model which have proven to be an approach for accelerating community level infrastructure development and economic empowerment for possible replication in the Gambia. The exchange visit was conducted from July 22 to 26, 2019 and composed of:

- Hon. Mambury Njie - Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs
- Hon. James F.P. Gomez - Minister of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Affairs
- Hon. Mai Ahmed Fatty - Special Adviser to H.E. the President
- Hon. Amie Fabureh - Minister of Agriculture
- H.E. Ebou Ndour, Gambia's Ambassador to Senegal
- Mr Mod Ceesay - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure
- Mr Ebrima KS Dampha - Governor, North Bank Region
- Mr Ismaila Danso - Director, Delivery Unit, DSPD, OP
- Mr. Seck Fodé, Ambassador, Executive Secretary – Senegalo-Gambian Executive Secretariat



- Ms. Aissata DE, UNDP Resident Representative
- Mr. Abass Kinteh, Programme Associate, UNDP

## Mission Findings

**Institutional set up:** important to establish a competent PUDC Secretariat under the leadership of a knowledgeable and competent DG. In Senegal, the Secretariat, an autonomous body placed initially under the Prime Minister’s Office was a key success factor. This requires an integrated and comprehensive multi-sectoral program with strong as well as a supportive external environment including the beneficiary population, the authorities, and international community based on trust, transparency and due process, therefore the choice of the UNDP platform to attain such required balance. In setting up the Programme, there is also a need to have an activity or program mapping - Project site selection and design studies (feasibility studies) fast-tracked and aligned to vision of the leadership. Another approach used is to have program development at year 1 and subsequently over time aligning to budget, plan avoiding off budget and off planed missed alignment.

During the discussion with Senegal Minister of Finance with his technical team and the General Director of Customs, the importance to adhere, to the principle of transparency and accountability and ensure continuous supportive public policy (industrial) to accompany the scheme particularly providing necessary protections through tariff, non-tariff and subsidies has also been underline. A phased approach with flexibility and being responsive. There is also a need for fiscal measures for administration of the scheme by UNDP. Harmonize concessionary tariff for operators in the water and electricity and ensure compliance to national standards and alignment to both NDP and sector plans (education, health, water, electricity) conforms to those standards

**Sustainability** – the partnership with the private sector for its efficient operation and maintenance. This requires immediate handover of facilities to the relevant sectors to mainstream into its facilities management programmes. Input subsidy (40%) and equipment access administration (60%) using intermediaries (Banks and insurance) for recoveries and suppliers with wide after sale service centers.



**Beneficiaries’** sensitization and participation is key; Governance structure/oversights must have strong local community participation; use local/community structures; Foster Cross-borders collaboration at communities and municipalities



**Choice of UNDP:** the major reason for the use of UNDP systems (procurement and financial management) to fast track the procurement process and expedite the delivery of development results. UNDP’s support includes transfer of technical capacities to ensure sustainability and continuity of the used procurement integrated approach.

**Funding & Partnership:** the PUDC requires primary source of funding (Budgetary resources) with timely allocation, transfer and reporting (advance retirement) as UNDP would not entertain pre-financing of contracts or signing off contracts before securing the funds. Senegal’s answer to quick and quality delivery without compromising accountability is PUDC. First phase 100% government funded. Second phase ADB and IDB contributed \$60m.

The IDB committed to strengthening south/south cooperation. The AfDB, as key partner for many years, expressed the desire to reinforce regional integration and transform the area between Gambia/Senegal. Will have new strategy by next year to discuss with the Government.

### **Beyond PUDC – Trade and cross-borders collaboration**

Major outcomes of the mission went beyond the PUDC, offering an opportunity to discuss forward steps to strengthen collaboration between the two countries mainly on trade. Both governments decided to hold a retreat that will be hosted in the Gambia to further discuss current constraints on free circulation of goods and establish mechanisms to reinforce economic, social and cultural tights.

The on-going cross-borders initiative with the establishment of “case de citoyennete et de bon voisinage” has been presented to the delegation. This later suggested future ones to be integrated and called “Pinchum Disso Bantaba” offering space for intercommunity dialogue and collaboration along the senega-gambian borders.

## Actions to be Taken and by Whom:

### *The Gambia Government*

- Willingness and commitment to roll out or replicate the PUDC scheme in the Gambia to be called: **Accelerated Community Development Program or Program for Accelerated Community Development (PACD)**
- Establishment an **autonomous agency** for the coordination of PACD in The Gambia. This will be anchored at the office of the President with technical committees involving the sectors across the Gambian PACD spectrum.
- Kick start by January 2020** and use now to December as preparatory period
- Confirmation of funds availability in the 2020 budget to kick starts the process
- Availability of **funds** for the rolling out or **setting up stage Aug - Dec. 2019**
- Strategic Policy and Delivery Unit of the Office of the President (SPDU-OP) and UNDP mapping **exercise for the scope and site selection** for the phase I.
- Validation and prioritization of the needs** or requirement including rural energy supply-solar energy, water, labour saving devices, and rural roads as well compliance to sector plans and standards;
- Use UNDP system** and procedures to fast track the implementation of the programme during the first phase during which national capacities should be strengthened for eventual take over or mainstreaming;

### **On cross-borders issues (beyond PUDC):**

- Hold the **Senegal-Gambia Ministerial Retreat**
- Have **joint and integrated centers** along the Senegal-Gambia borders as opposed to opening one in each country and name it: "Pinchum Disso Bantaba".

### *The Gambia Country office*

- Finalize **PUDC feasibility study** by October 2019
- Provide **technical support for the drafting** of the various governance and operational instruments of the program by UNDP to be finalize by Dec. 2019;
- Seek **HQs support** for the drafting process
- Have at an early stage, the **CO Operations set up** required to manage the coming PACD – Envisage a CO capacity assessment at early stage

### *Senegal CO and Regional Centre*

- Share documentation and other relevant information
- Provide technical support if required including on cross-borders issues

## Distribution:

RBA  
Senegal CO and Regional center  
The Gambia CO



## Annexes

- ToRs
- Mission agenda
- Information note on the cross-borders cultural centers



TOR - PUDC



Agenda Delegation TDR\_PNUD CASES -  
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