

Hungry oceans, urban flooding and out-migration: climate change and adaptation in Half Die, Gambia

**Location: HALF DIE, Banjul
(The Gambia-West Africa)**



Banjul – Less than 1 meter above sea level, exposed to climate variability - coastal erosion, floods, saline water infiltration and rising temperatures. Reportedly having a high level of out-migration. Target sector for project - sustainable livelihoods.

Project supported and driven ‘from below’ by **ENDA**, implemented by - **Women In Service Development Organisation and Management (WISDOM)** with strategic support of the **Department of Water Resources-(DWR) Gambia**.

CBA action commenced August 2009-still active

- Preliminary field research (consent of national authorities, identify stakeholders and select local CBO)
- Build capacity of CBO
- In-depth field research
- Local decision makers’ workshop
- Community sensitization
- Build adaptive capacity
- Launch adaptation action
- Monitoring and Evaluation



**Leaders of the local branch of WISDOM
NGO in Half-Die**

Our community is called Half Die, located in Banjul, the capital city of the Gambia. Banjul literally means ‘bamboo’ in our local Mandinka language. The island was famously known of its large collection of bamboo trees and was named as such. Historically, during the colonial era, there was an outbreak of cholera in the community which resulted in the death of half of the population. The community was consequently named Half Die.



**Mangrove forests serving as spawning ground
for fish and as a very important livelihood
resource for oyster harvesting**

Our community climate change adaptation project is led by Women In Service Development Organization (WISDOM), a non-governmental organisation founded in 1989 to organise and empower women groups particularly at the community level. It creates awareness on contemporary and cross-cutting developmental issues such as gender, environmental protection and climate change, and strategies for sustainable development. Community discussions on project’s activities were led by the local branch of ‘WISDOM’ in the Half Die community. The project is aimed at sensitizing community members on climate change and to develop more adaptive measures against the impacts of climate hazards on our lives and livelihoods. Banjul is built on a low-lying coastal spit of erodible sediments which is less than one meter above sea level. We are currently battling with rising sea levels, increasing temperatures, intense rainfall and storm surges. Our important natural resources are the sea and sandy beaches, the River Gambia, mangrove forest and wetlands. These are important assets for our