

	digital connectivity energy transport health education and research	YES <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Migration @	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities @	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line(s) (article, item): 14 02 01 20 Total estimated cost: EUR 20 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 20 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing	Direct management through: - Grant - Twinning grant			

1.2 Summary of the Action

The Gambia and the EU have a strong shared interest in promoting better-connected, climate resilient and sustainable agricultural value chains that are market-driven and harness the energies, skills and investments of the commercial private sector, with production of and access to nutritious food, food quality and safety, import substitution and enhanced export competitiveness as key imperatives. This would help propel the largely subsistence rural community into a more profitable future, with enhanced food sovereignty and export outcomes, thereby targeting women and young people to become agripreneurs, so that they can realistically aspire to more profitable and sustainable agricultural livelihoods.

The Action intends to accelerate a people-centred (particularly women and young people), resilient, market-driven and nutrition-sensitive agro-ecological transition in The Gambia. The Specific(s) Objective(s) of this action are to: (1) Increase investments, productivity, income opportunities and working conditions for women, young people and people from the bottom 40 per cent of the population of targeted agri-food value chains, with a specific emphasis in the horticulture sector; (2) Improve plant health, food safety, control and quality management systems, processes and sustainable agro-ecological practices of producers and processors (particularly women and young people); and (3) Strengthen diversified, nutrition-sensitive, agro-ecologically produced targeted agri-food value chains.

The strengthening of food safety control systems with better standards and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures and building the capacity of farmers (particularly women and young people) to produce quality food, will progressively increase the contribution of agri-food systems to Gambia's export revenues. It will also increase the share of food locally purchased by the tourism/hospitality sector while safe and nutritious foods will become more accessible/ affordable, whilst promoting the green and circular economy. The increase of local food consumption will accelerate the transition towards a circular economy in food and beverages, especially regarding high quality products and organic farming, where tourists might be willing to pay a premium price. Biodiversity in The Gambia will be preserved through a higher variety of crops, pesticides reduction and pollinators protection.

This Food Systems project will contribute to The Gambia's efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change and environmental degradation, improve agricultural value chain connectivity and efficiency and promote food quality and safety. In addition, the Action is expected to contribute positively to nutrition security, especially of children; create green employment opportunities, particularly for women and young people; and facilitate access to finance