

What is AVISU ?

The Agency for Village Support in The Gambia (AVISU) is a National NGO working in the Central River Region of The Gambia. It is the outcome of the transformation of Village AiD The Gambia (VATG) - an affiliate of Village AiD UK - into a National NGO in 2006. Prior to the transformation, VATG had been working in The Gambia since 1991 in partnership with the people of Lower Saloum District in Central River Region. AVISU has since then taken forward the development programme and expanded coverage in Central River Region.



Our Vision...

Eradication of poverty in the Central River Region of The Gambia

Our Mission...

Working in partnership with communities and other stakeholders to eradicate poverty

What do We Do?

We work with communities to build their capacities and create opportunities to fight and defeat impacts of poverty in rural communities of Lower Saloum area



What Are AVISU's Programme Areas ?

Disability is not inability. AVISU highly value working closely with people who are physically challenged.

Literacy REFLECT Programme

AVISU uses Reflect Literacy Methodology to raise awareness in the community by mapping out resources within the communities, discovering their potentials, challenging impending factors and exercising the abilities to address immediate and long term needs. AVISU empower communities through structured participatory learning process, which facilitates people's critical analysis of their environment and placing empowerment at the centre of sustainable development.

AVISU supports 46 communities with functional Reflect literacy circles and over 90% of the participants in these circles are women.



One of the Literacy beneficiary demonstrating her skills in writing whilst the other looks on.

Institutional Capacity Building Programme

AVISU has over the years benefited from Concern Universal EXCEL project that helped the agency built its capacities in the areas of strengthening the organisational governance, HR and financial capacities, as well as improving self-sustainability, IT, networking and advocacy. .

Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Programme

AVISU Support Communities to Implement and Sustain Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resource Management Initiatives. Community gardens, agro forestry, rice production, irrigation technologies and bee keeping are being supported in Lower and Upper Saloum and Niani districts in Central River Region. The overall objectives of these interventions are to mitigate effects of climate change, create food security and improve livelihood of rural families in central river region.



Women harvesting rice in Lebba village, an early maturity and fast growing variety of rice provided by AVISU through support by the Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Enterprise Development and Credit Management Programme

Enterprise Development is a product of literacy circles. AVISU supports communities and groups from the reflect literacy circles with micro loans and training for identified enterprises that are geared towards increasing household income for improved standard of living. These groups are also encouraged to be involved in group and individual savings while field staff do train them in business planning, management, and record keeping.



Groups and Individuals are supported with loan aimed for various income generating ventures.

Disaster Risk Reduction Programme

AVISU assist communities prevent, prepare for and respond to disaster and emergencies like storm, flood, locust invasion, fires, etc.



Distribution of Relief Materials to the communities of Bantanto in Upper Saloum of CRR North

Partners

AVISU's current partners are :

- * Village Aid U.K
- * Concern Universal The Gambia & Senegal
- * Catholic Relief Services The Gambia (CRS)
- * REAP—Canada
- * Government of The Gambia: Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MOBSE), Adult and Non-formal Education Unit
- * Njawara Agricultural Training Centre (NATC)
- * Voluntary Service Organisation (VSO)



Multi-purpose Learning centres provides **shelter** and conducive learning environment and are also used as venue for community training .

Contact Us....

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