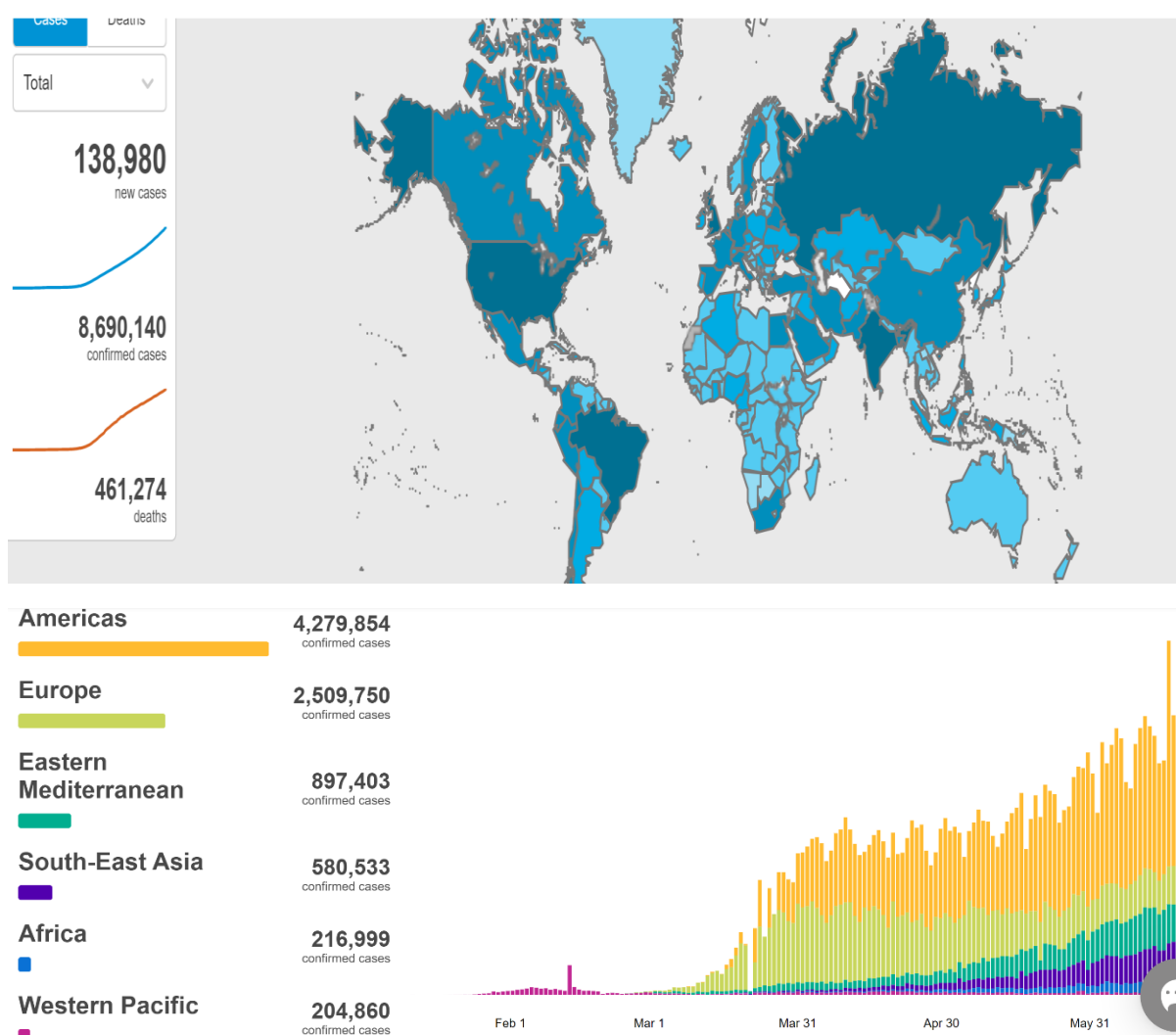




Non-Governmental Organisations and Civil Societies COVID-19 Response Mapping Exercise Report



Map extracted from WHO website (21/06/20)

Contents

1.0 Country Profile.....	4
2.0 Overview of NGOs and CSOs COVID-19 Response Mapping.....	5
2.1 Objectives	5
2.3 Methodology.....	6
2.3.1. Sampling:	6
2.3.2. Coverage:	6
2.3.3 Mapping Instrument:	6
2.3.4. Pre-Data Collection:.....	6
3.0 Analysis and Concluding Lessons.....	7
Figure 3.1: NGOs/CSOs Concentrations in Regions.....	7
Figure 3.2. Worth of Financial Investment by Type of NGOs/CSO and CBOs.....	8
Figure 3.4 NGOs/CSOs Targeting Criteria.....	9
Figure 3.6 NGOs/CSOs and CBOs Areas of COVID-19 Response	11
4.0 Challenges.....	12
Recommendations	12
Annex 1: Contact Details of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs Met	13

Acronyms:

ADRA: Adventist Development & Relief Agency

ADWAC: Agency for Development of Women and Children

CBO: Community Based Organisations

COVID: Corona Virus Disease

CPA: Child Protection Alliance

CSO: Civil Society Organisation

FFHC: Freedom From Hunger Campaign

GAFNA: Gambia Food and Nutrition Association

ISRA: Institute for Social Reformation and Action

NDMA: National Disaster Management Agency

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation

NGOAA: Non-Governmental Organisation Affairs Agency

PCU: Projects Coordination Unit of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

TANGO: The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

WANEP: West African Network for Peace Building

WASDA: Wassu Sandu Development Agency

WCR: West Coast Region

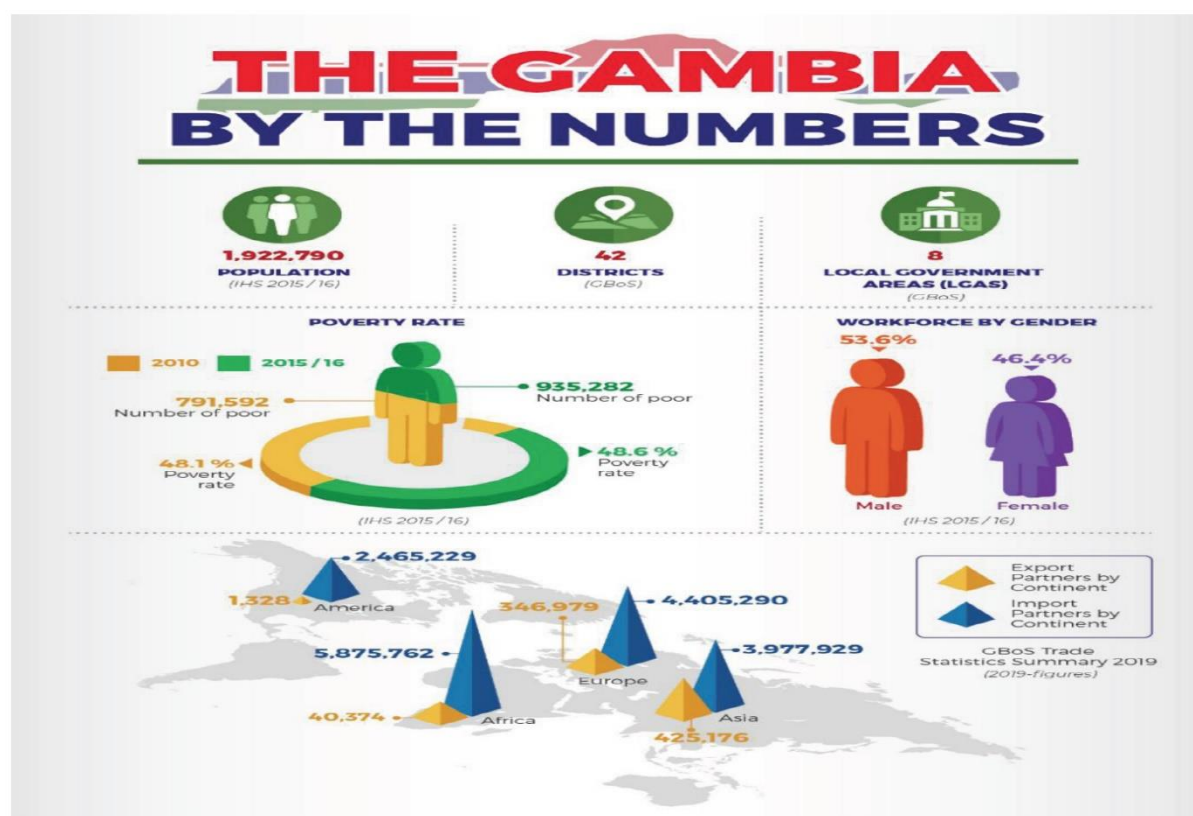
WHO: World Health Organisation

1.0 Country Profile

The Gambia, situated in West Africa, attained independence on the 18th February 1965 and the capital city is Banjul. It is bordered to the north, south and east by Senegal and has an 80km coast on the Atlantic Ocean to the west. The country's borders roughly correspond with the path of the River Gambia. The Gambia has a total area: 11,300 km² (4388 sq. miles) and out of this approximately 1,300 km² is of water bodies with an 80-km coastline and an exclusive fishing zone of 200 nautical miles with continental shelf. The agricultural land is 6,550 km² and the arable land is 588,000 hectares, of which, 334,000 hectares are under cultivation. It has a forest area of 4,750 km² (i.e. 47.5% of land area).

Figure 1.1 below shows The Gambia by the numbers showing the population of the country as at 2015/16, the number of districts and Local Government Areas in the country, poverty rates and the number of poor people, workforce by gender and summary of trade statistics for 2019.

Figure 1.1 The Gambia by the numbers



2.0 Overview of NGOs and CSOs COVID-19 Response Mapping

Since the news of the first case emerged about the spread of COVID-19, there has been growing concern about the inevitable disruption to operations and the knock-on impact on livelihoods. As COVID-19 has spread globally coupled with WHO declaring a global pandemic status, the Gambia registered its first COVID-19 confirmed case on 17th March 2020 which brought some misconceptions and panic in the country.

The increasing trends in the number of confirmed cases, the Government of The Gambia acted swiftly in adhering to the World Health Organisation (WHO) containment measures such as mandatory quarantine, testing, travel bans, declaration of state of emergency, and advocacy for regular hand washing and social distancing. The containment measures were further heightened by the declaration of three-consecutive state of public health emergencies (45 days, 21 days, and 21 days respectively).





Consequently, the impact of COVID-19 continues to pose major implications on the productive sectors such as; Tourism, Trade, Education, Agriculture, Transport, Health, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises. The most obvious groups affected include daily wages income earners, petty traders, laborers, commercial drivers and the underprivileged in society.

Given the foregoing, The Government of the Gambia, Civil Society Organisation (CSO's), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's), and Community Based Organisations (CBO's) in partnership with development partners activated relief measures to contain the spillover effects of the impacts on livelihoods. This include but not limited to Food Relief and Sanitary materials support to Communities, Households, and Families across the country. As such, the Non-Governmental Organisation Affairs Agency (NGOAA) with support from the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) through the Economic Management Project undertook a detail mapping of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs response to COVID-19 in the Gambia.

Findings contained in this report emanates from the information gathered from the mapping exercise. The Mapping seeks to take stock of multitude of COVID-19 response interventions of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs. In doing this, attempts were made in establishing the scope, target beneficiaries, financial costs and how the response interventions impacted beneficiaries at the same time challenges encountered over the intervening period. It is hoped that the report would help the NGOAA and relevant stakeholders gather the much-needed up-to-date information on NGOs/CSOs and CBOs COVID-19 intervention in the Gambia. Also, serve as a basis for examining achievements, gaps, challenges, strengths and weaknesses of NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs in times of public health emergency response.

2.1 Objectives

This exercise helped the NGO Affairs Agency to be able to achieve the following objectives:

-  To obtain a broad picture of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs response to COVID-19 pandemic in The Gambia.
-  To help establish information on the approximate amount spent by the NGOs/CSOs and CBOs on COVID -19 containment and relief support in The Gambia.
-  To examine the quality and types of support provided by the NGOs, CSOs and CBOs in The Gambia.
-  To obtain an accurate and up to date database on NGOs & CSOs and their activities.

2.3 Methodology

2.3.1. Sampling: The sampling procedure adopted in this COVID-19 mapping exercise involves complete listing and referencing of NGOs and CSOs that submitted their COVID-19 response intervention report to NGOAA.

2.3.2. Coverage: The NGOs & CSOs covered in the mapping have been broadly classified into two major categories (Local¹ and International² NGOs). The exercise has covered most of the NGOs and some CSOs country-wide as well as their beneficiaries.

2.3.3 Mapping Instrument: Structured qualitative and quantitative questionnaires were built on digital-based real time data collection and visualization Open Data Kit (ODK/ONA) and administered using tablets.

2.3.4. Pre-Data Collection: A day long training on the questionnaire and digital tools was convened for the mapping teams to enable them to familiarise and have a common understanding of the main concepts of the questionnaires and administering questionnaires using tablets. Mock interviews on interviews best practices and translations were also carried out ahead of the data collection exercise. In addition to the trainees, Field Officers of NGOAA were involved to facilitate the ease of access to the targeted NGOs & CSOs in their respective regions.

¹ Local NGOs: These are NGOs that operate only in The Gambia. They largely depend on grant funding and membership contribution to implement projects and programs.

² International NGOs: These are NGOs that operates both locally and internationally. In other words, some have branches in other countries including The Gambia. They have the capacity to cater for their technical and management needs of their operations.

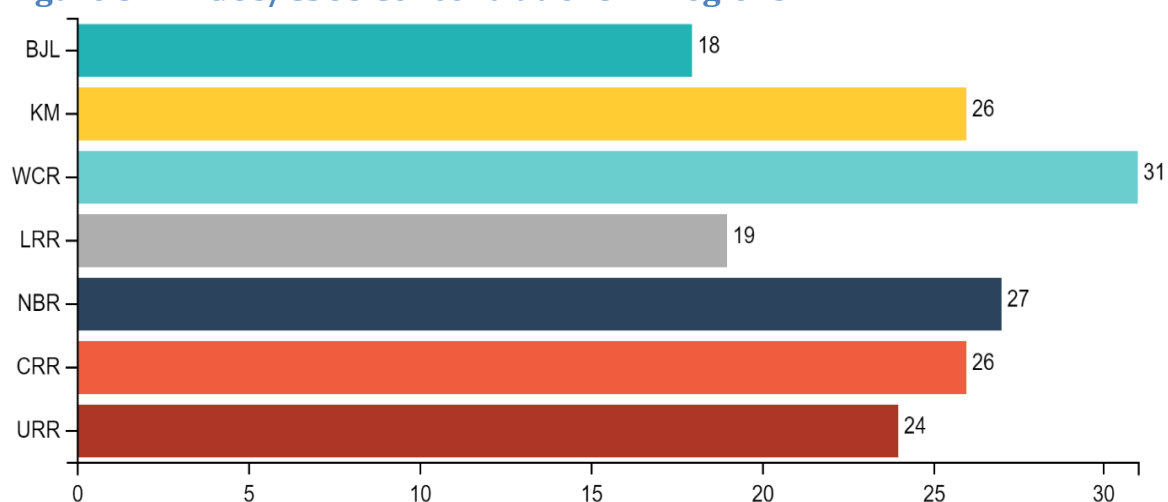
3.0 Analysis and Concluding Lessons

This section illustrates a detail interpretation of the information/data collected from the NGOs and CSOs COVID-19 response mapping exercise. In doing this, a total of about 55 institutions (NGOs/CSOs and CBOs) were assessed during the mapping across all regions.

The results revealed a considerable higher number of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs COVID-19 response interventions across all regions. Of all the regions benefiting from the NGOs/CSOs and CBOs interventions, the results illustrate the highest number of concentrations in West Coast Region and lowest in Banjul as can be referenced in figure 3.1 below.

The registering of the highest number of interventions in WCR could be attributable to the region being the highest number of NGO/CSOs concentration (NGOAA NGO Contact list).

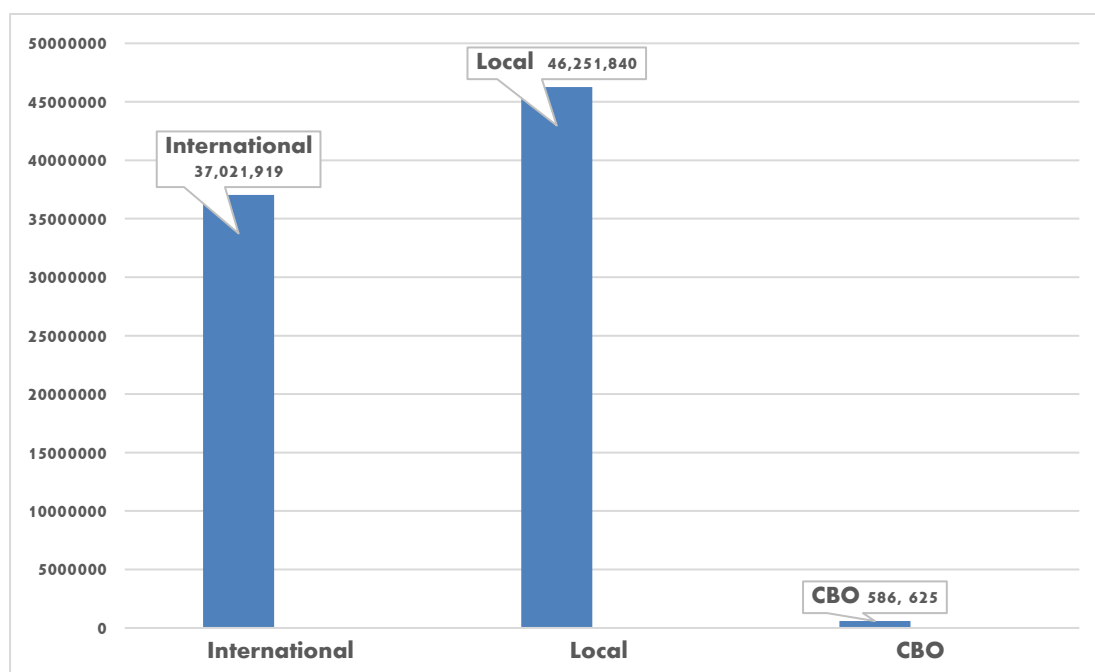
Figure 3.1: NGOs/CSOs Concentrations in Regions



On the global front, NGOs and CSOs continue to play an important role in risks mitigation and community awareness in times of crisis. Similar significant contributions have been noticed in the Gambia as the NGOs/CSOs continue to respond to the COVID-19 containment and relief support in various relief support ranging from socioeconomic, social protection, health, and rule of law.

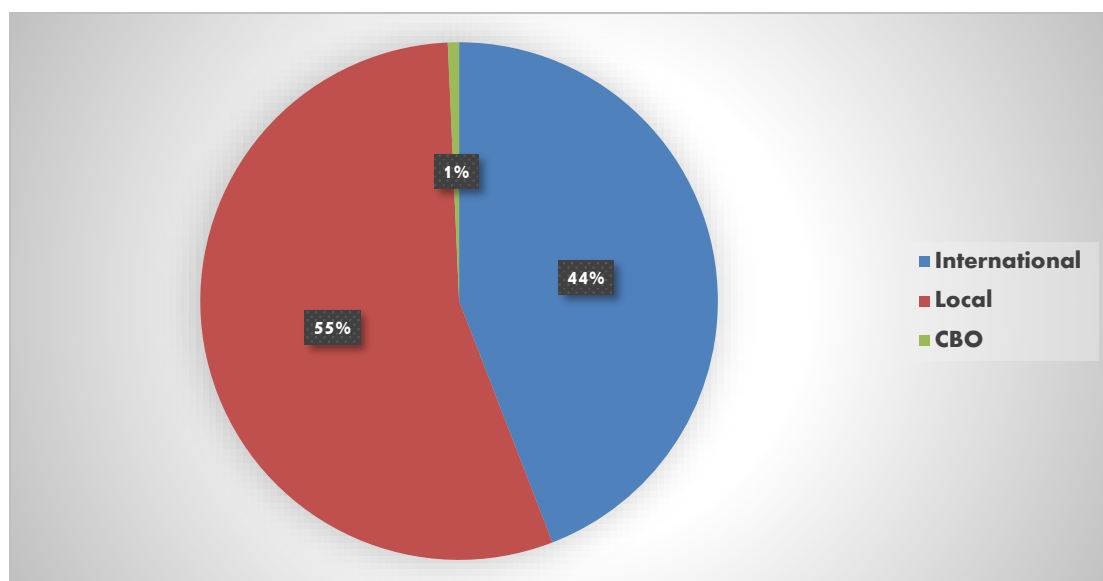
Despite the unforeseen emergence of COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent unplanned containment budget by NGOs/CSOs, there has been noticeable significant COVID-19 response interventions support made by Local and International NGOs/CSOs in the Gambia. The mapping results revealed a cumulative response worth of **GMD 83, 860,384** as illustrated in figure 3.2 below. Thus, demonstrates NGOs and CSOs resolved in working towards optimising its financial resources at critical moment in global public health financing.

Figure 3.2. Worth of Financial Investment by Type of NGOs/CSO and CBOs



Of the 55 institutions (NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs) assessed, the response of NGOs with Local status stood at 55% accounting for 30 institutions, while NGOs with International Status stood at 44% accounting for 24 institutions as illustrated in figure 3.3 below.

Figure 3.3 Proportion of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs Financial Investment

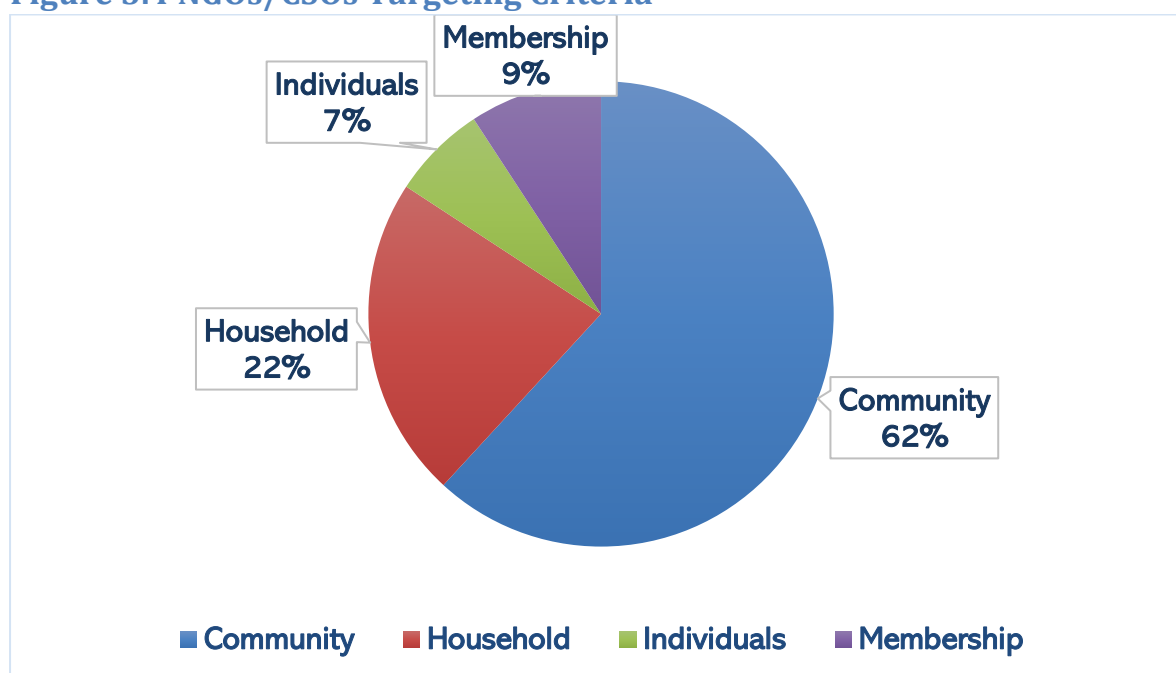


Targeting

Targeting in emergency response remains an integral element in reaching to the vulnerable people by means of averting inclusion and exclusions errors. Targeting aims at making humanitarian response more relevant, cost-effective, and efficient and by applying a targeting approach, those individuals who are most vulnerable and most in need of protection and assistance. The Humanitarian Charter provides the ethical atmosphere to the Protection Principles “*do no harm*” to people affected by disaster have a right to receive assistance to ensure the basic conditions for life with dignity.

The results revealed NGOs/CSOs intervening and delivering support using different targeting approaches in identifying beneficiaries. Thus, limit the mapping in establishing the total number of beneficiaries reached. While key targeting criteria adopted include Community based, Household, Membership based and Individual, as illustrated in figure 3.4 below. NGOs/CSOs and CBOs interventions using community-based targeting stood at 62%. Undertaken interventions using community-based targeting include sensitization outreaches on COVID-19, Sanitary supplies and situating of handwashing facilities in strategic public locations in communities. In general, community targeting procedures are considered low-cost options, as they do not require the direct screening of beneficiaries eligible for relief support.

Figure 3.4 NGOs/CSOs Targeting Criteria

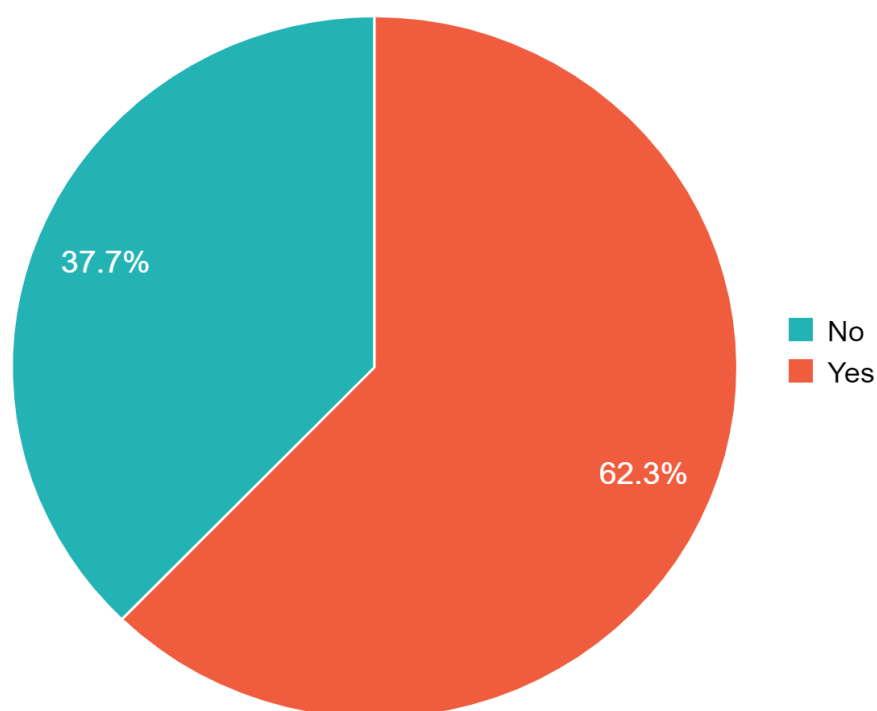


Targeting can be the responsibility of already existing structures, benefiting communities and in some cases even of outside structures. There is usually a division of responsibilities between the different stakeholders involved. Given that no single method exists for all situations and vulnerable groups, figure 3.5 below shows significant number (62%) of NGOs/CSO and CBOs involving grassroots structure in the identification of beneficiaries and needs.

Conversely, of the 55 institutions assessed, 38% (accounting to 21 NGOs/CSOs) noted to have not consulted targeted beneficiaries in needs identification. This is sometimes imposed by

institutional arrangements and agreements with national authorities/donors where distribution systems and relief support items are established.

Figure 3.5: NGOs/CSOs Beneficiary Involvement Status



COVID-19 has led to an unprecedented global response through expanded social safety nets, as countries struggle to mitigate the health and economic risks related to the virus and accompanying lock downs. Figure 3.6 below shows the subsumed NGOs and CSOs response support into four broad pillars as follow; Socio-economic³, Social Protection⁴, Health⁵, and Rule of law⁶.

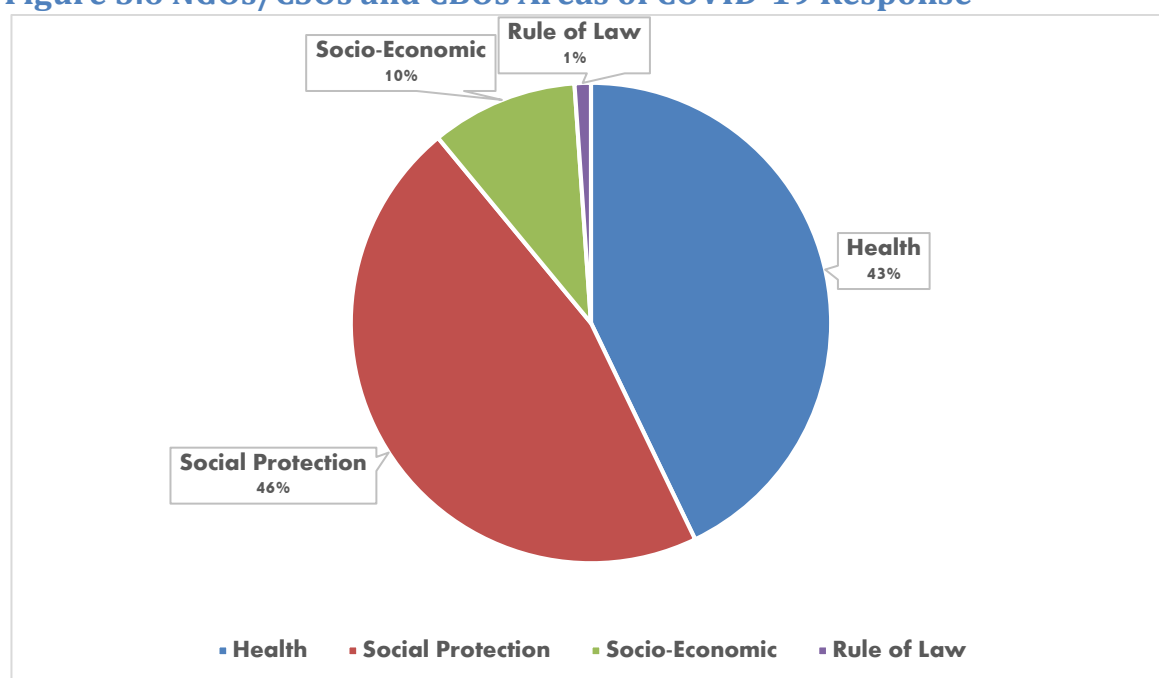
³ Socio-economic pillar: This relates to interventions geared towards economic recovery schemes for those affected. E.g. livelihood support.

⁴ Social protection pillar: This relates to interventions geared towards overcoming situations that adversely affect people's wellbeing. E.g. cash transfers, food relief support.

⁵ Health pillar: This relates to interventions geared towards the containment of COVID 19 pandemic. E.g. sanitary materials, PPEs, advocacies etc.

⁶ Rule of law pillar: This relates to interventions geared towards protecting the human rights, GBV, adhering to the minimum standards in humanitarian support.

Figure 3.6 NGOs/CSOs and CBOs Areas of COVID-19 Response



COVID-19 undoubtedly continue to disrupt and pose risks on food supply chain and economic wellbeing. NGOs and CSOs significant interventions in rolling out **social protection** schemes in the form of unconditional cash transfers, and food relief support to the vulnerable population has been noticed accounting to 46% of the cumulative COVID-19 response.

Consistent with WHO and GoTG resolved in the call for combined efforts in the containment of COVID-19, there has been noticeable significant interventions of the NGOs, CSOs and CBOs. Key undertaken **health** response activities include but not limited to distribution of sanitary supplies and hygiene education, psychosocial support, situating of handwashing facilities in public stations, personal protective equipment's, community sensitizations and outreach advocacies on COVID-19 preventive and containment measures.

On the **socio-economic** front, COVID-19 continue to pose risks to the socioeconomic livelihoods of the people with low income earners been the most affected in societies. In the Gambia, the halt in tourism and the reduction in economic activity (closing of non-essential businesses) resulting from the nationwide state of public health emergency will adversely affect Gross Domestic Product growth. However, the mapping revealed some remarkable response in livelihood support to farmers in the form of inputs, and support to SMEs.

Moreover, NGOs, and CSOs interventions in Gender Based Violence advocacies linked to COVID-19 has been noticed. Mentionable is the West African Network for Peace Building (WANEP) nationwide outreaches to communities and media outlets on Human Rights in times of emergencies.

4.0 Challenges

The underlisted were key observations and challenges highlighted from the interface with NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs during the cause of the mapping exercise.

- ✚ Limited financial resources coupled with the unexpected emergence of the pandemic have strained NGOs/CSOs and CBOs to swiftly respond in the containment of COVID-19.
- ✚ Non-possession of up-to-date health contingency plan/s with NGOs/CSOs and CBOs have hindered resource mobilisation, coordination and clear-cut communication and share of information in times of relief support interventions.
- ✚ Need for constant call on government to be considerate of the Protocol of Accord and the NGO Code of Conduct signed with the NGOs at the point of registration; by doing so, it would reduce some of the challenges the NGOs are facing in executing their activities in the country.
- ✚ Level of engagement and involvement of regional authorities and beneficiaries in terms of need identification is rated as relatively inadequate as they reported been availed with little or no opportunity to do so.
- ✚ Border villages are challenge with the movement of people in and out of the Country especially people coming from Senegal through the porous.

Recommendations

- ✚ Government and its development partners to involve NGOs & CSOs during project design and implementation through the NGO Affairs Agency and TANGO.
- ✚ The NDMA to share the National Disaster Management Contingency Plan with the NGOs & CSOs through the NGO Affairs Agency.
- ✚ Strengthening the capacities of local NGOs & CSOs through financial and human resources.
- ✚ Heighten engaging regional authorities and meaningfully involve would-be targeted beneficiaries in needs identification.
- ✚ Government to share its contingency plan with NGOs.
- ✚ NGOs with the same interest to collaborate and avoid duplication of effects.
- ✚ Strengthen the collaboration between NGOs and other emergency respond agencies such as NDMA through the NGOAA so that all the vulnerable during emergencies are supported.

Annex 1: Contact Details of NGOs/CSOs and CBOs Met

Name of NGO/CSO	Status	Official contact	Email address
Dresden -Banjul Organisation	International	9979539	ndey664.nrc@gmail.com
Direct Aid	International	2294982	gambia@direct-aid.org
The Gambia Future Now	International		
Q Group Foundation	Local	3333643	okebbeh@qanet.gm
WANEP The Gambia	Local	2777197	info@wanepgambia.org
Gambia Islamic Union	Local	7092022	giu1200@yahoo.com
West Africa Bird Study Association (WABSA)	Local	7640262	Kunwabsa@yahoo.com
Caravan of Mercy	International	9867919	caofmegambia@gmail.com
West Africa Mission	International	7791912	gambiwam@gmail.com
Gammol	International	6252295	omarbunsaidy@gmail.com
Trust Agency for Rural Development (TARUD)	Local	3441666	dabaai@yahoo.com
ActionAid International - The Gambia	International	4392244	
Network Against Gender Based Violence	Local	4398122	non_genderbase@yahoo.com
Vision Development Foundation	Local	4222778	vdfgambia.org
Future In Our Hands - The Gambia	Local	2839924	office @fioh.org
SOS Children's Villages The Gambia	International	7300091	Maria touch. sallah@sosgambia.org
GAFNA	Local	9924278	jusay60@yahoo.com
ADRA	International	7681853	e.tetteh@adragambia.org
Project Aid The Gambia	International	9582770	projectaid@work.com
CPA	Local	3030063	cpagambia@yhoo.com
BAFROW	Local	3869527	infor@bafrow.gm

ChildFund	Local	4378079	mkomma@childfund.org
The Gambia YMCA	Local	7962727	jcnjie@ymca.gm
Hands On Care	Local	9748716	Hocgambia@gmail.com
RAID - The Gambia	Local	3704790	raidgambia86@hotmail.com
The Gambia Family Planning Association	Local	3400607	gfpa@qanet.gm gfpafinance@qanet.gm
Stitching Goods for Gambia	International	7514446	morrtrouray3@gmail.com
Beakanya Kafo	Local	7868800	beakanya@yahoo.com
Almaktoum Foundation	International	7171603	Moumin115@yahoo.com
Caritas Gambia	International	4390998	info@caritasgambia.org
ASB Gambia	International	7369356	bewe13@gmail.com
Helping for Education and local projects in The Gambia (HELPING)	International	9945174	kuracham90@gmail.com
Juffureh, Albreda Youth Society	Local	3707001	kinteh.grand9@gmail.com
Njawara Agriculture Training Center	Local	3925959	Mmkm59@gmail.com
Forut-Gambia	Local	3108936	Sfatajoh2012@yahoo.com
ADWAC	Local	9915217	Msjoof2014@gmil.com
4H The Gambia	Local	5735524	gambia4h@gmail.com
Kuwunku Agricultural Development Cooperation	Local	3033306	
WASDA	Local	6588925	wuliandsandu@yahoo.co.uk
Keegan Cole Memorial Foundation	Local	2043134	musasanneh33@yahoo.com
Sanding Kanteh Kafoo	Local	5377074	
Tumana Agency for Development	Local	3200258	
ISRA	Local	6459137	isra.ngo3@yahoo.com

Munazamat Al Dawa Al Islamia	International	9886651	munazamatmission16@gmail.com
Horses and donkey Association	International	3702004	gambiahorseanddonkeytrust@hotmail.com
Humanity First Gambia	International	7872012	sangbilimansa@gmail.com
AVISU	Local	7442933	musa.saho129@gmail.com
Tostan	International	7172257	edrisakeita@tosand.org
Janjanbureh Tour Guide	C B O	222246	Omarjattojammeh@gmail.com
FFHC	Local	2034225	alphafulo@gmail.com
Catholic Relief Services	International	3397608	ousmannjie@crs.org
Public Health Research and Development Centre (CIAM)	Local	9575069	mkcham2009@gmail.com
Help the poor and needy	International	7242232	officebakau@gmail.com
Gamleicester Truth Charity	Local	7450075	yunusahmed@btconnect.com