



Tony Jansen
Country Director

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“United Purpose (Gambia-Senegal-Guinea Bissau country program) is an International Non-Governmental Organization with an innovative community-led approach to delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and eradicating poverty and inequality. Our vision, is a world where justice, dignity, and respect prevail for all. Our purpose is to work in partnership to tackle poverty and inequality. United Purpose has worked in the Gambia for over 23 years and is one of the largest international NGOs working with over 17 local; implementing partners across the country.

Commencing in 2018, Caplor Horizons has worked with us to build the capacity of a new emerging strategic partner – womens marketing federations. Producers, and women in particular, are poorly organised beyond the community level and lack the structures to engage in collective marketing, join mobilisation of resources and collective advocacy. We asked Caplor Horizons how they could support on this need to strengthen these structure that will form the missing ‘bit in the middle’ between small scale producers and markets and regional and national stakeholders. They proposed a series of participatory training sessions to work directly with the womens federations to enable them to improve their vision and understanding of their own potential.

With the second in a series of capacity development workshops now completed, I can say on behalf of our team and out partners that we highly recommend Caplor Horizons. We are very happy with their in-depth work, professionalism and high calibre contribution.

We threw them into a challenging context – working with local civil society organisations with very limited experience and capacity but at the coal face of the potential transformation of Gambian society in the transition to an open society following 22 years of dictatorship and the urgent need to open new livelihood opportunities in rural areas. The initial session led by Denise (Mulligan) and Dan (Bishop) was highly effective in establishing an experiential, highly tuned approach and this was followed and developed by Lorna (Pearcey) and Ian (Williams). We look forward to others from the Caplor Horizons community contributing over the three-year multi-faceted programme that is planned

Caplor Horizons has gone far beyond a professional contracting experience and really exemplified partnership – working above and beyond to ensure that their final service was not only of the highest quality but also would be of the most use to the marketing federations. The marketing federations have appreciated being targeted with valuable resources, participatory skills and process s that let their voices be heard and now they are seeing these ideas and plans materialise into action. Caplor Horizons are professional and friendly to work with.

We look forward to working with Caplor Horizons further on the next steps in this current tasks and in other new tasks in the future.”