

IRF – PROJECT DOCUMENT



United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)

Project Title: To support efforts to consolidate key human rights activities in partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone. (HRCSL)	Recipient UN Organization(s): OHCHR
Project Contact: OHCHR Desk Officer for Sierra Leone Mr Brian Ruane Address: OHCHR, Geneva Telephone: E-mail:	Implementing Partner(s) – name & type (Government, CSO, etc): Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone Ms. Francess Aghali
Project Number: <i>To be completed by UNDP MPTF Office</i>	Project Location: HRCSL NEC Building Tower Hill Freetown Telephone: +232 76603194 E-mail: piagieverley@yahoo.com
Project Description: The project proposal is intended to strengthen the HRCSL's human rights monitoring capacity especially to address the lack of compliance of business practices with international Human Rights standards and to protect and promote awareness of rights of women, girls and disabled persons. The alignment of human rights approaches in Sierra Leone to universal standards and ensuring more compliance of national and international partners will be crucial to sustain current peacebuilding and development efforts.	Total Project Cost: \$750,000 Peacebuilding Fund: \$525,000 UNDP BCPR TTF: Government Input: In kind through the HRCSL Other: \$288,004 (HRM MDTF)
	Proposed Project Start Date: 1 June 2014 Proposed Project End Date: Total duration (in months): 18 months

Gender Marker Score¹: 2

Score 3 for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective.

Score 2 for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective.

Score 1 for projects that will contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly.

Score 0 for projects that are not expected to contribute noticeably to gender equality.

Project Outcomes : (see shift to results framework (Purpose of PBF support)

Outcome 1:

HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international human rights standards in areas where there is lack of compliance of business and human rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peacebuilding consolidation

- Outcome 2:

HR approaches of the UN and donor community in Sierra Leone aligned to international standards to support more effectively HRCSL operations

PBF Outcomes² which best summarizes the focus of the project:

Priority Area 2: Promote Coexistence and Peaceful Conflict Resolution.

Outcome area 2.2: Democratic Governance

PROJECT DOCUMENT COVER SHEET

¹ The PBSO monitors the inclusion of women and girls in all PBF projects in line with SC Resolutions 1325, 1612, 1888, 1889.

² PBF outcome areas are:

1: *Support the implementation of peace agreements and political dialogue (Priority Area 1):*

(1.1) SSR; (1.2) RoL; (1.3) DDR; (1.4) Political Dialogue;

2: *Promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflicts (Priority Area 2):*

(2.1) National reconciliation; (2.2) Democratic Governance; (2.3) Management of natural resources;

3: *Revitalise the economy and generate immediate peace dividends (Priority Area 3);*

(3.1) Short-term employment generation; (3.2) Sustainable livelihoods

4: *(Re)-establish essential administrative services (Priority Area 4)*

(4.1) Public administration; (4.2) Public service delivery (including infrastructure).




(for IRF-funded projects)	
<p>Recipient UN Organization(s)</p>  <p>Name of Representative KYLE WATSON Signature [Signature] Name of Agency OHCHR Date & Seal 26/06/2014</p>	<p>Representative of National Authorities</p>  <p>Name of Government Counterpart SPINA A. SWENSON Signature [Signature] Title Chairman Date & Seal 3-7-14</p>
<p>Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)</p> <p>Name of Representative Signature Peacebuilding Support Office, NY Date & Seal 26/09/2014</p>	<p>Resident Coordinator (RC)</p>  <p>Name of Representative DAVID M. MICHAEL Signature [Signature] RCO, Date & Seal 24/7/14</p>

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Annex A: Project Summary (to be submitted as a word document to MPTF-Office)

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<i>(for IRF-funded projects)</i>	
Recipient UN Organization(s) <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Signature</i> <i>Name of Agency</i> <i>Date & Seal</i>	Representative of National Authorities <i>Name of Government Counterpart</i> <i>Signature</i> <i>Title</i> <i>Date & Seal</i>
Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Signature</i> Peacebuilding Support Office, NY <i>Date & Seal</i>	Resident Coordinator (RC) <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Signature</i> RCO, <i>Date & Seal</i>

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PROJECT COMPONENTS:

I. Peacebuilding Context and Rationale for PBF support

a) Peacebuilding context:

Sierra Leone's civil war was characterized by gross violations and abuses of human rights. A combination of factors in January 2002 helped end the war, including the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping force. Despite the disarmament of combatants, significant confidence and trust rebuilding efforts, and the successful completion of a series of presidential and parliamentary elections and local elections, the deep-rooted issues that gave rise to the conflict - endemic corruption, weak rule of law, crushing poverty, and the inequitable distribution of the country's vast natural resources - remain largely unaddressed by the government. All these issues coupled with continued insecurity within the sub-region, render Sierra Leone vulnerable to future instability.

Crimes committed during the war included severing limbs, forcibly recruiting children into armed groups, widespread sexual gender-based violence targeting women and girls, burning houses, and killing and maiming of civilians. More than 200,000 people, including women and children, are estimated to have been maimed or killed, and hundreds of thousands more were displaced across the country.

Sierra Leone's civil war ended with the restoration of peace and stability; a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) established in 2004 issued a final report which included a long list of recommendations intended to remedy "some of the endemic problems identified as causes of the war including issues relating to protecting human rights, fighting corruption, the need for wholesale reform of the justice and security sectors, and improving the democratic participation of youth and women." A key recommendation was the establishment of the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) as an independent state institution to protect and promote human rights. In 2006, the HRCSL was established and since then has made progress in delivering its services to the people. The UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) has been instrumental in building the capacity of the HRCSL, notably with a grant allocation of \$1.5 million to operationalize the Commission.

In 2004 UN peacekeepers handed security over to Sierra Leone's armed forces and police and were replaced by a UN peacebuilding mission, UNIOSIL, which in 2008 was in turn replaced by the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), which was tasked with monitoring and upholding human rights and the rule of law. Throughout its mandate, UNIPSIL worked to strengthen the capacity of national human rights protection mechanisms, and worked closely with the HRCSL in building its capacity to monitor, protect and promote human rights, transforming it into a trusted and independent institution that is playing an important role in monitoring and promoting human rights in Sierra Leone. Through its actions, the Commission has demonstrated that this is a significant institution that is critical to establishing a human rights culture in the country. Among other things it has published six annual reports on the state of human rights, and has conducted two public hearings in execution of its quasi-judicial capacity, both of which resulted in the Government complying with the HRCSL's recommendations.

Stability and security have increased in Sierra Leone since 2002, and the Government has made efforts to improve human rights on a variety of fronts, establishing systems of accountability for human rights and humanitarian law violations committed during the conflict, and promoting rule of law and democratic governance. Through various efforts, including implementation of key recommendations made by Sierra Leone's TRC, and the efforts of the United Nations-mandated Special Court for Sierra Leone, significant progress continues to be made in enhance human rights and in achieving accountability for war crimes committed during the war.

The final mandate given to UNIPSIL by the Security Council includes specific references to human rights and rule of law, particularly through strengthening national institutions working on the protection and promotion of human rights. In this sense a lot has been achieved specifically through the establishment of a strong National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) that, with the assistance of the Human Rights Section of UNIPSIL and OHCHR's expertise and funding, established a Monitoring and Research Directorate, held two public inquiries making use of its quasi-judicial capacity, and played an important role in Sierra Leone's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in [2011]. In May 2011, the Commission was awarded an 'A' status by the International Coordination Committee of National Human Rights Institutions for its compliance with the Paris Principles that set out the minimum standards to be met by National Human Rights Institutions. This has reinforced its authority, giving the HRCSL a reputation for firmness and transparency nationally and with international donors and partners. In addition, the Government has accepted and implemented the recommendations issued by the HRCSL during its inquiries and public hearings. Furthermore, overall protection of human rights in Sierra Leone is considered to have improved thanks to consistent engagement with civil society, security sector actors and the judiciary. Processes aimed at protecting and promoting human rights have been developed such as those for the UPR. Legislation, mechanisms and institutions have been put in place to protect the rights of vulnerable groups such as the passing of the Sexual Offences Law, the adoption of a Disability Law and the establishment of a National Disability Commission.

Sierra Leone's progress on human rights has also received recognition at the global level. Sierra Leone has acceded to or ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. In September 2011, Sierra Leone's First UPR Report was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva. Of the 129 recommendations made by the review committee on 5 May 2011, the Government of Sierra Leone noted that it had already implemented 57. In recognition of progress made, Sierra Leone, in November 2012, was also elected to the HRC.

Despite all these efforts and progress, the country is still considered as falling short by most human-rights measures on its obligations to provide justice to victims of serious human rights violations. More efforts are required to implement the TRC's recommendations. In addition, the HRCSL adopted two consecutive strategic plans to address human rights challenges in the country but continues to experience a critical funding gap. The Government has been providing funding to the HRCSL to cover administrative costs including salary and recurrent administrative expenses. While this

support is instrumental, it is inadequate to implement a range of activities envisaged in the strategic plan.

There is growing recognition by the Government and the international community that much more needs to be done to address the issues that gave rise to the conflict—endemic corruption, weak rule of law, deficiencies in the justice system, and the inequitable distribution of the country's vast natural resources. In addition, the country needs to do more to address poverty in the face of high unemployment among young adults and women, and to guarantee economic, social, and cultural rights. During visits of the United Nations Technical Assessment Mission (TAM) and the Peacebuilding Commission in 2013, both national and international stakeholders - including the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Attorney General, the HRCSL, Members of Parliament, businesspersons, representatives of Civil Society Organizations and national law enforcement and corrections agencies, expressed not only appreciation for the human rights work done by UNIPSIL but also concern about the future. They all looked for reassurance that a United Nations human rights support follow up presence would be duly considered and solutions found. Many considered the HRCSL as strong but not yet robust enough to stand alone without ongoing support from the international community, including the United Nations.

b) Mapping of existing peacebuilding activities and gaps:

On the commemoration of International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2013, the HRCSL noted that it had resolved 70 percent of the 1,800 human rights cases submitted for its consideration during its seven- years of existence.

Sierra Leone, through the established the Disability Commission and the enactment of the Disability Act of 2011 has laid the institutional and legislative foundation for providing persons with disabilities unfettered access to education, healthcare and employment.

UNIPSIL and UNDP continued to provide support to the ongoing national constitutional review process. Since its launch in July 2013, the Constitutional Review Committee has carried out a series of activities, including civic education and public consultations, including a workshop on thematic issues with the support of UNIPSIL and UNDP. To complement the efforts of the Constitutional Review Committee, UNIPSIL with support from the PBF, also organized a series of dialogues to facilitate discussion of the process with political parties, women and youth groups and religious and traditional leaders.

As part of UNIPSIL's transition plan, and to mark the completion of the Transitional Joint Vision (TJV) and return to a United Nations Resident Coordinator's System, the United Nations system has developed a United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). With the Government's endorsement, an advanced draft of the UNDAF was submitted to the Regional Directors' Team (RDT) in December 2013. The final framework was completed in March 2014 and implementation is expected to start on 1 January 2015.

The support provided by the PBF to the HRCSL (referred above) has been essential in attracting funding and support from other actors as follows³:

³ UNDP final project report.

- Irish Aid has approved support for US\$96,978 for the period between September 2012 and August 2013;
- The Australian Human Rights Commission conducted in the first half of 2013 a training workshop for Commissioners and staff of the HRCSL for US\$10,000;
- UNDP through its Access to Justice programme provided support to the HRCSL of \$80,000 for the period 2013-2014.

Other efforts in support of human rights in Sierra Leone are: PBF support to the tune of US\$263,130 - delivered within the context of the decentralization programme - provided through a UNICEF implemented project to District Councils to strengthen their capacity to deliver on their responsibilities under the Child Rights Act.

c) IRF Project Justification and Strategy:

The Security Council resolution 2097 of 26 March 2013 that extended the mandate of UNIPSIL for a final period of 12 months until 31 March 2014 indicated that the Mission should focus on the following residual issues:

- i) Facilitating political dialogue, including support to the government, particularly related to the planned constitutional review,
- ii) Security sector support, and,
- iii) Strengthening of human rights institutions and their long-term sustainability.

This proposal emerges from part (iii) of the paragraph above. The UNIPSIL HRS/OHCHR support has actively contributed to the achievements of the HRCSL which in 2011 completed its first five-year term. This has contributed to raising the profile of the HRCSL to the point where it is now seen as among the most professional and effective best state institutions in the country. But there are some areas that require continuing support, such as: further technical cooperation on important development issues, notably business and human rights; persistent discriminatory practices; and lack of redress on sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) cases.

Furthermore, the UNIPSIL drawdown plan developed jointly by the Government, the UN family in Sierra Leone and the UN Headquarters in New York states,

“OHCHR will take over the advisory role of UNIPSIL. This responsibility will be assumed by a Human Rights Adviser who will be located in the RC’s Office. The Human Rights Adviser should be fully operational by 1 January 2014, following the full draw down of UNIPSIL’s Human Rights Section on 31 December 2013”.

In its Strategic Plan 2012-2014, the HRCSL committed itself to address areas that remain weak, and consequently could contribute to undermining human rights and peace in Sierra Leone. In partnership with the HRCSL the following post-UNIPSIL residual tasks were identified:

- Training, awareness and advocacy on women’s rights, in particular with respect to SGBV;
- Training and capacity building for staff of relevant government ministries, companies and CSOs on conducting quasi-judicial inquiries on business and human rights;

- Training, capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy on the rights of disabled persons for the relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and disabled persons organizations in tandem with the National Commission of Persons with Disability (NCPD).

On 31 December 2013, UNIPSIL completed its human rights responsibilities and handed over residual tasks to the UNCT and relevant national partners, in accordance with its transition plan. This project is therefore primarily intended to support the HRCSL fill the human rights advisory and monitoring capacity gap and continue to buttress the HRCSL's capacity to address critical peacebuilding issues such as , business and human rights, women's and girls' rights and disability rights. It will also help the process of aligning human rights approaches in the country with universal standards and requirements, and ensuring that both national and international partners, including the UNCT, engaging in Sierra Leone, comply with those requirements in peacebuilding and development programming.

On 2 May 2013, a Human Rights Adviser (HRA) was deployed to Sierra Leone in the support of - and to provide technical assistance to - stakeholders in Sierra Leone, primarily the HRCSL and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), in the area of human rights. In particular, the HRCSL and CSOs have expressed their desire to continue close collaboration with the UN. They are strong institutions that have the respect of government and donors alike and are eager to continue widening the scope of their interventions and to ensure the sustainability of the processes developed so far. To this end, the HRA will be an important link between the HRCSL and the UNCT, both of which will ensure human rights achievements will be consolidated and that forward momentum will be maintained and increased.

II. Objectives of PBF support and proposed implementation

a) Project outcomes, theory of change, activities, targets and sequencing:

Project focus: The focus of this project is to:

(a) enhance HRCSL capacities to be able to ensure the continuity of previous monitoring functions of UNIPSOL and to advocate for action at national level, as well as for donor engagement aiming for more compliance of current business practices in land access with national standards for Human Rights and responding in particular to the needs of women and disabled persons. The project will focus on the promotion of (i) rights and responsibilities of local communities and multinational companies which are doing business investing in the mining and agricultural sectors in Sierra Leone, (ii) protection of women and girls from SGBV and (iii) protection and promotion of rights of People With Disabilities (PWD) by engaging MDAs, civil society organizations in partnership with the NCPD.

Women's rights: The aim is to get to a situation where women and girls no longer remain vulnerable in society and are aware of their rights and entitlements. Women know how and where to claim their rights. By helping women to organize and advocate for their rights, and in particular to defend themselves from GBSV by popularization of the Gender Acts (2007), women will learn about their rights and be empowered. The combined effects of these activities

can further advance peace, security and development in the country. This activity building on the advocacy and technical advisory work provided by the Human Rights section of successive UN missions in Sierra Leone. Although appropriate legislative framework was put in place to advance human rights much remains to be done to ensure the effective implementation of the law.

Business and Human Rights with respect to Land Issues: There has been a growing number of cases involving communities and companies prospecting for mining concessions on issues pertaining to inequitable distribution of vast natural resources in Sierra Leone. Building the capacities of Sierra Leoneans confronted with such exploitation is critical, and empowering affected communities to claim their economic and ownership rights will contribute to the mitigation and prevention of conflict and violence. Giving people the knowledge and awareness of human rights standards relevant to business and mining will empower them to be more proactively involved in defending and asserting their rights. Similarly, the HRCSL is well positioned to assist and support Government and the business sector in putting in place a regime of good practices and human rights protections and safeguards. The UNRC and UNCT are also well placed to engage the diplomatic community to use its influence as leverage with international investors.

Persons With Disabilities (PWD): The UNIPSIL Human Rights Section Public Report on Disability 2011 recommended the need for better integration, the involvement in decision making, empowerment and independence of PWDs. It proposed the adoption of recommendations in eight areas, notably: justice and non-discrimination, education, mobility and infrastructure, recreation and leisure, equal opportunities and employment, governance, health and sanitation, custom and traditions. Building the capacity of these marginalized groups to participate in and benefit from public affairs as well as tackling barriers to their participation is critical. The HRCSL is working with the National Council for People with Disabilities (NCPD) to provide better opportunities for PWD; this project element will tap into this very new and important partnership.

(b) continue the human rights advisory and monitoring functions of UNIPSIL to be performed through the emerging post-UNIPSIL Resident Coordinators Office (RCO). The RCO task will be to improve internal coordination of human rights activities across the UN family strengthening the HRCSL in their efforts to achieve a better positioning in human rights coordination, the articulation of programmes at national level, and mobilizing the donor community support. Duplication can be avoided and efficiency increased. In addition the UNCT position and external messaging on human rights issues will be better articulated and advocacy campaigns more powerful. In turn, the more joined up the UN's programming the greater the impact on those that are vulnerable.

Theory of changes:

Lasting peace cannot be achieved in Sierra Leone without creating a culture of respect for human rights. With a large section of its population, mainly women and the disabled who are marginalized, previous conflict victims who still are not fully aware of their rights and responsibilities, a strengthened mechanism to continue addressing human rights violations and give special attention to how best to address deep rooted potential crisis factors is therefore key to minimizing conflict in society. Special attention is required on issues like inequitable distribution of vast natural resources, marginalization and poverty. For a country like Sierra

Leone with a recent history of serious and widespread human rights violations, the protection and promotion of human rights is always a work in progress. To this end, the contribution to peacebuilding for this project are:

Project outcomes and theory of change:

Outcome (1):

HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international human rights standards in areas where there is lack of compliance of business and human rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peacebuilding consolidation

Theory of change (for outcome 1):

If the HRCSL will be respected as a high-profile national institution by government ministries, businesses and CSOs in their advocacy and monitoring role on how greater compliance with Human Rights Standards in land access, and protection of fundamental rights for women and disabled persons can be achieved, then risks of undermining current efforts in peace consolidations can be significantly reduced.

Outcome (2):

HR approaches in SL of the UN and donor community in SL aligned to international standards to support more effectively HRCSL operations .

Theory of change (for outcome 2):

If current Human Rights approaches of the UNCT and the donor community are reconciled and aligned successfully, then efforts of the HRCSL in mainstreaming international HR standards will achieve a more effective leverage with a greater chance of success.

Prioritisation and phasing of support: This project is a priority because it emerges out of the recommendations of the TAM and Security Council Resolution. The resident donors and the Government were advocates of the view that the emerging RCO is strengthened so as to ensure a smooth handover and any residual UNIPSIL tasks are addressed.

b) Budget:

This project contains two funding sources, i.e. PBF and the HRM-MDTF. Table ... provides a breakdown of the budget.

Sustainability of projects: The success of this project depends on the co-funding from two UN entities, i.e. the PBF working alongside the HRM-MDTF. The HRCSL is advocating for increased budget to carryout programmes and there is positive feedback from the Government in this regard. With the strengthened capacity of regional offices, it is expected that there will be more support from international partners to carry out programmes. It is also expected that the HRCSL will have a resource mobilization strategy ensuring sustained support when the project is completed. The HRCSL is one of the stronger institutions that

over the next 18 months should be able to prove itself, even without the previous support provided by UNIPSIL during the early stages.

Table 1: Project Activity Budget			
Outcome 1HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international HR standards in areas where the lack of compliance of Business and Human Rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peacebuilding consolidation			
Output number	Output name	Output budget	Any remarks (e.g. on types of inputs provided or budget justification)
Output 1.1	Relevant government ministries, business companies and CSOs enabled to identify key changes needed in current business practices to ensure full compliance with Human Rights in the area of land access	\$228,376 (29.4%) \$228,376 (29.4%)	
Output 1.2	Mechanisms in place to monitor women’s awareness on their rights with respect to SGBV and the gender sensitivity of law enforcements agencies	\$178,954 (23.1%)	
Output 1.3	NCPD’s capacities strengthened to become more responsive to PWD urgent needs for support in their specific rights and how to access them		
Outcome 2: HR approaches in SL of the UN and donor community in SL aligned to international standards to support more effectively HRCSL operations.			
Output 2.1	The UN and donor community supportive to alignment as proposed by RCO	\$32,611 (4.2%)	
Output 2.2	The RCO has the capacity to coordinate HR alignment processes	\$107,936 (13.9%)	

	for the strengthening of HRCSL		
TOTAL		\$776,254 (100%)	

Table 2: PBF Project Budget (US\$)			
CATEGORIES	Amount from PBF	Amount from HRM- MDTF	TOTAL
1. Staff and other personnel	181,217	288,004	469,221
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	7,000		7,000
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	8,000		8,000
4. Contractual services	25,000		25,000
5. Travel	13,000		13,000
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	224,250		224,250
7 Activities – Seminars and workshops	32,187		32,187
Sub-Total Project Costs	490,654	288,004	778,658
8. Indirect Support Costs*	34,346	20,160	54,506
TOTAL	525,000	308,164	833,164

1. Staff and other personnel (\$288,004): The cost associated with a P5 HRA for 18 months will be met jointly by HRM-MDTF (12 months) and PBF (6 months). The amount indicated here will cover the last six months costs in respect of the HRA (\$144,002), the salary of an NO Assistant for the 18 month period (\$37,215). The payment of the salary of the HRA and NOA will be processed through the UNDP Country Office.

2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials (\$7,000). This money will be available to the RCO administration to cover the running costs associated with the HRA, for example paper, toner, hospitality and C.O. cost shares.

3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (\$8,000). This will be available for electronic equipment; it is envisaged this will be a laptop and a phone for the use of the HRA. This will also cover fuel, car insurance and the vehicle maintenance costs.

4. Contractual services (\$25,000). This will be 'ring fenced' for PBSO related evaluation and review activities related to the PBF project.

5. Travel (\$13,000). The HRA will be able to use up to \$13,000 to cover official travel to and from workshops and conferences both inside and outside of Sierra Leone.

6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts (\$224,250). This will be transferred to HRCSL to spend on the three focus areas identified jointly by the UN and HRCSL, i.e. Women's rights, Business and Human Rights and People with disabilities. The HRA will work alongside the HRCSL to determine the most effective way to spend this money to

achieve the outputs and outcomes shown below in the Results framework. While the Direct Execution Modality is currently routinely applied in Sierra Leone given its status as a 'post-conflict' country, it is considered appropriate to operate with a National Execution Modality with respect to the HRCSL.

7. General Operating and other Direct Costs - \$32,187.

8. Indirect Support Costs (\$34,346). The usual 7% indirect support costs will be absorbed by the Recipient Agency, i.e. OHCHR.

c) Capacity of RUNO(s) and implementing partners:

In each of the specified project areas OHCHR has special expertise and assisted and supported National Institutions. OHCHR has supported various National Human Rights Institutions and the International Coordinating Committee of NIs on promotion and protection of human rights of women and girls and has helped establish a framework and programme of action. It has supported NHRI's access to treaty bodies in relation to women's rights and in particular the Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women. In relation to Business and Human Rights the Edinburgh Declaration and the Yaounde Declaration together with regional plans of action have been adopted and OHCHR is supporting activities of NHRIs in line with these specific outcome documents. On supporting NHRIs in the promotion of Disability Rights OHCHR supported the Network of African NHRIs organize its biannual meeting in 2011 where a declaration to guide NHRI activities at national level to support persons with disabilities.

The HRCSL, the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) of the country was established in 2004 by an Act of Parliament. The principal objective of the Commission is to protect and promote human rights throughout the country. The Commission consists of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and three other members all of whom are appointed by the President, subject to the approval of Parliament. UNIPSIL, through the provision of technical assistance and support in elaborating and implementing the strategic plan helped to make the Commission operationally effective – and there are now two key Directorates; the Directorate of Legal Services with quasi-judicial functions and the Directorate of Monitoring and Research. The critical issue now is to sustain that support so that the HRCSL can exist as a strong, vibrant and independent body for the promotion and protection of human rights. Thanks to this technical advice and support the HRCSL has produced 6 Annual State of Human Rights Report (ASHRR), and is actively engaged with the international human rights mechanisms particularly the Universal Periodic Review process.

The HRCSL headquarters is in the premises of the National Elections Commission and it has three regional offices that together form a field network. Offices in each provincial headquarters are headed by senior officials of the HRCSL. It is the responsibility of each provincial office to gather information on the human rights situation in the province, accept and process complaints for the consideration of the HRCSL and undertake, in collaboration with other interested parties, the human rights promotion activities in the province. The network increasingly allows the HRCSL to be more pro-actively involved

in the defence of the rights of vulnerable groups at national and regional level. The activities of the HRCSL are financed by a fund consisting of– (a) moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purposes of the HRCSL; and (b) gifts, grants or donations from any person or authority but only if they are not likely to compromise the independence of the HRCSL. The HRCSL has received support from donors, including the PBF, to provide logistical support for its activities and also to enhance the capacity of its staff. This has translated into greater trust in the capacity of the HRCSL to effect changes in the human rights situation in the country. In addition, the HRCSL has developed strong relationship with state institutions at regional and district level and reached out to more isolated communities through capacity building activities, radio programmes or monitoring visits.

III. Management and coordination

Project management:

The project will establish a Project Steering Committee to provide strategic guidance in the implementation of the project, and keeping oversight on results achievements as planned and the cost effectiveness of project implementation. The HRA will serve as the manager of the project and will be located in the RCO. The location of the post in the RCO is in line with the evolution of the UN's engagement in Sierra Leone in the aftermath of UNIPSIL by focusing increasingly on the UNCT, the coordinating function of the RC and the promotion of a human rights based approach by the UNCT and human rights stakeholders. The core functions of the HRA are as outlined in the attached ToR of the post. The HRA will have an administrative assistant to assist in this effort. Mention other support structures in the RCO that the HRA will have access to including administrative support.

The HRCSL will be the implementing partner for the three project areas and the HRA who will be located in the RCO will assist and support the HRCSL.

A grant agreement will be concluded between OHCHR as the recipient agency and the HRCSL setting out the terms of reference, additional responsibilities of the HRCSL particularly in relation to submitting financial and narrative reports to OHCHR and outlining the schedule for release of payments.

Risk management:

The success of the projects and effective implementation depends on the staff strength of the HRCSL and the financial support of the Government of Sierra Leone as well as political will to advance the agenda in each of the project areas. In addition to working level meetings with line ministries to review progress frequent interaction with the Parliamentary Commission will be there to encourage and promote participation on the Government side.

Table 3: Risk Management Matrix			
Risk	Likelihood	Severity of impact on project	Mitigating Strategy
The staff strength and adequate capacity to	Medium	Low	High Level engagements with the President and other Government

effectively implement the project			officials for the lifting of the hiring freeze.
The inadequacy and irregularity of GoSL financial support to compliment this Catalytic fund	Medium	Medium	Periodic High Level meetings with Government Officials and the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee to approve the HRCSL budget without any significant cuts that will adversely impact its work.
The social and cultural dynamics in the areas of women and girls rights and disability rights. For instance discriminatory provisions with respect to adoption, marriage, divorce, burial and devolution of property in death in the Constitution and chauvinistic traditional laws that permit early and forced marriages and FGC.	High	High	Cultural and traditional practices like FGC, forced and early marriage and the increased occurrences of rape, are being addressed by multi-sectorial collaboration, the passage of the Sexual Offences Act, the existence of the FSU within the Police, the provision of Legal Aid and other referral services.
The lack of political will to make space for the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and for the effective implementation of the three gender justice laws and the PWD Act of 2011	Medium	High	<p>The Commission is working on a comprehensive business and human rights monitoring tool for which it engaged all stakeholders including the government, the MDAs and the Multinational Enterprises. This will serve as an effective monitoring tool with the potential of flagging up in real time human rights infringements thus forming the basis for remedial actions.</p> <p>The formation of a Steering Committee and a collaboration framework with the National Commission for Disability to fast track NCPD's full operationalization and support it in the areas of complaints and Treaty Body Reporting.</p>

Monitoring and evaluation

One of the major functions of the Project Steering Committee will be to monitor and assess the overall performance in achieving the agreed milestones during the implementation process and providing critical feedback on the quality of results achieved as outlined in the results matrix. This Committee consist of a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of International

Cooperation, a representative of civil society, the HRA, and a representative of the HRCSL.

In order to ensure an effective day-to-day management, the HRCSL will be responsible to develop a comprehensive work plan which is consistent with the output targets and milestones set in the results framework and highlighting the sequence of project implementation within the agreed time- and budget line. This Annual Workplan needs the approval by the Project Steering Committee which will use this Work plan as the major reference for quarterly review and updates on the status of implementation performance. If targets remain unachieved, it will be the responsibility of the Project Steering Committee to propose immediate correctives actions for ensuring the implementation process remaining 'on target'.

The HRA, in close consultation with RC, will be responsible for the compliance and substance of the overall reporting on results achieved in both outcome areas on a half-year basis in respect of PBF standards as outlined in PBF Application Guidelines (April, 2014) and as noted in section (E) of the project document. The HRA will oversee the day-to-day management and administration of the project and provide regular feedback and guidance to RCO, UNCT, PBSO and MPTF Office. The HRA deployed to Sierra Leone on 2 May 2014.

The M&E unit at PBF/PBSO will provide regular feedback to the HRA on the substance of reporting. One of the major responsibilities of this unit will be to coordinate the final evaluation for ensuring the quality of the evaluation process.

Administrative arrangements (standard text)

The UNDP MPTF Office serves as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the PBF and is responsible for the receipt of donor contributions, the transfer of funds to Recipient UN Organizations, the consolidation of narrative and financial reports and the submission of these to the PBSO and the PBF donors. As the Administrative Agent of the PBF, MPTF Office transfers funds to RUNOS on the basis of the signed Memorandum of Understanding between each RUNO and the MPTF Office.

AA Functions

On behalf of the Recipient Organizations, and in accordance with the UNDG-approved "Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi Donor Trust Funds and Joint Programmes, and One UN funds" (2008), the MPTF Office as the AA of the PBF will:

- Disburse funds to each of the RUNO in accordance with instructions from the PBSO. The AA will normally make each disbursement within three (3) to five (5) business days after having received instructions from the PBSO along with the relevant Submission form and Project document signed by all participants concerned;
- Consolidate narrative reports and financial statements (Annual and Final), based on submissions provided to the AA by RUNOS and provide the PBF consolidated progress reports to the donors and the PBSO;
- Proceed with the operational and financial closure of the project in the MPTF Office system once the completion is notified by the RUNO (accompanied by the final narrative report, the final certified financial statement and the balance refund);

- Disburse funds to any RUNO for any costs extension that the PBSO may decide in accordance with the PBF rules & regulations.

Accountability, transparency and reporting of the Recipient United Nations Organizations

Recipient United Nations Organizations will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures.

Each RUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent from the PBF account. This separate ledger account shall be administered by each RUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures, including those relating to interest. The separate ledger account shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the financial regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to the RUNO.

Each RUNO will provide the Administrative Agent and the PBSO (for narrative reports only) with:

- Bi-annual progress reports to be provide no later than 15 July;
- Annual and final narrative reports, to be provided no later than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year;
- Annual financial statements as of 31 December with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the PBF, to be provided no later than four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year;
- Certified final financial statements after the completion of the activities in the approved programmatic document, to be provided no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.
- Unspent Balance at the closure of the project would have to be refunded and a notification sent to the MPTF Office, no later than six months (30 June) of the year following the completion of the activities.

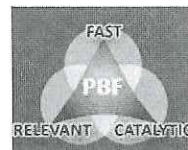
Ownership of Equipment, Supplies and Other Property

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other property financed from the PBF shall vest in the RUNO undertaking the activities. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by the RUNO shall be determined in accordance with its own applicable policies and procedures.

Public Disclosure

The PBSO and Administrative Agent will ensure that operations of the PBF are publicly disclosed on the PBF website (<http://unpbf.org>) and the Administrative Agent's website (<http://mptf.undp.org>).

Annex A: Project Summary (to be submitted as a word document to MPTE-Office)



**PEACEBUILDING FUND
PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project Number & Title:	PBF/ To support efforts to consolidate key human rights activities in partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone. (HRCSL)	
Recipient UN Organization:	OHCHR	
Implementing Partner(s):	Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone Ms. Francess Aghali	
Location:	HRCSL NEC Building Tower Hill Freetown Telephone:+232 76603194 E-mail:piagieverley@yahoo.com	
Approved Project Budget:		
Duration:	Planned Start Date: 1 June 2014	Planned Completion: 31 December 2015
SC Approval Date: (Actual Dates)		
Project Description:	The project proposal is intended to strengthen the HRCSL's monitoring capacity to address the lack of compliance of business practices with international Human Rights standards and to protect and promote the awareness of the rights of women, girls and disabled persons. The alignment of HR approaches in Sierra Leone to universal standards and ensuring more compliance of national and international partners at a large scale will be crucial to sustain current efforts for peacebuilding and development.	

PBF Priority Area:	Priority Area 2: Promote Coexistence and Peaceful Conflict Resolution.
PBF Outcome:	<p>Outcome 1: HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international HR standards in areas where the lack of compliance of Business and Human Rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peacebuilding consolidation</p> <p>Outcome 2: HR approaches of the UN and donor community in SL aligned to international standards to support more effectively HRCSL operations.</p>
Key Project Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and capacity building for staff of relevant government ministries, companies and CSOs on business practices and human rights with respect to land issues. • Training, awareness and advocacy on women's rights, in particular with respect to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). • In partnership with the National Commission of Persons with Disability (NCPD), training, capacity building and awareness raising and advocacy for the disabled persons organisations.

Annex 2 – IRF Results Framework

Country name: Sierra Leone

Project Effective Dates: 1st of July 2014

IRF Theory of Change for:

Outcome (1):

If the HRCSL will be respected as a high-profile national institution by government ministries, businesses and CSOs in their advocacy and monitoring role on how greater compliance with Human Rights Standards in land access, and protection of fundamental rights for women and disabled persons can be achieved, then risks of undermining current efforts in peace consolidations can be significantly reduced

Outcome (2):

If current Human Rights approaches of the UNCT and the donor community are reconciled and aligned successfully, then efforts of the HRCSL in mainstreaming international HR standards will achieve a more effective leverage with a greater chance of success

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification	Year 1	Year 2	Milestones
<p><u>Outcome (1) :</u> HRCSL well positioned to mainstream and monitor international HR standards in areas where the lack of compliance of Business and Human Rights with respect to land issues, women and persons with disabilities undermines efforts to sustain peacebuilding consolidation</p>	<p><u>Output (1.1)</u> Relevant government ministries, business companies and CSOs enabled to identify key changes that need to be addressed in current business practices to achieve more compliance with Human Rights standards in the area of land access</p>	<p><u>Outcome Indicator (1)</u> # of Mining and land owning institutions with evidence of considering international HR standards in their business practices / business policies for land access with monitoring of the process by HRCSL</p> <p>Baseline: 0 companies operating in compliance with international HR standards</p> <p>Targets: Key decision makers of 5 mining and/or land owning companies committed to apply UN guiding principles as HR standards in their business practices</p> <p><u>Output Indicator (1.1)</u> # of Mining and land owning institutions using HRCSL training as an opportunity to review the compliance of their current business practices with HR principles</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Target: 5 major mining and/or land owning companies represented and actively involved in the training</p>	<p>State of Human rights report</p>	<p>x</p>		<p>Milestones for sequencing activities in both outcome areas:</p> <p>-Training of key audience: # of key target audience trained within first 9 months after project start in HR relevant areas related to legal framework, Business Human Rights, SGBV as endorsed as 'UN guiding principles' :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 10 mining companies and land owning institutions; (2) 400 community members of most affected communities (3) 30 police officers from strategic units of law enforcement agencies

