**Sierra Leonean MDTF**

**ANNUAL programme NARRATIVE progress report**

**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 january – 31 December 2010**

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| Programme Title & Number |  | Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s) |
| Programme Title: Rural Community EmpowermentProgramme Number: UNJV Programme 18MDTF Office Atlas Number:* 00075576 Rural Community UNDP
* 00075578 Rural Empowerment FAO
* 00075577 Empowering PLH UNAIDS
* 00075580 Gender-based Violence UNFPA
* 00075579 Solar Powered Business Platforms, UNIDO
* 00075581 Support Rural UN Women
 | * Sierra Leone, country wide
* Joint Vision Priority Area 2: Integrating Rural Areas into the National Economy
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| --- | --- | --- |
| Participating Organization(s) |  | Implementing Partners |
| UNDP (co-lead)FAO (co-lead)UNAIDSUNFPAUNIDOUN Women | * Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) Smallholder Commercialization Programme
* Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
* Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
* Ministry of Internal Affairs
* Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs
* Ministry of Health and Sanitation
* Local Councils
* Civil Society Organizations
* Traditional and Religious Leaders
* Network Of HIV Positives in Sierra Leone (NETHIPS)
* Council of Women Councilors
* Sierra Leone Female Parliamentarians (SLFPAC)
* NGOs
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| Programme/Project Cost (US$) |  | Programme Duration (months) |
| MDTF Fund Contribution: UNDP $396,000FAO $554,400UNAIDS $142,560UNFPA $158,400UNIDO $158,400UN Women $158,400 |  |  | Overall Duration | 31 December 2012 |
|  |  |  | Start Date of Projects | 24 June 2010 |
| Agency Contribution*N/A* |  |  | Revised End Date of Projects | 31 March 2011 |
| Other Contribution (donor)*N/A* |  |  | Operational Closure Date of Programme | 31 December 2012 |
| TOTAL: $ 1,568,160.00 |  |  | Expected Financial Closure Date  | 30 April 2013 |

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| Programme Assessments/Mid-Term Evaluation |  | Submitted By |
| Assessment Completed - if applicable *please attach* Yes No Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Mid-Evaluation Report *– if applicable please attach* Yes No Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Name: Florence ContehTitle: Programme OfficerParticipating Organization (co-Lead): FAOEmail address: florence.conteh@fao.org |

# Purpose

UN Joint Vision programme 18 was designed to ensure participation of rural men and women in community-based development programmes that affect their livelihoods, such as access to adult education, market opportunities, communication networks and financial services through community-level and district-level support centres and farmer schools. The programme will also assist communities to upgrade local markets and assist in the negotiations for better and more secure access to traditional land in rural and town areas. The programme will ensure that gender equity and women’s empowerment issues are mainstreamed in decision-making and service delivery. UNDP will focus on the strategy and financing of the services while the other UN agencies will focus on the delivery of the service.

Six projects received funding from the MDTF under this programme, namely Rural Community Empowerment (UNDP), Rural Empowerment (FAO), Empowering People Living with HIV – Support Groups in Rural Settings (UNAIDS), Community Empowerment to Reduce Gender-Based Violence and Maternal Health Complication (UNFPA), Solar Powered Business Information and Communication Platforms (UNIDO) and Supporting Rural Women in Capacity Building through Leadership Skills Training and Community Development (UN Women). Sharing the common goal of integrating rural areas into the national economy, the achievements and progress of these projects will be presented under each heading below.

Specific outputs and deliverables of the MDTF-funded projects under this programme are:

Rural Community Empowerment-UNDP

The project aimed to increase and enhance access to information and connectivity in rural communities. In pursuant of this objective, the project embarked on increasing lines of communication and information into rural communities through the introduction of the schools education programmes via satellite TV. It enabled Senior Secondary Schools to have access to global education programmes via satellite TV to achieve improved connectivity (internet and satellite TV) in rural communities facilitated by public private partnership.

The project was based on a public-private partnership between UNDP and Multichoice International (SL) Limited. In addition to this and in conjunction with the recent government tender for solar powered street lights, the project helped stimulate the private sector to become more engaged and aware of renewable energy alternatives. The project directly contributed to the achievement of outcomes set out in the Sierra Leone Education Development Plan (2007 - 2015) by targeting Senior Secondary Schools. The plan set out to improve the quality of Senior Secondary education nationwide through support to the overall enhancement of the quality of teaching and learning environments, characterized by the following improvements;

* Schools with more aides and teacher guides that are in use;
* Partnerships with companies providing internet facilities;
* Provision of a television and DVD recorder/player for viewing ‘master teachers’ sample lessons;
* Provision of solar power facilities to each school.

This intervention was carried out alongside the installment of satellite TV in 150 Agriculture Business Centres (ABUs) implemented by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

Rural Empowerment-FAO

This component was to strengthen local leadership and to encourage them to take a more active role in community-based actions – the essence of empowerment. The planned leadership forums were linked to community actions in collaborations with UNDP, UNAIDS, UNHCR UNFPA, UN WOMEN and UNIDO. These actions were thus linked to the national activities of the SCP. Specifically, during the period of the project, local leaders received support to undertake local community actions motivated through aspects of the leadership programme and related government actions. A measurable change in knowledge, attitude and practices was visible even during this short period of the DAO but also expressed through their related government and community supported activities with the following outcomes and objectives;

* Outcome 1: Paramount chief’s and local council leaders engaged in policy debates in a structured manner.
* Outcome 2: Implementation of community identified actions programme for rural development.
* Outcome 3: Improved sense of self-determination, dignity and positive future

Ultimately this portion of Program 18 is an example of the social development of a nation through the empowerment and training of its future and current rural leadership.

Empowering PLHIV – Support Groups in Rural Settings-UNAIDS

The purpose of the project was to empower and accelerate the socio-economic self-sufficiency of existing PLHIV (People living with HIV) Support Groups within Rural Communities through improved employment opportunities and income generating activities fitting in with and making use of local resources. In line with the UN Joint Vision for Sierra Leone (Strategic UN Framework for Sierra Leone) the project was guided by the UN Joint Vision benchmarks of the JV programme priority Integrating Rural Areas

It is also important to note that in line with UNAIDS mandate to support the Three Ones Principles, the Project worked within existing national frameworks on HIV including: One Policy Framework; One Coordinating Mechanism and One Monitoring and Evaluation system; in particular guided by the National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2006-2010 objective 9.1.: Improve the capacity of families (boys, girls, women and men) and communities to provide care and support for PLHIV.

The project involved a two-track approach, on the one hand providing direct seed funds for income generating and livelihood activities, on the other hand, identified PLHIV Support Groups were supported with appropriate administrative training and their capacities strengthened with proper management and implementation skills. More specifically the project deliverables include:

* Eight PLHIV Support Groups (40 People) trained in administrative, financial and operational management
* Eight PLHIV Support Groups (40 People) located nationwide provided with direct seed funds for income generating activities

Against both the project deliverables and the overall guiding objectives the intended outcomes for the project included:

Outcome 1: PLHIV Family income increased by 40% in real terms

Outcome 2: Enhanced knowledge/skills of PLHIV in administrative, financial and operational management

Community Empowerment to reduce Gender-based Violence and Maternal Health Complication-UNFPA

The implementation of the project focused on the following:

Planning meetings: Stakeholders planning meetings were held in districts of implementation, bringing together regional government relevant Ministries, Departments and agencies, local councils, CSOs and traditional and religious leaders. The planning meetings informed all the stakeholders about the purpose of the community empowerment program, discussed and agreed on implementation modalities.

Training: Trainings on the Prevention and community response to GBV and promoting maternal health was conducted for about 500 TBAs in Bo, Bombali, Koinadugu districts and Western Rural area. These TBAs were organized in advocacy groups for GBV prevention and referral of pregnant women to health facilities.

Support with outreach items: The chiefdom community advocacy groups were supported with outreach and advocacy materials such as: MP3 VCD/CD players, megaphones, touch lights, batteries and advocacy CDs.

Support to community advocacy programs: financial support was provided through the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs and CSOs and community door to door sensitization was carried out by the trained and established advocacy groups.

Sensitization forum for Traditional and Religious Leaders: Over 100 Traditional and religious leaders were sensitized on GBV and the implications for maternal health. These leaders are expected to educate their constituencies on GBV and maternal mortality related issues.

Monitoring: The Gender Regional Officers in collaboration with the District Medical Health Teams led the monitoring of the implementation by the advocacy groups in the communities. The UNFPA office received reports from the Regional Gender Officers and was also in contact with the community groups and CSOs on the progress of the pilot program.

Solar Powered Business Information and Communication Platforms-UNIDO

This project aimed to contribute to the efforts of providing wide economic and social opportunities by means of a Solar-powered Business Information and Communication (BIC) platform that would reduce the isolation felt by the rural population and provide greater access to information and communication as well as other productive uses of the renewable energy. The solar power installations were used to power computers and all-in-one printer/copier/scanners, freezers for food preservation, charging solar lanterns for domestic use at homes, and charging of mobile phones.

The selected locations for the intervention were the respective UNIDO-supported Growth Centre facilities in Binkolo, Bo, Pujehun, Kpandebu, Koindu and Newton.

Outputs of the project relate to the UN Joint vision deliverables of:

* 18.5.1 Communication hubs established and integrated into growth/community production centers in each rural district
* 18.5.2 Each hub provided access to the internet (and to satellite TV), market and other technical information; pay phone and/or money transfer services; non-formal education and entertainment services
* 18.5.3 Each hub connected to a national Youth Platform; a web-based tool to enhance networking, participation, information/knowledge sharing, and to generate ideas and recommendations amongst youth and between community members and other stakeholders or leaders.
* 18.5.4 Renewable energy supply systems (e.g. solar) installed for each communication hub as autonomous green energy units/business models.

These above outputs aimed to contribute to the UN joint vision outcome of Integrating Rural Areas into the National Economy which have access to community growth centers that can provide basic communication services including internet where possible. It also involved giving farmers (youth & women) basic information about markets, prices, weather conditions, etc. It also gave access to TV programs, including educational programs (HIV/AIDS & non-gender based violence, health talks, knowledge in agricultural practices, related technologies, management practices & entrepreneurship and other cross-cutting themes) and entertainment channels.

Supporting Rural Women in Capacity Building through leadership skills training and community development-UN Women

UN Women’s (UNIFEM’s) contribution to the programme was particularly aimed at increasing and improving rural women’s community involvement and access to local government fora. Women who occupy an inferior status in these rural communities are more marginalized and experience a higher degree of discrimination, exclusion and abuse than women in urban areas. Being largely governed under customary laws (which are mostly unwritten) whose fundamental principle is men’s superiority over women; women are discriminated against in the economic, social as well as the political spheres. They are excluded from decision making processes and discriminated against in land ownership and thus inhibiting their economic capacities.

The main expected outcomes/objectives of the project were:

* Increased rural women’s community involvement and access to local government fora
* Improved dialogue and cooperation of rural women and councilors on development programs at all levels.

Main outputs included:

* Financial and technical support to rural women’s organizations provided;
* Support to 100 rural women leaders from across the country to attend leadership skills training provided;
* 14 district Women’s Town hall meetings on community development programs and women’s involvement organized and supported

# Resources

***Financial Resources:***

The Joint Vision Programme 18 has a total budget for 2009/10 of US$ US$ 3 635,000, of which US$ 1 568,160 were received through the MDTF. That funding constituted the only funding source for the projects under this programme, except that of UNDP which sourced an additional $2 million for its contribution to the JV Programme 18.

Rural Community Empowerment- UNDP

The total amount of 346,000 USD was approved as the 2010 budget. The resources are allocated for the provision of TVs, DVD recorders/players and Solar Panel Voltaic Cells (SPVCs) modules to thirty (30) Senior Secondary Schools across the country.

Rural Empowerment Project-FAO

All funding allocated to support this project was from the Delivering as One fund through the SL-MDTF totaling 554,000 USD. A major challenge was that the project did not have access to financial resources until middle of September because in delays in the transfer of funds from headquarters. Administration and logistics had to occur over a three week period. Given the short turn around, administrative support should have been reinforced with key administrative staff assigned for the allotted time period.

Empowering PLHIV-UNAIDS

All funding allocated to support this project was from the Delivering as One fund through the SL-MDTF. Due to administrative procedures required by UNAIDS HQ to facilitate transfer of funds from the MDTF Office through UNAIDS HQ to the UNAIDS Country Office (UCO), the funds transfer took a prolonged period of time. The UCO first informed UNAIDS HQ of the funds transfer on July 2nd 2010 but following a number of protracted procedures the funds did not actually arrive in country until the September 16th 2010 which presented some challenges for full implementation within the agreed time period, by December 31st 2010. In keeping with enhancing the capacity and greater involvement of NETHIPS (The Network of HIV Positives in Sierra Leone), the project was designed that NETHIPS would act as the principal recipient of the funds.

Gender-Based Violence-UNFPA

The total amount of money received from MDTF for the Gender-Based Violence activities is $158,400. The transfer was done through UNFPA Resource Mobilization Branch (RMB) in New York. RMB created a fund code after going through some administrative procedures that usually create some delays in establishing the project account and depositing the fund in the account for easy access by UNFPA Sierra Leone. The Country Office allocated the budget to the project activities in line with the approved project document to conduct training, sensitization on GBV and maternal mortality related matters, and monitoring of the implementation. The project was implemented over the six months duration.

Solar Powered Business Platforms-UNIDO

The total amount of money received from MDTF was 158,000 USD. As considerable time was needed to rewrite the project document into UNIDO’s format as well as to pass it through the required three-stage approval process, actual implementation of the project was initiated three months later in October 2010.

Supporting Rural Women-UN Women

The implementation of some of the activities in this project has experienced serious challenges in the area of bureaucracy in the transfer of funds from the headquarters through the regional office and country office. There have also been recorded incidences of bottle necks with partners agreeing with contents of agency agreement for the implementation of projects. For example there was delay with parliament signing the agreement on behalf of the Female Parliamentary Caucus, because they could not agree with the clauses on financial management and auditing in the UN Women Letter of Agreement. There is need for better coordination and understanding with partners to avoid delays in implementation.

***Human Resources:***

Rural Community Empowerment-UNDP

A Field Officer had the responsibility to engage with all key stakeholders including implementing partners and project beneficiaries.

Rural Empowerment-FAO

There was one primary staff member who handled all aspects of implementation: the Programme 18 Forum Coordinator. Under the overall supervision of the FAO Representative and in close collaboration with the Programme 18 partner heads of agencies, the Programme 18 Coordinatorplanned, prepared and oversaw the implementation of Stage I and Stage III of the national forums including assisting with all logistics, contacting participants, liaising with all event contractors, maintained a daily work plan and informed Programme 18 heads of agencies of progress on weekly basis.The program 18 Coordinator assisted all agencies in communications and visibility for Stage II activities for field actions including liaise with newspaper, radio and SLBC TV.The Coordinatorarranged for report preparation and printing on Stage I and III Forums and Stage II community activities including photographic and other materials and completed the final report of activities of activities undertaken.

Empowering PLHIV-UNAIDS

Resources were allocated towards a national project coordinator. This was critical as the newly established project required constant supervision and support including field trips, phone calls, etc. the project coordinator provided this support as they are directly focused on facilitating the effective implementation of the project. Resources were also allocated to support capacity trainings of sub-recipients (Eight PLHIV Support Groups) with appropriate skills to support project implementation. Funds were also allocated to support NETHIPS logistic and administrative cost in facilitating project implementation. From previous experience the UCO had found that without such support NETHIPS ability to implement, monitor and supervise the project may be compromised, the UCO was also aware that as principal recipient NETHIPS increased responsibility necessitated full support and leverage to be wholly committed to the successful implementation of the project.

Gender-Based Violence-UNFPA

The implementation of this project was facilitated by two National Program Officers, one from the Gender and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights Component, and another from the Reproductive Health Rights Component with technical backup support from the Gender Affairs national Officer from UNIPSIL. Two national finance staff provided support in the areas of financial disbursement and management. There was technical guidance by two international Staff (the Representative, and Coordinator of the UN program in the Country Office), particularly on having a focus on the expected results and reporting details. The two Regional Gender Officers in the South and Northern Regional were the lead persons that facilitated the actual implementation in the communities, beginning from planning to mobilization of the participants and civil society organizations.

Solar Powered Business Platforms-UNIDO

One National consultant (Solar Expert) was recruited to work with the international consultant to develop required installation design, based on structural plans of each centre as well as actual installation of solar system and appliances, and training of operators for the system.

One project manager was hired to oversee project implementation; one ITC expert to carryout installation and establishment of BIC Information and communication at each centre, and to support monitoring of platform operations. These two national staff were being paid from other UNIDO projects. UNIDO recruited one international consultant who worked with a staff from UNIDO H/Q in Vienna to undertake initial assessment and to develop design for subsequent installation.

Supporting Rural Women-UN Women

The National Programme officer for UN Women (national staff) had the responsibility to engage with implementing partners for the successful implementation of the project. The Country Programme Manager for UN Women (international staff) provided the general guidance and oversight of the project and its successful implementation.

# Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

Rural Community Empowerment-UNDP

The project sought to achieve its objectives through a public-private partnership between UNDP and Multichoice International (SL) Limited to provide the schools with educational TV programming at no cost as part of the company’s Community Social Initiatives programme. For this project, Multichoice International provided: The DSTV channels (in perpetuity); Training of sixty (60) teachers; The decoder fee (Free On Board); The satellite dish, cables and installation (USD 100 per school); The installation of the equipment (including the solar equipment).UNDP will procured, through competitive tendering, the following equipments for the schools: Thirty (30) 32-inch HD plasma TVs; Thirty (30) DVD recorders/players; Forty (40) solar panels, inverters, batteries and cables.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) has approved the satellite TV channels from an educational point of view. The beneficiary Senior Secondary Schools were selected by MEST who are also responsible for arranging for the schools to take full responsibility of the care and maintenance of the system. The solar powered system was designed by technicians from the Ministry of Energy and Power and verified by the technical expert from UNIDO. The system will be powered by solar generated electricity and as a result, will have no operating costs and will be powered by solar generated electricity. Thus, once installed, there will be no operational costs. The only envisaged cost will be the replacement of a new battery once every three years.

It is estimated that the funds will be sufficient to cover the costs for the set-up of the educational programming via satellite TV for thirty (30) schools. The final number of schools covered will depend on the actual cost of the solar equipment, as this is the most expensive item to be procured.

Due to limited local knowledge and availability of renewable solar power energy systems, including the specifications of the components of the SPVCs and accessories, the contracts for the procurement of forty (40) bulk SPVC modules and the training of sixty (60) teaching staff and installation processes was tendered in September 2010 to the Global Procurement Unit, UNDP Procurement Support Office (PSO) in Copenhagen. The procurement process has nonetheless been very slow and was still ongoing at the end of 2010.

The international procurement has a budget of 260,000 USD. This has not yet been spent and as a result, the project’s delivery rate is very low (28%). The other equipments such as the 32 inch HD Plasma TVs and DVD recorders/players required for the setting up of the system were procured during 2010 and are ready to be installed in early 2011. The provision of the Multichoice International DSTV decoders, installation, and training of personnel is the responsibility of DSTV Multichoice Transnational (SL) Limited and will be carried out in 2011.

UNDP Sierra Leone and Sierra Leone in general lacks technical expertise in renewable energy alternatives, such as solar power. This situation resulted in the back and forth request for clarifications on the specifications submitted by UNDP Sierra Leone to UNDP’s PSO in Copenhagen and intended bidders. As a result of the lack of technical expertise in solar power in Sierra Leone, the 2011 work plan includes the recruitment of an expert in solar energy to monitor the installation and use of the solar power equipment in the thirty (30) Senior Secondary Schools.

Project monitoring and reporting is carried out as per the UN Joint Vision joint M&E system.

The effective monitoring for the successful implementation of the project is the joint effort of UNDP, MEST and Multichoice International (SL) Limited and each entity monitors its own project components. Effective and efficient coordination mechanisms including stakeholders at all levels, such as bi-weekly monitoring of the installation and later, the full operation of the system, will remain crucial for the duration of the project. UNDP, in collaboration with the MEST and Ministry of Works, Housing and Infrastructure (MHWI), have identified, informed and inspected thirty (30) Senior Secondary Schools across all the districts in Sierra Leone, including the Western Rural and Urban areas.

Rural Empowerment-FAO

The objective of the forums was to encourage rural development and integration through the empowerment of Sierra Leones rural local leaders and local champions. Empowerment of these rural local leaders and champions during the leadership forums would occur through exposure to global issues which can then be applied to their ongoing community based actions. There was an acknowledgement by the national government and UN agencies during project inception that there is limited access to global information, knowledge about global issues and more importantly success stories of local community-led action programmes elsewhere. Rural local leaders and champions were exposed to global best practices which they were then encouraged to integrate into their own innovative process within their respective communities. There was nomination of rural local leaders and local champions from four groups: (i) local traditional leaders such as progressive paramount chiefs and district councilors; (ii) women leaders connected to UNIFEM and UNFPA projects; (iii/iv) Youth: young men and women through the Agricultural Business Centers (SCP project). The structure of the forums also took into consideration the UN Joint Vision by having presentations from the various UN agencies in the program in the morning session and facilitation in the afternoon. UNDP, UNAIDS, UNHCR UNFPA, UN Women and UNIDO made presentations about global success stories on a variety of global issues that affect rural communities. It was ensured that the UN agencies would provide participants with tangible information about the issues which they could go back and integrate into their community led actions. For example UNIDO spoke on solar energy and informed the participants of opportunities on how they too could access this. In addition, UNIDO informed the young men and women about a new Solar Energy College Institute which intends to train installation and operations specialists to be based in rural areas.

Empowering PLHIV-UNAIDS

The project was managed under the overall coordinating responsibility of the UNAIDS Country Office (UCO) in close collaboration with the National AIDS Secretariat. Both the development and implementation of the project was conducted in partnership with the Executive of the Network of HIV Positives in Sierra Leone (NETHIPS).

A national project coordinator was recruited by NETHIPS to support project implementation in particular ongoing supervision support for sub-recipients (the coordinator has submitted 2 progress reports and is in the process of completing a full ‘end of cycle’ project report. As per the TOR the National Coordinator was responsible to:

* Undertake Consultative Meetings with each of the individual PLHIV Support groups (identified as sub-recipients) and develop a baseline assessment to guide the implementation the livelihoods programmes
* Assist with necessary procurement for programme equipment, supplies and services
* Provide administrative/logistical support for meetings, field trips, workshops, etc
* Provide ongoing support in identifying capacity challenges and corresponding capacity building activities for programme sub-recipients (administrative and financial)
* Contribute to the production of mid-term and final programme reports to UNAIDS Country Office

The national coordinator experienced in both livelihood activities and working with PLHIV proved to be very effective in performing the responsibilities as per the TOR, in particular by undertaking ongoing field visits with findings and recommendations he reported back to NETHIPS and UNAIDS.

Project Guidance/Partnership: As part of UNAIDS mandate to strengthen multi-sectoral partnership and utilize comparative advantage, a link was merged between The Business Coalition on AIDS in Sierra Leone (BCAASL) and NETHIPS with the aim of providing technical assistance and expert guidance to NETHIPS on the overall project implementation and ongoing monitoring and evaluation, more specifically BCAASL support focused on:

* Technical guidance for the proposal (Market study i.e. what will or won’t work, production planning, materials/equipment required, capital cost/financial planning, operating costs etc)
* Technical guidance to the principal recipient (NETHIPS) on monitoring and supervision of small grants aimed at livelihood activities for vulnerable populations such as People living with HIV
* Technical guidance identifying appropriate activities considering the market dynamics and local resources (Agricultural production, Processing, Handicraft, Commercial activities)

To initiate the process BCAASL advised NETHIPS to conduct an assessment of each of the identified eight PLHIV support groups, collecting the relevant data to serve as a baseline for designing their respective livelihood activities work-plans, this activity was completed by NETHIPS with support from the project coordinator.

Monitoring and Evaluation: The UNAIDS Country office took overall responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation of the project. To begin with an ‘inception report’ outlining key actions, partners, timelines, disbursement of funds, site visits, was developed by NETHIPS and the project coordinator and then shared with the UCO.

Throughout the project the coordinator (as per the TOR) shared monthly reports on the status of the livelihood activities to UNAIDS and the NETHIPS Executive. A Final project report has yet to be completed by the coordinator and NETHIPS, to be validated by UNAIDS and shared with key partners including the Joint UN Team on AIDS, National AIDS Secretariat and the Expanded Technical Working Group on AIDS

Monthly field supervision visits were carried out by the project coordinator although sometimes more frequent particularly to those groups experiencing some challenges with implementation. Two supervision visits were conducted by UCO staff accompanied by NETHIPS to each of the PLHIV Support Groups and partners. It is important to note that while conducting the supervision visits both the coordinator NETHIPS and UNAIDS would also spend time advocating and engaging at district level with traditional authorities to facilitate smooth progress of implementation.

To attempt to measure the impact of the project interventions a basic baseline assessment was conducted prior to implementation for the 8 PLHIV Support Groups. The assessment conducted by NETHIPS with support from the coordinator aimed to capture each individual beneficiary’s income and skills level prior to implementation of the project.

A final follow up assessment is to be completed following the end of the project cycle (March 31st 2011).

Gender-Based Violence-UNFPA

Planning meetings: Stakeholders planning meetings were held in districts of implementation, bringing together regional government relevant Ministries, Departments and agencies, local councils, CSOs and traditional and religious leaders. The planning meetings informed all the stakeholders about the purpose of the community empowerment program, discussed and agreed on implementation modalities.

Training: Trainings on the Prevention and community response to GBV and promoting maternal health was conducted for about 500 TBAs in the districts of Bo, Bombali and Koinadugu respectively, and the Western Rural Area.

Support with outreach items: The chiefdom community advocacy groups were supported with outreach and advocacy materials such as: MP3 VCD/CD players, megaphones, torch lights, batteries and advocacy compact discs.

Support to community advocacy programs: financial support was provided through the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs and CSOs. Community door-to-door sensitization was carried out by the trained and established advocacy groups.

Sensitization forum for Traditional and Religious Leaders: Over 100 Traditional and religious leaders were sensitized on GBV and the implications for maternal health.

Monitoring: The Gender Regional Officers in collaboration with the District Medical Health Teams are leading the monitoring of the implementation by the advocacy groups in the communities. The UNFPA office receives reports from the Regional Gender Officers and is also in contact with the community groups and CSOs on the progress of the pilot program.

Solar Powered Business Platforms-UNIDO

The project was implemented by both national and international staff, under the supervision of the HQ staff and the direct supervision of the UNIDO Head of Operations in Sierra Leone. Following the field assessment, the design for solar installations was developed based on a structural plan for each centre.

Procurement was done according to UNIDO’s standard procedures for decentralised procurement, based on the technical specifications for appliances and solar equipment provided by the experts. All items were supplied locally so as to facilitate post-installation care and maintenance.

Regular consultations were held with Government counterparts and local community stakeholders to foster support and collaboration for successful implementation of the project.

With regards monitoring arrangements, the Growth Centres each have a local management committee (with representatives from Government, civil society, local community) which serves as principal adviser and field monitor. The UNIDO work team conducted periodic field visits before, during and after installation of the solar-powered systems. In addition, each centre has a manager that assists in the day to day operations of the solar equipment and appliances to ensure long-term sustainability.

Supporting Rural Women-UN Women

The programme was implemented in rural communities nation-wide. UN Women partnered with the Female Parliamentary Caucus and the Council of Women Councilors (CWC). The former will, through UN Women support organize women’s town hall meetings on community development programmes countrywide. The CWC had organised women’s leadership training for CWC members and other women leaders in two clusters of seven districts each in Makeni and Bo. The leadership skills training of about 100 rural women’s leaders were organized by Council of Women Councilors with financial and technical support from UN Women. This involved the hiring of qualified training consultants who carried out the training of target beneficiaries.

UN Women UN Women also collaborated with FAO who supported ward committee members for the leadership training.

In addition, UN Women partnered with NGOs to carry out Agricultural/life skills training for rural young women to improve their living standard and for sustainable income generating activities. Support was directed towards procurement of agricultural materials for training of young rural women in the processing and marketing of local food produce.

Furthermore, UN Women provided technical support to the Council of Women Councilors in the organization of the leadership training and witnessed both trainings in the North and South regions. The other activities supported under this project (14 district Women’s Town hall meetings on community development programs and women’s involvement and livelihood support skills for young rural women) are ongoing. These activities will be jointly monitored by UN Women, the district councils and the partners. An M&E plan has been developed for these projects which are based on inputs/outputs model. Activities will be monitored against their results.

# Results

Rural Community Empowerment-UNDP

UNDP partnered with Multichoice International (SL) Limited, UNIDO, MEST, MHWI, District Education Inspectorate Offices, Principals of Senior Secondary Schools and other private companies in the planning and implementation process of the school satellite TV education project in 2010.

In relation to the planned output, the following was achieved in 2010:

*Activity 1. The procurement of 32” HD Plasma TVs and DVD recorders:*

UNDP Sierra Leone’s Project Implementation Support Unit (PISU) approved and awarded the procurement and supply of the thirty (30) DVD recorders/players and thirty (30) 32 inch HD Plasma TVs for the targeted selected schools countrywide in 2010.

*Activity 2. Supply, training and installation of bulk SPVC modules and accessories****:***

The contracts for the supply and installation of the SPVC modules and accessories as well as the training for sixty (60) staff of the targeted Senior Secondary Schools countrywide were not tendered in 2010 as the evaluation process is yet to be completed. The results of the evaluation process will be submitted to the UNDP HQ Advisory Committee for Procurement (ACP) and later UNDP Sierra Leone for recommendations and award of contract.

*Activity 3. Procurement of additional equipment (TVs, DVD recorders and blank DVD RWs):*

This activity is dependent on the successful delivery and installation of the SPVC modules and accessories which have not yet arrived. This activity is therefore expected to be completed in 2011. There was also delay in the arrival of the TVs and DVD recorders/players, which finally reached Sierra Leone in December 2010. However, this delay did not adversely affect project implementation since clarifications with UNDP’s global PSO were still ongoing with regard to the design and specifications for the Invitation to Bid exercise to commence. The supplies have been placed under the safekeeping of UNDP in the case of the DVD recorders, and the supplier, Razpec, in the case of the TVs. The majority of the items are therefore in-country and are ready for installation works to commence in early 2011.

Rural Empowerment-FAO

“Leadership especially for those dwelling in rural areas do not have the required training and sensitization that will capacitate them to better understand their roles and responsibilities in their different communities and how they should work with these communities to build social cohesion which is very necessary for rural and national development especially in the agricultural sector.”

Abdul Kamara, Youth Leader Port Loko District Nov 2010

In a changing world, leadership is exceptionally important to keep rural communities thriving. However, with changes come opportunities for growth as well as all other areas of concern. Participants from the UN Joint Vision 2010 Leadership Forums agreed that the leadership forum had indeed enhanced their knowledge of global issues and best practices to address some of these issues. Pre and post forum assessment showed that participants were now more aware of the global issues highlighted by the various UN presenters that could impact leadership and communities. However, they emphasized that to maintain the health, sustainability, vibrancy and well-being of their communities there is a need to develop current and emerging leaders. The following also resulted from the forums;

* + Implementation of leadership forums separately for traditional leaders and district council leaders, women leaders, young men and young women in line with Outcome 1.
	+ Community based activities through local action planning and implementation by each forum participant but related to their linkages to the SCP and other community projects, in line with Output 2.
	+ An improved sense of self determination was achieved by participants in addition to a strong sense of pride for Sierra Leone and positive outlook for the future despite challenges, falling in line with Outcome 3. This Output was measured through a pre and post KAP test.

In addition to the results, the following recommendations were made;

*The Role of Women*

1. Participants agreed that women’s role in agriculture is well accepted nationally; the aftermath of the war and increasing out-migration from rural communities of youth has led to an increase in feminization in agriculture sector. However, majority of women do not have ownership over land and other means of production. Therefore, women are not recognized as autonomous farmers and their participation is limited to the production and not on ownership and decision. This lack of access undermines women’s entrepreneurship competence and leadership position.
2. National policy provisions are subtle in the inclusion of women in the production and market processes. However, access to necessary means of production such as land, credit, information, technology are either very limited or isolated even when efforts are made. There is therefore a dire need for reorientation of the understanding of inclusive agricultural development where women's leadership is recognized and ensured.

*Rural Human Resources*

1. A key issue raised by participants is the need to expose community leaders to empowerment initiatives. They urge UN agencies to invest in human infrastructure in the rural communities. People are a community’s most essential resource, without which development cannot happen. Community and organization leaders must be well prepared with broad-based knowledge and leadership skills and understanding to participate in local, provincial, national and international discussions. Rural communities need resources to develop the capacity of their people to meet current economic challenges, and capitalize on new opportunities.

*Emphasis on Youth Development*

1. It was quite evident that the young people (those who met the selection criteria) were more engaged and better suited to benefit and articulate the goals and objectives of the Joint Vision Training Forum. This observation suggests that there is a need for more engagement in leadership and empowerment opportunities for young people in Sierra Leone. Furthermore, there ought to be an adequate and effective oversight mechanism that would ensure that when young people are provided opportunities for empowerment that the program beneficiary is consistent with the target population.

*A Monitoring Culture*

1. A peer mentoring system and the introduction of a culture of monitoring, evaluation, self-assessment and accountability is needed. During the visioning exercise, much was said about monitoring of NGOs and other organizations but monitoring did not feature in the community project proposals that were developed

*Team Building and Promotion of National Identity*

1. There was overwhelming evidence from the evaluation participants had a strong sense of pride for Sierra Leone. On the pre-evaluation questionnaire 34 of 35 respondents attest that they are proud to be Sierra Leoneans (see Annex, figure #4). And in a related question “I would rather live abroad than in Sierra Leone” (Question 2D), 21 of the 35 respondents on the pre-evaluation questionnaire either disagreed or strongly disagreed (see Annex, figure #5) while on the post-evaluation 26 of 35 disagreed or strongly disagreed (see Annex, figure #6), showing a slight but important evidence of growth in participants appreciation for their nationality.

Notwithstanding the positive outputs, there was a concern during the visioning activity that suggests that there is need for more team building, national unity, consensus and capacity building effort to assist the young people in actualizing their vision for Sierra Leone. The need for this type of engagement was made obvious when some group members quarreled over the site (in what particular region of Sierra Leone) to be selected for their group project. It was evident that some group members were concerned about regionalizing their intervention strategies rather than the preferred interest for nation building and development of national identity. Moreover, members could have also reached a more viable solution if they had employed a better approach to decision-making, grounded in objectivity, inclusiveness and consensus building.

Empowering PLHIV-UNAIDS

With regard to the overall project deliverable – eight PLHIV Support Groups (40 People) located nationwide provided with direct seed funds for income generating activities – this deliverable was successfully completed as each of the eight PLHIV Support Groups received direct seed funds for income generating and livelihood activities.

* No. of beneficiaries in receipt of direct seed funds: 120
* Total amount of funds distributed: $84,000

However, with regard to these project deliverables, two points must be clarified:

First, at project inception it was estimated that approximately five people from each Support Group would directly benefit from the seed funds as this would be the average number of members per livelihood activity. However, during the consultative meetings it became apparent that one activity per group would not be enough; indeed members advocated for three activities per group. Such demands generally stemmed from cliques of existing group members associated through either village or family connections. Furthermore, the women were adamant about undertaking livelihood activities, which they found better suited for them. They expressed reluctance to undertake any collective livelihood activities with men.

Given that the underlying drive of this project was greater involvement of PLHIV, their self-sufficiency and self-determination, it was agreed to distribute the seed funds across a maximum of three activities per support group, although no activity could be undertaken by one person alone there must be a least three persons involved. Subsequently four Support Groups initiated three activities for their groups while the remaining four Support Groups initiated two activities per group. This slight shift in project implementation meant that instead of the original estimated 40 individual beneficiaries there is now approximately 120 individual beneficiaries.

But the question remains on how much the 120 individuals benefitted from the project interventions and this leads us on to our second project output.

*PLHIV Family income increased by 40% in real terms*

The target of 40% increase in family income in real terms was determined through consultations with sister agencies who have considerable experience in income generating income generating activities in Sierra Leone.

However a critical early finding of the project indicates that most PLHIV support groups consider farming, specifically growing food crops and animal husbandry, as a good,
if not the most feasible livelihood activity, as these livelihood activities determine their direct access to food as well as their capacity to purchase food for their household members.

This is an important insight for the UCO and NETHIPS for future design and support to such a project, while originally the PLHIV Support Groups articulated the need for sustainable income generation activities and effective market linkages for them to generate disposal income, when it came to choosing the activity the majority opted for some form of farming, agriculture or animal husbandry. Although all activities can generate disposal income the field reports show that issues of food security and nutritional needs take precedence over immediate income generation.

Nevertheless a number of Support Groups have engaged in trading / retailing by opening provision shops, a bakery and motorbike (taxi service) although these activities provided more opportunity to increase income, they are all capital intensive at this early stage hence the stores and taxi service are obliged to return the bulk of their takings to replenish the Support Group account.

In addition due to the protracted process of receiving the funds in-country (the sub-recipients did not actually receive the seed funds until October 2010) to obtain a more accurate assessment of an increase in income for sub-recipients we require more time, and should be better placed when completing the final assessment (March 31st 2011) to provide more comprehensive data against our performance indicator.

*% of PLHIV with increased income over a 6 month period*

This outcome will require more time for accurate assessment.

*Enhanced knowledge/skills of PLHIV in administrative, financial and operational management*

Key to the project’s success is the training of sub-recipients with focus on administrative training, financial management and implementation skills. Recognizing that for most of the sub-recipients it is their first time undertaking a livelihood activity, therefore in order to facilitate and significantly increase their capacity to manage and implement the project they must be supported with relevant training to enhance their skills in this area.

All of the sub-recipients benefited from 3 days training for each group within their respective districts, the trainings were conducted by an experienced national consultancy firm ARD (Association for Rural Development for Sierra Leone) with a proven track record in working with rural communities to facilitate livelihood activities and small scale business.

A total of 18 members per support group were trained on the grounds that in turn the 18 will train the remaining members of their respective support groups. The trainings covered basic concepts concerning livelihood and income generating activities but were also customized to address the chosen livelihood activities from each support group.

More specifically the trainings focused on the core processes of livelihood activities, including:

1. Organizational systems development, including business planning, costing and pricing, budgeting negotiation, financial management, banking
2. Management tools including registering and replacing stock, maintaining cash book and weekly sales records, conducting inventory and introducing the notion of profit to help recipients calculate their potential earnings and handle accounts

To date, every report received from the sub-recipients has highlighted the value of the training in helping to facilitate their livelihood activities as understanding the basic concepts has brought confidence to the group in dealing with partners, buyers, traders etc,. In addition the tools and systems of book-keeping, sales records etc has significantly helped to limit tensions or conflict between the group’s members as it can be referred to as the overarching guiding system. At the supervisory monitoring visits this point has been raised by sub-recipients who are requesting for further trainings.

Gender-Based Violence-UNFPA

The project has attained the follwoing results:

* 63 community advocacy and mobilization groups formed and currently engaged in community sensitization on preventing GBV and promoting maternal health;
* About 500 community stakeholders’ knowledge of GBV prevention and management and maternal health promotion enhanced;
* Communities involvement and commitment in the prevention of GBV, including reduction on the practice of Female Genital Cutting and maternal complications and deaths mobilised and enhanced;
* About ten cases of fistula were reported for treatment.

Solar Powered Business Platforms-UNIDO

*Installation of equipment and appliances*

The installation of solar system and powered equipments (computers, freezer, fans, audio visual equipment and lighting facilities) is complete for four out of six centres and are fully operational.

*Community-wide access to information*

As a direct result from the establishment of the solar-powered BIC platforms, there has been a massive community-wide attraction to the centre for access to computer and audio-visual training in /exposure to sports for development, HIV/AIDS awareness, non-gender based violence, and other cross-cutting themes. Nearly three thousand youths and community members now visit these (four) rural centres each week to access the installed BIC facilities.

*Sense of empowerment*

This new ‘rural attraction’ not only represents a market opportunity of the growth centers, but adds a sense of empowerment, feeling of enlightenment and active engagement of the local populace with global trends. At the Binkolo Growth Centre for instance, a key observation is the limit in the movement of youth and community members to the city of Makeni as they can now come to the centre to access and use the BIC facilities/service instead of going to Makeni city.

*Computer literacy and continuing education*

The internet connection to aid networking with other centre BIC platforms is yet to be met. This is mainly because an effective server system is yet to be provided nationwide. The available Modem device provided by the cell phone companies is deemed slow and inadequate to run such service. So far operation of the BIC is limited to training of beneficiaries in the use of basic Microsoft Office packages to achieve basic computer literacy. In this regard, it is anticipated that many more youth and women will become computer literate, thereby exposing them to educational and social opportunities.

The accomplishment of the activities within this project has also helped local authorities and centre managers regain confidence once lost in the operational viability of the centers. This was demonstrated by the high level of interest, commitment, support and participation in the project and other centre activities.

Supporting Rural Women-UN Women

UN Women partnered with Council of Women Councilors and FAO to conduct a leadership skills training programme for women councilors and other women leaders in urban and rural communities so as to increase their representation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes in their respective communities. This activity targeted over one hundred women leaders. The training was planned to achieve the following;

* To educate women leaders (CWC) on their respective roles as leaders and how to foster participation and inclusion in decision making processes in their respective localities and at national level.
* Empower women leaders at the local level with relevant techniques such as advocacy/negotiation skills, communication skills, and skills in conducting meetings which will enable them to scale up into higher levels of leadership roles within the governance context in Sierra Leone.
* To engender women representatives in rural and urban communities to understand the concept of good governance and be able to mainstream gender issues in all development efforts undertaken within their localities.

The training was conducted in two locations: Makeni (for participants from all districts in the Northern Province and Western area) and Bo (for participants in all districts from the southern and Eastern Province). Participants included Women councilors, Female ward committee members and other women leaders, a total of about one hundred women benefited from this leadership training.

Among the key topics covered during the trainings were modules on;

* Concept of Leadership ( what leadership involves; Leadership styles; servant leadership; leadership and nation building; etc)
* Concept of Communication (what is communication; effective communication; basic elements of communication; barriers to communication etc)
* Community meetings and its importance ( reasons for holding meetings; types of meetings; meeting procedures; minutes of meetings etc)
* Functions of District Council (functions of local councils; roles and responsibilities of councilors; roles and responsibilities of chiefdom councils etc)
* Proposal writing (“what is a project proposal?”, critical issues to consider when writing a proposal; steps in writing proposals etc.)
* Gender and Leadership (gender equality and gender mainstreaming; gender division of labor in the country.
* Gender and Good Governance (Definition and the need for good governance; Actors in good governance; key elements of good governance).

Participants at this training had the opportunity to understand in-depth the concept of leadership, communications and its various elements. They learnt about proposal writing, the concept of good governance and the roles/functions of the respective district council officials. At the end of the training, most councilors expressed keen interest in scaling up to higher political positions like becoming Members of parliament while others were interested in becoming ministers in the near future. CWC members returned to their communities and held meetings to disseminate all that they have learnt from the training.

The major delays noted in the implementation of this project have been due to the bureaucracy in the disbursement of funds from the UN Women head quarters, through the regional office and the clarification on letters of Agreement especially with government partners.

UN Women have collaborated with government partners, such as the council of women councilors, female parliamentarian caucus, NGO and UN agencies (FAO) to carry out the training for the council of women councilors, ward committees and other local women leaders. The success of this project is built on a longstanding partnership between UN Women and CWCs, this project is complementing an ongoing UN Women support to CWC and Female parliamentarians through the Italian grant funds which supported capacity building visits of the CWC and SLFPAC to South Africa and Rwanda respectively.

The capacity building tour by the female politicians supported them to acquire knowledge, skills and expertise on being effective change agents in their respective communities and further exposed them to the broader gender issues in governance and decision making.

# Future Work Plan

Rural Community Empowerment-UNDP

The following activities and approved funds/expenditures are planned for the first quarter of 2011:

1. Award the contract for the procurement, supply, and installation of the SPVCs and training of sixty (60) staff for thirty (30) Senior Secondary Schools;
2. Provision of a satellite dish, decoders and cables by Multichoice International to the thirty (30) schools;
3. Training of two (2) teachers from each school, totaling sixty (60) teachers, on usage and maintenance of the the satellite TV education programmes.
4. Installation of the satellite dish, DStv decoders, TVs and DVD recoders/players in the thirty (30) senior secondary schools.
5. Procurement of additional equipment (SPVCs, DVDs, satellite dishes, cables and TVs).

If the programme is successful, it will be extended to all senior secondary schools in the country (an additional 110).

Community Empowerment-FAO

It emerged from the visioning exercise that there is currently very little understanding of the role of rural enterprise development in community development. Rural leaders and the local government authorities need to understand the economic benefits that could be derived by providing an enabling rather than an exploitative environment for the development and growth of rural enterprises in their communities. It is recommended that a rural leadership and enterprise forum be conducted as follow-on to the initial forums to increase the understanding of enterprise development as a model for job creation, business development and community revitalization in rural Sierra Leone. This initiative will encourage citizenry participation in shaping their futures through civic engagement and the practical application of sustainable rural development strategies. It will also explore the potential for economic and sustainable growth through agriculture. RULED will examine current status and trends in agriculture and rural life, explore constraints and opportunities, and develop specific action and recommendations. This would lead to a more sustainable, diverse, and economically viable future for Sierra Leone’s agricultural sector and rural communities.

Empowering PLHIV-UNAIDS

The value of the trainings has proved to be one of the most successful components of the project. The contribution of the project in terms of increasing real disposable income will require additional time to fully quantify. Nevertheless the initial phase of the project has proven to be a success, in particular by building the capacity of PLHIV to identify and implement sustainable livelihood activities and by establishing critical partnerships between PLHIV Support Groups with key actors at local level including paramount chiefs, banks, local council’s and District AIDS Committees.

These early indications give the UCO, NETHIPS and NAS the momentum to scale up efforts to support more PLHIV Support Groups (in total there are 40 PLHIV Support Groups nationwide). Indeed it is this dynamic that can help to ensure sustainability of future projects as livelihood activities can be rooted in existing structures and with established PLHIV Support Groups.

However as outlined above the focus of the projects may shift slightly towards livelihood activities with reference to farming, agro business, food security and nutritional support. With a focus on establishing and strengthening relevant partnerships linking PLHIV to Agro Business Centres (ABCs), which can provide the PLHIV Support Groups a direct entry point to market linkages and expert advice on farming, processing, storage, packaging and veterinary services.

With all of the above in mind it is considered appropriate to amend the outcomes to focus on increased nutrition and access to food as opposed to increase in income for example the expected outcome will be:

PLHIV Households enhanced access to and control over sufficient quantities of good quality nutritious food

Gender-Based Violence-UNFPA

Plans for 2011:

* Generating baselines in the chiefdoms and districts of current implementation to ascertain the current situation and determine future progress on the status of GBV, FGC and Reproductive Health.
* Replicate trainings and establishment of community advocacy and outreach groups in the other districts and chiefdoms.
* Provision of advocacy vans for the chiefdom advocacy groups.
* Strengthen the advocacy programs of the already formed 77 advocacy groups.
* Support international exposure visits for the traditional and religious leaders and promoting experience sharing by the community advocacy groups.

Solar Powered Business Information and Communication Platforms-UNIDO

* January –March, 2011: Complete the installation in the remaining two centres. A number of monitoring visits will be made and meetings held with stakeholders to discuss project impact, post-project arrangements that will ensure sustainable management of the BIC platforms alongside the regular production/processing activities in the centre. A special commissioning of the established BIC platform (a case of Binkolo) within the project implementation combined with a certification ceremony for other project beneficiaries will be held in March/April in collaboration with the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Youth Employment and Sports.
* The growth centres still need some assistance to finalize their business plans and professionalize their management and marketing structures. Additional funds are being sought for this purpose.

Supporting Rural Women-UN Women

Three key activities of this project were proposed to be implemented with various stakeholders including Local authorities (the council of women councilors); the Female parliamentarians; and NGOs.

Funds have been disbursed to Council of women councilors for the trainings which were successfully completed for all female councilors and ward committee members. The activities to be implemented by SLFPAC in organizing 14 district Women’s Town hall meetings on community development programs and women’s involvement is planned for the first quarter of 2011. The other activities for the training of young women in various agricultural skills in food processing and marketing with three NGOs have started and will run through the first and second quarter of 2011.

A budget of USD 50,000 had been committed for the activity with the Female Parliamentary caucus, while USD 30,000 has been disbursed to three NGOs for the training of young women in various agricultural skills in food processing and marketing.

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABCs Agro Business Centres

ACP UNDP’s Advisory Committee on Procurement

ARD Association for Rural Development for Sierra Leone

BCAASL Business Coalition Against AIDS in Sierra Leone

CSO Civil Society organisations

CWC Council of Women Councilors

DSA Daily Subsistence Allowance

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GBV Gender-Based Violence

KAP Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP)

LIWITH Living with Hope

MACSA Morturmonyuma HIV & AIDS Care and Support Association

MCSL Methodist Church Sierra Leone

MDTF Multi-Donor Trust Fund

MEST Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

MMR: Maternal Mortality Reduction

MSWGCA Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs

MWHI Ministry of Works, Housing and Infrastructure

NAS National AIDS Secretariat

NETHIPS Network of HIV Positives in Sierra Leone

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

PAGSOH Partnership Action for Grassroots Sensitization on HIV

PISU Project Implementation Support Unit

PLHIV People living with HIV

PRSP Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

PSO Procurement Support Office

SCP Small Holder Commercialization Program

SL-MDTF Sierra Leone Multi-Donor Trust Fund

SLFPAC Sierra Female Parliamentary Caucus

SPVC Solar Panel Voltaic Cells

TA Technical Assistance

TBAs Traditional Birth Attendants

TOR Terms of Reference

UCO UNAIDS Country Office

UNAIDS United Nations AIDS Program

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNIPSL United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone

UNJV United Nations Joint Vision

WATPU Waterloo Progressive Union

**Annex: Participants’ Evaluations at the UN Joint Vision 2010 Leadership Forums**

Figure #4: Participant Response Question #2A

Figure #5: Participant Response Question #2D

 Figure #6: Participant Response Question #2D (Post-Evaluation)