

Activities related to Output 3.2: Strengthened participation of civil society and media sectors in local governance issues

- Support an inclusive policy review and update of decentralization framework, line ministries and local authorities' institutional policies
- Strengthen mechanisms for local and community level advocacy, monitoring, and oversight of local governance issues
- Facilitate capacity building of citizens, community organisations, marginalised groups, and other local service delivery (production) agencies (including private /SME sector) to actively participate in local governance

Activities related to Output 3.3: Increased inclusion and empowerment of women, youth, and other groups living in vulnerable situations in local governance structures

- Facilitate mainstreaming of gender equality and social inclusion in particular youth and persons with disability inclusion in line ministries and local authorities
- Support the establishment of institutional mechanisms through which communities and community organisations can participate actively in the local governance processes from planning, implementation to oversight process (i.e. community budgeting).
- Provide technical and capacity building support to citizens' institutions led by women, youth, and marginalized groups to promote interactions with line ministries and local authorities on key issues for the development of the communities in which they live

The commitment of the EU's contribution to the Team Europe Initiative to which this action refers, will be complemented by other contributions from Team Europe members. It is subject to the formal confirmation of each respective member's meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the event that the TEIs and/or these contributions do not materialise, the EU action may continue outside a TEI framework.

3.3 Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection & Climate Change

Given the nature of the Action, there is no need to undertake a SEA (Strategic Environment Assessment), EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) or a CRA (Climate Risk Assessment). Please refer to the relevant Annex f3 for the justification.

Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this Action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender is a significant objective of the action, and gender equality is an important and deliberate objective of this programme. Consultations with gender organisations were held, which reveal specific barriers pertinent to women, such as social norms and attitudes, male-dominated households, limited digital, financial, and literate skills and poverty. The programme is informed by the Gender Action Plan (GAP), the gender profile for The Gambia and the draft Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP), as well as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare's Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025. It is also in line with the EU roadmap for engagement with civil society in The Gambia for the period 2021-2023.

In response, women will be specifically targeted in activities under this objective. Across all objectives, targets aim at 50% participation of women where relevant (see logframe), especially under the second and third components of this Action, on increased access to legal aid, justice, and rule of law and increased inclusion and empowerment of women, youth, and other marginalized groups in local governance.

Specific interventions that explicitly aim to empower women and reduce gender inequality will include:

- partnership with women led CSOs and investment in strengthening their institutional capacities