

The Gambia

Capital city: Banjul
Inhabitants: 2.3 Million



INSTITUTIONAL SETTING AND PURPOSE

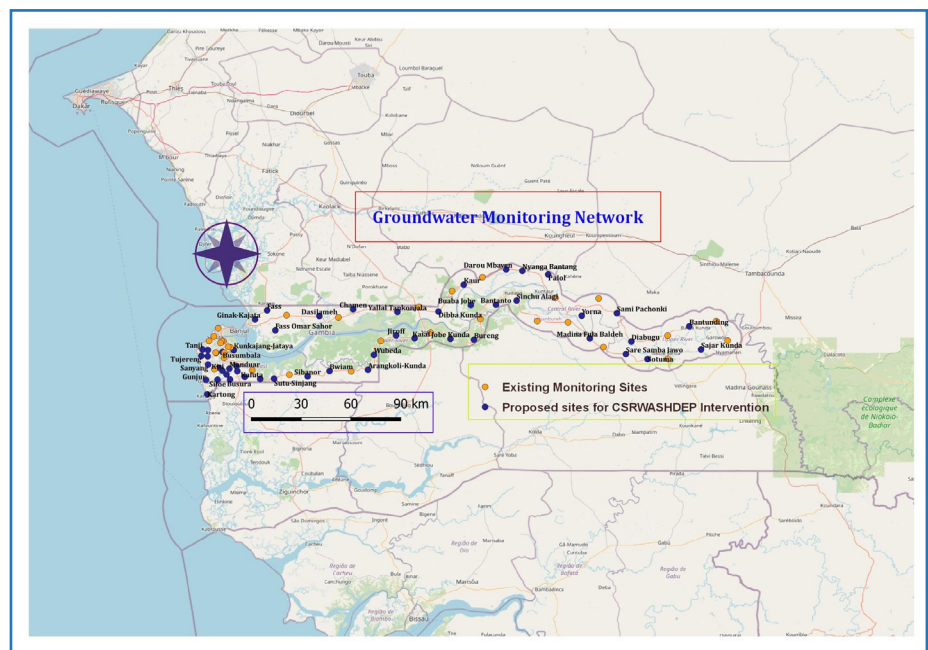
The Department of Water Resources (DWR) under the Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters is in charge of the development, use and protection of groundwater in the Gambia. The DWR maintains the national groundwater monitoring network. The network was established within the National Water Sector Reform Project (NWSRP) funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) through the African Water Facility (AWF) from 2011 to 2015. The project aimed to

modernize the groundwater monitoring network to enhance the assessment of resources for sustainable groundwater management and development. However, due to high failure of the current groundwater data loggers, the department is also anticipating for further support from Climate Smart Rural WASH Development Project (CSRWASHDEP) with funding AfDB, to increase the number of monitoring sites and purchase more stable automatic data loggers.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NETWORK

The Department presently operates a network of about 38 groundwater monitoring boreholes, installed with automatic data loggers, which are currently monitored manually. Around half of the monitoring points are spread in the Greater Banjul Area (GBA), the rest are equally distributed eastward at 35km distance throughout the north and south bank of the country. The loggers are designed to measure water level below ground surface (to be subsequently referenced to mean sea level) and groundwater temperature etc. The groundwater measuring devices were set at 6 hours interval, but the data was downloaded at a monthly basis or less frequently.

Figure 1 - Groundwater monitoring network of The Gambia



Sources

- Bibliographic reference: Bojang L, Corr G, Upton K, Ó Dochartaigh BÉ and Bellwood-Howard, I. 2018. Africa Groundwater Atlas: Hydrogeology of the Gambia. British Geological Survey. Accessed 02-07-2019 - http://earthwise.bgs.ac.uk/index.php/Hydrogeology_of_Gambia;
- Feedback from the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters of The Gambia - received on 22-09-20; and
- GGMN People Network.