



Beef Cattle Rearing in The Gambia

Project Profile



Why The Gambia?

- Situated on the Atlantic coast and with a navigable river that flows more than 1,100km inland, The Gambia is the ideal entry and exit point for West Africa and the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS)

- This short document outlines:
 1. **The market opportunity for investment in beef cattle rearing**
 2. **The favourable conditions available to investors**
 3. **The support investors can expect to receive**

The most competitive country in West Africa¹

Average Agriculture Value Added per worker >60% higher than in Senegal²

Home to the only West African river easily accessible to ocean-going shipping³

The best agricultural policy framework in West Africa¹



1 World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13
 2 World Bank, Online Data Resource – latest data (2008-10). Accessed: 8/2/13
 3. Encyclopaedia Britannica. Accessed: 2/3/13

Economic indicators

- **GDP:** US\$752mn in 2011 – predicted rise to \$941mn by 2015 ¹
- **GDP growth:** 3.3% in 2011 – predicted annual growth average of 5.9% between 2012-2015 ¹
- **Country risk:** Lower risk level (yellow) than all neighbouring countries and in the same category as Sierra Leone, Ghana, Togo and Benin ²
- **CPI Inflation (2011):** 4.4% ³
- **Exports / Imports value (2011) :** - Exports: \$94.7mn ⁴
- Imports: \$343.69mn
- **Labour force (2008) :** 400,000 ³
- **FDI stock and inflows (2011):** \$703mn stock / \$36mn inflows ⁵
- **Currency exchange rates 2012 – highs (H) and lows (L):** ⁶
 - GMD/USD: 0.033 (H) / 0.029 (L) GMD/GBP: 0.021 (H) / 0.018 (L)
 - GMD/EUR: 0.028 (H) / 0.022 (L)



1. IMF World Economic Outlook. Real GDP (constant prices). Accessed: 8/2/13
 2. Maplecroft Political Risk 2012. Accessed: 8/2/13
 3. Access Gambia. Accessed: 8/2/13

4. UN Comtrade. Accessed: 11/2/13
 5. UNCTAD Stat. Accessed: 11/2/13
 6. Oanda.com. Accessed: 9/4/13

Beef Cattle Rearing in The Gambia

- The Gambia offers the ideal environment for beef cattle rearing in terms of grazing land, climate, know-how and available skills
- This ideal environment is bolstered by political support – and an established target – to increase the supply of livestock products to the tourism sector by 15% by 2016³

KEY FACTS:

- Beef import values (frozen, chilled and fresh):¹
 - 2010: US\$ 94,573
 - 2011: US\$ 174,333
- Agriculture employs 78.6% of the labour force and accounts for 30% of GDP²
- Livestock contributes around 20% of total agricultural output and slightly just under 5% of the GDP³
- Gambia's cattle population: 284,925⁴
- 465 livestock dealers and 394 butchers registered with the Gambia Livestock Marketing Agency (GLMA)⁵

1. UN Comtrade. Accessed: 12/2/13

2. GIEPA Agriculture Investment Brochure 2012

3. Ministry of Trade, Regional Integration & Employment – Medium Term Programme 2013-2016

4. Gambia Livestock Marketing Agency's Cattle Census 2010. Reported on allafrica.com 1/2/11. Accessed: 7/3/13

5. Gambia Livestock Marketing Agency, reported in January 2013

Infrastructure

- ☒ Banjul port has a handling capacity of:
 - 48 metric tonnes of bulk cargo per hour
 - 17 container moves (discharging and loading) per hour

- ☒ Other new infrastructure / upgrades in development:
 - The Trans-Gambia bridge (completion due 2017)
 - Improved cross-border trunk roads with Senegal
 - Ports Expansion Programme underway – Gambia Ports Authority planning to build a second port on the Atlantic coast
 - Ongoing infrastructure upgrades at Banjul International Airport



The Gambia's livestock community

- The Gambia is already home to a developed community of stakeholders in the livestock industry (including businesses, industry associations and representative groups) – a few examples of these organisations are displayed below
- The presence of these groups demonstrates The Gambia's attractiveness and potential as a prime location in West Africa for the rearing of livestock. Cattle is currently an under-exploited area of investment (existing investors typically rear other livestock). Given the existing cattle stock, livestock dealers and butchers however, beef cattle offers important investment opportunities

EXAMPLES OF ORGANISATIONS:

Gambia Livestock Marketing Agency	Kombo Farms Gambia Co. Ltd.
Gambia Farmers Platform	Kanilai Family Farms



Availability of incentives

- A host of incentives are available to investors in the cattle rearing sector, provided certain criteria relating to investment value and job creation are met.¹ These incentives include:
 - **Tax Holiday:** tax breaks on corporate and turnover tax, withholding tax on dividends and for a period of 5-8 years, depending on the project's location
 - **Import Tax Incentives:** Exemption from payment of import tax on direct inputs for the project (e.g. agricultural machinery)
 - **Export Incentives:** Exemptions / reductions on corporate and turnover tax, exemption from Excise Duty and Sales Tax on goods produced or imported within the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) for processing and export – depending on proportion of goods exported
 - **No export tax on agricultural products**

1. To access incentives, a new investment must be worth at least US\$250,000 and lead to the creation of at least five jobs in the agriculture sector. Source: GIEPA Regulations 2012. More information on criteria available from GIEPA.

Operating costs

- The Gambia has by far the most efficient labour market in West Africa¹ and offers competitive costs in key areas such as agricultural labour
- Preferential rates for key utilities such as energy and water are offered to operators in the agricultural sector

INDICATIVE KEY COSTS:

- Average daily wages for unskilled labour hover between US\$2-4 a day²
- Energy: 9.10 GMD / kWh: (agriculture tariff)³
- Water: 10.37 GMD / cubic metre (agriculture tariff)³
- Key taxes: - Corporate: 32% (exemption possible)
- Income: up to 30%
- VAT: 15%

1. World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13

2. Program for Accelerated Growth and Employment 2012-15

3. GIEPA Investment Guide 2012

Government policy position

- The Gambian Government recognizes the importance of private sector participation in the economy, both as an engine of growth and as a source of knowledge transfer
- The Gambia National Agricultural Investment Programme (GNAIP) 2011-2015 is the national strategic framework for accelerated growth, poverty reduction as well as food, nutrition and income security
- The Government has identified the promotion of commercial investment in livestock production as a key measure for adoption¹
- The Gambia has been recognised by the World Economic Forum as having the best agricultural policy framework in West Africa (and the 10th best globally)

A helping hand – every step of the way

- The Gambia Investment and Export Promotion Agency (GIEPA) is the Government Agency mandated to support companies with their investment, business and export development as well as support to MSMEs
- From the initial provision of information right through to supporting the establishment, growth and development of an investment project, GIEPA is your supporting partner for doing business in The Gambia – every step of the way
- Here are just a few of the ways in which GIEPA can support your business:

Provide all business-related information to current and potential investors

Serve as the link between investors and authorities

Help to identify joint venture partners

Help to obtain licences, land, clearances etc.

Provide advisory services and training to exporters

Support companies planning to expand / diversify

Provide ongoing assistance to companies once they've started operations

Administer and advise on incentives



Four good reasons to choose The Gambia

1

STRONG DEMAND AND PRODUCTION POTENTIAL:

- Beef imports nearly doubled between 2010-2011
- 465 livestock dealers and 394 butchers registered nationally
- Government target of 15% increase in the supply of livestock products to the tourism sector by 2016

2

COMPETITIVE INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT:

- Best agricultural policy framework and the most competitive economy in West Africa (WEF 2012)
- West Africa's most efficient labour market (WEF 2012)
- Lower political risk than neighbouring countries (Maplecroft)

3

STRONG AND IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE:

- River Gambia - easily accessible to ocean-going shipping
- Efficient port with competitive costs (fixed unit tariff system)
- New and upgrade projects underway, improving transport links with ECOWAS markets

4

ATTRACTIVE INCENTIVES, COMPETITIVE COSTS

- Generous incentives for beef cattle production
- Competitive costs
- Strong political support for livestock investment and production
- Comprehensive guidance and support from GIEPA



For further information, contact:

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