



# GAMBIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION



## ACTIVITY *Report* 2022



TOURNOI UFOA-A U20  
NOUAKCHOTT 2022



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## 1. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT



Dear football family of The Gambia Football Federation (GFF), distinguished delegates, colleagues in the Executive Committee and staff, it is indeed gratifying and heartwarming that I once again stand before this very important gathering to address the stakeholders in this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Each year, by this time, we gather here to update you on the activities of the year ending and present to you the budget for the New Year for your approval. It also ensures that we are accountable to you for the decisions we take on your behalf in a transparent, and democratic manner as one of the critical principles of good governance.

The year 2022 is the most successful in Gambian football. The year started with the Senior National Team playing in its first African Cup of Nations finals in Cameroon where it finished as the sixth best side in the continent. The Team played a total 11 matches in the year and won five, lost two and drew four. To bring a successful campaign for us to an end, Musa Barrow won two man-of-the-match performances and included in the team of the group stages, while Baboucarr Gaye's heroics in saving a penalty against Tunisia was also rewarded with a man-of-the-match award.



Barrow was also nominated for the African Player of the Year while James Gomez, also got nominated for the Young Player category and Tom Saintfiet for the Coach of the Year. The Belgian also finished third in the Belgium Coach of the Year category.

We have since began our quest for back-to-back AFCON appearances with a 1-0 win over South Sudan in the group opener before losing by a similar score in Congo Brazzaville. The team ended the year with a 1-1 draw in a friendly international against Guinea Bissau in Antalya, Turkey.

While our U-23 and CHAN teams crashed out in the first stage of the Paris 2024 Olympics qualifiers and the AFCON qualifiers in the first

During the year under review, the GFF held its 2022 Elective Congress on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August. The Congress, administered by the Electoral Committee, elected the President and new Executive Committee members for the next four years. In our drive to increase women participation in the Executive, a constitutional amendment was made at the Extraordinary General Assembly where the President of the Women's Football Association became the fourth Vice President and two other females were co-opted into the Exco.

The European football governing body, through its UEFA Assist Program, organised a two-day retreat for members of the executive and senior management staff which was part of a four-day working visit to The Gambia.

The GFF continues to make staff development core of its agenda by enhancing the capacity of the workforce to ensure more effective and efficient delivery. In this regard, the Assistant Women's Football Coordinator Ms. Veronic Malack was awarded a scholarship to study a FIFA Master in Sports Management, Law and

stage to Burkina Faso and Guinea Bissau, the U-20 broke another record by finishing second at the WAFU Cup of Nations in Mauritania. They secured another qualification to Egypt 2023; the first time any Gambian team secured back-to-back AFCON appearances in the same category. These achievements are largely down to the sound policies and investments undertaken by the leadership of the GFF.

Humanities. This is aside the several scholarships awarded to staff to study at local universities and other higher learning institutions in the country. Through our regional coaches and in collaboration with the RFAs, the Federation organised the pilot phase of the GFF U-15 youth league in the regions. The program is geared towards giving opportunities to young ones the chance to play organised football and also create the platform for their pathway development. The champions and runner ups from the regional championships will represent their respective regions in the national championship to be held at the National Technical Training Center in Yundum.

Through our allied association, the School Football Association, we also successfully held and completed the national school football championship.

After finalising the country report for the implementation of the FIFA Talent Development Scheme, the FIFA Regional Director Mr. Dominique Niyonzima launched



the FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS) for the Gambia.

Several referees and instructors training were organised by the GFF as well. One was held in May which brought together 30 participants from across the country which include 23 female and seven male referees. In collaboration with FIFA and CAF, we also organised a five-day intensive MA Elite Referees Course from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at the home of Gambian football, the National Technical Training Center in Old Yundum. A five-day intensive course was organised by FIFA for Gambian retired referees to update them with the new amendments to the Laws of the Game.

We continue to empower women and girls in managerial and policymaking roles to uplift their abilities in all aspects of football and give many young girls the opportunity to play and enjoy the game.

The domestic league season commenced in the middle of November 2021 and ended in the third week of August 2022. A host of factors are responsible for such a prolonged season. But the two standout factors are the expansion of the number of clubs in both the men and women leagues, and the rehabilitation of the mini stadiums around the Greater Banjul Area. However, another successful season completed and the new one would begin in January 2023 after the end of the Super Nawettan competition which is currently underway.

The Communications Department serves as the link between the Federation and the public. The primary role of the Department is to supervise and assess our stakeholders and the public's attitudes and ensure the

maintenance of a mutual relation and understanding between the Federation and the general public. The Department over the years has done this effectively, especially in the year under review by ensuring it improves its channels of communications with the introduction of new means of communication for a two-way flow of information and the understanding of the primary roles and the responsibilities of Football House.

The Department was able to ensure that it effectively uses social media as the major and dominant form of information in a digital age. We've Facebook, Twitter and Instagram handles that are regularly updated with the activities of the Federation both at the national level as well as the regional football and our allied associations. Today, the aforesaid trio of platforms are well followed and we would ensure to be more present on TikTok and YouTube by establishing an online platform to broadcast our activities. In the absence of broadcasting companies buying rights to our events, the Department has ensured that the domestic league competitions of the Federation and engagements of our national teams are streamed live to a global audience through our official Facebook channel.

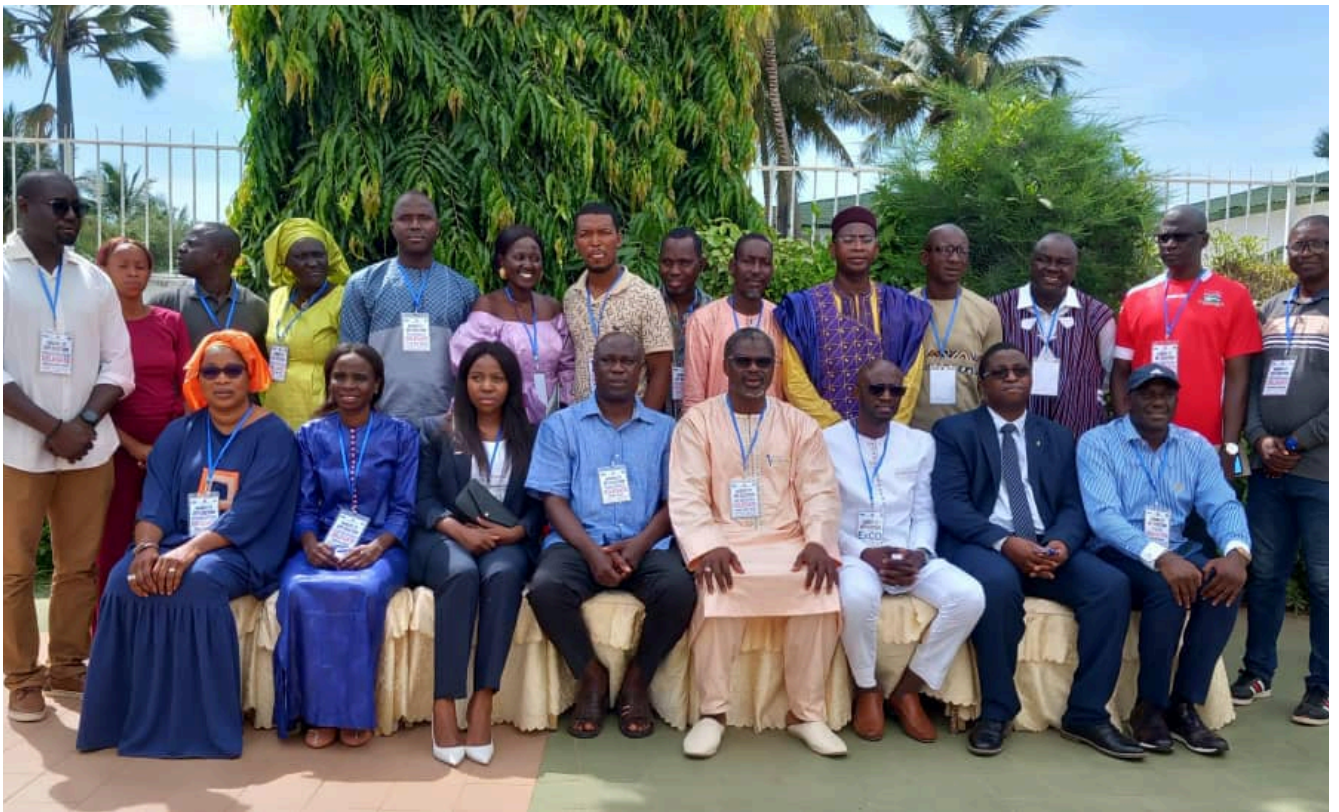
The website is now been used as a library. By visiting [www.gambiaff.org](http://www.gambiaff.org), you will have access to various information about the GFF including our financial statements, activity reports, the constitution amongst others.

The domestic first division men and women leagues will also have all its matches broadcast to a global audience after the GFF signed a three-year ground-breaking broadcast deal with FIFA beginning the 2026 league season. The broadcast partner for this



project is Eleven Sports who have in turn contracted a local TV station EyeAfrica TV to provide the feeds for them to serve as their local partner for the start of the project. These negotiations were led by the Communications Department.

## 2. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE & ADMINISTRATION



### 2.1 THE 2022 ELECTIVE CONGRESS

The Gambia Football Federation (GFF) held its 2022 Elective Congress on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August at the Paradise Suite Hotel. The Congress, administered by the Electoral Committee, elected the President and new Executive Committee members to steer the affairs of the Federation for the next four years. It was also attended by both FIFA and CAF observers as well as officials of the Gambian Ministry of Youth & Sports and The Gambia National Olympic Committee.

The incumbent Lamin Kaba Bajo secured 51 of the 77 votes, while his challenger Mr. Sadibou Kamaso had 25 votes and there was one invalid vote. Mr. Bakary K. Jammeh was re-elected unopposed for position of first Vice President while Mr. Ebou Faye retained his position as second VP after their challengers withdrew



from the race. Numukunda Kanyi was also elected as the third Vice President. In order to ensure more women representative in the Executive, a constitutional amendment was passed to make the president of the Women's Football Association an automatic fourth Vice President responsible for women's football matters and thus, Ms. Sainabou Cham by the virtue of the current holder of that position is the new fourth VP.



Two more co-opted members were created for women and Ms. Chumban Faye and Ms. Ramou Ndw occupied those portfolios. Ms. Maimuna Kanteh and Mrs. Arret Njie-Jah were also elected as the women representatives while John Frank Mendy and Ismaila S. Ceesay are the retired referee and an ExCo member without a portfolio respectively. Lt. Col. Musa M. Jammeh and Momodou Musa Njie were also co-opted to complete the line-up. The Presidents of all the seven regional football associations are also automatic members of the Executive Committee.

## 2.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the GFF continues to meet on a regular basis by driving the policy initiative of The Gambia Football Federation. The GFF continue to ensure that it adheres to strict governance principles as enshrined in the Constitution of the Federation.

## 2.3 UEFA ASSIST LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The European football governing body, through its UEFA Assist Program, organised by a two-day retreat for members of the elected executive and senior management staff which was part of a four-day working visit to the smallest country in mainland Africa.

The team highlighted some of the positive impacts of football in The Gambia, which include the substantial improvement of the growth of the game, good governance and financial procedures in place and the close working relationship



between the Executive Committee and the Secretariat staff.

The experts also highlighted the significant strides made by the various categories of our national teams, which includes, but not limited to, our

qualification to 2021 AFCON, back-to-back AFCON appearances at U-20 level for the first time in Gambian football and winning the WAFU Cup of Nations twice within that period.



The Executive Committee want to create a capable organisation (GFF), by building capacity, develop grassroots and elite football which are key components in our manifesto. Our vision as a Federation is to develop all aspects of football through our National Football Development Plan culminating into our Contract of Agreed Objectives with FIFA.

## 2.4 SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Unlike other members of staff, the members of the Senior Management Team are contracted staff. These include the General Secretary, Finance Director, Technical Director, Communications Director and Competitions Director. Their previous four-year contracts ended in December of 2021 and the Executive Committee met on the matter and decided for the purpose of continuity and reward for their exceptional performances during the previous agreement, to offer them new contracts. The agreement started in January of this year.

The SMT also continues to meet on a regularly basis. This is done in order to ensure that the management team is dedicated in bringing together all Department and Unit heads regularly to review its work, make decisions and bring up as well as to solve issues that may affect the smooth running of the organisation.





## 2.5 STAFF MATTERS



The GFF continues to make staff development core of its agenda by enhancing the capacity of the workforce to ensure a more effective and efficient delivery. In this regard, the Assistant Women's Football Coordinator Ms. Veronic Malack was awarded a scholarship to study a FIFA Master in Sports Management, Law and Humanities. The Finance Manager Mr. Ismaila Njie and the senior

Women's Football Coordinator Mrs. Sainey Sissohore M'Boge are currently being sponsored to pursue Degree Programs at the University of The Gambia. Communications Assistants Mr. Amadou O. Bah and Mr. Ebrima Suwareh also recently graduated with Diplomas in Journalism and Communications (MAJaC).



### 3. NATIONAL TEAMS



## 3.1 SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM (MALE)

The Senior National Team of The Gambia qualified to its first ever AFCON finals in Cameroon 2021. However, due to the effects of the Covid19, the tournament was delayed and played in January and February of 2022. The Gambia was paired in Group F with top ranked side Tunisia, Mali and Mauritania and we were the lowest ranked team in the competitions. In fact, Tom Saintfiet's charges were the first ever team to start from the preliminaries and qualify for the tournament.

Our campaign began with a pre-tournament training camp in Qatar and we couldn't have wished for a worse start with the vast majority of both our playing and coaching staff stuck by Covid. At one point, players were reduced to a mere nine and in the end, we returned to the country to bid the people farewell and be handed the battle flag by President Barrow without playing a single test match.

When the team finally arrived in Cameroon, we were accommodated in Beau Town but play our matches at the Limbe Omnisport Stadium, a 45-minute drive. Our first ever match was against Mauritania who were making their second appearance in the competition and an Ablie Jallow strike was all that was required to secure us a debut 1-0 win. In the second game against Mali, a stoppage time penalty by Musa Barrow ensured a 1-1 draw and another stoppage time wonder goal from Jallow saw us secure all three points against Tunisia to qualify for the round of 16 as runner ups on goal difference to Mali. As the first debutants to go that far, we played Guinea Conakry and in what many described as our best collective

performance, Barrow was again on hand to score the all-important goal for a 1-0 win to set up a quarterfinal appearance against the hosts, where we lost 2-0. To bring a successful campaign for us to an end, Musa Barrow won two man-of-the-match performances and included in the team of the group stages, while Baboucarr Gaye's heroics in saving a penalty against Tunisia was also rewarded with a man-of-the-match award.

A very successful campaign for the Gambians who have indeed etched its name in continental football, Musa Barrow was nominated for the African Player of the Year while James Gomez, one of the revelations of the tournament also got nominated for the Young Player category and Tom Saintfiet for the Coach of the Year. The Belgian also finished third in the Belgium Coach of the Year category. The Gambia also finished sixth on the final AFCON Rankings.

We have since began our quest for back-to-back AFCON appearances with a 1-0 win over South Sudan in the group opener before losing by a similar score in Congo Brazzaville. But before that, we had to play the preliminaries one more time due to our FIFA Ranking position at the time the draw was made. A 1-0 win was secured away to Chad in the first match before a 2-2 draw secured our faith in the decider. The Scorpions also played a 1-1 international friendly draw with the United Arab Emirates in Dubai. Our last match before the end of the year saw us played a goalless international friendly draw with Guinea Bissau in Antalya, Turkey. The AFCON qualifiers will resume in March with a double-header against Mali.



## 3.2 NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAM



The senior national women's team played Sierra Leone in the AFCON qualifiers where we secured a place in the final round after two legs. In the second and deciding leg, Cameroon proved too powerful for us.

In the U-20 qualifiers, we sent Burkina Faso packing before losing in the second and deciding leg to Morocco. Both those matches were played in the North African country as a result of the ban on the Independence Stadium for failing to meet the minimum required standard.



### 3.3 U-20 NATIONAL TEAM (MALE)



While our U-23 and CHAN teams crashed out in the first stage of the Paris 2024 Olympics qualifiers and the AFCON qualifiers in the first stage to Burkina Faso and Guinea Bissau respectively, the U-20 broke another record by finishing second at the WAFU Cup of Nations in Mauritania. They secured another qualification to Egypt 2023; the first time any Gambian team secured back-to-back AFCON appearances in the same category. These achievements are largely down to the sound policies and investments undertaken by the leadership at Football House.



After winning the WAFU Cup in 2018 & 2020 and bronze in Conakry 2019, the U-20 began its journey for the 2023 AFCON in Nouakchott, in the WAFU Zone regional qualifiers. This was their first competition after FIFA cancelled the U-20 World Cup in Indonesia, a competition we had qualified for, due to the devastating effects of the global pandemic.

The team won four Man of the Match awards in the six matches it had played. It is a common fact that football is an expensive trade and requires a holistic financial strength with investors and sponsors. However, in The Gambia, the Football House manages to take up the chunk of responsibility with 99% of the funding from FIFA and CAF to implement these activities while registering continued successes across the continent.

While the senior national team is managed by a foreign expatriate his assistant and goalkeeper trainers are ex-Scorpions in Alhagie Sarr and Alhagie Marong. We've also ensured that the youth categories are managed by locals. Sang Ndong, as an ex-Scorpion is the Technical Director and serves as the Technical Adviser to the U-20 while the team is managed by another former Gambia midfielder in Abdoulie Bojang. Abdou Jammeh is the Head Coach of the U-23 while Alhagie Sarr serves as the CHAN Coach and Modou Jagne is the Team Administrator of the Young Scorpions as well as our Competitions Manager. Foday Bah, Abdou Njie, George Lobba, Christopher Allan and Arthur Gomez are all members of the backroom staff of our various national youth teams.



## 4. YOUTH & GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT



### 4.1 BOYS AND GIRLS COMPETITIONS | U-15 NATIONWIDE YOUTH LEAGUE

Through our regional coaches and in collaboration with the RFAs, the Federation organised the pilot phase of the GFF U-15 youth league in the regions of Banjul, Kanifing, West Coast and Upper River respectively.



The program is geared towards giving opportunities to the young ones and the chance to play organised football and also create the platform for their pathway development.



The champions and runner ups from the regional championships will represent their regions in the national championship to be held in December at the National Technical Training Center in Yundum.

Through an MoU between the GFF and **MoBSE**, our regional coaches conducted series of training programs with various schools. The activities targeted both boys and girls and the kids are usually taught the basic techniques of the game to give them a good foundation of developing their skills.

Through the School Football Association, we successfully held and completed the national school football championship. The competition which consists of upper basic and senior secondary schools across the country started with a regional championship which was funded by the GFF and implemented by the Association. The regional champions for boys and girls were all gathered in the West Coast Region town of Brikama where the 2022 final phase was held. In the upper basic U-15 category, Presentation won the championship for both boys and girls after beating Abuko 5-1 in the girl's category and edging out Kunkujang Keitaya 1-0 in the boys.

In the senior secondary U-18 girls final, the tournaments two best teams, Bottrop and Scanaid battled it out in a nail-biting finale having played one another in the group stage which Scanaid won by a goal to nil. Bottrop as defending champions won the match by a lone goal, thus defending their title and making it three in a row.

In the male U-18 final it was a battle of supremacy between two heavyweights Sukuta and Jamisa senior secondary schools. The final was so colorful and it produces all the elements of an entertaining game. Sukuta won 4-3 on post-match penalty shootout following a 1-1 draw in regulation time.





## 4.2 SCHOOL FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



After finalising the country report for the implementation of the FIFA Talent Development Scheme, the FIFA Regional Director Mr. Dominique Niyonzima came to The Gambia on a site visit and in the process held meetings with the GFF President, General Secretary, Technical Director and the Talent Development Scheme (TDS). The visit was geared towards getting first-hand information from the various stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the TDS project and to also guide in the whole process of running the project. He also presided over the official launching of the project.



## 5. CAPACITY BUILDING

### 5.1 TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT | FIFA AMATEUR FOOTBALL

The GFF has seen its application for the FIFA Amateur Football project approved and we are in the initial stage of the project which involves data collection by our identified FIFA Amateur Football Environment Analyst (**AFEA**) experts. Amateur football is a foundational aspect of global football development which ensures that anybody wanting to play football has the opportunity to do so at any level. The results of the data analysis will be both global and country specific which will allow FIFA to look into tailor-made support for MAs in their efforts to provide everyone in their countries with a chance to play the game.

### CAPACITY BUILDING



The Technical Department through the Gambia Football Coaches Association, in collaboration with the respective Regional Football Associations and Regional Coaches Associations, held D License coaching courses in the regions of Kanifing, West Coast and Upper River. Three courses were held in

Kanifing Municipality, one each in West Coast and Upper River Region consisting 150 trained coaches during the period of 2022.

Furthermore, due to some of the new protocols the implementation of GFF/CAF B and A License,

the course did not take place as planned but hopefully will be held in the first half of 2023.

## 5.2 REFEREEING MATTERS



The opening ceremony was presided by the President Mr. Lamin Kaba Bajo. The course was meant to update the young referees with the amendments of the Laws of The Game and to teach the football understanding on theory and practical.



The training brought together 30 participants from across the country which include 23 female and seven male referees.



## PRACTICALS WITH PLAYERS



## DONATING BALLS TO THE PLAYERS USED FOR PRACTICALS SESSION



## FITNESS TEST



## MA ELITE REFEREES COURSE



The GFF in collaboration with FIFA and CAF organised a five-day intensive MA Elite Referees Course from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at the home of Gambian football, the National Technical Training Center in Old Yundum.



The FIFA instructors were Mr. Abdul Basit Ebrahim from South Africa as the Course Director/Technical Instructor while Mr. Nasreddine Cherifi from Algeria was the fitness instructor and were assisted by John Frank Mendy, Bubacarr Jallow and Dickory Jawo.



It brought together 30 participants, 25 of which were male and four women referees and assistants. The participants were drawn from those referees playing the national division one matches with our FIFA approved referees.



## PRACTICALS UNDER HEAVY RAIN



## REFEREES FITNESS TEST BEFORE THE OPENING CEREMONY



## CLOSING CEREMONY CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION BY FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND FIFA INSTRUCTORS



## MA REFEREE ASSESSORS COURSE



A five-day intensive course was organised by FIFA for the Gambian retired referees to update them with the new amendments to the Laws of the Game. It was also meant to teach them with knowledge of assessing referees with their knowledge and understanding of football. It took place from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at the National Technical Training Center with 29 retired referees taking part, two of which were female and 27 male. The participants were selected from all the regions in the country.

***The opening ceremony was presided over by the first vice president Mr. Bakary K. Jammeh, deputising for the GFF President, and the General Secretary.***





## 6. WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

### 6.1 WOMEN'S LEAGUE



In the domestic women's first and second division competitions, Red Scorpions edged arch rivals Gambia Police Force FC to claim the first division title while Jeshwang United FC earned promotion to the top flight by clinching the second division. Koita Academy that also finished second in division two are promoted alongside them to the top flight.

The Brikama United ladies and Immigration were relegated to league two after finishing the season in seventh and eighth positions respectively, while Future Bi and

Raptim all secure promotion to league one through the play-offs against Greater Tomorrow & Prisons respectively.

Young Icons and Foni Girls were relegated to their respective regional third division leagues, of North Bank and West Coast.

Fatou Sonko of Police Ladies finished league one as the top scorer with 13 goals followed by Ola Buwaro of Red Scorpions with 11. Kaddy Jarju of Future Bii finished league two with 23 goals followed by Maimuna Dukureh of Young Icons with 16.





## 6.2 WOMEN'S FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The GFF aims to develop and give the best opportunities to women and girls to showcase their talents and interests in the game. We continue to empower women and girls in managerial and policymaking roles to uplift their abilities in all aspects of football and give many young girls the opportunity to play and enjoy the game.



Our objective is not only to create them the enabling environment, but to also give them a clear direction and facilitate opportunities for networking, collaboration and exchange of ideas with targeted key stakeholders in the hope of advancing women’s football in The Gambia.

We have started to debate and identify gaps and priority areas that can be instrumental in leading women’s football to the next level by sharing new initiatives, strategies and challenges in achieving improved investment in women’s football and ensuring its sustainability.



In this regard, the GFF received two women football experts and two women’s football managers in the Gambia to celebrate the eight years successes of women’s football in the country as well as enhance the capacity of those in charge of our women’s game. The program was separated into three days of different activities. Day one saw a coaching course which brought together 28 coaches from across the length and



breadth of the country and the modules taught includes the role of a coach, injury prevention, safeguarding amongst others.

The final day saw the launching of the FIFA/GFF U-17 league. It brought together 14 teams from all four provincial regions of The Gambia for the first phase of the league. The second phase, which was attended by the FIFA experts, saw another 14 teams from Banjul, Kanifing and the West Coast Region took part.



## THE FIFA SAFEGUARDING PROGRAM

FIFA is also working together with its Member Associations and Confederations to promote children's wellbeing in football and develop a comprehensive approach to safeguarding best practice throughout the game. For this program, the GFF has nominated the Senior Women's

Football Coordinator to do a two-year Diploma Course from 2021 to 2022. Ms. Sainey Sissohore-M'Boge has passed the three levels of the courses that qualifies her to attend the final phase to attain her Diploma Certificate in 2023.



## FIFA WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

"This is a new chapter for me in my career. I am ready to elevate myself on my journey as a strong leader not only in women's football but anywhere in the world."

@sainey\_s after the 🇸🇪 women's football coordinator attended the FIFA-UEFA Women in Football Leadership Programme.



The Senior Women's Coordinator also attended the FIFA Women in Leadership Course organised by the UEFA Academy together with UEFA and FIFA in March, 2022.

## 7. COMPETITIONS & NATIONAL LEAGUES DEVELOPMENT

### 7.1 DOMESTIC LEAGUES | DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS



The domestic league season commenced in the middle of November 2021 and ended in the third week of August 2022. A host of factors are responsible for such a prolonged season. But the two standout factors are the expansion of the number of clubs in both the men and women leagues, and the rehabilitation of the mini stadiums around the Greater Banjul Area.

However, despite these challenges, the season was a massive success. The competition was fierce and the quality of football definitely enhanced. Hawks FC, after a 26-year wait, won the first division title. The Gambia Ports Authority FC and Elite United FC were relegated to the second division having finished in the bottom two positions of the 16-team table.

In division two, PSV Wellingara won the title and together with second place Greater Tomorrow, they both earned promotion to the 1st top flight.

Dibba Oil, in their first season in the national league finished third and was on the verge of becoming the first team from provincial Gambia to qualify for the first division but narrowly lost a promotion/relegation playoff final to Gamtel who had finished third from bottom. Wagadu FC, Waterside FC, and Red Hawks FC have all been relegated to their respective regional third division leagues.

The FF Cup competition was also played with much enthusiasm and fanfare. There were many surprising results as second division teams upset some big guns on their way to the latter stages of the competition. Gunjur United and Red Hawks both reached the semifinal. Their runs were ended by Brikama United and Wallidan with the Blues eventually winning the tournament on a post-match penalty shootout following a nail-biting goalless stalemate at Bakau's Independence Stadium.



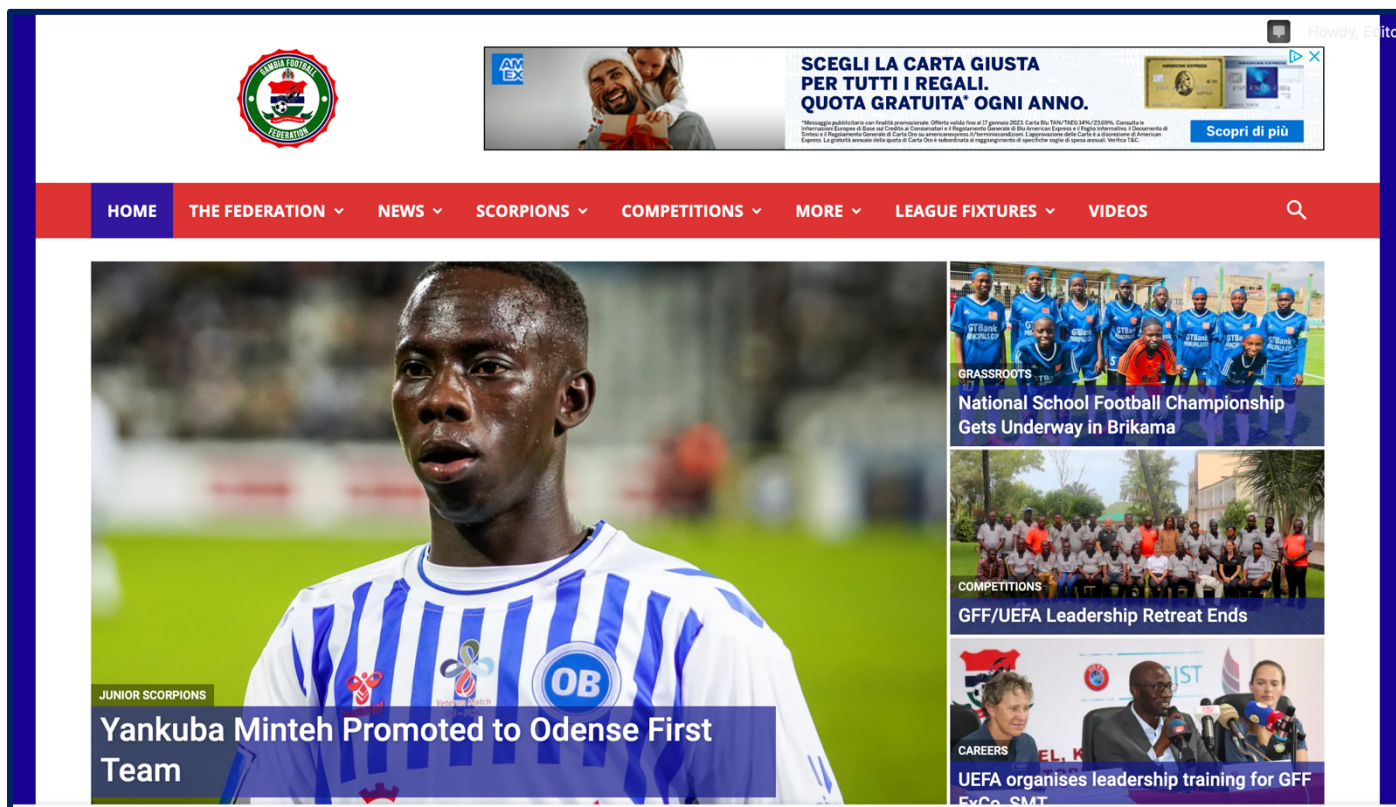
## 7.2 INTERNATIONAL CLUB COMPETITIONS

Hawks were the only club that registered their interest to take part in continental competitions and were subsequently included in the draw for the CAF Champions League. However, they later withdrew as a result of a CAF standard stadium and financial committed attached to it.



The player and coach of the month awards, the livestreaming of division one league matches, men and women, by Eleven Sports, and a host of other factors contributed to a highly competitive, well followed, and better organised football season.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS



The Communications Department serves as the link between the Federation and the public. The primary role of the Department is to supervise and assess our stakeholders and the public's attitudes and ensure the maintenance of a mutual relation and understanding between the Federation and the general public. The Department over the years has done this effectively, especially in the year under review by ensuring it improves its channels of communications with the introduction of new means of communication for a two-way flow of information and the understanding of the primary roles and the responsibilities of Football House.

The Department was able to ensure that it effectively uses social media as the major and dominant form of information in a digital age. We've Facebook, Twitter and Instagram handles that are regularly updated with the activities of the Federation both at the national level as well as the regional football and our allied associations. Today, the aforesaid trio of platforms are well followed and we would ensure to be more present on TikTok and YouTube by establishing an online platform to broadcast our activities. In the absence of broadcasting



companies buying rights to our events, the Department has ensured that the domestic league competitions of the Federation and engagements of our national teams are streamed live to a global audio through the official Facebook channel.

The website is now been used as a library. By visiting [www.gambiaff.org](http://www.gambiaff.org), you will have access to various information about the GFF including our financial statements, activity reports, the constitution amongst others.

We've also introduced a weekly update series on our Facebook page where we produce situational analysis of the league on the platform, including the league table standings, results and fixtures which are simultaneously produced on our website. We've also introduced a talk show on our Facebook page where we bring in resource persons from the various units and departments of the GFF to talk about their programs and activities.

At the TotalEnergies Africa Cup of Nations in Cameroon, the Scorpions were accompanied with an entire media crew throughout the journey by bringing the image of the Scorpions to both local and international followers where we shared information in all our platforms. Aside from the engagement of the Senior National teams (Men and Women), our personnel at the Communications Department are further included in all the other categories of our national teams, like the CHAN, U-23,

and U-20 in their respective home and away engagements where our staff abreast the public about their engagements.

The domestic first division men and women leagues will also have all its matches broadcast to a global audience after the GFF signed a three-year ground-breaking broadcast deal with FIFA beginning the 2026 league season. The broadcast partner for this project is Eleven Sports who have in turn contracted a local TV station EyeAfrica TV to provide the feeds for them to serve as their local partner for the start of the project. These negotiations were led by the Communications Department.

Eleven Sports and EyeAfrica did a successful broadcast with some selected matches in the just concluded campaign and the matches will be relayed through IPTV (Internet Protocol television) services. However, while domestic television service broadcast would be allowed to broadcast the matches none would be allowed to do so through IPTV.

The project is developed by FIFA to help the Member Associations whose leagues are not on television and also help them to generate revenue through merchandising and advertisement to be shared amongst all the parties and then to the beneficiaries, in this case, the clubs.





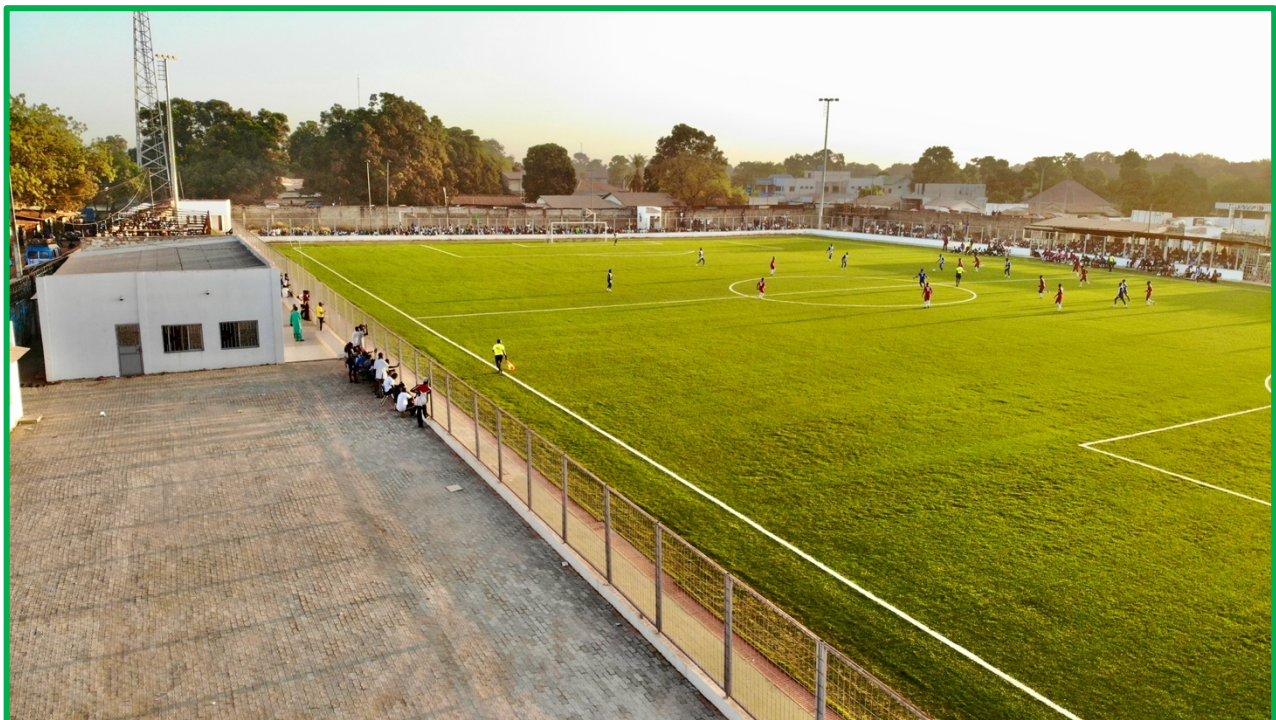
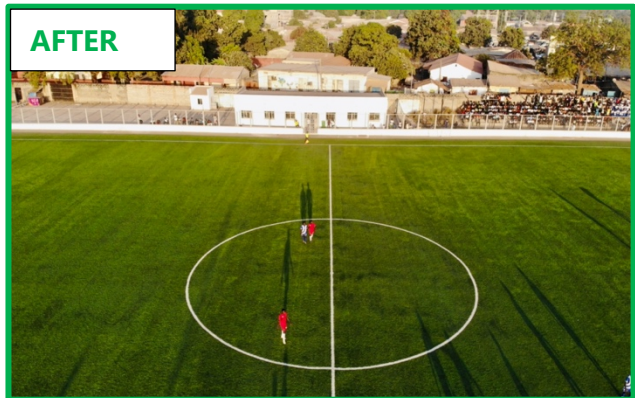


## 9. FOOTBALL INFRASTRUCTURE



## BRIKAMA

The total work done on site to date is that, the Dressing Rooms is 100% Public Toilets 100% Football Pitch 100%, perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 100%, Artificial Turf 100% Float Lights 100%. The project is at the completion stage and the contractor is working on the snagging list and to complete the final handing over.



## SEREKUNDA EAST

The total work done on site to date is that, the dressing rooms is 100%, Public toilets 100%, football pitch 95%, Construct perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 100%, Float Fights 100%. The project has been completed and accepted with the condition for the contractor to improve some small areas of the playing field before the end of the defect liability period.





## BUSUMBALA

The construction of the perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 95%, Dumping of backfilling material 100% Spreading of Backfilling Materials 20%, it is estimated that the construction works of the



football Playing field are approximately 45% work done. The works were interrupted during the raining season disturbing the heavy machines from operating effectively. Works has resumed and it is expected to complete the project.



## GUNJUR

The total work done on-site to date, Construct perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 90%, Installing porous land drains 100% Spreading of Backfilling Materials 100%, it is estimated that the construction works of the football Playing field are approximately 45% work done. The works were interrupted during the raining season disturbing the heavy machines from operating effectively. Works has resumed and it is expected to complete the project.





## BANJUL

The total work done on site to date is that, the dressing rooms is 30% Public toilets 90% Pavilion roofing 100% Construct perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 100% Artificial turf 100% float lights 100%. Progress was slow for the dressing rooms and public toilets but the contractor will resume the works and complete the project.





## MANJAI

The total work done on-site to date, Construct perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 50%, float lights 100% but need improvement to satisfy the FIFA requirements. We are face facing technical challenges about the dwarf wall for the perimeter fence but it is resolved now, the metal mesh has already being fabricated and delivered on site. Works shall resume and it is expected that the playing field will be completed very soon.

## BAKAU

The total work done on site to date is that, the Dressing Rooms is 85% Public Toilets 80% Football Pitch 100%, perimeter fence & install BRC mesh 100%. The project is at the finishing stage and the contractor is working on final finishes such as bugler proofing, plumbing and electrical installations etc. it is expected to complete the handing over soon.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



## SWIMMING POOL

Pipes for the plumbing works already laid, electrical piping and cabling also completed. The remaining activities that needs to be completed are ceiling works, tiling some masonry work by the pool side etc. It is estimated that the construction works of the swimming pool is approximately 45% work done.





## 10. FOOTBALL HOTEL / NTTC



The Football Hotel continues to serve as hosts for the various categories of the national teams of The Gambia with the exception of the senior national men's team. The GFF is today able to register all our national teams in competitions and are able to meet all our regional and continental commitments due to the services provided to the GFF by the Hotel at a discount price.

It also serves as accommodation and conference hosting facility for other outside organisations. In total for the past year, the hotel received a total of 629 Visitations by seven (7) different institutions or customers. These number of visitations has cumulatively equated to 3226 clients. Out of these totals, GFF contributed 33 visitations.

In the regulation of our total revenue for the year/the period, GFF alone contributed D2,878,900.00 representing 34% of the total revenue from January to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022. That means the remaining 66% is what is shared by the other seven providers/clients.

By the end of the year, the possibility is there for the GFF to be a 40 to 42 % contributor of the total returns for the year.





## 11. FIFA FORWARD DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT 2016-2022

			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
		<u>Infrastructure</u>									
1	14676	Renovation of 6 Football fields	235,500							235,500	
2	14628	Lights of 4 Stadiums		180,000						180,000	
3	14628	Development of 4 New Mini Stadiums		292,500						292,500	
4	14883	Developing 5 New Regional Field			250,000					250,000	
5	14883	Swimming Pool for Football Hotel			62,500					62,500	
6	14883	Soma Pavillion			96,250					96,250	
	1/1911650	Renovation of 5 Football fields							786,075	786,075	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>235,500</b>	<b>472,500</b>	<b>408,750</b>				<b>786,075</b>	<b>1,902,825</b>	
		<u>Sporting Area</u>									
7	3097	Capacity Building (CARM)	149,412		38,750					188,162	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>149,412</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,750</b>					<b>188,162</b>	
		<u>Organisation Area</u>									
8	14884	Support to Leagues and Clubs			177,500					177,500	
		<b>Total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>177,500</b>					<b>177,500</b>	
		<u>Other Areas</u>									
9	Win Win	Furniture, Fitting and Equipment for Football Hotel	350,000							350,000	
11	5071	02 Buses			125,400					125,400	
12	669166	FIFA/CIES Football Executive Programme				71,250				71,250	
13	766334 & 769093	GFF Secretariat Vehicles					295,000			295,000	
14	1/1678188	Support to Women's A National Team						262,581		262,581	
15	1/1875062	Support to Senior National Team Afcon2021						248,000		248,000	
16	1/A-065146	National Teams Support							628,982	628,982	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>125,400</b>	<b>71,250</b>	<b>295,000</b>	<b>510,581</b>	<b>628,982</b>	<b>1,981,212</b>	
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>734,912</b>	<b>472,500</b>	<b>750,400</b>	<b>71,250</b>	<b>295,000</b>	<b>510,581</b>	<b>1,415,057</b>	<b>4,249,700</b>	
<b>Summary</b>									<b>Approved</b>	<b>FIFA Forward</b>	
									<b>USD \$</b>	<b>USD \$</b>	
1	2016 - 2018	FIFA Forward 1.0								2,250,000	
2	2019 - 2022	FIFA Forward 2.0								2,000,000	
3		Capacity Building (CARM Project)							188,162		
4		Support to Leagues and Clubs							248,750		
5		Vehicle (2 Buses & Vehicles of Secretariat)							420,400		
6		Women A National Team (Gambia Vs Sierra Leone)							262,581		
7		Football Hotel							350,000		
9		Football Infrastructure							1,902,825		
10		Support for Afcon 2021							248,000		
11		National Teams Support							628,982		
		<b>Total Approved By FIFA</b>							<b>4,249,700</b>	<b>4,250,000</b>	
		Balance on FIFA Development Project not Allocated Yet								301	
		Balance On SOA 14628 (Infrastructure)								47,250	
		Balance On SOA 14883 (Infrastructure)								367,875	
		Balance On SOA 1/1911650 (Infrastructure)								308,075	
		Balance on 1/A-065146 (Other Areas)								164,813	
		<b>ACTUAL BALANCE AT FIFA (Development Support)</b>	<b>Reconciled with FIFA Dakar Office December 2022</b>								<b>888,313</b>



# 12. FINANCIAL REPORT

*The Gambia Football Federation - GFF  
Financial Statements and Reports  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021*

**Financial Position**  
*as at 31 December 2021*

	Notes	Year-ended 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2021 GMD	Year-ended 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2020 GMD
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	4	69,985,116	76,334,126
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank and Cash Balances	5a	13,268,092	3,128,881
Debtors	6	575,359	1,127,708
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>13,843,451</b>	<b>4,256,589</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>83,828,567</b>	<b>80,590,715</b>
<b>Equity and Liabilities:</b>			
<b>Equity and Reserve</b>			
Accumulated Fund	8	11,928,472	32,332,369
FIFA Capital Grant	14	30,958,551	36,077,111
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>42,887,023</b>	<b>68,409,480</b>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Bank Overdraft	5b	404,564	92,978
Creditors	7	1,976,255	2,125,627
Loan		38,560,725	9,962,630
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>40,941,544</b>	<b>12,181,235</b>
<b>Total Equity and Reserve</b>		<b>83,828,567</b>	<b>80,590,715</b>

The financial statements were approved by the Executive Committee on ..... 2022, and signed on its behalf by:

..... President  
..... General Secretary

Date: 30/06/2022  
Date: 30/06/2022

The attached notes on pages 14 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements



# 13. APPENDIX

## FIFA CONNECT?



The FIFA Connect Program helps Member Associations (MAs) register all their stakeholders in a systematic way and keep track of players, coaches and referees wherever they are in the world.

The Connect Program provides a unique FIFA ID code for every individual who has a role in the football organisation. This code is like a digital football passport number and has the information of the history of players, coaches, referees etc.

If an MA has a computer registration system already in place, it can connect to the ecosystem provided by FIFA Connect through the Connect ID Service.



**GFF Connect**

Member Association  
Phone:  
Website: <https://gambiaff.org/>

Help Desk  
Phone:  
Email:

### Sign into GFF Connect

  
  
 Remember me on this computer  
  

[Forgot your password? Please click here to reset password.](#)



## BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

The program aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. One globally valid unique identification code for all football stakeholders
2. Transparency and efficient football administration through the systematic registration of all players and football stakeholders.
3. Support for the development of MAs by defining a strategic plan for registration and IT based on their current level of technological maturity
4. Standardisation of data and processes and having one football ecosystem for data, thus allowing the easy integration and exchange of data from different sources.

## REGISTERING STAKEHOLDERS

### Purpose:

A Web app that enables MAs to register their football players, coaches, referees and officials from anywhere and at anytime.

### Benefit:

A multilingual platform that can be used on multiple devices to start the registration process in an instant and that is configurable to the requirements of every MA. Every registered stakeholder automatically receives a FIFA ID.

The FIFA Connect ID Service offers verified data of all player registrations and helps to measure and improve data quality in every MA's own secure database. The ID serves as an enabler to exchange and integrate information about stakeholders and provide statistics on football participation by role, discipline, age group and gender.

The GFF will introduce and implement the FIFA connect ID for the first time in the Gambia to promote accuracy and to meet the latest footballing trends in the wider world.





**GFF ACTIVITY REPORT 2022**

