



Introduction

Methodological approach

- First, screening NP and FSA reports and extraction of the priority actions. In the National Pathways, the priority actions are called “game changers” and grouped around five “actions tracks” (i.e. thematic areas) defined in the frame of the UNFSS. In the FSA, the priority actions are called “systemic levers” and are grouped around four thematic areas. Notwithstanding these differences, it remains possible to extract from these documents “priority actions” and group them around the five “actions tracks”;
- Second, reformulation, simplification and grouping of NP and FSA priority actions and classification according to the UNFSS five action tracks (Tables 2 and 3). These tables are displayed below to keep trace in a systematic and transparent way of the modifications performed during this step;
- Third, overview in a single table of the NP and FSA priority actions per action track (Table 1).

Table 1: Summary of Priority Actions for the Sustainable Transformation of Food Systems in the Gambia

UNFSS	FSA	UNFSS – National Pathway – Priority Actions	Food Systems Assessment – Priority Actions
AT1: Ensure safe and nutritious food for all	Food security, nutrition and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote integrated farming systems (crops, livestock, aquaculture) Improve infrastructure (processing, transport) Promote pre and post-harvest mechanization Promote contract farming Support agri-food research Capacity building for food safety Promote production and consumption of poultry, small ruminants and milk products Increase private sector investment in food systems (financial incentives) Increase budget allocation (10%) to agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the production of nutritious food (vegetable, short-cycled livestock, aquaculture) Develop productive infrastructure: irrigation, storage, markets, electricity Improve access to production inputs (improved seeds, fertiliser, etc.) Develop public–private partnerships to support investment in marketing and quality extension services Develop fish and horticulture value chains Develop urban agriculture
AT2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns	Food security, nutrition and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote bio fortified food and vitamin supplements Promote home-grown school feeding Improve primary health care centres in rural areas Promote food-based nutrition program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop food fortification and bio fortification Expand school feeding programme Information campaigns on nutrition based on evidence
AT3: Boost nature positive production	Sustainable natural resource use and environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support conservation agriculture Promote community forest management Promote sustainable fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved soil and water management (organic fertilizer, drip irrigation) Promote agroforestry Support organic farming
AT4: Advance equitable livelihoods	Inclusive economic growth, jobs and livelihoods; Territorial development and equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform land tenure system (access to youth and women) Improve access to financial services Empower women and youth in value chains Create right to food legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in WASH, health and care Capacity-building of farmer organizations /co-operatives
AT5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate smart agriculture (irrigation, intensification) Develop national food reserves Establish early warning system to natural disaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote climate-smart agriculture (irrigation, drought tolerant varieties) Fiscal incentives, regulatory measure (remove trade barriers, quality standards), and access to finance for agri-food SMEs to enhance agrifood exports and reduce import dependency

Source: KC-FNS, 2022

Table 2: Priority Actions - Food Systems Assessment (FSA)

Thematic areas	FSA – Priority Actions (Systemic Levers)			FSA – Reformulation Priority Actions	Links to AT	Comment
Food security, nutrition and health	1	Strengthening Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) campaigns and programming on nutrition. Detailed situational and barrier analyses as well as KAP surveys should be conducted to support effective and impacting message design and communication channels.	1,1	Information campaigns on nutrition based on evidence	2	
	2	Expanding nutrition-sensitive and specific interventions. Expanded nutrition-sensitive interventions will contribute to enhanced access to nutritious food, ensuring availability (food fortification, biofortification and social safety nets, such as school feeding programmes, vegetable schemes, short-cycled livestock, and aquaculture) to vulnerable communities. It will also promote a conducive environment (WASH, health services and care).	2,1	Develop food fortification and biofortification	2	
			2,2	Expand school feeding programme	2	
			2,3	Support the production of nutritious food (vegetable, short-cycled livestock, aquaculture)	1	
			2,4	Invest in WASH, health and care	4	
Inclusive economic growth, jobs and livelihoods	3	Increasing investment for enhanced productive infrastructure and improved input access. One key niche in the commercialization of agriculture is scaling up organic farming. It will entail investment in productive infrastructure for irrigation (rice and horticulture), storage and marketing with increased access to improved production inputs (improved seeds, fertilizers, feed, day-old chicks, vaccines) targeting smallholder farmers. It is imperative to create an enabling environment for engaging the private sector (e.g., public–private partnerships to support investment in marketing and quality extension services, policy reforms, tax incentives, research, access to electricity, and value chain financing).	3,1	Develop productive infrastructure: irrigation, storage, markets, electricity	1	
			3,2	Improve access to production inputs (improved seeds, fertiliser, etc.)	1	
			3,3	Support organic farming	3	
			3,4	Introduce Tax incentives		grouped with 5.1
			3,5	Improve value chain financing		grouped with 5.1
			3,6	Develop public–private partnerships to support investment in marketing and quality extension services	1	
	4	Strengthening support institutions and farmers' organizations for enhanced service delivery.	4,1	Capacity-building of farmer organizations / cooperatives	4	4.1; 6,2 grouped
Territorial equity and development	5	Stimulating private sector investment in agrifood systems. Create fiscal incentive systems that promote high technology investment in agrifood production and processing, supported by regulatory measures to enhance agrifood exports. Increase access to investment finance for SMEs with growth potential to engage in commercial farming and strengthen the local food industry to eliminate import dependency.	5,1	Fiscal incentives, regulatory measure (remove trade barriers, quality standards), and access to finance for agri-food SMEs to enhance agrifood exports and reduce import dependency	5	3.4; 3.5; 5.1; 6.3; 6.4 grouped
	6	Strengthening value chains of diversified agro commodities and creating market linkages for high-value fish and horticultural products. This would require strengthening cooperative organizations to access services, credit, improved storage and processing facilities, and markets backed by quality control measures and standards. The Gambia must remove all barriers of its agrifood systems to export markets	6,1	Develop fish and horticulture value chains	1	
			6,2	Strengthen cooperative organizations		grouped with 4.1
			6,3	Remove trade barrier		grouped with 5.1
			6,4	Strengthen control measures and standards		grouped with 5.1
Sustainable natural resource use and environment	7	Scaling up sustainable land management by engaging smallholder producers in pursuit of climate-smart agriculture development to support and maintain ecosystem health, increase agricultural productivity, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. For instance, undertaking appropriate conservation measures for improved soil and water management, application of organic fertilizers, and application of water-efficient	7,1	Promote climate-smart agriculture (irrigation, drought tolerant varieties)	5	
			7,2	Improved soil and water management (organic fertilizer, drip irrigation)	3	

	irrigation methods such as sprinkler and drip irrigation for increasing resilience to the effects of climate change. Adoption of high yielding drought tolerant crops can be cultivated under diversified cropping systems. Agroforestry can be promoted to reduce soil erosion and increase carbon sequestration, while diversifying livelihoods.	7,3	Promote agroforestry	3	
∞	Introducing and financing urban and peri-urban agriculture to increase the resilience of local and regional food systems, and create jobs for the young, urban workforce. Horticulture, livestock (small ruminants and poultry) production, aquaculture and beekeeping could be scaled up in and around urban areas.	8,1	Develop urban agriculture	1	
Grand total		8		16	

Source: KC-FNS, 2022

Table 3: Priority Actions – UNFSS National Pathway

Thematic areas	National Pathway – Priority Actions (Game Changers)		National Pathway – Reformulation Priority Actions	Links to AT	Comment
1: Increase access to land, financing and other productive resources for women, youth	1	The government must make specific and deliberate policy decisions (legislative and regulatory) targeting women and youths, which grant them ownership of land for cultivation to conduct agribusiness enterprise	Reform land tenure system (access to youth and women)	4	
	2	The agricultural loan interest rate in The Gambia is too high. It must be lowered to a single digit and loans should be discounted over multiple years with a minimum of 3 years.			Grouped with 3
	3	The government should fast track the establishment of an agribusiness bank and a risk support facility, both of which are being formulated.	Improve access to financial services	4	2,3, 22 Grouped
	4	Priority needs to be given to projects and programmes that will promote women and youth participation, e.g., rice; vegetable and small ruminant projects tend to benefit women and youths.			Grouped with 5
	5	Promote gender equity with particular attention paid to youth participation throughout the food value chain	Empower women and youth in value chains	4	4,5 grouped
2: Increase in the efficiency and effectiveness of the health delivery system	6	Government and the private sector should increase access and improve health service delivery including Primary Health Care in the rural areas.	Improve primary health care centres in rural areas	2	6, 7, 8 grouped
	7	Government should put in place strategies to systematically train and retain qualified personnel.			grouped with 6
	8	Government should promote and enhance Private Sector investment in health service delivery, especially in the rural areas.			grouped with 7
	9	Mainstream food-based nutrition and household food security into sectorial policies and plans.	Promote food-based nutrition program	2	
3: Sustainable exploitation of the country's natural resource base	10	Mainstream conservation agriculture in the ANR policies and enact soil and water regulations.	Support conservation agriculture	3	
	11	Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. Review and enforce the fisheries regulations and practice the Maximum Sustainable Yield concept. Re-negotiate all fishing agreements in favour of sustained economic growth.	Promote sustainable fishing	3	11, 13 grouped
	12	Enforce forestry regulations to curb illegal logging and transportation of foreign timber through Gambian territory for export. Promote community forest management concepts and non-timber forest enterprises.	Promote community forest management	3	
	13	Availability of fish and fish products in the local markets.			Grouped with 11
4: Increase food production by 100%	14	Promote climate smart agriculture through the use of i) irrigation (drip, and surface; and greenhouses) to encourage year-round production and crop production intensification and ii) integrated farming systems crops, livestock and aquaculture).	Climate smart agriculture (irrigation, intensification)	5	
			Promote integrated farming systems (crops, livestock, aquaculture)	1	
	15	Promote mechanization along the entire food value chain. Mechanization of pre and post-harvest activities will reduce drudgery and time, increase cultivation of larger areas, and will reduce postharvest losses.	Promote pre and post-harvest mechanization	1	
	16	Promote consumption of safe and nutritious diets, bio fortified foods and mineral and vitamin supplements for all.	Promote bio fortified food and vitamin supplements	2	
	17	Promote homegrown school feeding (HGSF) program and contract farming.	Promote homegrown school feeding	2	
			Promote contract farming	1	
	18	Promote access to markets for agricultural produce.			Grouped with 24
	19	Empower agricultural, food and nutrition security research and development.	Support agri-food research	1	

	20	Strengthen national laboratory capacity for food testing (Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary system strengthening).	Capacity building for food safety	1	20, 23 grouped
	21	Establish a robust early warning system to natural disasters and strengthen the National Disaster Management Agency for rapid intervention, saving lives and restoration of lost livelihoods.	Establish early warning system to natural disaster	5	
	22	Include legislation on crop and livestock insurance in the Banking Act, which is under review.			Grouped with 3
	23	Mainstream and enforce regulations to minimize use of toxic or banned chemical pesticides in food production.			Grouped with 20
	24	To enhance processing and transportation systems for ANR products.	Improve infrastructure (processing, transport)	1	18, 24 grouped
	25	To promote production and consumption of poultry, small ruminants and milk products.	Promote production and consumption of poultry, small ruminants and milk products	1	
5: More private sector involvement in the food systems	26	Create an enabling environment to increase private sector investment in the entire food systems, e.g., single digit interest rates on loans, duty waivers, tax holidays, and producer insurance.	Increase private sector investment in food systems (financial incentives)	1	
6: Introduction and promotion of national food reserves	27	Government to increase budget allocations to the agricultural sector to 10% of the national budget in line with the AU/CAADP Malabo Declaration.	Increase budget allocation (10%) to agriculture	1	
	28	Government should pass legislation providing a Right to Food to all citizens of the country.	Create right to food legislation	4	
	29	Government in collaboration with the Private Sector should build national food reserves in strategic locations around the country in conformity with ECOWAS protocols.	Develop national food reserves	5	
Grand total		29		24	

Source: KC-FNS, 2022