



SL-MDTF

ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 MARCH 2011

Programme Title & Number
Programme Title: Environmental Cooperation for Peacebuilding Programme Number: Joint Vision Programme 21 MDTF Office Atlas Number: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP 00075592 • UNDP 00075593

Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s)¹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sierra Leone • Nation-wide • Environmental Protection – cross-cutting peace & security, rural development and youth

Participating Organization(s)
UNEP UNDP

Implementing Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency- Sierra Leone • Meteorological Office • Ministry of Energy and Water Resource • Ministry of Lands Country Planning and the Environment • Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment • World Meteorological Organisation

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)
MDTF Fund Contribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP – 495,000 • UNDP – 455,000
Agency Contribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>by Agency (if applicable)</i>
Government Contribution <i>(if applicable)</i>
Other Contribution (donor) <i>(if applicable)</i>
TOTAL: \$950,000

Programme Duration (months)	
Overall Duration	31 December 2012
Start Date of Projects	24 June 2010
Revised End Date of Projects	31 March 2011
Operational Closure Date of Programme	31 December 2012
Expected Financial Closure Date	30 April 2013

¹ Priority Area for the Peacebuilding Fund; Sector for the UNDG ITF.

Programme Assessments/Mid-Term Evaluation
Assessment Completed - if applicable <i>please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: _____
Mid-Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: _____

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I. Purpose

Given the significant role that natural resources played in the 1991-2002 civil war and during the post-conflict reconstruction period, along with the vital importance of natural resources to Sierra Leone’s economy, the good management of environment and natural resources is essential to continued peace consolidation and development. Linked to youth estrangement and rural alienation, many of the conditions for conflict that existed before 1992 continue today, aggravated by concerns about unfair distribution of benefits, opaque processes and inefficient and unsustainable practices.

Significant opportunities exist however to harness natural resources and environment for peace consolidation through investing in alternative livelihoods, collaborative community-based natural resource management (CBNRM), and capacity building in the districts and in Freetown.

The Programme addressed these needs and focused on several main components: 1. Capacity building for environmental governance; 2. Sustainable land and water resource management; 3. Improved climate change adaptation planning and implementation.

UNEP Objectives:

- Improved technical and managerial capacity of EPA-SL
- Improved land and water resource management in Sierra Leone
- Improved planning in place to respond to climate change

Fragmented systems of environmental and natural resource management in Sierra Leone are an impediment to sustainable development and peacebuilding and the country has a part to play in the global agenda concerning climate change. During the civil war, nearly the entire observing and forecasting infrastructure at the Meteorological Department was destroyed. Since the end of the conflict in 2002, the Meteorological Department has received little attention from the Government due to other development issues that have taken immediate priority in the post-conflict period. This has resulted in the shortage of specialist equipment and trained personnel which means that the meteorological department is struggling to perform its mandated functions.

As part of UNDP’s contribution to Programme 21, support was provided to build the capacity of the Sierra Leone Meteorological Department to process observations for both real time weather forecasting and climate applications and the digitization of existing weather data into the climsoft software package.

UNDP’s contribution also supported the formulation of a comprehensive national land policy document, including an implementation strategy and a reformed legal framework. The policy process entailed collaboration and consultations with representatives of all types of land users and stakeholders within and outside government, based on a common national vision of the desired forms of land tenure, and land management system rooted in transparent, accountable and participatory approaches.

UNDP Objectives:

- Sierra Leone's national institutional and human resource capacity to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change improved
- Digitization of climate data using climsoft database system
- Capacity development of the Meteorological Department data collection and analysis

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

A total of US\$ 950,000 from the Delivering as One fund was allocated to the Programme through the Sierra Leone MDTF.

Human Resources:

UNEP's work under the programme was executed by two national staff (a programme associate and a driver) and one international consultant. UNDP's work under the programme was executed by one national staff, six data entry clerks and one driver.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

A variety of implementation measures were used by working through government counterparts, NGO partners, international experts and international consulting agencies. Procurement has been carried out according to standard UNDP and UNEP procedures. Several assessments were conducted during 2010/11 including:

- A capacity needs assessment of EPA-SL
- A World Meteorological Organisation assessment of Sierra Leone's Meteorological Department needs and a survey of the records being digitized at the Department.

IV. Results

Following on from the work begun in 2010 both UNEP and UNDP carried on delivering core activities under Programme 21 in 2011 in the areas of natural resource management, support to EPA-SL in the conduct of EIAs, sustainable land management, land tenure policy reform, climate change, and water.

UNEP Objective 1 - improved technical and managerial capacity of EPA-SL

The Environment Protection Agency (EPA-SL) is undergoing a period of intense institutional change and expansion. Whilst EPA-SL is a key actor in revolutionizing Sierra Leone's environmental movement, it still faces discouraging challenges in terms of managing Sierra Leone's resources effectively. To support this, an aim of the UN's joint programme is to help EPA-SL's environmental governance capacity develop beyond the capital, Freetown and increase environmental awareness across the country. The following were achieved;

- UNEP supported the development of EIA license fee regulations: attended Parliamentary hearings on EIA license fee regulation, provided advice to EPA-SL on furthering the legislation.
- 22-24 February 2011 - In collaboration with WWF and EPA-SL, UNEP funded and helped to organize a 3 day training workshop on Strategic Environmental Assessment. This was held at the Shangri-La hotel in Freetown and attended by c. 90 participants from a range of backgrounds and locations. All the major government ministries were represented and participants came from across the country. Trainers for the workshop participated in 2 x 1 hour-long discussion programmes on SEA at SLBC. Prior to UNEP facilitated and participated in a sensitization trip with EPA-SL to visit Bo, Kenema and Kailahun in the far east of the country to inform participants about the upcoming workshop and EPA-SLs work more generally.
- UNEP Participated in the initial and follow-up meetings of the Steering Group for the World Bank's Extractive Industry Technical Assistance Project (EITAP).
- UNEP Supported the Review of the National Environmental Action Plan and set up a Scientific Advisory Group that gives their comments of the review before the final draft as it at its finishing point and also did consultations on the State of the Environment Report (SOER).
- UNEP submitted draft guidelines for EIAs in mining, forestry and infrastructure to EPA-SL.
- UNEP supported the development of an awareness-raising programme for the 50th Anniversary celebrations in April including 500 person march through Freetown and extensive press coverage.
- UNEP supported environmental awareness raising by distributing books and printing 40 x gallery quality images of Sierra Leone.

UNEP Objective 2 - Improved land and water resource management in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone's water resources are threatened by population growth, increased industrial and unsustainable mining activities in some parts of the country, deforestation causing soil erosion, threats to inland valley swamps and wetlands; pollution of rivers, among others. At the same time land degradation (slash and burn agriculture and deforestation) is a serious problem (4% of the original forest cover remains and few areas are protected) and is linked to water availability. The overall aim would be to implement principles of integrated land and water resource management (ILWRM) in the context of the need to adapt to climate change.

- Continued engagement with the land reform process
- Engagement with SLIEPA around determining water rights.

UNDP/ UNEP Objective 3 - Improved planning in place to respond to climate change

Sierra Leone is expected to lose between USD 600 million and USD 1.1 billion annually in crop revenues by the end of the century if climate change projections materialize. There is a need to improve and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of disaster management and

risk reduction, most particularly in relation to natural hazards – droughts and floods – that will be intensified by climate change. This objective focused on improving Sierra Leone’s national institutional and human resource capacity to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change improved as well as capacity development of the Meteorological Department data collection and analysis. Building on work completed in 2010 this included:

- The contract for the installation of six automatic weather stations and training of staff at the Sierra Leone Meteorological Department (SLMD) on the calibration and operations of the equipment was awarded to the United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UK Met).
- This was followed by a visit of a two-man team from the UK Meteorological Office to Sierra Leone to conduct a pre-installation visit and sites inspection. Accompanied by staff of the UNDP and the SLMD, six sites were selected (Fourah Bay College, Njala University, Kenema, Rokupr, Kabala and Lungi) for the installation of automatic weather stations. The Lungi and the head office of the SLMD will be equipped with monitor displays where data from the other stations will be collected.
- Eight staff of the SLMD was also selected to be trained by the UK Met Office on operational processes of the automatic weather stations and as technicians/forecasters for future radio broadcasts and developing real-time tailored weather forecasts for selected customers. The installation of weather stations commences in February 2012.
- A total of twenty-eight (28) staff was recruited by the SLMD to enhance the operational capacity of the department. These new staff will be trained to take over the operations of the department as technicians, operations, forecasters etc. these new staff were sent to the different sections of the department and will be trained on the operations and repairing of equipment while others will be trained as meteorologists, technicians etc.
- The digitizations of hard copies of weather data have been completed. Data from the ten old weather stations were digitized with records dating as far back as 1870s. The digitized data will be sent to the UK Met for further analyses.
- Ongoing discussion with the government on the establishment of a climate change secretariat; there has been active participation of GoSL in regional and global climate change activities to incorporate best practices in the eventual Climate Change Secretariat. The mandate to handle climate changes issues have been given to the Environment Protection agency and it is hoped that the secretariat will be established in 2012.
- Coordination and monitoring and evaluation of present GEF projects; the usual coordination of GEF and other environment projects are ongoing. Two climate change related projects were submitted to the GEF by UNDP.
- The project “Building the adaptive capacity of water supply services to climate change in Sierra Leone” which seeks to enhance the adaptive capacity of decision-makers in the public and private sector involved in water provision to plan for and respond to climate change risks on water resources has been approved by the GEF and will commence in 2012.

V. Future Work Plan

UNEP and UNDP will carry on delivering core activities under Programme 21 in 2012.

VI. Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACP	Advisory Committee for Procurement
EFA	Environmental Foundation for Africa
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERSG	Executive Representative to the Secretary General
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoSL	Government of Sierra Leone
MAFFS	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security
MDAs	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MLCPE	Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
SAIEA	Southern African Institute of Environmental Assessment
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SLBC	Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation
SLEPA	Sierra Leone Environment Protection Agency
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
WHO	World Health Organisation
SLMD	Sierra Leone Meteorological Department
WWF	World Wildlife Fund