

# 2024 International Mayors Forum Grand Hyatt, Jakarta, Indonesia, 2-4 July 2024

▶ **Measuring, Monitoring and  
Evaluating SDG localization**

▶ **By**

Hon. Yankuba Darboe

Mayor Brikama Area Council

West Coast Region

The Gambia

▶ **Email:**

[yanks.darboe@bac.gm](mailto:yanks.darboe@bac.gm)



# Presentation Outline



**Summary of the Brikama Local Government Area.**



**The Voluntary Local Review Process.**



**Challenges**



**Lessons Learnt**



**BAC's Initiatives Towards The Attainment Of The SDGs**

# Summary of Brikama Local Government Area

The Brikama LGA is one of the most rapidly urbanizing regions that represents 37% of the population of The Gambia. It has a total land area of 1764.3km<sup>2</sup> with a population density of 397 persons per square km.

The region has nine (9) districts, each headed by a chief, locally known as the (Seyfo).

We have 28 wards represented by Elected Ward Councilors and 9 nominated Councilors representing various interest groups.

The inhabitants earn their livelihoods through farming, horticultural, petty trading, fishing and clerical work with a recorded poverty rate of 51.2 percent, which is less than the national average of 53.4 percent.

# The Voluntary Local Review Process

A VLR consultant was hired by UNDESA through UNRCO and GALGA, being the union of local governments in The Gambia, which serves as the coordinating body for the VLR. Brikama, Kanifing and Kuntaur Area Councils piloted the first VLR in 2022.

The VLR process was consultative and inclusive with key stakeholders participating in the process.

The Gambia had conducted a Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2020 and 2022 respectively.

# Challenges



Inadequate resources for the VLR process. As the first three VLRs (Brikama, Kanifing and Kuntaur), budgets were not available at the various councils and support was only received from UNDESA.



There was an apparent weakness in the coordination between and among sectors both at central and local levels, as well as inadequate online data; few sectors have data on their websites, and for those that have, most websites were not updated.



Low awareness of the two agendas: SDG 2030 and Africa Agenda 2063, especially at grassroots level.



Lack of monitoring and evaluation frameworks at the councils to adequately track SDG progresses.

## Cont.

- ▶ Currently there is no National Dashboard that can support local monitoring and measurement for SDG localization.
- ▶ Capacity and Commitment of stakeholders is a challenge both at the regional and local level.
- ▶ poverty is now on the rise, particularly in the urban areas. This, combined with rising cost of consumer goods is having a negative impact on lives and livelihoods within the region and the Country.
- ▶ Decline of women in governance at the National Assembly, Ministries, Mayoral positions, etc.

# Lessons Learnt



The need to raise the level of awareness about the agenda 2030 and to strengthen the capacities of councils to adequately review the SDGs.



Increase coordination with Civil Society and NGOs to leverage their capacities as well as enhance the alignment of their interventions with the Agenda 2030.



The need for Government and local councils to continue engagement, advocacy, and sensitization at all levels, to increase awareness of the SDGs.



The councils to ensure the mainstreaming of the SDGs into policies and strategies at regional, ward and village level.



Council to deepen private sector, civil society and academia participation through sustained engagement using the existing SDG institutional arrangements and partnerships.

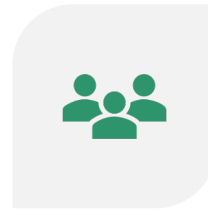
# Cont.



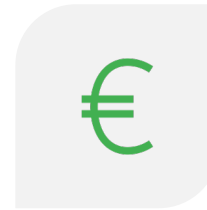
CAPACITY IN TERMS OF REPORTING AND PLANNING GAPS WERE IDENTIFIED AT REGIONAL LEVEL ( COUNCIL STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLANS WITH THE SDGS).



THE NEED FOR SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE DECENTRALIZATION PROCESS BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO ENHANCE GREATER SERVICE DELIVERY AND SDG ATTAINMENT.



THE VLR PROVIDED THE FOCAL PERSONS, THE COUNCILS, THE WRITING TEAMS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WITH IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE ON THE SDGS AND THEIR INDICATORS.



THE COUNCIL THROUGH THE VLR PROCESS HAS REALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BUDGETING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBSEQUENT VLRS (2024 COUNCIL'S BUDGET).



## BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ **Seneya Project:** Council has launched a project in 2023 for waste collection in the urban growth centers within the region. This project is constraint by fleet of vehicles, poor access roads, and sanitary land fill for waste management. ‘Seneya’ in the local Mandinka language means Cleanliness hence the project name.





## TREE PLANTING DAY ACROSS THE WEST COAST REGION

SATURDAY, 19TH AUGUST

LET'S MAKE WEST COAST  
AN ENVIRONMENTALLY  
FRIENDLY REGION.



# BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ **Green Initiative:** in 2023, council embarked on reforestation, mangrove restoration and street tree planting within three (3) communities within the region.
  - ▶ Reforestation was conducted in kanilai community forest
  - ▶ Mangrove restoration was conducted in Pirang community
  - ▶ Street tree planting was conducted in Kartong and Pirang communities respectively.

## BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ **Tesito Road Project:** the Council has constructed a hundred- and twenty-six-meter (126m) access road to the main market in Brikama through a tesito work. 'Tesito' is a local Mandinka word that means self help.





## BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ **Ward Allocations:** in February, 2024, the Council disbursed fourteen million dalasis (D14,000,000.00) to the twenty-eight (28) wards within the region. Each ward received five hundred thousand dalasis (D500,000.00) to implement community priority projects. These projects are mainly on provision and extension of portable water, feeder roads construction, community market constructions and electricity expansion. These projects are geared towards the attainment of the SDGs within the region.

# Shaping The Future Of West Coast

We listen to your ideas and make them happen.

GET STARTED

# Fastest Growing Region In The Gambia

A community-driven force dedicated to fostering development

GET STARTED

GET IN TOUCH

## BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ The development of the BAC website: the council has developed a website which is under construction. This website will be able to publish council activities and it will be accessible to the public for perusal and comments. This website will serve as a tool to improve our local governance system and also accelerate the attainment of the SDGs.

## BAC's initiatives towards the attainment of the SDGs

- ▶ **Women in Governance:** looking at the low rate of women elected councilors within the region (5 elected women councilors out of 28 wards), the council has nominated more women for the various interest groups than men.





**Thank you  
all for the  
kind  
attention!!!**