UTG / WASCAL N 003/NL/RP April - June 2024

>>> RECC-LUM THE GAMBIA <<<

RECC-LUM infor

The Gambia Land Use Management Research

HAW HAMBURG | UTG Knowledge, Truth & Development Established 1999 | WASCAL West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use | Federal Ministry of Education and Research

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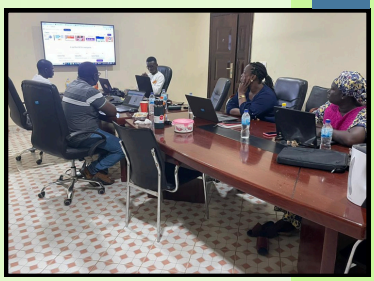

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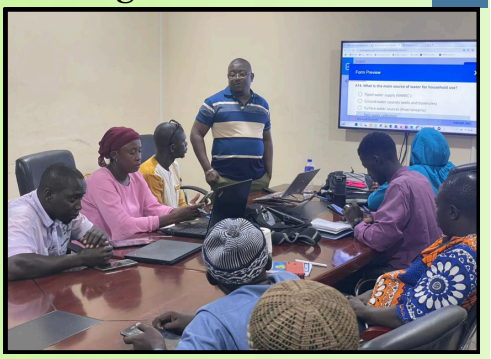

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CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences(HAW Hamburg)
  HAW HAMBURG www.haw-hamburg.de
- University of The Gambia (UTG)
  UTG Knowledge, Truth & Development Established 1999 www.utg.edu.gm
- WASCAL (West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use) :
  WASCAL www.wascal.org

Upcoming Events

1. Analysis of Soil and Water samples
2. Partners meeting, September 24th, 2024
3. Case Study Synthesis Reports
4. Completion of Perimeter fence at Pilot Demonstration Site

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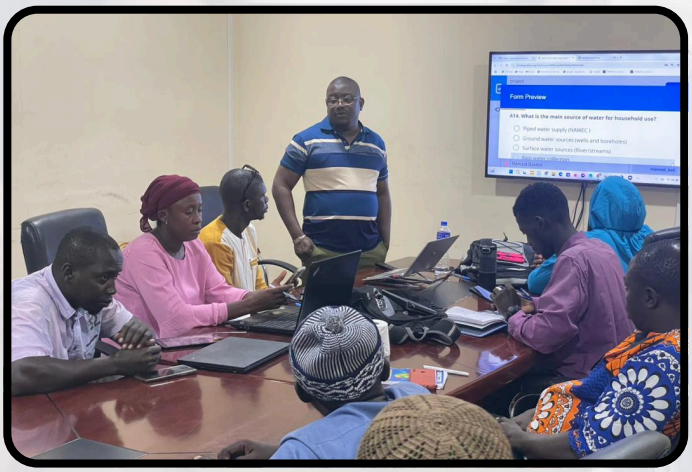
RECC-LUM

Training of Data Collectors

A two days training session took place at the University of The Gambia, in WASCAL Conference room, to build capacity of data collectors for a fruitful and successful data collection campaign at the project case study sites, in the framework of the RECC-LUM project which aims at conducting a feasibility study on climate change, renewable energy, and land use management in The Gambia. The training began with a detailed overview of the project's goals: to evaluate how renewable energy and land use strategies can combat climate change and promote sustainability. Participants, including current and past university students, field workers and researchers, learned to use KoboCollect, a mobile tool designed for efficient data collection. They practiced filling out forms and managing data in various field conditions, with a focus on precision and ethical considerations. The session also covered troubleshooting and offline data management. The training concluded with a pilot testing, marking the collectors' readiness to gather essential data. This activity is pivotal in crafting actionable insights and driving the project's success, ultimately contributing to more sustainable and resilient environmental practices.



Soil Samples Collection

Soil samples were collected at the RECC-LUM pilot site in Foni Bulock, in the West Coast Region of The Gambia, to assess the pre-production soil conditions. Sampling was conducted at various locations within the garden to evaluate both the chemical and physical properties of the soil. This analysis is crucial for understanding soil health and fertility, which in turn informs decisions regarding crop selection, fertilizer application, and soil management strategies. By performing these soil assessments, farmers can enhance crop yields, minimize environmental impacts, and adopt sustainable farming practices. The collected samples were sent to the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) Soil Laboratory for detailed analysis to identify any nutrient deficiencies.

Water Samples Collection

In Bulock site, water was also sampled from underground water sources at two different places, the existing well in the garden and borehole drilled by the RECC-LUM Project. The water samples collected were sent to the Department of Water Resources for analysis. The sampling helps to determine factors like pH, salinity, nutrient levels, and the presence of contaminants such as heavy metals, pesticides, or pathogens. By analyzing water quality, farmers can identify potential issues that might affect crop growth, soil health, or animal well-being. This process supports sustainable water management, ensuring that water used in agriculture is safe and promotes optimal farm productivity without causing environmental harm.

Community Engagement with Research Team

The research team conducted site visits across the case study sites to provide an update on the data collection status for the ongoing project. They reported on the progress of data collection efforts, emphasizing key areas of assessment. The team confirmed that the two-year feasibility study remains on schedule and highlighted the critical role of the collected data in shaping targeted and effective interventions within the framework of climate change, renewable energy, and land use management.

The researchers outlined how community feedback is being integrated into the analysis to ensure that the project's outcomes are responsive to local needs and conditions. Interactive sessions enabled community members to voice their concerns and suggestions, which are being utilized to refine the project's approach. By underscoring their commitment to transparency and responsiveness, the team reinforced community trust and collaboration, ensuring that the project's interventions will be aligned with local priorities and contribute to sustainable development.

Household Survey

The household survey data collection exercise was a critical aspect of the project investigating climate change, renewable energy, and land use management. The process began with the development of a structured questionnaire designed to capture detailed information on household demographics, energy consumption, land use practices, climate change and environmental impacts. Trained enumerators and supervisors conducted systematic interviews across a representative sample of households, using both digital form using tablets. Real-time data verification were employed to ensure accuracy and address any issues promptly. The collected data is currently undergoing rigorous analysis to identify trends and patterns. These insights will be essential for refining project interventions and guiding policy recommendations. By aligning the project strategies with community-specific data, the project aim to enhance sustainability and effectively address local needs, ensuring that the project's outcomes are both evidence-based and relevant to the communities involved.

Training Researchers on the Use of Canva

Mr. Vincent Remi NEBIE from WASCAL Competence Center, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, trained RECC-LUM UTG Researchers on the use of CANVA application. The training provided teams with the skills to create visually appealing designs using the CANVA platform. This training is relevant for Research and easy communication flow between partners within the RECC- LUM consortium partners. By learning CANVA, staff can enhance their creativity, streamline content creation, and produce high-quality visual materials, improving communication and engagement between partners. The training covers the platform's tools, templates, and customization options, making design accessible and efficient for WASCAL Competence Center and UTG.