

**THE GAMBIA EXPERIENCE: SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES ON**

**MULTISECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM ON TOBACCO CONTROL**

**Strengthening Multisectoral  
Action for Tobacco Control in  
the Region of Americas**

**THE GAMBIA EXPERIENCE:  
SUCCESSES AND  
CHALLENGES**

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# Presentation Outline



- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ Background
- ❑ Formation of Multisectoral Coordination Mechanism-
- ❑ Composition of Multisectoral Coordination mechanism
- ❑ Establishment of norms and guidelines for the operation NCM
- ❑ Best practices/ lessons learned
- ❑ Challenges

# Presentation Outline



Source: <http://www.ezilon.com/maps/africa/gambia-maps.html>

The Republic of the Gambia is an enclaved country mostly surrounded by Senegal with a coastline surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean at its western end. Its land area is 10,689 square kilometres (4,127 sq. mi) (GBoS 2013 census). Banjul is the capital city.

# Background



- ❑ High prevalence of tobacco
- ❑ Limited resource for TC interventions
- ❑ Weak TC tax system
- ❑ Weak intersectoral collaboration and engagement
- ❑ Industry

# Formation of Multisectoral Coordination Mechanism

- Conducted Need Assessment on the implementation of FCTC, 2012
- Identifying Key gaps (NCM, Policies, Laws and Taxation on TC)
- Stakeholder Mapping to identify potential partners
- Advocacy visit to relevant institutions




# Formation of Multisectoral Coordination Mechanism



- Government Ministries and agencies
- Civil Society organization
- UN System
- Security Services
- Parliamentarians

# of the Multisectoral Coordination Mechanism

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- Permanent membership to the committee
  - Membership is guided and protected by signing a declaration form
  - TOR developed in section 3 of the TC Act, 2016
  - Code of Conduct established
  - Periodic Meetings of NCM

# Best Practices/Lessons Learned on NCM

- Leverage sectoral mandate for TC interventions
- No bureaucracy in accessing partners
- Culture of mutual ownership and accountability  
(e.g. Rotation of meetings)





# Best Practices/Lessons Learned on NCM

- ❑ Strengthened sharing of intelligent information (TC interference)
- ❑ Smoothen implementation of some best buys for TC (Taxation)
- ❑ Some percentage of TC Tax earmark for National health insurance Scheme. resource mobilization and partner engagement
- ❑ NCM was initially established without regulatory backup but was later strengthened after the enactment of the TC Act, 2016



# Challenges



- Limited funds for quarterly meetings
- Frequent changes or transfers of some members
- Capacity building (training of new members with limited resources)
- Limited incentives to motivate members