



REPUBLIC OF

THE GAMBIA

## MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY

Petroleum House, Brusubi Roundabout  
West Coast Region

---

Press Release

30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

### **U.S. Govt Millennium Challenge Corporation approved USD 25 million Threshold Program for The Gambia**

The Gambia's energy sector is in the middle of a major transition as the country is poised to provide access to electricity for all in line with the Electricity Sub-sector Roadmap (2021-2040), the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) and the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly SDG7). In December 2017, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Board of Directors selected The Gambia as eligible to develop a Threshold program, to address specific areas constraining economic growth. Following series of consultations between the Government of the Gambia and the MCC, the electricity sub-sector was identified as the priority area for the threshold program for The Gambia to spur economic growth and increase electricity access. During the development process of the Threshold program, the MCC worked closely with a core team of government stakeholders, led by the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.

On 29 September 2021, the MCC Board of Directors approved the Threshold Program for the Gambia for a grant amount of USD 25 million over a 4-year implementation period. The program is focused on supporting the Gambia's electricity sub-sector by improving the legislative and governance structure of the sector, and enhancing the efficiency of NAWEC operations to reduce losses and support strategic reforms of the utility.

“Following concerted efforts by the Government of The Gambia and having fulfilled critical milestones in the development of the Threshold program, we are excited to partner with the MCC on this program to support the development of the electricity sub-sector in The Gambia. The program will build on and reinforce the ongoing reforms to improve the governance and operations of the electricity sub-sector, which in turn will better position the sector to address short-to medium term challenges and plan for future energy investment opportunities that will support socio-economic growth in the country. I wish to congratulate the core team that contributed to the development of the program, and I thank the MCC, through the US Embassy in The Gambia, for the support” says Hon. Fafa Sanyang, Minister of Petroleum and Energy.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation is an independent U.S. Government agency working to reduce global poverty through economic growth. Established in 2004, MCC provides grants and technical assistance to countries that meet required standards for good governance, anti-corruption, and democratic rights.

Signed:

Aminata Sanneh  
Information Officer