



ACTIVITY REPORT

UNIDO-GEF6 CCA

FISHERIES PROJECT

Strengthening Adaptive Capacities to Climate Change through Capacity Building for Small-Scale Enterprises and Communities Dependent on Coastal Fisheries in The Gambia.



Implementing Agency
United Nations Industrial
Development Organization (UNIDO)

Executing Institution
Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources
and National Assembly Matters

Project Duration
2 Years



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INTRODUCTION

The **UNIDO-GEF6 Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) Fisheries Project** aims to enhance the resilience of fisheries-dependent communities and small-scale enterprises in The Gambia.



Climate change poses increasing risks to fisheries livelihoods through rising temperatures, sea-level rise, post-harvest losses, and declining fish quality. This Activity Report highlights key achievements, ongoing interventions, and community-focused outcomes recorded during the reporting period.





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Component 1: Gender Responsive Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) measures mainstreamed into relevant sector policies and national strategy

1.1.1 Identify the gaps in the relevant policies and strategies (energy, fisheries, agriculture, gender, etc.)



A major milestone under Component 1.0 was the identification of policy and institutional gaps affecting gender equality and climate change adaptation in the fisheries sector. A three-day multi-stakeholder workshop was conducted by the **Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Fisheries & Water Resources** and National Assembly Matters and



UNIDO. The workshop brought together key actors to examine existing fisheries, gender, energy, and environmental policies.

The discussions highlighted women's critical roles in post-harvest processing and marketing, alongside persistent challenges such as limited access to finance, inadequate infrastructure, health risks, and exclusion from decision-making processes.



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Component 1: Gender Responsive Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) measures mainstreamed into relevant sector policies and national strategy

1.1.2 Adapt relevant policies & strategies to include CCA & gender mainstreaming in fisheries value chain

Building on the findings, the project supported efforts to adapt policies and strategies to better integrate climate change adaptation and gender responsiveness in the fisheries value chain. These efforts promote inclusive governance, improved compliance with fisheries laws, reduction of gender-based violence, and enhanced leadership opportunities for women in fisheries organizations.



1.1.3 Create an umbrella association of all key private sector players of the fisheries value chain for advocacy and coordination purposes

The Platform of Non-State Actors of Fisheries and Aquaculture of The Gambia (PONSAFAG) was strengthened to serve as an umbrella advocacy and coordination body for fisheries stakeholders. With support from the project, PONSAFAG conducted nationwide sensitization treks across multiple regions, reaching over 200 fisheries actors. The outreach promoted climate change adaptation, gender inclusion, and the formation of strong, registered fisheries associations.





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Component 2: Resilience-building models for small-scale fisheries-dependent enterprises and populated coastal communities

2.1.1 Innovative climate-proof post-harvest technologies implemented at three Community Fisheries Centers (CFCs), with capacity building

USET-DST implemented climate-resilient post-harvest technologies at Brufut, Gunjur, and Tanji CFCs. Inception activities included site surveys to assess existing fish processing practices, identify challenges, and gauge beneficiary interest in climate change adaptation (CCA) technologies.

The pilot technologies introduced are:

- DST Model 200 fish smoking device – increases preservation capacity by 500%, reduces firewood use by over 90%, and eliminates health hazards from PAHs.
- DST Model 120 solarized fish dryer – uses renewable energy to improve drying quality and scalability.
- DST253H cold room – solar-powered, low-temperature cold storage for fresh fish.

Progress has been steady at Brufut and Tanji, with foundational installations ongoing at Gunjur. These interventions support food security by improving post-harvest management, boosting incomes, and enhancing fisheries sector resilience.





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Component 2: Resilience-building models for small-scale fisheries-dependent enterprises and populated coastal communities

2.1.2 Identify the relevant technologies, business processes, and capacity building to improve post-harvest activities, including the pilot projects to be implemented

Alongside technology deployment, capacity-building focused on:

- Business skills and enterprise development
- Hygienic fish handling practices
- Promoting climate-smart post-harvest methods

Training targeted women and youth processors to improve product quality, market access, and income diversification.



These interventions aim to foster sustainable fisheries value chains while addressing environmental and health risks associated with traditional smoking methods.



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Component 3: Community empowerment and awareness raising on CCA in fisheries value chains

3.1.1 Training Workshops and Local Knowledge Sharing on Climate Change

Training workshops and materials were developed to share climate adaptation solutions, meteorology, hydrology, and fisheries management with coastal communities, extension officers, and policymakers. Activities included practical sessions, gender-inclusive approaches, participatory consultations, and public awareness campaigns reaching ~1,667 people per quarter via caravans, radio, TV, posters, and social media, highlighting climate impacts, adaptive practices, and the roles of women and youth in fisheries.





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Component 3: Community empowerment and awareness raising on CCA in fisheries value chains

3.3.1 Project Visibility, Knowledge Sharing, and Success Stories

A dedicated project website has been created to serve as a central platform for sharing updates, publications, and success stories. Additional visibility activities included field visits, community engagements, and communication materials.





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Conclusion and Way Forward

The UNIDO–GEF6 CCA Fisheries Project continues to make meaningful progress in strengthening resilience within fisheries value chains in The Gambia. By integrating policy engagement, deploying innovative technologies, and empowering communities, the project is creating pathways for sustainable livelihoods and enhanced food security. A key focus moving forward will be on advancing gender inclusion, ensuring that women actively participate and benefit across the fisheries value chain. Additionally, sustainable fisheries waste management will be prioritized, promoting environmentally responsible practices while enhancing resource efficiency. Future implementation will also expand training programmes and scale up successful adaptation models

