N°001/2023/NL/RP

September-December 2023

# RECC-LUMinfos









## RECC-LUM What is it?

### **ABOUT US**

RECC-LUM aims to study and generate empirical data that can provide new knowledge and support for policy formulation on climate change and land use management in The Gambia.

Our mission is to investigate, gather empirical data and support policy formulation on climate change and land use management in The Gambia. This involves understanding the links between climate change and land use, developing tools for a new land use policy, contributing to the demarcation of land boundaries and facilitating the development of a land use program. studies on land use management linked to climate change at the University of The Gambia.



missions?



The project logo, designed by WASCAL and adopted by the consortium members depicts the reality of the impact of climate change, land use, and land degradation in a West African village.

### **CONSORTIUM MEMBERS**

 Hamburg University of Applied Sciences(HAW Hamburg)



<u>University of The Gambia (UTG)</u>



 WASCAL (West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use):



WASCAL WWW.Wascal.org

## **Project Summary and Agenda**

The Sahel region of West Africa, where The Gambia is located, has been significantly impacted by climate change. Rapid population growth has also altered the country's land cover and its land use. Less rainfall leads to low agriculture yields and an impact is land degradation, making agriculture and other land uses less productive, leading to food insecurity as a human risk. The expansion of residential settlements, in some cases, has resulted to conflicts between real estate agents, farmers, and pastoralists. Based on the above challenges, The project "Feasibility Study on Climate Change, Land Use Management, and Renewable Energy in The Gambia" (RECC-LUM) is undertaken to investigate and generate empirical data that may provide new knowledge and support to policy formulation on climate change and land use management in The Gambia, paying a special emphasis to the role played by the use of renewable energy in the process.

More specifically, RECC-LUM will undertake surveys to investigate land use approaches and the effects on relevant socio economic indicators such as rural employment, income structures and also the provision of ecosystem services for the Gambian society.

The feasibility study will be performed over a 24-months period, leading to guidelines for policy-makers and a report with recommendations for further studies and projects.



#### **PROJECT MEMBERS**

Pr Walter Leal (Germany) IPCC lead author



Pr Sidat Yaffa
(The Gambia)
Specialist on agriculture,
climate change research



Pr Kehinde Ogunjobi
(WASCAL Competence
Center)
Meteorologist, biodiversity
expert, environmental and
climate Scientist



Dr Belko Abdoul Aziz Diallo (WASCAL competence centre)

Data, Science, Technology and Innovation Scientist

#### Main activities of the project

- Surveys and research
- Symposium
- Training
- Workshop

## Outline of activities from September to December 2023

- 1. Project Kickoff (September 15th, 2023)
- 2. Consortium meeting (November 22th, 2023)
- 3. All African Symposium (November 23th, 2023)

#### Upcoming events

- Data collection
- Partners meeting
- Symposium on Climate Change and Land Use Management in Africa

(September 25th-26th, 2024)

## **Project Kickoff**



The project kickoff meeting was held on September 15, 2023, in presence and online. The meeting was led by Minister of Public Service, Honorable Baboucar Boye, representing the the Vice President of The Gambia.

Professor Walter Leal of Hamburg University of Applied Sciences presented the study's feasibility, focusing on climate change challenges and the need for such a project in The Gambia. Academic collaborations between Hamburg University and the University of The Gambia were also highlighted.

The Registrar of the University of the Gambia, Dr Momodou Lamin Tarro representing the Vice Chancellor of the University and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Higher Education Research Science and Technology, Dr Yusupha Touray speaking on behalf of Honorable minister of the ministry of Higher Education Research Science and Technology (MoHERST) assured the promotion of climate change education through research works to trained more scientist for the country's human resource base. Additionally, the Director of WASCAL competence center in Burkina Faso, Professor Kehinde Ogunjobi outlined their office's role in managing research data and communicating findings.



Professor Sidat Yaffa emphasized the study's strategic benefits, including land use and renewable energy insights. Dr Fatou Lamin Faye stressed the study's importance in addressing recent climatic shocks. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Mamma Sawaneh, received positive feedback, concluding with closing remarks from Professor Leal, thanking participants and the BMBF for their support.

# All African Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation

The International Climate Change Information and Research Programme (ICCIRP), in collaboration with various universities, research centers, and international organizations, orchestrated the All-African Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation as a virtual scientific gathering on 23 November 2023.

As its name implies, the symposium emphasized the substantial contributions of researchers situated in Africa and/or engaged in climate change matters within African nations. The event unfolded at the Dawda Kairaba Jawra International Conference Centre in Banjul, The Gambia, drawing over 50 attendees.





Professor Walter Leal from the HUW presented the RECC-LUM project alongside its objectives. Distinguished guests, including Professor Pierre Gomez from the Ministry of Higher Education, Dr. Demba Sabally from the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. Ousmane from the Ministry of Governments, Lands, and Religious Affairs, and His Excellency Mr. Muhammed BF Jallow, who endorsed and commended the expressed gratitude encouragement to the participants for their initiative, as well as to BMBF for its funding support.

Following the formal addresses, researchers showcased their work, studies, research endeavors, practical projects, and scholarly initiatives relating to climate change adaptation. The symposium fostered a collaborative atmosphere, bringing together academia, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders to exchange insights, share best practices, and explore potential solutions



### Partners meeting



The first face-to-face partners meeting occurred on November 22, 2023, in Banjul, Gambia. In attendance were Prof. Walter Leal from the German team, Prof. Yaffa and his team, along with Mrs. Mame Diarra Diouf, representing the WASCAL Competence Centre. Mame Diarra Diouf representing the WASCAL Competence Centre. The meeting aimed to review project progress, discuss challenges, and plan future activities for the RECC-LUM project.





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