

ANR PROGRAM

ANR means agriculture and natural resource. It is a unit under the National Environment Agency which is a government institution responsible for the coordination of the state's natural resources and the environment as enshrined in the NEMA act of 1990. The unit is headed by Program Officer Modou Sanneh. The mandate of ANR is to conserve and promote the natural use of the nation's natural resource and environment for the benefit of both the present and future generation and the objectives of the unit is to maximize poverty reduction and enhancement of food security, income and nutrition security for the benefit of many.

Mr Sanneh program officers ANR unit states that the program area is very important in the sense the world itself deals with all what we say is natural resources and that even we humans are natural resource. Taking care of our natural resources is a need for existence. From the ocean that we got our aquatic foods from, to the fresh air we need to breathe, to the soil we need to produce our food stocks and grace our animals.

He also states that the rationale behind ANR visiting environmental projects is because all projects as enshrined in the NEMA act have to undergo an EIA process to determine the negative and impacts the project would bring to our environment. After an EIA process is carried out recommendations are made and submitted to the project to consider for our environmental sustainability. It is the duty of the ANR unit to monitor development projects to ensure full compliance by project developers on the recommendations made by the EIA. Inspections and monitoring of project sites are done quarterly with other stakeholders.

When you talk of ANR he said, agriculture comes first and when there is agriculture there must be a positive and negative impacts of our environment. In fact we are pointing a finger that agricultural activities have more negative than any other activity in our environment. Therefore agricultural should be done whilst trying to minimize depleting natural resources by using a particular place for agriculture instead of moving round and clearing and cutting down trees any time we feel the need to cultivate our crops.

Like any other unit the ANR unit also faces some constraints in executing its duties and responsibilities. They among others include, government projects not complying with EIA procedures. This is a very big challenge for the ANR unit when government projects are not complying with EIA procedures, private development projects tend to follow their footsteps. Human capacity is also lacking in the unit. The unit is to be headed by a senior program officer or a program manager but the unit has only one program officer and one intern running the unit. Capacity building is also a challenge faced by the unit.

There is always room for improvement. Agriculture is the backbone of any nation. Its importance cannot be over emphasized. There is need for sensitization on the ways and techniques of agriculture to minimize environmental depletion.

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What is the importance of ANR?

ANR means agriculture and natural resource. It is a unit under the National Environment Agency which is a government institution responsible for the coordination of the state's natural resources and the environment as enshrined in the NEMA act of 1990. The unit headed by Program Officer Modou Sanneh. He states that the program area is very important in the sense the world itself is a deal with all what we say is natural resources and that even we humans are natural resource. Taking care of our natural resources is a need for existence. From the ocean that we got our aquatic foods from, to the fresh air we need to breathe, to the soil we need to produce our food stocks and grace our animals.

What are the main functions of ANR?

The mandate of ANR is to conserve and promote the natural use of the nation's natural resource and environment for the benefit of both the present and future generation.

Objectives of ANR

The objectives of ANR is to maximize poverty reduction and enhancement of food security, income and nutrition security for the benefit of man.

What is the rationale behind ANR visiting environmental projects countrywide?

The rationale behind ANR visiting environmental projects is because all projects as enshrined in the NEMA act have to undergo an EIA process to determine the negative and impacts the project would bring to our environment. After an EIA process is carried out recommendations are made and submitted to the project to consider for our environmental sustainability. It is the duty of the ANR unit to conduct to monitor development projects to ensure full compliance by project developers on the recommendations made by the EIA. Inspections and monitoring of project sites are done quarterly with other stakeholders.

What is ANR's position in the depletion of most natural resources?

When you talk of ANR agriculture comes first and when there is agriculture there must be a positive and negative impacts of our environment. In fact we are pointing a finger that agricultural activities have more negative than any other activity in our environment. Therefore agricultural should be done whilst trying to minimize depleting most natural resources by using a particular place for agriculture instead of moving round and clearing and cutting down trees any time we feel the need to cultivate our crops.

What are some of the constraints faced by ANR?

Government projects not complying with EIA procedures. This is a very big challenge for the ANR unit when government projects are not complying with EIA procedures, private development projects tend to follow their footsteps.

Human capacity is also lacking in the unit. The unit is to be headed by a senior program officer or a program manager but the unit has only one program officer and one intern running the unit.

Capacity building is also a challenge faced by the unit.

Can you comment on the status of agriculture in the country?

There is room for improvement. Agriculture is the backbone of any nation. Its importance cannot be over emphasized. There is need for sensitization on the ways and techniques of agriculture to minimize environmental depletion.

ANR WORKING GROUP

NETWORKING

*Technical Working Groups

Agriculture and Natural Resources Technical Working Group

Membership

Institution	Unit(s)
1. Office of the President	
2. MECCNAR	Permanent Secretary's office
3. MoA	PS's Office & SWMS
4. UNDP Resident Representative	
5. FAO Country Representative	National Adaptation Plan (NAP's)
6. National Nutrition Agency (NaNA)	
7. National Seed Secretariat	MOA
8. MoFEA	
9. Department of Forestry	Office of the Executive Director
10. Planning Services Unit	Office of the Director

11. Department of Fisheries	
12. Department of Water Resources	Research and Application Unit
13. United Purpose	Livelihoods Unit
14. Department of Community Development (DCD)	
15. Department of Physical Planning & Housing	Planning unit
16. Department of Land and Surveys	
17. Soil and water Management Services	Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
18. The Gambia Bureau of Statistics	Environment Statistics Unit
19. TANGO	
20. Gambia Tourism Board	Product Development Department
21. Food safety & Quality Authority	Scientific Affairs Directorate
22. Department of Parks & Wildlife Management	Deputy Director's office
23. National Agricultural Research Institute	
24. National Disaster Management Agency	
25. Action Aid The Gambia	Livelihood, resilience and climate justice unit
26. Rice Farmers Association	
27. All Gambia Forest Platform	Anti-Bushfire Unit
28. NACOFAG	Coordinating Officer
29. National Farmers Platform	Programs Unit
30. Stay Green Foundation	Programs Unit
31. National Environment Agency	ANR Unit
32. Geological Department	
33. Ministry of Petroleum and Energy	
34. Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources	
35. Department of Agriculture Services	
36. NAYAFs	
37. Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MoBSE)	

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Working Group (ANRWG) are as follows:

1. Assist in the preparation and review of ANR sectoral policies
2. Assist in the development of a strategies and action plans for Agriculture and Natural Resources management (plans for human resource management, financial and technical resources requirement)
3. Mainstream and prioritize agriculture and national resource management activities and the development of the projects under the framework of the Gambia Environmental Action Plan (GEAP)
4. Recommend the commissioning of studies and the development of appropriate technologies and projects under the framework of the Gambia Environmental Action Plan (GEAP)
5. Liaise with the Working Groups on Environmental Education and Communication (EE &C)
6. Disseminate information on agriculture and natural resources management to relevant stakeholders
7. Hold quarterly meetings and provide updates on the institutional constraints of policy implementations
8. Attend and participate in ANR quarterly working group meetings

Action Plan (list items for 2021 first year of a rolling program)

1. Enhance effective organization and coordination of the ANRWG meetings
2. Development and monitor ESMPs for project implementation to ensure adequate safeguards and sound environmental protection measures are in place to mitigate potential impacts on communities and the environment
3. Improve synergy with programs areas within the NEA and multi-disciplinary stakeholders to review NRM policy documents (GEAP, SOER, and GNAIP)
4. Develop a National compendium of environmental statistics

*OTHER STRUCTURES (IF ANY)

Internal structures;

EE&C, EIS, EIA C&ME PROGRAMS

Contact.

Program Officer.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

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