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GAMBIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION



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GAMBIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION
ACTIVITY REPORT 2022-2023

BACK 2 BACK



1. PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT	3
2. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION	6
2.1 Executive Committee	
2.2 Senior Management Team	
2.3 Staff Matters	
2.4 GFF Stakeholders Consultative Forum	
3. NATIONAL TEAMS	10 - 17
3.1 Senior National Team	
3.2 U-20 National Team	
3.3 National Women’s Teams	
4. YOUTH AND GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT	18 - 20
4.1 Youth and Grassroots Football Development Programs	
4.2 School Football	
5. CAPACITY BUILDING	21 - 22
5.1 Technical Development	
5.2 Referees	
6. WOMEN’S FOOTBALL	26 - 28
6.1 Women’s Football Development Activities	
7. COMPETITIONS	29 - 33
7.1 Domestic Leagues	
7.1.1 GFF League Division 1 Baluwo Official Partner	
7.1.2 Men’s League Division 2	
7.1.3 Women’s League Division 1	
7.1.4 Women’s League Division 2	
8. COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING	33 - 34
8.1 Communications Matters	
8.2 Marketing Unit	
9. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT	33 - 37
10. FOOTBALL HOTEL/NATIONAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER	38 - 40
11. FINANCIAL REPORT	41

1.. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT



There is no gainsaying that Gambian football is indeed on an upward trajectory. Success is difficult to attain but repeating it is even more daunting. Having qualified for the AFCON for the first time in Cameroon 2021, the Scorpions were able to build on that sixth-place finish by securing a second straight appearance with qualification to Cote d'Ivoire 2023 in the most dramatic of circumstances.

With barely 10 minutes remaining, we were 2-0 down and needed at least a result to qualify and we were able to score two quick fired goals to return to the continental stage. That is a testament of the resilience of a Gambian and the believe instilled in this team that failure is not an option. Again, we will be making an appearance amongst the 24 best countries of Africa and was not a stroke of luck but a testament of our dedication to football development under my leadership and the proper implementation of the **National Football Development Plan**, bolstered by our invaluable partnership with the Government of The Gambia.

Elsewhere, our National Team was again nominated for the African National Team of the Year for the 2023 CAF Awards. Head Coach Tom Saintfiet was also nominated for the Coach of Year category. It was the second year in a row that both have been nominated in those categories.

Our U-20 National Team are twice WAFU Cup champions. They have also built on their third-place finish at the African Cup of Nations in Mauritania 2021 by reaching the finals of this year's edition in Egypt for the first time. After his four goals at the AFCON, Adama Bojang became the second fastest goal scorer in the World Cup history and had FIFA inducted his No.20 jersey into its Hall of Fame, the first Gambian to achieve that feat. Bojang has since signed a five-year contract with Stade de Reims in France and many of his teammates have also signed professional contracts elsewhere.

The Women's National Team also participated in the African Cup of Nations qualifiers but lost to Namibia over two legs in both matches played in Morocco. The team has made significant strides

in the last few years and it will continue on that quest to secure a first AFCON spot. The GFF is committed to unconditionally supporting them in achieving those dreams.

We continue to make staff development core of our agenda by enhancing the capacity of the workforce to ensure a more effective and efficient delivery. Ms. Veronic Malack recently concluded, through a GFF/FIFA scholarship, a FIFA Master's Degree in Sports Management, Law and Humanities while Finance Manager Ba Lamin Ceesay also completed Master's Degree in Accounting and Finance from the Ca'Foscari University of Venice, Italy. Communications Assistant Mr. Amadou O. Bah has also been granted scholarship to study an undergraduate degree in Journalism at the UTG.

Under technical development, the first phase of the FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS) was implemented in early March across the regions where 527 children participated. Out of this, 139 were selected for further training. The TDS is a FIFA initiative geared towards helping Member Associations bridge the talent gap between the various national team categories.

The Technical Department also applied for the FIFA Amateur Football Program and has its application approved. The project aims to help Member Associations' development of amateur football and the program has already started with data collection and interviews of key stakeholders in our football development. Our regional coaches also conducted the U-12 and U-15 boy's competitions in their respective regions.

The GFF in partnership with the School Football Association played the annual inter schools football competition in a regional phase for both boys and girls. The national championship was held a few weeks ago. It is worth mentioning that Gambian international and teenage sensation Yankuba Minteh came through the same program.

Scan Aid, The Gambia and WAFU A champions in the maiden edition of the CAF Pan African School Football Championship represented our Zonal Union in the girl's

category held in South Africa in April 2023. The GFF fully sponsored their participation in the competition where they won the bronze medal.

A total Four D License coaching courses were also conducted across the country, at the end of which 120 coaches were certified.

A FIFA Member Association Elite Referees course was held from June 19 to 23 at the National Technical Training Centre in Old Yundum. In addition, a five-day MA referees' course for technical and fitness instructors was organised by FIFA for retired Gambian referees bringing together 28 of them.

We're also committed to developing and giving the best of opportunities to women and girls to showcase their talents and interest in the game, empower them in managerial and policy roles to uplift their abilities in all aspects of football and give them the opportunity to play and enjoy the game. In July, we received two female football experts and two women's football managers, Thuba Sibanda, FIFA Women's Football Expert and Ariana Demirovic, the FIFA Head of Women's Football Development in the country to celebrate the eight years success of women's football in the Gambia.

At the domestic league level, the last season can be described as one of the most competitive as the title race went down to the wire. Real de Banjul F.C were crowned champions for the 13th time, their first in eight years with 52 points. Falcons F.C finished second also on 52 points but they had five goals inferior to Real and since goal difference is the first tie breaker when teams are levelled on the same points, the Whites took home the accolade. Fortune ended third with 48 points.

A keenly contested Second Division League also saw two contenders TMT and BST Galaxy finishing first and second respectively and, in the process, both securing automatic spots in the first division. Bombada F.C secured the final promotion spot to the first division after a playoff win. Wagadu F.C, champions of URR bounced back straight to the second division while, Medina United qualified into the national league structure for

the first time and Serrekunda United F.C have also returned after a five-year absence.

On the women's football league, Red Scorpions F.C ran away with another title with 52 points, 13 ahead of their nearest challengers Berewuleng F.C who finished second in the First Division. In the second division, Brikama United F.C pipped Immigration to the title by just one point having secured 50 with Greater Tomorrow F.C in third with 48 points. Champions of WCR, Fortune and Darboes' Football Club, are promoted to the second tier.

The Communications Department serve as the interface between the Federation, the stakeholders and the public. In the last calendar year, the Department is being credited for its constant update of activities through livestreaming on our Facebook page. The Department has also introduced a twice weekly Facebook livestream to talk directly to the stakeholders on operational matters as well as invite those stakeholders to our programs. While we're equipped with modern communications gadgets to aid our work, we've also recently joined popular video sharing site TikTok and can be found on @GFFOfficial.

I also laid the foundation for a Saudi Arabia Football Federation sponsored Mini Stadium in Nyakoi in the Upper River Region in July. The project comprised of a perimeter fence, a football pitch and dressing rooms. As we speak, half of the work is done and the second and final tranche of the funds to complete the work has been received and works are progressing according to schedule. Elsewhere, Brikama, Serrekunda East and Banjul mini stadium rehabilitation projects have finished and handed over to their beneficiaries. The league has returned to Serrekunda East too while Nyakoi and Manjai will also be available in the second round. Gunjur too is progressing well with the and it is hoped to be up for use soon.

The Football Hotel has also made giant strides towards achieving its function as the business arm of the Federation. The institution is headed by an Acting General Manager following the expiration of the contract of the previous General Manager. In the two months since he's been in charge, there has been an increase in generation of revenue.



2.. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE & ADMINISTRATION



2.1 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.

2.2 Senior Management Team

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. After the awarding of their new contracts in January of last year, they continue to implement the policies of the Executive, through their various departments and under the supervision of the General Secretary.

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 as well as to solve issues that may affect the smooth running of the organisation.

2.3 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 recently concluded, through a GFF/FIFA scholarship, a Master's Degree in Sports Management, Law and Humanities (FIFA Masters). Finance Manager, Ba Lamin Ceesay also completed his Master's Degree in Accounting and Finance from the Ca'Foscari University of Venice, Italy.



Communications Assistant Mr. Amadou O. Bah has also been granted scholarship to study an undergraduate degree in Journalism at the UTG. The Communications Manager completed his Advanced Diploma in Management and Policy Analysis Studies MDI. Ebrima Suwareh also completed an Advanced Diploma in Journalism at the Media Academy for Journalism and Communications (MAJaC) and Mariama Bojang an intern at the department was appointed on a fulltime basis, is in her final year at the MAJaC.



In other to maximise our commercial value, the Ms Awa Cham was appointed as Commercial Manager in January this year tasked with the responsibility to bring the much-needed revenue through sponsorships and partnerships with corporate organisations.

2.4 GFF Stakeholders Consultative Forum

The Executive Committee and senior staff of the Federation in July held a consultative forum of all the seven administrative regions of the country. The tour was part of a consultative forum that it had with all the Gambian football stakeholders to development a new National Football Strategic Document.





3.. NATIONAL TEAMS MATTERS

3.1 Senior National Team



The Gambia will be proudly contesting among 24 Member Associations of CAF that qualified for AFCON 2023 finals to be held in Cote d'Ivoire from the 13th January to 11th February 2024. The country is about to embark on another remarkable journey. Our path to this tournament echoes not just the cheers of victories but also the echo of historic footsteps, marking our nation's resilience, unity, and unwavering commitment to excellence.



The Gambia made its maiden appearance in the AFCON in Cameroon 2021. This groundbreaking achievement was not a stroke of luck but a testament of our dedication to football development. Guided by the visionary leadership of Lamin Kabba Bajo, the President of GFF, with the proper implementation of the **National Football Development Plan**, bolstered by an invaluable partnership with the Government of The Gambia, we etched our name in history by securing back-to-back qualifications.

The Gambia, qualified with 10 points to secure second place behind group winners Mali who had 15 points from six matches. It's also worth noting that The Gambia was the only Team in the group that defeated Mali, and who eventually defeated the rest of the contestants

in the group home and away games and collected maximum points without a single draw against any one of them. This is a clear manifestation of the resilience and impeccable character of the Scorpions in rising to the occasion against African powerhouses. From 2019 to date, the Scorpions have defeated top African Teams such as Morocco, Tunisia, Mali, Guinea Conakry, and a double draw against the Desert Foxes of Algeria during their dominance of African football in the recent past.

Following the draw of the AFCON in Côte d'Ivoire, the Scorpions are well poised to once again make history despite being drawn against neighbours and current champions (Senegal), five-time winners Cameroon and Guinea Conakry.





The objective of the Team is to progress through the group and qualify to the round of 16 and also exceed the achievements of the last AFCON in Cameroon. We understand our neighbours are a force to be reckoned with and are ranked 20, Cameroon 41, Guinea Conakry 81 and The Gambia on 118 in the latest FIFA Ranking. This signifies the disparities in strength on paper, however, the Scorpions always manifest their quality and competitiveness to neutralize the big guns at any given time.



NATIONAL TEAM OF THE YEAR (MEN)



As a recognition for the exceptional year of Gambian football, our National Team was again nominated for the African National Team of the Year for the 2023 CAF Awards held in Marrakech, Morocco. Head Coach Tom Saintfiet was also nominated for the Coach of Year category. It was the second year in a row that both have

been nominated in those categories. The previous year, in addition to the aforementioned duo, Musa Barrow and James Gomez were also nominated for the Player and Young Player of the Year categories.

3.2 U23 National Team



The GFF appointed former Gambia defender and Scorpions ex-Captain Abdou Jammeh, alias T-Boy as the new Head Coach of the Gambia U-23 following the acquisition of his UEFA A License coaching certificate. Jammeh is currently studying for his Pro License with Football house supporting him financially during his practical sessions

with the organisation of training programs for him, the teach and his Finnish supervisors. The team was also registered for the Paris 2026 Olympics qualifiers but following a first leg 1-0 defeat of Burkina Faso, it missed out on a place to the next stage after a 2-1 home defeat the same opposition.



3.3 U20 National Team



Football is undoubtedly the number one sport in the Gambia. We've made significant strides in youth football development too across all spheres. Our U-20 National Team under the leadership of Lamin Kaba Bajo are twice WAFU Cup champions. They have built on their third-place finish at the African Cup of Nations in Mauritania by reaching the finals of this year's edition in Egypt for the first time. The Young Scorpions, under the guidance of Abdoulie Bojang, also reached the last 16 of the FIFA U-20 World Cup in Argentina where it lost to eventual world champions Uruguay 1-0. During the year under review, the U-20 played a total of 10 matches out of which it secured seven wins and one draw with just two defeats. These include wins for Abdoulie Bojang's charges against France, Nigeria, Zambia and Tunisia.



FIFA U-20 WORLD CUP ARGENTINA 2023

GROUP F

	GP	W	D	L	PTS
GAMBIA	2	2	0	0	6
KOREA REPUBLIC	2	1	1	0	4
HONDURAS	2	0	1	1	1
FRANCE	2	0	0	2	0

#U20WC

CAF

FIFA U-20 WORLD CUP ARGENTINA 2023

THE GAMBIA

GOOD LUCK

Adama Bojang was the star of this category as he spearheaded our assault on the AFCON title in Egypt with four goals and became the second fastest goal scorer in the World Cup history when he rifled in a thunderbolt in the opening match against Honduras. Such was his impact that FIFA inducted his No.20 jersey into its Hall of Fame, the first Gambian to achieve that feat. Bojang has since signed a five-year contract with Stade de Reims in France and many of his teammates have also signed professional contracts with teams across the globe, mainly in Europe.

CAF

FIFA U-20 WORLD CUP ARGENTINA 2023

THE GAMBIA
TO THE FINAL

FINAL

FIFA U-20 WORLD CUP ARGENTINA 2023

FULL-TIME

1 : 2

#U20WC

3.4 Women's National Team



The Women's National Team also participated in the African Cup of Nations qualifiers but lost to Namibia over two legs in both matches played in Morocco. The team has made significant strides in the last few years and it

will continue on that quest to secure a first AFCON spot. The GFF is committed to unconditionally supporting them in achieving those dreams.



4. YOUTH AND GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT



4.1 Youth and Grassroots Football Development Programs

The first phase of the FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS) was implemented in early March. The Technical Department team headed by the Youth and Grassroots Football Manager covered the rural regions of NBR, LRR, CRR and URR and interacted with 527 players out of which 139 were selected for further training. The TDS is a FIFA initiative geared towards helping Member Associations bridge the talent gap between the various national team categories.



The GFF, Technical Department, also applied for the FIFA Amateur Football Program and has its application approved. The project aims to help Member Associations' development of amateur football and the program has already started with data collection and interviews of key stakeholders in our football development.

Our regional coaches also conducted the U-12 and U-15 boy's competitions in their respective regions to further enhance the development of youth players, thus creating competition and increasing the player pool. The competition consists of a minimum of eight teams per category in each region.



4.2 School Football



The GFF in partnership with the School Football Association played the annual inter schools football competition in a regional phase for both boys and girls. The regional champions are already crowned awaiting the national championship to be played in mid-November in Jarra Soma. It is worth mentioning that Gambian international and teenage sensation Yankuba Minteh starred in this

competition in 2018 and emerged as the tournament's best player, putting him on that pedestal to where he is today.



ScanAid, The Gambia and WAFU A champions in the maiden edition of the CAF Pan African School Football Championship represented our Zonal Union in the girl's category held in South Africa in April 2023. The GFF fully sponsored their participation in the competition with the Technical Director leading the delegation and to our delight we were able to come home with a bronze medal.



5.. CAPACITY BUILDING

5.1 Technical Development

The Technical Department in collaboration with The Gambia Football Coaches Association conducted four national D License coaching courses in the regions of Banjul, Kanifing and West Coast respectively with two of the courses held in

the West Coast Region. The courses are part of the GFF (CARMS) programs of activities geared towards the development of all sectors of football. A total of 120 coaches were trained and certified during the process.

5.2 Referees (RM)



In our drive to develop all aspects of the game, a FIFA Member Association Elite Referees course was held from June 19 to 23 at the home of Gambian football, the National Technical Training Centre in Old Yundum. The course director was Mr. Felix Tangawarima from Zimbabwe while Mr. Bento

Navesse of Ethiopia served as the fitness instructor. Bakary Papa Gassama offered technical support to the team. The course exposed the participants to the amendments of the Laws of the Game and to teach them football understanding based on theory and practical.



Elsewhere, a five-day MA referees' course for technical and fitness instructors was organised by FIFA for retired Gambian referees to update them on the new amendments to the Laws of the Game. 28 participants took part out of which 27 were male and there was one female instructor. 14 of the participants were drawn from the Regional Football Associations.

5.3 SAFF/GFF COLLABORATION

The Gambia Football Federation (GFF), in collaboration with the Saudi Arabia Football Federation (SAFF), conducted a four-day program of football development activities in the country. This was born out of the existing MoU between the GFF and SAFF. As part of the activities, 26 referees were trained. They were selected from the Elite B and the training was conducted by two Saudi instructors Abdulah Alshalwai and Bader Alanazi, who are both AFC certified. They were assisted by FIFA certified local instructors Musa Jallow, Dickory Jawo and Babucarr Jallow.

They have also trained our grassroots footballers, with a three-day training program for U-12 academy kids in Banjul. The program was supervised by the Technical Department through the GFF Technical Director Sang Ndong and assisted by Coaches at the Technical Department.

The President of the GFF, thanked SAFF for their foresight in bringing such development to the Gambia. He described refereeing as very important in the programs of the GFF. Mr. Bajo also recognised the remarkable improvement in Gambian refereeing in general with its outcome being the fact our league is faced with less problems in that area.







6 WOMEN'S FOOTBALL



We're committed to developing and giving the best of opportunities to women and girls to showcase their talents and interest in the game, empower them in managerial and policy roles to uplift their abilities in all aspects of football and give them the opportunity to play and enjoy the game.

In Doing So, Our Objectives Include:

- i. Creating a great environment for girls and women in football*
- ii. Attract investors to involve in women's football*
- iii. Create many opportunities in women's football*
- iv. Have a clear direction of girls and women in football development*
- v. Facilitate opportunities for networking, collaboration and exchange of ideas with targeted key stakeholders in the hope of advancing women's football in the Gambia.*
- vi. To debate and identify gaps and priority areas that can be instrumental in leading women's football to the next level in the Gambia.*

vii. To share new initiatives, strategies and challenges in achieving improved investments in women's football and ensuring its sustainability.



In July, the GFF received two women football personalities in Thuba Sibanda, FIFA Women's Football Expert and Ariana Demirovic, the FIFA Head of Women's Football Development and two women's football managers in the country to celebrate the eight years success of women's football in the Gambia. The team had great moments where they have attended many great activities that gives them a positive impression that Gambia is on the right direction in development of women's game.



For day one, 28 coaches who participated in the U-17 girls league attended the course. They highlighted many modules of the game that includes the role of a coach, injury prevention, safeguarding etc. Coach Suna Njie was also invited to demonstrate and gave her experience in the game.



Day two saw the organisation of a Symposium which was well attended by the First Lady Fatou Bah-Barrow and other high dignitaries as well as women club representatives. The aim was to bring targeted influential female leaders from multiple sectors in Gambia together to raise support for and generate interest in women's football.

The final day of the event saw the launching of the second phase of the GFF/FIFA U-17 league. 14 teams were represented in the urban area and it was held at the National

Technical Training Centre in Old Yundum. The launching was witnessed by FIFA Women's Football Development Division Team headed by the Head of Development Arijana (full names) and senior GFF officials.

The aim of the league development is to develop and promote women's football programs in the county and create the enabling environment where women and girls will transform the game into a popular sporting discipline in the country.



6.1 The FIFA Safeguarding

FIFA is also working together with Member Associations and Confederations to promote children's wellbeing in football and develop a comprehensive approach to safeguarding best practices throughout the game.



The GFF appointed Mrs Sainey Sissohore Mboge and Mr. Muhammed Sinera as Safeguarding Officers for females and males respectively, and both officers underwent the initial training for the positions. The GFF also nominated its Senior Women's Football

Coordinator (now former) to do a two-year Diploma Course in FIFA safeguarding in Sport from 2021 to 2022. She passed the three levels of the courses that qualified her to attend the final phase of the course to attain her Diploma Certificate in 2023.

7 COMPETITIONS

7.1 Domestic Leagues

7.1.1 GFF Division 1 Baluwo Official Partner



The 2022/23 National League Division One Championship can be described as one of the most competitive as the title race went down to the wire. Real de Banjul FC were crowned champions for the 13th time, their first in eight years with 52 points. Falcons FC finished second also on 52 points but they had five goals inferior to Real. Fortune ended third with 48 points.

		All	Home	Away										
#	Club				M	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pt		
1	REAL DE BANJUL	W	W	D	W	D	30	14	10	6	38	21	17	52
2	FALCONS	W	L	L	L	W	30	14	10	6	33	21	12	52
3	FORTUNE	D	W	W	W	L	30	13	9	8	30	23	7	48
4	BRIKAMA UTD	W	L	W	L	W	30	12	10	8	40	31	9	46
5	SAMGER	L	D	W	W	D	30	12	8	10	30	30	0	44
6	MARIMOO	D	W	W	L	L	30	11	11	8	24	24	0	44
7	WALLIDAN	D	L	D	W	D	30	11	10	9	26	23	3	43
8	TEAM RHINO	W	W	L	D	L	30	10	10	10	34	29	5	40
9	GAF	L	D	D	D	D	30	10	9	11	23	26	-3	39
10	BANJUL UTD	W	D	W	L	W	30	9	11	10	25	30	-5	38
11	STEVE BIKO	D	W	L	L	L	30	8	13	9	28	29	-1	37
12	WAA BANJUL	D	L	D	W	D	30	7	14	9	17	22	-5	35
13	GREATER TOMORROW	L	D	L	W	W	30	9	8	13	34	40	-6	35
14	GAMTEL	D	D	D	W	W	30	8	10	12	23	29	-6	34
15	HAWKS	L	L	D	L	L	30	7	10	13	30	38	-8	31
16	PSV WELLINGARA	L	D	L	L	D	30	4	9	17	25	44	-19	21

Hawks FC, having won the previous championship sadly dropped to the second tier having finished second from bottom with just 31 points while PSV Wellingara FC (now called Unique Global FC) ended the season at the foot of the standings, 10 points behind Hawks. After losing a relegation/promotion playoff, Gamtel/Gamcell FC (now known as Serrekunda FC), who finished 14th, also joined the duo in the second division.



7.1.2 Men's League Division TWO

A keenly contested Second Division League saw two contenders TMT Football Club and BST Galaxy FC finishing first and second respectively thus, both automatically secured spots in the first division. TMT FC finished on 63 points, one ahead of BST Galaxy FC while Jam City FC, who finished third on 59 points lost in the playoffs as Bombada FC secured the final promotion spot to the first division.



		All	Home	Away										
#	Club				M	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pt		
1	TMT FC				L L W W W	34	19	9	6	54	32	22	63	
2	BST GALAXY				W D W D D	34	17	11	6	50	26	24	62	
3	JAM CITY				L W W W W	34	16	11	7	36	27	9	59	
4	ELITE UNITED				D W L D W	34	16	10	8	34	23	11	58	
5	BOMBADA				W W W W W	34	16	9	9	55	31	24	57	
6	BK MILAN				D W D D W	34	14	15	5	42	24	18	57	
7	KANIFING EAST				W L W D D	34	13	13	8	35	22	13	52	
8	GAMBIA PORTS AUTHORITY				D D L D L	34	14	9	11	36	30	6	51	
9	HART FC				D D W W L	34	12	10	12	41	41	0	46	
10	GUNJUR UNITED				L W W L D	34	13	6	15	34	39	-5	45	
11	IMMIGRATION				L D L W D	34	11	11	12	38	41	-3	44	
12	MEDICAL				D L L L L	34	12	7	15	39	42	-3	43	
13	LATRIKUNDA UNITED				W D W D L	34	10	13	11	22	29	-7	43	
14	JARRA WEST				W D L D L	34	6	15	13	38	48	-10	33	
15	TALLINDING UNITED				D D L D D	34	7	11	16	33	44	-11	32	
16	B4U KIANG WEST				W D W L D	34	8	8	18	35	64	-29	32	
17	YOUNG AFRICANS				L L L L W	34	6	10	18	33	46	-13	28	
18	KUTEH JOMBULO (M)				L L L L L	34	5	4	25	31	77	-46	19	

B4U Kiang West FC, Young Africans Football Club and Kuteh Jongbulu FC were all relegated to their respective regional third division leagues. While B4U is now playing in LRR, Kuteh Jongbulu also went to the URR league and Young Africans to Banjul.

Wagadu FC as champions of URR regional league bounced back straight to the national league having won a regional playoff against the champions of LRR, CRR and NBR. Elsewhere, Medina United FC of Banjul qualified into the national league structure for the first time while Serrekunda United have also returned after a five-year absence.

7.1.3 Women's League Division 1



Red Scorpions FC continued its dominant run in the women's league division one after running away with another title with 52 points, 13 ahead of their nearest challengers Berewuleng FC who finished second. Gambia Police Force FC secured third place with 35 points. Newcomers, Raptim FC with 15 points and Jeshwang United FC on 9 points have been relegated to the second division.

7.1.4 Women's League Division Two



In the second division, Brikama United FC pipped Immigration FC to the title by just one point having secured 50 with Greater Tomorrow FC in third with 48 points. Stone Circle FC and Kuteh Jumbulu FC were relegated to their respective regional third

division leagues by the Organising Committee after failing to honor several fixtures. The women's champions of West Coast Region, Fortune FC and that of KM, Darboes' Football Club, are promoted in their place for the first time.

7.1.5 FIFA Connect Training for League Clubs



The Gambia Football Federation (GFF) conducted an online registration workshop for all League Division One and Two clubs on the FIFA Connect system that took place on Friday 6th January 2023 at the National Technical Training Centre in Old Yundum. The FIFA Connect Program helps Member Associations (MAs) to register all their stakeholders in a systematic way and keep track of players, coaches and referees wherever they are in the world.

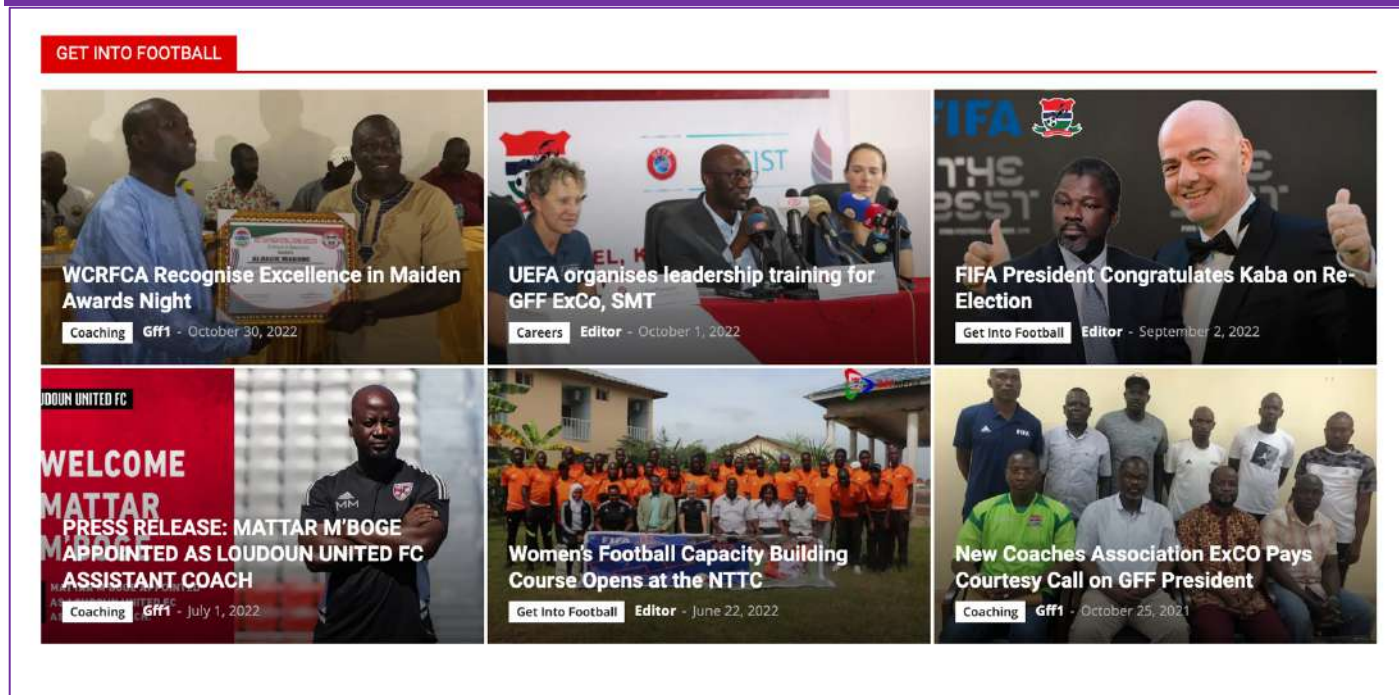
The program, amongst others, is aimed at achieving a global valid unique identification code for all football players and coaches, transparency and efficient football administration through the systematic registration of all players and football stakeholders. It will further support the development of Member Associations by defining a strategic plan for registration and IT based on their current level of technological maturity and to standardise data and processes in order to have one football ecosystem for data, thus allowing the easy integration and exchange of data from different sources.

The one-day training was conducted by Mr. Omar Touray, the GFF IT/TMS Manager, Competitions Department and each club was represented by one official.



8.. COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

8.1 Communications Matters



The Communications and Marketing Department serve as the interface between the Federation, the stakeholders and the public. The Department's major routine amongst other responsibilities include the publication of press releases and ensure the GFF website and all its social media platforms are updated regularly. The Department manages the image and event aspect of the Federation by using our outreach tools to interface with the general stakeholders as a statutory requirement.

In the last calendar year, the Department is been credited for its constant update of activities through livestreaming on our Facebook page serving as one of the most followed social networking sites where we reach out to our stakeholders in and outside of The Gambia. This is in addition to the regular updates of the league situation, which includes table standings, results and fixtures produced widely on our page. In our drive towards digital transformation of our activities, we have also introduced the publication of results and table standings in graphics that are further shared on several WhatsApp groups to increase visibility. The Department also helps to cover the regional third division leagues.

In order to help create more awareness on our products and services, we've introduced a twice weekly Facebook livestream that brings together staff of the GFF to talk directly to the stakeholders on operational matters as well as invite those stakeholders too to our programs. This is been expanded of recent with the Communications & Marketing Director and the Finance Manager engaged in several media campaigns across the mainstream media to talk about the GFF, our activities, funding, opportunities and challenges amongst others. This has created a lot of positive impact as it is helping in educating the stakeholders and the public about many things that they do not understand about the Federation.

All the categories of our National Teams travel with Team Media Officers in all our engagements to report on the activities of the teams and other competition duties media related activities.

While we're equipped with modern communications gadgets to aid our work, we've also recently joined popular video sharing site TikTok and can be found there on @GFFOfficial.



Highlights of Gambia's 2-0 World Cup qualifying defeat to Ivory Coast

a week ago · 6K views

Muhammed Sinera, Paul Steven Prierra and 3 others



Scorpions Saidy Janko and Baboucarr Gaye preview Monday's crucial World Cup qualifier

a week ago · 19.7K views

Muhammed Sinera, Ebrima Suwareh and 1.4K others



Gambia vs Cote d'Ivoire: Tom Saintfiet press conference Live

a week ago · 16.3K views

Muhammed Sinera, Ebrima Suwareh and 5 others



GFF Media speaks to Tom Saintfiet as he previews Monday's World Cup qualifier

a week ago · 8.9K views

Muhammed Sinera, Ebrima Suwareh and 695 others



Captain Omar Colley reviews Gambia's World Cup qualifying defeat to Burundi

a week ago · 15K views

Ebrima Suwareh, Lamin Kabba Bajo and 1K others



Highlights from Gambia's 3-2 World Cup qualifying defeat to Burundi in Tanzania

a week ago · 30.5K views

Ebrima Suwareh, Bakary B Baldeh and 7 others

Page Overview [See more insights](#)

Followers: 179,887
Last 28 days

Post reach	Post Engagement	New Page likes
741,645	427,118	352

Recent content
Last 28 days

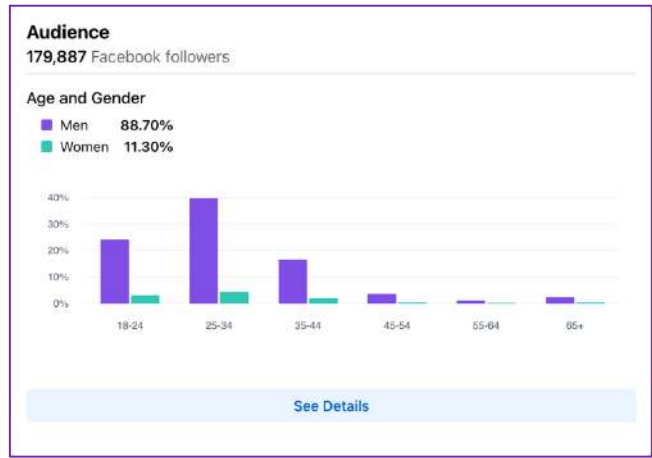
Post	Post reach	Engagement
Shots at the Women's League One and Two competition at the end of Match Week Two Mon, Nov 27	10,372	1,433
Tomorrow's Match Day Three fixtures for GFF Second Division League men's competition Mon, Nov 27	9,444	264
Table standing in GFF First Division League women's competition as of Monday 27th November 2023. Mon, Nov 27	9,300	365

[See more](#)

To grow your audience, finish setting up your Page
Adding more details can help more people connect with you.

12 of 13 steps completed

- Completed: Establish your Page's identity
- 1 step left: Provide info and preferences
- Completed: Introduce your Page



7.2 Marketing Unit

As a corporate marketer, the new Commercial Manager was introduced to undergo some training with the UEFA Assist Mentoring with one of the best consultants named Geoff Wilson. The training lasted for two months with four sections covered, namely.

- **Income generation (Sponsorship, TV, Match Day)**
- **Fan Engagement**
- **Digital (Web, Social etc.)**
- **Branding**

After the completion of the mentorship training, a sponsorship package was developed and sent to several companies that were engaged for possible partnership with the products of the GFF. However, BALUWO an E-Commerce enterprise, is the only entity to come on board by partnering with the first division.

The Marketing Committee is currently engaging a number of potential partners with a view to conclude partnership/sponsorship agreements which will bring in much needed income and resources to reduce the federation's dependence on the FIFA/CAF funds.

9.. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



The President laid the foundation for a Saudi Arabia Football Federation sponsored Mini Stadium in Nyakoi Kerewan in the Upper River Region, in July this year. The project comprised of a perimeter fence, a football pitch and dressing rooms. After the successful completion of the first phase of the project, the second and final tranche of the funds was

received and works on the final phase has since commenced.

Elsewhere, Brikama, Serrekunda East, Bakau and Banjul stadium rehabilitation projects have finished and handed over to their beneficiaries. The local Nawettans were played in these pitches as well as the last

season national leagues which was played in all but Serrekunda East. However, this season, the league has returned to Serekunda East. It is envisaged that league matches will

resume at Manjai in the later part of the current season. Remarkable progress has been registered in Gunjur too with the planting of the grass at an advanced stage.

9.1 FIFA Regional Office Visit to The Gambia

A delegation from The FIFA regional office in Dakar headed by Fatou Camara, FIFA Development Manager and Issaka Adamou FIFA Consultant visited the Gambia to review and validate GFF/FIFA ongoing Infrastructure projects under forward 2.0. The delegation also includes the GFF/FIFA Project Manager, 1st VP, Mr. Bakary K. Jammeh, General Secretary, Lamin M. Jassey and Project

Liaison Officer, Mr. Matarr Jobe. The Team visited various projects sites which include: Banjul Mini Stadium, Bakau Mini Stadium, Gunjur Mini Stadium, Serekunda East Mini Stadium, Brikama Mini Stadium, Manjai Mini Stadium, Jarra Soma Mini Stadium and NTTC. The purpose of the exercise is to close the ongoing projects with a view to access Forward 3.0 (2023-2026).





10.. FOOTBALL HOTEL/NATIONAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER



The Football Hotel continues to serve as host for the various categories of the national teams of The Gambia with the exception of the senior national men's team. The hotel hosts all GFF training programs, workshops, Annual General Meetings, amongst others.

It also serves as accommodation and conference hosting facility for private individuals and organisations. From January this year to November 3, 2023, there have been some improvement in its revenue generation. The process to recruit a new General Manger has been launched following

the departure of the former postulant at end of his contract. It is currently being headed by an Acting General Manager.



10.1 Management Structure and Administration



The Management structure and administration comprises of the Senior Management Team and the Junior Staff. The SMT is overseen by, and reports to a Board of Directors.

Revenue Report

The table below show the revenue generated from the 1st January to 31st October 2023.

Room Revenue	F & B Revenue	Hall & Misc.	Total Revenue
GMD 2,944,500.00	GMD 3,810,175.00	GMD 93,150.00	GMD 6,847,825.00

Note: The table above shows an average revenue for the whole 10 months of the year = **GMD6,847,825.00**

Room Revenue	F & B Revenue	Hall & Misc.	Total Revenue
GMD 575,300.00	GMD 941,930.00	GMD 2,800.00	GMD 1,520,030.00

State of Business

The business has been slowing down for the last couple of months as it usually happens during the green season in the country it is slowly picking up now following the commencement of the national tourist season.

Business Forecasts

Below are the expected businesses as at date but there is probability of slight changes in the month of November 2023

Institutions	From	To	#of Pax
IOM	07.11.2023	08.11.2023	110
IOM	08.11.2023	09.11.2023	15
IOM	14.11.2023	15.11.2023	110
IOM	15.11.2023	16.11.2023	20
ROOTS PROJECT	16.11.2023	23.11.2023	35

A contract is recently concluded with ALKAMBA Tours for the current tourist season.

11.. FINANCIAL REPORT (FD)


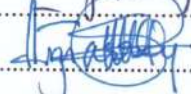
The Gambia Football Federation - GFF
Financial Statements and Reports
for the year ended 31st December 2022

Financial Position

as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	Year-ended 31 st Dec. 2022 GMD	Year-ended 31 st Dec. 2021 GMD
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	4	63,429,549	69,985,116
Current Assets			
Bank and Cash Balances	5a	443,619	13,268,092
Debtors	6	438,672	575,359
Total Current Assets		882,291	13,843,451
Total Assets		64,311,840	83,828,567
Equity and Liabilities:			
Equity and Reserve			
Accumulated Fund	7	(26,505,812)	11,928,472
FIFA Capital Grant	8	25,839,993	30,958,551
Total Equity		(665,819)	42,887,023
Current Liabilities:			
Bank Overdraft	5b	1,557,987	404,564
Creditors	9	2,261,611	1,976,255
Loan		61,158,061	38,560,725
Total Current Liabilities		64,977,658	40,941,544
Total Equity and Reserve		64,311,840	83,828,567

The financial statements were approved by the Executive Committee on 27th June 2023, and signed on its behalf by:

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

Date: 27th June 2023
Date: 27/06/23

U20 AFCON FINALIST



U20 WORLD CUP APPEARANCE

