

# REPORT OF THE 'RAISING HER VOICE' (RHV) BASELINE SURVEY ON AWARENESS OF LAWS THAT PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY IN THE GAMBIA

African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)

### 1. Introduction

The first World Conference on Women held in Mexico in 1975 aroused an unprecedented movement towards awareness to change the norms in perception and attitude towards women. While they constitute slightly more than 50 per cent of the world's population, women have remained the most deprived and disadvantaged group in the world.

Africa in the new Millennium began adopting measures on gender mainstreaming as one great channel of creating and nurturing that culture of empowerment in African societies. African leaders were fully committing to making the necessary policy changes that would improve the status of women.

At the Third Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Addis Ababa on July 6-8 2004, Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union (AU) reaffirmed their commitment to gender equality as enshrined in Article 4(1) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union as well as other existing commitments, principles, goals and actions set out in the various regional, continental and international instruments on human and women's rights.<sup>1</sup>

The National Machinery (The Women's Bureau) and Council established in 1980 and mandated to advise government on women's issues found a critical instrument in the SDGEA. To consolidate gains in gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment the AU adopted the Additional Protocols on the Rights of Women in Africa as well as adopted the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA).

The Gambia recent submission of its Initial Report on the SDGEA highlights strategies and mechanisms that the government, civil society and non-governmental organisations have jointly developed towards the speedier implementation of the obligations covering gender budgeting, capacity building and health services for women.

# 2. Status of Women in Africa and in The Gambia

The signing and ratification of continental and international treaties with the general intent on the part of African governments and peoples to put in place proper mechanisms for improvement on the lot of women in Africa are already enviable milestones although prejudicial customary practices continue to restrict women from enjoying basic rights such as access to land, credit and investment.

The various protocols in place form the basis for an educated transformation of attitudes from the old ways. The patriarchal nature of African society and the misinterpretations of religious principles continue to view women as subordinate to men as much as the negative impact of economic and cultural constraints continue to weigh much harder on women than most vulnerable groups. The challenge remains therefore for governments to ensure the implementation of treaties that protect the rights of women.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Draft of The Gambia's Initial Report on the SDGEA.

The situation of women in The Gambia manifests an encouraging edge in the fact that several of the elements of the SDGEA have already been put in place in several domains in the Gender equation. The Gambia has come along with the first woman nominated to Parliament back in 1968 to 1982 when the first was elected and on to today with two women duly elected to the National Assembly and two more nominated. In the last 15 years, the country has fielded female cabinet ministers, judges, leaders in local government and speakers of the National Assembly and a national vice president.

A National Policy for the Advancement of Gambian Women and Girls 1999–2009 underlines participation, access and ownership towards sustainable development and puts forward objectives to harmonise the relationship between the sexes that could contribute to the economic empowerment of women through the elimination of poverty and the promotion of sustainable livelihoods. It also puts forward objectives to harmonise the relationship between the sexes that could contribute to the sexes that could contribute to the economic empowerment of women through the relationship between the sexes that could contribute to the sexes that could contribute to the sexes that could contribute to the economic empowerment of women through the elimination of poverty and the promotion of sustainable livelihoods.

The passage in April by the National Assembly of the Women's Bill 2010 provides a definitive policy framework upon which all citizens can depend for the yard stick to measure improvements in the lot of Gambian womanhood. Therein lies the fullest recognition that women are full partners in development.

In general, health, education and economic independence of women are intrinsically linked and each of these sub-sectors have registered benchmarks critical for women and children. Infant and maternal mortality figures have improved; enrolment parity in the basic level education has been achieved and performance at tertiary level has also improved although a great deal more needs to be done in terms of number and quality.

# 3. Raising Her Voice

The ACHDRS is working as the partner on the ground to conduct this baseline study under the aegis of OXFAM GB that is implementing the 'Raising Her Voice' (RHV) Global Programme. Funded by DFID, the RHV seeks to promote the rights and capacity of poor women to engage effectively in governance at all levels. To achieve this, public policy, decision-making and expenditure; and national and customary and traditional rights must reflect the interests of poor and marginalised women.

The Global Programme covers nineteen projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In Africa, it includes one Pan-African continental coordination project with eight associated project work in— Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, The Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and The Gambia. The project component seeks the ratification of the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa in The Sudan and Uganda as well as the effective implementation of the Protocol in the rest of the seven countries that have ratified it.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Raising Her Voice", Africa Project Progress, Learning and Exchange Meeting, 19-20 July, 2009, Kigali, Rwanda.

# 4. The Baseline Survey

In order to develop a more effective programme of intervention in awareness promotion among stakeholders, it is necessary to identify the gaps in lay of the land. This Baseline Survey study has therefore been conducted with the fullest cognisance of the priority issues in the five specific objectives of the RHV which are to:

- Share progress in implementing the RHV project to date;
- Analyse and share key research and advocacy strategies that have worked so far;
- Agree on roles and responsibilities of the programme managers and partners according to the overall management and accountability strategy;
- Agree on project plans and develop a joint monitoring and evaluation strategy;
- Develop shared understanding of donor expectations in terms of accountability and reporting mechanisms (keeping in mind that the focus on downward accountability to women in critical.)

# 5.1 What are the laws, policies and treaties in place in the Gambia?

In investigating the awareness level among the poorer sections of Gambian society of laws, policies and treaties in place it is necessary to list them as background against which to measure how much the common person knows of the existing instruments that promote and protect the human rights of women. These are the instruments that every advocate in the field will have to arm themselves with in teaching the culture of gender equality and getting Gambian society, men and women, to recognise the standards, implement them in their daily dealings with each towards raising the voice of women, especially the poor and marginalised women, by getting them involved in decision making at all levels across Gambian society.

The list must include the following:

- The Constitution of The Gambia (the supreme law of the land);
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR);
- The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR);
- The Additional Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Women in Africa (APACRWA);
- The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC);
- The Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women in Africa (CEDAW);
- The Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA);
- The National Policy for the Advancement of Gambian Women and Girls 1999–2009 culminating in The Women's Bill 2010.

# 6. Methodology

# 6.1 Sample Size and Sample Determination

This study used a purposive judgment and quota sampling to identify the target population. The sampling was done at two levels: regional and central levels. The target sample population was derived from the following types of respondents:

**6.1.1** At the Regional level: A sample from the market area of each regional; capital or LGA, i.e. Banjul, Kanifing, Brikama, Mansakonko, Kerewan, Kuntaur, Janjangbureh and Basse, using a random selection method to identify and interview 50 respondents from each of the identified LGAs. This sample was used to determine general level of awareness of the AU Protocol amongst the general population and the source(s) of their information (see Questionnaire #1)

All stakeholder institutions within each LGA were selected. This included the Ministry of Local Government and Lands/Area Councils, Regional Governors Office, Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Women's Bureau, The Gambia Radio and Television Services–GRTS and Regional CSOs.

### 6.1.2 At the central level, the following were selected:

- Ministry of Local Government and Lands
- West Africa Network for Peace Building (WANEP)
- African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)
- Ministry of Health
- BAFROW
- GAMCOTRAP
- FAWEGAM
- Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education
- Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Association for Promoting Girls' and Women's Advancement (APGWA)
- Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- UNDP
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- Women's Bureau
- The Gambia Radio and Television Services -GRTS
- Child Protection Alliance
- The Gambia Police Force
- The Department of Social Welfare
- Regional CSOs
- FLAG

### 6.1.3 Administration of Questionnaire No. 2

Questionnaire No. 2 was administered to this group of institutional stakeholders. Both Questionnaires 1 and 2 targeted males and females within the geographical boundaries of The Gambia. However, due to the limitation of resources, 50 respondents equally distributed across gender were interviewed from each of the eight LGAs in the country (Appendix a).

### 6.2 Screening, Selection and Training of Enumerators

Twelve (12) enumerators were identified for the training. After screening eight (8) enumerators and one research assistant were finally selected and trained during a One-Day Workshop on the administration of the questionnaires. This training allowed nuances in

translations of the questionnaires from English to the other local languages to be addressed and agreement reached on the most appropriate corresponding concepts to be used in translating the questions into a local language. It also provided the opportunity for administrative/logistical issues of concern to the enumerators to be addressed.

A supervisor at each LGA was identified for each enumerator, with the role of ensuring that the target samples were identified correctly and also ensuring that the questionnaires were properly completed. The supervisors also ensured follow-up visits were conducted where appropriate. The returned questionnaires were finally vetted by the consultant Statistician.

### 6.3 Data Collection

The field data collection exercise lasted one week, with follow-ups conducted during the following week. An 80% return rate was realised.

The statistician - who was the overall data collection supervisor, together with the other two consultants maintained constant communication with the enumerators through telephone calls.

### 6.4 Constraints

The most major constraint encountered resulted from the limited fiscal resources allocated for a baseline study that required a nationwide coverage. However, the sample, small as it is, is not necessarily lacking in comprehensiveness even where the limited funding would not allow a desired number of follow-ups due to the associated costs of making follow-up visits to respondents. The data from URR was also delayed due to delays in conducting follow-ups after the enumerators had expended the allocated and paid number of days in the field. Thus, the supervisor had to ensure the returns from the follow-up visits.

In addition to administrative delays in the disbursement of funds and attention to time detail the study start-up date for the data collection period coincided with national and regional celebrations of the 45<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary, the absence on official duties of departmental authority at the Commission on the Status of Women CSW), a consultation dedicated to review Beijing +15. This meeting was held in New York City in March, right in the middle of this survey and the ramification of the absence of a number of women central to the institutional survey within institutions is felt in the collation of responses. Here, the system of non delegation of requisite authority to those at their desks severely delayed interviews thus causing a slight overrun in the survey period.

Thus, it was a difficult period to get targeted focal points/officials/institutions to respond to the questionnaires. In fact, a serious setback was encountered in collecting completed *institutional questionnaires* due to various factors, ranging from official engagements, unexplainable sensitivity to the questions of "rights", reluctance to support the study, etc. One senior police officer actually levelled suspicions of the possible intention of the enumerator and this survey to investigate and expose human rights issues in the government.

### 7. Findings

The findings derived from the data analysis are presented in two parts:

**Part I** addresses the general awareness levels (among individual respondents) of the general population in all eight LGAs across the country.

**Part II** focuses among other issues on analysis of the awareness of Laws among Institutions, Focal Points within Institutions, Sources of information, awareness of socio-cultural and economic practices that influence gender, training within the institutions in gender mainstreaming, and male/female disparities in measures against gender violence, etc.

### Part I

### 7.1 Socio-Demographic Background

The population of The Gambia as of 2003 population and housing census was 1,360,681 persons compared to 1,038,145 persons recorded in 1993. This represents an annual growth rate of 2.7 per cent over 1993-2003 inter-censal period. Although the population growth rate slowed down some what compared to the 1983-1993 growth rate of 4.2, there was still an apparent growth in absolute terms by a third over the inter-censal period 1983-1993 (Gambia Bureau of Statistics, 2003). According to population projections, The Gambia's population in 2010 stood at 1.7 million persons with males constituting 49.4 per cent and females 50.6 per cent.

In 1993, Brikama held the largest proportion of population (28.6 per cent) followed by Kanifing (23.7 per cent). However, population projections from the **Gambia Bureau of Statistics** indicate that in 2010 Brikama holds 28.3 per cent of the population and Kanifing 23.2 per cent. This decline is attributable to reduction in fertility traceable to improvements in socio-economic conditions. In 2003, the Brikama and Kanifing areas together held slightly more than half of The Gambia's population holding 28.6 per cent and 23.7 per cent, respectively. This is likely to remain unchanged in the foreseeable future. In both censuses under review the two areas registered the highest growth rates and this is partly attributable to the inflow of both internal and international migrants in these areas (Ndow, (2008)).

In 1993, 37 per cent of The Gambia's population was urban rising to 52 per cent in 2003. Banjul and Kanifing LGAs are predominantly urban. Brikama has the next highest proportion (60 per cent) of urban population with Kuntaur holding the lowest proportion (6 percent) of the country's urban population (see **Table 1**), **Ndow**, (2008).

LGA	1993		•	2003		
	Percent	Intercensal	Percentage	Percent	Intercensal	Percentage
	Population	Population	Population	Population	Population	Population
	Distribution	Growth	Urban	Distribution	Growth	Urban
		Rate			Rate	
		1983-1993			1993-2003	
The Gambia	100	4.2	37	100	2.7	52
Banjul	4.1	-0.4	100	2.6	-1.9	100
Kanifing	22.0	8.4	100	23.7	3.5	100
Brikama	22.6	5.5	18	28.6	5.2	60
Mansakonko	6.3	1.7	16	5.3	1.0	18
Kerewan	15.1	3.4	21	12.7	1.0	20
Kuntaur	6.5	1.6	8	5.8	1.5	6
Janjangbureh	8.5	2.6	10	7.9	2.0	15
Basse	14.9	3.4	10	13.4	1.6	13

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Indicators by LGA and Residence: 2003

Source: Computed from the 1993 and 2003 census data, (Ndow, (2008)).

Literacy levels improved over the period 1993–2003. The Gambia's literacy rate in 1993 was estimated at 40.9 per cent and this increased to 52.1 per cent in per cent in 2003. Disparities were observed in literacy levels across LGAs in 2003, with the highest literacy levels being registered in Banjul (69.5 per cent) and Kanifing (62.9 per cent) compared to the rest of the LGAs with levels declining outwards to the eastern most parts of the country. In 2003, overall literacy rate for males and females were 64.7 per cent and 40.2 per cent respectively, an increase over 1993 with males at 45.4 per cent and females at 17.2 per cent. (Hydara, (2003) and Ndow, (2008)).

### 7.2 Profile of Respondents

This study targeted females as well a males in the population. The 50 respondents interviewed were equally distributed across gender from each of the eight (8) Local Government Areas (LGAs) across the country, i.e. Banjul, Kanifing, Brikama, Mansakonko, Kerewan, Kuntaur, Janjangbureh and Basse.

About 49 per cent of the respondents were male and 51 per cent female. This is in conformity with the gender distribution of the general population of the country from the 2003 population and housing census. As specific quotas were allocated for each LGA, this could have been unlikely, but differentials were largely brought about by variations in the number of males and females interviewed in Janjangbureh and Basse LGAs (see **Table 2.**)

	Gender								
LGA	Μ	ale	Fer	nale	Тс	otal			
	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %			
Banjul	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Kanifing	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Brikama	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Mansakonko	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Kerewan	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Kuntaur	25	50.0%	25	50.0%	50	100.0%			
Janjangbureh	21	42.0%	29	58.0%	50	100.0%			
Basse	24	48.0%	26	52.0%	50	100.0%			
Total	195	48.8%	205	51.2%	400	100.0%			

 Table 2: Respondents by LGA and Gender - March 2010

Baseline Survey on Awareness of AU Protocols/Laws - ACDHRS, Banjul, The Gambia

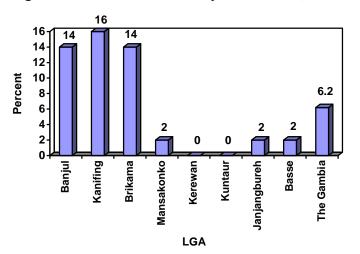
### 7.3 Awareness of Laws by LGA

On the whole only 6.2 per cent of all respondents were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality. This shows that a vast majority of respondents across each gender are not *an-fait* with legal issues redressing gender inequalities or violations.

Among the LGAs, Kanifing respondents registered the highest awareness level (16.0 percent) of these laws. Banjul and Brikama LGAs followed registering awareness levels of 14.0 per cent each. The least knowledgeable respondents on laws or legislations or policies currently in place and promotional of the recognition of or enforcement of gender equality were Kerewan and Kuntaur LGAs (see **Figure 2**).

In general, awareness levels seemed highest in the Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs which are wholly or largely urban compared the other LGAs which are predominantly rural. These urban – rural differentials can be expected, as urban areas in particular are endowed with facilities and social networks that foster the diffusion and assimilation of knowledge and issues.

Figure 1 : Awareness of Laws by LGA - March, 2010

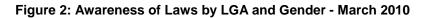


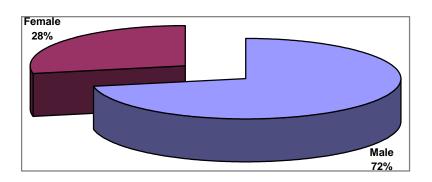
The Gambia by LON - Match 2010										
		1.1 Aware of laws currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality								
		Yes		No		Total				
LGA	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %				
Banjul	7	28.0%	43	11.5%	50	12.5%				
Kanifing	8	32.0%	42	11.2%	50	12.5%				
Brikama	7	28.0%	43	11.5%	50	12.5%				
Mansakonko	1	4.0%	49	13.1%	50	12.5%				
Kerewan	0	.0%	50	13.3%	50	12.5%				
Kuntaur	0	.0%	50	13.3%	50	12.5%				
Janjangbureh	1	4.0%	49	13.1%	50	12.5%				
Basse	1	4.0%	49	13.1%	50	12.5%				
Total	25	100.0%	375	100.0%	400	100.0%				
Baseline Survey on A	wareness	of AU Protoco	ls/Laws	-ACDHRS, Ba	njul, The	e Gambia				

Table 3: Awareness of Laws/Legislations/Protocols currently in place in The Gambia by LGA - March 2010

#### 7.4 National Awareness of Laws by Gender

Of all those who reportedly were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place, 72 per cent were male, whilst 28 per cent were female (see Figure 5:). This shows that in general, males were relatively better informed of these laws compared to their female counterparts.





	Gender								
LGA	М	ale	Fer	male	Total				
	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %			
Banjul	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	7	100.0%			
Kanifing	6	75.0%	2	25.0%	8	100.0%			
Brikama	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	7	100.0%			
Mansakonko	1	100.0%	0	.0%	1	100.0%			
Kerewan	0	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%			
Kuntaur	0	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%			
Janjangbureh	1	100.0%	0	.0%	1	100.0%			
Basse	1	100.0%	0	.0%	1	100.0%			
Total	18	72.0%	7	28.0%	25	100.0%			

Table 4: Respondents who are Aware of Laws/Legislations/Protocols currently in place in The Gambia by LGA and Gender – March 2010

Baseline Survey on Awareness of AU Protocols/Laws - ACDHRS, Banjul, The Gambia

### 7.5 Awareness of Laws by LGA and Gender

Eight out of ten of the male respondents who were reportedly aware of Laws/legislations/policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality were collectively from Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs. Mansakonko, Janjangbureh and Basse LGAs registered 16.8 per cent each. Virtually all of female respondents who were reportedly aware of these laws were concentrated in the Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs.

Female respondents in Brikama registered the highest proportion (42.9 percent) of those who were aware of these laws. In contrast, male respondents in Kanifing (33.3 percent) accounted for the highest awareness levels, whilst those in Brikama (22.2 percent) registered the least in comparative terms.

This reflects the urban-rural tendencies earlier mentioned which contributes to access to knowledge about such issues. The distribution of the female respondents concerning awareness of these laws gives vivid picture of urban-rural differentials particularly as regards the physiological and psychological status of females in rural areas.

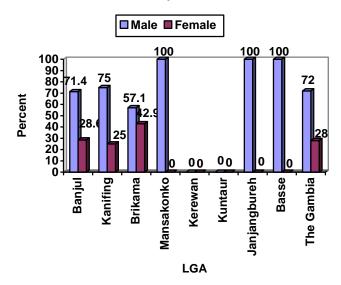


Figure 3: Awareness of Laws by LGA and Gender - March 2010

Table 5: Respondents who are Aware of Laws/Legislations/Protocols currently in place in The Gambia by LGA and Gender - March 2010

				Gender		
		Male		Female	Total	
LGA	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %
Banjul	5	27.8%	2	28.6%	7	28.0%
Kanifing	6	33.3%	2	28.6%	8	32.0%
Brkama	4	22.2%	3	42.9%	7	28.0%
Mansakonko	1	5.6%	0	.0%	1	4.0%
Kerewan	0	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%
Kuntaur	0	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%
Janjangbureh	1	5.6%	0	.0%	1	4.0%
Basse	1	5.6%	0	.0%	1	4.0%
Total	18	100.0%	7	100.0%	25	100.0%
Baseline Survey on A	warenes	s of AU Protoc	ols/Law	s - ACDHRS, B	anjul, The	Gambia

Of the respondents who were reportedly aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality, over two-thirds of them mentioned their knowledge of the existence of law against violence against women. About 14 per cent mentioned that preventive of early marriage whilst about one in ten reportedly don't know or can't tell what the actual law prescribed. About 5 per cent mentioned the Constitution and CEDAW.

Half of the male respondents mentioned the existence of some law relating to violence against women. Twenty per cent of them mentioned that there were laws preventing early marriage whilst 13.3 per cent reportedly **don't know** or **can't tell** the actual law. About 7 per cent of these male respondents mentioned the Constitution and CEDAW.

Laws	Gender								
	Male		Fem	ale	Both Sex				
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	percent			
Constitution	1	6.7	0	0	1	4.8			
Violence against women	8	53.3	6	100.0	14	66.7			
Prevention of early marriage	3	20.0	0	0	3	14.3			
Don't know / no idea / Can't tell	2	13.3	0	0	2	9.5			
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0			
CEDAW	1	6.7	0	0	1	4.8			
Total	15	100.0	6	100.0	21	100.1			

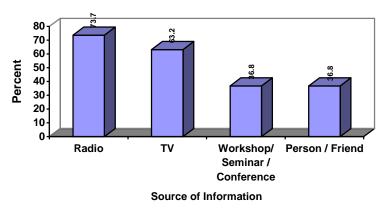
Table 6: Laws that Respondent are Aware of by Gender - March 2010

### 7.6 Source of Information (Question No. 1.3)

In general, about three-quarter of those who were reportedly aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality obtained such information from the Radio. Over two-thirds of then were also informed through the TV, whilst 36.8 per cent of them obtained information from workshops/seminars/conferences or other interpersonal channels. These findings are in consonance with other independent media or channels of communication studies carried out in The Gambia.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Communication Strategy for the Decentralisation of Local Government 2003





### 7.7 Sources of Information by LGA

Kanifing registered the highest in terms of sources of information on laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality; with 71.4% reported another person or friend as the source, 66.7% cited TV and 50.0% and 28.6% said they got the information via radio or workshop or seminar, respectively.

				Source	e of Informati	on <sup>a</sup>	
			1.3 Radio	1.3 TV	1.3 W/shop / Seminar / Conference	1.3 Another Person / friend	Total
LGA	Banjul	Count	1	0	0	0	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	.0%	.0%	.0%	
	Kanifing	Count	7	8	2	5	8
		% within \$Q13	50.0%	66.7%	28.6%	71.4%	
	Brikama	Count	3	2	5	0	7
		% within \$Q13	21.4%	16.7%	71.4%	.0%	
	Mansakonko	Count	1	1	0	1	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	8.3%	.0%	14.3%	
	Janjangbureh	Count	1	0	0	1	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	.0%	.0%	14.3%	
	Basse	Count	1	1	0	0	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	8.3%	.0%	.0%	
Total		Count	14	12	7	7	19
		Count % within \$Q13	73.7%	63.2%	36.8%	36.8%	

Table 7: Source of Information by LGA – March 2010

	-	-		Source	e of Informati	on <sup>a</sup>	
			1.3 Radio	1.3 TV	1.3 W/shop / Seminar / Conference		Total
LGA	Banjul	Count	1	0	0	0	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	.0%	.0%	.0%	
	Kanifing	Count	7	8	2	5	8
		% within \$Q13	50.0%	66.7%	28.6%	71.4%	
	Brikama	Count	3	2	5	0	7
		% within \$Q13	21.4%	16.7%	71.4%	.0%	
	Mansakonko	Count	1	1	0	1	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	8.3%	.0%	14.3%	
	Janjangbureh	Count	1	0	0	1	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	.0%	.0%	14.3%	
	Basse	Count	1	1	0	0	1
		% within \$Q13	7.1%	8.3%	.0%	.0%	
Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Count	14	12	7	7	19
		Count % within \$Q13	73.7%	63.2%	36.8%	36.8%	

Table 7: Source of Information by LGA – March 2010

Across LGAs, the radio is registered as the main source of information (73.7%) followed by the TV (63.2%) with seminars, workshops and another person or friend accounting for 36.8% each as sources of information

#### 7.8 Source of Information by LGA and Gender

For men in the Kanifing Municipal Council area TV was indicated as the main source of information on these laws (60 per cent) followed by interpersonal other person as a source with radio (54 per cent) and workshops and conferences accounting for 4 per cent as the source of information for men.

All the female respondents in the Brikama area reported having received information on these laws through conferences and workshops. Radio and TV accounted for the 66.7 per cent and 33.3 per cent respectively as the source of information

Table 8: Source of Information by LGA and Gender – March 2010

# 7.9 Organisation Responsible for Disseminating Information (Question No. 1.4)

					Source	of Information <sup>a</sup>		
		Gender		1.3 Radio	1.3 TV	1.3 Workshop / Seminar / Conference	1.3 Another Person / friend	Total
Male	LG	Banjul	Count	1	0	0	0	1
	А		% within \$Q13	9.1%	.0%	.0%	.0%	
		Kanifing	Count	6	6	2	3	6
			% within \$Q13	54.5%	66.7%	40.0%	60.0%	
		Brikama	Count	1	1	3	0	4
			% within \$Q13	9.1%	11.1%	60.0%	.0%	
		Mansakonko	Count	1	1	0	1	1
			% within \$Q13	9.1%	11.1%	.0%	20.0%	
		Janjangbureh	Count	1	0	0	1	1
			% within \$Q13	9.1%	.0%	.0%	20.0%	
		Basse	Count	1	1	0	0	1
			% within \$Q13	9.1%	11.1%	.0%	.0%	
	Tota	d	Count	11	9	5	5	14
F/male	LGA	Kanifing	Count	1	2	0	2	2
			% within \$Q13	33.3%	66.7%	.0%	100.0%	
		Brikama	Count	2	1	2	0	3
			% within \$Q13	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%	.0%	
	Tota	al	Count	3	3	2	2	5

Percentages and totals are based on respondents.

In general, more than two-thirds of respondents who were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality reported that government institutions were responsible for disseminating information to them on these laws. The Women's Bureau and other government departments ranked highly accounting for as much as one-third of all sources of information. It is also evident that a sizeable proportion of respondent don't know the organisation responsible for disseminating information on these laws.

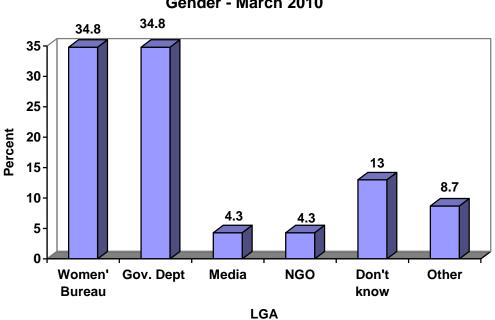


Figure 4: Organisation Reponsible for Disseminating Laws by Gender - March 2010

Table 9: Organisation Responsible for Disseminating Information on laws by Gender, March2010

Organisation		Gender									
	Ma	ıle	Fem	ale	Bo	Both Sex					
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	percent					
Women's Bureau	5	29.4	3	50.0	8	34.8					
Government Dept	5	29.4	3	50.0	8	34.8					
Media	1	5.9	0	0	1	4.3					
NGO	1	5.9	0	0	1	4.3					
Don't know / no idea / Can't tell	3	17.6	0	0	3	13.0					
Other	2	11.8	0	0	2	8.7					
Total	15	100.0	6	100.0	21	100.0					

7.10 Organisation Responsible for Disseminating Information by Gender

For both sexes (29.4 for males and 50 per cent for females, the Women's Bureau was reported to be the main institution responsible for disseminating information to them of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality. Government Institutions provided the information for 29.4 per cent of male respondents and for 50 per cent of the female respondents to this question.

### Part II

### 8.1 **Profile of Respondents in Institutions**

This study used a purposive, judgment and quota sampling to identify the target population of females as well as males. Fifty respondents equally distributed across gender were interviewed from each of the eight (8) Local Government Areas of Banjul, Kanifing, Brikama, Mansakonko, Kerewan, Kuntaur, Janjangbureh and Basse.

About 79 per cent of respondents were males and 21 per cent females. This is as a result of males being predominant in public sector services.

	-			Gend	ler of Re	esponder	nt
		Ν	Iale	Female			Total
		Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %
LGA	Banjul	2	40.0%				6.2%
LGA	Kanifing	6	46.2%		53.8%		
	Brikama	9	81.8%				13.6%
	Mansakonko	10	100.0%	0	.0%	10	12.3%
	Kerewan	9	81.8%	2	18.2%	11	13.6%
	Kuntaur	10	100.0%	0	.0%	10	12.3%
	Janjangbureh	9	81.8%	2	18.2%	11	13.6%
	Basse	9	90.0%	1	10.0%	10	12.3%
	Total	64	79.0%	17	21.0%	81	100.0%

Table 10: Respondents by LGA and Gender - March 2010

### 8.2 Type of Organisation

People from Government Ministries and Departments accounted for the highest number of respondents at 72.8 per cent whilst NGOs accounted for 14.8 per cent of the respondents in this category. UN agencies and CSOs both accounted for 3.7 per cent with the World Bank agencies, CBOs and International NGOs accounting for 2.5%, 11.2% and 1.2% of the respondents, respectively.

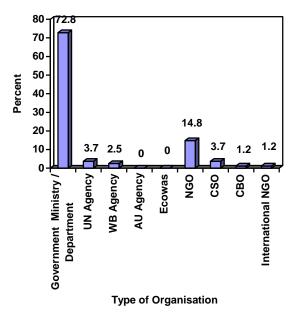


Figure 5: Respondents by Type of Organisation - March, 2010

### 8.3 Membership by Gender

Of all institutions covered in the interviews 6% were All-Female institutions and 4% were All-Male. The remaining 90 per cent of the institutions were of mixed membership.

Figure 6: Membership by Gender - March 2010

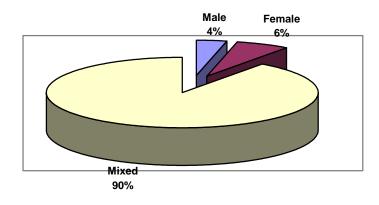


Figure 7 : Awareness of Laws by LGA - March, 2010 35 35 30 25 25 Percent 20 14.3 14.3 14.3 15 10.7 10.7 7.1 10 3.6 5 0 Basse Banjul Kanifing Brikama Mansakonko Kuntaur The Gambia Janjangbureh Kerewan LGA

### 8.4 Awareness of Laws by LGA

On the whole, 35% of all respondents were reportedly aware of laws currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality. Kanifing Municipality registered the highest awareness of Laws/legislations/policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality (25%), whilst Mansakonko, Janjangbureh and Basse registered 14.3% of the respondents respectively. The LGA least aware of such laws is Kuntaur (3.6%), followed by Banjul and Kerewan LGAs (10.7%), respectively.

### 8.5 Respondents by LGA and Gender Focal Points

Gender focal point respondents were highest in Kanifing (16.2%), whilst Jangjangbureh and Brikama both accounted for 13.8% of the respondents. These were followed by both Kuntaur and Basse (12.5%). Mansakonko registered 11.2% whilst Banjul registered the least number of focal point respondents, with 6.2%.

	-			Gender	Focal Point		
			Yes		No	Total	
		Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %
LGA	Banjul	3	10.7%	2	3.8%	5	6.2%
	Kanifing	7	25.0%	6	11.5%	13	16.2%
	Brikama	2	7.1%	9	17.3%	11	13.8%
	Mansakonko	4	14.3%	5	9.6%	9	11.2%
	Kerewan	3	10.7%	8	15.4%	11	13.8%
	Kuntaur	1	3.6%	9	17.3%	10	12.5%
	Janjangbureh	4	14.3%	7	13.5%	11	13.8%
	Basse	4	14.3%	6	11.5%	10	12.5%
	Total	28	100.0%	52	100.0%	80	100.0%

Table 11: Respondents by LGA and Gender Focal Point - March 2010

On the whole, only 32.1% per cent of all respondents were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality. Kanifing respondents registered the highest number of Focal Points (16.2 per cent) with 25 per cent level of awareness.

Across LGAs, respondents from institutions in Kanifing registered the highest level of awareness (34.6 percent) of these laws as compared to the national awareness level of 32.1%. This was followed by Kerewan, Kuntaur, Janjangbureh and Basse, each accounting for 19.2%, 15.4% respectively and 7.7% for Banjul, Janjangbureh and Basse respectively. The least levels of awareness among institutions were in Brikama and Mansakonko LGAs which registered 3.8% each.

34.6 32.1 35 30 25 19.2 Percent 20 15.4 15 7.7 7.7 10 7.7 3.8 3.8 5 0 Kanifing Kuntaur Basse Brikama Mansakonko Janjangbureh The Gambia Banjul Kerewan LGA

Figure 8: Awareness of Laws by LGA - March, 2010

		able 12. A	wareness of I	aws by LC	SA – March Z	010			
			Awareness of laws						
			yes		No	Total			
		Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %		
LGA	Banjul	2	7.7%	3	5.5%	5	6.2%		
	Kanifing	9	34.6%	4	7.3%	13	16.0%		
	Brikama	1	3.8%	10	18.2%	11	13.6%		
	Mansakonko	1	3.8%	9	16.4%	10	12.3%		
	Kerewan	5	19.2%	6	10.9%	11	13.6%		
	Kuntaur	4	15.4%	6	10.9%	10	12.3%		
	Janjangbureh	2	7.7%	9	16.4%	11	13.6%		
	Basse	2	7.7%	8	14.5%	10	12.3%		
	Total	26	100.0%	55	100.0%	81	100.0%		

Table 12: Awareness of laws by LGA – March 2010

### 8.6 National Awareness of Laws in Institutions by Gender

Among all of those who reportedly were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality, 65 per cent were male and 35 per cent were female (see **Figure :**). This shows that in general, males were relatively better informed of these laws compared to their female counterparts.

Figure 9: Awareness of Laws in Institutions by Gender - March 2010

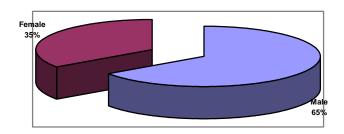
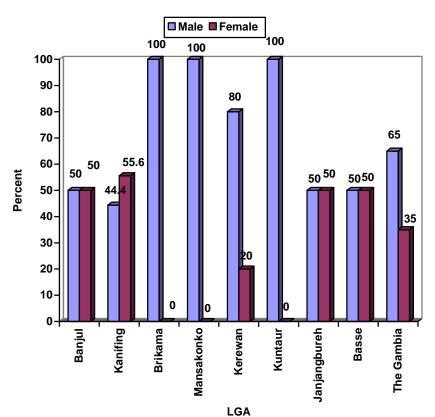


Figure 10: Awareness of Laws by LGA and Gender - March 2010



			Gender of Respondent					
		М	ale	Fer	male	Total		
		Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	
LGA	Banjul	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2	7.7%	
	Kanifing	4	44.4%	5	55.6%	9	34.6%	
	Brikama	1	100.0%	0	.0%	1	3.8%	
	Mansakonko	1	100.0%	0	.0%	1	3.8%	
	Kerewan	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	5	19.2%	
	Kuntaur	4	100.0%	0	.0%	4	15.4%	
	Janjangbureh	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2	7.7%	
	Basse	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2	7.7%	
	Total	17	65.4%	9	34.6%	26	100.0%	

Table 13: Awareness of laws by Gender and LGA - March 2010

### 8.7 Awareness of Laws by LGA and Gender (Question No. 1.2)

Eight out 10 of the male respondents who were reportedly aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality were decisively within the Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs. Mansakonko, Janjangbureh and Base LGAs registered 16.8 per cent of them. Nearly all of the female respondents who were reportedly aware of these laws were concentrated in Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs specifically.

Female respondents in Brikama registered the highest proportion (42.9 per cent) who were aware of these laws. In contrast, male respondents in Kanifing (33.3 per cent) showed the highest awareness levels, whilst Brikama with 22.2 per cent registered the least in comparative terms.

These findings reflect the urban-rural deference in higher access to knowledge about such issues in the urban setting. The distribution of the female respondents concerning awareness of these laws gives a vivid picture of urban-rural differentials particularly as regards the physiological and psychological status of females in rural areas.

	Table 14. Rwatchess of laws by Gender and LOR - Match 2010						
			Gender of Respondent				
		]	Male	F	emale	-	Гotal
		Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %	Count	Column N %
LGA	Banjul	1	5.9%	1	11.1%	2	7.7%
	Kanifing	4	23.5%	5	55.6%	9	34.6%
	Brikama	1	5.9%	0	.0%	1	3.8%
	Mansakonko	1	5.9%	0	.0%	1	3.8%
	Kerewan	4	23.5%	1	11.1%	5	19.2%
	Kuntaur	4	23.5%	0	.0%	4	15.4%
	Janjangbureh	1	5.9%	1	11.1%	2	7.7%
	Basse	1	5.9%	1	11.1%	2	7.7%
	Total	17	100.0%	9	100.0%	26	100.0%

Table 14: Awareness of laws by Gender and LGA - March 2010

Of the respondents who were reportedly aware of laws currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality, none of them mentioned the Constitution or any law preventive of early marriage. About 52 per cent mentioned CEDAW, whilst 11.1 per cent reportedly **don't know** or **can't tell** of any law in existence. Equally spread was the 7.4 per cent awareness ratio of persons reportedly aware of laws concerning violence against women, or laws pertaining to the Local Government or the Matrimonial Acts.

Two-thirds of the male respondents (64.3 per cent) mentioned CEDAW, whilst 21.4 per cent reportedly **don't know** or **can't tell** of any law in that regard. Equally spread was the 7.1 per cent awareness of laws pertaining to violence against women or Local Government Matrimonial Acts.

Awareness of CEDAW was higher among female respondents at 71.4 per cent while the awareness rate of 14.3 per cent was reported on laws on violence against women, Local Government Matrimonial Acts. No responses were recorded in the **'don't know'** and **'can't tell'** category.

Laws	Gender					
	Ma	le	Female		Both Sex	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	percent
Constitution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Violence against women	1	7.1	1	14.3	2	7.4
Prevention of early marriage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Don't know / no idea / Can't tell	3	21.4	0	0	3	11.1
Local Government Act	1	7.1	1	14.3	2	7.4
Matrimonial Act	1	7.1	1	14.3	2	7.4
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEDAW	9	64.3	5	71.4	4	51.9
Total	14	-	7	-	27	-

Table 15: Laws that Respondent are Aware of by Gender (% within Q6) – March 2010

### 8.8 Source of Information (Question No. 1.3)

A relatively greater proportion of respondents from institutions, (70 per cent) of respondents who were reportedly aware of laws currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality obtained such information from the workshops and seminars. This is in contrast with findings from the community where a relatively greater proportion of respondents obtained information from the radio. However, radio accounts for the next highest proportion (65.2 percent), followed by TV and inter-personal channels which registered 39.1 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively.

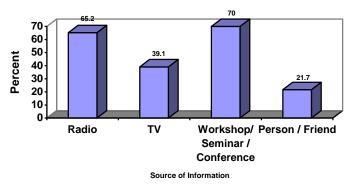


Figure 11: Source of Information of Laws Respondents are Aware of- March 2010

Table 16: Source of Information by LGA – March 2010

				Source of Information <sup>a</sup>				
			Radio	TV	Workshop/Seminar /Conference	Person/Friend	Total	
LGA	Banjul	Count	0	0	2	1	2	
		% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	12.5%	20.0%		
	Kanifing	Count	5	4	5	2	7	
		% within \$QA13	33.3%	44.4%	31.2%	40.0%		
	Brikama	Count	0	0	1	0	1	
		% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
	Mansakonko	Count	1	0	1	0	1	
		% within \$QA13	6.7%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
	Kerewan	Count	2	1	3	1	5	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	11.1%	18.8%	20.0%		
	Kuntaur	Count	3	2	1	0	3	
		% within \$QA13	20.0%	22.2%	6.2%	.0%		
	Janjangbureh	Count	2	2	2	1	2	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	22.2%	12.5%	20.0%		
	Basse	Count	2	0	1	0	2	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
Total		Count	15	9	16	5	23	
		% within \$QA13	65.2%	39.1%	70.0%	21.7%	-	

				Source of Information <sup>a</sup>				
			Radio	TV	Workshop/Seminar /Conference	Person/Friend	Total	
LGA	Banjul	Count	0	0	2	1	2	
		% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	12.5%	20.0%		
	Kanifing	Count	5	4	5	2	-	
		% within \$QA13	33.3%	44.4%	31.2%	40.0%		
	Brikama	Count	0	0	1	0	1	
		% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
	Mansakonko	Count	1	0	1	0	1	
		% within \$QA13	6.7%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
	Kerewan	Count	2	1	3	1	Ę	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	11.1%	18.8%	20.0%		
	Kuntaur	Count	3	2	1	0	2	
		% within \$QA13	20.0%	22.2%	6.2%	.0%		
	Janjangbureh	Count	2	2	2	1	2	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	22.2%	12.5%	20.0%		
	Basse	Count	2	0	1	0	2	
		% within \$QA13	13.3%	.0%	6.2%	.0%		
Total		Count	15	9	16	5	23	
		% within \$QA13	65.2%	39.1%	70.0%	21.7%		

### Percentages and totals are based on respondents.

Across LGAs, workshops and seminars account for 70% of the source of information on these laws, followed by the radio 65.2%, TV (39.1%) and another source accounting for 21.7%. Within LGAs, in the Kanifing area, TV accounts for 44.4% as source of information, followed by another friend or person resource which accounts for 40% of the source of information. Radio is ranked third with 33.3%, whilst conferences and workshops account for 31.2%.

In Janjangbureh and Kuntaur TV accounts for 22,2% f their sources of information, whilst in Banjul, Kerewan and Janjangbureh anther person or friend is the source of information.

				Source of Information <sup>a</sup>				
						Workshop / Seminar/		
Gender of R	lespondent			Radio	TV	Conference	Person/Friend	Total
Male	LGA	Banjul	Count	0	0	1	1	1
			% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	10.0%	33.3%	
		Kanifing	Count	3	2	2	0	4
			% within \$QA13	27.3%	33.3%	20.0%	.0%	
		Brikama	Count	0	0	1	0	1
			% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	10.0%	.0%	
		Mansakonko	Count	1	0	1	0	1
			% within \$QA13	9.1%	.0%	10.0%	.0%	
		Kerewan	Count	2	1	2	1	4
			% within \$QA13	18.2%	16.7%	20.0%	33.3%	
		Kuntaur	Count	3	2	1	0	3
			% within \$QA13	27.3%	33.3%	10.0%	.0%	
		Janjangbureh	Count	1	1	1	1	1
		5 , 0	% within \$QA13	9.1%	16.7%	10.0%	33.3%	
		Basse	Count	1	0	1	0	1
			% within \$QA13	9.1%	.0%	10.0%	.0%	
	Total	-	Count	11	6	10		16
F/male	LGA	Banjul	Count	0	0	1	0	1
		,	% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	16.7%	.0%	I
		Kanifing	Count	2	2	3	2	3
			% within \$QA13	50.0%	66.7%	50.0%	100.0%	
		Kerewan	Count	0	0	1	0	1
			% within \$QA13	.0%	.0%	16.7%	.0%	
		Janjangbureh	Count	1	1	1	0	1
			% within \$QA13	25.0%	33.3%	16.7%	.0%	
		Basse	Count	1	0	0	0	1
			% within \$QA13	25.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	
	Total		Count	4	3	6	2	7

Table 17: Source of Information by LGA and Gender – March 2010

### 8.9 Source of Information by LGA and Gender

Across LGAs, male respondents identify the radio and workshops and conferences as the main source of information, whilst females across LGAs cite workshops and conferences as their sources of information.

# 8.10 Organisation Responsible for Disseminating Information (Question No. 1.4)

In general, most over two-thirds of respondents within institutions, who were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality reported that Government institutions were responsible for disseminating information on these laws. Amongst these Government institutions, Women's Bureau and other Government Departments each accounted for over a third. It is also evident that a sizeable proportion of respondent don't know the organisation responsible for disseminating information on these laws.

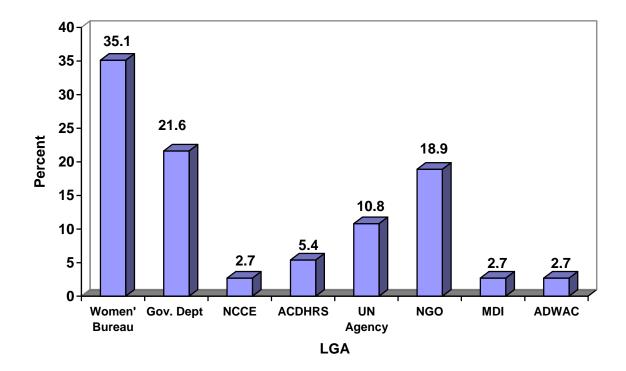


Figure 12: Organisation Reponsible for Disseminating Laws - March 2010

Table 18: Organisation Responsible of Disseminating Information on Laws by Gender – March 2010

Organisation	Gender					
	Male		Female		Both Sex	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	percent
Women's Bureau	5	29.4	3	50.0	8	34.8
Government Dept	5	29.4	3	50.0	8	34.8
Media	1	5.9	0	0	1	4.3
NGO	1	5.9	0	0	1	4.3
Don't know / no idea / Can't tell	3	17.6	0	0	3	13.0
Other	2	11.8	0	0	2	8.7
Total	15	100.0	6	100.0	21	100.1

8.11 Organisation Responsible for Disseminating Information by Gender

Fifty per cent of female respondents reported the Women's Bureau and Government Ministries and Departments as the organisation responsible for disseminating to them information on these laws as compared to 29.4 per cent for male respondents reporting the same.

### 9. Conclusions

### 9.1 Awareness of laws

There is very limited awareness of laws within the general population with a vast majority of respondents across each gender not *an-fait* with legal issues redressing gender inequalities or violations. Only 6.2 per cent of all respondents were aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality.

# 9.2 Awareness of laws across LGAs

Across LGAs, Kanifing respondents (16.0 percent) registered the highest awareness level of these laws, followed by Banjul and Brikama LGAs 14.0 per cent each.

In general, awareness levels seemed highest in the Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs which are wholly or largely urban compared the other LGAs which are predominantly rural. These urban – rural differentials can be expected, as urban areas in particular are endowed with facilities and social networks that foster the diffusion and assimilation of knowledge and issues.

### 9.3 Gender Awareness of Laws

Most of the male respondents (80%) who were reportedly aware of Laws/legislations/policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote

recognition of or enforce gender equality were collectively from Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs. Mansakonko, Janjangbureh and Basse LGAs registered 16.8 per cent each. Virtually all of female respondents who were reportedly aware of these laws were concentrated in the Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama LGAs.

Female respondents in Brikama registered the highest proportion (42.9 percent) of those who were aware of these laws. In contrast, male respondents in Kanifing (33.3 percent) accounted for the highest awareness levels, whilst those in Brikama (22.2 percent) registered the least in comparative terms.

### 9.4 Source of information

The Radio as a source of information, accounted for about three-quarter (75%) of those who were reportedly aware of laws or legislations or policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality

Similarly, over two-thirds of them were also informed through the TV, whilst 36.8 per cent of them obtained information from workshops/seminars/conferences or other interpersonal channels. These findings are in consonance with other independent media or channels of communication studies carried out in The Gambia.

**9.5** The highest number of **respondents to the Institutional Questionnaire** (72.8 per cent ) were from Government Ministries and Departments, whilst NGOs accounted for 14.8 per cent of the respondents in this category. UN agencies and CSOs both accounted for 3.7 per cent with the World Bank agencies, CBOs and International NGOs accounting for 2.5%, 11.2% and 1.2% of the respondents, respectively.

**9.6** Across LGAs, Kanifing Municipality registered the highest awareness of Laws/legislations/policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality (25%), whilst Mansakonko, Janjangbureh and Basse registered 14.3% of the respondents respectively. The LGA least aware of such laws is Kuntaur (3.6%), followed by Banjul and Kerewan LGAs (10.7%), respectively.

**9.7 Gender focal point** respondents were highest in Kanifing (16.2%), whilst Janjangbureh and Brikama both accounted for 13.8% of the respondents. These were followed by both Kuntaur and Basse (12.5%). Mansakonko registered 11.2% whilst Banjul registered the least number of focal point respondents, with 6.2%.

**9.8** On gender awareness of laws, males (65 per cent) were relatively better informed of these laws compared to their female counterparts (35 per cent).

Based on the foregone, it would be conclusive to report that there is limited awareness by the general public of the laws/legislations/policies currently in place in The Gambia that promote recognition of or enforce gender equality. This survey provides pointers to the areas and stakeholders that need the intervention of the African Centre and other kin agencies tasked with the promotion of and sensitisation on current legislation and policies towards the improvement of the awareness levels of these instruments among the Gambian populace.

### **10.** Short Biographies of the Team of Consultants

**Nana Grey-Johnson**, the principal consultant, is a journalist, writer and media and development specialist and has published several books. **Donald Mam Beram Sock**, the technical consultant, is a management, institutional/organisational and training consultant with more than 25 years of experience; **Wally Ndow**, is a statistician at The Gambia Bureau of Statistics.

### 11. List of Acronyms

ACDHRS	African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies
BAFROW	Foundation for Research on Women's Health, Productivity
BCC	Banjul City Council
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DFID	Department for International Development
FAWEGAM	Forum for African Women Educationalists- Gambia chapter
FLAG	Female Lawyers Association of The Gambia
GAMCOTRAP	Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
KMC	Kanifing Municipal Council
LGA	Local Government Area
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WANEP	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
WB	World Bank