

UNITED NATIONS PEACE BUILDING FUND-SIERRA LEONE:

PBF Projects Overview (December 2009)

OVERVIEW OF THE PBF STATUS:

Since its launch in March 2007, the PBF in Sierra Leone has supported a total of twenty-three projects approved in three waves and covering twelve out of the fourteen Districts in Sierra Leone. 99.43% of the PBF portfolio has now been committed with full commitment expected in the first quarter of 2010. To date, deliveries stand at 93.9% each for waves I & II, 19.2% for wave III and 73.6% for the emergency facility. The projects are being implemented through recipient agencies (UNDP, UNIFEM, UNICEF and IOM) in support of five priority areas; Youth Employment and Empowerment, Justice and Security, Democracy and Good Governance, Capacity Building for Public Administration and Energy. A recently concluded project by project evaluation described the fund as an 'ill timed opportunity which however helped curb critical threats to peace'. It further recommended that upon full commitment, the PBF support Office in UNIPSIL be merged into the new strategic planning unit of UNIPSIL to focus on monitoring, impact reporting and project closure. This has already been done.

SIERRA LEONE AND THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE BUILDING FUND (2007-2009)



PBF PHOTO NEWS



Two of the three refurbished prison blocks as Mafanta



Staff of the UN Integrated Strategic Planning Unit

PBF PHOTO NEWS



The newly refurbished Administrative Block-Mafanta



Some of beneficiaries of the Youth Enterprise Development Project



One of the new RSLAF Community Health Centres



New sewing machines at the Pademba Road Tailoring Room

PBF UPDATES WAVE 1-PROJECTS

Background:

Seven projects were approved between May and July of 2007 with a total value of \$15.60m accounting for 46% of the PBF portfolio. The projects were in support of youth employment, democracy and good governance and improved justice and security. Four of these projects have been completed. The delivery stands at 93.9%.

Emerging Results:

The PBF's support contributed to enhancing the capacity of the Police in crowd control, boosting the moral of the security forces and the payment of some 37,000 polling staff during the elections in 2007. It helped operationalize the work of the human rights commission in handling over 258 complains and producing the first and second state of the human rights report on Sierra Leone.

The youth support has provided access to micro finance for some 5,500 youths and shall be placing over 6,500 into jobs and cooperative schemes. Over 270 backlog cases have been cleared, and the capacity of the judiciary has been built, reducing indictment time by over 50% thereby increasing access to justice. The Army has been provided with equipped medical inspection rooms and shall be having access to clean and reliable water in the coming months.

UPDATES WAVE II-PROEJCTS

Background:

With the advent of the new Government, seven projects were approved in June 2008 with a total value of \$17.06m. The projects are in support of Reparations, the anticorruption commission, increased reformation of prisoners, capacity for the office of national security, emergency support to energy, support to improving women and children's rights and support in setting up the PBF Secretariat in Government. Support to Prisons and Energy are almost complete. The delivery for this Wave stands at 93.9%.

Emerging Results:

Some 3,000 war affected (widows, amputees, rape victims) are currently benefiting from various forms of support (medical, education, cash). Some 2,000 prison inmates now have access to various training equipments, beds, water and sanitation; the rehabilitation of the Mafanta Prisons which is just concluded shall see the decongestion of the Maximum Prison-Pademba which is 300% overcrowded. The office of national security has been capacitated with 13 vehicles, communication equipments and furnishing for their Dfid funded office under construction. Awareness has been raised in 200 communities on the newly enacted gender and child rights Acts in the North and Southern Regions.

Gap-filling fuel provided by the PBF ensured improved power supply from 25MW to 31 MW and thus increased revenue of \$314,000 in February 2009. The Government has been given increased space to engage on the PBF process through the setting up of a PBF Secretariat in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

UPDATES WAVE III-PROJECTS:

Background and Expected Results:

A further nine projects were approved between June and December 2009 amounting to \$1.96m. Four of these were approved under the emergency window largely in support of the Joint Communiqué signed in April between the two political parties; through this, the SLPP office is being rehabilitated and two commission of enquiries into alleged rape and intimidation of SLPP supporters has been undertaken. Also a further two projects were supported from the Immediate response Facility (IRF) from PBSO in support of youth dialogue and the police. The remaining five projects approved are in support of civil society to engage on peace building issues, parliament in ensuring improved oversight, legislation and representation, attitudinal change, independent broadcasting cooperation and regional cooperation along the MAKONA river basin on the boarders with Guinea and Liberia. Delivery stands at 19.2%.