

Sierra Leone MPTF

Fund Signature Page

(Note: this page is attached to the programme¹ document)

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TJV Cluster Name and Number: Cluster 4 “Social Protection, Child Protection, Gender Equality and Human Rights”		MPTF Project ID:	
Specific Project Title: Support to the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone		Project Location: Sierra Leone	
Estimated Start-Up Date: 1 June 2013		Estimated Operational Closure: 30 November 2014	
Brief Project Description: Enhance the HRCSL’s capacity to protect and promote human rights, through implementation of UPR & TRC recommendations, international treaty reporting and implementation of its quasi-judicial capacity. The project will also ensure that the drawdown of UNIPSIL is as seamless as possible in order to guarantee the sustainability of capacity building support provided to the HRCSL.		SL- MPTF Contribution: US\$ 470,800	
		[Name other contributor]: US\$	
		Government Contribution²: US\$1,025,287	
		Total Project Cost (not including Government Contribution) US\$470,800	
Cluster Goal³: To strengthen the capacity and regulatory framework for human rights, gender equality and child protection			

¹ The term “programme” is used for projects, programmes and joint programmes.

² Including: Running costs, Rent savings (HRCSL was allocated office space in a government building) and Salaries.

³ As per Annex II of the Transitional Joint Vision Document

Cluster Objective:

Objective 4.1 of the TJV 2013-2014 “to increase capacity to protect and promote human rights”

Cluster Indicator:

- % of UPR & TRC recommendations implemented
- Number of cases/complaints concluded by the HRCSL in execution of its quasi-judicial capacity

Signature

Date

Name/Title

UNDP

**Mr. Mohamed Abchir
Country Director a.i.**

ERSG/RC

**Mr. Jens Anders Toyberg-Frandzen
Executive Representative
of the Secretary General
of the United Nations**

Project Document

Executive Summary

This project aims at increasing the country's capacity to protect and promote human rights through support to the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL). The main areas of intervention will include: a) support the continued implementation of the TRC and the UPR recommendations; b) build capacity of the government to implement its national and international treaty reporting obligations; c) work with the government of Sierra Leone to ensure that the Constitutional Review process is fully respectful of international human rights standards; d) enhance the HRCSL's capacity to protect and promote human rights through its monitoring and research capacity as well as through implementation of its quasi-judicial capacity. A key intention of the project is to allow for a smooth drawdown of UNIPSIL's human rights support through coordinated intervention from UNDP and OHCHR reinforcing the Commission's capacity and ensuring its sustainability.

Situation Analysis

Sierra Leone emerged from a ten-year civil conflict, but continues to suffer its consequences. There have been significant efforts in promoting human rights in the country. However, the underlying causes of the conflict have not been fully dealt with, and a number of human rights challenges identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission still remain to be resolved.

The Human Rights Commission was established in 2006 as an independent state institution to protect and promote human rights and is recognised as having made great progress in delivering its services to the people of Sierra Leone. Among other things the Commission has published three annual reports on the state of human rights with the fourth report about to be issued. The Commission has conducted two enquiries/public hearings on human rights violations and advanced recommendations to the government to address them. The Commission's involvement in the UPR process has also been crucial in ensuring the internationally recognized participation of Sierra Leone in the process. As a reflection of this progress, the International Coordination Committee of National Human Rights Institutions (ICC) has accredited the Commission with "A" status.⁴

The Commission adopted a new strategic plan for 2012-2014 and therein made a number of commitments. The Government allocates an amount of \$1,025,287 USD per year to the Commission and provides funds for the Commission's Headquarters within the premises of the National Electoral Commission. The regional offices in Bo, Makeni and Kenema are currently in rented premises but negotiations have already taken place with local authorities to allocate public land in order to build their own offices. The regional office for Freetown is for the time being collocated with its HQ. All the above have significant impact in terms of sustainability.

Following the general elections in 2012, the Government has committed to proceed with the constitutional review process. The HRCSL is expected to play a significant role in this. In addition, Sierra Leone is currently a member of the Human Rights Council and has recently participated in the 22nd Session of the Council. The advisory role of the Commission in support of the government has therefore become more relevant in this context. There are also emerging issues in Sierra Leone that have major human rights implications such as the development of the extractives industry which require a strengthened capacity of the Commission.

UNIPSIL/OHCHR and UNDP continue to support the HRCSL. Current capacity building support from UNDP is based on improving management capacity, as well as supporting the Commission's quasi-judicial functions and human rights education role. UNIPSIL is however drawing down and a number of steps have already been taken in order to transfer responsibilities handled by the Human Rights Section of UNIPSIL and OHCHR (integrated in the Mission) to UNDP and to the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone.

⁴ The International Coordination Committee of National Institutions, which is a forum of national human rights institutions, reviews the functioning of national institutions and assesses whether they comply the basic international standard as set out in the Paris Principles, in particular, their independence and accredits at various levels. HRCSL was graded at the highest level "A"

Project Justification

The Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone is currently in its second term. In only a few years it has achieved great success in enhancing the promotion and protection human rights mechanisms in the country; it has developed a good working relationship with the government, Parliament, civil society organizations and international partners and donors. The award of “A status” is evidence of its progress.

The upcoming constitutional review process, the human rights concerns related to extractive industries and multinational companies operating in Sierra Leone, the commitment of the government to implement the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review and Sierra Leone’s membership of the Human Rights Council require a strong Commission that can support the government in implementing its national and international human rights obligations.

This project will support the increasing responsibilities of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone as well as contribute to the consolidation of recent capacity building support for the Commission and ensure its sustainability in the future. In this context the draw-down of UNIPSIL and the UN Transitional Joint Vision 2013-2014 further justifies the need for this project and its timeliness in helping consolidate a strong, independent and professional Human Rights Commission.

Results framework

The project will contribute to the achievement of the overall goal of Cluster 4 of the Transitional Joint Vision to strengthen the capacity and regulatory framework for human rights, gender equality and child protection and in particular cluster outcome 4.1 concerning the need to increase institutional capacity to protect and promote human rights through support to the Human Rights Commission and other institutions. The project will directly fulfil 2 of the indicators chosen under Annex II of the document:

- % of UPR and TRC recommendations implemented/pending
 - Number of cases/complaints concluded by the HRCSL in execution of its quasi-judicial capacity
- The project will also indirectly contribute to the achievement of other indicators since through the implementation of TRC and UPR recommendations SGBV, Access to Justice by victims, FGM or reparations issues will also be covered.

The project will also contribute to realisation of UNDP’s Country Programme Action Plan Output 3 relating to enhanced capacity of state institutions to provide effective and equitable justice services.

The project anticipates achieving the following specific objectives:

- Strengthening the monitoring and research capacity of the Commission on human rights and business through a more active involvement with multinational companies, the government and the communities affected. For that purpose the Commission will also have enhanced its own understanding and knowledge of international principles and standards related to business and human rights
- Raising capacity of the Commission to conduct human rights public education specifically through the development of a communications strategy and the engagement with relevant education institutions in the country
- Enhance regional outreach of the Commission through support to the Regional Human Rights Offices and District Human Rights Committees (DHRCs). This would serve a twofold purpose not only to allow a stronger presence of the Commission in the field but also giving voice and supporting human rights organizations in the field and agreeing in a more coordinated approach on specific human rights issues
- Promote the quasi-judicial functions of the Commission through the conduct of at least two more public enquiries on selected topics that would create some precedent (such as earlier enquiries on the ex-RSLAF men unjust dismissal and the business and Human Rights related case of Bumbuna).
- Strengthen the monitoring and research functions of the Commission to ensure timely and qualitative release of the annual State of Human Rights Report (as required by law) and at least one thematic public reports on selected topics)
- Promote equality and non-discrimination with special focus on women and persons with disabilities
- Support implementation of TRC/UPR and other recommendations through participation and support to the UPR mid-term review and closer working relationship with the Office of the Attorney General on

this matter

- Support the constitutional review process to ensure that human rights issues are properly mainstreamed through the process and in the final text
- Strengthening the overall institutional capacity of the Commission by completing the recruitment of senior vacant posts, reinforcing the intervention of the regional offices and focusing the work of the Commissioners on policy and management issues and advocacy at the highest level.

Expected results/deliverables:

- Training on Business and Human Rights for relevant stakeholders conducted.
- Training materials on Business and Human Rights conducted
- Human Rights Education assessment conducted
- Mediation in SOCFIN land conflict
- HRCSL Communication Strategy developed.
- Training for stakeholders on the use of Social Media for Human Rights Advocacy
- Dissemination of the 2012 State of Human Rights Report
- Engagement with relevant education institutions
- Human Rights Education curriculum developed
- Bi-monthly Public Education Programmes (radio and television) conducted
- DHRCs provided with institutional support.
- Kenema documentation centre re-established.
- Training for regional offices on Human Rights Education
- Regional Office provided with administrative and logistic support
- Follow-up with Media and other stakeholders on the Bumbuna Report recommendations
- Regional workshops for prison authorities conducted
- Prison monitoring tools reviewed and finalised.
- Engagement with government bodies responsible for treaty body reporting
- Engagement with the Disability Commission
- Consultations on the gender equality bill and other legislation organized.
- Implementation of the TRC/UPR and other recommendations supported.
- One National Consultative Conference on the status of the implementation of the UPR recommendations organized and held.
- Technical support provided to the constitutional review
- National Constitutional Review Process supported

Management and coordination arrangements

Two UN agencies will participate in the project: UNDP will provide technical input and also be the recipient agency and OHCHR will provide technical support to UNDP and the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone. OHCHR is integrated in UNIPSIL and the Mission is going through its transition and draw-down therefore financial commitments beyond the mandate duration should go through UNDP.

The implementing partner will be the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone which will at the same time be responsible for coordinating with the Government's Human Rights Secretariat and with the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee on issues such as UPR, treaty reporting and constitutional review. A direct implementation agreement will be signed by UNDP and the HRCSL that will establish specific timelines and outputs as well as the financial and narrative reporting obligations. An independent audit will be conducted at the end of the project as part of final reporting obligations.

Fund management arrangements

UNDP will be the recipient of the funds and will support the implementation of the proposed activities through the HRCSL. UNDP will implement this project under the National Implementation Modality (NIM) providing the funds directly to the HRCSL and supporting implementation. Funds will be distributed under 3 installments paid as advances to the HRCSL; 40% upon signing of work plan, and 30% in two final installments based on approved financial reports that outputs have been delivered and 80% of all balances disbursed.

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

A Project Steering Committee composed of the two UN agencies and the implementing partner will be established to monitor the implementation of the project. The Steering Committee will meet regularly to update the status of implementation. The Human Rights Commission shall produce quarterly progress narrative and financial reports for review of the Steering Committee. UNDP and OHCHR will be jointly responsible for the regular narrative and financial reporting to the MPTF. Final evaluation of the project will be done upon completion by an external auditor agreed by the recipient agency and the implementing partner.

Legal Context or Basis of Relationship

According to the Terms of Reference of the Sierra Leone Multi-Partner Trust Fund for the Transitional Joint Vision the Transitional Joint Vision has been developed in line with UN's wish for a fully integrated Peace-building mission and it is the result of the UN's efforts to coordinate interventions and pool resources in support of the Government's National Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2013-2017.

The Sierra Leone UN Country Team in October 2011 decided that the Transitional Joint Vision be supported by a joint funding mechanism: the Sierra Leone Multi-Partner Trust Fund (SL MPTF) 2013-2014. The SL-MPTF is designed to serve as a coherent and streamlined platform for the mobilisation of non-earmarked financial resources that facilitate allocations to the programmatic priorities of the Transitional Joint Vision. The SL-MPTF is consistent with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States, under the overall guidance of the Government's Aid Policy, including in respect of national ownership, alignment with national priorities, harmonization and aid coordination.

Within this framework, the Government decided to prioritize Cluster 4 of the TJV on Social Protection, Child Protection, Gender Equality and Human Rights. Two of the seven UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes participating in this cluster decided to present this joint proposal in support to the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone.

Work-plans and budgets

Budget 1

COMPONENT-SPECIFIC PROJECT BUDGET		ESTIMATED UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES (US\$)		
COMPONENT SPECIFICATION ⁵		TOTAL AMOUNT (US\$)	YEAR 1/TRANCHE 1	YEAR 2/TRANCHE 2
1	Business & human rights	70,000	31,500	38,500
2	Public Education	82,500	37,125	45,375
3	Regional Outreach of the HRCSL	68,000	30,600	37,400
4	HRCSL's quasi-judicial capacity	4,000	1,800	2,200
5	Strengthen monitoring & research functions	29,000	13,050	15,950
6	Equality & non-discrimination	5,000	2,250	2,750

⁵ Add or subtract components as necessary.

7	Implementation of UPR/TRC recommendations	24,000	10,800	13,200
8	Constitutional review	29,500	13,275	16,225
9	Strengthen institutional capacity of HRCSL	119,373	94,348	25,025
10	Program Management	8,627	8,627	
Total Project Cost (excluding indirect costs)		440,000	243,375	196,625

Budget 2:

UNDG standard Budget

PROJECT BUDGET ⁶		ESTIMATED UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES (US\$)		
CATEGORY ⁷		TOTAL AMOUNT (US\$)	YEAR 1 /TRANCHE 1	YEAR 2 /TRANCHE 2
1	Staff and other personnel cost	65,500	29,475	36,025
2	Supplies, Commodities, Materials	37,000	16,650	20,350
3	Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	82,500	82,500	-
4	Contractual Services	34,500	15,525	18,975
5	Travel	58,000	26,100	31,900
6	Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	85,000	38,250	46,750
7	General Operating and Other Direct Costs	77,500	34,875	42,625
Total Project Costs		440,000	243,375	196,625
	Indirect Support Costs (7%) ⁸	30,800		
TOTAL		470,800		

⁶ For Joint Programmes with more than one Participating UN Organisation, each Category should be broken down by Organisation and show consolidated figures.

⁷ The Finance and Budget Network approved the above harmonised expense categories for interagency reporting effective 1 January 2012 in decision 54 at the 12th FDN session[1]. This was further confirmed by the HLCM and the CEB in their 20th sessions in later 2010. For detailed explanation on the definitions of each category, refer to Annex A. New budget categories introduced as of 1 January 2012, in line with CEB approval and FMOG confirmation of its application to AAs for Multi-Partner Trust Funds and Joint Programmes.

⁸ 7% calculated based on total Project Costs. Indirect support cost should be in line with the MOU and SAA . Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through programme support costs will be 7%. In accordance with the UN General Assembly resolution 62/209 (2008 Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review principle of full cost recovery). all other costs incurred by each Participating UN Organization in carrying out the activities for which it is responsible under the Fund will be recovered as direct costs.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF SIERRA LEONE
DETAILED BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR MTF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

			<i>Cost</i>
<i>Activity no.</i>	<i>Activity Narrative</i>	<i>Budget category as per MPTF project brief</i>	<i>\$</i>
1. Monitoring & Research - Human Rights and Business			
1	Collect and review information and organise in-house training on Mining regulations, policy and their implications	Travel	7,000
2	Support TOT in programme management, monitoring and evaluation of programme for HRCSL Staff	Contractual Services	6,500
		Travel	1,500
3	Hiring of International consultant to produce training materials on Human Rights & Business	Staff & other personnel costs	25,000
4	Conduct HR education needs assessment	Travel	5,000
5	SOCFIN mediation (Land Conflict)	Staff & other personnel costs	5,000
		Travel	10,000
		General Operating and Other Direct Costs	5,000
Sub Total			70,000
2. Improve Human Rights culture through Public Education			
1	Hire consultant to review, finalize, produce and implementation HRCSL Communication strategy	Staff & other personnel costs	6,000
		General Operating and Other Direct Costs	1,000
2	Conduct training on the effective use of Social Media for Human Rights Advocacy	Transfers and grants to counterparts	6,000

		<i>Contractual Services</i>	500
3	<i>Dissemination of 2012 SOHR report</i>	<i>Contractual Services</i>	12,000
		<i>Travel</i>	5,500
4	<i>Engage heads of universities and tertiary institutions aimed at increasing knowledge and respect for the right to education</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	4,000
		<i>General Operating & other Direct costs</i>	2,500
5	<i>Develop curriculum on HR education and do test runs</i>	<i>Contractual Services</i>	4,500
		<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	2,000
6	<i>Conduct bi-monthly Public Education programmes on electronic media (radio, television and internet)</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	12,000
		<i>Travel</i>	1,500
7	<i>Commemoration of International Human Rights Day (IHRD)</i>	<i>Transfers and grants to counterparts</i>	20,000
8	<i>Purchase of equipment for Public education(Digital cameras for Bo, Makeni, Kenema & HQ)</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	5,000
<i>Sub Total</i>			82,500.00
<i>3. Enhance Regional outreach of the Commission</i>			
1	<i>Provision of institutional support to DHRCs</i>	<i>Transfers and Grants to counterparts</i>	12,000
		<i>Travel</i>	2,000

		<i>Staff & other personnel costs</i>	<i>1,500</i>
2	<i>Re-establishment of the Kenema documentation centre</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	<i>5,500</i>
		<i>General Operating & Other Direct Costs</i>	<i>500</i>
		<i>Travel</i>	<i>1,000</i>
3	<i>Conduct training for regional officers and DHRCs on human rights education and advocacy skills. Production of IEC materials</i>	<i>Transfers and Grants to Counterparts</i>	<i>5,000</i>
		<i>Travel</i>	<i>2,000</i>
4	<i>Payment of rent for Regional Offices in Makeni, Bo</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct Costs</i>	<i>7,000</i>
5	<i>Leasehold rent for Western Area Regional Office</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct costs</i>	<i>12,000</i>
6	<i>Purchase of Furniture, Computer Accessories and Equipment</i>	<i>Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture</i>	<i>2,500</i>
7	<i>Utilities: Electricity & Water charges</i>	<i>General Operating and Other Direct Costs</i>	<i>2,500</i>
8	<i>Internet service fee</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct costs</i>	<i>2,500</i>
9	<i>Recruitment of Assistant RHRO, Office Assistant & Bailiff</i>	<i>Staff & other personnel costs</i>	<i>12,000</i>
<i>Sub Total</i>			<i>68,000</i>
<i>4. Quasi-judicial Function</i>			
1	<i>Bumbuna Report follow up on the execution of recommendations including close work with media relations</i>	<i>Travel</i>	<i>3,000</i>
		<i>General Operating & other Direct costs</i>	<i>1,000</i>
<i>Sub Total</i>			<i>4,000</i>

5. Strengthen the monitoring and research functions of the Commission			
1	Conduct 2 macro monitoring visits to prison and police cells	Travel	4,000
		General Operating & other Direct costs	4,500
2	Conduct 4 workshops per region, for prison authorities, police officials and care on findings from various human rights monitoring activities	Travel	3,500
		Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	11,000
		General Operating and Other Direct Costs	1,500
3	Engagements with The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Office of the Attorney General on Treaty Body Reporting on CRPD, ECOSOC	Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	1,000
		General Operating and Other Direct Costs	500
4	Review and finalize monitoring tools for prisons, police cells and remand home	Contractual Services	3,000
Sub Total			29,000
6. Equality & Non- Discrimination			
1	Organize consultations with the MSWGCA, NaC-GBV, and Parliament for the enactment of the 2 bills (GE & MC)	Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	1,500
2	Collaborate with the Disability Commission to support advocacy for and monitoring of the implementation of the Disabilities Act and the Convention on the Rights Person with Disabilities (CRPD).	Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	2,000
3	Organise 2 meetings with A.G, MFAIC and CSOs to lobby for the establishment of the TRC FUC, NACSA	Transfers and grants to counterparts	1,500
Sub Total			5,000.00
Implementation of TRC/UPR & other recommendations			

1	Provide technical support for the speedy establishment of the FUC	Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	2,500
2	Organise joint meetings with the NaCSA (Directorate of Reparations) and HRCSL	Transfers and grants to counterparts	1,000
		General Operating and Other Direct Costs	500
3	Review and adopt the HRCSL Reparations Monitoring Strategy	Contractual Services	2,500
4	Conduct field visit to monitor the implementation of the reparations programme	Travel	6,000
5	Conduct 2 training programmes for HRCSL personnel on APRM recommendations	General Operating and Other Direct Costs	2,000
		Travel	2,000
6	Organize one National Consultative Conference on the status of implementation of the UPR recommendations as a mid-term review of the process	Contractual services	5,000
		Travel	2,500
Sub Total			24,000
7. Support the Constitutional Review Process			
1	Hiring of constitutional experts to work closely on the constitutional review	Travel	1,500
		Staff & other personnel costs	6,500
2	Support National Constitutional Review Process (Thematic seminars, workshops and roundtable discussions)	Transfer and Grants to Counterparts	21,500
Sub Total			29,500
8. Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Commission			
1	Conduct induction training for new HRCSL staff	Staff & other personnel costs	5,000

2	<i>Purchase of additional equipment including computers and accessories, storage materials and publications for HQ and regional library and documentation centres</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	7,000
3	<i>Purchase of vehicles</i>	<i>Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture</i>	80,000
4	<i>Utilities for HQ</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct Costs</i>	6,000
5	<i>Internet service fee for HQ and Regional Offices in Bo, Makeni & Kenema</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct Costs</i>	5,500
6	<i>Refreshment, communication and fuel for steering committee meetings</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct Costs</i>	2,000
7	<i>Stationery Materials</i>	<i>Supplies, Commodities, Materials</i>	1,500
8	<i>Monitoring of Regional Offices</i>	<i>General Operating and other Direct Costs</i>	4,000
9	<i>Audit & other Financial Costs</i>	<i>General operating and other Direct Costs</i>	8,373
Sub-total			119,373
Project Management			
1	<i>ISS (UNDP)</i>	<i>General operation and other Direct Costs</i>	8,627
Sub Total			8,627
Total (Programme Funds)			440,000
GMS (7%)			30,800
Grand Total			470,800