



# REPGam – Knowledge and Technology Transfer for Renewable Energy in The Gambia



## Training young people in the country to implement a sustainable infrastructure

In the West African Republic of The Gambia, the impacts of climate change are already clearly visible. Droughts and shorter rainy seasons are threatening the agricultural sector – one of The Gambia's main sources of income. The large river Gambia after which the country was named is in danger of becoming too saline. Although The Gambia is pursuing ambitious climate protection measures, the impacts of climate change are expected to increase further. Moreover, the shortage of affordable electricity in many municipalities is limiting the upward mobility of young people on a local level. The REPGam project, which is implemented by the University of The Gambia (UTG) and the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) aims to address both issues by expanding green and affordable electricity in 23 municipalities while training around 300 young Gambians in installing, operating, and maintaining photovoltaic systems.

### Droughts and shortage of electricity

The report compiled by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is clear: Global warming will progress at an even faster rate than previously assumed if no immediate action is taken. The consequences of climate change are already felt in many regions of the world, including The Gambia. In addition to droughts and floods, the shortage of electricity is causing real problems for the people living there.

The REPGam research project therefore aims to advance knowledge and technology transfer in The Gambia and to foster the expansion of renewable energy, taking into account aspects related to the economy, ecology, and society. The project, which will run for four years, will be implemented jointly by the University of The Gambia (UTG) and the WASCAL service centre on climate change.

## **REPGam's objectives**

- The research project mainly focuses on three aspects:
1. strengthening the employment prospects of young Gambian people in the field of renewable energy technologies by training 280 young Gambians in installing, operating, and maintaining photovoltaic systems
  2. enhancing the quality of life of the Gambian population by providing clean and affordable electricity in 23 municipalities, improving the acceptance of renewable energy technologies, and creating new job opportunities on a local level
  3. supporting The Gambia in successfully implementing the national climate targets adopted at the 21st UN Climate Change Conference (COP 21) in Paris



REPGam promotes the expansion of renewable energies in The Gambia.

### **Funding initiative**

7th Energy Research Programme – Innovations for the Energy Transition

### **Project title**

REPGam – Renewable Energy Potentials in The Gambia

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