



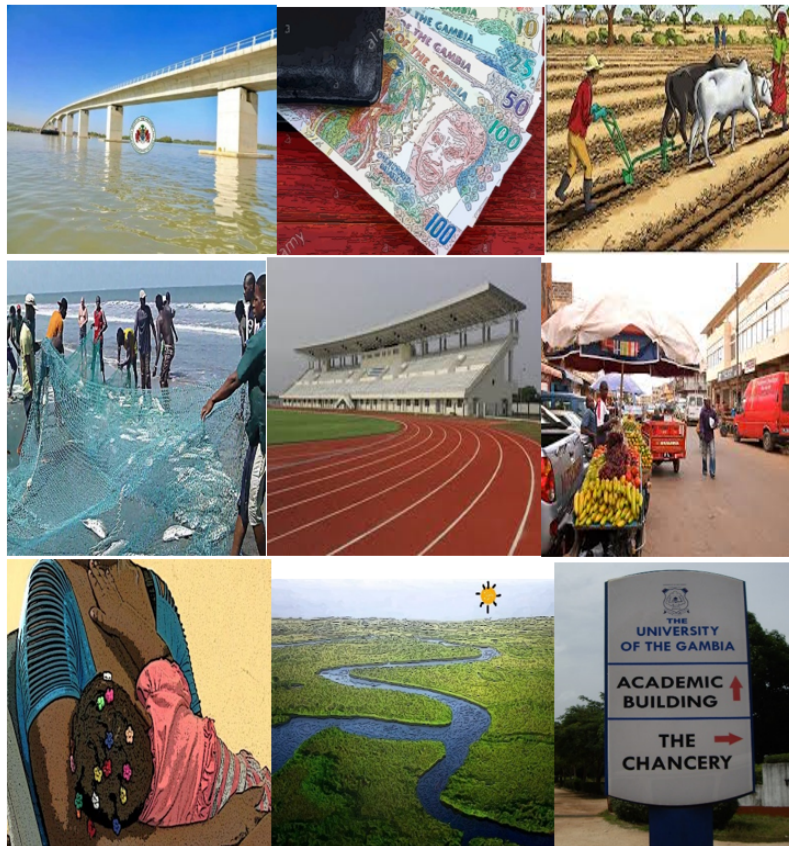
The Republic of The Gambia  
Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA)

**Citizens Budget 2019**

**Budget of the Government of The Gambia**

**2019**

**Citizens Edition**



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## List of Abbreviations or Acronyms

BADEA-	-	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
EU	-	European Union
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
GLF	-	Government Local Fund
IEC	-	Independent Electoral Commission
MOA	-	Ministry of Agriculture
MOBSE	-	Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education
MOYS	-	Ministry of Youth and Sports
MOP&E	-	Ministry of Petroleum and Energy
MOD	-	Ministry of Defence
MOI	-	Ministry of Interior
MOTWI	-	Ministry of Transport, Works & Infrastructure
MOICI	-	Ministry of Information, Communication & Infrastructure
MOT&C	-	Ministry of Tourism and Culture
MOFA	-	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOJ	-	Ministry of Justice
MOFEA	-	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
MOLRG	-	Ministry of Lands and Regional Government
MOH	-	Ministry of Health
MOECC&W	-	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Wildlife
MOFWR	-	Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources
MOHERST	-	Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology
MOWC&SW	-	Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
MRC	-	Medical Research Council
MTEF	-	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
NAO	-	National Audit Office
NDP	-	National Development Plan
OMVG	-	River Gambia Basin Development Organization
OP	-	Office of The President
PBB	-	Programme Based Budgeting
PSC	-	Public Service Commission
PFM	-	Public Financial Management
UNICEF	-	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
US	-	United States
UTG	-	University of The Gambia

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## Statement by the Honorable Minister

The 2019 Citizens' budget is a simplified version of the 2019 approved budget estimate aimed at communicating key public finance information and development objectives of the government to its citizens whilst adhering to budget transparency and accountability for effective and efficient utilization of public resources.

In 2019, Government will continue to implement prudent fiscal policies with the objective of attaining macroeconomic stability whilst working towards meeting our developmental priorities as articulated on the National Development Plan (NDP). It is through fiscal discipline and enhanced administration of revenue mobilization that we will boost necessary public and private investment across the various sectors of our economy.

The Government of The Gambia with support from our development partners launched the NDP covering the period of 2018 – 2021, aimed at achieving the eight strategic national development priorities. The overarching goal of Government under the plan is to “deliver good governance and accountability, social cohesion, and national reconciliation and a revitalized and transformed economy for the wellbeing of all Gambians”.

This was followed by a very successful International Donor Conference held in Brussels that led to \$1.7 billion in pledges by our development partners for the successful implementation of the NDP. In this regard, the ongoing donor follow ups will be strengthened to realize these pledges.

The 2019 budget will be limited to an overall financing gap of D3.5 billion, which represents 4.0% of GDP, required to narrow down fiscal deficit and contain the current public debt burden. Although public debt to GDP ratio has gone from 129.2 percent to 88.0 percent as a result of rebasing the GDP, it remains unsustainable and debt service continues to put immense pressure on our domestic revenues.

Finally, in order to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness on the utilization of our public resources, we will continue to implement Public Finance Management reforms with emphasis on budgetary reforms, namely Programme Based Budgeting and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. This will strengthen the link between the National Development Plan and the annual budget through sector strategic plans.

Honorable Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA)

Republic of The Gambia

## Section I: Introduction

### 1.1 About Citizens Budget

The Citizens' Budget is a simplified version of the 2019 National Budget, which seeks to bring the understanding of the budget to the level of every citizen. It uses non-technical language to explain how government intends to raise and spend public funds.



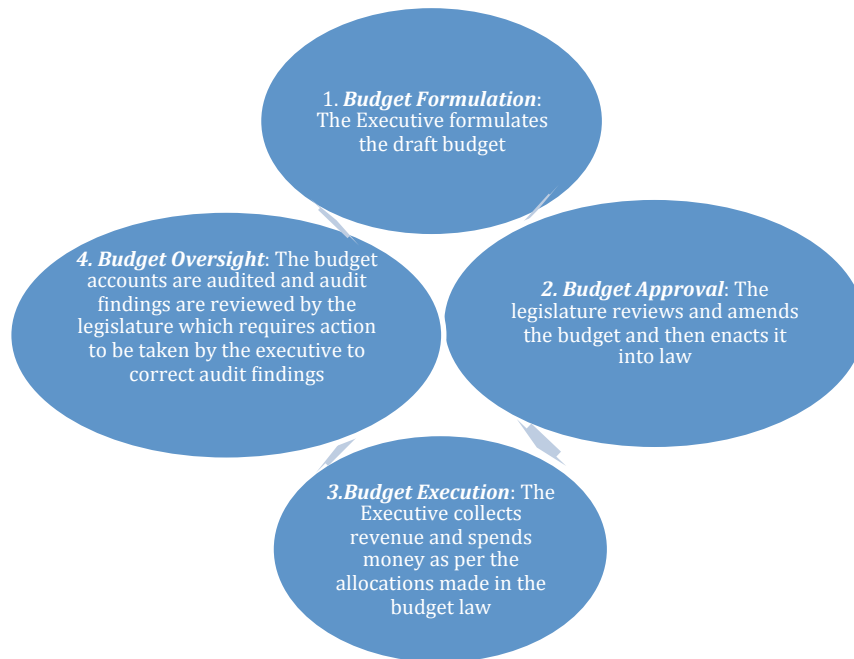
### 1.2 What is a budget?

A budget is a plan that outlines where to get money from and what to spend the money on. Budgets can be as simple as a household budget made up of money you earn used for living expenses such as food, rent, and utilities or as complicated as your country's national budget made up of tax revenues which are spent on things such as education, health care, and transportation.

Budgets are much more than just numbers. They are important planning documents that at a national level lay out public priorities and the activities needed to fully implement initiatives.

The budget process goes through four main stages: the formulation, approval, execution and oversight functions as shown in the diagram on the next page.

## THE BUDGET PROCESS



*Reference: International Budget Partnership (IBP)*

## Section II: Where Government Plans to Raise and Spend Money in 2019

### 2.1 What is Revenue?

Government revenue is the money received by a government.

- Major national revenues include Tax Revenues (i.e Personal and Corporate Income Taxes, Taxes on goods and services, excise and various fees such as customs and import duties) and Non-Tax Revenues (i.e Driver license fees, passport fees etc). These funds are known as Government Local Funds (GLF).
- Donors might also give the government funds without having to pay it back (grants) or government can take money from outside sources that they will have to pay back (loans). These (Loans & Grants) are known as External Funds.
- The Government Local Funds in addition to External Funds is referred to as All Funds.

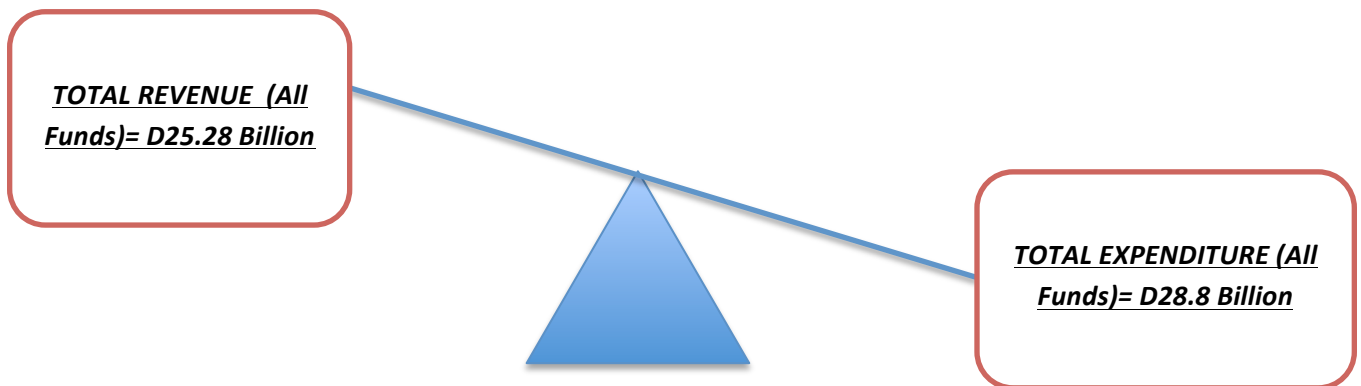
### 2.2 What is Expenditure?

Government expenditure refers to the purchase of goods and services that include public consumption (health care services) and public investment (roads and hospitals). Expenditure can be divided into two main groups: recurrent and capital expenditure.

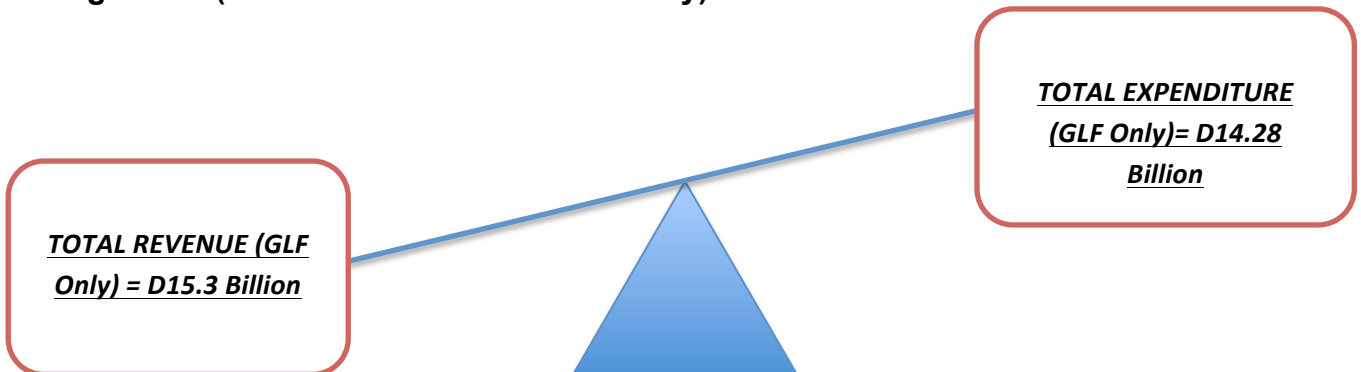
- Recurrent expenditures are those associated with the current cost of maintaining and operating a program. They are sometimes referred to as operating costs such as salaries, supplies, and maintenance costs, etc.
- Capital expenditures are money spent by the government on acquiring or maintaining things such as buildings, schools, hospitals, sewage treatment plan (longer term in nature).

The graph below shows the total expenditure as compared to the total revenue for both GLF and All Funds.

**Diagram A. (All Funds including Loans and Grants)**



**Diagram B. (GLF/Government sources Only)**



### 2.3 Where is the Money Coming From?

The total revenue and grants for 2019 is estimated at D25.28 billion, which comprises of D11.9 billion on domestic revenues (tax and non-tax), and D13.4 billion of project grants & budget support as shown in the chart below.



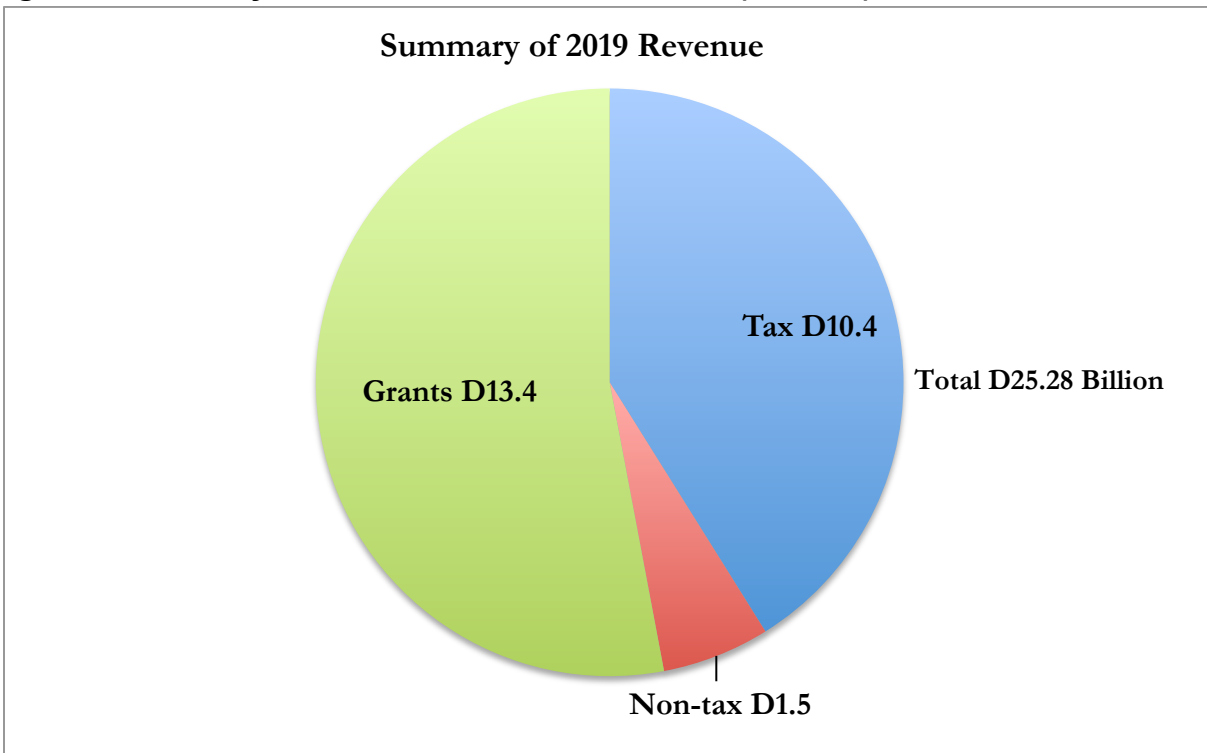
Photo Credit: Freepik (freepik.com)

**D10.4 BILLION** will come from taxes.

**D1.5 BILLION** will come from non-tax revenues such as the sales of government land, fines, penalties and forfeits.

**D13.4 BILLION** by donors in the form of budget support and project support.

**Figure I: Summary of Government Revenue 2019 (Billions)**



Reference: Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure 2019 Page 1 - Budget Overview





## 2.4 How Government Plans to Spend

### 2.4.1 Expenditure

Government expenditure refers to how it intends to spend **D28.8 Billion** on planned programs and activities in the given year.

Some of the notable expenditures are as follows:



*Reference: TransGambia Bridge - Budget Overview*

**D4.2 billion** will be spent on personnel emoluments (civil service salaries, wages and allowances).

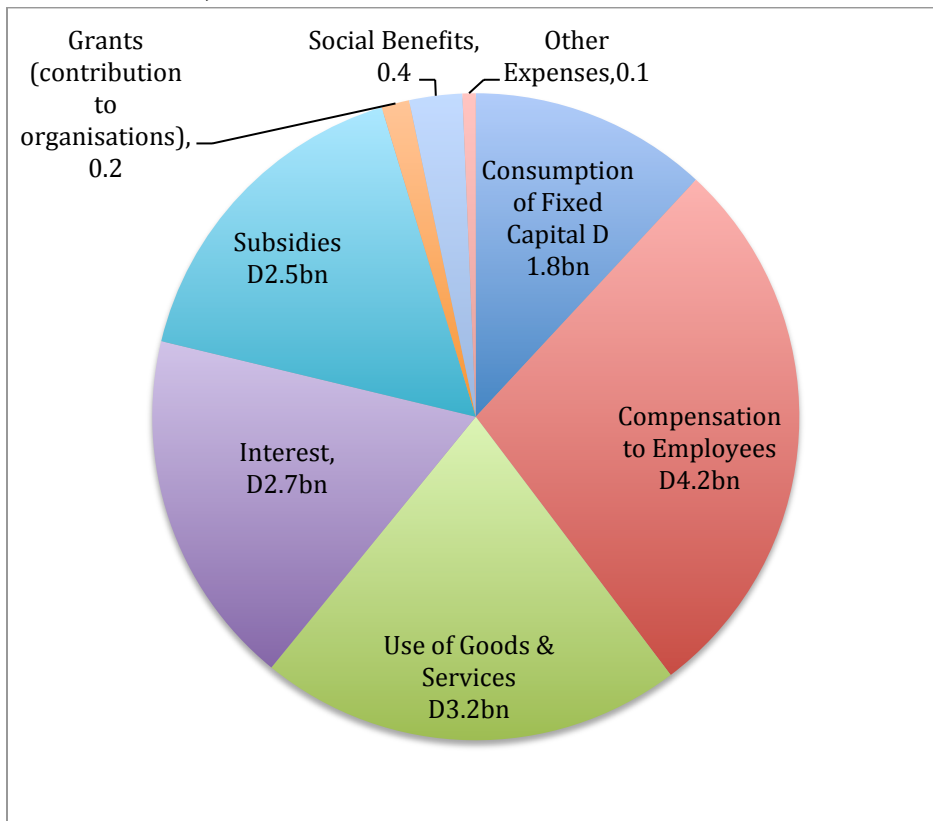
**D15.9 billion** will be spent on developmental expenditure such as improving access and quality of basic health and education, access to roads.

**D6.6 billion** will be spent on other current charges expenditure.

**D2.7 billion** will be spent on paying back interest on past borrowings.

**Figure II: Total Recurrent and Development Expenditure 2019**

**Figure III: Economic Classifications of Recurrent & Development Expenditure in (Billions)  
Dalasi –Loans, Grants and GLF**



It can be observed from the chart that Government's largest expenditure item is **Compensation of Employees**, which is primarily due to the 50% increase in government salaries and 100% increase in pensions.

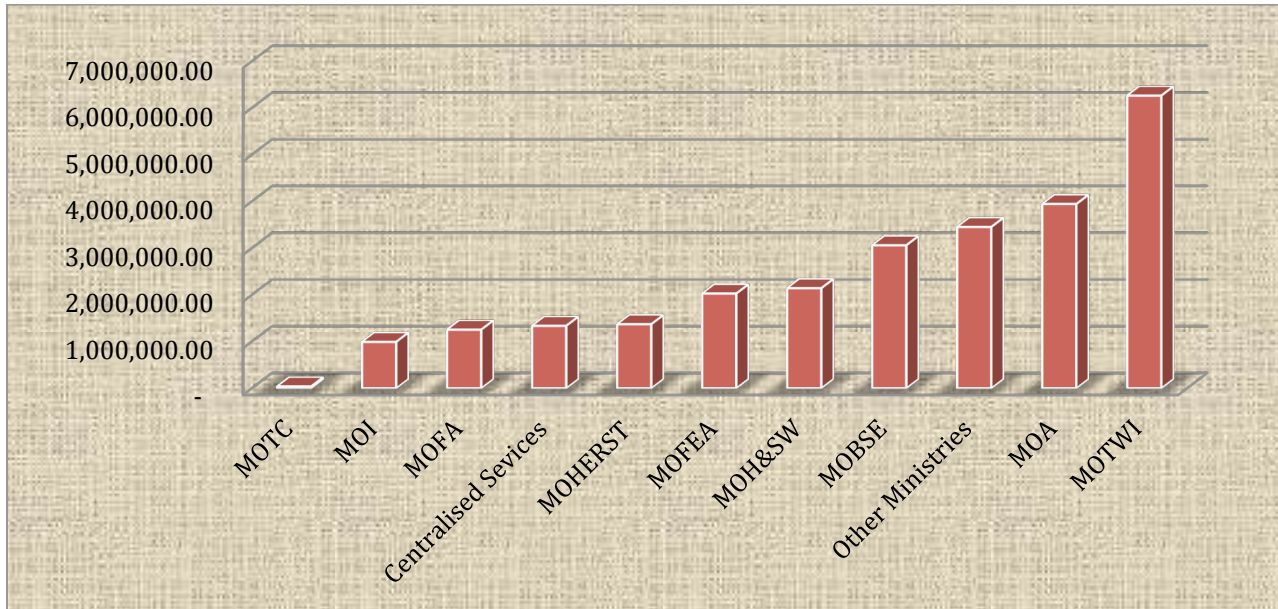
## 2.4.2 How Government Will Distribute Recurrent and Development Expenditure

In 2019, government plans to spend the following amounts in the various ministries and departments to sustain government operations and development projects/programmes:

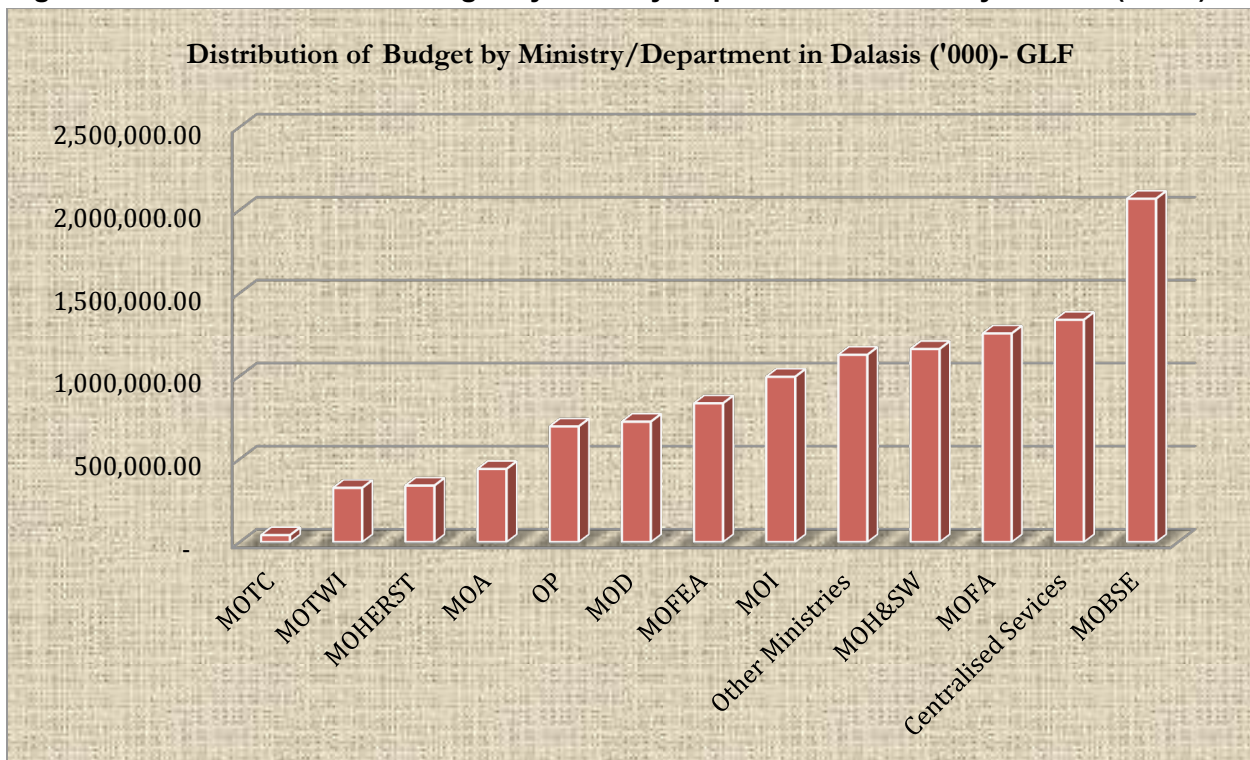
**Table I: 2019 Budget Appropriation**

<b>Budget Entity CODE</b>	<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>GLF (LOCAL FUNDS)</b>	<b>ALL FUNDS (INC. LOANS &amp; GRANTS)</b>
01	Office of The President	697,663,751	697,663,751
02	National Assembly	139,273,419	139,273,419
03	Judiciary	164,091,692	164,091,692
04	Independent Electoral Commission	29,800,723	29,800,723
05	Public Service Commission	9,900,000	9,900,000
06	National Audit Office	59,426,230	59,426,230
07	Ministry of Defence	726,557,843	726,557,843
08	Ministry of Interior	996,904,978	996,904,978
09	Ministry of Tourism and Culture	43,039,165	43,039,165
10	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,257,882,799	1,257,882,799
11	Ministry of Justice	346,162,635	346,162,635
12	Ministry of Finance	837,127,837	2, 029,881,000
13	Pensions and Gratuities	375,678,000	375,678,000
14	Ombudsman	20,241,000	20,241,000
15	Centralised Services	1,340,000,000	1,340,000,000
16	Ministry of Lands and Regional Government	175,381,997	175,381,997
17	Ministry of Agriculture	441,536,840	3, 945,768,000
18	Ministry of Transport, Works & Infrastructure	327,949,083	6,267,044,000
19	Ministry of Trade, Indus, Reg. Integ. & Empl.	111,062,020	139, 562,000
20	Ministry of Basic & Secondary Education	2,069,170,828	3,063,393,000
21	Ministry of Health	1,164,067,500	2,144,772,000
22	Ministry of Youth & Sports	141,276,190	141,276,190
23	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change	252,645,495	543,970,000
24	Ministry of Info, Commun. & Infrastructure	63,577,479	63,577,479
25	Ministry of Fisheries & Water Resources	62,420,000	359,000,000
27	Ministry of H/Edu, Research and Science	341,339,522	1,373,593,000
29	Ministry Petroleum & Energy	56,951,387	342,601,000
31	Ministry Of Women, Children & Social Welfare	58,285,475	58,285,475
50	Debt Service	4,789,724,934	4,789,724,934
	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>17, 099,138,882</b>	<b>31,644,451,000</b>

**Figure IV: Distribution of Budget by Ministry/Department in Dalasi ('000)-Loans, grants and GLF**



**Figure V: Distribution of the Budget by Ministry/Department - GLF Only in GMD (000s')**



## Section III: Spending in Critical Sectors

### Tourism and Culture

As part of Government's effort to improve the tourism sector, a budget of **D43 million** has been budgeted for the tourism sector in 2019.



*Photo Credit: Charismatic Planet  
(charismaticplanet.com)*

#### Plans and Activities

Tourist arrival numbers continue to register impressive gains and the sector intends to achieve all-year tourism.

Development and rehabilitation of tourism facilities to attract more tourist and increase revenue in the sector.

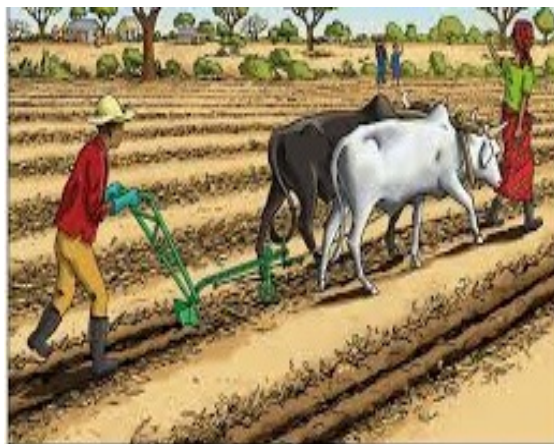
Community-based tourism by rehabilitating eco-tourism infrastructure.

Promotion of culture through investment in the construction of a multi-purpose centre.

Promotion of the country as a tourist destination through efficient marketing

### Agriculture

In 2019, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D441.5 million** in the agriculture sector.



*Photo Credit: Cotton Made In Africa  
(cottonmadeinafrica.org)*

#### Plans and Activities

To improve food security and promote sustainable agriculture, government has created a supportive environment for the farming community, particularly subsistence and smallholder producers and processors.

Adopted Mitigation measures, which include the provision of cash, transfers, intensification of livestock production and reseeding grazing lands.

Government will further embark on the construction and rehabilitation of mixed farming centers across the country.

Increased emphasis on Commercialization and Value Addition via the provision of incentives.

Availability of Matching Grants to encourage private sector investment and participation.

## Transport

As part of Government's effort to improve the transport sector, a budget of **D327.9** million has been budgeted for the transport sector in 2019.



Photo Credit: OIC Gambia Secretariat ([oicgambia.org](http://oicgambia.org))



Photo Credit: Arezki Group ([arezkigroup.com](http://arezkigroup.com))

### Plans and Activities

Commenced work on The International Conference Centre that will create approximately 1000 jobs upon completion in August 2019.

Completed about 49% of The Laminkoto –Passimus road project.

The Bamba-Tenda Yelli-Tenda Trans-Gambia Bridge is expected to be fully completed in 2019.

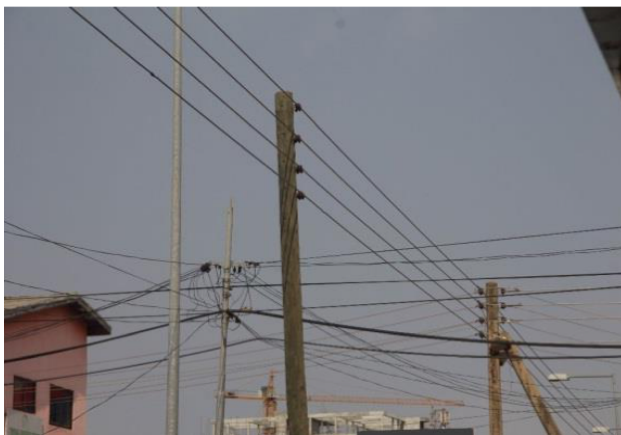
Construct 514km of road in the rural area and 250km of road in the urban area between 2019-2021.

Construction of access roads across the country.

Construction of the Basse-Fatoto-Koina road.

## Petroleum and Energy

In 2019, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D57 million** to this sector.



### Plans and Activities

Implement the energy road map 2018-2020 aimed at closing the generation gap with corresponding investment on transmission and distribution.

To ensure affordable and reliable energy for all, the Green mini grid project is intended to provide additional power capacity to poor off-grid rural households.

## Trade, Regional Integration and Employment

In 2019, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D111.1million** to this sector to help businesses expand, create jobs and promote the growth of entrepreneurial opportunities.



### Plans and Activities

The Government of the Gambia will continue training apprentices through the support of the EMPRETEC Project.

The project also trained 4200 entrepreneurs including returnees from the US and Libya and other less privileged youths and women.

In a bid to improve investor confidence, measures are taken to improve the regulatory framework.

Corporate and Personal Income taxes have been reduced to attract investment and boost productivity.

## Fisheries and Water Resources

In 2019, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D62.4 million** to this sector.



### Plans and Activities

Signed a Sustainable Fisheries Partnership agreement with the EU to strengthen the development of sustainable fisheries.

Improved technology fish smoking facility in Gunjur, which will increase the quality of smoked fish and health of fish smokers. Three additional fish smoking facilities will be built across the country

As a boost to fishing, additional emphasis on aquaculture development across the country

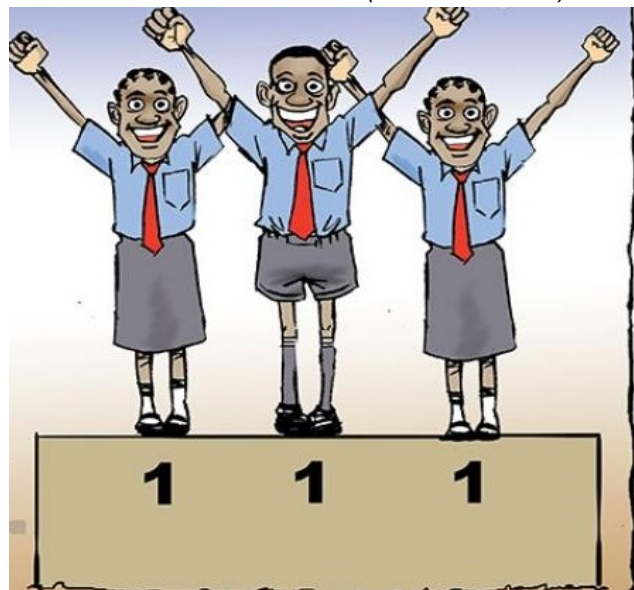
25 rural communities to be provided with solar-powered water supply in 2019.

Supply of clean potable water to schools with support of UNICEF.

## Basic and Secondary Education

In order to provide access and quality education to develop the country's human capital, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D2.1 Billion** to this sector.

*Photo Credit: The New Times (newtimes.co.rw)*



### Plans and Activities

The Support to Basic Education Project under the support of Kuwait Fund and BADEA will construct 300 classrooms in 2019.

Improved quality learning through innovative teaching methods will be introduced under the World Bank project in 24 schools.

Continue the implementation of school feeding programme to provide at least one meal per day to every child.

61 classrooms will be built to ensure early childhood education and construction of science and technical labs in secondary schools.

Under the MRC Holland project, 700 classrooms have been constructed and a further 1000 classrooms will be constructed in 2019.

## Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology

To provide access and quality education to develop the country's human capital, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D341.3 Million** to this sector.



### Plans and Activities

The Africa Centre of Excellence (ACE) Impact Project will promote scientific research and technology development in key national priority areas.

Overseeing 381 Bachelors degree awards, 155 Masters degree awards and 46 doctoral awards through partnerships.

Cater for an additional D85 million to avail scholarships to Gambian youths both within and outside of the country

Construction of UTG Dental and Surgery building – D28 Million.

University of The Gambia Campus Project- D70 million.



## Health

To provide access and quality health to ensure a healthy population, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D1.2 Billion** to this sector.



Photo Credit: medicus mundi International network (medicusmundi.org)

Construction of 5 outreach sites in Western Region 1 and 2 aimed at increasing greater access to maternal health and immunization services.

HPV Vaccination for girls aged 9 years and above in 2019 with the intention of reducing cervical cancer.

Training of medical doctors at Edward Francis Small Teaching Hospital on Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Procurement of Drugs and Medicines to be distributed across the country.

Renovation of Health Facilities across the country.

Continue to address challenges in the supply of vaccines and develop a clear sustainable plan for vaccines and medicines.

## Women, Children and Social Welfare

As part of efforts to tackle extreme poverty and empower women and children, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D58.3 Million** to this sector



### Plans and Activities

The National Social Protection Cash Transfer will assist the extremely poor and vulnerable families.

5875 mothers benefitted from the Building Resilience through Social Transfers project for Nutrition security.

Women's Enterprise Development of D5million will be available for Gambian women through micro-finance.

## Youth and Sports

The government intends to allocate an amount of **D141.3 Million** to this sector.



### Plans and Activities

Gambia Songhai Initiative Project will continue to train young people with a budget of D9.3 Million.

Rehabilitation of the Friendship Hostel.

The Youth Connekt Africa Initiative will provide youths the needed skills and opportunities to employment and contribute to economic growth.

Increased allocation towards the NYSS, PIA, NYC and NEDI in a bid to tackle youth empowerment by availing Gambian youths with technical and vocational skills (TVET), as well as entrepreneurial skills to encourage self-employment.

## Environment, Climate Change and Wildlife

**D252.6 Million** has been budgeted for this sector in 2019.



*Photo Credit: pxhere (pxhere.com)*

### Plans and Activities

Large Scale Ecosystem Based Adaptation Project under the Green Climate Fund to build climate resilience of rural Gambian communities whose livelihoods are threatened by impacts of climate change.

Refurbishment of Abuko Nature Reserve to increase tourism attraction and predictable revenue generation.

Invest in crop insurance, through the Africa Risk Capacity (ARC), to mitigate risks, in the event of crop failure due to poor harvest.

Continue to invest meaningfully in the OMVG project in order to increase the availability of renewable energy as well as potentially reducing cost in the medium-term.

## Information and Communications Infrastructure

In 2019, the government intends to allocate an amount of **D63.6 million** to this sector.



### Plans and Activities

The National Information and Communication Infrastructure Policy will articulate the policy direction geared towards the digital transformation of the Gambia's economy.

The National Broadband Network project will boost broadband in The Gambia.

GAMTEL/GAMCEL to be repositioned to enable them remain competitive in the market.

## Section IV: Global Outlook, Gambian Economy, and Fiscal Measures

### 4.1 The Global Economic Outlook and Gambian Economy

Both revenue and expenditures are greatly impacted by both the county's economy as well as by the global economy. The following are some highlights of both:

- The global economic growth for 2018/19 will remain at its 2017 level of 3.7 percent.
  - However, emerging markets and developing economies are projected to grow by less than advanced economies in per capita terms over 2018–23, and consequently fall further behind in living standards.
- Oil prices are expected to rise in the short term, largely due to a decrease in the number of barrels of oil being produced by Saudi Arabia and a decreased demand for oil due to slow economic growth in France and Germany.
  - The expected result is increased fuel prices which will put pressure on the Gambian economy. Additionally, the US Dollar is becoming stronger against the Dalasi, which also puts more pressure on domestic fuel prices.

## 4.2 Macroeconomic Assumptions

Given these factors, the National Budget is based on the following assumptions about the economic situation for the upcoming year (macroeconomic assumptions):

- Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 4.9 percent.
  - This is the rate at which a nation's GDP changes/grows from one year to another. GDP is the market value of all the goods and services produced in a country in a particular time period.
- Average inflation rate of 5.8%
  - This is the rate at which prices increase over time, resulting in a fall in the purchasing value/power of money.
- Net Domestic Borrowing of 1.4 percent of GDP
  - Domestic borrowing is the part of the total government debt in a country that is owed to lenders within the country
- Fiscal deficit of 4 percent of GDP
  - A fiscal deficit occurs when a government's total expenditures exceed the revenue that it generates, excluding money from borrowing

These assumptions underlying the 2019 budget will centrally be focused on ensuring macroeconomic stability.

## 4.3 Fiscal Policy Measures

To achieve the 2019 budget objectives given the aforementioned economic situation assumptions, government will need money to undertake investments in the sectors of priority. The actions to raise money in 2019 are herein referred to as government's revenue measures.

### 4.31 Revenue Measures

The revenue measures are the actions that Government intends to undertake to generate or raise the necessary revenue (money) to meet the implementation of policy actions by which the development objectives may be achieved. One revenue measure in 2019 is increasing the tax on alcohol. The table on the next page provides more information on this measure.

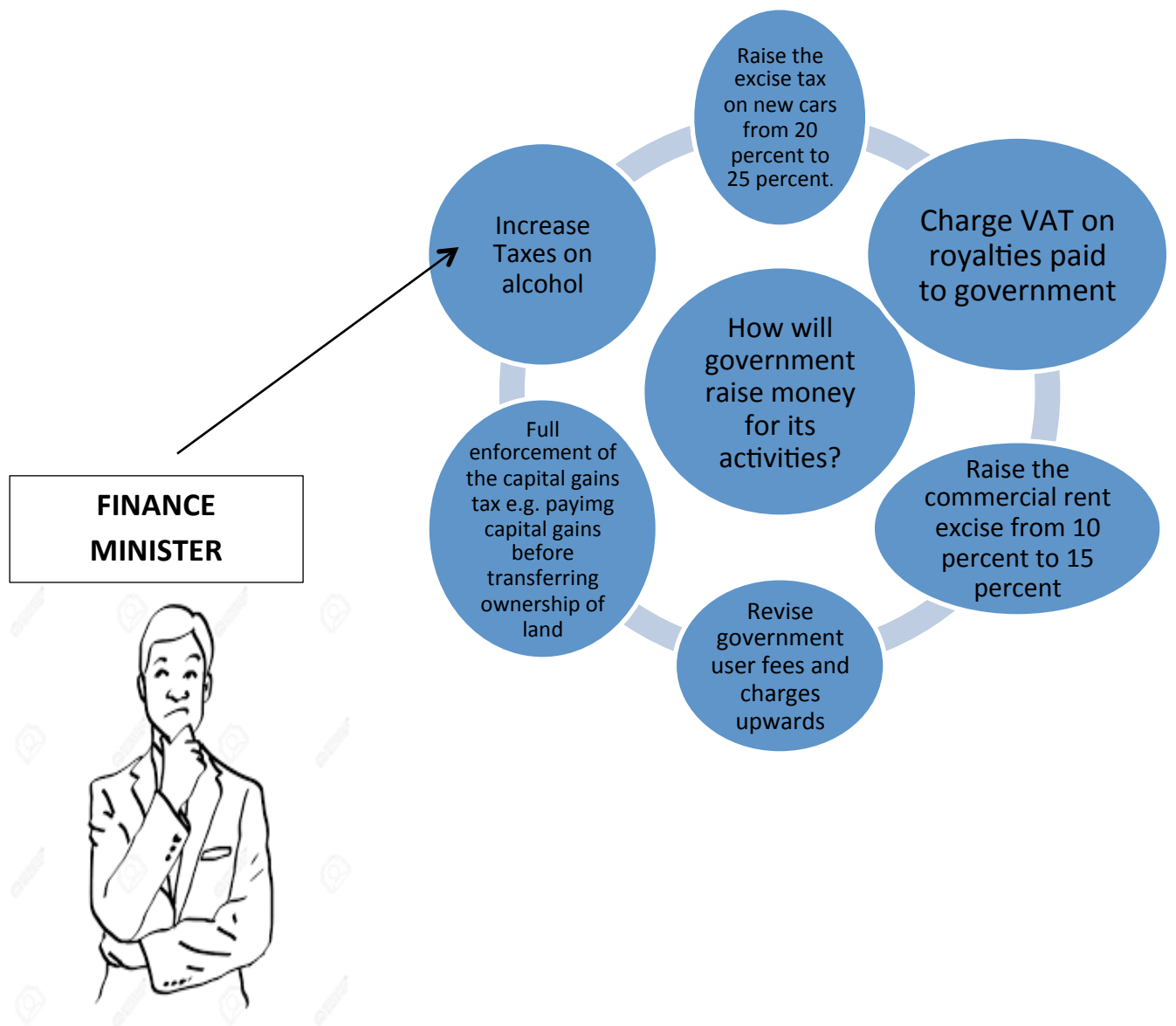
**Table II: Breakdown of Tax on Alcohol**

Alcohol Type	Domestic (on the ex-factory price)		Imports (per litre)	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Spirits	15%	60%	D175	D280
Beer	10%	75%	D100	D175
Wine	15%	60%	D150	D240

The proposal on Table II plus other measures highlighted in the graphic on the next page will generate the revenue needed to help government implement key NDP activities.



Photo Credit: CamerounWeb (camerounweb.com)



### 4.32 Expenditure Saving Measures

Government recognizes the importance of complementing effective revenue administration with good expenditure management, in order to attain the objectives of the NDP. Hence, in addition to the revenue measures mentioned above, government has decided to introduce a contributory mechanism in relation to medical expenses and tuition fees of embassy staff. Therefore, effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, medical expenses will be on an 80/20 basis while tuition fees will be on a 70/30 basis, for government and embassy staff accordingly.

### 4.33 Other Policy Actions

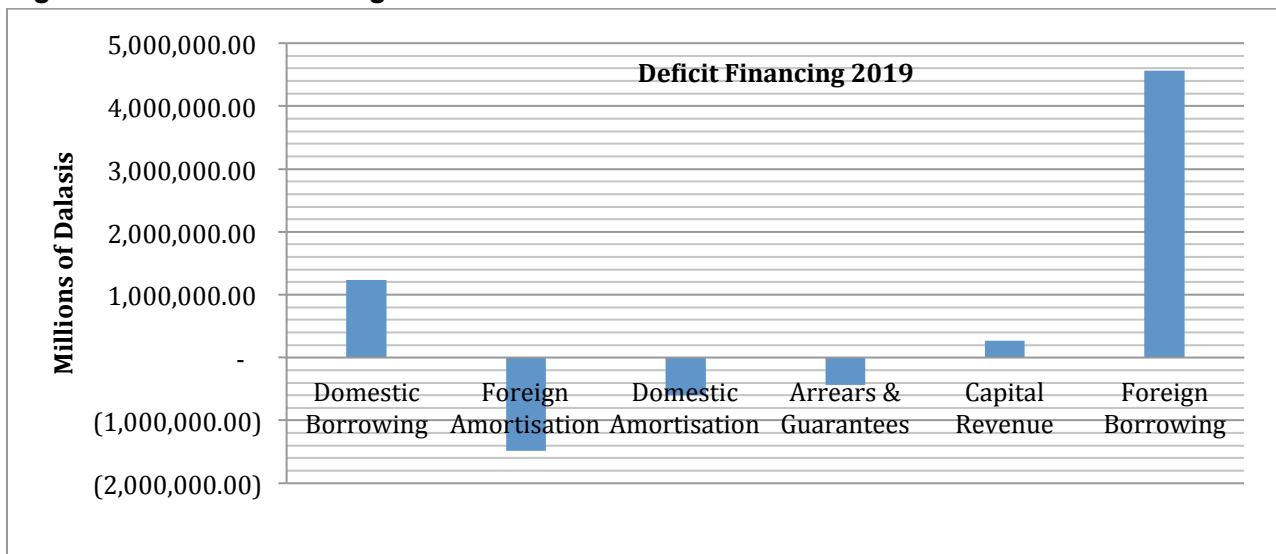
In addition to the revenue and expenditure measures mentioned above, the government is also planning to take the additional policy actions to achieve the budget objectives:

- Restructure the stock of public debt.
  - Public debt stock refers to the total value of the debt that a nation owes to all lenders.
- Reform of state-owned enterprises to ensure effective operations, increased productivity and increased investor confidence.
- Encourage private sector participation in economic activity in line with the strategic priorities set out in the National Development Plan.
- Migration to a Treasury Single Account (TSA) to ensure that all government funds are readily accessible, accountable and monitored on real time basis.
  - TSA is a public accounting system where the government revenue and income are collected into one single account.

### 4.4 Deficit Financing

When Government expenditure is more than its expected revenue, it leads to a deficit, which requires financing. The source of this financing includes domestic borrowing (e.g. treasury bills, Government bonds, etc), external financing (external loans, financial market instruments), and capital revenue (e.g. sale of government land). The following graphic provides a breakdown of deficit financing for the country.

**Figure VI: Deficit Financing 2019**



## Section V: Conclusion

### 5.1 Path towards National Development

The Gambia has registered positive economic gains during the period under review. However, our fiscal position remains critically tight hence requiring the employment of innovative ways to boost domestic revenue mobilization, coupled with prudent macroeconomic management. Maintaining macroeconomic stability continues to be our main objective going forward, which will require aligning our expenditure strictly with the budget and financial regulations. Having these types of good budget and planning processes in place will help ensure the funding needed to implement many of the country's National Development Plan priorities

## References and Glossary

### 6.1 Reference

Budget Speech, 2019, The Republic of The Gambia  
Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure 2019, The Republic of The Gambia

### 6.2 Glossary (Budget Terminology)

**Accountability:** This is when Government is answerable to its citizens by accounting for its activities and disclosing the results of such actions; this may include the responsibility for money or other properties that Government holds in trust.

**All Funds:** These include all resources expected for Government, including Government resources including Tax and Non-Tax revenues, Loans and Grants

**Amortization (domestic)-** Refers to paying off debt incurred within the country overtime with regular installment payments of interest and principal, sufficient to repay the loan in full by maturity.

**Amortization (foreign)-** Refers to paying off debt incurred internationally over time in regular installments of interest and principal sufficient to repay the loan in full by maturity.

**Budget:** A budget is a plan that outlines where to get money from and what to spend it on.

**Budget deficit:** This occurs when Government expenditure is more than revenue.



**Capital Expenditure:** This is money spent on major infrastructure projects such as roads, schools, hospitals, bridges, transport, water systems, plant and machinery etc.

**Compensation of Employees:** This is made up of salaries and salary-related allowances, social security, gratuities etc. paid to public sector workers.

**Development Partners (DPs):** This refers to countries and/or organizations that partner developing countries to achieve their developmental goals. DPs can be multilateral, e.g. International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB) etc. or bilateral which consists of individual countries like the Germany, United Kingdom, , United States of America (USA), etc.

**Government Local Fund (GLF):** The amount, from locally generated revenues, available for government to spend.

**Goods and Services:** Products, Items, consultancies or services that Government acquires or pays for to assist in running its operations for smooth service delivery to the public.

**Grants:** These are types of financial assistance given to Government by development partners and does not have to be paid back.

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** This refers to the total value of all goods and services produced in the country over a specific time period.

**Inflation:** The rate of increase in general price level of goods and services over a period of time.

**Interest Payments:** Amount of money that is paid on the loans lent to Government.

**Loan Repayment:** These are monies paid to countries, banks and other financial institutions that have lent money to Government for development projects or other expenditure. These lenders could be from within or outside the country.

**Macroeconomic stability:** The condition of minimized vulnerability to economic shocks and in favor of increased economic growth.

**Non-Tax Revenue:** Government revenue not generated from taxes, examples are fees for granting permit or licenses, user fees and other charges, sales of government properties, etc.

**Primary Balance:** This refers to primary expenditure minus interest expenditure.

**Projected Growth Rate:** Refers to the expected positive state of the Gambian economy in a year.

**Public Debt:** The total amount owed by government to domestic or external entities

**Revenue:** This is the total amount of money that Government receives for its activities from both domestic and external sources.

**Subsidy:** This is a financial relief given by government to citizens to reduce the burden on them.

**Transparency:** This is when Government provides adequate and timely information to its citizens about what it is doing.

**Value Added Tax (VAT):** The tax levied as value is added to goods and services at each stage of their production or distribution processes.