

NEWSLETTER

September –December 2014



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WELCOME

The EIF Programme is to enhance the capacity of the Gambia to engage and maximise trade for national development. This requires the building of institutional and human capacities of the key drivers of trade in as a means of mainstreaming trade in the national development process as outlined in the DTIS Update. It is envisaged that with the EIF Programme,

a comprehensive information and strategic focus is being provided by the DTIS Update, which is a tool that seeks to identify projects and priority areas for the enhancement of trade in the Gambia.

The newsletter aims to give an insight on the past events during the Quarter.

TIER 1 - UPDATE

The EIF program started in the Gambia in 2010 following the finalization and approval of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS) in 2007 and the approval by the EIF Board the EIF Tier 1 project in 2009.

National Steering Committee Approves Sub-Grant Proposals for Sectors

On November 13th the National Steering Committee (NSC) in its quarterly meeting to reviewed and approved five sub grantee proposals for funding support. The proposals address trade related activities in Programme Accelerated Growth

and Employment (PAGE) and sector programmes.

Under outcome 2 of the Tier 1 Project which is mainstreaming trade in the national development strategies and plans. The EIF recently signed agreements to supporting trade related institutions to the tune of 3.4 million Dalasis to implement trade related activities.

The institutions supported by the EIF Programme include Fisheries Department, Ministry of Justice, Food Safety and Quality Authority, Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency



Support from EIF to local food processor Jal Yassin's Enterprise



Motorbicycles were bought for to aid in the distribution of horticulture produce

Trade Related Assistance for least developed countries

TIER 2 - TRADE FACILITATION PROJECT UPDATE

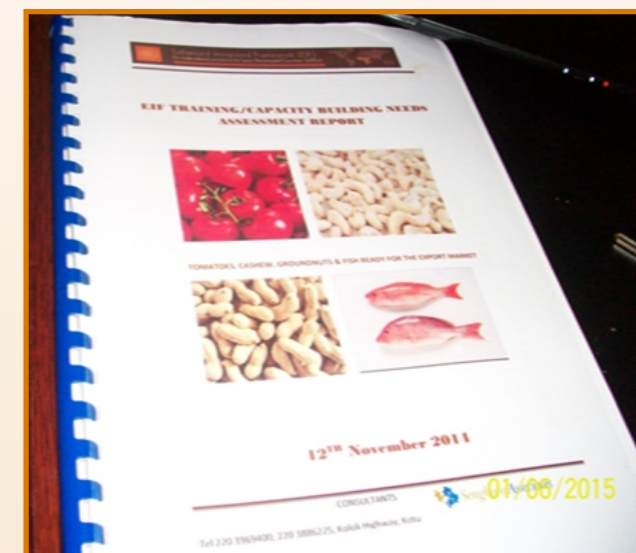
The Trade Facilitation Project through increased logistics, infrastructure and services at the Banjul International Airport project seeks to increase national participation in international trade through the improvement of airport services for exporters and SMEs in tourism, horticulture and fish export trade.

The actual facility for air cargo operations currently at BIA are below IATA standard given the non existence of large scanners and cold rooms for perishables. Pallets are not scanned because of the availability of scanners.

The Trade Facilitation will enable BIA to meet international safety and security standard in handling cargo. Furthermore the project will increase the number of airlines serving and accepting cargo from The Gambia.

The Project Management Committee (PMC) met for its quarterly meeting on October 6th 2014 to review the progress of implementation of activities of the Trade Facilitation Project. The meeting reviewed the Bi- Annual progress report from Jan to June and validated of the monitoring and evaluation plan of the project.

Following an application from GIA to the National Environment Agency in September for environment



Training needs assessment report

approval to construct and operate a cargo facility. The said agency did an assessment followed by an approval in October.

A training needs assessment exercise was conducted and concluded in NOV 2014 for the project staff and staff of other stakeholder institutions. The consultants identified both soft and technical skills for individual and institutional capacity development and to fill the existing gaps.

GIA Signs Contract with Torodo Builders for the construction of a modern Cargo Complex.

After a competitive bidding process, Torodo Builders emerged as the most responsive bidder. Torodo Builders, a Gambian construction firm, has been selected to build the Cargo Complex that will be equipped with state of earth equipment and facilities to facilitate the handling of perishable and non-perishable cargo at the Banjul International Airport. The construction is being supervised by, Egara, a Spanish consultant.

