

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF

THE GAMBIA

By Philip M. Mobbs

The Gambian economy was dominated by agriculture and tourism. The mineral industry, with production of clays for brick, laterite, sand and gravel, and silica sand, was a minor component of the national economy.

For more extensive coverage of the mineral industry of The Gambia, see the 1991 Minerals Yearbook, volume III, Mineral Industries of Africa.

Major Source of Information

The Geological Unit
Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
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Banjul
The Gambia

TABLE 1
THE GAMBIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

Commodity	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Clay e/	1,000	1,000	1,200 3/	1,200	1,200
Silica sand	450,000 e/	452,400	302,600	269,773	250,000 e/

e/ Estimated.

1/ Includes data available through February 22, 2001.

2/ In addition to the commodities listed, a variety of construction materials (laterite, sand, and shell) are produced; but information is inadequate to make estimates of output.

3/ Reported figure.