



## **WULI AND SANDU DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**Kerewan Badala, Wuli West District, U.R.R. The Gambia**

**Tel: (220) 6588925 / 9823862/6410568/8805182**

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### **WASDA REPORT**

**TITLE: ANNUAL REPORT**

**YEAR UNDER REVIEW: 2010**

**AGENCY: WULI AND SANDU DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (WASDA)**

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## PREPARED BY: KEBBA M SILLAH DIRECTOR OF WASDA

Acronyms	and	Meanings
<b>Accountant</b>		Financial Controller of WASDA
<b>Agency</b>		WASDA
<b>AGM</b>		Annual General Meeting
<b>ADC</b>		Area Development Committee
<b>CBO</b>		Community Based Organisation
<b>Directorate</b>		Head Office of WASDA
<b>Director</b>		Head of the Directorate of WASDA
<b>Ex-Co</b>		Executive Committee
<b>Ex-COM/Board</b>		Executive Committee /Board Member
<b>General Assembly</b>		The highest level governance body responsible for Ultimate governance of WASDA
<b>IGAs</b>		Income Generating Activities
<b>NBDP</b>		North Bank Development programme
<b>NGO</b>		Non Governmental Organization
<b>“Kafo(lu)”</b>		Village group(s)
<b>Sandu</b>		Represents 1 District and 2 Area Council Wards
<b>URR</b>		Upper River Region
<b>Wuli</b>		Represents 2 Districts and 4 Area Council Wards
<b>VDC</b>		Village Development Committee
<b>Ordinary resolutions:</b>		Resolutions passed by a simple majority
<b>Special resolutions:</b>		Resolutions passed by not less than 75% of Members present and entitled to vote
<b>Ordinary Executive Committee/Board members</b>		- Members selected or appointed to serve on the EXCO/ Board, their recruitment is endorsed by the General Assembly and they have full voting rights
<b>Co-opted Ex-Co/Board members</b>		- Members who are invited to serve on the Ex- Co/Board because of their expertise, but they shall have no voting rights.

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## **Preamble**

The Wuli and Sandu Development Agency (WASDA) is a membership based, non-political, non-ethnic and non-profit making registered local Non-Governmental Organisation. It was founded in August 1993 in Wuli and Sandu Districts in the north bank of the Upper River Region of The Gambia aiming to alleviate the poor living conditions of the poorest and marginalized inhabitants of the area. In fact, according to a recent study, at least half of the population of this Region is considered to be extremely poor and lacking in basic facilities and social services (Strategy for Poverty Alleviation).

The Canadian University Service Organisation (CUSO) was among the earliest international development NGOs to operate in the area in the late 1980's and early 1990's. Its North Bank Development Programme (NBDP), as it was known, covered twelve villages in the two districts. Their intervention included gardening for nutrition and income generation, skills development for black smiths and capacity building of Village Development Committees (VDCs).

At the end of 1992 CUSO, the sole NGO in the Wuli and Sandu at the time indicated their intention to phase out of The Gambia. To fill up the vacuum that such a departure could cause, and at the same consolidate and sustain the projects already implemented in the area by CUSO, the inhabitants of the two districts came together and agreed to set up an apex to replace the North Bank Development Programme (NBDP). After a series of meetings between CUSO and its partners, the Area Development Committee (ADC) was set up initially. In August 1993 it was changed to Wuli and Sandu Development Agency (WASDA) at a meeting held in Jaakunda. An Executive Committee to spear head the governance of the organisation was established.

Over the past fourteen years, WASDA has successfully implemented development projects in its member villages with approximately 6000 members; most of whom are women, with various national and international development partners in order to achieve its set goals and objectives.

Governance remains a major issue. The requirement to have a Board as a condition for registering as a NGO is yet to be fulfilled by WASDA. The development/designing of this constitution demonstrates its commitment to meet the policy requirements for registering as a NGO. In this respect, it has begun the transformation of WASDA's governance system, beginning with the development of this constitution. A number of consultative meetings were conducted during the preparation of this constitution. WASDA and its partners played the leading role in the process. Some of the members of the Executive Committee; WASDA's management and field staff took part in the discussions and made significant and meaningful contributions. Technical assistance was provided to facilitate the process.

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## **Vision:**

WASDA a sustainable NGO stands to free its beneficiaries, members and their families from hunger and poverty in the Upper River Region and beyond in The Gambia.

## **Mission:**

Working in partnership with the poor and marginalized and other stakeholders to eradicate poverty and hunger in the region.

## **Values**

WASDA's values include:

- Recognition of local knowledge;
- Mutual respect: acceptance of other peoples' integrity;
- Punctuality, hard work, accomplishment and fulfilment;
- Tolerance, flexibility and openness to learn; and
- Accountability and transparency.

## **The list of activities planned for 2010**

- More partnerships with donors through proposal writing and visits
- More local income generation through poultry keeping, animal production, fish farming, crop production, welding and fabrication services
- Horticultural production, sale of SMILE-B technologies and services
- Construction of WASDA multi-training centre to enhance the training capacity for better and quality service delivery
- Support to 14 villages on Agro-forestry and animal production combined and orchard development
- Training of 20 long term agricultural students and 84 short term agricultural students
- Staff capacity building for qualification in the recognised institution
- Participate in EPPR operations within URR through assessments, sensitisation and respond

## **Progress**

### **1. More partnerships with donors through proposal writing and visits**

In the face of new development approaches WASDA recognised the importance of forging partnership with other development players in the Gambia and abroad and have established a new partnership relation with Gambia Environmental facility fund through implementing sustainable land use and management and animal management in the duration of 15 months starting from March 2010.

The project also catered for central nursery for WASDA with Borehole, water tank and drip irrigation kits.

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It also covered support to 7 communities in Wuli and Sandu, 3 orchards and 4 wood lots through provision of fencing wires, nails, seeds and animal breeding scheme with 137 heads of small ruminants Sheep and Goats

## **2. Local income generation through poultry keeping, animal production, fish farming, crop production, welding and fabrication services**

As WASDA is striving for self reliance and that cannot be attained without resources so therefore we embarked on some income generating activities like poultry keeping, animal production, vegetable production, crop production and welding and fabrication.

This is aimed to actively contribute to WASDA operational cost for sustainability and is also used for training of farmers on modern farming practices.

Among all the plans for income generation poultry keeping and fish farming were not implemented because of inadequate funds to start it but is still in our plans to do them.

## **3. Sale of SMILE-B technologies and services**

WASDA is a member of SMILE-B Consortium as a field delivery partner and has been a strong and active contributing member throughout the project and during the year under review WASDA has able to provide 7 rope and washer pumps, 9 tube wells, 1 drip kits, 11 reservoirs, 2 business trainings, 1 tank and stand, 11 water committee training and 12 horticultural training with the total beneficiaries of 3827 and out of which 2884 were female.

WASDA also benefit from the project a bore master or tube well drilling machine in the name of SMILE-B Consortium which has a capacity to drill up to 50 metre depth.

WASDA also embark on aqua culture or fish farming by digging 20 x 10 metre square with 1.5 metre depth and we plan to construct cement wall to avoid waste of water for better and quality fish products.

## **4. Support to 14 villages on Agro-forestry and animal production combined, orchard and vegetable garden development**

WASDA in collaboration with her development partners namely Concern Universal (CU) and Gambia Environmental Facility fund (GEF) have able to support 14 communities with woodlots and orchards.

WASDA has established 5 woodlots and 2 orchards with the intervention of Upper River Region Livelihood improvement for Institutional strengthening, Food security and Environmental management (URRLIFE) 5 communities in Wuli west and 2 villages in Sandu.

Another 4 woodlots and 3 orchards were established through the intervention GEF SGP 4 communities in Wuli west and 3 communities in Sandu.

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### **5. Construction of WASDA multi-training centre to enhance the conduciveness of the training environment for better and quality skill transfer**



WASDA classroom and resource centre

WASDA through URRLIFE project construct model training centre at Kerewan badala for multi-purpose use and the centre includes 1 class room, a resource centre with an office, 6 bed room dormitories and kitchen with dinning hall, bar and 2 stores

WASDA is working hand in hand with her development partners to develop the centre to a modernise and relevant agricultural college in order to bring the agricultural knowledge closer to the rural communities at less expenses.

The centre will continue to give training to farmers at affordable cost and meet their needs as it will increase farmer's awareness on agro business approach of farming.

### **6. Training of 20 youths on long term agricultural and 84 adults on short term.**

WASDA provide short term farmer training on agronomic practices for 84 farmers 60% of whom are women.

The centre trainers were using training manual that contained 8 modules and each module takes 2 days to be treated

The centre also provide long term agricultural training for youths mainly school drop out using the same training manual but this is treated in the duration of 9 months 3 months in campus and 3 months home base practical and finally 3 months in campus. After graduation the courageous students are given loan base on their area of specialisation and how much the student request

### **7. Training of youths on off farm skills**

WASDA trained 5 youths on metal works & fabrications and mechanical engineering.

To be more specific 3 youths specialised in metal works and 2 youths specialised on motorcycle mechanical engineering and plan to capitalise 4 youths on metal works and 1 youth on motorcycle mechanical engineering

### **8. Staff capacity building for qualification in the recognised institution**

WASDA in collaboration with CU provided some capacity building training for 3 staff members at Gambia Technical training Institute on West African Rural Development (WARD) on

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community development approaches. The aim of that Training is to train her staff to diploma level and capacities them on extension service delivery.

## **9. Participate in EPPR operations within URR through assessments, sensitisation and respond**

WASDA is partnering with CU on humanitarian programme on Emergency Preparedness Prevention Respond (EPPR) and working closely with National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) at URR for assessment of disaster in the region and the programme has provided some responsive items to flood victims in Wuli and Sandu e.g. rice, cooking oil, salt, second hand cloths and detergent materials to assist victims to prevent them and their families from water born diseases and other sanitary problems

## **Plans for 2011**

1. More partnerships with donors through proposal writing and visits
2. More local income generation through poultry keeping, animal production, fish farming, crop production, welding and fabrication services
3. Horticultural production, sale of SMILE-B technologies and services
4. Construction of WASDA multi-training centre to enhance the training capacity for better and quality service delivery
5. Support to 7 villages on vegetable production, Agro-forestry and animal production combined, orchard development and dry season rice irrigation
6. Training of 20 long term agricultural students and 42 short term agricultural students
7. Staff capacity building for qualification in the recognised institution
8. Participate in EPPR operations within URR through assessments, sensitisation and respond