Mapping and Socio-Economic Profiling of Communities of Return in the Gambia

SYNTHESIS REPORT

May 2018

IOM – Gambia
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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

This synthesis report was commissioned by the Regional Office for West and Central Africa of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the research was conducted by Samuel Hall. The opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM. Any errors or omissions are the responsibility of Samuel Hall.

The report should be cited in the following format:

In recent years, Gambians have emigrated at a higher rate per capita than every other nation in Africa. In 2016, a total of 11,929 Gambians arrived in Italy by boat, a 41% increase from 2015. Of particular concern, 24% of these were unaccompanied minors. These figures do not account for the thousands more migrants whose journeys were halted at the North African border.

The context of migration and reintegration in The Gambia is underscored by two issues that have a particularly profound impact on the country and set it apart from most other West African countries. First, the new democratic government led by Barrow aims to stem irregular outward migration of low-skilled Gambians and to reintegrate returnees. The government is trusted yet still economically fragile. Secondly, Gambians constitute a disproportionately high percentage of arrivals in Europe. The strong culture of mobility northward is attributed to the influence of a deeply embedded European tourism sector.

In 2017, IOM Gambia received 3,900,000 EUR from the EU Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), a relatively small sum of money at face value compared to the 11,800,000 EUR for Mali and 5,400,000 EUR for Guinea Conakry, although it does have a comparatively small population. The funding intends to provide assistance to 1,500 returnees in The Gambia. This document seeks to contribute to understanding Gambia’s complex demographics to help IOM adapt its reintegration strategy and activities in areas of actual or potential return. To do so, this synthesis report identifies a number of challenges in the context of sustainable reintegration, and proposes levers of action, particularly at the local level. The objective is to support the operationalisation of the Joint Initiative for Migration Protection and Reintegration in Africa and to better understand the communities in which returning migrants return or arrive - to make recommendations at the EU and national level.

The field research in The Gambia was carried out in February 2018. The tools used in the study included: 718 quantitative surveys with young people aged 15 to 34, 18 focus groups, 10 community observation sheets and 76 stakeholder interviews (at community and central level). The zones chosen by IOM can be divided into three types:

- Major urban hubs in the Kombos (Serrekunda, Brikama, Wellingara)
- Upriver urban communities (Basse, Farafenni, Soma, Bansang)
- Upriver rural communities (Dampha Kunda, Kerewan, Sami Karantaba)

The methodology used for the community mapping can be applied in more communities in Gambia - this "pilot" approach has made it possible to identify the best practices of development per community profile for amplification.

In all communities in Gambia, and among almost all sub-groups studied, the desire to leave is high (average of 72%). Both returnees and non-returnees report a similarly high desire to migrate (4-point difference). This suggests that the migratory cycle does not necessarily end upon re-entering society. As IOM’s definition of reintegration underlines, the desire to (re)migrate should not be viewed negatively as long as it is seen as a choice, rather than a necessity. Indeed, economic drivers were the most prominent motivation across almost all communities (for 34% in total). Re-migration remains a backup plan for social and economic possibilities.

In terms of returning, family considerations were found to be the most motivating factor for returnees to come back home. Safety concerns are also often cited (18%), reflecting the reality of mistreatment in Libyan prisons or detention centres. Whether return to Gambia was voluntary or involuntary, return is rarely experienced as an economic opportunity but rather as failure of an economic project due to the challenges associated with travel on the “Back Way.”

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1 The ‘Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in Africa’ will be shortened to ‘Joint Initiative’ in the rest of the document.

It is encouraging that in the assessed communities, inclusion in the community is high for both returnees and non-migrants (over 90% have a group of friends), and those who have been settled longer report a higher feeling of social participation (+7 percentage points). However, perception of returnees in the communities is divided – 40% of respondents felt that returnees are perceived negatively while 39% think the perception is positive, with significant variability across communities. Notably, all three West Coast sites indicated a majority positive perception of returnees. However, returnees have a disproportionately high feeling (+23 points compared with non-returnee perceptions) that they are negatively perceived in their communities.

Through socio-economic research and the C4D (Communication for Development) approach, the priority audience remains the returning migrants, but also the so-called "host" communities, of return, transit or reception, in order to facilitate social, economic, and also psychosocial reintegration or integration within these communities.

Who are the return migrants interviewed during the study?

In this research, all survey respondents who declared to have lived abroad for at least three months (for work, study, family, travel or other reasons) are classified as returnees. This is a rather inclusive definition that may not coincide with the ones used in the context of AVRR operations reporting. Of the 718 respondents, 104 were returnees, or 14.5 per cent of the total sample. In terms of gender, 12% of women and 29% of men were returnees. In terms of education, 13% of returnees have received no formal education as opposed to 5% of non-returnees, and none have undergraduate degrees. One third have completed a high school degree, one fifth a secondary level education and 19% benefited from religious education in line with the non-returnee figure of 16%, showing the importance of religious life in communities in The Gambia.

Survey data comparisons between returnee and non-returnee respondents were included for illustrative purposes only and to inform (or rather ‘inspire’) future profiling exercises targeting returning migrants specifically. The main focus of the research remains the socio-economic profiling of communities.
II. BASIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOSOCIAL DATA IN TEN COMMUNITIES ASSESSED

This section reviews the most relevant findings in the analysis of economic, social and psychosocial data.

**Economic Dimension**

Age and gender influence employability of returnees. Returnees (16% of the sample) are more likely to be male than female (3:1) and older (most were aged 25-34).

- **NOTE**- As the sampling was not entirely random, the demographic data may also suggest differing levels of success of the survey teams in identifying returnees for interviews.

- When one only considers male 20-34 year olds, *returnees are more likely to be employed than non-migrants (53% vs 48%).* The primary factor mentioned by employers surveyed was the additional experience abroad gained by returnees.

- A significant percentage of respondents (61%) reported having debts at a level higher than monthly household income. This may be due to the common practice of returnees owing debt to members of the origin community following a ‘failed’ migration project.

There is a lack of skill diversity among respondents that are significantly salient in the labour market, but a near-universal desire to acquire new skills to secure employment opportunities:

- Out of the 30 skills listed in the surveys, only 12 were selected by more than 4% of individuals. This demonstrates a low level of skills diversification.

- There is very high interest in developing one’s own business (91% of respondents expressed desire, 98% of returnees). Among those with the desire, 97% reported that the biggest inhibitor is lack of funding.

- Occupations held and skills possessed and desired by respondents are highly gendered. Women’s professional skills cluster almost exclusively around six professional skill groups, whereas men tend to work within 8 primary areas and have a wider mastery of additional skillsets.

- There is significant discrepancies in labour market characteristics and opportunities among West Coast, Upriver rural, and Upriver urban communities. Urban areas have high numbers of respondents in business and education, while rural area respondents were highly concentrated in farming, carpentry, hairstyling and sewing, or even ‘without any skills.’

High interest in entrepreneurship reflects both desire to be self-reliant and lack of interest in local labour market opportunities, which are limited to family-owned businesses and agriculture.

- There are few effective training and skills development schemes in the ten studied communities that are commensurate with the high level of interest.

- The majority (50%) of interviewees are self-employed, 55% of whom are women versus 45% men. This suggests that entrepreneurship and self-employment are the most socially and economically accessible avenues for income, particularly for women.

- Respondents were almost entirely interested in paid or non-paid training, with 93% of those surveyed saying they are potentially interested in training or apprenticeship. This finding was fairly consistent across gender and returnees versus non-returnees. As stated in the 2016 World Bank report, to increase the quality and effectiveness of programs to develop job-relevant skills, it is important to incentivize firms to train their staff, involve employers in the design of training curricula, and introduce certification of occupational standards.

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**Economic actors in The Gambia:**

- Gambia Investment and Expert Promotion Agency  
  o *Empretec Gambia* is an integrated entrepreneurship programme that supports small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the Gambia

- Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, and Employment (MoTIE)

- Ministry of Youth  
  o *National Youth Service Scheme (NYSS)* was established in 1996 to provide youth with technical and soft skills to address the acute problems of youth unemployment.

- Gambian Youth Chamber of Commerce (GYCC) *seeks to become a leading youth-led platform to advocate for the inclusion of youth in commerce and industry, as well as supporting youth in business activities.*
Social Dimension

Migration and Education: a complex relationship
- Survey sample suggests that the **education achievements of returnees do not differ fundamentally from those of the control group (non-returnees)**. While comparable rates of returnees and non-returnees attended secondary school (21% and 18%, respectively), returnees surveyed had a higher dropout rate than non-returnees (46% and 36%, respectively).
- There is a marked increase in the desire to leave when comparing individuals who had no formal education with those who have completed Bachelor’s degrees (36 point difference). However, the study on aspirations does not make it clear which combination of factors leads to the actual ability to migrate.

Access to energy and water generally differ based on geographic location, while differences between surveyed returnees and non-returnees pertain to health, availability of food and education.
- Major metropolitan areas such as Serrekunda, Brikama, and Wellingara have greater access to services compared to upriver sites, though households in all areas tend to have poor access to energy and drinking water.
- Vulnerability indicators disaggregated by migratory status indicate that returnees tend to be more deprived in healthcare, food access and school attendance. The distinction is particularly apparent among recent returnees who are not always socially reintegrated. However, returnees tend to fare better in access to civil documentation and income.

Social actors in The Gambia
- **Ministry of Health and Social Welfare**: Through the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and the Livelihood Improvement and Family Empowerment (LIFE) program, The Gambia recognizes that social distress is a source of vulnerability that can stem from unemployment and income shocks.
- **Ministry of Youth and Sports**: MoYS has established effective inroads to building resilience of youth across all metrics of sustainable reintegration through its sub-unit, the National Youth Council and close working partner, the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP). YEP has received 11 million euros from the EUTF.

Psychosocial Dimension

The prevalence of regional migration
- Returnees from our sample had mainly been residing in ECOWAS countries and Libya. **Libya** in particular is the most cited former destination, and only 21% of returnees from Libya declared to have received support from IOM. This suggests that there may be a significant number of self-sponsored returns.

Returnees’ psychosocial health and integration differs based on duration of time spent resettled in the return area (less than or more than two years)
- Economic integration for recent returnees (less than two years) is lower than for longer-term returnees (+2 years). Inclusion in community is high for both (over 90% have a group of friends), though those who have been settled longer report a higher feeling of social participation (+7 points).
- Recent returnees say in high percentage that they want to leave (82%, +10 points over older returnees) and feel less control over their lives (73%, -12 points compared to older returnees). Returnees also have a disproportionately high feeling that they are negatively perceived in their communities (+23 points, compared with non-returnee perceptions). **This indicates that returnees initially feel a sense of** social dissonance with the community and that return entails a process of progressive integration.

Community participation in social activities is important across communities
- Mostly in village committees (33%) and youth/sports groups (32% and 23%), with some changes across communities depending on availability and vibrancy of local social opportunities. The most active social participation tends to occur in upriver sights, such as Soma, Kerewan and Farafenni, reflecting their comparative strength and density of social fabrics.
Psychosocial actors in the Gambia:

- **NGOs and CSOs providing** start-up capital for businesses and linking this with other services
- **Youth and migrant associations** exist in all communities to tackle migration and reintegration issues. They are either organized geographically or thematically (e.g. Regional youth committee in Kerewan, Berekonko youth development association in Soma, and the Youth development association in Bansang).
- **Counseling services** geared towards offering advice to youth, sensitization efforts in communities.

### III. IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR BETTER REINTEGRATION

To corroborate the field data and indices developed in the regional and MEASURE reports, the table below presents the dimensions of individual reintegration for the ten communities assessed in The Gambia.

- **The economic dimension** relates to the presence income, job satisfaction and overall food security. All research findings conveyed a *near-universal desire among respondents to acquire new skills and to secure employment opportunities*. While there is a general feeling that these opportunities should be accessible based on demonstrated merit, in actuality, pre-existing networks and resources, and socio-cultural limitations are the greatest determinants for eventual ‘success’ on the labour market. Table 1 shows vast disparities in the economic profile and needs of communities. This is illustrated in the gap and divergance between Kerewan (0,85) and Farafenni (0,77) on the one hand, and Dampa Kunda (0,23) and Sami Karantaba (0,04) on the lower end of the economic score. While Farafenni is a regional hub of activity near the border with Senegal, Kerewan benefits from being an administrative seat of the North Bank region, with many government actors present. On the other hand, Dampa Kunda’s agrarian community has declined over the past years due to climate change and an incomplete irrigation system, and Sami Karantaba is a rural settlement with no central market and limited structures available for vendors.

- **The social dimension** takes into account the level of service satisfaction, access to electricity and water. Farafenni and Soma rank first and second with a social score of 0,99, while Basse and Sami Karantaba rank lowest. In these locations access to water and electricity are prime challenges. For instance in Sami Karantaba, electricity is not yet connected to the main power grid, and access to clean drinking water is limited, making parts of the village dependent on charity and aid. More surprisingly, the social score for Basse, which is informally considered as The Gambai’s ‘second capital city’ is particularly low, notably due to a negative perception of the quality of services provided, not aligned with people’s expectations.

- **The psychosocial dimension** is covered by indicators that account for psychological support and the support of networks, as well as reports of discrimination, negative emotions, and levels of participation in the community and views of the levels of peace in communities. In this dimension, scores range from the lowest being Brikama (0,29) and the highest being in Wellingara (0,64), meaning that the range is shorter in this dimension.

### Table 1: Economic, social and psychosocial reintegration score for communities studied in The Gambia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Gambia</th>
<th>Pilier 1 Dimension économique</th>
<th>Pilier 2 Dimension sociale</th>
<th>Pilier 3 Dimension psychosociale</th>
<th>SCORE DE REINTEGRATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communauté</td>
<td>Score</td>
<td>Communauté</td>
<td>Score</td>
<td>Communauté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Soma</td>
<td>0,92</td>
<td>Farafenni</td>
<td>0,99</td>
<td>Wellingara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Kerewan</td>
<td>0,85</td>
<td>Soma</td>
<td>0,99</td>
<td>Serrekunda East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Farafenni</td>
<td>0,78</td>
<td>Kerewan</td>
<td>0,89</td>
<td>Sami Karantaba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Brikama</td>
<td>0,48</td>
<td>Wellingara</td>
<td>0,76</td>
<td>Basse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Bansang</td>
<td>0,45</td>
<td>Serrekunda East</td>
<td>0,72</td>
<td>Farafenni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Wellingara</td>
<td>0,45</td>
<td>Bansang</td>
<td>0,58</td>
<td>Soma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Serrekunda East</td>
<td>0,31</td>
<td>Dampa Kunda</td>
<td>0,57</td>
<td>Basse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Basse</td>
<td>0,27</td>
<td>Brikama</td>
<td>0,55</td>
<td>Dampa Kunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Dampa Kunda</td>
<td>0,23</td>
<td>Basse</td>
<td>0,52</td>
<td>Kerewan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Sami Karantaba</td>
<td>0,04</td>
<td>Sami Karantaba</td>
<td>0,08</td>
<td>Brikama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The index is based on the initial analysis of IOM – MEASURE and the conceptual adjustments described in the Regional Report attached to this study.
Based on the above indices and complimented by qualitative interviews, the research team identified specific community needs in areas such as water, energy, environment, etc. as shown in the table below: in red, priority issues; in orange, important issues; in grey, issues for which IOM action can not provide a direct response at the community level, given its mandate and direct responsibilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessed communities</th>
<th>Soma</th>
<th>Kerewan</th>
<th>Farafenni</th>
<th>Brikama</th>
<th>Bansang</th>
<th>Wellingsara</th>
<th>Serekunda East</th>
<th>Basse</th>
<th>Dampha Kunda</th>
<th>Sami Karantaba</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Outreach and advocacy are recommended, in coordination with key stakeholders.

IV. OVERVIEW OF REINTEGRATION ACTORS AND THEIR CAPACITIES IN THE GAMBIA

There are many actors in The Gambia actively working to improve the lives of youth. Some among them are mandated to work with returnees (most of whom are youth, 15-34 years old), specifically, while others have recognised the acute challenges returnees confront and have subsequently participated in design and delivery of relevant interventions. The most large-scale and potentially impactful responses will incorporate or be led by actors at the central level, most of which are headquartered in KMC. Since democracy returned to The Gambia in 2016, many Gambians are returning home, including from Libya with E.U. aid. In terms of national policy frameworks to improve migration management and reintegration, two main initiatives are noteworthy under the new administration of Adama Barrow:

1. The primary objectives of Barrow’s ‘New Gambia’ are to simultaneously stem irregular outward migration of low-skilled Gambians and to reintegrate returnees in Gambian society. These goals are yet to be realized in the 16 months that he has held office. However, a newly developed National Migration Policy was validated in June 2018.

2. Gambia has embraced E.U offers of aid to tackle unemployment problem, such as the 225M euro aid package from the European Commission, with the expectation of high government engagement on irregular migration. 3.9 million was given to IOM- Gambia for a three-year returns and reintegration project as part of the regional EUTF. Since February 2017, 2,210 Gambian migrants returned from Libya with IOM assistance, among them 1,375 under the new EUTF project. The government has also set up vocational schemes, known as the Youth and Trade Roadmap, in sectors ranging from agriculture to information technology, as part of 11M euro Youth Empowerment Program also funded by EUTF.

Although these initiatives were deemed to be relevant by stakeholders interviewed for this study, fragmentation and strategic implementation were identified as the most important obstacles to its effectiveness:

- At central level, institutions had a fairly fragmented approach to reintegration. The recent establishment of the IOM Gambia Mission in mid-2017 and the rapid rate at which staff were onboarded to operationalise

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3 Bear in mind that a stakeholder mapping has already been presented at the community level in the previous section, on the third page of each community profile. While the format is slightly different, the objective remains the same: to identify the actors who can best deliver improvements to returnee reintegration processes.
IOM’s new and demanding mandate, in combination with the pre-existing and continually increasing returnee caseload, are the foundations on which the many challenges in designing adequate response are based. Interviews with central stakeholders revealed a widespread acknowledgement of the underdeveloped expertise and experience of almost all actors in The Gambia when it comes to managing sustainable reintegration.

- **Lack of fully informed strategic partnership plan.** There is a need to better understand and communicate the distinct roles that Gambian stakeholders can play under EUTF, to best draw on locally-owned knowledge and practice. Assessment of the comparative strengths and weaknesses of actors in the Strategic Leads cluster reveals opportunities for IOM to orient itself toward actors that are more operationally relevant to reintegration of returnees.

The stakeholder map reveals the operational expertise and capacity of several other government bodies that are highly relevant to reintegration of returnees. Specifically, Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Trade (MoTIE), and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) comprise the government actors with greatest expertise along economic, social, and psychological policy and interventions. A central objective of re-organising the TWG was to reveal opportunities to better access actors in the other three stakeholder groups (i.e., Implementing Partners, Emerging Implementing Partners, and Research and Information Entities) in order to catalyse more effective reintegration pathways.

The following mapping also summarizes the points of tension within the reintegration ecosystem, based on the actors interviewed. This highlights the need to better understand and communicate the specific roles that stakeholders can play under the EU Trust Fund in The Gambia:

- Design a strategic partnership plan with relevant stakeholders on a formalized platform;
- Identify implementation parties as well as new operational partners and research entities;
- Evaluate the comparative strengths and weaknesses of the operational actors in terms of reintegration of returnees.

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**Reintegration activities through the sustainability lens: questioning the environmental impact**

‘Today’s focus on mobility and migration in West Africa, and in the Gambia in particular, can either lead to quick-and-dirty strategies with, at best, contradictory outcomes, or contribute to creating new programmes and generating more tangible impact. Let’s take the example of carpentry or the wood industry, at a time when the forestry subsector is booming. It is indeed a promising sector in the Gambia, so GIZ, DFID or the World Bank may fund IOM on a 3-4 year TVET scheme. Great... but only if IOM and others factor in the conservation of the country’s biodiversity and its fragile ecology. (...) The weak institutional setting is of course a threat on the long run and it is IOM’s role to manage borders and develop reintegration activities and, at the same time, ensure the sustainable management of local resources’.

Interview with a former FAO and UNEP technical advisor in West Africa (and the Gambia)
Figure 1: Stakeholder mapping identifying major structural weaknesses

Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS)
- National Youth Service Scheme
- National Youth Council (NYC)
- President International Award
- Gambian Immigration Department (GID), chair of Reception TWG
- Department of Social Welfare
  - UNICEF
  - UNDP
  - GYIN
  - International Trade Center
  - United Purpose

Ministry of Interior
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, and Employment (MoTIE)
Ministry of Agriculture

Government bodies with operational expertise and capacity for reintegration initiatives
- Gambian Returnees from the Back Way
- Youth Against Irregular Migration
- Gambian Youth Chamber of Commerce

Emerging NGOs working closely with beneficiaries and implementing partners
- Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO)

On the ground NGOs working closely with beneficiaries and implementing partners
- Youth Empowerment Project

Technical support and financing for community-level reintegration activities
- State and Local Authorities
- Religious leaders and faith-based community organisations
- Local associations (Migrant, Trade, Sport, Youth etc.)

Fragmented approach to reintegration and unclear roles for Gambian stakeholders under EUTF
Emerging NGOs have limited access to elite decision-making and resources (finance, human, institutional)
Emerging ones are under-resourced and not formalized

Strategic leads and national coordination bodies of EUTF project

Funded by the EUTF

Technical support and financing to reinforce national actors’ capacity in the reintegration domain.
### Table 3: Structural and general partnerships (across value chains and sectors)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional or Government Actors</th>
<th>Financial Partners and Social Investors</th>
<th>Research Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSW – Department of Social Welfare</td>
<td>CISF – Capital Investment Stimulation Fund</td>
<td>Africa Research Excellence Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCCI – Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>Central Bank of The Gambia</td>
<td>CERPASS – Center for Policy Research and Strategic Studies, University of the Gambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIEPA – Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency</td>
<td>Ecobank</td>
<td>Directorate of Economic Policy and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRA – Gambia Revenue Authority</td>
<td>Empretec – Local chapters</td>
<td>Gambia Bureau of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GID – Gambian Immigration Department</td>
<td>FBN Micro-finance bank</td>
<td>IITA – International Institute of Tropical Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Service</td>
<td>Gambians Abroad Financial Services (Gam-Abroad)</td>
<td>National Agricultural Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture</td>
<td>GTBank Gambia</td>
<td>Management Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>Social Development Fund</td>
<td>Medical Research Council - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Studies – Gambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, and Employment</td>
<td>Standard Chartered Bank</td>
<td>NAQAA – National Accreditation &amp; Quality Assurance Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Youth and Sports</td>
<td></td>
<td>RDI – Rural Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality councils</td>
<td></td>
<td>University of The Gambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEA – National Environment Agency</td>
<td>National Enterprise Development Initiative</td>
<td>Trust Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NNA – National Nutrition Agency</td>
<td>National Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries</td>
<td>Zenith Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAWEC – National Water and Electricity Company</td>
<td>Food Safety and Quality Authority</td>
<td>Ethics, Societal and Environmental Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Psychosocial Actors</td>
<td>The Gambia Public Utilities Regulatory Authority</td>
<td>FSQA – Food Safety and Quality Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSET – Association of Small Scale Enterprises in Tourism</td>
<td>Truth and Reconciliation Commission</td>
<td>ISO – International Organization for Standardization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambian Red Cross</td>
<td></td>
<td>SMIIIC – Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRFTB – Gambian Returnees from the Back Way</td>
<td></td>
<td>Truth and Reconciliation Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GYCC – Gambian Youth Chambre de Commerce</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gambia Technical and Training Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCAC – National Center for Arts and Culture</td>
<td></td>
<td>GTMI – Gambia Telecommunication and Multimedia Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Youth Council</td>
<td></td>
<td>ITC – International Trade Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYSS – National Youth Service Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEP – Youth Empowerment Project</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gambia Food and Nutrition Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YAIM – Youth Against Irregular Migration</td>
<td></td>
<td>IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing, Land and Urban Development Actors</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nyodemaa Agro-Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Councils / Ward council</td>
<td>Partners en formation et développement des capacités (généralistes)</td>
<td>GTHI – Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development Office</td>
<td></td>
<td>GTMI – Gambia Telecommunication and Multimedia Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDC – Village Development Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>GTTI – Gambia Technical and Training Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and agri-business partners</td>
<td></td>
<td>ITC – International Trade Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Agribusiness Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Management Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Research Council - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Studies – Gambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia Technical and Training Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td>NAQAA – National Accreditation &amp; Quality Assurance Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia Food and Nutrition Association</td>
<td></td>
<td>RDI – Rural Development Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
<td></td>
<td>University of The Gambia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Based on the collected data, stakeholder interviews, and literature review, six value chains appear to offer superior value-added guarantees, environmental impact, and social equity in the ten communities: premium rice, cashew, textile, wood, fish, and tourism. Table 4 presents the variables selected, the rating system used and the privileged communities based on an analysis grid developed by the ILO and the UNHCR.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preselected value chains</th>
<th>Premium Rice</th>
<th>Cashew/Nuts</th>
<th>Textile</th>
<th>Wood</th>
<th>Fish/Pisciculture</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
<th>Cocoa</th>
<th>Coffee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Variables (weight)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential (weight)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing demand for product (1.5)</td>
<td>6 9 8 12 7 10,5 7 10,5 6 9 7 10,5 7 10,5 7 10,5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensity of job creation (1)</td>
<td>5 5 5 5 6 6 6 6 4 4 7 7 5 5 5 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment for women / youth (1)</td>
<td>6 6 7 7 6 6 5 5 6 6 7 7 5 5 5 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation, quality, long-term (1.5)</td>
<td>6 9 5 7,5 5 7,5 5 7,5 4 6 6 9 4 6 4 6</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pertinence (for migrants and non-migrants) (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td># of individuals involved (1.5)</td>
<td>7 10,5 6 9 6 9 6 9 6 9 6 9 6 9 7 10,5 6 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversified qualifications (1.5)</td>
<td>5 7,5 7 10,5 6 9 5 7,5 5 7,5 7 10,5 4 6 4 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feasibility (8)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factors – land, water, soil</td>
<td>7 14 7 14 6 12 7 14 7 14 7 14 7 10,5 6 12 6 12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realistic short-term schedule (1)</td>
<td>6 6 6 6 5 5 6 6 7 7 5 5 4 4 6 6</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships (R&amp;D) (1)</td>
<td>6 6 8 8 4 4 6 6 6 6 7 7 4 4 4 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available financing (1.5)</td>
<td>5 7,5 7 10,5 4 6 5 7,5 5 7,5 7 10,5 5 7,5 5 7,5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Added value (1)</td>
<td>7 7 6 6 5 5 5 5 6 6 8 8 4 4 5 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social / environmental impact (1.5)</td>
<td>5 7,5 6 9 4 6 4 6 6 9 6 9 5 7,5 5 7,5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results (16)</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>104,5</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>83,5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: This grid is based on the Guide to market-based livelihood interventions for refugees / International Labour Office (BIT - Bureau International du Travail); United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); - Geneva: ILO, 2017. Each rating is between 1 (lowest) and 10 (highest). The four complimentary dimensions ‘Potential (innovation and long-term)’, ‘Funding’, ‘Added-value’, and ‘Environmental Impact’ have been added because of their importance for reintegration of returnees. Some weights were adjusted according to context.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rice (premium)</th>
<th>Cashew / Nuts</th>
<th>Textile / Woven Fabrics</th>
<th>Sustainable Wood</th>
<th>Fish / Pisciculture</th>
<th>Tourism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bansang</td>
<td>Karantaba</td>
<td>Soma Serrekunda East</td>
<td></td>
<td>Farafenni Kerewan</td>
<td>Brikama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dampha Kunda</td>
<td>Kerewan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sami Karantaba</td>
<td>Serrekunda East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sami Karantaba</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Department of Agricultural Services
- International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
- National Agricultural Research Institute
- New Rice for Africa (NERICA)
- Regional Rice Development Steering Committee (RRDSC)
- Village Savings and Credit Associations (VISACA) & Promotion Centre (VPC)
- West African Rice Development Association (WARDA)
- Water Users Association (WUA)

- Delmas
- Department of Water Resources
- Ecobank
- Inter Agro
- International Commercial Bank
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- International Relief & Development (IRD)
- Gambia Horticulture Enterprise
- Gambian Investment and Export Promotion Agency (GIEPA)
- Gambia Port Authority
- National Cashew Farmers’ Association
- National Coordinating Organisation for Farmers’ Association (NACOFAG)
- Farmers’ Inter-Trade Association (FITA)
- Cashew and Fruit growers’ association

- A.S.N. Enterprises
- Alfaraj Gambia Company limited
- Fadel H. Khadra & Sons
- Keda Textiles Gambia Co. Ltd.
- Maya Traders
- Semega Ganila Textiles Ltd.

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Community Forest Committee
- Forest Kambeng Kafo
- Jamorai Timber and Firewood Federation (JATIFIF)
- National Agricultural Research Institute
- Natural Resource Consulting (ANCO)
- Regional Forestry Offices
- Village Development Committee

- FAO
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- Norwegian Institute of Marine Research (IMR)
- World Bank / West African Regional Fisheries Program (PRAO)

- ASSET – Association of Small Scale Enterprises in Tourism
- Department of State for Tourism and Culture (DOSTC)
- Gambia Tourism Authority (GTA)
- Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCCA)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
- NAWEC
- World Bank Competitive Industries and Innovation Program (CIIP)
V. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IOM – GAMBIA

Two types of recommendations are presented in this section. These two approaches are complimentary, the 'general' approaches are a base to initiate, consolidate and optimize the impact of specific recommendations by community. It is important to note that, following many discussions with IOM teams in West Africa, these recommendations are indicative as they are based on limited resources and ten-day rapid surveys per community. Fieldwork by IOM teams is required to test the viability of the recommended tracks, verify the technical feasibility, and better assess the nature of the possible partnerships.

The interventions proposed are defined based on the data gathered and are intended to:

• Address the key challenges faced by the community
• Create employment for all members of the community
• Foster sustainable reintegration
• Contribute to the sensitization of the community.

In general, it is recommended that IOM – The Gambia adopt a systemic approach that aims to enhance the capabilities and agency of individuals and communities rather than aim for any deterrence effort which may hurt IOM’s reputation within the local communities. Thus, it is necessary to:

i) **Develop communities’ and people’s capabilities: building individual and institutional knowledge and skills for more cohesive communities.** This can be done in three ways: institutionally through targeted mentoring and training of organizational staff; professionally through vocational training and on-the-job mentoring to develop the qualifications of local youth; psychosocially through a partnership between IOM and specialized organisations in mental health and psychosocial inclusion. This three-pronged approach – technical, vocational and psychosocial training – will be required in the 10 communities studied in this research.

ii) **Build the capacity of existing and potential partners to improve the referral system:** the capacity of local actors needs to be strengthened from the ground-up, with the support of monitoring mechanisms; at the regional level actors need more knowledge of the relevant national policies and their implementation capacity; at the federal level, finally, resource allocation needs to be enhanced for full policy implementation. The three levels – federal, regional, community – are essential for reintegration.

iii) **Foster entrepreneurship with social and environmental dividends:** all communities surveyed suffer from uneven to poor access to services. Energy and water are not universally accessible, with direct impacts on education, health, economic well-being etc. Solutions from communities should be funded through a competitive selectio procedure, and supported by IOM, to address community needs. Likewise, while there is a growing interest in carpentry in Brikama, a continuous deforestation has progressively limited access to wood for construction and crafts; in this regard, developing training and employment schemes for carpenters and craftsmen will require a rapid environmental impact assessment as well as mitigating measures to ensure that reforestation activities are conducted and controlled in parallel by IOM’s partners.

iv) **Promote value chains** such as the rice value chain in Bansang and Dampa Kunda: In all of the surveyed communities, rice is not only an essential crop that contributes to food security but also a key economic variable.

v) **Invest in agriculture, tourism and infrastructure as well as psychosocial support:** these themes cut across all locations. Advocating for more donor and government investment in these areas will ensure that IOM’s programming can have an impact.
C4D STRATEGY FOR IOM–THE GAMBIA

Stakeholders commonly consider sensitisation necessary, and to be scaled up in all locations. Many actors are already actively engaged in sensitisation and committed to continuing these efforts. Civil society actors are easy to reach (small population, word-of-mouth culture, accessible media) and have been receptive to messages of existing campaigns.

Through the C4D approach, the aim is to support IOM The Gambia by strengthening their Communications and Outreach strategy. The priority audience remains the return migrants but also the 'host' or local communities of return, transit or reception, in order to optimize the respective capacities of the individuals by a better reintegration or social, economic but also psycho-social integration within these communities. The table below recalls the major issues of this optimization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aim</th>
<th>Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Central objective</strong></td>
<td>Optimise individual returnee’s capabilities in order to prevent life endangering migration projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Intended outcomes** | - Economic opportunities and stability  
- Social support and inclusion  
- Psychological stability and wellbeing |
| **Advantages** | - Map and evaluation existing local, national and regional opportunities  
- Develop new and improve on existing local, national and regional opportunities  
- Actively promote and engage with enactment of local, national and regional activities |
| **Intended audience** | IOM and national-level actors dealing with youth and migration |
| **Approach** | Communications for Development (C4D) |
| **Tenets of interventions** | - Listening  
- Sharing knowledge and skills  
- Learning  
- Building policies & programmes |

Among the recommendations put forth by community respondents, are:

1. **Build regional initiatives** including:
   - A regional approach to training: by promoting transnational training opportunities and regional labour migration schemes, promoting hier education opportunities in ECOWAS states and building linkages between ministerial counterparts in the region.
   - The pairing of ministries (e.g. Ministry of youth and sports and the Ministry of labour) to broadcast messages to youth and returnees; the use of the media for culturally relevant messaging and encouraging reports to cover developments.
   - Best practices, policies and programmes on mental health care across the region.

2. **Strengthen national initiatives** notably through:
   - Youth leaders and returnee associations  
   - Outreach and orientation sessions  
   - Relationships with businesses in key sectors and value chains  
   - Media campaigns and newspaper coverage, elevating voices of youth artists and capitalizing on country-wide network of the Ministry of Youth and Sports  
   - Equal and affordable access to education (through highschool) and (mental) health care

3. **Support communities** through:
   - Intra- and inter-community group meetings and smaller meetings with community leaders  
   - Training and skills centers, apprenticeships and internships, work placements and informal presentations of key sectors and value chains to returnees and youth  
   - Community leadership consultations and youth group advocacy  
   - Performing arts, media and improved public school curricula.
VI. COMMUNITY PROFILES AND SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TEN ASSESSED COMMUNITIES

BRIKAMA – specific recommendations

Brikama is the regional capital of the West Coast Division and the headquarters of the West Coast Area Council. As home to many regional offices, Brikama has the highest concentration of economic and social activities, and abundant public services. Many public and private education institutions exist in the city, and are relatively easy to access. It boasts the only college in The Gambia, which trains the nation’s teachers, agriculture workers, and public health personnel. Nevertheless, the high inflow of people working or studying in Brikama has brought housing challenges, as there is limited supply to match the increasing demand. Additionally, market space has decreased, and sanitation issues have increased.

There is enough food in the market but it is very expensive. Basic commodities like rice, sugar, cooking oil, onion, flour are too costly for most people. Even though assistance is supposed to be available, it is undermined by corruption. Public funds meant for the poor are lost to personal enrichment.” – Sulayman, 27, poultry farmer

Table 7: Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Brikama (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRIKAMA</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Dimension</td>
<td>Declining agricultural activities and agriculture market, Limited encouragement for youth to develop skills aligned with market, Deforestation limiting access to wood for construction and craft sector</td>
<td>Sectors to develop in the long-term include those that respond to demands of large and diverse urban populations, are not overstautured, and match desires of youth job seekers. In Brikama, they include tourism, vocational services, welding, electrical, satellite installation, tailoring, education, and sports and entertainment. Provide support for starting businesses and small business development: • Support returnees with startup capital or resources to establish small businesses, including welding, carpentry, and vehicle repairs • Provide trainings and equipment to improve processing of agricultural products and prevention of loss of farm produce. There is high demand for such improvements despite limited land available. • Consider partnership with Wescore Remedial College, an institution with high impact in the community providing vocational training and counseling for returnees and less-privileged youths. Sindola Automatics is a mechanical repair business that also employees and trains youth in technical repair skills. Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority: manufacturing, agriculture, finance, water, infrastructure, and psychosocial support; 2) medium priority: assets, energy, environment, and health services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BRIKAMA</strong></td>
<td><strong>Challenges</strong></td>
<td><strong>Possible Priority Interventions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Dimension</strong></td>
<td>Jammeh regime left community politically fractured, Large community size makes it difficult to implement inclusive interventions for all</td>
<td>Develop social programmes. Currently there is no identifiable support network in the community to assist returnees. Encourage youth sports programming and other social associations that incorporate returnees to facilitate reintegration. Develop community and radio programmes to increase awareness of reintegration challenges and opportunities to improve mindsets of youth, many of whom report limited hope for the future. It is suggested this will help reduce crime and create stability in Brikama.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Psychosocial Dimension</strong></td>
<td>Lack of actors and capacity providing specialized psychological support to returnees</td>
<td>Develop partnerships with government actors that have a psychosocial focus such as the Youth Development Association and Ministry of Youth and Sports, for complete and systematic psychological care of returning migrants. They could be trained in basic psychological support and social protection at a national level. Trainers could then give trainings at regional and community levels. Collaborate with local leaders, who have high community impact as they settle disputes and assist returnees in regaining their national documents. Local leaders like alkalos, imamas and VDCs thus greatly contribute to reintegration of returnees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communication for Development</strong></td>
<td>Youth reluctant to work in agriculture, Most returnees are from Libya</td>
<td>Build on the presence of the only existing college in Gambia to increase the opportunities for contributions from trained professionals to bring solutions to Brikama. Build a college competition to solve some of the key challenges confronting Brikama. Involves student associations in public good services such as improve the state of sanitation, educating populations around environmentally-sensitive practices, and support in diminishing the negative impact of migration on housing and sanitation locally. Build a program for the transparency of public office in Brikama to ensure that populations' trust in their institutions is restored to improve social cohesion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Serrekunda East is the bustling business capital of KMC. Its vibrancy and abundance of opportunities makes it the most visible community in KMC. In Serrekunda’s urban environment, the most successful business are competitive, well-resourced large firms; they dominate the market. There is little support available to small enterprises which have less access to finance. The only services available are privately owned and thus difficult to access as most people in need cannot afford the costs. Costs are particularly prohibitive for specialised healthcare.

Table 8: Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Serrekunda (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERREKUNDA</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Dimension</td>
<td>Deplorable state of road infrastructure, lowest rate of satisfaction with access to water and housing</td>
<td>Develop partnerships with World Mission and Mission of Hope to improve agricultural infrastructure. The WV office in Kintampo South actively supports access to credit and food security programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of farming inputs, machinery, and irrigation hamper modernization of agricultural sector. Susceptible to shocks i.e. pest infestations and bushfires.</td>
<td>Support government actors’ initiatives, such as Business Advisory Centre and YEA) in order to improve access to services in the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support local employers’ associations (Tailors Association of Jema, Cashew Buyers Association, Association for Garages) that can economically reintegrate migrants through jobs and trainings.</td>
<td>Support local employers’ associations (Tailors Association of Jema, Cashew Buyers Association, Association for Garages) that can economically reintegrate migrants through jobs and trainings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reinforce networks through financial support and fund equipment</td>
<td>• Reinforce networks through financial support and fund equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Increase their visibility with government and population</td>
<td>• Increase their visibility with government and population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Create community dialogues between authorities and organizations</td>
<td>• Create community dialogues between authorities and organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority, manufacturing, agriculture, psychosocial health, and roads; 2) medium priority, infrastructure, finance, water, education, and housing.</td>
<td>Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority, manufacturing, agriculture, psychosocial health, and roads; 2) medium priority, infrastructure, finance, water, education, and housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Dimension</td>
<td>Lack of structured socialization opportunities for youth and returnees</td>
<td>Develop monitoring mechanisms to build trusting relationships with returnees, provide them with information about services and opportunities, and support planning for the near future to combat feelings of abandonment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Create forums for dialogue through youth and religious associations to ease tensions and strengthen social cohesion.</td>
<td>Create forums for dialogue through youth and religious associations to ease tensions and strengthen social cohesion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Create exclusive social spaces for young people and women through sport, play, cultural and artistic exchanges – without adults or men controlling the perimeters. Support the development of returnee groups specifically. There are many returnee associations in Serrekunda. Identify them through NYC and YAIM and provide funding for awareness campaigns, and offer members opportunities to get skills training and business support.</td>
<td>Create exclusive social spaces for young people and women through sport, play, cultural and artistic exchanges – without adults or men controlling the perimeters. Support the development of returnee groups specifically. There are many returnee associations in Serrekunda. Identify them through NYC and YAIM and provide funding for awareness campaigns, and offer members opportunities to get skills training and business support.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“There is enough food available but it is very costly. Prices for basic commodities such as rice, milk, flour, sugar, and cooking oils were so cheap before 1994. For 150 dalasi you can have a 50kg of rice but now it’s 1200 dalasi for the same amount. This increase applies to all goods and services.” – Foday J., 58, male, business owner
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERREKUNDA</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Dimension</td>
<td>Lack of actors providing specialized psychological support to returnees.</td>
<td>Develop partnerships with government actors that have a psychosocial focus such as the Department of Social Welfare, the district assembly or NADMO, for complete and systematic psychological care of returning migrants. They could be trained in basic psychological support and social protection at a national level. Trainers could then give trainings at regional and community levels. Collaborate with active religious associations, such as the Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church of Ghana, Church of Pentecost Jema) to raise awareness among families, especially on the expectations and disappointment within families that constitute an additional stressor for returnees. Youth organizations can create support groups and community dialogue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication pour le développement</td>
<td>Social cohesion needs to be strengthened alongside community ties: the urban environment encourages individualism, and traditional familial structures are disappearing.</td>
<td>Serrekunda East has multiple FM stations, e.g., STAR FM, that disseminate information and provide airtime to returnees to discuss relevant issues to the community. A C4D strategy for the area will be most effective if paired with local radios. Work with MoYS to create television and radio talk show programmes to raise more awareness of potential consequences of irregular migration and to broadcast opportunities within the country. Local C4D activities can be led by Youth Against Illegal Migration (YAIM) and Peace Ambassadors organize campaigns, sensitization events, and workshops to raise awareness of the dangers of irregular migration. Their efforts extend to communities beyond Serrekunda, where they are headquartered.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**WELLINGARA – specific recommendations**

Wellingara is a large and transient community based in the West Coast region, not far from Banjul. Many residents live there for a short period before moving onward to better-resourced urban centers. High population density and easy access to capital and skilled employees have corresponded with small business development in the past year. But social cohesion and trust are not as strong as they once were. Participation in local neighbourhood/village committees is lowest in Wellingara (4%) out of all communities, perhaps due to residents not investing themselves in community development. Like the other West Coast sites, there is a majority (51%) positive reception of returnees. Safety concerns was the most common motivation for returning according to respondents – the highest out of any community.

« The unemployed are lacking quality skills that the country needs » - Male respondent, Alkalo, Wellingara

« The outward migration is decreasing as youth are being encouraged to stay in the country. However, return migration is recently increas[ing], mostly coming [back] from Libya. »

Male KII, Local government actor, Wellingara

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WELLINGARA</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Economic    | Long distance and poor roads complicate getting products to market, limited market space, limited funding for small businesses, lack of cold storage for perishable goods, private sector dominated by small-scale businesses | Assess capacity of local employers for potential involvement in economic reintegration through:  
- Wellingara is a vibrant community for micro-business creation. However, there is lack of support for entrepreneurs in access to credit. Support access to micro-credit to expand small businesses, including explain the banking system and access to credit, mediate meetings between bank and business owners, and occasionally provide financial support if needed i.e. financial guaranty.  
- Support existing skills centres in KMC which can serve as a model for how centres in Wellingara can develop. Marie Bennette Skill Centre is ready to expand on its existing site and in two additional locations. Support the creation of more courses that are responsive to the professional skills listed: management, business, education, medicine, and administration. Lower-skilled trades include: welding, carpentry, electrical work, hairstyling, and agriculture and livestock.  

Improve infrastructure: While electricity and water are available, access remains a consistent problem. The market requires regular supply of both. Roads leading to the market need to be improved in order to optimise access. Youth with limited training could be employed by the local government to deliver on these needs.  

Promote entrepreneurship and integration in private sector schemes among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants and private sector actors), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority health, energy, electricity, infrastructure (roads), and psychosocial support; 2) medium priority, education, housing, finance and social. |
| Social      | Social cohesion and trust weakened, new police station has led some to seek their council instead of more knowledgable local opinion leaders | Establish a youth centre in the community so returnees, intending migrant, and other youth can meet and share experiences. The centre can also direct people to livelihood opportunities particularly for national and community development projects to deter individuals from resorting to illegal migration  

Support communal radios, Capital FM100.4 to continue their proven track record of engaging with reintegration issues and broadcasting awareness raising campaigns by youth groups. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WELLINGARA</th>
<th><strong>Challenges</strong></th>
<th><strong>Possible Priority Interventions</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women’s groups can be strengthened to provide needed family support for returnees, often considered the first step in preventing petty crimes and to improve economic outlooks, especially for unemployed returnees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Dimension</td>
<td>Lack of actors providing specialized psychological support</td>
<td>Build psychosocial and C4D capacities of religious organisations and leaders, imams and alkalos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A successful example from IOM Guinea on awareness raising included training and sensitization of imams in Conakry on migration issues. Afterwards, the imams linked the issues of migration to a message in the Quran. The same could be done with priests based on psalms in the Bible.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication for Development</td>
<td>The role of the family on migration decisions needs to be supported and strengthened by messaging from various other trusted sources</td>
<td>Capital FM 100.4 is a widely respected radio station with a broad listenership and a proven track record of engaging with reintegration issues. They have broadcast awareness raising campaigns by youth groups on a weekly basis and have committed to continuing to do so.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions of identity and belonging are part of youths’ decision making process. “I don’t have networks to help” “I don’t belong here”, are messages heard during the fieldwork. Community conversations, community centers, and recreational activities, arts and cultural activities are needed to avoid this feeling of marginalization.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BANSANG – specific recommendations

Bansang is an upriver urban centre with limited resources, as it is no longer the central shopping centre in the region. Poor infrastructure conditions and a central market in disrepair has had little improvement over the years. Fewer additional livelihoods are projected for the new future. However, social cohesion and trust is perceived to be fairly high in Bansang, as it is a relatively rural setting with a tight knit community. The youth organisation is more socially active than the rest of the community. Compared to other communities, Bansang respondents reported substantially less desire to migrate abroad (31%). Like other upriver sites, Bansang respondents have a majority negative perception of returnees in the community (50%).

Table 10: Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Bansang (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BANSANG</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Economic Dimension       | Lack of critical skills training opportunities, poor infrastructure, lack of microfinance institutions | Support existing training programs for youth to increase intake.  
• The Bangsang Hospital Nurse Training program and the Youth Centre provide structured skills learning for students and out of school youths in computer training. There is need to provide the organisations with space, funding and scholarships to increase enrolment.  
• Introduce additional trainings at the Youth Centre to attract more youth and provide them with start-up capital after graduation to establish small business.  
• NAWEC has opportunities to create jobs  
  Support community members’ access to credit, which is limited despite presence of multiple financial institutions in the area  
  Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. Growing sectors in need of skills are: agriculture, rice cultivation, industry and small-business (i.e. marketing and accounting). In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following 1) high priority education and skills development, infrastructure, and psychosocial support; 2) medium priority, health, housing, water, environment, and energy. |
| Social Dimension         | Returnees report few challenges with social reintegration                   | Sensitize youth associations, such as Bangsang Youth Association, in migration and reintegration issues  
• Bansang Community Radio can carry out sensitization campaigns on emigration (opportunities and dangers) and advertise existing opportunities to encourage unemployed youth to find jobs  
• Target parents for sensitization campaigns so they are better aware of risks associated with going the Back Way |
<p>| Psychosocial Dimension   | Lack of actors providing structured psychosocial support to returnees        | Build the psychosocial capacity of existing youth organizations. Consider starting with the Youth Centre, which provides counseling for youth in and out of school. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BANSANG</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible Priority Interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Communication for Development | Youth organisations are more social active here and can be an asset for C4D activities | Bansang Community Radio can carry out sensitisation campaigns on emigration (opportunities and dangers) and advertise existing opportunities to encourage unemployed youth to find jobs.  
Target parents for sensitisation campaigns so they are better aware of the risks associated with going the Back Way.  
Social cohesion and trust is perceived to be fairly high in Bansang, as it is a relatively rural setting with a tight knit community. The youth organisation is more socially active than the rest of the community. The opinion leaders, who frequently broker good relations in Gambia, are reported to be politically conscious. It is recommended for the youth organization and the opinion leaders to come together for monthly meetings to agree on joint activities to support the community. |
**Table 11: Indicative interventions for the reintegration of returnees to Basse (structural and thematic partners identified in section 4)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BASSE</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible priority interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Economic Dimension | Few skills development opportunities for youth, limited financial support for small business, poor physical infrastructure of central market | Basse offers unique opportunities for business development and self-employment. Focus should be on improving specific skills sets among job seeker and employing youth to stimulate economic growth. It is extremely difficult to persuade would-be-migrants not to leave unless they are assured they can develop livelihood skills to be self-employed.  
  - Empower the Youth Office, which can organize and mobilise youth for any IOM intervention. They can provide support for reintegration and empowerment programs, with strong links with both the Area Council, Office of the Governor and youth groups.  
  - Provide skills training to help deter youth from irregular migration beyond Basse. Skills such as welding, carpentry, tailoring, and masonry have promising potential for growth. The Wuli and Sandu Development Agency provides trainings on revitalizing agriculture practices.  
  - Support youth job creation in small business development. There are now few opportunities for agricultural development, however Basse has grown into a business hub in the region needing skills in business, telecommunications, etc.  
  - Promote entrepreneurship among returnees (in collaboration with non-migrants as much as possible), through grants and technical support. In particular, promote activities with benefits in the following: 1) in high priority, housing, agribusiness, skills training and social cohesion; 2) medium priority, education, environment, infrastructure, and psychosocial support. |
| Social Dimension | Difficult reintegration environment of shame, family members often regard returnees as failures, divided communities | Support existing sensitisation efforts in the media and community meetings. Returnees are yet to be involved in interventions, and should be included in campaigns.  
  - Target family members as extended family system is invaluable and family members often regard returnees as failures  
  - Consider involving alkalos, who have strong leadership capacity |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BASSE</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Possible priority interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Dimension</td>
<td>Lack of actors providing specialized psychological support to returnees</td>
<td>Train existing local and state actors that are present and established in the community. SOS Children’s Village, Department of Social Welfare, youth organizing structures, and immediate family support system are ideal for delivery of psychosocial service support. Focus on returnee family programs as well as returnee psychosocial support. There is only one source of extended family support available via SOS Children’s Village but no specific programmes for returnees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication for Development</td>
<td>Basse’s different settlements with divided opinions among community leaders fragilise cohesion and belonging</td>
<td>Support existing sensitisation efforts in the media and community meetings. Returnees are yet to be involved in interventions. Include them in campaigns. Empower the Youth Office: The Youth Office can help mobilise youth support for any IOM intervention. Has a strong link with both the Area Council, Office of the Governor, and youth groups. They can provide support for reintegration and empowerment programs. Bring together on a monthly basis representatives of the market, youth center, Governor’s office, youth office, and the area council to identify key tensions in the community to be addressed through community initiatives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ANNEX: EXAMPLE OF SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS, VALUE CHAIN SCORECARD**

**Gambian cashew exporter partners with returnees**

Farimang Manneh, himself a returnee, proprietor of Sand Beach Hotel and CEO of a leading cashew nut exporting company in The Gambia has used his entrepreneurial success to set up a project – Humanitarian Opportunity for People Empowerment (HOPE) – and a Foundation – Foundation Farimang Manneh – to empower young people, particularly the back-way returnees, and contribute to the reduction of irregular migration.

“We have an agreement through which we help educate you, provide you with start-up seeds and after planting, we harvest together and market it and agree on a commission basis”, he said. The NGO he founded engages in farming plantation with Gambians who own farmlands, and his company – Mand M trading – engages with exporters of cashew nuts to Vietnam and India. The Foundation supports sports, agriculture and health care primarily.
**Brikama**

*West Coast Region*

**Population:** 57,000

**Cluster:** 1: Metropolitan (Kombo)

- **Brikama** is the largest city in KMC, predominantly occupied by a single tribe. It is the regional capital of the West Coast Division and the headquarters of the West Coast Area Council.
- As home to many regional offices, Brikama has the highest concentration of economic and social activities, and abundant public services. Many public and private education institutions exist in the city, and are relatively easy to access. It boasts the only college in The Gambia, which trains the nation’s teachers, agriculture workers, and public health personnel.
- Nevertheless, the high inflow of people working or studying in Brikama has brought housing challenges, as there is limited supply to match the increasing demand. Additionally, market space has decreased, and sanitation issues have increased.

**KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:**

1. **Social Fragility**
   Brikama had become a highly politicised community during Jammeh’s rule, which affected the historically strong social cohesiveness. Nevertheless, the town is relatively peaceful, particularly with the emergence of the New Gambia.

2. **Poor infrastructure**
   The internal road network is poor which makes travel between various communities in Brikama difficult, especially during the rainy season. Floods occur seasonally and cause widespread damage.

3. **Inadequate Health Facilities**
   The public health facilities are overburdened. Records show that over five hundred children are born every day. The pressure on medical response in Brikama has led to a drastic drop in the quality of service. The private clinics are very expensive and most people cannot afford to pay for their services.

"There is enough food in the market but it is very expensive. Basic commodities like rice, sugar, cooking oil, onion, flour are too costly for most people. Even though there assistance is supposed to be available, it is undermined by corruption. Public funds meant for the poor are lost to personal enrichment." — Sulayman, 27, poultry farmer

**Socio-economic Profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with</th>
<th>% of respondents that</th>
<th>% of respondents that</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LOOKING FOR A JOB</td>
<td>HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample average:

- 42%
- 25%
- 95%

**Main Sectors:**

1. Education 11%
2. Agriculture 8%
3. Public administration 6%
4. Construction 5%
5. Restaurant/hotel industry 5%

**Basic Services Satisfaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Services Satisfaction</th>
<th>Brikama</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**% of respondents that**

- HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS 57%
- MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR 15%
- DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES 31%

Sample average:

- 43%
- 24%
- 21%
MIGRATION PROFILE

% of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY
25% 25%

% of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES
9% 15%

% of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD
66% 71%

DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Brikama</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample average:

% of respondents ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS
74% 44%

I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):
1. Family doesn’t want me to
2. Financial constraints

MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE THE COMMUNITY:
1. Family reasons
2. Employment opportunities
3. Education
4. “I don’t belong here”
5. Safety and Security

SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

ECONOMIC DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• Brikama is a business center with strong economic potential. Various markets thrive in the area, including agricultural produce, fish, clothing, and building materials.
• The skills sector is developing in Brikama, with high presence of welding, carpentry, and mechanical trades. It benefits from having among the most stable electricity supply in the country.

CHALLENGES:
• Agricultural activities are declining as farmlands are quickly turned into residential developments. The market for farm products has declined.
• Youths venturing into skills development such as welding and carpentry have little encouragement or empowerment, particularly due to the high import rate of furniture and other manufactured goods sold by retailers.
• Deforestation limits access to wood for construction and crafts.

SOCIAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• Brikama is a traditional society with a tight knit and vibrant social fabric.
• A weekly market brings people together, facilitating social interaction and exchange of ideas.

CHALLENGES:
• Due to its large size, it can be difficult to share information and to implement interventions for all potential beneficiaries.
• The Jammeh regime has left the community politically fractured.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• The Wescore Remedial College provides counseling and job opportunities for returnees and less privilege youths.

CHALLENGES:
• The building in which Wescore College is based is small and old which limits expansion. They have been unable to provide psychosocial services for more youth.

PERCEPTION OF RETURNEES IN THE COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Brikama</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral/Don’t know</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negatively</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample average:

% of respondents with ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT
66% 63%

% of respondents that FELT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST
50% 35%
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

Local leaders (alkalos, imams, and VDCs): Opinion leaders of the community have high impacts, as they help to settle disputes and help return migrants regain their national documents, thus greatly contributing to reintegration of returnees in the country.

Private sector: Wescore Remedial College has a high impact in the community as they help provide vocational training, and counseling for returnees and less privileged youths (e.g. school dropouts).

Small businesses: Sindola Automatic is a mechanical repair business that repairs motorcycles, generators, and other technical, and electronic equipment. They employee and train youth in these skill sets.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

Short term: Support for starting businesses
Many youth have developed skillsets in Brikama with no outlet for livelihood development. Support returnees with startup capital or resources to establish small business. Trades including welding, carpentry, and vehicle repairs are particularly popular.

Short term: Develop social programmes
There is no support network identified in the community to assist returnees. Encourage youth sports programming and other social associations that incorporate returnees to help facilitate reintegration.

Medium term: Small business development
Provide trainings and equipment to improve processing of agricultural products and prevention of loss of farm produce. There is high demand for these improvements, in spite of the limited land available in Brikama, which nevertheless holds opportunities to create self-employment and empowerment for the youth.

Returnee economic empowerment
Sectors of the future include those that (1) respond to demands of large and diverse urban populations, (2) are not oversaturated at present, and (3) match desired for youth job seekers:
- Tourism
- Vocational services
- In particular: welding, electrical, satellite installation, tailoring
- Education
- Sports and entertainment

STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

ECONOMIC GROWTH

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING

CAPACITY BUILDING

Awareness Raising
Develop community and radio programmes to increase awareness of reintegration challenges and opportunities to improve the mindsets of youth, many of whom report limited hope for the future. It is suggested this will help reduce crime and create stability in Brikama.
Serrekunda East
Kanifing Municipal Council

Population: 340,000
Cluster: 1: Metropolitan (Kombo)

Serrekunda East in the bustling business capital of KMC. It is a short 13km from Banjul, the administrative capital of the country, however, its vibrancy and abundance of opportunities make it the most visible community in the West Coast. Many central level stakeholders that are relevant to re-integration of returnees are based in and around Serrekunda East, which naturally has led to various workshops, conferences, and meetings being held in the region. As such, this community offers invaluable opportunities for inter-organisational partnerships and programme development that have potential to improve community well-being locally, and in other regions that are impacted by ideas generated in Serrekunda East.

KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:

1. Access to healthcare
There are limited public health facilities in the community. The only services available are privately owned and thus difficult to access as most people in need cannot afford the costs. Costs are particularly prohibitive for specialised healthcare.

2. Limited support for small business
In Serrekunda’s urban environment, the most successful business are competitive, well-resourced large firms; they dominate the market. There is little support available to small enterprises which have less access to finance.

3. Poor roads: Aide from major thoroughfares, roads are not well kept in Serrekunda East, despite proximity to construction equipment and resources. The quality makes it difficult to access some homes; their residents suffer during rainy seasons as drivers avoid these routes.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that are LOOKING FOR A JOB: Sample average: 45%]

% of respondents that are INTERESTED IN STARTING OWN BUSINESS: Sample average: 97%]

% of respondents that have a GROUP OF FRIENDS: Sample average: 89%]

% of respondents that can BORROW MONEY: Sample average: 32%]

% of respondents that can RELY ON NETWORK FOR SUPPORT: Sample average: 95%]

Social unity and cohesion is not strong in Serrekunda East. The community was divided along political and tribal lines during Jammeh’s regime and has had a difficult time recovering. The urban environment encourages invidivualism, and so traditional familial structures are disappearing.

“There is enough food available but it is very costly. Prices for basic commodities such as rice, milk, flour, sugar, and cooking oils were so cheap before 1994. For 150 dalasi you can have a 50kg of rice but now it’s 1200 dalasi for the same amount. This increase applies to all goods and services.” - Foday J., 58, male, business owner

Main Sectors:
1. Education 11%
2. Agriculture 8%
3. Public administration 6%
4. Construction 5%
5. Restaurant/hotel industry 5%

Basic Services Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Serrekunda East</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that have a MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODE DURING LAST YEAR: Sample average: 32%

% of respondents that dropped out of school because they could not afford fees: Sample average: 32%
MIGRATION PROFILE

% of respondents
BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY
32%  Sample average: 25%

% of respondents
RECEIVING REMITTANCES
15%  Sample average: 15%

% of respondents with
FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD
67%  Sample average: 71%

DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD

Serrekunda East  Total

Yes  No  Unsure

Desire to Migrate Abroad

% of respondents
ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS
49%  Sample average: 44%

I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):
1. Financial constraints
2. Family doesn’t want me to
3. Need information

MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS:

Serrekunda East  Total

Europe  67%
Gambia (urban)  1%
Gambia (rural)  3%
Africa  1%
Elsewhere  12%

SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

ECONOMIC DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• There are many business opportunities in this community.
• Access to skill centres is high compared to other communities.
• Driving, construction, carpentry, and tie & die are all valued skills possessed by youth job-seekers.
• Women are engaged in petty trading as vegetable and fish retailers and can generally meet the basic needs of their families.

CHALLENGES:
• The government tax levied on small business is very high and makes it difficult for traders with limited capital to make profits.
• The poor road conditions and lack of storage facilities for perishable goods negatively affects small business.
• Most employed youth are either driving taxis or government vehicles. Costs of fuel are high and drivers receive low salaries.
• Materials for trades can also be very expensive in KMC, making it difficult for small businesses to make a profit.

SOCIAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• The population density and access to resources and venues allows for a very vibrant social landscape.
• The community participate in many social and sporting activities such as naming ceremonies, weddings, and football.
• There are various associations that bring together people who come from the same non-KMC village and reside in the urban area. These are a platform for discussing current issues and upcoming activities.

CHALLENGES:
• The community is becoming increasingly individualistic. Families are not as well connected as in the past, and children are more independent.
• Most of the households in compounds and neighbourhoods are no longer occupied by extended families which has made conflict resolution less easy than in the past.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• Youth Against Illegal Migration (YAIM) and Peace Ambassadors organize campaigns, sensitization events, and workshops to raise awareness of the dangers of irregular migration. Their efforts extend to communities beyond Serrekunda, where they are headquartered.
• There are lot of media outlets, including radios, newspapers, and television that share information on returnee issues.

CHALLENGES:
• Returnee organisations need more resources to continue conducting sensitization initiatives.

PERCEPTION OF RETURNEES IN THE COMMUNITY

% of returnees
16%  Sample average: 16%

Positively  Neutral/Don’t know  Negatively

% of respondents with
ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT
59%  Sample average: 63%

% of respondents that
FELT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST
61%  Sample average: 35%
**STAKEHOLDER MAPPING**

**KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:**

**Youth Against Irregular Migration (YAIM)** are a returnee-led youth awareness raising organisation that are very visible within KMC among most central stakeholders. Their activities are reported to have had a high impact across the country through monthly sensitization caravans. Their inclusive organization welcomes all returnees and vulnerable youth. They provide psychosocial support to members and signpost for livelihood activities. In general, they offer resources for youth from all walks of life and could be consulted to decision makers who want to ground their programmes in ways that are responsive to beneficiaries.

**Peace Ambassadors** have held awareness raising campaigns and peace and reconciliation workshops for youth in the community for the past 15 years. They are well connected and a good resource for youth in the community.

**Sobeya Skills and Vocational Training Center** help less-privileged youth—particularly girls, many of whom are dropouts—develop livelihood opportunities.

**Community radio:** Serrekunda East has multiple FM stations, e.g., STAR FM, that disseminate information and provide airtime to returnees to discuss relevant issues to the community.

**STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

### POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

**Short term: Support Returnee Groups**

There are many returnee associations in Serrekunda. Identify them through NYC and YAIM and provide funding for awareness campaigns, and offer members opportunities to get skills training and business support.

**Short term: Support skills training centres**

Reach out to Sobeya Centre and similar entities that provide youth skills trainings in the region and figure out ways to expand their impact. Share the MoTIE returnee labour assessment survey conducted late 2017 to identify specific skill sets that are highly desired among youth.

**Medium term: Partner with national actors**

Capitalise on the national influence that actors in Serrekunda already possess and exert by partnering with organisations like United Purpose, which have functioning collaborations with training centres across the country. Similarly, MoYS support local youth initiatives that IOM can learn from; they also have a broad and deep network of connections with regional Youth Councils via NYC that IOM interventions would benefit from.

**Longer term: Improve and maintain local infrastructure**

The hospitals, road networks, and markets are all underdeveloped within Serrekunda East. This undermines sustainable, far-reaching opportunities for growth for the community. Design simultaneous development and employment projects to facilitate youth involvement in the improvement of the condition of public infrastructure.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS**

**PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Awareness Raising**

- Work with MoYS to create television and radio talk show programmes to raise more awareness of potential consequences of irregular migration and to broadcast opportunities within the country.
- Established return migrant groups in Serrekunda could be assisted to host weekly or monthly sensitization forums for the community to improve their reintegration processes and to make intending migrants aware of the challenges presented by the Back Way.
Wellingara
West Coast Region

- Wellingara is a large and transient community based in the West Coast Region, not far from Banjul. Many residents live there for a short period of time before moving onward to better resourced urban centres.
- The focal point of many of the community’s activities revolve around the local market. Women are the majority of vendors at the market; there are many challenges associated with their market-based livelihoods (as discussed below).
- There is very high population density and easy access to many resources, including capital and skilled employees, which has corresponded with small business development, particularly in the past year under Barrow’s New Gambia.
- Compared to the other metropolitan sites, Wellingara has the lowest access to developed and reliable services.

KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:

1. Getting products to markets
The long distances to access the market and poor roads lead drivers to refuse to make deliveries, especially during the rainy season. They leverage their positions and resources to exploit women vendors, overcharging them for transportation costs.

2. Limited Market Space
There are not enough market stalls to accommodate the women vendors.

3. Spoilt goods
The women do not have storage facilities for their perishable goods like fish and vegetables. They encounter huge losses at the end of each market day.

“When any quick economic development there needs to be water and electricity. If the conditions improve, there is hope of growth in Wellingara.” – Mansata G., female, 57, business owner

Social cohesion and trust are not as strong as they once were. Political gatherings have been prohibited because of problems in the recent past. Many residents are very transient, rent properties for short periods of time before moving on, and thus not investing themselves in community development. Nevertheless, there is a commonly held feeling that the social life of the community is on the verge of reviving as community leaders facilitate reconciliation.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
<th>33%</th>
<th>42%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Main Sectors:
1. Agriculture 14%
2. Retail trade 4%
3. Education 2%
4. Construction 2%
5. Fishing 2%

Basic Services Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Wellingara</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>49%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>49%</td>
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<td>Healthcare</td>
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<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS
40% Sample average: 43%

% of respondents that HAD MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR
16% Sample average: 24%

% of respondents that DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES
13% Sample average: 21%

% of respondents that ARE LOOKING FOR A JOB
43% Sample average: 25%

% of respondents that HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS
88% Sample average: 95%

% of respondents that CAN BORROW MONEY
40% Sample average: 52%

% of respondents that CAN RELY ON NETWORK FOR SUPPORT
57% Sample average: 48%

% of respondents that HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR MORE
47% Sample average: 42%
**MIGRATION PROFILE**

- % of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY: 31% (Wellingara: 23%, Total: 31%)
- Sample average: 25%

- % of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES: 12% (Wellingara: 8%, Total: 12%)
- Sample average: 15%

- % of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD: 71% (Wellingara: 71%, Total: 71%)
- Sample average: 71%

**DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD**

- YES: 73% (Wellingara: 71%, Total: 73%)
- NO: 21% (Wellingara: 21%, Total: 21%)
- Unsure: 4% (Wellingara: 4%, Total: 4%)

**ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS**

- Yes: 42% (Wellingara: 40%, Total: 42%)
- No: 24% (Wellingara: 24%, Total: 24%)
- Unsure: 5% (Wellingara: 5%, Total: 5%)

**I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):**

1. Financial constraints
2. Family doesn’t want me to
3. Don’t have networks to help

**MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE THE COMMUNITY:**

1. Employment opportunities
2. Family reasons
3. “I don’t belong here”
4. Education

**MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS:**

- Europe: 68%
- Gambia (urban): 2%
- Gambia (rural): 0%
- Africa: 1%
- Elsewhere: 4%

**SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**ECONOMIC DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- There are many private sector initiatives to create employment. Youth have more opportunities for self-employment than rural residents who frequently migrate to the area in search jobs.

**CHALLENGES:**
- Government is the main employer, primarily in the military and police sectors. Youth completing grades 9 or 12 can choose to join these sectors or generally face unemployment due to limited expansion of other sectors.
- The private sector is dominated by small-scale business that rely on mainly unskilled labour in wood mills, construction, and manual transportation using wheelbarrows and donkey carts.
- Limited funding is provided for starting up small businesses; it is difficult for many to provide required collateral.

**SOCIAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- The opinion leaders (imams and alkalos) of the community are very active in the social activity of the community, helping to settle disputes among members of the community and promoting social associations.

**CHALLENGES:**
- The introduction of a Police Station in Wellingara has led some people to resort to the police for dispute resolution instead of calling on opinion leaders, who are better embedded and attuned to social considerations.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- There is good access to information through radio, television, and the print media in Wellingara, which provides opportunities for psychosocial services to reach the community.

**CHALLENGES:**
- There no opportunities for community–based psychosocial services in the community. The few community–based women groups are primarily saving groups that do not provide psychological support.
KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:
Marie Bennette Skill Centre: The centre works closely with the Ministry of Higher Education and National Accreditation and Quality Assurance Authority (NAQAA) to recruit qualified teachers who possess skills in tie and die and catering. After one year, students are placed with partner businesses to apply their trainings. They have ten employees and many students participating in programmes. They intend to develop two more Centres in the surrounding communities. They will require financial and material assistance in order to grow.
Wellingara Clinic provides health care services to the community and is rapidly expanding. They are under-resourced and so are not able to train as many staff as they would like. However, they recognise the importance of working with youth and said they would like to invest in developing their skill sets for the benefit of all in the community.
Capital FM 100.4 is a widely respected radio station with a broad listenership and a proven track record of engaging with reintegration issues. They have broadcast awareness raising campaigns by youth groups on a weekly basis and have committed to continuing to do so.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

Short term: Cold storage
Provide cold storage containers to vendors at the markets in order to keep products from spoiling, improve residents’ access to food, and increase income earning potential. Women and youth vendors could be targeted.

Medium term: Infrastructure development
While electricity and water are available, consistent access is a problem. Make sure the market has regular supply of both. Furthermore, roads leading to the market need to be improved in order to optimise access. Youth with limited training could be employed by the local government to deliver all three of these needs.

Medium term: Support existing skills centres
There are many skills training centres in KMC which can serve as a model for how those in Wellingara can develop. Marie Bennette Skill Centre is ready to expand on its existing site and in two additional locations. Support the creation of more courses that are responsive to the skills listed in the box below.

Growing sectors and required skills
Public service providers, the banking industry, government, and agriculture are the biggest employers and present opportunities for employment.
Desired skills
- Many respondents are particularly interested in developing more professional skill sets in: management, business, education, medicine, and administration.
- Others prefer lower-skilled trades: welding, carpentry, electrical work, hairstyling, and agricultural and livestock

Women’s groups can be strengthened and empowered to provide needed family support for returnees. This is regarded as the first step to prevent petty crimes and theft, and to improve economic outlooks, especially for unemployed returnees.
Establish a youth centre in the community so returnees, intending migrant, and other youth can meet and share experiences. The centre can also be direct people to livelihood opportunities, particularly for national and community development projects to deter individuals from resorting to illegal migration.
Bansang
Central River Region

- Bansang has limited resources, largely because it is no longer the central shopping centre in the region; weekly rotating markets were introduced in surrounding villages and have reduced the daily visitors and business investments in Bansang.
- The region is not ideal for diversified crop production. There is a mountain to the west, and it is bounded by a river on the east, which limits potential for most agricultural development except for rice.
- There is only one microfinance institution serving the community and there are few money transfer agencies.

KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:

1. Poor condition of infrastructure
   - The main road through town is in terrible state and needs repair.
   - The central market in Bansang has had little improvement and few new structures have been built over the years.

2. Considered a dead end
   - Fewer addition livelihoods projected for the near future (e.g. few tourists visit Bansang in recent years.

3. Skills development
   - The Bansang Hospital and the youth centre provide the only structured skills learning for students and out of school youths in computer training. Hospital has admitted an increasing number of trainees in the school in recent years with limited increases in resources or space.

"Health is a problem. Last I was sick I received a diagnosis and was given only paracetamol. Four drugs were prescribed and I had search for them at the pharmacy. Not all were in stock; the others were expensive.” – Kawsu, NAWEC

Population: 8,000
Cluster 2: Urban (Upriver)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with</th>
<th>% of respondents that are</th>
<th>% of respondents that</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LOOKING FOR A JOB</td>
<td>HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main Sectors:
1. Agriculture 7%
2. Education 6%
3. Health 3%
4. Restaurant/hotel industry 1%
5. Sewing, tailoring 1%

Basic Services Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bansang</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that
HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS

41% Sample average: 43%

% of respondents that had
MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR

16% Sample average: 24%

% of respondents that dropped out of school because they could not afford fees

25% Sample average: 21%
MIGRATION PROFILE

- **% of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY**
  - Bansang: 31%
  - Total: 29%
  - Sample average: 25%

- **% of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES**
  - Bansang: 29%
  - Total: 19%
  - Sample average: 15%

- **% of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD**
  - Bansang: 24%
  - Total: 66%
  - Sample average: 71%

- **% of respondents ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS**
  - Bansang: 22%
  - Total: 55%
  - Sample average: 44%

- **I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):**
  1. Financial constraints
  2. Legal/civil documentation

MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE THE COMMUNITY:
1. Employment opportunities
2. Family reasons
3. Education
4. Lack of prospects here
5. “I don’t belong here”

MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS:
- Europe: 28%
- Gambia (urban): 25%
- Gambia (rural): 9%
- Africa: 0%
- Elsewhere: 3%

SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**ECONOMIC DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES:**
  - Rice cultivation is considered primary vector for creating jobs for all members of the community, and returnees in particular.
  - The Nursing School at Bansang Hospital may enroll more students.
  - Bansang Youth Association’s youth centre has potential to recruit more youths into the training program and can also provide psychosocial support to returnees.

- **CHALLENGES:**
  - Few institutions offer skill trainings for youth.
  - There is limited financial support for small business.
  - There is limited funding and space for the nursing training programme
  - The community has high rates of unemployment and low incomes.

**SOCIAL DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES:**
  - The Youth Centre and Bansang Youth Association work together with students and out-of-school youth to create social change.
  - The extended family system creates a social safety net to support returnees in meeting their basic needs.
  - Returnees are willing to speak openly about their stories and struggles.

- **CHALLENGES:**
  - Returnees in Bansang report few challenges with social integration.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES:**
  - The Youth Centre provides counselling for youth in and out of school.

- **CHALLENGES:**
  - There is no structured psychosocial support being provided to returnees.

**PERCEPTION OF RETURNEES IN THE COMMUNITY**

- **% of respondents that FELT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST**
  - Bansang: 31%
  - Total: 55%
  - Sample average: 38%

- **% of respondents with ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT**
  - Bansang: 39%
  - Total: 66%
  - Sample average: 56%
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

**Bansang Hospital:** The nurse training program is currently training about 110 students. There is a need to provide a separate space, funding, and sponsorships for qualified youths to increase enrolment.

**Bansang Youth Association:** Works in collaboration with Bansang Youth Centre to organise and training youth in skills (Computer Training), and provides counselling. Mobilises youth for community work.

**Local government authorities:** The Basse Area Council is the biggest employer and has representatives across all sections of the community. The Council manage the income and budget of the community including budget for youth development.

**Small businesses:** Many local initiatives in guesthouse operations offering opportunities for employment creation.

STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES

- Advocacy groups
- Village Development Committee
- Educators
- Youth Development Association
- Media
- Youth Centre Restaurant and Catering Service
- JanJanbereh Area Council
- Nyodemaa Area Council
- Imams
- Alkalos
- Traders & Crafter
- Small Businesses
- Large Businesses

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

**Short term: Invest in skills**
- Provide funds to Bansang Hospital Nurse Training program and the Youth Centre to increase intake.
- Provide sponsorship package for students enrolled in trainings to improve skills.
- Help introduce other trainings in the Youth Centre to attract more youth and provide them with start-up capital after graduating to establish small business.

**Short term: Partnerships for job creation**
The National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC) have opportunities to create jobs.

**Medium term: Resuscitate agriculture**
Provide support for revitalisation of agriculture, especially rice cultivation, to create self-employment for youth and reduce the amount of money spent on food. At present, most income generated is used to buy imported rice.

**Returnee economic empowerment**

Growing sectors (and needed skills):
- Agriculture (storage, transport, pricing)
- Rice cultivation (growing techniques, irrigation, harvesting)
- Industry
- Small business (marketing, accounting, sales)
- Petty trading

Skills desired: Introduction of new training packages including carpentry, welding, masonry and crop production techniques will create self-employment for youth and help stop illegal migration.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS**

**PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Awareness Raising**

Bansang Community Radio can carry out sensitisation campaigns on emigration (opportunities and dangers) and advertise existing opportunities to encourage unemployed youth to find jobs. Target parents for sensitisation campaigns so they are better aware of the risks associated with going the Back Way.
• Basse is informally considered Gambia’s “second capital city.” It has very developed infrastructure, particularly its roads linking it from Banjul (to the west) to the border village of Sabi (to the east). The community serves as an entry/exit point with two major border stations operated by the Immigration Unit (GID). The inflow of migrants is mainly from Guinea Conakry and recently it was a holding place for some intending to migrate along the Back Way through Mali.
• Basse has a high inflow of people daily that helps its businesses flourish. The many large shops are primarily owned by foreigners including Nigerians and Guineans who tend to live in communities outside the city.
• Basse has a microfinance bank and four commercial banks to provide financial services.

KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:

1. Few employment opportunities
   Government institutions have not expanded for a long time and there is limited private sector investment. The major private employer is Jah Oil Company, but the company’s investments are spread across the country and operate only a bakery, cold store and a fuel station in Basse—all in one cluster with few employees.

2. Market constraints
   There is one central market serving six cluster villages—space is very limited. The second marketplace is seasonally flooded by the overflowing riverbank. Moreover, most business operators are from outside Basse, which means most income does not go toward community development.

“There are many schools all the way up to Grade 12, but having a diploma is no guarantee for a job. I think the government should help the youths find employment.” – Allasan, 65, M

Social cohesion remains a concern, as Basse has different settlements with divided opinions among community leaders. Nevertheless, they share a common market, a youth centre, and the office of the Governor, the Chairman of the Area Council and the Youth Office play an important role in uniting the community. Implementing a community initiative is a challenge to unite the villages.

SOECIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>42%</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>% of respondents that LOOKING FOR A JOB</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of respondents that INTERESTED IN STARTING OWN BUSINESS</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
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<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of respondents that HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS</td>
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<td>92%</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of respondents that CAN BORROW MONEY</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of respondents that CAN RELY ON NETWORK FOR SUPPORT</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of respondents that HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR MORE</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of respondents that DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main Sectors:
1. Small retail 8%
2. Education 5%
3. Agriculture 5%
4. Restaurant/hotel industry 3%
5. Retail trade 3%

Basic Services Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Services Satisfaction</th>
<th>Basse</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>Documentation</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
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<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS | Sample average: | 62% | 43% |
% of respondents that HAD MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR | Sample average: | 15% | 24% |
**Migration Profile**

- **% of respondents born in another community:**
  - Sample average: 25%
  - 44%

- **% of respondents receiving remittances:**
  - Sample average: 15%
  - 2%

- **% of respondents with family members/friends abroad:**
  - Sample average: 71%
  - 49%

- **Desire to migrate abroad:**
  - Yes: 44%
  - No: 23%
  - Unsure: 5%

- **% of respondents able to move away within 12 months:**
  - Sample average: 44%
  - 23%

- **Main reasons for wanting to leave the community:**
  1. Employment opportunities
  2. Education
  3. “I don’t belong here”
  4. Family reasons

- **Migration project destinations:**
  - Europe: 23%
  - Gambia (urban): 28%
  - Gambia (rural): 5%
  - Africa: 0%
  - Elsewhere: 0%

**Sustainable Reintegration: Challenges and Opportunities**

**Economic Dimension**

- **Opportunities:**
  - Basse offers unique opportunities for business development and self-employment.
  - The Youth Office is changing attitudes of youth to stay and create their own employment.
  - There is reliable electricity, which allows people to develop and put to use a more diverse set of skills.

- **Challenges:**
  - Few skills development opportunities for youth and limited financial support for small business. The emigration-orientation of youth is a challenge, as internal opportunities are overlooked and not exploited, leading to a high rate of migration to urban/international destinations.

**Social Dimension**

- **Opportunities:**
  - The extended family system is invaluable and provides support for returnees’ basic needs.
  - There is strong leadership capacity among Alkalos.

- **Challenges:**
  - Returnees have difficulty integrating as they are ashamed to be unemployed and have little income to support themselves.
  - Family members often regard returnees as failures.

**Psychological Dimension**

- **Opportunities:**
  - SOS Children’s Village, Department of Social Welfare, youth organising structures, and immediate family support are present and established in the community, which is ideal for delivery of psychosocial service support.

- **Challenges:**
  - There is only one source of extended family support available (via SOS Children’s Village) but no specific programmes for returnees.
KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

(I)NGOs: The Wuli and Sandu Development Agency (WASDA) provide trainings on agriculture for youths and has potential to revitalise agriculture, especially rice production.

Youth organisations: The Basse Youth Office plays a role in organisation and mobilisation of youth. The Office works with UNICEF and others to end FGM. The Assistant Youth Leader was influential during this IOM survey to mobilize returnees for FGDs.

Local government authorities: The Basse Area Council is the biggest employer and has representatives across all sections of the community. The Council manages the income and budget of the community including for youth development.

Small businesses: Basse has many opportunities for small business development, in particular because so many people come into the community every day. Small businesses like Malick Mini Market are a good example of locally grown enterprises.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

Short term: Empower the Youth Office
The Youth Office can help mobilise youth support for any IOM intervention. Has a strong link with both the Area Council, Office of the Governor, and youth groups. They can provide support for reintegration and empowerment programs.

Medium term: Skills training centres and partnerships
Provide skills training to help deter youth from irregular migration beyond Basse. As a regional hub, the community have many skill development resources that other communities can learn from. Skills such as welding, carpentry, tailoring, and masonry have promising potential for growth.

Longer term: Small business development
Support youth job creation in small business. The dynamics of the economy in Basse have changed as most of the limited farmlands have been turned into residential developments. There are now few opportunities for agricultural development, however the town has grown to be a business hub in the region.

STAKEHOLDER DEVELOPMENT Priorities:
- Employing youth to stimulate economic growth and social improvements
- Improved and specific skill sets among job seeker
- Business development in all sectors

STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES

STAKEHOLDER ENTRAINED: WASDA

ECONOMIC GROWTH
SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS
PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING
CAPACITY BUILDING
Awareness Raising

Support existing sensitisation efforts in the media and community meetings. Returnees are yet to be involved in interventions. Include them in campaigns. Promote business development opportunities” It is extremely difficult to persuade would-be-migrants not to leave unless they are assured they can develop livelihood skills to be self-employed.
Farafenni
North Bank

- Farafenni is a mid-sized town located 2-3km from the Senegal border. It is a regional hub of activity, with many people traveling in and through the town every day. It is located close to the river and can easily access Soma to the south by ferry, which means there is a lot of commercial activity; the proximity to other busy communities also means that there is exchange of ideas.
- It is the third biggest town in The Gambia (after Serrakunda and Brikama). It is twice the size it was 10 years ago and continues to growing.
- Access to services and public institutions is generally very good: they benefit from stable electricity from Senegal, good road networks, clean water, security, basic public education including vocational tertiary education, staffed hospitals, and many public servants.
- There is a daily market as well as a Sunday market that attracts people from across North Bank, and also LRR, CRR, and Senegal.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with</th>
<th>% of respondents that</th>
<th>% of respondents that</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAID JOB or</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCOME-GENERATING</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sample average: 42%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Sectors:</th>
<th>Farafenni</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Agriculture</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Construction</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Small retail</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Education</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Basic Services Satisfaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Farafenni</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:**

1. **Disenfranchisement of Locals**
   Business is growing every day, but the most successful tend to be foreigners with more developed skills who “start from scratch and make a fortune.” Locals are employed but receive low salaries. Gambians are unable to compete with these business people due to underdeveloped skill sets.

“The main problem is that people don’t get paid good salaries. I’m a Grade 7 graduate and have been working for the government for ten years and still don’t make more than 5,000 dalasi per month” – Ebrahima, 32, M

2. **Poor roads**
   The infrastructure of small roads in town is not good; they haven’t been maintained over the past ten years; even motorcycles have trouble navigating. This inhibits exchange and business growth.

3. **School access and fees**
   Education systems available, but difficult to afford enrollment fees. Mostly only civil servants can send kids to good schools.

Social cohesion and trust is fairly high in Farafenni, as reflected in the high rates of social activities and associations recorded in the quantitative results. There is no tribalism: almost all tribes in Gambia live within Farafenni. People mingle and there is a high rate of intermarriage. Social events are often organised collectively (even though it is not as active as in the past when communities were less busy and less mobile).

- **Population:** 30,000
- **Cluster:** 2: Urban (Upriver)

---

- **Main Sectors:**
  1. Agriculture
  2. Construction
  3. Small retail
  4. Education
  5. Wholesale Trade

- **Basic Services Satisfaction**
  - Education: 88% vs 64%
  - Documentation: 72% vs 49%
  - Housing: 68% vs 44%
  - Healthcare: 84% vs 58%
  - Drinking water: 93% vs 72%
  - Justice and Law Enforcement: 34% vs 33%

---

- **% of respondents that had MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR:**
  - Farafenni: 26%
  - Grand Total: 24%

- **% of respondents that HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS:**
  - Farafenni: 26%
  - Grand Total: 43%

- **% of respondents that DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT AFFORD FEES:**
  - Farafenni: 14%
  - Grand Total: 21%
**MIGRATION PROFILE**

**% of respondents**
- **BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY**
  - 14%
  - Sample average: 25%

**% of respondents**
- **RECEIVING REMITTANCES**
  - 14%
  - Sample average: 15%

**% of respondents with**
- **FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD**
  - 84%
  - Sample average: 71%

**DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD**
- 70%
- Sample average: 55%

**% of respondents**
- **ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS**
  - 57%
  - Sample average: 44%

**I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):**
1. Financial constraints
2. Family doesn’t want me to
3. Lacking networks

**MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS:**
- Europe: 66%
- Gambia (urban): 3%
- Gambia (rural): 5%
- Africa: 4%
- Elsewhere: 0%

**SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**ECONOMIC DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- A start-up vocational tertiary school trains youth on different areas of business and skills.
- Many local workshops take in 3-5 apprentices at a time for free and train them for two to four years, preparing them to open their own businesses.
- Environment conducive to business development. People feel comfortable investing because the area is very safe (crime has been very low for past 15 years). There is 24-hour electrical access.

**CHALLENGES:**
- No certified skill training centres that appeal to higher educated individuals
- High rates of unemployment and low incomes.

**SOCIAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- Youth Committee and other registered associations are convened by government to advocate for reintegration of returnees. Associations have goals to encourage returnees to feel like they are at home through sports and social gatherings.

**CHALLENGES:**
- Youth have many ideas but limited resources to carry out activities.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- Youth Centre provides counseling for youth in and out of school.

**CHALLENGES:**
- Health is the weakest public service provided in community. There is no structured psychosocial support being provided to returnees. Very limited medicines and treatments available – those that are available are too expensive for most.
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

Farafenni Marathon: The organisation involve many returnees in programmes to help develop the community, particularly in the general hospital where they sponsor a ward. (They contribute 200,000 dalasi per year.) The founder is a returnee.

4H is an established organisation. Its focus is on developing youth skills, working closely with returnees in an around the city and rural areas focusing on agriculture, livestock, and small ruminants. They provide loans to youth and women.

Gaye Njorro Training Centre is led by a woman who received guidance from Empretec. She set up a training centre for youth and women, specialising in tie and dye, hairdressing, catering, wood carving, visual arts, and computing. It is expanding rapidly and receives widespread support in the community.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

Short term: Invest in skills
Partner with ADWAC, 4H, and Gaye Njorro Training Centre via Empretec in order to increase access to skills training programmes. Provide sponsorship to youth and returnees

Short term: Identify workshop partners
Find local partner to identify workshops that would be willing to take on apprentices. Match returnees with the vocations they are most interested in pursuing and establish pathways to developing their own enterprises.

Short term: Develop sports clubs
Work with Youth Council to develop a returnee and non-migrant football club (and other sports of interest) for immediate social exchange, and longer term competition with other clubs (e.g., the returnee football team in Basse)

Medium term: Regional outreach
Identify returnees in surrounding communities that are less well resourced than Farafenni and invite to participate and skills development programmes.

Medium term: Infrastructure development
Work with civil servants and government actors (e.g. NAWEC) to identify priority infrastructure interventions (internal roads) and create employment + development programme.

Returnee economic empowerment
Growing sectors (and needed skills):
- Small and Large Business
- Fishing (cold storage)
- Civil Service (management and administration)
- Other skills desired: hairdressing, tailoring, sewing, beautician, electrical wiring, welding, plumbing, carpentry

RECOMMENDATIONS

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

ECONOMIC GROWTH

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING

CAPACITY BUILDING

Awareness Raising
- Capitalise on the diversity of civil society actors in the community to spread information about migration and re-integration to encourage:
  - Employment pathways
  - Development of social groups to incorporate returnees
- Actively promote the contributions that returnees are making to the development of community (e.g., via Farafenni Marathon hospital improvements via newspaper, radio, and community groups
Soma

Lower River Region  
**Cluster:** 2: Urban (Uriver)

- Soma has grown rapidly over the past three years. Although the population is increasing there is not much space to expand, because it is bounded by mountains, a river, and smaller communities.
- Business is booming in Soma, as it is a transit point north to Farafenni and Senegal, and south to Casamance.
- They have the same 24-hour electrical system as Farafenni, supplied by Senegal. There is a major health centre, primary schools and one senior school, one bank, and microfinance institutions. The clean water supply is limited.

**KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:**

1. **Limited high-quality job opportunities**  
Soma has a high rate of unemployment. Most of the youth are well educated, however, they do not want to take jobs that are low-skilled and that do not confer as reputable a social standing.

2. **Limited skills development**  
Many graduates from grade 12 have to travel to the Coast for trainings for high-skilled jobs. There is no vocational training centre in Soma that offers certificates, which are desired among higher-paying employers.

3. **Road network:** Internal and connecting roads are a problem, particularly during the rainy season. This makes it very difficult for the large agriculture sector to optimise its operations. Many goods spoil before making it to the market. It is estimated that there is 40% post-harvest losses in the community.

"Outward migration has had a profound impact on our community. Historically, most social activities are initiated by youth, and now with so many out on the Back Way, we do not have many of our traditional activities.”  
– Sonna S., 25, female, housewife

The social fabric in Soma has been tested in recent years but has been strengthened since Barrow came to power. During Jammeh’s presidency, there was increased tribalism and division along political lines. Opinion leaders have been working hard to improve relations by increasing discussions within the community and encouraging Soma’s associations to plan social events.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with</th>
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<tr>
<td>PAID JOB or</td>
<td>LOOKING FOR A JOB</td>
<td>HAVE A GROUP OF</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCOME-GENERATING</td>
<td>Sample average:</td>
<td>FRIENDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Sectors:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Agriculture</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Small retail</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Construction</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Domestic worker</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Education</td>
<td>3%</td>
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**Basic Services Satisfaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Soma</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| % of respondents that   | % of respondents that had |
|                        | MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES     |
|                        | DURING LAST YEAR           |
|                        | Sample average:            | Sample average:           |
| HAD TO REDUCE FOOD     | 36%                         | 37%                       |
| FOR LACK OF MEANS      | Sample average:            |                        |
|                        | 43%                         | 24%                       |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR MORE |
|                         | Sample average:             |
|                        | 41%                         |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL      |
|                         | BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES |
|                         | Sample average:            |
|                        | 7%                          |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES     |
|                         | DURING LAST YEAR           |
|                         | Sample average:            | Sample average:           |
|                      | 37%                         | 24%                       |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL      |
|                         | BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES |
|                         | Sample average:            |
|                        | 7%                          |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES     |
|                         | DURING LAST YEAR           |
|                         | Sample average:            | Sample average:           |
|                      | 37%                         | 24%                       |

| % of respondents that    | % of respondents that had   |
|                         | DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL      |
|                         | BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES |
|                         | Sample average:            |
|                        | 7%                          |

**Population:** 10,000
**MIGRATION PROFILE**

- **% of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY**:
  - Soma: 14%
  - Total: 14%
  - Sample average: 25%

- **% of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES**:
  - Soma: 18%
  - Total: 18%
  - Sample average: 15%

- **% of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS/FRIENDS ABROAD**:
  - Soma: 88%
  - Total: 88%
  - Sample average: 71%

- **% of respondents DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD**:
  - Soma: 71%
  - Total: 55%
  - Sample average: 24%
  - Sample average: 5%

- **% of respondents ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS**:
  - Soma: 65%
  - Total: 44%
  - Sample average: 44%

I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):
1. Financial constraints

**MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS**:
- **Europe**: 70%
- **Gambia (urban)**: 9%
- **Gambia (rural)**: 0%
- **Africa**: 1%
- **Elsewhere**: 0%

**SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**ECONOMIC DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES**:
  - The ECOWAS highway and Trans-Gambia Highway, which connect with external communities, are in good condition and bring lots of business to Soma.
  - The business sector has thrived under Barrow’s government.
  - Youth in Soma are relatively well educated compared to others.
  - An increasing number of financial institutions are improving peoples’ access to credit.

- **CHALLENGES**:
  - Infrastructures are still under-developed, making it difficult to build a strong business base.
  - All stages of the agricultural value chain are underdeveloped and carry high liabilities, limiting farmers’ successes.

**SOCIAL DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES**:
  - There are frequent youth activities, e.g., football tournaments that bring people from Soma and surrounding communities together.
  - Annual cultural programmes reinforce traditional practices and reinforce the importance of less-represented minority groups.
  - There are many active and inclusive youth and women’s associations in Soma. E.g., Soma Youth Committee

- **CHALLENGES**:
  - Returnees in Soma report few challenges with social integration. Returnees are welcomed in the community and they are well connected with village leaders.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

- **OPPORTUNITIES**:
  - The community is welcoming of returnees.
  - GID works closely with public radio to sensitize the community.

- **CHALLENGES**:
  - Immediate families are the first to stigmatise returnees.
  - No psychological programming was documented in Soma.
KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

The Village Development Committee have connections with every group in the community because the VDC register them as members. They have extensive networks and abilities to spread messages and influence the creation of new programmes.

The Soma Youth Committee is led by the most active youth leaders in Soma who plan and carry out various activities for the community. They are influential because they are respected by higher-level actors as well as community members.

Gambian Immigration Department have initiated meetings with alkalos and inviting youth and other community members to attend to sensitise them to the dangers of travelling the Back Way. There is high demand for these sessions; alkalos continue to call GID to hold more. GID are also spreading information over the radio to have a larger influence in the region.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

**Short term: Invest in apprenticeships**
- Soma is not a large community; however, there are many diverse market demands and youth want to be employed by competitive businesses. Therefore, it could be more appropriate to develop and support existing small-scale apprenticeships to build the labour supply without oversaturating specific sectors.

**Short term: Entrepreneurial support**
- Many Soma youth are well educated, have skills, and entrepreneurial ambitions. Extend opportunities for developing business savvy, e.g., via Empretec, that are available in more urban centres so that youth do not have to migrate to access opportunities.

**Medium term: Partnerships for job creation**
- Identify growing businesses in the community (via alkalos, the VDC, and Youth Committee) to create partnerships to establish a pipeline for paid employment opportunities for youth.

**Longer term: Development of agriculture, poultry, and small ruminant value chains**
- These sectors have particularly high potential for expansion if particular elements of the value chain are also improved (e.g., maintaining good roads and electrical supply to facilitate transport and storage). The community have a history of working in agriculture and livestock, and so would be an accessible livelihood development for a large swathe of the population.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS**

**PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**AWARENESS RAISING**

- Work directly with Youth Association to reach out to vulnerable youth and returnees. Design social and economic opportunities with them and support them in efforts to direct youth to the programmes.
- Collaborate with GID in their outreach efforts. Share with them messages that should be pass on to returnees and other youth.
Dampha Kunda
Upper River Region

Population: ~5,000
Cluster: 3: Rural (Upriver)

- Dampha Kunda is predominantly an agrarian community. They grown large amounts of vegetables but production is reported to have declined in the community over the past few years due to climate change and an incomplete irrigation system. There is very little room for the market in the village as construction of residential buildings have overtaken public spaces.
- There are two schools (Lower Basic and Arabic Islamic School) and no access to senior or tertiary education level. Dampha Kunda has access to electricity but there is limited electricity use for skill work such as welding, carpentry etc.
- There is only one money transfer bureau serving the community but no access to financing either business or farming.

**KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:**

1. Market Problems
   - There is no adequate market space for the large quantity of vegetables produced.
   - Transporting vegetables to the market is difficult because the only vehicles that can manage are motorbikes fixed with trailers; these motorbikes simultaneously transport people and their luggage.

2. Lack of Awareness
   As a rural upriver site, fewer youth are conscious of the perils of the Back Way. The influence of successful migrants makes it difficult to communicate to intending migrants the consequences of irregular routes. It is primarily teachers at the Lower Basic School who work with the community.

“*A very large number of young boys left the village and have now come back. Most of them feel stigmatized and isolated, and do not feel supported by their families to participate in reintegration and livelihood programmes.*” - Nano Kebbeh, 40, female, farmer

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with</th>
<th>% of respondents that are</th>
<th>% of respondents that had</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LOOKING FOR A JOB</td>
<td>HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34% (Sample average: 42%)</td>
<td>18% (Sample average: 25%)</td>
<td>95% (Sample average: 95%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main Sectors:**
- 1. Small retail: 10%
- 2. Agriculture: 8%
- 3. Education: 4%
- 4. Transportation: 1%
- 5. Public administration: 1%

**Basic Services Satisfaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Dampha Kunda</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>% of respondents that had</th>
<th>% of respondents that had</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS</td>
<td>MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR</td>
<td>DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE COULD NOT AFFORD FEES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52% (Sample average: 43%)</td>
<td>18% (Sample average: 24%)</td>
<td>26% (Sample average: 21%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**MIGRATION PROFILE**

- **% of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY**
  - Sample average: 25%
  - 29%

- **% of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES**
  - Sample average: 15%
  - 29%

- **% of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS / FRIENDS ABROAD**
  - Sample average: 71%
  - 68%

**DESIRE TO MIGRATE ABROAD**

- **Dampha Kunda**
  - Yes: 37%
  - No: 38%
  - Unsure: 5%

- **Total**
  - Yes: 55%
  - No: 24%
  - Unsure: 5%

**MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE THE COMMUNITY:**
1. Employment opportunities
2. Education
3. Family reasons
4. “I don’t belong here”
5. Lack of prospects here

**% of respondents ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS**
- Sample average: 44%
- 27%

**I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):**
1. Financial constraints
2. Civil documentations

**MIGRATION PROJECT DESTINATIONS:**

- **Europe**
  - 37%

- **Gambia (urban)**
  - 21%

- **Africa**
  - 0%

- **Elsewhere**
  - 0%

**SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**ECONOMIC DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- The Garden Development Project pioneered by the diaspora introduced fruit production and creates employment for youth.
- Agriculture projects (rice and vegetable cultivation), can create self-employment opportunities and contribute to food security.
- The availability of electricity makes it possible to develop skills training courses that would not be possible two years ago.

**CHALLENGES:**
- Poor market space, transport, and storage for vegetables limits economic gain, particularly for female farmers.
- Low rainfall and the breakdown of the existing rice irrigation scheme drastically reduces resilience and food security in the community.

**SOCIAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- The traditional community structure enhances social cohesion and could easily facilitate reintegration interventions.
- Many returnees participated in the Garden Development scheme, creating a social space to interact with the community.

**CHALLENGES:**
- The Village Development Committee has a difficult time promoting public social resources and youth activities.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**
- Teachers at the Madrassa provide counseling to their students, some of who are returnees.

**CHALLENGES:**
- There are no formal psychological services; returnees tend to be counseled by family members or are left isolated.
- Families of returnees are particularly upset by challenges created by emigration, which causes psychological unease for all.

**PERCEPTION OF RETURNEES IN THE COMMUNITY**

- **Dampha Kunda**
  - Positively: 55%
  - Neutral/Don’t know: 37%
  - Negatively: 8%

- **Total**
  - Positively: 55%
  - Neutral/Don’t know: 37%
  - Negatively: 8%

**% of RETURNEES**
- Sample average: 16%
- 12%

**% of respondents with ACCESS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT**
- Sample average: 63%
- 32%

**% of respondents that FELT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST**
- Sample average: 35%
- 27%
KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

**Garden Development:** This initiative is attempting to diversify agriculture from subsistence to commercial farming. They employ returnees and non-migrants. The project intends to prove that The Gambia can be a food exporter. They are very resourceful (with land and water) and inclusive.

**The Women’s Association for Development:** This group consists of mostly women farmers working to improve food security and secure livelihoods for vulnerable people. The group grows rice, vegetables and field crops and also received loans to buy various tools. They are interested in working with vulnerable women.

**The Arab Islamic School:** This school provides instruction in both Arabic and English through the basic primary level. The vision is "to produce good students, 70% of whom would be highly qualified by 2020". The school enrolls over 1,000 male and female youth, recruits teachers from community, and are well placed to work with all households in the village.

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

**Short term:** Provide cold storage and training in basic processing techniques to lower postharvest loses for vegetable growers.

**Short term:** Assist Youth Development Association to improve their ability to advertise and run social activities that incorporate youth.

**Medium term:** Partner with the Garden Development initiative to take advantage of their experience and willingness to invest their limited resources in agricultural expansion and job opportunities. There are large tracts of uncultivated land to expand rice, fruit, and vegetable production.

**Medium term:** Help Council increase the size of the market and build more stalls so that sellers do not have to leave their community to sell goods.

**Medium term:** There are no skills training opportunities and the availability of electricity allows the possibility to set up tailoring, carpentry, welding, and other workshops to empower youths.

**Longer term:** Revive partnership with NGO Wuli and Sandu Development Association (WASDA) to re-develop rice cultivation. There is high potential to, decrease unemployment, build resilience against food insecurity, and increase savings through lower food costs.

STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES

STAKEHOLDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION

STAKEHOLDER DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES:
- Developing agricultural skills and land development;
- Employing youth to stimulate economic growth and social improvements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

**ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS**

**PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Awareness Raising**

- Dampha Kunda is very religious and holds the teachers at the Madrassa in high regard. They conduct sermons and provide counseling in the community, and could discuss issues related to returnees.
- Encourage development of returnee youth groups and establish platforms for them to share their stories in order to combat the overwhelmingly negative perceptions in community.
Kerewan
North Bank

Population: 7,500
Cluster: 3: Rural (Upriver)

- Kerewan is a relatively small town that is not growing very quickly. A majority of income-earning residents are farmers; there are not many business people. Agriculture generates the most income for the town.
- Kerewan is the administrative seat of North Bank, which means that there are many government actors present. This is an advantage because—even though there are fewer resources than many other locations in this study—Kerewan is the first to benefit from projects initiated by the central government (e.g., for Department of Agriculture, Police Department, etc.).

KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:

1. High rates of poverty
   There are many people in the community living below the poverty line without stable sources of income. Financial challenges are exaggerated for many by the large number of youth who have returned from the Back Way empty-handed.

2. Dislocated livelihoods
   The bridge built about 10 years ago displaced many people from their livelihoods because Kerewan became a thoroughfare rather than a stopover.

3. Slowly improving infrastructure
   While education facilities are expanding (there is now a senior school) other public services are not yet perfect. Clean water and electricity are not dependable; health and sanitation are bad.

4. Seasonal (un)employment
   Seasonal demands in agriculture create challenges for long-term employment and transitions to larger-scale farming. Most youth are unable to secure alternative jobs outside rainy season and seek them in Kombos during the dry season.

"The only infrastructure that has improved are the roads and the school, which now have trained teachers. However, we have a poor healthcare system, as we have only structures but there are few workers and there is no medicine distributed."
– Alami F, 60, male, civil servant

Social cohesion is very high in Kerewan. There is primarily one tribe in the community and many families are related through inter-marriage.
With the new government, residents have an increased sense of hope in spite of economic challenges and underdevelopment in the recent past.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of respondents that LOOKING FOR A JOB</th>
<th>% of respondents that HAVE A GROUP OF FRIENDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60% Sample average: 42%</td>
<td>16% Sample average: 25%</td>
<td>100% Sample average: 95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main Sectors:
1 Agriculture 30%
2 Construction 7%
3 Transportation 4%
4 Electricity/plumbing 2%
5 Mechanic services 2%

Basic Services Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kerewan</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of respondents that had MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR

26% Sample average: 43%

% of respondents that dropped out of school because they could not afford fees

28% Sample average: 21%

% of respondents with HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENT

36% Sample average: 42%
## Migration Profile

### % of Respondents

- **Born in Another Community**: 17% (Sample average: 25%)
- **Receiving Remittances**: 26% (Sample average: 15%)
- **Family Members/Friends Abroad**: 96% (Sample average: 71%)

### Desire to Migrate Abroad

- **Kerewan**: 61%
- **Total**: 55%

### Migration Project Destinations

- **Europe**: 54%
- **Gambia (Urban)**: 11%
- **Gambia (Rural)**: 4%
- **Africa**: 7%
- **Elsewhere**: 0%

### I Want to Leave but I am Unable to Because (Main Reasons):

1. Financial constraints
2. Worried of risks during the trip

### % of Respondents Able to Move Away Within 12 Months

- **Total**: 50% (Sample average: 44%)

## Sustainable Reintegration: Challenges and Opportunities

### Economic Dimension

- **Opportunities**:
  - Agriculture is an established sector and there are many capable farmers in the community.
  - There is an abundance of land and a river for vegetables, rice, and aquaculture to thrive.

- **Challenges**:
  - Businesses are not developing because the town is not very large and there is less demand for products and services.
  - Many youth leave the community during the dry season, stripping Kerewan of a large portion of its skilled labour force.
  - With the building of the bridge, there is less commercial interaction between locals and people traveling through.

### Social Dimension

- **Opportunities**:
  - There are not issues of tribalism because it is predominantly one tribe with significant inter-relations among families in the community.
  - Community members are very supportive of social initiatives among different groups in the town.
  - In April, the Regional Youth Committee hosts all registered youth associations in Kerewan to decide new executives and activities for the next two years.

- **Challenges**:
  - The high rates of poverty among individuals and low economic development of Kerewan limit engagement in and development of some social activities.

### Psychological Dimension

- **Opportunities**:
  - The Regional Youth Committee are very hands-on, offering psychosocial support for returnees.
  - Operation No Back Way, a returnee association, works with the public to improve perceptions of migrants and encourages people to find value in what Kerewan has to offer.

- **Challenges**:
  - There are still many people who view returnees as failures; they discourage them for pursuing social and economic opportunities.
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:

The Regional Youth Committee coordinate and monitor youth activities in the community with the aim of developing employment opportunities. They are well connected with central actors: they previously facilitated a fishing project for youth via IOM, and have helped manage NEMA and projects with YEP. The RYC also engage in advocacy activities with the support of NYC.

The Department of Agriculture is working with YEP to train youth in many on- and off-farm activities as a pathway to securing sustainable employment and to develop the sector in the region.

The Village Development Committee is the governing body of the community and oversees many developments that occur in Kerewan. They have a five-year strategic plan that includes developing the rice and agriculture sectors. Youth employment is a priority.

Association of Fishermen are working to revive this sector with the aim of increasing employment opportunities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

Short term: Strengthen connections with VDC and RYC
Both actors are critical conduits to establishing contact with youth in Kerewan. They have proven track records facilitating projects with partners and so should be the primary points of contact for IOM.

Short term: Support returnee organisations
Fund activities of Operation No Bay Way so that they can continue to develop positive messaging in the community about returnees, participate in social fora, and provide psychosocial support to vulnerable youth.

Medium term: Sponsor skills trainings
Employers recruit from the training centre in Tadam (in Bundung). Sponsor Kerewan’s youth to attend these trainings to develop agricultural skills sets (and others desired), particularly during the dry season when they have fewer activities and obligations.

Longer term: Develop aquaculture sector
Kerewan is uniquely positioned to engage in more sustainable aquaculture projects because of its proximity to the river. Aquaculture sites are easier to maintain than agriculture and rice which allows workers more flexibility and economic security. Many residents of Kerewan express interest in aquaculture but they need resources and financial investment, support that can be offered from central stakeholders.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

ECONOMIC GROWTH

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING

CAPACITY BUILDING

AWARENESS RAISING

- Sustain the dialogue that YAIM began during their recent caravan by building on the messages shared with students. Encourage RYC to replicate some of their approaches (e.g., song, theatre, and dance) and involve local returnees in productions.
- Connect with RYC’s North Bank Youth Activists whatsapp group to keep up to date with conversations and share opportunities with members. This model can be replicated in other communities.
Sami Karantaba
Central River Region

Population: 1,600
Cluster: 3: Rural (Upriver)

- Sami Karantaba has been described as a “highly deprived community.” It is a rural settlement that mainly depends on agriculture, with limited resources to increase output. There is no central market in Karantaba and trading happens on the roadside. A weekly market takes place in the community but has few structures in place to vendors. Karantaba doesn’t have a community garden for vegetable production, even though it’s in close proximity to River Gambia, which means residents have few activities and vegetables during the dry season.
- Services and facilities are a challenge. Access to clean drinking water is limited; some parts of the village depend on aid from a local philanthropist (Amedou Jah). There is a school and health facility in the community; both have limited space. Youths in the area lack access to skills training. The electricity company has not connected the village to the main power grid. Road networks remain poor though construction is beginning. Currently, there are no financial institutions. In general, people have to travel to Bansang to access services.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents with PAID JOB or INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
<th>% of respondents that are LOOKING FOR A JOB</th>
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<th>Sample average:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main Sectors:**
1. Small retail     2%
2. Agriculture      1%
3. Education        1%
4. Electricity/plumbing 1%
5. Livestock        1%

**Basic Services Satisfaction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Sami Karantaba</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Law Enforcement</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of respondents that HAD TO REDUCE FOOD FOR LACK OF MEANS</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>% of respondents that had MAJOR ILLNESS EPISODES DURING LAST YEAR</th>
<th>Sample average:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Social cohesion is described as low, mainly attributable to the multiple sub-villages, each or which have different leadership. There has been attempt to form a unified development committee but it failed due to political difference.
- There are no visible youth organisations, however a women’s group is active.

**KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY:**

1. Poor job prospects
   Employment is hardly accessible in the community; neither government or private sector provide many jobs. There are no skill trainings available and youth migrate in search of skills or employment after completing Grade 12.

2. Overall poor infrastructure
   The hospital buildings are old and require complete rehabilitation. The feeder roads linking the highway to Karantaba Tenda has recently been built with laterite. Schools need space for Senior Secondary; currently operating but without their own structures.

"The business sector is very underdeveloped because there is so much poverty, a poor road network, and failing livestock and agriculture sectors. The few large stores here belong to the Mauritanian. – Fatou, 50, F"
MIGRATION PROFILE

% of respondents BORN IN ANOTHER COMMUNITY: 20% Sample average: 25%

% of respondents RECEIVING REMITTANCES: 9% Sample average: 15%

% of respondents with FAMILY MEMBERS/ FRIENDS ABROAD: 58% Sample average: 71%

% of respondents ABLE TO MOVE AWAY WITHIN 12 MONTHS: 32% Sample average: 44%

MAIN REASONS FOR WANTING TO LEAVE THE COMMUNITY:
1. Employment opportunities
2. Education
3. Family reasons
4. “I don’t belong here”

I WANT TO LEAVE BUT I AM UNABLE TO BECAUSE (MAIN REASONS):
1. Family doesn’t want me to
2. Lacking information

SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

ECONOMIC DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• Agriculture projects (rice and vegetable cultivation) provide a good opportunity for self-employment and to contribute to food security.
• Expanding/developing the only health facility in the area can provide more jobs and improve health service delivery.
• Provision of skill training centres will satisfy youth demands.

CHALLENGES:
• No developed market, low agricultural production, and limited services drive most people out of the region.
• Poor road networks limit access to basic foodstuffs, increase prices and cost of transportation.

SOCIAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• The existing women’s groups have influence over social interventions.
• The 4H Group in one of the clusters provides social support, though at small scale due to lack of resources.

CHALLENGES:
• There is no youth structure in place and youth activities are only visible in the respective Village Development Committees.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSION

OPPORTUNITIES:
• The staff of Karantaba Health Centre can help increase access to psychosocial support for all populations.

CHALLENGES:
• No specialized institution or specific programmes for returnees. Absence of youth groups also hinders peer-to-peer support and has negative impact on psychosocial wellbeing.
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

KEY COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO INVOLVE:
There are few organised groups and organisations in Karantaba due to the small size of the village and the underdeveloped social networks. However, those present offer strong inroads to develop valuable interventions for residents.

Karantaba Health Centre: Has a very dedicated team but is understaffed with limited resources. Providing new structures and improving the existing building will increase capacity to create more jobs and provide better healthcare to the community.

The 4H Club: This club has been in existence since the 1980s and has vast experience in social work and implementation of various kind of interventions. They are challenged with having few resource to support returnees.

STAKEHOLDER CAPACITIES

POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS

**Short term: Invest in agriculture, livestock, and fishing**
There are low agriculture yields reported due to depleted land fertility and low rainfall. Providing irrigation schemes and fertilizers for both rice and vegetable production is an opportunity to boost self-employment, increase farm income, and enhance resilience to climate change and food security. Support livestock production and fishing, which are both underdeveloped can also reduce poverty and unemployment in the area.

**Medium term: Develop market and business investment**
Provide a market structure to increase business activities. Provide youth seed funding to establish small businesses to attract other youth (including returnees) to the community—especially those in the urban centres who are unemployed.

**Medium term: Training centres**
Develop skills training centres in region to help retain youth completing Grade 12. At present, no tertiary schools or skill centres and youths have to move for further education or jobs.

**Longer term: Shift toward poultry**
Poultry farming is emerging in the area. Youth should be linked to national projects promoting poultry production as an alternative to focusing just on crop farming (which hasn’t kept youth in the community).

RECOMMENDATIONS

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS**

**PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING**

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

**Awareness Raising**

- Schedule sensitization campaign. The region has challenges accessing media and are not privy to messages about migration in the country. Existing groups in the community and opinion leaders are equipped to deal directly with youth and assist with social interventions for reintegration.
- Form youth groups that include returnees and encourage them to share migration experiences and to participate in planning and implementation of sustainable projects that will attract youth to return.

- **Training centres**
- **Develop market and business investment**
- **Shift toward poultry**
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