TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Page........................................................................................................................................1
Table of Content..................................................................................................................................2
Message from Director .......................................................................................................................3
About Beakanyang ..............................................................................................................................4
Human Rights......................................................................................................................................5-17
Good Governance and Rule of Law...................................................................................................17-27
Other Major Engagements .................................................................................................................28-32
Environment and Climate Change .................................................................................................33-36
Staff Professional Development .......................................................................................................37-39
Recognitions .....................................................................................................................................40-41
Publicity & Our Contact ...................................................................................................................42
**Message from the Director**

Beakanyang as the name implies, denotes equality for all. Like the previous years, this human rights body has been busy with it’s lined-up of activities that were meant to advance the advocacy for human rights in the Gambia during the year under review. As a result, the year 2018 was a very eventful progressive one for the organization in its result to impact positively on the livelihoods of Gambians and non-Gambians resident in the country through its various programs and projects.

**Nfamara Jawneh**  
Executive Director Beakanyang

To this effect, the organization managed to among other things; form human rights clubs in various schools across the country, new partnerships were also established and community projects initiated to fulfill rights and improve livelihoods.

As an organization that worked effectively to ward-off dictatorship and bring about a new democratic dispensation through awareness creations in the country. Beakanyang during the year under review, took advantage of the rather amicable political plain field to amplify it’s call for respect to human rights, democracy and good governance in the country by reengaging institutions like the ministry of Basic and Secondary Education to promote human rights education.

Our governance unit is poised to continue carrying out more activities and community entanglements this year (2019) in fact, it started engaging Members of Parliament on National Budget Transparency, enhancing more women political participation and decision-making and anti-corruption initiatives, nurturing young leaders, initiating community-based climate change adaptation measures just to name a few.

Every day, we strive to ensure that rights of individuals in the country are improved, this includes but not limited to; their sustainable livelihoods. In partnership between Beakanyang and Gambia Police Force, we are looking forward to placing human rights at the heart of the police force.
In this report, a brief insight into our work both at local and national levels are captured. You can read more about our work for the year under review in the following pages:

ABOUT BEAKANYANG

Just as we mention in the opening, Beakanyang (Seeking Equal Opportunities for All) is an independent, non-partisan and non-profit human rights and development-focused organization, working in The Gambia. It was established in November 2004, in Barrow Kunda Village in Wuli West District, Upper River Region of The Gambia. Its operations include human rights, fostering good governance, environmental preservation, youth & women empowerment as well as other development initiatives that guarantee ‘Equal Opportunities for All’.

The organization is registered with the Ministry of Justice and the NGO Affairs Agency of The Republic of The Gambia under the ‘NGO Degree No. 81 of 1996’ with Registration No. A64NGO.

It’s also registered with The Gambia National Youth Council (NYC) and Child Protection Alliance (CPA).

The organization works closely with communities across the Gambia.

Over the years, the Organization has created a society of inclusive growth and meaningful development where women and young people are engaged, informed and inspired to take up the challenge to develop the country in various ways and means. This include: skills development and political participation.

Beakanyang is also an all-inclusive and decentralized organization which strives to give a face-lift to the underprivileged people who are mostly found in remote communities, as a result, its head office is situated in Serrekunda, Greater Banjul Area whilst its Field Office is hundred miles away in Barrow Kunda village in Wuli West District, Upper River Region. This makes outreach and implementation of programs easier, more effective and successful.

OUR VISION

A world were rule of law, accountable democracy, human rights culture and sustainable development are attained.

OUR MISSION

To educate and empower the citizens to know, defend and champion their fundamental human rights and development.
Beakanyang’s main areas of intervention like mentioned in the preamble include:

- Human rights education and protection
- Good governance/Rule of Law
- Environmental Preservation and Protection

**HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

Beakanyang a household name in the human rights campaign, has championed the promotion of human rights, gender equity, democracy and good governance in the Gambia, from the word go. The organization is the conviction that human rights are key to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals, peace and national security. To do just, the organization has been actively participating in the fight to consign to the past, 22 years of dictatorship which brought about, arbitrary arrests & detentions, extra judicial killings as well as other abuses then. Continuing its roll call for Human Rights protections, good governance and environmental protection in the Gambia, Beakanyang is working with communities, women & youth groups, government & non- government agencies to do just that.

A shining example is a lined-up of successful activities carried out in the year under review (2018), they were primarily aimed to advance human rights, democracy and good governance and mitigating the effects of climate change in the country.

Beakanyang was overwhelmed by a flurry of activities during the year under review (2018) thanks to the new change of government. The organization was aware of the already leveled democratic plain field it worked so hard for, and didn’t waste time to literary hit the road running, with its fully loaded programs.

**Beakanyang Launched Human Rights Clubs in Schools**
The promotion of human rights education in schools especially, is very synonymous to our organization, as a result, we deemed it fit to establish human rights clubs in various schools across The Gambia. This was done during the year under review.

The schools-based human rights’ clubs in Brufut Upper and Senior School, Masroor Senior Secondary School, Soma Upper Basic and Senior Secondary School, Armitage Senior Secondary School, Nasir Senior School, Nyakoi Upper Basic and Senior Secondary School, Gambia Senior Secondary School, Nusrat Senior School, Charles Jow Memorial Academy and Tallinding Annex Lower Basic School were all established during the year under review.

The notable attendees at the launch of these clubs includes regional governors, senior education officials, teachers, members of the press and cultural groups and others.

The clubs are being run by teacher-coordinators identified by school authorities and also have student executive committees for all clubs. The historic launching in schools attracted hundreds of students including non-club members including regional authorities.

The launching of the clubs follows the signing of Memorandum of Understanding earlier between Beakanyang and the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education.
Nasir SSS HR Club Launched

Nyakoi UBS & SS Launching

Soma UB & SSS club launching

Charles Jow Memorial Academy launching
The clubs were also given over 3000 copies of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights simplified version, human rights CDs and DVDs, posters and training manuals for teachers.

The human rights educational materials were distributed in the presence of school principals and teachers.
L-R Mr Jawneh, Kuyateh & Jabby
Drama on human rights by club members

Distribution of booklets and other human rights educational materials
For Beakanyang, the establishment of the school-based clubs is a long-term strategy towards promoting the culture of human rights in the country.

**INTER-SCHOOLS HUMAN RIGHTS QUIZ COMPETITION**

Following the formation for the human right clubs in schools, Beakanyang convened an inter-school’s human rights competition in the year 2018. The move is meant to among others, highlight the need to guarantee human rights and encourage students to be human rights advocates.

A number of schools actively took part in the activity and successfully for Charles Jow Memorial Academy in Bunding, they were crowned winners of the competition.

The United States Embassy Banjul’s Public Affairs Officer, Janel Heird, underscored that human rights education must be embedded in the everyday Gambian experience.

It gives me a great pleasure to preside over this occasion, which marks the end of an exciting quiz among 10 participating human rights clubs across the country. I am honored to represent the United States Ambassador to The Gambia, Patricia Alsup, who regrets that she is not able to be with you this afternoon. Nonetheless, she sends her greetings and heartfelt congratulations to the quiz finalists and their schools for their commitment to human rights. “I want to thank the organization’s Executive Director, Nfamara Jawneh, for his resourcefulness and commitment in implementing this project throughout the country.”

“I am thrilled to know that all ten human rights clubs are participating in today’s quiz. I want to recognize the school delegates, including teacher coordinators. Thank you for your hard work in establishing these clubs, preparing your students for today’s event, and organizing all the arrangements to get them here safely.”

“...We were excited at the opportunity to strengthen human rights education in Gambian schools, and I was so pleased to receive such a strong and compelling proposal from Beakanyang Organization. This project promotes a culture of human rights and education across the country and will touch up to 12,000 Gambian students. I am indeed heartened that the project has recorded this much progress within such a short time,” Public Affairs Officer Heird remarked.

The project could not be timelier enough, since The Gambia is transitioning to democracy after more than two decades of human rights violations under the previous government.
Quiz finals in progress

Nfamara Jawneh, Executive Director of Beakanyang and country coordinator of Youth for Human Rights The Gambia thanked the schools for their participation and the US Embassy, the Youth for Human Rights International (IRI) for their financial and technical support.

Beakanyang remains committed in bringing human rights education to the doorstep of every Gambian. Nonetheless with, the necessary support we would love to expand this initiative to all Upper and Senior schools in the country in two years’ time.

Lamin Darboe, Executive Director of Gambia National Youth Council was full of praises for Beakanyang and partners for a successful quiz final.

Nusrat Senior Secondary School and Soma Upper and Senior Secondary School were also crown second and third place winners.
Teaching Human Rights to 16,000 students, teachers countrywide

In another move to spread the gospel of human rights advocacy across the country, a Beakanyang team led by its Executive director, Nfamara Jawneh, embarked on a nationwide human rights sensitization of 16,000 students and teachers in schools across the country.

The countrywide sensitizations featured lecture series which were supported by the US Embassy to support the organization’s efforts to popularize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Participants were lectured on the 30 Articles contained in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and encouraged students to master and understand them.

Students were advised to ensure that government upholds the principles of democracy and good governance. “We must never allow history to repeat itself in this country with regards human rights abuses and to make this happen you the children have to know and defend your rights at all cost,” ED Jawneh told students.
Training of teacher coordinators

From the human rights sensitizations of students to a two-day training of 25 teacher-coordinators on human rights. The event which was held at The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations, was meant to boost the capacity of the participants on human rights. The human rights training were held from 28-29 May 2018, precisely.

Jimba Jobe, the deputy permanent secretary at the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education opened the training on behalf of his minister.

He applauded Beakanyang for arming teachers with relevant knowledge and skills in human rights education and reaffirmed his ministry’s commitment in working with development partners and stakeholders such as Beakanyang to promote and develop the education sector of the country.

Nfamara Jawneh, Executive Director of Beakanyang thanked the US Embassy and MoBSE for the partnership to bring the much-needed human rights education to the doorstep of every Gambian.

Topics covered during the two days training includes; basics of human rights including the principles, concepts and terminologies, child rights, human rights instruments, teaching methods, composition of human rights songs and plays.
L-R, Mr Adama Jobe DPS Ministry of Education, ED Jawneh & Project Manager Tumani Danjo

It also provided an opportunity for club coordinators to network and share best experiences in the management of their respective clubs. Participants were also certificated for successfully attending the training.

During the past months, we have formed human rights clubs in a dozen schools across the country and the outcomes of this project has surpassed our expectation.

**Beakanyang receives Youth for Human Rights International President**

Beakanyang was indeed elated and proud to receive the President of Youth for Human Rights Internationl Dr. Mary Shetworth, who visited the Gambia in 2018, as part of her annual 15th World Human Rights Tour. Dr. Shetworth a special guest of Beakanyang from 10-12 March 2018.

Dr. Shethworth was received at the airport by officials of Beakanyang and its advocacy wing-Youth for Human Rights the Gambia as well as teachers and students.

The human rights champion was in Gambia to help support Beakanyang efforts to boost human rights education in the country.
Dr Mary with human rights club members of Charles Jow Memorial Academy one of the project beneficiary schools

Dr Mary was overwhelmed with the success of the ‘human rights education in schools’ project of Beakkanyang, when she visited various schools in the country with human rights clubs that were established by Beakanyang, they include such as Charles Jaw, Gambia Senior School, Masror and Tallinding Annex. She appealed for the extension of the initiative to more schools in the country.

OUR Chief Guest concluded her tour of Gambia with a visit to the Minister of Basic and Secondary Education and H.E President Adama Barrow at State House.
Dr Mary and Beakanyang team with President Barrow at State House in Banjul

During the meetings, the team briefed them about the US Embassy funded project and surprisingly both the Education Minister Madam Cole and the President confirmed their knowledge about the intervention by the organization and its partners.

They applauded Beakanyang for the project and encouraged the organization to extend it to more schools and communities.

**Beakanyang raises concerns over police brutality**

In the wake of the tragic incident in Fara Bantang, West Coast Region, which claimed the lives of three people and caused bodily harm to others in 2018, Beakanyang as a human rights organization which is always concerned about the guarantee of human rights of individuals, expressed deep concern over the violent incident.
The unfortunate incident between the disgruntled members of the community and personnel of the Police Intervention Unit, occurred following protest by the community members against mining activities in the Kombo East settlement.

Three people namely, Bakary Kujabi, Ismaila Bah and Amadou Jawo lost their lives while several others were injured.

Beakanyang issued a Press Release, condemning this barbaric act by the Police against protestors who were merely voicing their concerns with regards to their environmental degradation.

The Organization also call for a thorough investigation into the matter and to ensure that those responsible face the full force of the law.

Meanwhile, the organization’s regional coordinator for West Coast Region visited the community few days later, to gather firsthand information and to express support for the victims.
The Gambia government was reminded by the release of its responsibility to protect the fundamental human rights of citizens including right to life and freedom of assembly.

**2018 Youth camp in Basse**

Beakanyang will not relent in its human rights advocacy, it continued reaching out to young people, raising their awareness on the issues, a case in point is a youth camp it organized in Basse in the Upper River Region. The 5-days annual summer youth camp was held at the regional agriculture directorate.
During the course of the 5 days’ camp, participants numbering 40, were drawn from various regions of the country, they were exposed to various relevant thematic areas namely; Human Rights, ICT in Development, Climate Change, Child Marriage, Entrepreneurship, Leadership, Integrity, Drug and Substance Abuse, FGM and Illegal Migration”.

The main objective of this camp is to provide a unique platform for young people from diverse backgrounds to network and learn various disciplines and get inspired.

It also seeks to teach participants about their rights, rights of others and things that can add value to their lives.

Governor of Upper River Region, Mrs. Fatou Jammeh-Touray applauded Beakanyang for organizing the camp in her region.

The youth summer camp is important, it creates a unionism amongst the youths, inspire them, educate them and send a strong signal to the government that, they must invest in the youths and empower them.

**Beakanyang Celebrates International Human rights Day in grand style**

On 10th December 2018, we joined the rest of the world to celebrate International Human Rights Day.

The date was meant to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) which turns 70 years in 2018.

The international theme for the celebrations is: stand up for human rights while the local theme chosen by Beakanyang is UDHR@70: Zero Tolerance to Human Right Abuses in Gambia.

The organization has been celebrating the day in The Gambia since 2011 and this year, it observed the day with activities in six different schools and communities in the country. However, the national celebration of the organization was held at Charles Jaw Memorial Academy in Bundung.

Beakanyang informed the gathering that the government being the primary duty bearer must ensure that human rights are fully respected in the country.

They were where also educated about relevant provisions of the 1997 Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which guaranteed the fundamental human rights and government has an obligation to protect human rights of all in the country irrespective of their status.

Gambians have suffered a lot during the past autocratic rule and therefore shall never again experience human right violations.
Government, despite concerns, has improved significantly on its human rights record just under two years in office.

The National Assembly enacted a bill in 2017 for the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission, yet it’s not operational but we hope this process will be expedited so that citizens could go and file human rights complaints.

For Sukai Sagnia, Principal of Charles Jaw Memorial Academy the impact of the human rights clubs in schools is huge, it reduced significantly, bullying and discrimination.

Meanwhile, Beakanyang’s 2018 international Human Rights Day celebration was simultaneously held uniquely at Kunkujang Keitaya Lower Basic School, Tallinding Annex Lower Basic School, Serre Kunda Lower Basic School, Charles Jaw Upper and Senior Secondary School and Soma Upper Basic and Secondary School, Gambia Senior Secondary School, Masroor Senior School and Kafuta Youth Centre.

Promoting Women Political Participation and Representation

Also, part of the flurry of activities undertaken by Beakanyang in 2018, with the support of the International Republican Institute (IRI), was a synergy that is earmarked to promote tolerance, pluralism, and community cohesion among women in The Gambia, the move was also meant to get more women actively involved in the democratization process.

Beakanyang during this period, worked in five regions namely Kanifing Municipality, West Coast Region, Banjul, Upper and Central River Regions where women were encouraged to participate in elections. With over 14 years of civic engagement and promoting democratic governance in The Gambia, Beakanyang used its experiences and verse expertise to roll out 2018 civic education project successfully focusing on women.

The project also complemented the organization’s on-going project on human rights being funded by US Embassy. Coming on the heels of 22 years of autocratic rule in Gambia, there exist a lot of socio-political challenges relating to women political participation and representation.

However, during the implementation of this project some of those challenges were encountered such as people’s perceptions about women leaders-stereotypes. Some people still believe that women are not meant to become leaders. Lack of proper regional structures for some political parties to be able to mobilize their members on time to attend the workshops was also a challenged.
A total of five regional workshops for women were held in Banjul, Kanifing, Upper, Central and West Coast Region. Fifty women from various political parties were sensitized in each of the region workshops.

The workshops attracted women politicians and some of their male counterparts to discuss women effective political participation and representation.

About 254 participants from various diverse backgrounds were sensitized at the five regional workshops of various age brackets.

The workshops were characterized by presentations on topics such as Local Government Act, 2016-2018 Electoral Cycle and Women Political Participation and Representation.

Methodology used at the workshop includes PowerPoint presentations, paper presentations, group works and question and answer sessions which enabled participants to have a better understanding of the topics discussed.

The presentations were all made in local languages at the request of the participants while simultaneous interpretations were also provided for everyone to understand and participate fully in the deliberations.
Cross-section of participants with deputy governor at CRR regional workshop

Region Training Workshop at WCR
Region Training Workshop at KMC

Regional training workshop in Banjul

Community Radio Programs
Ramping up efforts to reach out to Gambians on Human Rights Issues using the media as the fastest and most powerful means of communication, Beakanyang conducted made appearance on a total of 20 community radios, during which talk shows on human rights were held; the radio stations include: GRTS Radio Basse, in the Upper River Region, Bansang, in the Central River Region, , Brikama, West Coast Region and Paradise FM in the Kanifing Municipality.

The radio programs were hosted by Beakanyang staff and had Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and National Council for Civic Education (NCCE) experts onboard.

The programme was aimed at sensitizing listeners in these places about human rights issues, as a result, listeners had the chance to garner a lot of vital information from the radio programmes.

Topics discussed during the shows includes women political participation and representation, Local Government Act.

Women for instance were encouraged during the shows to make more calls and contribute or to ask relevant questions hence the program belongs to them as such a good number of women do called.

Several listeners wasted no time to call and give their contributions on how it impacted on their lives
A minute-long jingles were produced in English, Mandinka, Wolof and Sarehulle. The jingles contain messages that encouraged people to come out and vote on election day, reminding them of the importance of election and roles of area councils.

The jingles were to be aired 80 times in the radio stations where radio shows were held, however we ended up having 120 slots for the jingles courtesy of the generosity of host radios. The jingles were aired before, during and after the radio talk shows.
2019 National Budget Analysis

When it was time to critique the recently approved national budget, beakanyang was not left out in the process, like in 2017, the organization was well represented at radio shows that were held at Capital FM. The organization contributed significantly by highlighting certain gaps in the document and gave recommendations. Our contributions were lauded by the legislative arm of government.

Gambian CSOs attends Senegambia integration forum

In March 2018, Beakanyang led a delegation of 17 people from eleven civil society organisations in Gambia to attend a four-day Senegambia civil society forum on held in Senegalese capital of Dakar.

The forum was organized by a Senegalese movement called Yena Marre in collaboration with two Gambian organizations namely Beakanyang and Team Gomsabopa with support from NED foundation.

The objective of the visit was to promote cultural, economic, political and social ties between the people of the two countries.

The Senegambia CSO forum seeks to provide an opportunity for the CSOs of the two countries to interact, exchange ideas, best practices and to learn from each other. While in The Gambia, the team had successful meetings with various Gambian CSOs and local authorities who expressed their happiness with their visit.

The term MBOKA or MBADING refers to the fact that Senegalese and Gambian citizens belong to the same linguistic and cultural territory thus given the closeness of the region, there a real kinship between people living in The Gambia and Senegal. The MBOKA project’s goal is to open several Mboka spaces (number and location would be defined), in Gambia and Senegal. These spaces in the Senegambia region will be centers that allow for sharing culture, promoting the arts and stimulating local level civic education.

It would also aim to making Senegambian citizens aware of the crucial issue of establishing a strong common citizenship culture; Mobilizing citizens to invest in the arts through the Mboka’s area that promote inter-culturality and experience sharing; Encouraging citizen’s initiatives in favor of good governance and working with leaders to benefit local communities and to engage Senegambia youth in positive and meaningful ways that allow them to contribute to the development of their society. When realized the spaces would serve as a reference point in the sub region in terms of promoting Senegambian culture, observation of good governance and maintaining a peaceful environment among the two countries.

Mr Alieu Thine, is a prominent civil rights activist in Senegal and was invited to address the meeting.
For him, the MBOKA project being implemented by Yena Marre and its Gambian partners is unique and important.

The initiative is in line with the ECOWAS vision of ECOWAS of people and it also indicates that the two countries have already started the integration that the regional blog is advocating for.
The union between vibrant organizations from two countries are that the same but only divided by colonial masters for their selfish interest is gaining a lot of prominence.

Beakanyang’s boss Nfamara Jawneh stated that no one could divide the people of the two countries even though in the past political elites of have tried but could not succeed.

Both parties renew commitment towards the success of the MBOKA initiative which they said is apt and long overdue.

**FGM Forum**

Beakanyang was invited at a two-day youth convergence. The meeting seeks to accelerate efforts in Ending Female Genital Mutilation at Baobab Hotel on 6\textsuperscript{th} and 7\textsuperscript{th} October 2018. The two days event was organized by Girls Generation and Youth-FGM Network. They invited the participants from community base organization and regional chair persons.

**Beakanyang briefed annual NGO forum**
At the annual NGO forum where NGOs in the country presented their programs, projects successes and challenges before stakeholders and partners. Executive Director Nfamara Jawneh amazed with a very detailed, well-articulated and captivating statement he presented, outlining the activities of the organization to the participants.

He took participants through the mission, vision and all major activities of Beakanyang, while elucidating ongoing projects as well.

The forum was an opportunity for NGOs to interact with other stakeholders such as government ministries regarding their interventions in various sectors.

**Beakanyang hosts Senegambia integration conference**

Beakanyang successfully brought together young people from Senegal and Gambia at Baobab Hotel. The event is the second edition of the SeneGambia Civil Society Organisations forum dubbed ‘Mboka’. The first Mboka forum took place earlier in May 2018 in Dakar and saw up to 17 Gambian delegates travel to their counterparts in Senegal. Mboka means family in Wolof, a language used widely in both countries.

The movement aims is to bring Senegambia people together by strengthening cultural ties and exchanging ideas, experiences, best practice and organising events. According to Y En A Marre’s Thiat, Wolof is not a majority tribe in Senegal but the language is used nationally. In Gambia, however, the use of the word Mboka draws acrimony from those who see it as a defiant stance to ignore the majority Mandinka tribe.

Mboka is also proving that it’s here to stay spearheaded by SeneGambian Youths namely; Y En A Marre and their partners, Beakanyang and Team Gom Sa Bopa. The forum hosted up to 50 delegates including representatives from the Gambia Transport Union, Gambia Police Force, National Youth Council, Occupy Westfield, Gambia Press Union, Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry and more.
Gambia Press Union (GPU) – “Gambian CSOs Must Unite”

The need to foster unity between the two was emphasized at the meeting, this is significant to achieve success and progress. Politics, climate change, sports and other issues such as the inconveniences caused by laissez passer and the numerous unnecessary checkpoints and unnecessary border closures. Nonetheless the Gambia Transport Union is working closely with
their Senegalese counterparts to see how best to resolve these issues.

One of the key outcomes of the forum was the presentation of the SeneGambian Citizenship Card and a workshop where delegates contributed towards the drafting of a SeneGambian Citizenship Bill. This ambitiously bold move drew applause and some concerns as to how it could be implemented. It was recommended for the bill to be presented to the Constitutional Review Commission, however, one of the delegates recommended for it to be presented to the SeneGalo-Gambia Commission.

This bill demonstrates the resolve of SeneGambian youths to bridge the divide that currently shackles the progress of African countries. We have freedom of movement in writing but dare to travel from Senegal to Gambia and one can count the number of checkpoints stopping citizens from progressing on their journeys. At times these checkpoints can prove costly to travellers who may not have budgeted for this. How can free movement of people and goods between the two countries be facilitated to strengthen our African Economy in such conditions? This is the conundrum we must overcome.

Some of the recommendations that were mentioned during the conference include the possibility of a;

- Means to consolidate and coordinate CSOs,
- SeneGambian sports team similar to Great Britain in the Olympics
- Encouraging more sports, musical and cultural activities between the two countries,
- SeneGambian Taskforce, probably in the form of a Parliament to address common issues and facilitate communications between the two governments,
- Ghana / Togo style of border control which will eliminate duplication of immigration departments on both sides of the SeneGambian border.

New Vegetable Garden for Women of Kerewan

Continuing its efforts to address the plights of women in the remote areas and to undertake community actions towards climate change mitigation and adaptation, a new garden measuring 150 by 75 meters was inaugurated and handed over to the community of Nyakoi Kerewan in Wuli West District of Upper River Region.

Project executed in 12-months was funded by the Global Environment Facility Small Grant Program for the Kerewan Women Association was implemented in partnership with Beakanyang NGO.

Community members were urged to utilize the new garden which also encourages agroforestry.

Beakanyang and other partners received plaudits for alleviating the plights of women in the hard to reach areas with such projects.
The interventions would greatly help in attaining food security in the country despite the availability of fresh water and arable land the country continue to import most of her stable food.

Beakanyang is committed to working with women and youth across the country to support national development.

The objective of the project seeks to build capacity of women to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change as well as to promote food security in the community.

30 women trained on organic fertilizer making in Wuli

After successfully reaching out to the young, focus was then shifted to the women folk with a training of over 30 women from the community of Nyakoi Kerewan in Wuli West District of Upper River Region recently on organic fertilizer making.

The training was organized by the Kerewan Women Association in collaboration with Beakanyang Kafo.
In her welcome remarks, Mrs. Jaka Dibassy, President of Kerewan Women Association thanked the Global Environment Facility Small Grant Program for supporting the training.

The councilor of Sutukonding Ward Alhagie Kijera, also commended the Kerewan Women Association and Beakanyang for involving women in climate mitigation and adaptation activities at community level.

The training brought about a significant Impact on the lives of the people living in these hard to reach areas, they were able to make fertilizer for personal use.

**Beakanyang launched 2018 annual tree planting in Kerewan**

Over 100 trees of various species including mango and oranges were planted at a 2-hectare women woodland garden in the community of Nyakoi Kerewan in Wuli West District of Upper River Region, by Beakanyang and the inhabitants the activity is part of Beakanyang’s climate change adaptation project.
Staff Professional Development

Director Jawneh bags Diploma in Canada

Mr. Nfamara Jawneh, the executive director of Beakanyang in July 2018 enrolled at the Coady International Institute of the Stfx. Universiy of Canada in Nova Scocia.

The over five-months on campus program was sponsored by the Dr. Moses Coady Family Bursary. The scholarship is awarded annually to deserving community development workers from developing countries.
In December 2018, Mr Jawneh was awarded along with forty other students from across the world with a Diploma in Development Leadership at a Convocation held at the University ground.

Jawneh has since then expressed gratitude to the Moses Coady Family for sponsoring his studies.

PA Ceesay attends regional training in Kenya

The program officer of Beakanyang in December attended the Global Youth Forum at the NACADA, ISSUP and AU International Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

The event hosted 186 youth from 19 different countries over the course of five days, 10th – 14th December 2018.

The Youth Summit was organised with funds from the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Department of State, sponsored by Colombo Plan’s Drug Advisory Programme, and trained and facilitated by CADCA’s Youth Leadership Initiative.

The trainers led the young leaders from throughout Africa and Pakistan on a journey through the Strategic Prevention Framework, a model for community change that has been implemented by CADCA in over 25 countries and was developed to empower communities to systematically analyze problems in their own community and how to address them with locally produced solutions. The young leaders reacted strongly to the message of youth empowerment, community change, and inspiration. Through the training the young people created and presented more than thirty “Youth in Action Plans” which are community-specific, youth-generated plans to solve issues of substance abuse in their communities.
In addition, the impressive group of young people worked to create a UNODC Youth Statement on Drug Prevention, which was read aloud at the closing ceremony of the conference. The message resounded through the halls of the KICC amphitheater and represented a powerful and resounding statement regarding young people’s role as leaders in addressing substance abuse in their communities.

**Program Officer Danjo attends Pan African Forum in Senegal**

The Program Officer of Beakanyang, joined delegates from more than 50 African countries in Dakar, Senegal for a five-day Pan-African Summit.

Participants further detailed on means to end autocratic rule in Africa, while reflecting on the Individual country context.

New Strategies were shared among participants as to how to help increase civic space in respective African countries.

The cry is from activists and artistes from those countries to allow them to reflect on their activities and the kind of strategies they need to deal with, such as restrictions at civil society level, corruption and bad governance.

The Pan-African movements working for peace, justice and dignity, expressed their determination to foster an Africa-wide solidarity and unity of purpose of the Africans to build the future they want.
Beakanyang Director Honored at the UN

In recognition of his immense contribution and commitment towards the advancement of human rights in the country and beyond, the Executive Director of Beakanyang, Nfamara Jawneh, a human rights hero, was in 2018 awarded with human rights hero award.

Mr Nfamara Jawneh scooped the prestigious award during the award ceremony of the 15th annual International Human Rights Summit which was held at the UN Headquarters in New York, USA from the 5-7 July 2018.

The event was organized by Youth for Human Rights International in collaboration with Permanent Missions to the United Nations and leading NGOs.

In presenting the award to the Gambian activist, Dr. Mary Shuttleworth, President of Youth for Human Rights International said the Human Rights Hero Awards acknowledged those whose courage and determination has raised the bar on human rights in their respective nations and communities.

In receiving the award, Mr. Jawneh thanked Youth for Human Rights International and their partners at the UN for recognizing his efforts in promoting human rights in The Gambia. He reaffirmed his continue commitment in promoting human rights education in communities across the country noting that he was surprised by the recognition and would further inspire him to do more for his country and world at large.

“The Gambia as you may know has passed through a very difficult situation with regards to human rights but thank God since the fall of the dictator in 2016 we have started enjoying our rights,” he said.

Meanwhile, Jawneh has since dedicated the award to his late father Pa Foday Jawneh for his efforts in nurturing him to be who he is today.

Mr Jawneh was awarded along with Issa Sufyan of Iraq and David Kritsun of Israel in recognition of their exceptional and courageous efforts in promoting human rights in their respective countries and beyond.

The Summit commemorates the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), its historic impact on the world and what we need to do now to get it further implemented across all nations.

Opening Session on the first day of the Summit included high level diplomats and officials who greet the Youth Delegates from across the world and encourage them to become advocates for peace and equality.

The key feature of the annual International Human Rights Summit are advocates who are using education about UDHR as the tool to improve the state of human rights, resolve conflicts, foster gender equality and address other issues such as human trafficking. Youth were joined by
officials and advocates from around the world who work for equality and justice through human rights education. Over 500 delegates from over 50 countries from across the globe attended the 2018 annual summit.

Youth for Human Rights International (YHRI) is the youth component of United for Human Rights, a global nonprofit organization. Founded in 2001 in Los Angeles, there are now more than 150 Youth for Human Rights International chapters around the world. Their award-winning educational materials are available in 27 languages, bringing the message of human rights to 195 nations.

Beakanyang partners with Victor Foundation

In its bid to forge beneficial partnerships with likeminded organizations, Beakanyang signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Victory Foundation on November, 1st 2018.

The signing ceremony was held at the Beakanyang Main Office in Churchill’s Town and was attended by representative of the two organizations.

The objectives of the MoU are for the two organizations to harmonized efforts and resources towards empowering youth to become agents of positive social change.
Mr Tumani Danjo, Program Manager and Mr Buba S Njie publicity manager signed the MoU on behalf of Beakanyang while Muhammed Darboe and Amadou A Jallow signed for Victory Foundation.

VISIBILITY

Beakanyang also created a website: www.beakanyang.org, a Twitter handle : @beakanyang as a means of creating more visibility for the work it does was. The creation of these sites including our already existing facebook page, we continue to attract more followers day by day.

CONTACT US

Beakanyang
Head Office
60 Sayerr Jobe Avenue
Bambo, Serrekunda
Telephone: +220 7868800/ 6868080/3189767
Email: beakanyang@yahoo.com
Website: www.beakanyang.org