## A Better Proxy for the Unemployment Rate for The Gambia

**The unemployment rate (LU1)** for The Gambia is 7.6%. However, this indicator does not reflect the unmet needs for employment in The Gambia. There were persons not in the labour market who wanted to work but did not actively "seek" work during the reference week for various reasons. The short availability period for the unemployment indicator tends to exclude those who would need to make personal arrangements before starting work. For these reasons, the Gambia adopted **LU3 (the combined rate of unemployment and the potential labour force)** as a proxy for the unemployment rate (31.6%). The combined rate of unemployment and the potential labour force for the youth population is 38.6%. The dashboard below shows the distribution of LU3 by sex, residence and LGA for the population 15+ and (15-35).

