

**COUNTRY
PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT STATUS REPORT
30 June 2011**

Project No & Title:	PBF/SLE/B-6 Rehabilitation of Water and Sanitation Facilities for the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) Barracks in Freetown				
Recipient UN Organization :	UNDP	PBF Priority Sector:	Justice and Security		
National Authority:	Ministry of Defense				
Location:	Freetown, RSLAF Barracks				
Project Cost:	USD 1,955,706				
SC Approval Date:	11 July 2007	Starting Date:	September 2007	Completion Date:	July 2008
PBF Outcome and Priority area	<p>Priority 1. Implementation of peace agreement. Programme Result 1 (PMP): Security sector reforms and judiciary systems put in place and providing services and goods at national and local level that reinforce the Rule of Law. Indicator 1.1 (SSR): # of PBF supported communities / districts where national armed forces and police perform their duties in conflict affected territorial areas addressing security concerns of the target populations.</p>				
Project Description:	<p>The project is designed to provide an immediate improvement to the living conditions of RSLAF personnel and their families within the three most densely populated barracks in Freetown, namely, Wilberforce, Murray Town and Goderich. It will complement existing infrastructure improvement initiatives which aim to enhance living conditions. The first output will be an adequate, reliable and safe supply of drinking water. This will be delivered through the installation of new pipes, a proper connection with Freetown's main water network, provision of stand-by power supply to pumping stations, provision of secondary water treatment capacity in accordance with World Health Organization standards, the installation of large water reserve tanks, and the purchase of water bowsers to fill the reserve tanks during periods of drought and failures in the mains supply. The second output is the provision of adequate, hygiene promotion and sanitary facilities. The third output focuses on reinstating the structural integrity of the medical and health facilities including the Community Health Centres/Medical Inspection Rooms and the provision of basic equipment and hygiene facilities.</p>				
Immediate Objectives:	<p>The objective of the project is to quickly improve the living conditions of RSLAF Officers and their families through the provision of basic Water and Sanitation facilities in the three main barracks in the Freetown area.</p>				
Project Status as at 30 June 2011					
Funds disbursed:	USD 1,955,706				
Delivery rate:	99%				
Outputs delivered:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate, reliable and safe supply of drinking water • Adequate sanitary facilities • Improved medical and health facilities 				

**Achievements
and
challenges**

Output delivery:

- Procurement of new pipes to be connected to Freetown's main water network.
- Provision of stand-by power supply to Spur Road pumping station.
- Provision of stand-by power supply and pumping station at Murray Town barracks.
- Provision of two borehole wells at Murray Town barracks.
- Provision of secondary water treatment capacity in accordance with World Health Organization standards.
- Installation of large water reserve tanks at Murray Town barracks.
- Purchase of water bowser truck to fill up the reserve tanks during periods of drought and failures in the mains supply.
- Purchase of septic tank emptier truck to facilitate functioning sewage systems in the barracks.
- Improved medical and health facilities within the barracks to reinstate the structural integrity of the Community Health Centres / Medical Inspection Rooms.
- Provision of basic equipment and hygiene facilities.

Outcome achievements (with reference to programme results and indicator of PMP):

1. Adequate, reliable and safe supply of drinking water

- Murray Town barracks Generator House completed, including the installation of submersible pumps and a 45KVA generator.
- Trenching for the laying of ductile iron pipes (main water supply lines) partially completed at Wilberforce and Murray Town barracks.
- Two borehole wells completed at Murray Town barracks.
- Four Braithwaite bulk water storage tanks delivered to supplier in country with two installations complete at Murray Town barracks and one nearing completion at Wilberforce barracks.
- Procurement and deployment of one Mercedes Benz water bowser and one Mercedes Benz septic tank emptier has increased the water and sanitation service delivery capacity of the RSLAF.

2. Adequate sanitary facilities

- Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey conducted on household water and sanitation providing good insights into the sanitation situation of Murray Town, Wilberforce and Goderich barracks. Based on this survey, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) has been capacitated to design a hygiene sensitization campaign in the three barracks and RSLAF has been capacitated to undertake and improve sanitary services delivery within the three barracks.

3. Improved medical health facilities within the barracks

- All three Medical Inspection Rooms have been completed and equipped with medical drugs and equipment for the Goderich, Wilberforce and Murray Town barracks.
- Improved access to medical and health facilities within the barracks for Officers and their families.
- The rehabilitation of the Medical Inspection Rooms have reinstated the structural integrity of the Community Health Centres

- What has been planned, what has been actually achieved?

The project relates to the Justice and Security area of the PBF Priority Plan. The RSLAF continues to suffer from deplorable working and living conditions. Many units lack access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation. This project seeks to increased justice and security for military personnel and their dependants through direct interventions aiming to

immediately improve the living conditions of RSLAF personnel and their families through provision of social services within the three most densely populated barracks in Freetown.

Under the third main component of UNDP Sierra Leone's Country Programme Action Plan 2008-2010, 'Community Recovery and Preventative Development', strategic peace building interventions are to be supported under the development area of 'Supporting Peace Building and Reconciliation'. To achieve this target, the following project outcome was expected:

- Improved operational capacity of the security services.

At the end of the 2nd quarter, the project was nearing completion:

- 100% of the pipe fittings and accessories have been procured and are in-country to complete the reticulation systems and connections to the main Freetown water system at Murray Town and Wilberforce barracks;
- Water and sanitary equipment (one Mercedes Benz water bowser and one Mercedes Benz septic tank emptier, and four Braithwaite bulk water storage tanks) have been procured and delivered;
- Three out of the four Braithwaite bulk water storage tanks have been installed;
- Medical Inspection Rooms at the three barracks have been rehabilitated and medical drugs and equipment have been supplied and are in use;
- Generator house for the Murray Town barracks has been completed, including the installation of submersible pumps and a 45KVA generator;
- Two borehole wells completed at the Murray Town barracks and tested by SALWACO for purity and volume of water;
- Standby power supply (2 X 500KVA generators) for the Spur Road pumping stations have been delivered to RSLAF;
- 90% ditching/trenching for the laying of pipes at Wilberforce and Murray town barracks completed;
- KAP survey completed and analyzed;
- Successful hygiene education with broad community participation conducted;
- Contacts with Guma Valley Water Company initiated for the connection to the main Freetown water system; and
- Joint monitoring of the project conducted by the Project Steering Committee comprised of the main implementing partners: UNDP, the Peace Building Support Office, the MoD, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, RSLAF, and the International Military Advisory and Training Team (IMATT).

- What worked?

- The project was managed within the existing framework of the Sierra Leone PBF Steering Committee.
- UNDP initiated and maintained liaison with IMATT who assisted RSLAF with training and capacity building in related areas and updated RSLAF commanders of project progress in weekly briefings, serving to improve the relationship between the beneficiaries in the barracks and UNDP.
- The request for proposals through newspaper advertisements was successful as a large number were received from contracting firms.
- Detailed examination and evaluation of bids conducted including bid reevaluation and reporting to the Contracts, Assets and Procurement (CAP) committee of the UNDP.
- The downscaling and phase-out strategy of the scope of work to fit the available budget was accomplished through collaborated efforts of the MoD and UNDP.
- The MoD and RSLAF undertook many of the civil works tasks rather than private

companies, and outsourced procurement through Government procurement system which helped to mitigate further delays. UNDP perceived this as an important step in allowing the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) to take ownership of the project while at the same time providing a capacity building exercise for the RSLAF Engineering Battalion, enabling them to undertake similar tasks in the future. The new modality was formalized based on an agreed budget and work plan created jointly by MoFED, MoD and UNDP. A Letter of Agreement (LoA) was signed in April 2010 between the UNDP, MoD and MoFED, allowing the disbursement of remaining project funds as grants to the MoD. The disbursement of grants enabled the Ministry to advance with the procurement of essential components, meant to facilitate completion of the water reticulation systems at Murray Town and Wilberforce barracks.

- An amendment in the 3rd quarter of 2010 to the LoA achieved improved monitoring and supervision by MoD of all ongoing works on the site.

What did not work?

- Complexity in the UNDP procurement process for tendering and contracting services.
- The consulting firm selected, Realini Bader, had limited capacity to deliver both technical drawings and to draw on experts especially for the Water and Sanitation component of the project.
- In most cases, deadlines were not met by the consulting firm due to the complex procurement process and inflationary trend both nationally and internationally and processes for tendering and contracting services.
- The initial budget allocated to the project was inadequate. A budget of USD 1,955,706 was approved from PBF in 2007. In 2010, UNDP had to provide additional funding in the amount of USD 188,733 to the project in order to complete all activities.

- How will the challenges be addressed?

- The UNDP Country Office has sought to minimize the complexity of the project by outsourcing procurement in a bid to meet critical deadlines set in implementing project activities. However, for complex projects where the country lacks the required expertise, UNDP should outsource consultants/expert advice. The project team requested for a Water and Sanitation expert from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) in New York to conduct a Technical Audit of the project and in 2009 UNDP recruited a UNV Water and Sanitation Engineer to incorporate the changes proposed by UN DESA and to strengthen the technical supervision of the project.