

# GAMBIA RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (OMVG)



## JOINT MANAGEMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COURSES: THE OMVG EXPERIENCE



Entebbe (Uganda) - 8 to 10 August 2016

# PRESENTATION PLAN

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**II. OMVG MISSIONS**

**III. LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE  
OMVG**

**IV. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE OMVG**

**V. PROJECTS**

**VI. HYDROLOGICAL MONITORING OF RIVERS**

**VII. PROSPECTS**

**VII. MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENTS AND  
TOOLS**

**VIII. LESSONS LEARNED**

# I. INTRODUCTION

## CREATION OF THE OMVG: A PROCESS

1964

**Start of development activities with the establishment of a joint Commission between Senegal and the Gambia with the assistance of UNDP and FAO.**

1967

**In accordance with the Senegalo-Gambian Treaty signed in 1967, the 1st work programme was implemented in the basin with UNDP funding.**

1976

**Creation of the Coordinating Committee for the Development of the Gambia River Basin.**

1978

**Signing and adoption of agreements on the status of the Gambia River and creation of the Gambia River Basin Development Organization (OMVG).**

1981

**Membership of the Republic of Guinea: Source of the Gambia River.**

1983

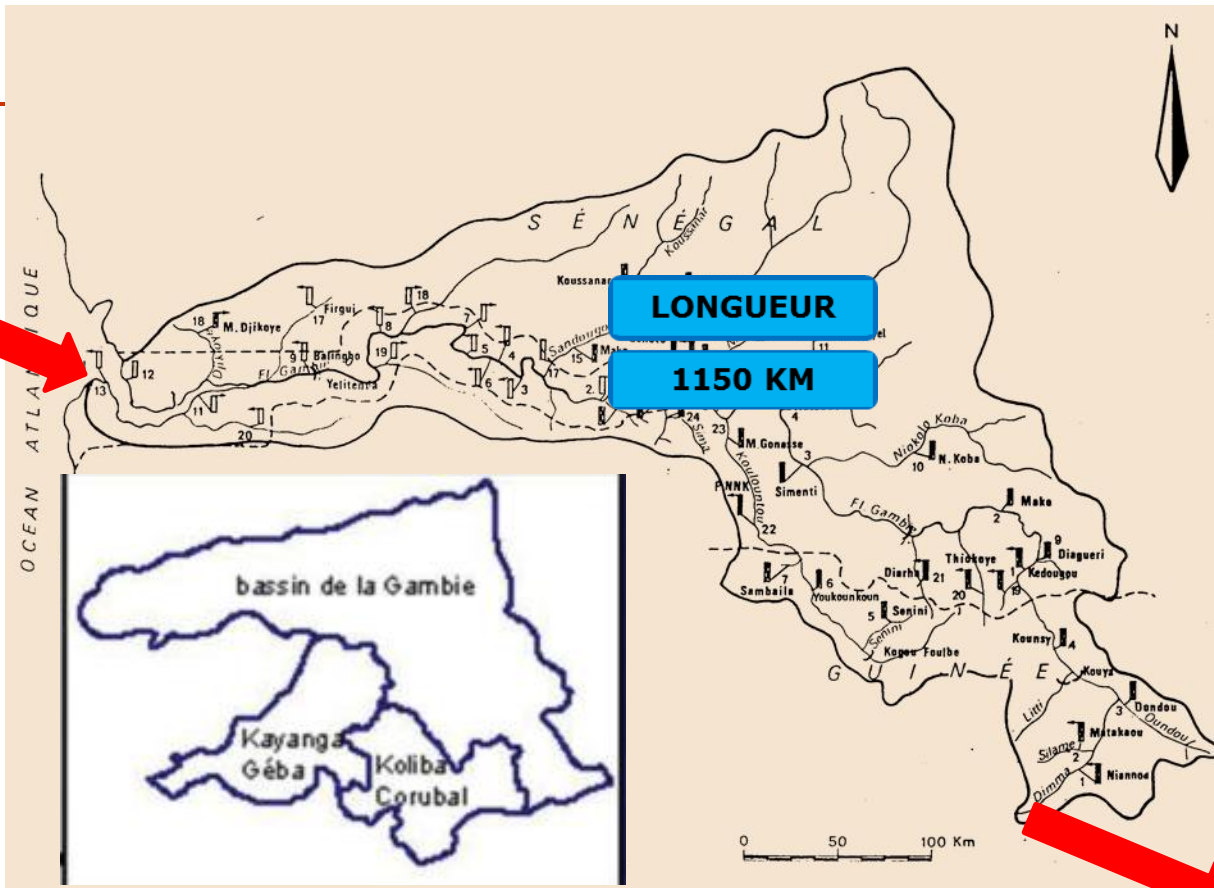
**Membership of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau which is not a part of the Gambia River basin but shares the basins of Rivers Kayanga/Geba and Koliba/Corubal with the other States.**

1987

**Extension of the OMVG mandate to Rivers Kayanga/Geba and Koliba/Corubal.**

# PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTIC OF THE OMVG BASINS

**EMBOURCHURE**



**Basin areas**

Gambia: 78 000 km<sup>2</sup>

Kayanga/Geba: 15 000 km<sup>2</sup>

Koliba/Corubal: 25 000 km<sup>2</sup>

**3 BASINS and 4 Countries:**  
**GAMBIA, GUINEA, GUINEA BISSAU, SENEGAL**

**SOURCE**  
**Fouta Djallon (Guinée)**

## II. OMVG MISSIONS

**Rational and harmonious exploitation of the common resources of basins of Rivers Gambia, Kayanga-Géba and Koliba-Corubal**

**Achieve food self-sufficiency for the populations of the Bassins**

**Reduce the vulnerability of the economies of OMVG Member States to climate-related hazards**

**Accelerate the economic development of Member States;**

**Maintain the ecosystem balance in the sub-region and, more particularly, in the Basins**

**Secure and improve the incomes of populations of the Basins**

## CONVENTIONS

Basic conventions

**Establishment of the OMVG (30 June 1978)**

**Defines the missions, competence and organs of the OMVG**

**Legal status of the River Gambia (30 June 1978)**

**The RG and its tributaries are granted the status of “international water course”**

**Guarantees freedom of navigation and equality in all forms of river water use.**

**Legal status of common structures (29 January 1985)**

**Fixes the legal status of common structures; Define the rights and obligations of co-owner States**

**Creation SOGESART (29 January 2016)**

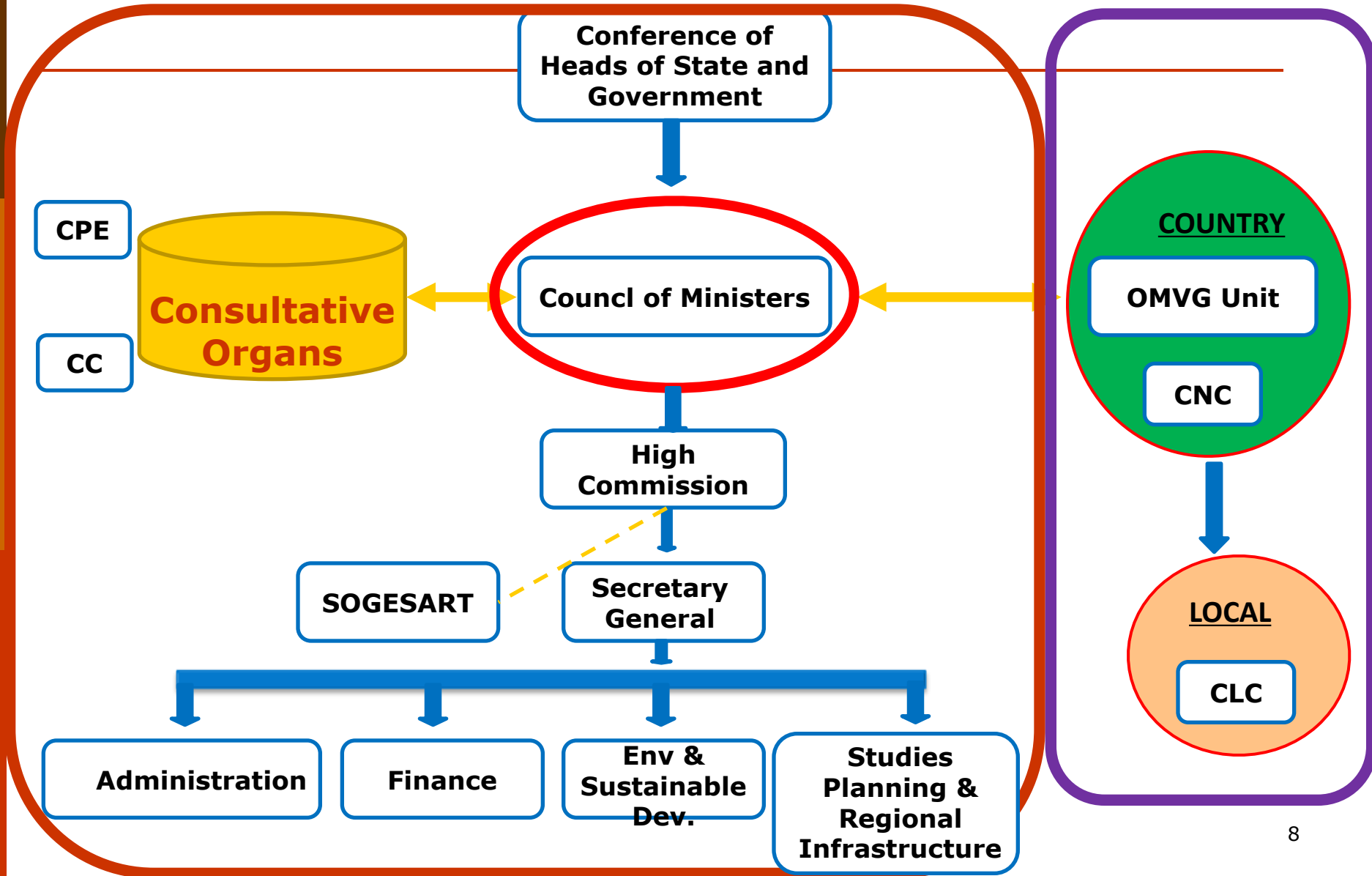
**Companies for the Management of the Sambangalou Energy and OMVG Electric Power Transmission Network .**

**All these texts are signed by the Heads of State**

**Adoption by the CM of conventions on the legal status of Rivers Kayanga/Geba and Koliba/Corubal (2 August 2008)**

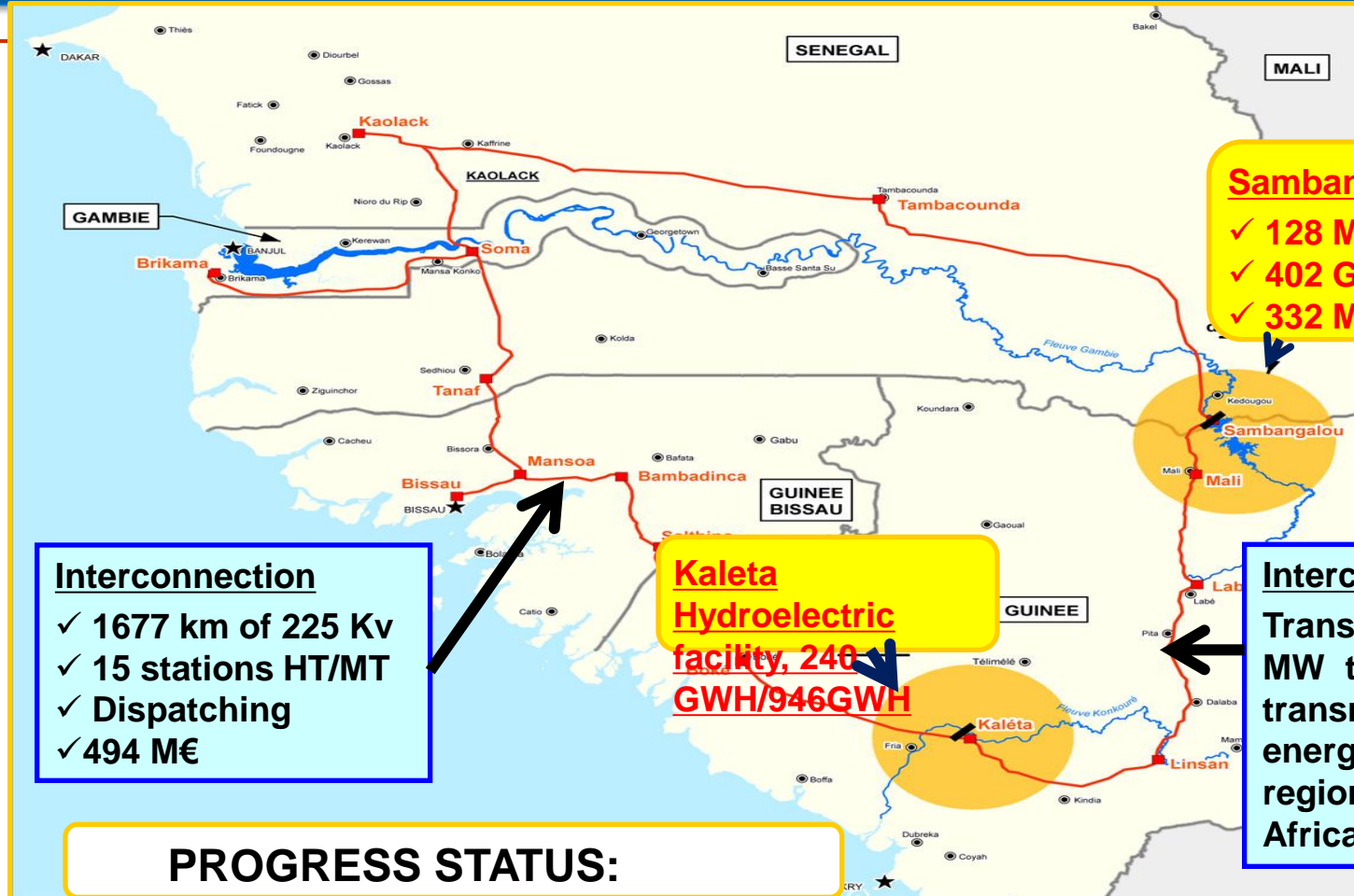
**Guarantee freedom of navigation and equality in all forms of use of waters of Rivers Kayanga/Geba and Koliba/Corubal.**

# IV. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK



# V. PROJECTS

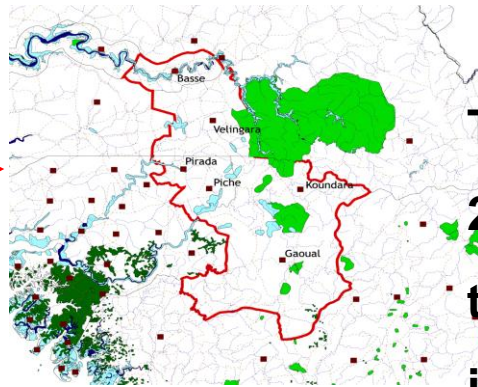
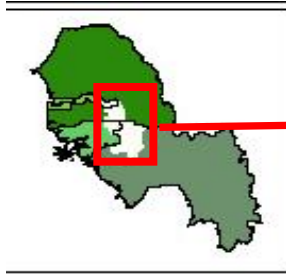
## 1st GENERATION ENERGY PROJECT



**Funding fully mobilized: Start of works November 2016.**

# V. PROJECTS

## Natural Resource Development and Management Project (PMVGRN)



This project was implemented between 2005 and 2012. It sustainably improved the living conditions of the populations in the project zone by constructing the basic infrastructure:



Veterinary pharmacy



Village water supplies



Mini drinking water supply system

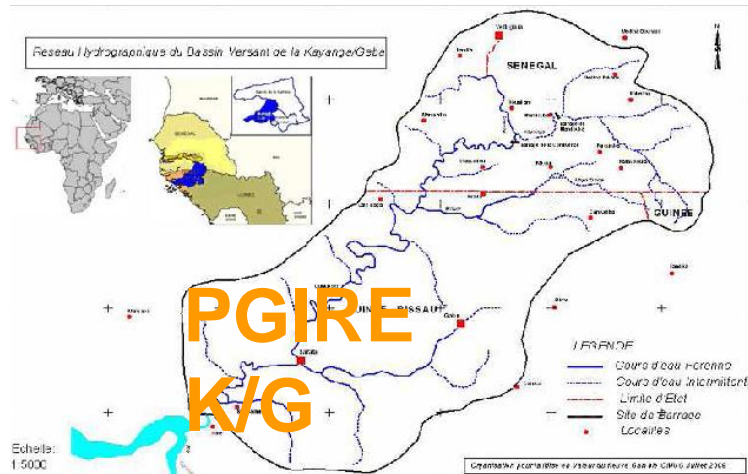


Ponds

- Rural tracks
- Village water supplies
- Pastoral water
- Establishment of self-managed credit systems for the most needy populations.

# V. PROJECTS

## Integrated Water Resource Management Project in the basin of the river Kayanga/Geba (PGIRE KG)



Implementation of the Plan for the integrated management of water resources (IWRM) of the river Kayanga/Geba basin and the conduct of studies in Guinea-Bissau up to the detailed design and tender document phase of a dam and hydro-agricultural facilities downstream including cross-border IWRM actions (reclaiming lowland areas, shorelines and source protection) in Guinea and in Senegal.

A round table conference will be organized in 2017 to finance the planned investments.



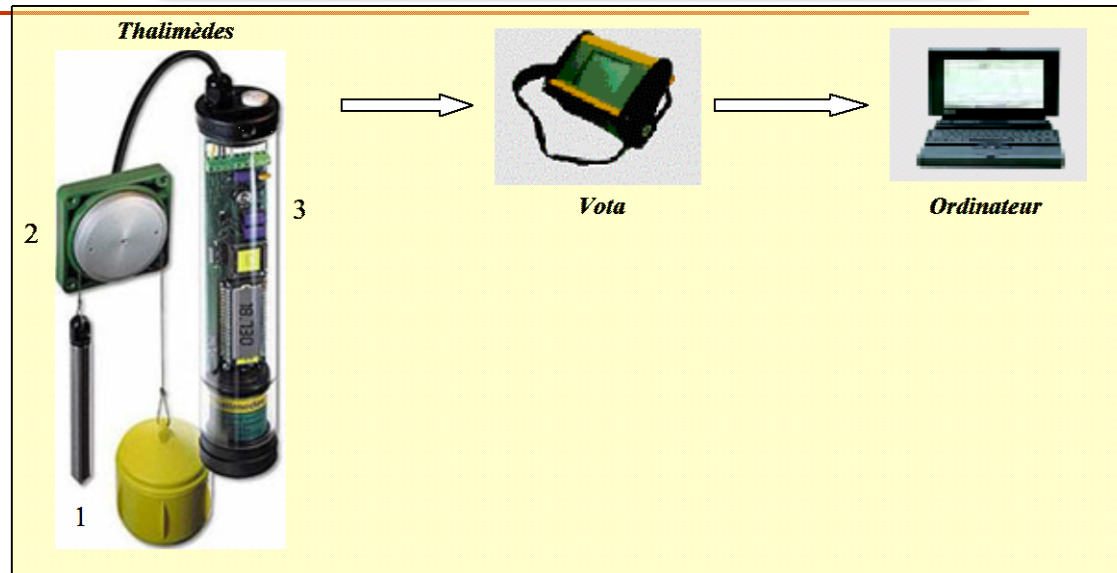
Hydrometric stations for resource tracking

## VI. HYDROLOGICAL MONITORING OF RIVERS

### HYDROMETRIC STATIONS



### Data Collection equipment



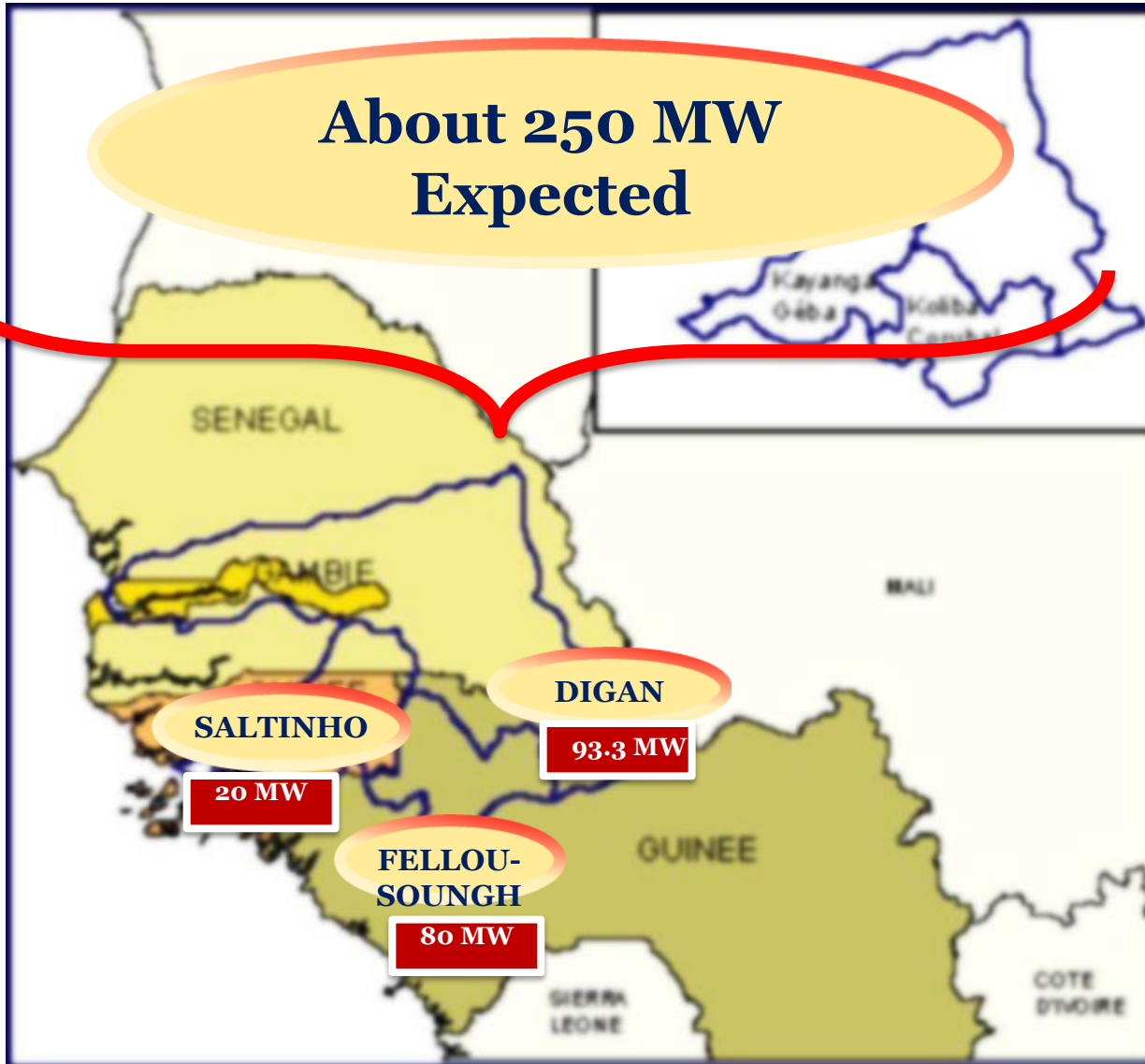
The High commission supports the technical capacities of Member States through (I) the acquisition, (II) installation of rainfall and piezometric measurement equipment, (III) training of technicians/ hydrologists of the States in new technologies, (iv) data collection and processing and dissemination of information.

Data exchange protocols are signed between the High-Commission and the hydrological services of Member States.

# VII. PROSPECTS

## PROJECTS BEING PREPARED BY THE OMVG

**About 250 MW  
Expected**



2nd Generation Energy Programme:

- Digan Hydroelectric Facilities/Guinea
- Fello-Sounga/Guinea
- Saltinho/Guinea-Bissau
- a 500 km line.

The Integrated Water Resource Management Programme for Gambia and Koliba-Corubal is currently under way at the FAE for the start of activities in 2016/2017.

Relaunching the Road Infrastructure and Agricultural Development Programme.

## **VII. MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENTS AND TOOLS**

---

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PERMANENT WATER COMMITTEE (CPE).**

**SETTING UP THE NATIONAL MONITORING COMMITTEES (CNS) AND LOCAL COORDINATION AND MONITORING COMMITTEES (CLCS) TO MONITOR AND IMPLEMENT THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (PGES) AND THE RESETTLEMENT PLAN (RAP).**

**INSTALLATION OF PLATFORMS FOR DIALOGUE (GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU AND SENEGAL).**

**EXISTENCE OF PERMANENT RESOURCE TRACKING MECHANISM.**

**PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT WATER CHARTER.**

## VIII. LESSONS LEARNED

Firm political commitment of States: + 40 years of Co-operation

Common desire to exploit together and share the potentials of the basins: Guinea-Bissau does not share the Gambia basin but benefits from the Sambangalou Hydroelectric Facility spin-offs.

Solid legal framework - Signed by the Heads of State of Member States.

Institutional framework involving the highest authorities.

Co-operation between four countries with three languages (English, French and Portuguese) for a joint management of three transborder basins.

Permanent dialogue and involvement of the populations at the grassroots

Support and commitment of development partners.



# Thank you for your attention.

OMVG BP 2353, Dakar R.P. Sénégal

Tel: (221) 33 889.51.00

Fax : (221) 33 822.59.26

**Web site: [www.omvg.org](http://www.omvg.org)**

**Email : [omvg@omvg.sn](mailto:omvg@omvg.sn)**