Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project
The Gambia
AfDB/IFAD

Gender and Infrastructure Workshop
Addis Ababa
March 22-24 2011
Presentation Outline

• Context
• Project Objectives
• Innovative Activities
• Gender Responsive Activities
• Benefits and Outcomes
• Lessons Learnt
Context

• Role of agriculture
  – GDP contribution: approx 30%
  – Livelihoods: >70%

• Agriculture land allocation
  – Traditional (hereditary)
  – Uplands and lowlands

• Lowlands Agricultural Development Project
  – Objectives
  – Benefits
Project Objectives and Activities

Objectives

– To significantly increase land productivity and reduce soil erosion on a sustainable basis nationwide in the Gambia. Hence reducing poverty and enhancing household food security.

Activities

– Watershed Development
  • lowland development, swamp access, upland management and agricultural development

– Capacity Building
  • creating awareness among beneficiary communities and specific technical training to sustain project activities
Innovative Activities

• Design Phase
  – Community participation in decision making
  – Lessons from LADEP

• Implementation
  – Demand driven approach
  – Village/ District/ Watershed level Associations
  – Established proposal processing system
  – Low cost and appropriate infrastructure
  – Partnerships with Government Agencies
Gender Responsive Activities

• Addressing land ownership
  – Land – labour agreements
  – One off payment for land acquisition

• Lowland activities
  – Female rice growers improved access to productive land with water control
    • Dikes, spillways, causeways, inter-village roads

• Upland activities
  – Male cereal farmers maintaining and improving productivity
    • Conservation of uplands – contour bunds, gully plugs
Gender Monitoring Indicators

- Indicators
  - Community groups with female decision makers
  - Project services recipients by gender
  - Trained community members by gender
  - HIV/AIDS sensitization
  - Infrastructure installation according to areas
  - Land under cultivation
  - Crop production
Project Outputs

• Institutional strengthening/capacity building at watershed level
  – Number of persons trained: 1,954 women and 1,942 men
  – Number of groups operational: 50 of which 5 have women at decision making level

• Infrastructure/watershed development
  – Dikes: 68838 m
  – Spillways: 3035 m
  – Bridges: 1342 m
  – Contour Bunds: 157 km
  – Causeways: 19 m
  – Inter-village road improved: 174 km
  – Gully plugs: 692 no.
Benefits and Outcomes

- Common land property and Land tenure security for communities
  - 52% female beneficiaries (72491 women and 67943 men; 2010 figures)
- Increased land under rice production
  - 9419 ha (2006 -2010)
- Increased production of targeted crops
  - Upland rice from 1t/ha to 1.4t/ha; Maize 1.2t/ha to 1.3t/ha; Millet 1.1t/ha to 1.4t/ha (to be verified)
- Increased community cohesion
- Improved food security in communities
  - Rice production increased by 12.08%
- Improved skills in maintenance of infrastructure
  - Use patterns
Lessons Learnt

- Sustainability of project activities
  - Land security – systems
  - Maintenance of infrastructure
  - Land productivity
  - Watershed land assessment and investments – Sustainable Land Management Project
- Role of community structures
  - Decision making platforms for actors
  - Social cohesion and communal benefit sharing
- Role of Government Agencies
  - Results reporting
  - Capacity building
  - Focused support to communities
Thank you