

17<sup>th</sup> EAtHC – CHAtO Meeting  
Mindelo, Cape Verde Islands, 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**NATIONAL REPORT TO REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION – THE GAMBIA**

**Executive summary**

The Gambia is a signatory to the SOLAS and UNCLOS conventions. It is also a member of the IMO, IALA and MOWCA. The Gambia Port Authority is a member of PMAWCA and maintains regular liaison with the UKHO, which is its primary charting authority.

**Hydrographic Office / Service**

Hydrographic functions are executed by the Gambia Ports Authority under Department of Harbours and Marine Services directorate. The Gambia Ports Authority is a State Owned Enterprise (SOE) under the direct supervision of Ministry of Transport, Works and Infrastructure (MOTWI).

Capt. Kulay Manneh, Harbour Master and Dominic Correa, CAT A Hydrographic Surveyor are the appropriate contacts for navigational warnings, port information and hydrographic surveys. The contact details in the entry for The Gambia in the IHO yearbook are as follows and thus should be maintain.

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## II. Dominic Correa

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### Surveys

The Gambia Ports Authority has bought the equipment below for the Hydrographic Unit. The hydrographic unit conduct surveys in support of port maintenance plans like dredging, monitoring depth around berthing and ferry landing facilities. As a state enterprise, government and private entities also engage the GPA in bathymetry surveys for feasibility studies in execution and support of other projects for national development.

Equipment	Serial #	Function
Single Beam Echosounder <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CEESCOPE 200</li></ul>		Logs Depths and Position
Global Positioning System <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Incl. integrated Trimble</li><li>• GPS Antenna</li></ul>	BD970	Receives and stores position of the sounding data
Transducer <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dual Frequency</li></ul>	M163	Sends sound pulses to the water column and receives return pulses
Laptop <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Getac</li></ul>	B300 i7	Displays and record all incoming data
<a href="#">Softwares</a>		
Softwares	Version	Function

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydromagic Software</li> </ul>	Eye4Software HydroMagic (9.0.64.0127)	Marine data acquisition and processing software
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digibar – S SVP</li> </ul>		SVP profiles along the water column

**Equipment System Schematics**

Trimble GPS  
Antenna



Dual Frequency Transducer



CEESCOPE 200  
INTEGRATED TRIMBLE GNSS



Getac Laptop w/Hydromagic  
Software



Fig 1. Cable Diagram equipment configuration

Gambia Ports Authority has just finished executing port maintenance dredging. New Waves International executed the project. The dredged areas include all the berthing facilities and the Banjul Ferry Terminal.

Results of the post-dredged or end survey will be delivered to The UKHO for necessary updates.

### **New charts & updates**

The UKHO continue to support The Gambia in updates of the BA 608 Chart and production of other nautical products. The office has provided The Gambia with two ENCs covering the Port area, part of the river and the entrance channel. The Authority is currently working on providing The Gambia with ENC for The River Gambia and shifting River Chart BA 609 to WGS 84 datum that is currently in fatoms and feet.

### **New publications & updates**

Results of the post-dredged survey of the maintenance dredging works at Banjul-Barra Landing sites and jetty areas project of 2018 were sent to the UKHO. The 608 chart was updated accordingly with Edition number 3 and dated February 17, 2019.

### **MSI**

A new GMDSS radio station was installed at the Gambia Naval Headquarters in 2007. The name of this station is called Banjul Radio. It is controlled and operated by the Gambia Navy. Navigational information are transmitted to Navarea II by the National MSI coordinator of the GPA. Daily weather reports are received by the port from the Department of Water resources via email.

The Gambia Ports Authority has also installed AIS and RADAR system at the Banjul Port Control Radio Room. This has enhanced effective communications and monitoring of operations of the port.



Fig 2. AIS and RADAR systems at Port Control Radio Room

<b>Navigational Information</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Local warnings	Yes	VHF
Coastal warnings	Yes	VHF
NAVAREA warnings	Yes	Sent to NAVAREA Coordinator
Information on Port and Harbours	Yes	Sent to The UKHO

### **Capacity Building**

The Gambia Ports Authority on behalf of The Gambia Government has signed an agreement with The UKHO to promote cooperation between them in the field of hydrography and related disciplines. In 2017 IHO technical visit, one of the recommendations states that “survey training by the UKHO be envisaged after using the new equipment”. The Gambia Ports Authority and the UKHO are working on finding a suitable schedule for this training. Tentatively, the training is scheduled for early 2023.

The EU/EIB Global Gateway Project, an EU plan for major investment in infrastructure around the world are interested in supporting GMA/GPA in revitalizing the River Transportation. Among the components of this project for The Gambia are as follows:

1. Hydrography and bathymetric survey/studies
2. Dilapidated riverine, ports/quays
3. Rehabilitation or construction of old and new jetties

The Gambia Maritime Administration is spearheading this project on behalf of The Government of The Gambia in collaboration with The Gambia Ports Authority. As part of the implementation stage, the survey firm intend to integrate one national hydrographer into its crew in order to promote local capacity building. The firm also intend to support the second phase of the project, which is purchase of equipment and training for the hydrographic department.

Additionally, the Port Authority will also require technical support for capacity building for the following program.

- Cat “B” Nautical Cartography
- Onboard training
- Tide analysis training
- ATON Level 1 training course for managers

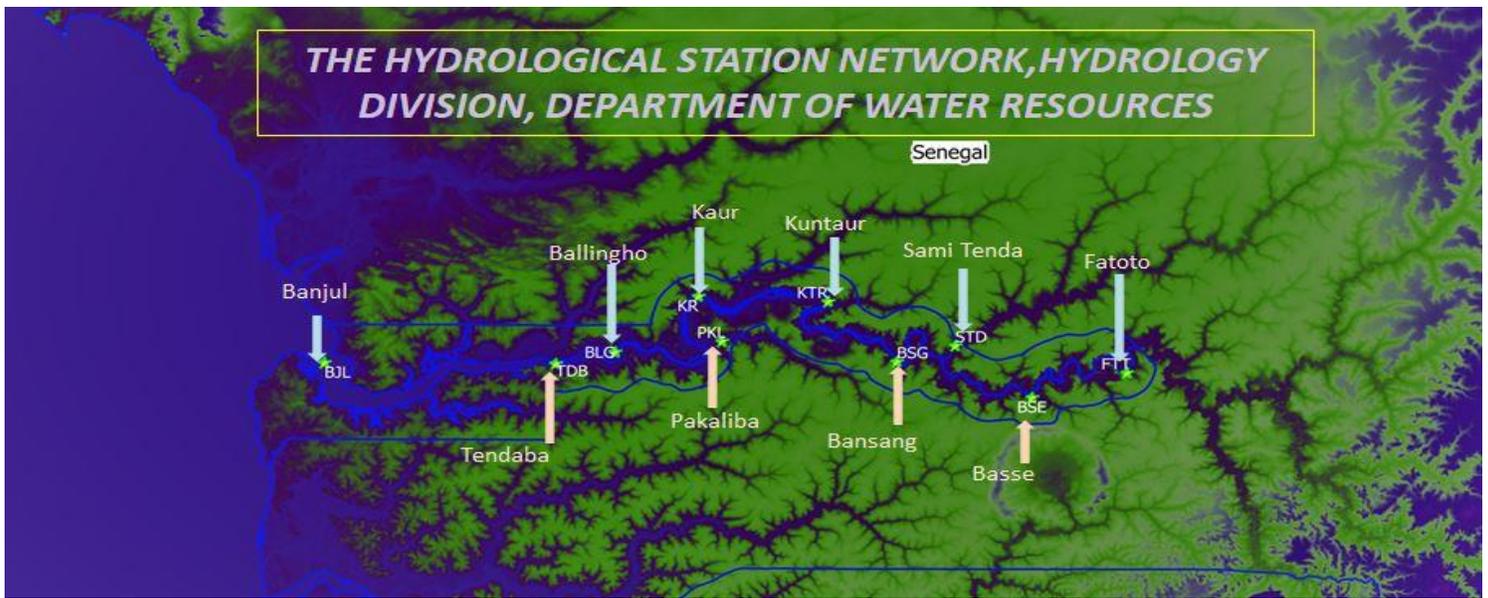
### **Oceanographic activities**

During the IHO technical visit to the Gambia July, 2017, the consultant recommended that the GPA develop a relationship with IOC for development and possible further training opportunities.

The GPA is yet to identify possible channels of communication to establish relationships with IOC

### **Tide Gauge Network**

The Department of Water Resources is the custodians of tidal structures and tidal information in the Gambia. There is a tide station installed at the Banjul harbour and nine other stations along The River Gambia. The Gambia Port Authority continue to support the Department of Water Resources in monitoring and rehabilitation of these tidal stations. Currently, only the Banjul Harbour Tide Station is operational. Funding for new devices/sensors for rehabilitation on the rest of the stations is yet to be identified.



**Fig 3. Hydrological stations along The River Gambia**

- tidal observations?
  - OTT Ecolog 800 Device and OTT Side Looking Doppler Device are available
  - There are also Gauge plates installed as back up for water level monitoring in all stations
  - Tidal observations / Water level measurements, Salinity, Specific conductivity, Total Dissolved Substances and Temperature are recorded by the OTT Ecolog 800 device while Discharge is recorded by the OTT SLD.

### **Spatial data Infrastructures**

There is no national geospatial policy yet but The Gambia is a member of the EAthC Working Group.

### **Innovation**

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) conduct risk assessments. The agency has models that monitor floods and other disasters and make projections for informed decisions.

**Other activities**

The Gambia has launched “Revitalization of The River Gambia Transport Project” and The Gambia Port Expansion Program is set to commence before the end of 2022. The priority is to develop a clear routine survey program for the definition and maintenance of Banjul Port, Banjul Fisheries Jetty, Approach Channel, Rivers and/or other waterways.

**Conclusions**

The Gambia Ports Authority on behalf of The Gambia Government expresses its sincere gratitude to IHO, EAthC, IALA and UKHO for their continuous support towards an enhanced hydrographic capability for The Gambia. We continue to seek your support especially in areas of capacity building mentioned above.