

Country Profile: Gambia

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Gambia 1:50,000 Topographic Maps (Series JICA 2002)	JICA	1:50,000	2002	27
Gambia 1:25,000 Scale Kombo Peninsula Topographic Maps	TGG	1:25,000	1978	8
Gambia 1:50,000 Scale Image Maps	TGG	1:50,000	1975 - 1981	20

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Senegal 1:500,000 Scale Geological Maps	BRGM	1:500,000	1966	4
The Gambia 1:250,000 Scale Geological Maps	MEPID-GU	1:250,000	1988	1

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

East View Geospatial has an ongoing effort to add GIS census data to our Global Census Archive program. Please contact us for the status and availability of Gambia census resources.

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 - 2003	3,020
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 - 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 - 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 - 1998	3,093

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 - 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 - Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 - 2007	4,204
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 - 2006	598
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale - Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 - 2001	243

Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

Jump to: [Topographic](#) | [Nautical](#) | [Geological/Scientific](#) | [Soil](#) | [Tourist/Reference](#)

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Topographic

Gambia is a linear West African state extending 150 miles inland along the Gambia river. The **Department of Lands and Survey (GDLS)** in Banjul is responsible for surveying and mapping and has published topographic and cadastral maps with support from British, German and American aid in the years since World War II.

The British **Directorate of Colonial Surveys** (later **Directorate of Overseas Surveys (DOS)** and now **Ordnance Survey International (OSI)**) initiated modern mapping of the country with an uncounted 30-sheet map. This was superseded by a 20-sheet photomap also on the Transverse Mercator projection, Clarke 1880 ellipsoid (Series **DOS 415P**), compiled from 1972 aerial coverage and published between 1975 and 1977 with hachures and spot heights indicating relief. Since the 1970s photomaps have been extensively used to enable rapid creation of a modern map base of the largely flat flood plain topography. Other **DOS** mapping at this date included a 1:25,000 scale eight-sheet topographic map of the Kombo Peninsula with 10 m contours. This series was derived in part from photogrammetric plotting and in part from a 1:10,000 scale coastal strip map, published with a 5 m contour interval. Larger scale programs of cadastral maps were updated using aerial coverage in the DOS programmes and cover all the main settlements in the country at 1:1,250, 1:2,500 and 1:5,000 scales. These sheets are available from **GDLS** as diazo prints. **DOS** also published a two-sheet 1:250,000 scale map of Gambia. A map of electoral districts at this scale is also published.

In the 1980s a new basic scale map was surveyed for the whole country in 526 1:10,000 scale sheets. This diazo land use photomap was produced by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation, in conjunction with other German agencies. Urban growth centers were also mapped in this program and published as full topographic editions in 44 1:10,000 scale sheets. Other mapping in the late 1980s included the publication of a number of 20-sheet 1:50,000 themes and four-sheet 1:125,000 scale resources series. Land use, forest cover, agriculture and rangelands were compiled.

Since 1992 Gambia has used American, and German funding to establish an integrated environmental action plan, building upon these resources maps. It has been proposed to establish a decentralized environmental information system under the aegis of the new **National Environment Centre**, with existing 1:50,000 scale mapping captured and held in a structured digital database. New 1:25,000 scale colour aerial coverage was flown in 1993, and new black and white coverage a year later. It is intended to use the information system to derive 1:125,000 scale datasets for environmental management and to extend digital mapping to cadastral systems. A number of land use scales have already been compiled, including new 1:30,000 scale coverage of Banjul.

Soviet military mapping of Gambia is available at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (1 sheet, complete coverage, published in 1986); 1:500,000 (2 sheets, complete coverage, published in 1985) and 1:200,000 (8 sheets, complete coverage, published 1985-1986). These products are available in paper, digital raster and digital vector GIS from **East View Geospatial**.

[Back to top](#)

Nautical

The Gambian agency responsible for hydrographic operations is the **Gambia Ports Authority**, but hydrographic charting of Gambian waters is carried out by the British **Hydrographic Office**.

[Back to top](#)

Geological/Scientific

In the late 1980s a new full-color 1:250,000 geological map was compiled to accompany a monograph about the geology and mineral resources of Gambia. This map was derived from 1:50,000 scale geological data mapped in a monochrome series covering the country in 20 sheets.

[Back to top](#)

Soil

Land use, soils, and agricultural data are held by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources**. The **Soil and Water Management Unit** has compiled a 1:25,000 scale national soil map, printed as ozalids with district sheet lines. The best available environmental data remains the 1:125,000 scale soils maps issued by **DOS** in the 1970s. Other British resources mapping from **DOS** includes a 1:25,000 scale full-color land use map.

[Back to top](#)

Tourist/Reference

Local tourist mapping of the Gambia is issued by the **Gambia National Tourism Office**, but the most useful small scale tourist coverage has been published by **Freytag-Berndt (FB)**, **Macmillan** and **International Travel Maps (ITM)** Vancouver.

[Back to top](#)

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