

World Sea Food Congress
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Sea Food Safety in The Gambia

By

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Introduction

- Food Safety and Quality Authority of The Gambia is established by the Food Safety and Quality Act 2011, as the sole national competent body with powers of delegation mandated to officially control the safety and quality of food and feed whether locally produced, imported or destined for export.
- The institution became operational in July 2013 with the appointment of The DG and Deputy DG
- The Key Structures of the institution are now in place
- The Process of staff recruitment is in progress

Summary of Responsibilities

- The Authority is responsible for the inspection and certification, registration and licensing of food and feed establishments, approval of vehicles and vessels dealing with food, as well the assessment and designation of laboratory services in terms of their technical capacities to carryout food and feed analysis/ testing for official control

Background to Fisheries Control

- The previously mandated Department with regulatory powers in the Fisheries sector was by the defunct 2005 Food Act was the Fisheries Department
- The Inspection and Control Unit of the Fisheries Department was characterised by capacity gaps

Gaps in extent of control

- Regulations
- Laboratory
- Capacity of Inspection personnel (staff at central and local level)
- Landing sites
- Implementation of NEMP and Residue control plan (or RMP) for aquaculture
- Resources at disposal of the CA
 - testing

Development plans in context of FSQA

- Technical Regulations
- Capacity building
- Equipment support
- Landing site development and control
- Best practices and ensuring effective auto controls

UNIDO's Contribution to Strengthening Food Safety

- Through the WAQP, UNIDO Supported:-
 - The review and assessment of the Food System and Quality System(diagnosis)
 - Preparation of Legal and regulatory framework (prescription) (Food Safety and Quality Authority, Gambia Bureau of Standards)
 - Capacity building activities (treatment)
 - Enhancement of capacities of testing laboratories(treatment)

THANK YOU