

- The EU supports the Regional Teacher Programme for Africa (ACT-61343 funded from the Regional Multiannual Indicative Programme), both with regard to the networking opportunities among African countries and with European institutions, as well as its Technical Assistance Window. The programme focuses policy reforms and teacher education/training from early childhood to lower secondary.

The intervention logic also takes into account the need for supporting Government to strengthen the whole education cycle. As such, it capitalises on the support provided by other partners:

- World Bank, through the RISE programme (Resilience, Inclusion, Skills and Equity), supports activities to improve foundational learning outcomes (USD 27,710,000, including USD 12,260,000 from Global Partnership for Education (GPE), as well as TVET (USD 21,000,000)
- UNICEF supports Early childhood development/Pre-school as well as primary education
- MCC (Millennium Challenge Corporation) is preparing a programme that will include, among others, support secondary education and TVET. Their programme will not materialise before 2027. There are ongoing contacts to ensure coordination and the EU will assess the opportunities for piloting innovative approaches for students' and teachers' retention and motivation that MCC could later continue supporting.

The programme will therefore support a level of education currently not supported by other partners. This will not only fill an important gap, but will also maximise the visibility of the EU support.

The action will be complementary to the Action "Sustainable Value Chains" (AAP 2024): by educating and skilling youth, particularly women, their chances to benefit from green employment opportunities in the agricultural sector and successfully access to finance for agri-food systems development will be increased. In the same vein, it also complements the support to the Tourism (Youth Empowerment Programme on Tourism - AAP 2023) and the skills development and youth employability agenda under the migration portfolio.

The action complements the support to people with disabilities funded under the complementary measures of the State Resilience Building Contract 4 (ACT 61846). A Call for Proposal with a total allocation of EUR 1.9 million ("Advancing Inclusion – Enhancing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in The Gambia") was launched in May 2024 (to be contracted by end 2024). It includes 2 lots: lot 1 caters to adults, offering vocational training, accessibility enhancements, entrepreneurship support, and healthcare initiatives; lot 2 focuses on children, emphasizing inclusive education, early intervention services, assistive technology provision, and recreational activities. The latter will target children up to lower secondary education.

The project contributes to The Gambia 'Development Vision', with its focus on human development, by strengthening the capacities of the national education system to improve access, quality, retention and completion of secondary education and to improve transition to higher education affecting adolescents in the Gambia at risk of out of school, dropout and outward irregular migration.