

FUTURE IN OUR HANDS THE GAMBIA

SEPTEMBER 2022

NEWSLETTER



NEWS IN SHORT

- FIOHTG CONCLUDES REFLECT FACILITATORS TRAINING AND FORUM IN CRR
- STAR PROJECT MANAGER & OFFICER MEET WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES
 - FIOHTG'S ASSESSMENT USING HOCAI CONCLUDES
- JAINABA SONKO, STARTS A MONTH LONG VOLUNTARY SERVICE WITH FIOHTG
 - FIOHTG ORGANISES A MAIDEN PRESS BRIEFING
 - STAFF QUOTES ON FIOHTG—PICTORIAL
- FIOHTG WELCOMES FIRST SWEDISH INTERN SINCE COVID-19 & FIRST FEMALE INTERN OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND TECHNICAL UNIT
 - FIOHTG INCREASES VISIBILITY IN THE MEDIA



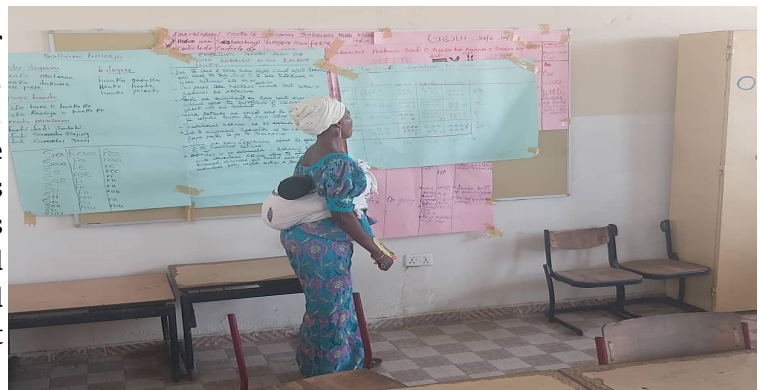
Education For All Through Community Development

FIOHTG CONCLUDES REFLECT FACILITATORS TRAINING AND FORUM IN CRR



A five day REFLECT Facilitators training and forum has ended in Kaleng Jawube in Changai cluster in CRR North. The objective of the activity was to enhance the capacities of FIOHTG facilitators on the methodologies and techniques necessary for effective community situational analysis leading to action planning and finding solutions to community problems for sustainable development. The forum had created an avenue in which thorough discussions on existing gaps and tangible solutions in bridging those gaps were proffered. Moreover, the session allowed the facilitators to report on the activities they have conducted in their respective REFLECT Centers as well as the usage of the cash support given to the centres. Furthermore, the strategies to conduct an effective matrix scoring in the community situational analysis had also been very central during the forum.

The training was facilitated by a retiree and former manager of FIOHTG's Community Development Unit, Mr. Bubacarr ML. Camera, who is a guru in this area. In attendance was Mr. Faburama Fofana, the coordinator of PAMOJA Gambia who shared his experiences and did a presentation on the role of his organisation, their relationship with members and member organisations, challenges, plans and opportunities for the benefit of the FIOHTG Reflect programme going forward.



STAR PROJECT MANAGER & OFFICER MEET WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES AHEAD OF THE INTERFACE DIALOGUE SERIES

FIOHTG officers, Amadou Sambou and Kebba Jobe, manager and officer of the STAR project funded by the EU are on a courtesy call to local authorities and stakeholders to brief them on the Interface Dialogue on the implementation of the National Development Plan scheduled to take place from the 6th October.

The team's first stop was at the North Bank Region's governor's office in Kerewan who was briefed on the interface dialogue and FIOHTG's intervention areas. In his response, Governor Saïdy said FIOHTG is a household name and he is aware of its good work. He promised to attend the interface dialogue or delegate where not possible. Other stakeholders visited included the governor of LRR, Governor Seedy Lamin Bah who also promised to support FIOHTG activities within the region.





FIOHTG ASSESSMENT USING HOCAI CONCLUDES



On Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th September, staff of FIOHTG gathered in their Conference Hall in Kotu South to take part in the assessment of their organisation using the Holistic Organisational Capacity Assessment Instrument (HOCAI). The activity organised by the Management and the Board and facilitated by Mrs. Joanna Mendy was a participatory candid self-reflection on the strengths and weaknesses of the organisation's governance, strategic planning, general management, relationships and partnerships, sustainability, organisational learning, human resources, financial and physical resources, programming, services and results. At the end of the exercise, an action plan was developed to address issues, fill the gaps and strengthen areas that have been found to be weak while devising plans to maintain standards and achievements with impressive scores.

JAINABA SONKO STARTS A MONTH-LONG VOLUNTARY SERVICE WITH FIOHTG TO PROMOTE VISIBILITY

Jainaba Sonko, a well-known TV and Event Host, Presenter, Reporter, and News Anchor at QTV Gambia who is observing leave from her usual work will render a month-long voluntary service to FIOHTG. According to Ms. Sonko, who wanted to work with an NGO or a charity during the leave, was convinced to join FIOHTG to help contribute her quota to the organisation's drive for rural development. Ms. Sonko would help the organisation in its communications to share the results of our work with diverse audiences within and outside The Gambia. FIOHTG's Director, Madam Sarr welcomed her saying this is a great opportunity that is mutually beneficial and she looks towards the great dividends to be yielded. We are glad to have her onboard to help us promote *rural development through education for all*. Jainaba Sonko became a household name in The Gambia after she joined QTV, the first private TV in The Gambia which was launched following the change of government in 2017. Ms. Sonko is the host of the popular TV Show 'Youth Dialogue' and co-hosts QTV's 'This Morning' show.





FIOHTG ORGANISES A MAIDEN PRESS BRIEFING

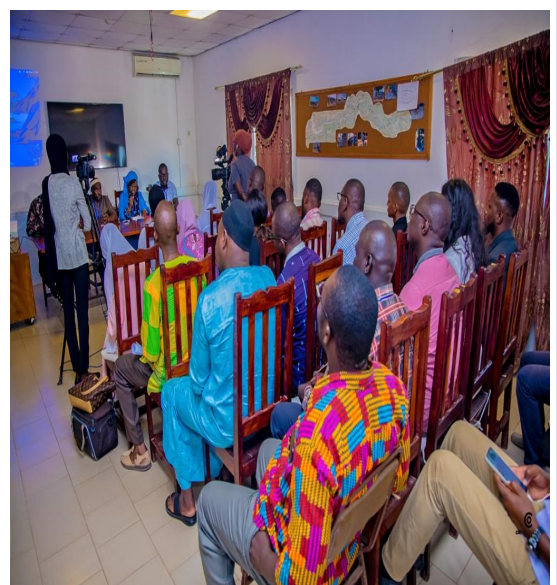


FIOHTG has organised its maiden press briefing for the media for the first time after 43 years of existence. The four decade-long existing organisation has interacted and engaged the media to cover some of its activities, however it has not fully engaged with the media in promoting its visibility especially with the traditional media (TV, Radio and Newspapers).

To this end, Ms. Sonko who is on a month-long voluntary service with the organisation, has been coordinating media events to correct this imbalance. Madam Sarr, Director of the organisation acknowledged that due to the







organisation's culture which has existed for decades, FIOHTG has been shy from media publicity. However, she acknowledged the importance of the media in promoting the work that the organisation is doing and the increasing need to share results. She gave an overview of the organisation while thanking the journalist for coming to FIOHTG.

Several officers including Cherno Ceesay, Yankuba Manneh and Augustine Manneh took turns to introduce the works of their units and the impacts created over the years.





STAFF QUOTES ON FIOHTG—PICTORIAL

 <p>YANKUBA MANNEH FUNDRAISING MANAGER FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>My work at FIOHTG has been a journey full of learning and networking. A rich and wonderful experience, with a great deal of accomplishment for impacting the lives of the poor and vulnerable.</p>	 <p>EBRIMA DRAMMEH MANAGER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UNIT. FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>I ENJOY EVERY BIT OF OUR PROGRAMME INTERVENTION WORK IN COMMUNITIES. WE COMPLEMENT THE EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN CHANGING THE LIVES OF THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT</p>	 <p>AUGUSTINE MANNEH CONSTRUCTIONS AND TECHNICAL TRAINING MANAGER FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>FIOHTG has made me understand the socio-economic realities of rural Gambia in-terms of the infrastructural needs of various school going children in society.</p>
 <p>CHERNO CEESAY MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICER FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>"FUTURE IN OUR HANDS, THE GAMBIA IS EVERYTHING I HAVE EVER HEARD ABOUT IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WORKING FOR FIOHTG IS VERY FULFILLING"</p>	 <p>ISATOU SISSOHO HR ASSISTANT FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>"FIOHTG HAS EXPOSED ME TO THE RELEVANT SKILLS, I NEED TO EXCEL IN SOCIAL WORK, PARTICULARLY MY RELATIONSHIP BUILDING SKILLS WITH PEOPLE IN THE OFFICE AND BEYOND."</p>	 <p>LAMIN NJIE PROGRAMS OFFICER FUTURE IN OUR HANDS</p> <p>DESPITE MY PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF DEVELOPMENT WORK, FIOHTG HAS EXPOSED ME TO REALITIES OF RURAL COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE GAMBIA AND ENHANCED MY CAPACITY TO MAKE POSITIVE IMPACTS"</p>

FIOHTG WELCOMES FIRST SWEDISH INTERN SINCE COVID-19 & FIRST FEMALE INTERN OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND TECHNICAL UNIT

FIOHTG has been receiving interns arrived in the Gambia for a six month from Sweden through the support and long internship. Anna is not only the coordination of our donors and part- first Swedish intern since the emer- ners, however Covid-19 did change- gence of Covid-19, she is also the first that. Since the Covid-19, FIOHTG has female intern ever posted at FIOHTG's not received any until this month when Construction and Technical Unit. We Anna Nematbakhsh having successfully welcome Anna to FIOHTG. gone through all necessary protocols



FIOHTG INCREASES VISIBILITY IN THE MEDIA



FIOHTG is increasing its visibility, thanks to the arrival of Ms. Jainaba Sonko. Barely a week into her arrival, several media engagements have been organised. During the engagements, listeners are informed about the work of the organisation and are given time to call in for questions.

On Sunday 18th September, Lamin Njie appeared on Taxi FM radio (100.7) to talk to listeners about the work of the organisation. On Monday 19th September, Mr. Yankuba Manneh, Fundraising Manager of FIOHTG appeared on the 'Good Morning Gambia' show at the Gambia Radio and Television Services. On Tuesday 20th September, Cherno Ceesay appeared at the *This Morning* show on QTV.



FIOHTG CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBPAGE: www.fiohtg.org
TEL OFFICE IN KOTU: +220 4460360, +220 446 6868
MAILING ADDRESS: P.M.B 352, Serrekunda P.O, The Gambia
VISITING ADDRESS: Kotu South, FIOHTG
E-MAIL: info@fiohtg.org or sarrjainaba@fiohtg.org
FACEBOOK: Future In Our Hands - The Gambia

Do you want to share a story with us? If yes, contact us on info@fiohtg.org

Thank you for reading through!