

# NEWSLETTER

#### **TOP STORIES**

- FIOHTG, CRS, NDMA Dole out Cash and Non -Food Items to 2650 Households
- FIOHTG, NCCE Conclude District Tribunal Training
- Think Equal Project Trains ECD Teachers on Social and Emotional Learning
- FIOHTG, Partners Conclude Stakeholder Planning Meeting on WASH Infrastructural Design
- FIOHTG Conclude EGRA Training in NDOKK-FFE Project Schools

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#### FIOHTG, CRS, NDMA Dole Out Cash and Non -Food Items to 2650 Households



Future In Our Hands The Gambia in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services and National Disaster Management Agency has facilitated the distribution of cashtransfer and non- food items assistance for the 2022 flood victims for 2,650 households across the regions in The Gambia. The table below indicates the breakdown of delivery of WASH items in all the distribution centers across the 8 regions in the country.

#### FIOHTG NEWSLETTER | 2nd EDITION | 2024



Dist. Centre	Dignity kit	100L container	5L liquid soap	Bleach bottle (1.89L)
Banjul	149	149	149	298
КМС	661	661	661	1322
Brikama WCR	538	538	538	1076
Bwiam WCR	41	41	41	82
Kerewan NBR	136	136	136	272
Fass Omar Saho NBR	148	- 148	148	296
Soma LRR	20	20	20	40
Wassu CRR-N	416	416	416	832
Basse URR	315	315	315	630
Grand Totals	2650	2650	2650	5300

The WASH materials for the ECOWAS Post -2022 Flood Recovery Response Project was intended to provide essential safety nets to flood victims targeting the most vulnerable groups such as femaleheaded household, pregnant and breastfeeding women and persons with disabilities. The project was implemented by Future In Our Hands The Gambia, Catholic Relief Services and National Disaster Management Agency targeting 2,650 households across the regions in The Gambia.



#### FIOHTG, Partners Concludes Stakeholder Planning Meeting on WASH Infrastructural Design



Future In Our Hands The Gambia has concluded a one-day WASH stakeholder planning meeting on infrastructural design to be rolled out in the NDOKK-FFE project schools.

The convergence was held at FIOHTG Conference room in Kotu South.

The meeting was intended to set up and adopt construction models and prototypes for the construction of segregated and menstrual friendly latrines, boreholes and hand wash stations for the FFE project schools in the regions. Speaking at the event, Jainaba T. Sarr, the Country Director FIOHTG said the WASH infrastructure is an integral part of the FFE project, adding that the consultation meeting will avail the participants the opportunity to discuss and share models for the rolling out of WASH in the NDOKK-FFE project schools.

Yankuba Manneh, the NDOKK-FFE Project Manager posited that the stakeholder consultation planning meeting will help to craft the different infrastructural models on gender segregated latrines, hand wash and boreholes drilling amongst others.





#### FIOHTG, CRS, NDMA Inspect WASH Materials for the ECOWAS Post -Recovery Response Project



Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG) led by its Country Director, Jainaba T. Sarr has convened a joint inspection visit with The Catholic Relief Services and National Disaster Management Agency for the WASH Materials at the warehouse. The WASH materials for the ECOWAS Post -2022 Flood Recovery Response Project is intended to provide essential safety nets to flood victims targeting the most vulnerable groups such as female-headed household, pregnant and breastfeeding women and persons with disabilities.



#### Think Equal Project Trains ECD Teachers on Social and Emotional Learning and Teaching



Think Equal Project under the purview of Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG) has concluded a 2-day training for hundred (100) ECD level 2 teachers held at Regional Education Directorate in Kanifing.

The training covered essential aspects such as Think Equal's Origin, Mission, Importance of Early Years in childhood education. Additionally, it focused on narrative development and positioning teaching strategies that align with the project's goals. The holistic approach taken during the training emphasizes the importance of integrating Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) into the curriculum to nurture prosocial competencies including empathy self-esteem and respect for the dignity, value and equality of others.

Speaking at the event, Janaiba T. Sarr, the Country Director FIOHTG expressed delight for the Think Equal program, noting that the training is timely and it will enhance the skills of the participants for ECD teachers on social and emotional learning. Anna Nancy Director of ECD in Region One urged the participants to take the training seriously, adding that it will enhanced their competency in narrative teaching.

Think Equal is a global initiative which addresses the root causes of human rights violations across the world by breaking the cycle of violence, negative stereotypes, and discrimination through a preventative intervention.



#### FIOHTG Concludes EGRA Training in FFE Project Schools



Future In Our Hands The Gambia through its NDOKK-FFE Project has concluded a four -day step down training on Early Grade Reading Ability (EGRA) for teachers in the FFE project schools.

The training was held in Kanifing, North Bank Region (NBR), Lower River Region, Central River Region (North and South) and Upper River Region aims to equip teachers with the requisite knowledge on EGRA for improved foundational reading and writing skills.

The training will broaden participants understanding and knowledge to explore various teaching techniques such as blending, sounding, material production, communication, sizes of letters, long vowel sounds and letter formation, etc.

The Food for Education Project is a five -year school feeding program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) which aims to improve literacy, health and nutrition.





#### FIOHTG, Partners to Rollout Peer Health Educator Program in NDOKK Schools



Future In Our Hands The Gambia has recently concluded a one-day inception meeting with Peer Health Educator Program (PHEP) with stakeholders held at FIOHTG Conference room in Kotu South.

The meeting was intended to craft a strategic approach for rolling out Peer Health Educator Clubs in the NDOKK Schools aimed at influencing students' behavior in relation to health, nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The rolling out of Peer Health Program aims to sustain and build upon the gains achieved from earlier interventions to secure wellbeing into adulthood and the next generation thus preparing them for the secondary level peer information.

The PHEP will be coordinated by FIOHTG in close collaboration with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MoBSE), Life Skills Education Unit, National Nutrition Agency (NaNA), Ministry of Health, and Nova Scotia-Gambia Association (NSGA).



#### FIOHTG, NCCE Concludes District Tribunal Training on Justice



Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG) in partnership with The National Council for Civic Education (NCCE) has recently concluded a four day capacity building training of chiefs and district tribunal members on the fair dispensation of justice and protection of human rights in The Gambia with particular focus on the rights of women, regarding their vulnerabilities to access to land, production resources, inheritance and Gender Based Violence.

The training program, which is the second phase was implemented in Sandu, Sami, Naini and Upper Fulladu West Districts involving the district chiefs, their tribunal members. Youth and women representatives attended and benefited from the training. The intervention by the NCCE and FIOHTG was meant to enhance the knowledge and skills of tribunal members on gender sensitivity and equality as well as fair dispensation of justice at district level. The training also aimed to improve the capacity of tribunals to help identify, handle and address cases involving human rights issues effectively and fairly.

Speaking at the training venues in Sandu and Sami, Ansumana Ceesay, the Program Manager of the NCCE reminded the gatherings that district tribunals play a vital role in the administration of justice at the local level in The Gambia.

He emphasised that they are a crucial component of the local justice system, responsible for disputes resolvina at the community level, adding that tribunals often deal with matters such as land disputes, family issues (including sexual and gender violence), based inheritance matters, human rights and minor criminal offences.

"Their role is pivotal in ensuring justice is accessible and affordable at the grassroots level. Despite significant strides made by tribunals in promoting justice and equality, gaps remain in the ability of the traditional justice system to adequately protect citizens' and women's rights," Mr. Ceesay stated.



Also speaking at the training, Samsideen Ceesay, communication officer for Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG), said many tribunal members lack formal legal training; therefore, they need such capacity to enhance their decision-making processes especially the representation of women in the tribunals.

He noted that these gaps are particularly pronounced at the district tribunal level, where members often lack the necessary training and resources to dispense justice fairly and equitably and this undermines the credibility of the justice system and leads to a lack of trust among some community members. Therefore, he said the program with subsequent ones aims at enhancing the capacity of district tribunal members affiliated to FIOHTG's intervention areas to dispense justice fairly, with an emphasis on safeguarding citizens' and women's rights.

Reacting to the importance and appropriateness of the training, Chief Pierre Bah of Niani District, Chief Junu Bah of Sandu District, Chief Mam Demba Jallow of Sami District and Chief Ali Touray of Upper Fulladu West District, all expressed their appreciation to the NCCE and FIOHTG for the timely engagements and provision of the much needed information and skills that are very useful in the conduct of their work and most importantly ensuring efficient and effective dispensation of justice and protection of Human Rights during judgments and conflict resolution exercises.

The sessions were also punctuated with conversations and sharing of best practices by participants and tribunal members.

The training program was organized by FIOHTG in partnership with NCCE with funding from the Swedish Government support through ForumCiv for Future In Our Hands The Gambia Programme.

### FIOHTG Trains Staff in Safeguarding Policy

Future In Our Hands The Gambia through the MEAL unit has held a one-day training for staff on Safeguarding held at FIOHTG conference room in Kotu South.

The training was aimed at enhancing the skills of the participants on the Safeguarding policy of children and adults.

The policy is a key component that demonstrates the commitment of FIOHTG in ensuring that every staff is adequately aware of their role in upholding the welfare of children.

At the end of the training participants have demonstrated practical skills using case study to critically analyse various thematic tendencies in safeguarding.





#### FIOHTG, CRS Train Teachers on Universal Design for Learning

Future In Our Hands The Gambia in collaboration with The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has concluded a four day training on Universal Design for Learning for teachers in the NDOKK project schools.

The training was held at GADHOH School in Brikama.

The objective was to equip teachers with requisite knowledge on the universal design for learning to promote equity in education by ensuring that all individuals have equal opportunities to learn and engage with the instructions.

The training will also improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn.

The Food for Education Project is a five -year school feeding program funded by The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) which aims to improve literacy, health and nutrition.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the project prime recipient while FIOHTG and Caritas are the sub-recipients implementing the literacy/WASH and School Feeding components respectively.



#### Think Equal Project Clock One Year

Think Equal Project under the aegis of Future In Our Hands The Gambia celebrated its first year anniversary at FIOHTG complex in Kotu South.

The event was witnessed by the Country Director FIOHTG Jainaba T. Sarr and the senior management of FIOHTG. Think Equal is a global initiative which addresses the root causes of human rights violations across the world by breaking the cycle of violence, negative stereotypes, and discrimination through a preventive intervention.





#### FIOHTG Concludes Pre Teacher Training Planning Workshop



Future In Our Hands The Gambia through the NDOKK-Food for Education (FFE) Project concluded a one- day Pre-Teacher Training Planning Workshop ahead of a planned teacher training on Early Grade Reading Ability (EGRA) to be held in all the administrative regions.

The training was intended to build the capacity of teachers on EGRA for improved foundational reading and writing skills of school age children in the FFE- NDOKK project schools.

Speaking at the meeting, Kemo S. Kinteh, the HR Manager posited that the calibre of participants he saw during the training was amazing. "I urged participants to show maximum professionalism, comportment and be a leader at the training venues"

- Mr Kinteh stated.

Yankuba Manneh, the Project Manager, NDOKK said that the purpose of the planning meeting is to plan for the upcoming teacher training on EGRA which is schedule for 21st of August to 5th September, 2024.



#### Think Equal Project Orient Participants on Think Equal Phase 2 Project



The Think Equal project under the aegis of Future In Our Hands The Gambia has concluded one-day orientation for the Early Childhood Development Focal Point, Head Teachers and Cluster monitors held at Regional Education Directorate in Brikama and Kanifing respectively.

The orientation covered essential aspects such as Think Equal's Origin, mission, importance of early years, think Equal Program, Evidence Based and signing of school commitment agreement and signing of consent forms, copyright films amongst others. Speaking at the event, Jainaba T. Sarr, the Country Director of FIOHTG extolled the work of the Think Equal Program in The Gambia, saying that it has contributed significantly in enhancing the skills of the teachers in both the public and private schools.

She added that, the orientation will cover essential topics that will popularize Think Equal project.

Anna Nancy, Director of ECD in Region One urged the participants to take the training seriously, adding that the project is targeting both the public and private schools to instill social and emotional learning in the children. Similar activity is expected to be rolled out in Red 3,4 5 and 6 to provide a valuable insight of the Think Equal project.

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# **FIOHTG Dole Out Support to GRTS**



Future In Our Hands The Gambia(FIOHTG) on Monday 29th July 2024 presented a cheque amounting to twenty thousand dalasis (D20,000) to The Gambia Radio and Television Services (GRTS) for their upcoming kids summer camp which is slated for 7th August in Banjul.

The weeklong engagement will engage children in a wide range of thrilling and enriching activities designed to ignite and foster creativity. During the summer convergence, participants will engage in a series of activities ranging from pageantry, cooking competition, "Gudi" Banjul (fateleku demba), football, volleyball, skipping to musical chairs.

The summer camp will be spearheaded by Mamadou Ramata Bah, News Assistant at GRTS.

#### **FIOHTG Awards Mansa Supplier for the Delivery of WASH Materials**

Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG) on Friday 30th August, 2024 signed an agreement with Mansa Supplier for the procurement of WASH materials for the ECOWAS Post-2022 Flood Recovery Response Project.

The signing ceremony was held at FIOHTG complex in Kotu South.

The project is designed to provide essential social safety nets to flood victims targeting the most vulnerable groups such as femaleheaded household, pregnant and breastfeeding women and persons with disabilities.





### FIOHTG Conclude Community Engagement on GCOL

Future In Our Hands The Gambia through its School Development Unit has recently concluded a community engagement in Jumansari Ba in the Upper Baddibu District and Kerr Alhagie Karu in the Jokadu District as part of Gambia Classes for Open Learning (GCOL) under the Luminous project.

The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the transitioning of students to the government mainstream schools. Students will also show their talents on what they learnt during the ten months.

According to the officials, Jumansari Ba is a community that was difficult to penetrate

before the start of classes and even during implementation. We are using the meeting as an advocacy and to show parents that the students have done something meaningful during the ten months.

Kerr Alhagie Karu is a community that is willing and committed. But this is a community that is far from the link school which is about 4km. The parents are pleading with the government and NGOs to help establish a school so that their children can continue their education.





#### FIOHTG Concludes EGRA Training in West Coast Region



Future In Our Hands The Gambia (FIOHTG) through NDOKK-Food for Education Project concluded a weeklong training of teachers on Early Grade Reading Ability (EGRA). The training was held at Sibanor and Jamisa Lower Basic School in the West Coast Region.

The training was aimed at building the capacity of teachers on literacy and improve the foundational reading skills of the school age children.

The training will also broaden participants understanding and knowledge to explore various teaching techniques such as material production, communication, Sound cards, 42 letter sounds, digraphs, blending and micro teaching skills amongst others. Speaking at the event, Yankuba Manneh, the Project Manager NDOKK-FFE project posited that the training was to build the capacity of teachers to improve the reading skills of the children in the project schools.

He added that the skills acquired by the participants will make a valuable impact on to the children. Jainaba T. Sarr, the Country Director, FIOHTG said that the training is part of the project intervention areas to instill and inculcate knowledge on the Early Grade Reading Ability for the teachers.

She noted that FIOHTG has made a lot of appreciable success such as

in-service teaching training and this has manifested in the training models the institution conducted in the country.

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Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the project prime recipient while FIOHTG and Caritas are the subrecipients implementing the literacy/WASH and School Feeding components respectively.



#### FIOHTG, CRS Wrap up Training on SBCC, Cooking Demonstration



Future In Our Hands The Gambia in collaboration with the Catholic Relief Services (CRS ) through the Food for Education Project has concluded a two-day orientation workshop on Social and Behavioral Change Communication and Cooking Demonstration held at FIOHTG conference room in Kotu South.

The training was aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of the participants on the existing SBCC framework for The Gambia, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYFC) and SBCC flipchart, Presentation of SBCC pictorial flipchart amongst others. Speaking at the event, Jainaba T. Sarr, the Country Director FIOHTG said that FIOHTG has done a lot of success which impacts on nutrition in the communities of intervention. She urged the Education Field Officers to take the training seriously, saying that the knowledge gained will enhance their skills and competency in nutrition and SBCC.

She extolled the work of National Nutrition Agency (NaNA) for the positive impact on nutrition education in the country.

Yankuba Manneh, the NDOKK-FFE Project Manager said that the objective of the workshop is to get first-hand information on nutrition, health and Social and Behavioural Change Communication.

The training was led by Fatou Drammeh and Haddy Crookes, Senior Programme Officers at National Nutrition Agency (NaNA).



#### FIOHTG Dole Out Motorcycles, Riding Gears To Pedagogical Advisors



Future In Our Hands The Gambia through the Think Equal Project on Thursday 24th October, 2024 handed over an assortment of 8 new motorcycles and riding gears to the Pedagogical Advisors (PAs) as part of its deployment in the regions to monitor, coach, support teachers and schools where the think equal project is being implemented.

Speaking at the presentation, Janaiba T. Sarr, the Country Director, FIOHTG urged the Pedagogical Advisors to work towards attaining the project goals and ensure that the highest standards are achieved.

"I wish all the PAs all the best in their respective positing", Director Sarr stated.

Mr. Yankuba Manneh, a senior manager, advised the Advisors to ride safely and adhere to the "safety first principle" and traffic regulations.

He thanks the first PAs and their assistants whose hard-work during the pilot project contributed to the expansion of the project. Mr. Augustus Gomez, head of the Service Unit emphasized that the motorcycles handed over are meant for official use and he prayed for the safety of the PAs towards the successful implementation of the project.

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## FIOHTG, Partners Sensitize Staff on Hypertension, Diabetes

Future In Our Hands The Gambia in partnership with the Swedish Student Doctors from Sweden recently organised a day presentation on hypertension and diabetes held at FIOHTG conference room in Kotu South.

The session was aimed at orienting staff on diseases related to diabetes and hypertension. The event culminated in a medical test for staff to check their sugar levels and Blood pressure amongst others.



### FIOHTG Conduct Review of Staff Job Descriptions

Future In Our Hands The Gambia on Sunday 17th November 2024 conducted a day training on the Review and update of staff job Descriptions held in Jarra Soma.

The review drawn participants from unit managers, finance, Admin and HR staff.

The review was facilitated by Mam Kumba Sanneh.





#### FIOHTG Conduct Training on Financial Management, Procurement

Future In Our Hands The Gambia on Saturday 16th November 2024 held a day training on financial management and procurement procedures for its staff drawn from the unit managers, finance, Admin and HR staff in Jarra Soma.

The training will avail the participants to better equip themselves on financial management tendencies and procurement related activities. The training was facilitated by Mr. Bakary Sanyang, consultant.







#### FIOHTG Train Staff on Asset Management

Future In Our Hands The Gambia on Friday 15th November 2024 conducted a day training on Asset Management for its staff in Jarra Soma.

The training aims to enhance the skills of the participants drawn from Admin and Human Resource and Finance units on Asset Management techniques, and better helps the organisation to maximize resources use, ensure accountability and enhance transparency in operations and improve efficiency.

The training on Asset Management was facilitated by Ousman Bayo.







#### **FIOHTG Train Drivers, Office Security on Fleet Management**

Future In Our Hands The Gambia on Thursday 14th November,2024 kick-off a one- day training for drivers and office security on fleet management and defensive driving held at Jarra Soma.

The objective of the review aims to enhance the skills of the participants on defensive driving and improve office security amongst others.



### FIOHTG Conclude Review of Volunteer Policy, Office Procedure Manual

Future In Our Hands The Gambia on Monday 18th November 2024 concluded a day review of Volunteer Policy and Office Procedure Manual held at Jarra Soma.

The training chronicles a group discussion, whereby participants develop a comprehensive and robust office manual as well as the volunteer Policy for the FIOHTG.

The review was facilitated by Muhammed Lenn, MEAL Manager and Kemo S. Kinteh, HR Manager at FIOHTG.



#### FUTURE IN OUR HANDS THE GAMBIA

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