

**SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PEACEBUILDING FUND
PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT TEMPLATE**



PBF PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
COUNTRY: SIERRA LEONE
TYPE OF REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL, ANNUAL OR FINAL SEMI-ANNUAL
DATE OF REPORT: 15 June , 2019

Project Title: Improving Women's Participation in political Processes as Peace building Ambassadors	
Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway: 00108243	
PBF project modality: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRF <input type="checkbox"/> PRF	If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund: <input type="checkbox"/> Country Trust Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Trust Fund Name of Recipient Fund:
List all direct project recipient organizations (starting with Convening Agency), followed type of organization (UN, CSO etc): UN Women, UNDP UNESCO	
List additional implementing partners, Governmental and non-Governmental: Government: Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, Local Councils CSO : Women's Forum, 50/50 Group, All Political Parties Women's Association (APPWA), Global Network for Women Peacebuilders (Sierra Leone Chapter), West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Mano River Union Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET), Women in the Media, Women in the Media Sierra Leone (WIMSAL), Initiative for Media Development (IMDEV), Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), Sierra Leone Market Women (SLMW) Youth Parliament Sierra Leone, Action Aid and Center for Accountability and Rule of Law, SEND (Sierra Leone) National Organisation Women.	
Project commencement date¹: 19 Dec 2017 Project duration in months:² 18 months	
Does the project fall under one of the specific PBF priority windows below: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Youth promotion initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-border or regional project	
Total PBF approved project budget* (by recipient organization): UN Women : \$ 873,604 UNESCO : \$ 501,838 UNDP : \$ 624,558 : \$ Total: 2,000,000 <i>*The overall approved budget and the release of the second and any subsequent tranche are conditional and subject to PBSO's approval and subject to availability of funds in the PBF account</i>	

¹ Note: commencement date will be the date of first funds transfer.

² Maximum project duration for IRF projects is 18 months, for PRF projects – 36 months.

How many tranches have been received so far: 02

Report preparation:

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Did PBF Secretariat clear the report:

Any comments from PBF Secretariat on the report:

Has the project undertaken any evaluation exercises? Please specify and attach: Evaluation due in July 2019

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general / common language.*
- *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
- *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*

PART 1: RESULTS PROGRESS

1.1 Overall project progress to date

Briefly explain the **status of the project** in terms of its implementation cycle, including whether all preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (1500 character limit):

The project is on track and near completion. Under Outcome 1 the accountability frameworks for promoting women's peace and security have been developed, the National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 II has been finalised awaiting formal launch while the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment policy is ready and awaiting Cabinet action. Extensive consultations resulted in community ownership and participation in the drafting of the two frameworks. Outcome 2 has also almost been achieved with women being supported to participate safely in elections and contribute to decision-making in peacebuilding processes. The Sierra Leone Female Parliamentary Caucus has been revitalized and have established strong ties with Rwanda Female Caucus sharing best practices and experience. The project supported the National Women's Conference paving the way for women's issues to be factored into the National Peace and Cohesion Conference which is the framework for the establishment of the Commission for Peace and National Cohesion. Outcome 3 has almost been achieved with trained peace ambassadors contributing to community awareness and public understanding about women's positive contributions to decision making and peacebuilding. Engagements have been held with community members, parliamentarians, women's groups and the media resulting in depth conflict analysis and development of road maps for peace.

Given the recent/current political/peacebuilding/ transition situation/ needs in the country, has the project been/ does it continue to be **relevant** and well placed to address potential conflict factors/ sources of tensions/ risks to country's sustaining peace progress? Please illustrate. If project is still ongoing, are any adjustments required? (1500 character limit)

The project remains relevant and well placed. Gender based violence and women's limited representation in governance continues to top the list of all national discourse. Recent post elections litigation processes further reduced the number of female parliamentarians from 18 to 16. Drivers of conflict continues to be clearly visible as the country still continues to face post elections challenges in terms of political intolerance, inter-party rivalry, tribalism, hate speech, and violence. Several by-elections held have been marred with violence to the extent that some had to be postponed and others rerun. Two opposition parties in series of press releases have stated that until the Chief Electoral Commissioner is removed, they will boycott all future elections. The planned boycott has the potential to further undermine women's representation in governance. VAW is on an unprecedented increase forcing the Government to declare rape and sexual assault as a national emergency in February this year. There is therefore the need for continuous engagement with the judiciary, policy makers and traditional authorities as well as increased public sensitization and campaigns against VAW. Women's voices for increased women participation in peacebuilding and decision making processes have been amplified at all levels and

there is need to keep the momentum for desired results. Women have been working as peace ambassadors at both community and national levels to promote peace dialogue.

In a few sentences, summarize **what is unique/ innovative/ interesting** about what this project is trying/ has tried to achieve or its approach (rather than listing activity progress) (1500 character limit).

One unique approach the project supported was the Gender Model Family Concept as a peacebuilding initiative. A Gender Model Family is made up of a husband, wife and their children who want to be a model for change and transformation in society by challenging traditional notions of gender roles and responsibilities. Gender Model Families believe that each member of the family has equal rights and thus is entitled to opportunities for empowerment, that neither the man nor the woman exerts power over the other, but that they make decisions together, and share resources and their benefits. Everyone in the family should have access to and control of resources, including education, which will help them to improve how they make decisions and direct their lives. 468 families were trained on the GMF concept. Each of the families trained were supported with training materials to conduct trainings for 10 families each. This has increased awareness among family members on the multiple roles of women and limited access and control over resources thus reducing their chances for political participation. The training

Considering the project's implementation cycle, please **rate this project's overall progress towards results to date:**
on track

In a few sentences summarize **major project peacebuilding progress/results** (with evidence), which PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit):
XXX

In a few sentences, explain how the project has made **real human impact**, that is, how did it affect the lives of any people in the country – where possible, use direct quotes that PBSO can use in public communications to highlight the project (1500 character limit):

200 women attended the National Women's Conference resulting to the drafting of a position paper for the establishment of a Commission for Peace and National Cohesion. There is increased community awareness on the need for women's increased participation in decision making and peacebuilding efforts as exemplified by numerous calls during the National Conference on Peace and Social Cohesion as well as radio phone in programs asking for the planned Peace Commission to be chaired by a woman. 8 female parliamentarians have been exposed to Rwanda Parliament resulted in the drafting of a road map for proposed Affirmative Action Bill and the establishment of strong ties with Rwanda Female Caucus which is a good opportunity for networking, partnership and sharing of best practices. 200 Members of the Inter-Religious Council have been trained on their roles as peace ambassadors this has resulted to them engaging MPs from 6 political parties on the need for peace and publish Press Releases for the need for peaceful cohesion. A video documentary depicting challenges women face in pursuit of engaging in politics this resulted in engagement on barriers women face in vying for elections and political positions.

If the project progress assessment is **on-track**, please explain what the key **challenges** (if any) have been and which measures were taken to address them (1500 character limit).

The project is on track. Project challenges however include heightened tensions and political intolerance which continued even after the 2018 multi tier elections. All bye elections held after 2018 elections have been marred by violence with opposition boycott in some of these elections. Several Parliamentary boycott by main opposition party has making planning for some key activities with parliaments a challenge. The post elections petitions increased tensions between the ruling and main opposition party as recent verdict by the court saw ten opposition MPs losing their seats among them were two female MPs. Several women were injured in recent clashes between the police and at the Office of the main opposition party. This has heightened women's fear in engaging in politics.

If the assessment is **off-track**, please list main reasons/ **challenges** and explain what impact this has had/will have on project duration or strategy and what **measures** have been taken/ will be taken to address the challenges/ rectify project progress (1500 character limit):

N/A

Please attach as a separate document(s) any materials highlighting or providing more evidence for project progress (for example: publications, photos, videos, monitoring reports, evaluation reports etc.). List below what has been attached to the report, including purpose and audience.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/156726775@N07/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/163853273@N02/>

Flickr links of photographs for the various activities undertaken prior and after the elections

1.2 Result progress by project outcome

The space in the template allows for up to four project outcomes. If your project has more approved outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.

Outcome 1: National action plans and accountability frameworks promote women's full participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: Describe main progress under this Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration), including major output progress (not all individual activities). If the project is starting to make/ has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context. Where possible, provide specific examples of change the project has supported/ contributed to as well as, where available and relevant, quotes from partners or beneficiaries about the project and their experience. (3000 character limit)?

With technical and financial support from the project, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs taking the lead, the Sierra Leone National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 (SILNAP II) have been completed, printed and now awaits formal launch. The GEWE Policy awaits Cabinet's discussion and approval. The extensive consultations and validation processes in all 5 Regions in the country created opportunities for the involvement and participation of women at various levels in key decision-making platforms like security committees, early warning systems, and follow up mechanisms. These processes further gave voices to women to discuss issues affecting them and raise awareness on the three gender acts, affirmative action, the 30% and the setting up of a Gender Commission. The engagement on the

development of the NAP gave women a firm foundation to engage during the Women's Conference on Peaceful Cohesion.

The project provided support to Parliament for a bench marking tour to Rwanda exposing 8 Parliamentarians (6 women and 2 men) to effective legislative practices with gender balance and increased women's representation and participation in governance in a post conflict African country. The visit resulted in the drafting of a road map for proposed Affirmative Action Bill and the establishment of strong ties with Rwanda Female Caucus which is a good opportunity for networking, partnership and sharing of best practices.

Outcome 2: Women are enabled and empowered to participate safely in the elections and contribute to decision-making in peacebuilding and conflict prevention processes.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

During the period under review, support to SERVE Sierra Leone for Peace soccer matches, and Tug of Peace were held in several communities in the Southern region to enhanced peace and cohesion among the youth population. The peace matches promoted post electoral reconciliations, improved trust building, as well as raised awareness on acceptance of diversities and peaceful coexistence and community cohesion. One key partner SEND Sierra Leone was supported to engage in the scaling up of the Gender Model Family Concept as a peacebuilding initiative to 3500 families in Kailahun and Kenema. This has increased awareness among family members on the multiple roles of women but their limited access and control over resources. A Gender Model Family is made up of a husband, wife and their children who want to be a model for change and transformation in a peaceful society by challenging traditional notions of gender roles and responsibilities.

Outcome 3: Increased community awareness and public understanding about women's positive contributions to decision-making and peacebuilding.

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: on track

Progress summary: *(see guiding questions under Outcome 1)*

There is increased awareness on the benefit and importance of women's participation and representation in decision making. and peacebuilding proceresses as a result of project support to partners and Media Reform Coordinating Group and BBC Media Action in Sierra Leone to carry mass public education and engagement through various communication channels on Women, Peace and Security. The project supported 30 journalists were engaged on the Role of Media in promoting Gender Sensitivity, Democracy and Social Cohesion in Times of Disinformation resulting to their increased knowledge on their role as journalist to contribute to peaceful coexistence in Sierra Leone.

The project supportted 38 Social Media posts including (films/Videos, interviews, photos, quote cardsetc.) produced and posted by BBC Media Action during the project timeframe with an average reach is 30,352 people. 250 reactions on issues of

women engagement in decisionmaking and peace messages on average per BBC Media Action social media post (film / interview / quotecard / infographic

Outcome 4:

Rate the current status of the outcome progress: Please select one

Progress summary: (see guiding questions under Outcome 1)

1.3 Cross-cutting issues

<p><u>National ownership:</u> How has the national government demonstrated ownership/ commitment to the project results and activities? Give specific examples. (1500 character limit)</p>	<p>The Ministry of Social Welfare Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) continues to chair Project Board meetings and gives strategic direction to the project. The Ministry have integrated project outputs into the Ministry's workplan and also engaged in the monitoring of project activities through field visits. The development of the SiLNAP on 1325 and the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy is led by the MSWGCA.</p> <p>The Parliamentary leadership have actualized earlier commitment made by providing funding support to the Female Parliamentary Caucus and setting up a Gender Desk for support to the Caucus. Female caucus have established strong ties with Rwandan Female parliamentarians for networking and sharing of best practices especially in relation to the Affirmative Action Bill. Plans have been concluded to invite the Rwanda Caucus for public engagement and education on the process. The President's declaration on rape and sexual assault as a national emergency in February this year is a sign of national concern and commitment to address the issue of SGBV.</p>
<p><u>Monitoring:</u> Is the project M&E plan on track? What monitoring methods and sources of evidence are being/ have been used? Please attach any monitoring-related reports for the reporting period. (1500 character limit)?</p>	<p>The RUNO continue to monitor the project implementation through monthly meetings by the technical team and quarterly meetings of the Programme Steering committee meetings. The project staff and other administrative staffs have also made various field visits to assess project implementation and provided corrective measures where necessary to Implementing Partners. In addition partners are required to submit monitoring reports on the various aspects of project implementation</p>
<p><u>Evaluation:</u> Provide an update on the preparations for the external evaluation for the project, especially if within last 6 months of implementation or final report. Confirm available budget for evaluation.</p>	<p>The project evaluation is scheduled to take place in the July. An experienced external evaluator has been recruited and the project is in the process of setting up the Evaluation Reference group. There are funds available for the evaluation .</p>

<i>(1500 character limit)</i>	
Catalytic effects (financial): Did the project lead to any specific non-PBF funding commitments? If yes, from whom and how much? If not, have any specific attempts been made to attract additional financial contributions to the project and beyond? <i>(1500 character limit)</i>	Work with Parliament and local councils on the need for women's increased participation in governance is currently ongoing with funding of \$300,000 from one of the RUNO. Another one of the RUNO is also in the process of conducting an assessment of discriminatory laws with funding amounting to \$100,000
Catalytic effects (non-financial): Did the project create favourable conditions for additional peacebuilding activities by Government/ other donors? If yes, please specify. <i>(1500 character limit)</i>	
Exit strategy/ sustainability: What steps have been taken to prepare for end of project and help ensure sustainability of the project results beyond PBF support for this project? <i>(1500 character limit)</i>	The Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender & Children's Affairs is one of the key partners which has as one of its programmes areas is to ensure the implementation of UNSCR 1325 at national & local levels. This will ensure that even after the project would have been completed the Government will continue working in this area. Moreover the President's First Address to the House of Parliament highlights the Government's intention of addressing issues of Gender Based Violence & exclusion of women. In addition the project is engaging local CSOs who will be following up on project activities of women's peace & security & leadership including 50/50 Group, Mano River Women's network on Peacebuilding (MAWOPNET) as well as Campaign for Good Governance & Sierra Leone Police.
Risk taking: Describe how the project has responded to risks that threatened the achievement of results. Identify any new risks that have emerged since the last report. <i>(1500 character limit)</i>	The project is taking both political & reputational risks by engaging political party actors to ensure peaceful elections & commitment to ending violence against women in elections. However the risk mitigation register has been developed, logged & it is constantly being updated.
Gender equality: In the reporting period, which activities have taken place with a specific focus on addressing issues of gender equality or women's empowerment? <i>(1500 character limit)</i>	The project is designed to focus specifically on women & to address the barriers in which they face in attaining leadership & decision-making position within the peacebuilding context. The project has been addressing gender concerns in its engagement with community leaders where the 14 female Paramount Chiefs engaged 50 male paramount chiefs to discuss the importance of gender equality & stressed on the importance of having women paramount chiefs represented in the new parliament, also the engagement with the members of political parties through the All Parties Political Parties Women's Association (APPWA) on the issues of violence against women in elections (VAWE) as well as a lessons learned consultative meeting for 500 women on the Elections 2018 both at a national level as well as community level . The project is also supporting the development of the

	National Action Plan for women peace & security in line with accountability frameworks which promote the UNSCR 1325 on women peace & security.
<p>Other: Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? <i>(1500 character limit)</i></p>	<p>Through the project implementation it has been realized that a number of local wome's organizations need support in terms of organizational management in order to effectively implement their role. The project has been providing mentoring and capacity building to stregthen their output and this will continue throughout project implementation</p>

1.3 INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: *Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments- provide an update on the achievement of key indicators at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation. Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)*

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 1 National action plans and accountability frameworks promote women's full participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution.	Indicator 1.1 Number of justice and security sector institutions promoting gender equality and women's participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution.	02	04	03 (Sierra Leone Police, Sierra Leone Correctional Center, Sierra Leone Fire Force)	In addition to the Police and Military, the project has engaged the Sierra Leone Correctional Services, Fire Force and Chiefdom police on issues of promoting gender equality and women's participation and conflict prevention and management	
	Indicator 1.2					
	Indicator 1.3					
Output 1.1 Accountability frameworks for promoting	Indicator 1.1.1 # of WPS policies and frameworks functionally in place	Baseline: Sierra Leone National Action Plan on UNSCR	Sierra Leone National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 and	1	Sierra Leone National Action Plan on 1325 (SILNAP II) and Gender Equality Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Policy and been developed. The NAP will be launched shortly and the GEWE	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
women's peace and security (WPS) strengthened and adequately	Indicator 1.1.2	1325 and 1820 1 (SILNAP I)	1820 1 (SILNAP II)		policy is awaiting cabinet approval	
Output 1.2 Advocacy for Gender-responsive policy development and implementation, supported through advocacy and effective coordination among national committee and local	Indicator 1.2.1 # of gender equality initiatives developed and/or being implemented by the national committee in coordination with local councils.	00	08	00	This will be reported in the final report	
	Indicator 1.2.2					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
councils.						
Output 1.3 Increased awareness about importance of women and girls participation in peace building process by governance insitutions and women's organisations	Indicator 1.3.1 # of gender equality initiatives developed and/or being implemented by parliamentary bodies (Committees/ Women's Caucus/Secretariat of the Parliament)	00	02	02	The Sierra Leone Female Parliamentary Caucus has been revaltised. A Gender Desk has been set up to support the them. A road map for the reengaiging on the affirmative action bill has been developed . MPs continue engaging with female local counsellors for peaceful coesxistence and developm	
	Indicator 1.3.2					
Outcome 2 Women are enabled and empowered to participate safely in the elections and contribute to decision-	Indicator 2.1 Share of women candidates running for parliamentary and local level.	Baseline: 12% Parliamentary 18% Local	Target: 30% (Parliamentary) 30% Local	12,8	A recent verdict by the Highcourt saw ten opposition MPs loosing their seats among them were two female MPs . This has reduced the number of women in Parliament from 18 to 16.	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
making in peacebuilding and conflict prevention processes.	Indicator 2.2					
	Indicator 2.3					
Output 2.1 Enhanced capacities of gender equality advocates (i.e. Peace Ambassadors) and community leaders to promote women's leadership in peaceful electoral processes.	Indicator 2.1.1 # of women leaders with increased capacity as women peace ambassadors.	00	150	108	100 (63 women and 37 men) peace Ambassadors and gender activists on peace building, conflict prevention and management and Human Rights(UNSCR 1325 +) trained by MARWOPNET . 40 Peace Ambassadors trained by APPWA to engage male political leaders on violence Against women in Politics	
	Indicator 2.1.2					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Output 2.2 Increased capacity of women aspirants to engage in leadership contests	Indicator 2.2.1 # women aspirants trained who run as candidates	00	50	150		
	Indicator 2.2.2					
Output 2.3 Enhanced electoral and security arrangements to support women's political participation.	Indicator 2.3.1 # of plans and/or policies developed/ reviewed integrating GEWE in NEC	01	02	tools have been developed in collaboration with UNDP Elections project	draft GEWE available after regional consultations to collect community inputs organized in September 2018 final document to be ready by the end of the project	
	Indicator 2.3.2 # of initiatives convened to mitigate violence against women in the electoral process.	00	02	Training of male and female police officers, correctional service, fire force officers and chiefdom police and 150 Rural Women Leaders & 96 security	No variance the 02 indicators achieved	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
				rity personnel(64males &32females)trained on early warning systems & response,conflict prevention & management & peacebuilding in 06 Districts by WANEP&MSWG CA		
Outcome 3 Increased community awareness and public understanding about women's positive contributions to decision-making and peacebuilding	Indicator 3.1 % of women ministers appointed to the cabinet	Baseline: 13.8% (4 out of 29)	30%	19.3% (6 out of 31Ministers) 5.5% increase in number of female Cabinet Ministers 5 Deputy Ministers and two high profile but non Ministerial positions-i.e Chief of Protocol and Presidential	The non passing and enforcement of affirmative bills stressing the 30% quota for women in all selective governance positions. President currently using his prerogative to appoint and therefore has additional women as Deputies	

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
g.				Adviser and Ambassador at Large		
	Indicator 3.2					
	Indicator 3.3					
Output 3.1 Increase in peacebuilding initiatives that include men and women at the community level	Indicator 3.1.1 # of plans and /policies developed/reviewed intergrating GEWE in NEC	1	2		This activtiy was covered under the CONflict Prevention project supported by PBF. The project however supported the Confict Prevention Project to develop tools to conduct this activity.	
	Indicator 3.1.2 # of women's organiations capacitated to contribute to peacebuilding	0	9	06 All Women's organisations have been capacitated to contribute to peacebuilding in 10 districts, These include MAWOPNET, APPWA, 50/50 Group, WIMSAL, NOW (SL), . Gender adocates have been trained		

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
				to resolve conflicts in their communities		
Output 3.2 increased advocacy and public support for women's leadership within political insitutions by male leaders	Indicator 3.2.1					
	Indicator 3.2.2 # of male public and political leaders publically committed to act through HEFORSHE (male engagement for gender equality	100	3000			
Output 3.3 Capacity of media houses and journalists stregthened for gender sensitive reporting and peace consolidation	Indicator 3.3.1 # of radio programmes reporting in women's poltical participation or peace consolidation					
	Indicator 3.3.2					

	Performance Indicators	Indicator Baseline	End of project Indicator Target	Current indicator progress	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)	Adjustment of target (if any)
Outcome 4	Indicator 4.1					
	Indicator 4.2					
	Indicator 4.3					
Output 4.1	Indicator 4.1.1					
	Indicator 4.1.2					
Output 4.2	Indicator 4.2.1					
	Indicator 4.2.2					
Output 4.3	Indicator 4.3.1					
	Indicator 4.3.2					

PART 2: INDICATIVE PROJECT FINANCIAL PROGRESS

2.1 Comments on the overall state of financial expenditures

Please rate whether project financial expenditures are on track, delayed, or off track, vis-à-vis project plans and by recipient organization: *on track*

How many project budget tranches have been received to date and what is the overall level of expenditure against the total budget and against the tranche(s) received so far (500 characters limit): 02 tranches of the project funds have been received

When do you expect to seek the next tranche, if any tranches are outstanding: No tranches outstanding

If expenditure is delayed or off track, please provide a brief explanation (500 characters limit): A small amount of funds have caused Expenditure delayed. This was caused by several factors but mainly the tension between and within the Parliament which led to several boycotts/walk outs by the main opposition party which has the greater number of female parliamentary representation. With the then ongoing court cases involving some female Parliamentarians and Male gender champions, engaging them in training was a challenge. Action is currently being taken on this

Please state what \$ amount was planned (in the project document) to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality or women's empowerment and how much has been actually allocated to date: 100% of the budget

Please fill out and attach Annex A on project financial progress **with detail on expenditures/ commitments to date using the original project budget table in Excel**, even though the \$ amounts are indicative only.



**The Sierra Leone National Action Plan
(SiLNAP) II**

for the

full implementation of

United Nations Security Council Resolutions

1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008)

(2019-2023)

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Preface

As a post-conflict country, Sierra Leone believes in the core tenets and values of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 focusing on women, peace and security, and 1820 on sexual violence as a weapon of war. We will continue to consolidate the gains made already in peacebuilding by inclusive participation of all stakeholders, thereby ensure active peacebuilding and peace consolidation.

My Government will continue to provide the policy and legal environment for the protection of women and girls and their inclusion in decision-making, in peacebuilding, and development processes at all levels.

Sierra Leone was the fourth country in West Africa to develop a comprehensive National Action Plan (NAP) for the full implementation of UNSCR 1325, seventh in Africa and seventeenth globally.

The second generation of the Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SiLNAP II) for the full implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 builds firmly on the final evaluation of SiLNAP I (2009–2014), and in-country monitoring and evaluation reports of achievements and gaps, as well as emerging issues.

SiLNAP I reflected the Government's commitment to as well as accountability in ensuring the security of women and girls and enhancing their direct participation in conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding efforts in Sierra Leone.

SiLNAP II, which has six priority themes for the effective implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sierra Leone, has incorporated in these themes the core values of prevention of violence, protection, participation and recovery, as enshrined in UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. These themes range from Prevention of Conflict in Communities and addressing the root causes at all levels in Pillar 1; through Prosecution, effective punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence, their rehabilitation and the safeguarding of the human rights of women, young adults and girls at all times in Pillar 3; to the Promotion of effective monitoring, evaluation, coordination, implementation and reporting of the National Action Plan in Pillar 6.

These Pillars emerged from the demand by a wide range of stakeholders in all regions and districts, including chiefdoms, and were agreed upon through a process of rigorous engagement of stakeholders. Stakeholders included parliamentarians, paramount chiefs, town and section chiefs, Government functionaries from ministries, departments, agencies, UN agencies, security sector institutions, religious leaders, media, civil society organizations, community-based organizations (including women-led groups) and the media among others.

Thus, in the crafting process, which promoted a culture of ownership and sustainability, we included, based on in-country demands and priorities, the matter of the prosecution of perpetrators of violence against women,

community engagement and coordination. The agreed pillars of SiLNAP II will go a long way in addressing violence against women and ensure inclusive participation and empowerment of women through a gender mainstreaming lens.

As part of our commitment to the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment, we have dedicated a whole cluster, Cluster-5, titled 'Empowering women, children and persons with disability' in the Medium Term National Development Plan 2019–2023, (the fourth in the country's series of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers) developed under our New Direction Agenda, to which SiLNAP II is also aligned, among other national frameworks.

The role of women in peacebuilding cannot be over emphasized in our contemporary world. Sierra Leonean women have played critical roles in the attainment of peace and sustainable development, and continue to do so. My Government recognizes and values women's agency, and women – who constitute 50.8 percent of the total population – cannot and will not be excluded from peace and sustainable development processes.

It is in this vein that I have intervened in the persisting horrifying rise of rape and sexual violence in this country. These menaces not only violate human rights and dignity, but also gravely deter enduring peace and development of our nation.

Violence against women and girls has no place in our society, and every effort will be made to intensify our prevention and response mechanisms to address this menace. The official declaration of a National Emergency on Rape and Sexual Violence that I made on 7 February 2019 is one such major prevention mechanism, with various elements, which include life imprisonment for sexual penetration of minors, and the creation of a Special Division for Rape and Sexual Penetration of Minors, separate from the FSU, by the Sierra Leone Police.

Let me conclude by assuring you that my Government will provide the enabling environment and necessary resources for the full implementation of SiLNAP II because such implementation is germane to the result-oriented success story envisaged in the Women, Peace and Security Agenda of Sierra Leone.

H. E. Brig. Rtd. Julius Maada Bio
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

The vital role of women in achieving peace and development has been recognized in the series of UN Resolutions on women, peace and security launched on 31 October 2000, with the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council of Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. Since then, this core resolution has been affirmed through seven subsequent resolutions: 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015). Together, they constitute the normative framework of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. They call to strengthen women's and girls' voices and agency in the struggle to remove structural barriers and traditional practices that persistently impede progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment.

The second generation of Sierra Leone's National Action Plan for the full implementation of the UNSCR 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), referred to as SiLNAP, seeks to strengthen and fast track progress in countering those persistent barriers through more robust measures that leverage the active push of members of Parliament, especially the Parliamentary Female Caucus.

As Members of Parliament, we are uniquely positioned to promote the gender agenda as embedded in the tenets of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. We will use parliamentary processes and advocacy to promote law reform in support of gender equality and women, and peace and security issues delineated under the six Pillars of SiLNAP II. Through our law-making and oversight functions, we can ensure that Government institutions promote peace, security and gender equality by guaranteeing that all laws – in intent and in application – promote and protect human rights, inclusive governance and accountability. These are of particular importance in the law and justice sectors and are being demanded across the various strategic outcomes, outputs and actions within the framework of SiLNAP II.

We demonstrated our commitment, as individuals and members of oversight committees of parliament, in the unanimous passage, by the Sierra Leone Parliament, of the Resolution on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, on 14 February, 2019 (*See Appendix III*).

With parliamentary action in support of the full implementation of SiLNAP II through an intensified Localisation Strategy, which commenced under SiLNAP I, to ensure that our rural women could reap the benefits of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, we will work with The Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, MLGRD, Local and Chiefdom Councils and Traditional Authorities as well as civil society organizations, with relevant assistance from international partners, to achieve the desirable change that Sierra Leonean women and girls deserve in this day and age.

Hon. Veronica Kadi Sesay
President, Sierra Leone Female Parliamentary Caucus

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The Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs would like to thank the

various members and their institutions and organizations which constitute the National Steering Committee, for the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in Sierra Leone. Their invaluable ongoing enthusiasm and commitment were a strong moving force in the design and development of the forward-looking SiLNAP.

We would like to express our special thanks to the Honourable Members of the Sierra Leone Parliament, whose representatives actively participated in the consultative workshops that were organized in the five geographical regions, including their districts and chiefdoms. The outcomes of these consultative workshops have informed and shaped SiLNAP II.

We are hugely indebted to the team of crafters and writers for their unstinted expertise and energy, their collective technical insight, and guidance for the Regional/District/Chiefdom participants which helped these participants to identify and recommend relevant and key information required for the development of SiLNAP II. The Team comprised Dr. Nana Pratt, lead writer and the team of writers; Rosaline Macarthy (Women's Forum-SL); Hannah Mallah (MARWOPNET); Sahr Kendema (CGG); Margaret Kaitibie (DecSec/MLGRD); Colonel Leona Yema Tucker, Director of Gender and Equal Opportunities, Ministry of Defence/RSLAF; Martha Chigozie (TEDEWOGA) and others, and we express our deepest thanks to them all. Also, we are very grateful to all the Regional/District/Chiefdom participants, including the Paramount Chiefs, the other Traditional Authorities and Local Councils for their active participation in the consultative workshops.

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Hon. Baindu Dassama

Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs

Abbreviations

AU	African Union
CBO	Community-based organization

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CHISECS	Chiefdom Security Committees
CSO	Civil society organization
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DISECS	District Security Committees
Dec Sec	Decentralisation Secretariat
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EVD	Ebola Virus Disease
FAS	Femme Africa Solidarite
FSU	Family Support Unit
GBV	Gender-based violence
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GFP	Gender Focal Point
GNWP	Global Network of Women Peacebuilders
GoSL	Government of Sierra Leone
HRCSL	Human Rights Commission Sierra Leone
IMC	Independent Media Commission
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MBSSE	Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education
MDAs	Ministries, departments and agencies
MARWOPNET (SL)	Mano River Women's Peace Network (Sierra Leone)
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTHE	Ministry of Technical and Higher Education
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MP	Member of Parliament
MPED	Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
MSWGCA	Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs
NAP	National Action Plan
NEC	National Electoral Commission
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NGSP	National Gender Strategy Plan
NSC	National Steering Committee
NOW (SL)	National Organization for Women Sierra Leone
ONS	Office of National Security
OP	Operative Paragraph (of the Resolution)
PROSECS	Provincial Security Committees
RSC	Regional Steering Committee
RSLAF	Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces
SLCC	Sierra Leone Correctional Centre
SiLNAP	Sierra Leone National Action Plan
SSI	Security Sector Institution
SSL	Statistics Sierra Leone
SSR	Security Sector Reform
SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
SLFF	Sierra Leone Fire Force
ToT	Training of Trainers
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission

UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
UNSCR 1325 (2000)	United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (October 2000)
UNSCR 1820 (2008)	United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 (June 2008)
VAWG	Violence against women and girls
WANEP-SL	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding – Sierra Leone
WISSIL	Women in Security Sector, Sierra Leone
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

Executive summary

The Sierra Leone Government demonstrated its commitment to action for the full implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 when it showcased its NAP (SiLNAP I) to the world at a side meeting, during the celebrations of International Women's Day at the United Nations, New York, on 4 March 2010. SiLNAP I expired in December 2014. A comprehensive evaluation was carried out in 2015. Based on SiLNAP evaluation recommendations and a number of emerging issues, SiLNAP II was developed. This second generation guiding national policy tool captures the roles of the variety of stakeholders and actors: Government line ministries, departments, agencies, including security sector institutions, non-state actors including women-led, mixed gender, national and international, bilateral and multilateral development partners, who underscore the truth that for peace to endure, women too count and must be fully engaged in it. This is the spirit of UNSCR 1325 which is the core of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, comprising its strengthening 1820 (2008) and six other supporting resolutions.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA), in May 2018, with the support of the National Steering Committee on the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 (NSC) initiated and coordinated the development of SiLNAP II through an intensified, consultative process of engagement with and involvement of a wide spectrum of stakeholders and actors working on Women, Peace and Security areas. The spectrum included members of parliament, development policy/planning officers, gender focal officers, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) officers from ministries, departments and agencies, Local Council officers, Paramount Chiefs, other Community/Chieftom level traditional authorities, soweis, civil society organizations, community-based organizations and UN agencies: UN Women, United Nations Development Fund, United Nations Population Fund and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

SiLNAP II captures prevailing Sierra Leonean realities and priority issues for women, as well as concerns of peace and security. SiLNAP II is built around six pillars, within a results-based framework, addresses some substantive elements of women's meaningful participation; comprehensive security threats encompassing freedom from political, economic or sexual violence, including environmental and health emergencies; and behavioural and social barriers to women's inclusion.

The six pillars based on the priorities identified at the national consultations are:

- prevention of conflict in communities and addressing the root causes of conflicts at all levels;
- protection and support of women, girls and sexual and gender-based violence survivors and other vulnerable persons;
- prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence effectively and the safeguarding of women's, adolescents' and girls' rights at all times as well as the rehabilitation of perpetrators;
- participation and representation of women in leadership at all levels of decision-making for peacebuilding and development processes;
- promotion of peace, culture and empowerment of communities to generate and sustain their own well-being, environmental security and early response to health emergencies;
- promotion of the effective coordination, implementation, M&E and reporting of the National Action Plan.

SiLNAP II is aligned to national policy priorities as contained in the following:

- National Gender Strategic Plan (NGSP);
- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) policy
- Medium Term National Development Plan, Cluster 5 'Empowering Women, Children and PWDs'.

Though the MSWGCA is the principal national focal point for coordinating the implementation of SiLNAP II, it will be inclusively implemented with the application of the localization strategy, which was endorsed under the first SiLNAP, through the strong collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, MSWGCA and Local Councils. This approach is productive and is a best practice, people-centred approach. It is a tool being applied by Local Councils based on the Localisation Guidelines developed in-country, for the Alignment/Harmonisation of UNSCR 1325/SiLNAP with Local Development Planning.

The SiLNAP II has a comprehensive M&E plan and is fully costed. The strong support from Parliament, especially from the Female Caucus, as well as the Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Finance, leaves little to no doubt that there is strong political will for its successful implementation.

Charles Vandri

Director of Gender Affairs

Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs

1.0 Introduction

1.1 General background

The United Nations, for the first time since its establishment in 1947, held an open discussion session on 24 October 2000, examining war from the perspective of women.

The outcome of that special session was the unanimous passage, a week later, on October 31st, of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, which focuses on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The adoption of UNSCR 1325, reaffirmed through the passage of multiple subsequent resolutions on WPS, formally initiated the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. The other seven sister resolutions of the WPS Agenda to date are 1820 (2008); 1888 (2009); 1889 (2009); 1960 (2011); 2106 (2013); 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015).¹

The core resolution UNSCR 1325 calls attention to the unique needs of women in conflict-affected contexts, focusing on a variety of interventions to protect women and girls affected by conflict and to ensure their inclusion in the peacebuilding process that so affects their lives, including attention to the promotion of women's participation at the decision-making level in peace processes, political, judiciary, electoral management systems, post-conflict peacebuilding and efforts to prevent violent extremism.

The most critical elements of this resolution that continue to require intense focus for actions, at all levels, is the recognition of women's role as peacebuilders and decision-makers.

The WPS Agenda represent a normative framework created for women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, protection of women's and girls' rights and the prevention of sexual violence in conflict. The purpose of the WPS Agenda is to strengthen women's and girls', and also, in particular, adolescents' voices and agency in the struggle to remove structural barriers, and traditional practices that persistently impede progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment.

The focus also pinpoints that action is needed for improving and increasing active women's representation, participation and leadership at decision-making levels in conflict prevention and in all peace processes, as well as the protection of women's, young adult women's and girls' rights, including from sexual and gender based violence (SGBV), as underlined in the WPS Agenda. These elements are reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goals 5 and 16.¹

¹ See Appendix 6.1.

The imperative of effectively implementing the WPS Agenda cannot be over-emphasized. Effective implementation of the WPS Agenda in Sierra Leone would contribute to transforming the experience of women from that of victims to peacebuilding decision-makers, and agents of desirable, lasting peace, security and development at national, regional, district and chiefdom levels.

1.1.1 Global context of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

The WPS Agenda builds on a body of international protection laws and legal instruments for women such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The WPS Agenda is recognized as having contributed to shifting the paradigm on how the international community responds to conflict and the impact of conflict on women, with emphasis on the critical essence of engaging and involving women in peace processes and security operations at all levels.

The Agenda recognizes that peace is inextricably linked with equality between women and men, equal access and equal participation of women and men in governance structures, measures and all efforts towards peace and security. Thus, it affirms that gender equality itself is a source of lasting peace.

It is undeniable that women's rights cannot be fully attained in conditions of conflict and violence. And no society can call itself truly peaceful and stable, unless it is able to achieve gender equality and ensure women's meaningful inclusion, and representation in decision-making positions at all levels of peace processes. The significance of considering the specific needs of women and girls in the development and design of policy in all areas, as well as incorporating the views, contributions and experience of women's organizations in policy and programme development cannot be overstated.

In October 2013, the UN adopted General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict areas and conflict-affected situations. Thus, member states in their periodic CEDAW country reports are required to show interventions implemented on UNSCR 1325/WPS Agenda, as there is a significant nexus between the two sets of legal frameworks.

The core resolution of the WPS Agenda – UNSCR 1325 – has four main pillars calling on Government to take action to support the following:

- Increased participation of women at all levels of decision-making, including in national, regional and international institutions; in mechanisms for the

prevention, management and resolution of conflict; in peace negotiations; and in peace operations;

- Protection of women and prevention of gender-based violence (GBV), including in humanitarian situations;
- Prevention of violence against women, including by prosecuting those responsible for violations, strengthening women's rights under national law and supporting local women's peace initiatives and conflict resolution processes;
- Relief and recovery measures to address international crises through a gendered lens.

The UNSCR is a core and overarching legal framework for the world's WPS Agenda, and reflects four key elements that require global attention:

- The disproportionate number of women and girls affected by armed conflict and the necessity to protect women in conflict and post conflict situation;
- The under-representation of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes;
- The imperative of promoting women as peacemakers and peacebuilders, including their participation in conflict prevention and peace processes;
- The imperative to mainstream a gender perspective in all areas of peace support operations and in the security architecture of the UN system and member states.

Although UNSCR 1325 represents a global commitment, it was clear that action was to be taken at the national level, by individual member states. To ensure locally appropriate responses, member states are encouraged to adopt a UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan (NAP) that would set out each country's own priorities, taking into account the most critical needs as understood in the national context. NAPs would guide national efforts, and also serve as a monitoring tool to hold states accountable for their WPS commitments, including by parliaments.

As of December 2018, 79 member states had adopted NAPs; and some regions and sub-regions have developed regional policies and Regional Action Plans, such as the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan (17 September 2010). Also, the 15th Protocol to the Mano River Union Declaration (June 2012), in chapters 1 to 3, contain Articles related to the threat to women's security and gender mainstreaming in member states, as well as border and food security issues.

The African Union has a Gender Policy which cites UNSCR 1325 and supporting resolutions.² The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Euro Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) adopted a policy and Action Plan on WPS³ and the

²The AU Gender Policy, 2009.

³NATO/EAPC Women, Peace and Security Policy and Action Plan 2018.

European Union (EU) has developed a Comprehensive Approach to the implementation of WPS Resolutions.⁴

While there are strong WPS commitments in place and global acknowledgement of their importance, implementation has lagged behind, according to the 2015 High Level Review and Global Study on the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. The report showed that UNSCR 1325 has been implemented with uneven and varied global results for women's participation in national, regional and international conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes.

1.1.2 Women, peace and security in Sierra Leone: Civil war and post-conflict contexts

(a) Geography and demography



Sierra Leone, located in West Africa, is one of the 16 member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The country has a land mass covering about 72,000 sq. km. and on the western side has a hilly peninsular area bordered by the Atlantic Ocean. The northwest and northeast borders are shared with the Republic of Guinea, and the country is bordered on the southeast by the Republic of Liberia.

The Population and Household Census of 2015 put the population size at 7,092,113, with an annual growth rate of 3.2 per cent. Sixty-three percent of the population are rural dwellers, engaged mostly in subsistence agriculture.

The population has a youthful age structure with about 42 percent under 15 years; those between 15–35 years represent about 37 per cent, and the age group 65 years and above constitute about 4 per cent.

There are 17 different ethnic groups in the country. The major groups include the Mende and Kono in the South and East; Temne, Limba, Koranko, Mandingo, Susu and Fullah in the North and Creoles in the Western Area.

Women constitute about 50.8 per cent of the population, and represent 65 per cent of the agricultural labour force.

(b) Women, peace and security

The Sierra Leone civil war started in March 1991 and officially came to an end in January 2002. The high impact of the death toll among the population,⁵ massive

⁴Comprehensive approach to the EU implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security, 2008.

⁵Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission, *Witness to Truth: Report of Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation Commission*, vol. 1-3, 2004.

destruction of infrastructure and extensive internal and external displacement still linger in the nation's memory.⁶

The country made some progress in its postwar recovery initiatives, which included the conduct of independent elections in 2012 and recently in April 2018. Since 2011, the World Bank Country Assessment Report has put Sierra Leone above the fragile state category.

Nonetheless, a UN Integrated Technical Assessment Mission to Sierra Leone in 2013 noted that attention had to be paid to the root causes of the conflict to avoid a potential relapse.⁶ These assessments remain valid even today, given the number of serious socio-economic, political and environmental challenges. The country's GDP growth has not been favourable, especially since the massive slump in the world market for iron ore, and the closure of the Sierra Leone iron ore mines. Iron ore export had contributed to a favourable 15 per cent GDP growth in 2012.

The outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in 2014, which plagued the country up until November 2015, presented major security concerns and gravely hindered Sierra Leone's efforts to move forward with planned sustainable peace and development initiatives. So also have the disastrous consequences of extreme weather events and climate change, such as flooding and mudslides due to natural causes or environmentally unfriendly human activities (e.g., deforestation and uncontrolled natural resources mining, including stone and beach sand mining).⁷

Environmental issues are deepened by gender inequity and inequality, lack of environmental awareness and inadequate understanding of environmental resources management by women and men.

Women continue to face marginalization, increased vulnerability to GBV and sexual abuse as well as harassment, including in spaces controlled by security forces. A number of customary practices still exist that deprive women/girls of their rights. For instance, under the paramount chieftaincy institutions in the Northern Region and some districts in the Eastern Region, women are not entitled to become paramount chiefs. Other examples are child marriage, or early and forced marriages, or female genital cutting/mutilation. Moreover, rates of SGBV, including rape and/or

⁶Ibid; United Nations Children's Fund, 'The impact of conflict on women and girls in West and Central Africa and the UNICEF response', New York, 2009; UN Integrated Technical Assessment Mission Report to Sierra Leone in January 2013.

⁷Mount Sugar Loaf landslide and flooding at Mortomeh, Regent, Western Area Rural and Urban, Freetown, 14 August, 2017; World Bank Group, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, EU, UN and ACP publication 'Sierra Leone: Rapid Assessment of August 14th, 2017 Landslides and Floods in the Western Area 2017'; UN Women August, 2017, <www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/8/news-sierra-leone-udslides-aking-sure-humanitarian-aid-reaches-women>.

sexual penetration of women/ girl children, are worryingly high, even in the current prevailing situation of ‘no gun war’, or ‘positive peace’.

There was an alarming high prevalence of SGBV reported during the period of grave insecurity prompted by the Ebola outbreak, in 2014.⁸ Prevention methods that included no physical contact without proper protection and the avoidance of physical contact (‘don’t touch’) were broadcast to sensitize communities to one prevention technique they needed to adopt to avoid contracting Ebola or spreading it. But, distressingly, more teenage girls than before were made pregnant, either by male household members or by security agents responsible for enforcing quarantine!

Despite the many laws that exist in Sierra Leone to protect and ensure women’s/girls’ human rights, much remains to be accomplished in terms of implementation. These laws include the four Gender Justice Laws (2007–2009), which are: the Domestic Violence Act (2007); Devolution of Estates Act (2007); Registration of Customary Marriages and Divorces Act (2007/2009); and the Sexual Offences Act (2012). The purpose of the Gender Justice Laws as a whole, is to protect women and girls from deeply rooted structural injustices, and improve the climate for providing access to justice for them for their socio-economic empowerment, and for reducing violation of their human rights at all levels (*See Appendix 1*).

The continuing unfortunate position of the women of Sierra Leone, is in part due to the clawback provisions of a basic law – the Sierra Leone 1991 Constitution Sections 27(4)(d)&(e) – that allows for discrimination against women. Specifically, while Section 27(1) of the Constitution states that “No law shall make any provision that is discriminatory in itself or its effect,” Sections 27(4)(d)&(e) allow for exceptions, stating that “it shall not apply to any law that makes provision for adoption, marriage, burial, devolution of property on death and customary law.” Advocacy by women-led CSOs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and male champions, mixed gender non-state organizations, among others, over two decades and during the concluded Constitutional Review Commission (2015–2017), have called on the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) to repeal/amend this section limiting women’s rights.

The continuing low representation and participation of women in leadership and decision-making positions in the peacebuilding and development processes at all levels in this country is exclusionary, a curtailment and infringement of women’s democratic rights.

⁸ YACAN, *Increased Teenage Pregnancy in Fakunya Chiefdom, Moyamba District, Southern Province, Sierra Leone 2014*; MSWGCA/SSL/UN Women/Oxfam Report on the multisector impact assessment of gender dimensions of the Ebola Virus Disease in Sierra Leone 2014’.

Despite the many challenges that Sierra Leonean women continue to confront, they have long been at the forefront of peace and security efforts during and after conflicts. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission recognized the “significant role” women played in peacemaking following the civil war.⁹

Moreover, in 2018, as was done in 2012, women mobilized and organized a Women’s Situation Room – a conflict prevention, mediation and peace mechanism comprising a secretariat that trained local women and youth as election observers, a call centre and a pool of experts – to prevent potential conflicts and other threats to peaceful elections.

Sierra Leone cannot fail to tackle the causes of increasing incidents and consequences of violence against women, which has a long-term impact on peacebuilding and development.

In addition to the physical insecurity, violence against women and girls (VAWG) compounds the many challenges that women face in postwar periods, or during the national election process in Sierra Leone. These challenges aggravate their condition of extreme poverty, the weakening of their social networks and coping mechanisms that limit options for employment and livelihood generation and persistent exclusion from political and decision-making structures.

An example is the inability of many female survivors of violence to take advantage of free quality education now available in the country, or employment opportunities, with the associated lost productivity impacting the ability of the country to realize the SDGs.

Furthermore, the principles of human security are not significantly being observed or experienced in Sierra Leone, since women, young adult women and children continue to experience SGBV as reported in the data published by the Family Support Unit (FSU) for 2017 and 2018.¹⁰ It is worth citing a statement from the State House release of H.E. President Julius Maada Bio’s official declaration of a National Emergency on Rape and Sexual Violence, that “alarmingly, the perpetrators were getting younger and their acts getting more violent and bestial.”

The referenced police record testifies to the fact that huge numbers of women, since the war, and to date, are unable to get protection from violence such as rape, sexual penetration, battering and other forms of violence like intimidation through secret societies or burning of houses. Such a situation is unfortunately contrary to ECOWAS’s action plan on women’s protection, which prescribes that member states

⁹*Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report*, vol. 2 and 3, 2004.

¹⁰ Sierra Leone Police/Family Support Unit reported nearly 3,000 sexual assault cases 2018.

should make special security arrangements to ensure that women are protected from harassment, intimidation and violence before, during and after elections.

Responses to the guiding questions which served as one of the tools in gauging participants' perspectives during the consultation workshops conducted to inform the design and development of SiLNAP II, showed that the majority of community members, particularly women, have little or no confidence in formal and traditional justice systems. They usually prefer to seek help from CSOs in matters related to the trauma associated with VAWG.

It must be noted that while there are a number of women who are survivors of violence, there are also women who are perpetrators of violence against their peers. This contributes to strengthening the attitude of men who are the power brokers in the country's political landscape, causing them to be more reluctant to support women candidates for political activities or nomination for party symbols during the election process. This situation has created a general deep-seated fear and a feeling of resignation among the majority of women.

Some women who were courageous enough, and spurred on by their communities, contested the national elections as Independent Candidates in the March 2018 parliamentary elections. What empowered them was the social work or business entrepreneurial activities that they were involved in within their communities. One such woman won and is now a member of the country's fifth parliament.

Not only are women marginalized in elections, but also in political appointments, even though the Government is trying to redress this situation. The recent drive by the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) to recruit about 300 women through national, regional, district and chiefdom level drives is a measure to redress the paucity of female officers in this institution and scale up its equal opportunity/institutional gender policy. This is commendable.

The SLP has an affirmative policy in place with a mechanism for targeting females. However, it emerged in discussions during a July 2018 consultation workshop with parliamentarians for scaling up support, and putting parliamentary weight behind the implementation of the WPS Agenda, conducted under the UNDP project on the WPS Agenda, that only the recruitment of more police women could contribute significantly in the fight to prevent SGBV and protect women and girls.

Survivors will feel more comfortable relating to a female officer than a male. However, there are not enough women in service, including among the small number of FSUs. Since more female police officers would be needed for staffing, even among the existing few FSUs, the SLP may want to use affirmative action recruitment measures focused on recruiting more females. This would boost the institution's

gender responsive approach to delivering a more effective police service in matters of VAWG and SGBV in rural areas and peri-urban communities.

His Excellency the President, on 7 February 2019, officially declared a national Emergency on Rape and Sexual Violence, as a major step towards addressing rape and all forms of sexual violence in Sierra Leone. H.E. President Bio deserves great accolades for his prompt response to the crisis and the measures established to stem the rising tide of this menace and eventually preventing its occurrence.¹¹

It is worth noting that the lack of a rapid and effective Government response to recent incidents of political violence is fueling a culture of impunity, rumour-mongering and fear that forthcoming by-elections and the 2023 election could spark a return to organized violence. There are increased fears of the reversal of previous peacebuilding gains which therefore calls for attention.

Although there were various actors working on peacebuilding and conflict prevention agendas across the country, it is agreed that collaboration is essential for more holistic and sustainable approaches to peace. Engaging stakeholders at all levels, and improving women's political participation as peacebuilding ambassadors, particularly at the community level, is the way forward.

Furthermore, promoting conflict prevention, mediation, conflict resolution and a peacebuilding culture that fully integrates women's rights and gender equality principles through a localization strategy, working with Local Councils in collaboration and coordination with Chiefdom Councils will strategically help and facilitate community-level social integration, sustainable peacebuilding and long-term actions for stability. A number of initiatives have recently been implemented or are ongoing that resonate with the above strategy. UN Women has trained 103 (63 women and 37 men) peace ambassadors and gender activists in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and management, and human rights, who are working in communities to promote social cohesion and peacebuilding.

Similarly, the National Organisation for Women (SL)/Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (SL) has trained 75 women peacebuilding ambassadors, in three communities mapped as election violence hot spots, enabling them to organize for change within their communities through the creation of Village/Community Saving Loans Associations. Furthermore, 60 young adults (17–35 years of age, 32 females and 28 males) in the same three communities have been trained as Ambassadors for Peace to raise awareness and conscientize people about UNSCRs 1325 and 1820/WPS Agenda, including the links to Youth, Peace and Security (UN Security Council Resolution 2250). The literate youths among the trainees are currently

¹¹ Press release, State House, Freetown, Sierra Leone, Thursday, 7 February 2019.

facilitating adult literacy classes and promoting peacebuilding and non-violent behaviour in their communities. Also the Youth Ambassadors advocate for the prevention of electoral violence, growing a culture of peace, with peacebuilding messages being disseminated through song and dance (with assistance from Peoples Education Association and the Tabule Theatre Director). These initiatives received funding support through UNDP, from the PBF.

On 14 February 2019, the Sierra Leone Parliament passed the resolution tabled by the President of the Female Parliamentary Caucus on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda to give a strong push to the Agenda's implementation in Sierra Leone. The resolution emphasized the issues of continuing discrimination against women in employment in public institutions, and SGBV, with strategies to prevent and protect women and girls. The Members of Parliament (MPs) called on Government, Local Councils, RSLAF Leadership/Ministry of Defence, the Attorney General's Department and Minister of Justice, Minister of Finance, among others,¹² to establish an Inter-Ministerial Committee on gender equality, women's empowerment and WPS issues, to ensure high-level attention is given to these issues and action is coordinated across all critical departments. The Ministry of Finance will work with the Gender Directorate of the MSWGCA to undertake a gender audit of the budget that will be submitted to Parliament, as well as strongly encourage the Government to intensify the WPS localization process. Through the resolution, MPs have committed as individuals and committee members to use parliamentary processes and advocacy to promote law reform in support of gender equality and women's peace and security. Accordingly, they resolved that they would, among other specifics, push for amendment of sections (4)(d)&(e) of the 1991 Constitution which allow for discrimination against women, and build on the Localisation Guidelines under SiLNAP to identify approaches for working in constituencies with local level bodies and chiefdoms to discuss and address key issues around WPS.¹³ They will use the powers of the Finance Committee and relevant sectoral committees to closely examine the national budget in order to assess the existing allocations for gender equality and specifically for the implementation of the next SiLNAP (SiLNAP II).

1.1.3. Alignment of national, regional and international policies and framework

The SiLNAP was crafted as a means of domesticating UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 declared by the UN in 2000 and 2008 respectively. These resolutions were passed to address the atrocities wreaked on women during the conflicts that were raging at the

¹²Sierra Leone Parliament, Tower Hill, Freetown, Women Caucus & the Members of Parliament of Sierra Leone, Resolution on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, tabled and passed on Thursday, 14 February, 2019.

¹³ Ibid.

time in most parts of Africa south of the Sahara in terms of sexual violence, as well as the low participation of women in development and peace processes.

Resolution 1325 has four main pillars – the participation of women; prevention of violence against women; protection of women and girls from GBV, especially rape, and other forms of sexual violence; and the prosecution of perpetrators of such crimes. (See details in pg.8.)

The first generation of the SiLNAP crafted in 2009 and evaluated in 2015, added one more pillar to the above global structure: coordination and monitoring. The second generation of the SiLNAP was crafted in 2018 after comprehensive and inclusive nationwide regional consultations with a wide spectrum of stakeholders drawn from the districts and chiefdoms. In view of the need to continue the domestication of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, using the localization strategic approach, the provisions addressed in the various instruments aforementioned were taken fully on board. Therefore, the agreed pillars of the new SiLNAP, based on the priorities identified at the national/regional/chiefdom consultations, are to be addressed using the localization strategic approach. The agreed pillars are:

- Pillar 1: Prevention of conflict in communities and addressing the roots causes at all levels;
- Pillar 2: Protection and support of women, girls and SGBV survivors and other vulnerable persons;
- Pillar 3: Prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of SGBV effectively and the safeguarding of women's, adolescents' and girls' rights at all times as well as the rehabilitation of perpetrators;
- Pillar 4: Participation and representation of women in leadership at all levels of decision-making in peacebuilding and development processes;
- Pillar 5: Promotion of a culture of peace and empowerment of communities to generate and sustain their own well-being, environmental security and early response to health emergencies (Human Security Perspectives);
- Pillar 6: Promotion of effective implementation, monitoring, evaluation, coordination and reporting of the Sierra Leone National Action Plan.

SiLNAP II is aligned to national priorities as contained in the following documents:

- The National Gender Strategic Plan (NGSP);
- The draft GEWE Policy;
- Sierra Leone's Medium-Term National Development Plan, 2019–2023, Cluster 5: Empowering Women, Children, and Persons with Disability.

Some of these national priorities which are subscribed to in the SiLNAP include the call to strengthen and/or reform legal policy, and legal and institutional capacities to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment, and support women's economic empowerment by increasing women's access to financial and agricultural services.

Also, the issue of low women's participation and representation is a thorny issue that runs across all priorities, as not much progress has been made at any level. There are still very few women MPs and very few Village Female Heads (Headwomen) compared to the high numbers of Headmen in the Western Area Rural District to cite a few examples. Luckily, the Female Caucus in Parliament has been engaged in the issue, including during a consultation from 12–13 July 2018, with all MPs, under a global UNDP project, 'The Role of Parliaments as Partners in Women, Peace and Security' implemented in collaboration with the Sierra Leone Parliament, where the Hon. Speaker made a commitment to support the application of the spirit of 1325 and provisions of the WPS Agenda by actively supporting the implementation of SiLNAP.

Some new areas have been included in the current SiLNAP, like the response to health and other emergencies, the call for establishment of a forensic laboratory for more speedy trials and more effective prosecution of SGBV cases.

The SiLNAP has captured some of the critical issues identified in the Sierra Leone context analysis, such as SGBV and access to land and property, with a focus on the rape of young women and girls and the sexual penetration of minors including babies, and rural women (See UNCEDAW, Art. 12 – Rural Women).

The need to forge a closer link between gender inequality and women's poverty and the lack of women's empowerment through the pillar on empowering communities to generate and sustain their own well-being should be in constant focus during SiLNAP II implementation. Also, the role of communities at the chiefdom and village levels in reducing VAWG is captured under 'Undertaking social mobilization at community level to reduce tolerance and social acceptance of VAWG.' Implementation of SiLNAP II will mostly apply a continuing and strengthened localization strategy using the Localisation Guidelines jointly developed by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) with the technical support of Global Network of Women Peacebuilders GNWP (at Headquarters, New York) and National Organisation for Women Sierra Leone (NOW SL) and funding from Folke Bernadotte.

The localization strategy is a people-based approach premised on the rationale that local ownership and participation enables more effective policy action taking. The importance of the localization strategy is recognized and highlighted by the UN Secretary-General who has stated that it is "a key tool for translating policy into practice."¹⁴

2.0. Elaboration of the Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SiLNAP II) for the full implementation of United Nations Security Council

¹⁴ UN Security Council Report of the Secretary-General on WPS, 29 Sept. 2016, S/2016/822.

Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) – SiLNAP II (2019–2023)

The SiLNAP II for the full implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 (2019–2023) is the second generation follow-on to the first SiLNAP (2010–2014), SiLNAP I. In order to develop a high-impact SiLNAP, effort was made to create ownership of the design and formulation, through a comprehensive and inclusive participatory process that involved a wide spectrum of stakeholders and actors, through the stages highlighted below:

2.1. Setting the stage for developing the Sierra Leone National Action Plan II

The prompt evaluation of SiLNAP I when it expired in December 2014 was delayed due to the outbreak of EVD in Sierra Leone in 2014. The evaluation was conducted between November 2015 and April 2016 by a national consultant and facilitated by delegated members of the National Steering Committee for the full implementation (NSC) of SiLNAP. The task was funded by UN Women.

The Evaluation Report highlighted key discriminations against women and girls in Sierra Leone and made a variety of recommendations for the review of the National Action Plan. The NSC met to initiate the review and the writing and drafting of Sierra Leone National Action Plan II.

On 12 May 2017, the MSWGCA met with partners, presented the Evaluation Report, and expressed the need for support to review and develop the second generation of SiLNAP.

2.2. Resource mobilization for the crafting of SiLNAP II

The MSWGCA, with active inputs from the National Steering Committee, developed a final concept note and budget for donor assistance. The project proposal was submitted to the Peacebuilding Fund through UN Women and was finally approved for funding, thereby enabling the crafting process of SiLNAP II.

2.3 Commissioning the crafting of SiLNAP II

The process was given visibility and awareness raised about it through a commissioning and launch event officially performed on 7 August 2018 by the Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs. The commissioning and launch served as a public awareness-raising activity that informed the wider public and key stakeholders of the development of a second generation of SiLNAP and highlighted key activities that the process entailed. The SiLNAP II was commissioned concurrently with the GEWE Policy which was started in 2014,

since the two frameworks pursue the same goal, albeit from different starting points.

It is essential that these two instruments are in sync on women's human rights, participation and representation, as well as advancement issues, at all levels and in all fields of endeavour.

Participants were drawn from among the Parliamentarians, MDAs, international NGOs, CSOs, UN Agencies, Donor Partners and the media.

2.4. SiLNAP II writers' orientation and refresher workshop

A two-day orientation and capacity-strengthening refresher workshop was conducted for NSC members. The sessions presented and discussed themes primarily on UNSCRs 1325, 1820 and the subsequent sister resolutions; SiLNAP contents, key successes, challenges and gaps in SiLNAP implementation by/with the national Government and relevant MDAs especially MLGRD and Local Councils, Paramount Chiefs, women-led CSOs, CBOs, mixed NGOs and UN Agencies; the findings of the SiLNAP I evaluation; the writing of a high-impact SiLNAP II, and M&E indicators. The sessions were resourced and facilitated by the Director of Gender and staff members of MSWGCA, Programme Specialists from UN Women, the UNDP Gender Specialist, and the Coordinator of NOW (SL)/GNWP (SL). Participants were members of all the constituent institutions, organizations and line ministries working on women, peace and security issues. The workshop provided participants with a thorough theoretical and practical knowledge and understanding of SiLNAP I development process and implementation. It also served as a planning meeting for the subsequent regional/district/chiefdom consultations in all the five regions of the country. At the end of the workshop, five crafting teams, each with a Team lead/Writer and Rapporteur, and an overall Writing Lead/Coordinator were set up.

2.5 Regional stakeholder consultations

Regional consultations on the development of SiLNAP II were conducted on 5 September 2018 in the five regions. Participants were drawn from the districts and chiefdoms of the respective regions and headquarter towns. The 50 participants included Paramount Chiefs, Town and/or Section Chiefs, Mammy Queens, Soweis, Local Council officers, Chief Administrators/Development Planning Officers, M&E Officers, Gender Officers, CSOs, CBOs working on Peace and Security issues, Officers from SLP/FSU, Correctional Centre, Office of National Security/Provincial Security Committees, District Security Committees, MDAs (Agriculture and Fisheries, Health, Customs, Trade and Industries), UN Women, UNDP and UNESCO.

The sessions were facilitated through presentations on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and SiLNAP I. Participants worked in groups and responded to guiding questions (developed by the crafting team with inputs from other members of NSC) and reflected on SiLNAP I implementation; highlighted gaps and challenges, analysed women, peace and security matters; and identified, through ranking, priority WPS issues and emerging concerns and needs of greatest interest and germane to their regions, districts or chiefdoms.

Based on the group analysis and recommendations, the participants identified priority issues, specific objectives, strategies, actions and activities, indicators and means of verification, and partners and time frames, all of which informed and enabled the writers to design and draft SiLNAP II.

2.6. Writers' retreat

A three-day writers' retreat was held from 25 to 27 September 2018 at the quiet Mama Beach resort, to examine collated outcomes of the regional consultations, and consolidate/composite these responses from the five regions and through further deliberations in groups and plenary a SiLNAP II zero draft was designed for subsequent careful examination and refinement of inputs by the Overall Lead Writer develop the SiLNAP.

The Overall Lead Writer facilitated the session, at which the various regional leads presented the collated outcomes of the engagements with the respective regional, district and chiefdom stakeholders on the implementation of the WPS Agenda based on their understanding of SiLNAP/UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, including perspectives, concerns and needs related to WPS issues in their communities.

Through facilitated and group work sessions the Writers consolidated the regional, district and chiefdom outputs and developed a zero draft composite National Action Plan Matrix. The matrix consists of six pillars, each with a goal, strategic objective/outcomes, objective outputs, actions/activities, smart indicators, time frames and responsible partners.

Also, the Writing Team agreed on a table of contents, and team members were assigned to contribute inputs to the contents of the narrative sections of SiLNAP II.

2.7. Debrief session with all National Steering Committee members

The Writers Team held a debriefing session on the 18th of October for members of the National Steering Committee and including the consultant M&E specialist to examine the zero draft Plan Matrix produced as a deliverable of the writers' workshop. Their comments and inputs were used to refine and produce a first

draft by the Overall Lead Writer. The first draft was taken to the regions for validation.

2.8. Monitoring and Evaluation framework development

To successfully implement a NAP, the plan needs to include smart indicators and logical results framework for its M&E. Thus, the MSWGCA and the National Steering Committee held a two-day workshop on 1 and 2 November 2018 to set smart indicators and targets and develop the M&E framework for SiLNAP II. The workshop which was resourced by the M&E consultant brought together NSC members, Government Line Ministries, UN Agencies, and other NGOs and CSOs with relevant mandates.

2.9. Regional stakeholder validations

Regional validations were held in all the five regions, on 22 November 2018 at which the zero draft SiLNAP II matrix was presented for comments to ascertain whether or not, issues and relevant proposals regarding the objectives, strategies and activities made at the consultations were captured in the draft. The same participants at the initial consultations attended the validation.

2.10. Rapid Assessment Survey based on guiding questions and mapping questionnaire

Engagement and consultations workshops with a wide array of about 50 stakeholders and actors in each of the five regions including their districts and some chiefdom were undertaken. A series of guiding questions as an assessment tool was applied for the group work tasks following the thematic sessions on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, and SiLNAP implementation and evaluation.

Participant responses provided some insights into organizational, institutional, and collective perspectives, as well as the knowledge and understanding of:

- UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, SiLNAP and the nexus with gender equality and development;
- Security, safety ideas, concerns, issues and needs including sustainable peace;
- Security sector structures, mechanisms, measures for service delivery, women's participation and involvement in security structures at community level;
- VAWG, GBV/SGVB including prevention, protection actions/activities and prosecution of perpetrators by the SLP/FSU;
- Governance, women's participation and representation in leadership and decision-making positions at local/community levels;
- Environment and natural resources management, and natural disasters as well as health emergencies at regional, district and chiefdom levels;

- Economic and social services for women at the community level, including access to ownership of land and financial inclusion, nature and degree of interventions and actions within the WPS Agenda that organizations and institutions have carried out or are ongoing or want to continue with.

Survey findings on the knowledge of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and SiLNAP

- Awareness and knowledge of the existence of these instruments by participants averaged about 80 per cent in some regions and about 60 per cent in others.
- Level of knowledge of SiLNAP ranged from low (40 per cent) to fair (60 per cent).
- SiLNAP implementation is taking place, but a lot of people did not appear to make the connections with security sector work.
- Participants showed satisfactory awareness, knowledge and understanding of security.
- About 90 per cent in all regions acknowledged that men and women have different security needs.
- On the question of specific security needs of women, men, boys and girls, organizations and institutions indicated that gender was used as the approach in their activities, especially to raise awareness and sensitize communities on the prevention of GBV, protection, gender equality, women's inclusion and women's and girls' rights.
- More collaboration is needed with FSU and social services of the local councils and MSWGCA to pursue more SGBV cases, support victims and clarify roles between traditional authorities and SLP/FSU.
- Clear understanding of traditional practices, women's status and the new national land policy is needed.
- Gender issues are integrated into local Development Plans by councils, but some officers have not clearly connected service delivery in SGBV matters to development service.
- Civil society organizations including women led-CSOs and CBOs are undertaking activities in prevention and ending impunity fuelled by traditional and customary practices in the issues of forced, girl child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

The responses to the guiding questions which sought information directly from participants revealed the trends of knowledge, attitude and practice in the various regions, challenges, gaps and what more needs to be done in the prevailing and emerging WPS areas. The lessons of Ebola and consequences of the disastrous landslide and floods have shown the need to focus also on addressing sudden security threats as emerging challenges under health, hygiene, sanitation and economic empowerment in SiLNAP II.

2.11. Costing of SiLNAP II

The costing of the Plan for accountability and sustainability during implementation of the NAP is essential and critical. Costing was done for each activity in the plan.

2.12. Printing and launch of the second generation of SiLNAP

The final SiLNAP II was printed and launched during the national Conference on the Establishment of Peace and National Cohesion at Bintumani Conference Hall on 23 May 2019. The launch was by His Excellency, Brigadier Rtd. Julius Maada Bio. It was a national programme drawing participants from across the country, especially those who had been engaged and involved since the start of the formulation process.

3.0. The Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SiLNAP II)

The Sierra Leone 1991 Constitution enshrines the principles of gender equality, and the dignity and rights of men and women and non-discrimination.

In Sierra Leone, devastating and extreme forms of abuse and violence were widely experienced during the conflict years of 1991 to 2002. Although all civilians suffered the atrocities of the war, the greater majority of those most adversely afflicted including as refugees and internally displaced were women and girls.

Even in this postwar period of prevailing positive peace, peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives, SGBV and VAWG persist. Sexual penetration and rape is occurring at an alarming frequency, including incidences of bestial violations of babies. Almost daily, newspapers report incidences of the sexual penetration of female children, including babies as young as three months, in various communities, urban and rural. The indications from daily media reports are that sexual violence against females – older women, young adult women, girls and children – is increasing with despicable impunity. The perpetrators, it appears from news coverage nowadays, include more young men. The Ministry of Health and the Pharmacy Agency have reported the widespread abuse of the painkiller drug Tramadol, a hallucinogenic, among youth.

The female experience of war is different from that of males. This differentiated special situation of women is not to be recognized and addressed from the perspective of victims only, but also from the perspective of contributors either as willing or forced combatants, and peace builders whose experiences must be fully utilized to shape all initiatives in communities to achieve enduring peace and foster development. Women's experiences in the Sierra Leone war and their roles and contributions brought Resolution 1325 into practice, even though their engagement in conflict prevention and resolution are not widely recognized and valued, particularly at the community level. In the Sierra Leone Parliament, of

146 members, women account for only 12 percent. Women need to be actively represented at all decision-making levels in all the areas of peacebuilding, post conflict and development processes as leaders and change agents.

Thus, the Government jointly with other Development Partners, particularly in-country CSOs, initiated intensified action since May 2018 towards the development of SiLNAP II for the full implementation of UNSCRs 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Also, the SiLNAP II includes elements of Resolution 1820 that builds on 1325, offering a stronger policy strategy than 1325 for the protection of women and girls against conflict-related sexual violence. It affirms that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of peace and security.

The full implementation of the SiLNAP will allow the gender approach to be applied especially to institutional reforms, strategic policies and plans at national and sectoral levels to respond to the imperative of improving women's participation and representation in governance, and ensure the protection of women including adolescents and girls and respect for their rights at all levels.

The SiLNAP II has been elaborated on the context of Sierra Leone and the priority issues that emerged from especially the consultations held at regional/district levels with a wide spectrum of actors from all levels including the chiefdoms.

It is in alignment with the NGSP, and the Medium-Term National Development Plan (2019–2023), especially Cluster Five, 'Empower women, children and disability'.

3.1. Vision

A resilient nation where communities are secured; members coexist peacefully, irrespective of their diverse socio-cultural, religious and political inclinations; the rights of women, adolescents and girls are upheld, and they actively realize the benefits of the full tenets and provisions of UNSCR 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) and related sister resolutions, with the support, also, of male champions.

3.2. Mission

GoSL, through the MSWGCA, coordinates with other relevant MDAs, CSOs, the UN Agencies and other Development Partners, to work with commitment and accountability for the full implementation of SiLNAP II, through a strengthened localization strategy.

3.3. National Action Plan Matrix

The SiLNAP is a five-year (2018-2023) dynamic implementation plan, encompassing both the UNSCR 1325 (2000) and major components of 1820 (2008), designed and developed around six pillars, which are the identified overall strategic objectives presented below.

Pillar 1: Prevention of conflict in communities and addressing the root causes at all levels

Outcome objective: Contribute to achieving reduced conflict in communities and address their root causes at all levels

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific Activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Timeline for completion
1.1 Community stakeholders' commitment to promoting peaceful coexistence by addressing the root causes of conflict at community level increased/strengthened	<p>-Ensuring the establishment and approval and implementation of by-laws that seek to prevent VAW/GBV and protect women, girls and adolescent youth, and vulnerable persons</p> <p>-Parliamentary Finance Oversight Committee examination and assessing existing national budget allocation to GE and specifically to SiLNAP implementation.</p>	-Harmonize/align the relevant provisions of and remove inconsistency between the Child Rights Act and the Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act with respect to age of marriage.	<p>-Inconsistency between provisions removed</p> <p>-Allocation to GE and WPS in existing National Budget, percentage allocated, and adequacy of allocation</p>	<p>MSWGCA, Law Reform Commission and Justice/AG's Office, MPs (Female Caucus), Judiciary, Human Rights and Social Welfare Oversight Committees, Local Councils, Traditional Authorities</p> <p>-Finance Oversight Committee, Social Welfare, Human Rights and other relevant Parliamentary Oversight Committees</p>	Women's organizations, male champion CSO groups, IRC, UN Women, UNDP	30,000	2019
1.2 Policy mechanisms and procedures for prevention of conflicts and how	Dissemination of simplified version of SiLNAP and localization guidelines	-Develop messages in jingles and local languages to be disseminated by	-Number of jingles developed, and number of slots/times	-MSWGCA -Regional/District/Chiefdom Steering Committees, MPs PROSEC/DISEC/CH	Women's organizations, UNESCO, UN Women, Development	465,000	2019

to address the root causes instituted at community levels		<p>air by village/community criers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publicize through pictorial flyers - Organize community theatre and radio drama for message dissemination - Organize radio programmes panel discussions and town hall/ community Barray style meetings 	<p>messages aired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of theatres/drama sessions and communities where organized -Number of barray sessions and/or radio panel discussions held 	SEC, Local Councils, Local Authorities/PCs/ MLGRD	Partners, NGOs		
1.3 Contributions by stakeholders in communities to finding solutions to women's and girls' peace and security issues, enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness raising and training on women's/girls' peace and security issues - Localization of SiLNAP - Advocacy and education on sustaining peace -Engaging in local awareness raising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Conduct trainings for community stakeholders including women themselves on WPS issues, structural barriers that impede women's enjoyment of political rights and active participation in decision-making 	<p>Number of community stakeholders, male and female, trained and enabled in supporting women to overcome barriers like access education, life skills, active participation in community level decision-</p>	<p>MSWGCA Steering Committees on WPS, Community Advocacy and Social Welfare Groups, MLGRD, Local Councils, Chiefdom Councils UN Women, UNDP UNICEF, MPs</p> <p>-Women's NGOs/CSOs/CBOs/ mixed peace and development organizations,</p>	CSOs, NGOs, Development Partners	650,000	<p>2019 - 2023</p> <p>2019 - 2020</p>

	<p>and constituency education activities to build understanding of the value of WPS and gender equality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable women to have support groups - Educate and train local councils and provide refresher seminars on Localization Guidelines of SiLNAP and its monitoring framework - Hold community dialogue forums on benefits of peaceful coexistence/ social cohesion, including advocacy on the implementation of the remaining TRC recommendations on women and girls 	<p>making and recognizing women's ideas</p>	<p>Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education, Ministry of Technical and Higher Education</p>	<p>As above</p>		
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Pillar 2: Protection and support of women, girls, SGBV survivors and other vulnerable persons

Outcome objective: To protect women, girls and other persons vulnerable from, SGBV and promote human dignity and equality

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Timeline for completion
2.1 Mechanisms undertaken to ensure women, girls and other vulnerable groups are protected from SGBV, and their dignity is protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strictly enforcing community by-laws on SGBV by engaging national, regional and key community stakeholders -Traditional leaders, parents, local authorities, including the police/FSU to enforce compliance and effective application of the four Gender Justice laws and authorities to forward cases of SGBV to the law - Establishing and equipping safe homes in all 16 districts - Creation of Female Advocacy Groups at Chieftdom Levels - Establishment of a toll free line to report incidences of GBV/VAW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hold meetings with stakeholders to raise awareness, and follow up on community monitoring of the implementation of by-laws and gender justice laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of meetings held -Number of cases reported, charged with satisfactory outcome/conviction 	CBOs, CSOs, MSWGCA, FSU, Rainbo Initiative, Parliamentary Oversight Committee, Female Caucus, Local Authorities Women's Organizations	UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, Partners, NGOs	515,000	2019–2023
2.2 Lower rates of Violence against Women/Gender Based Violence at national level are achieved.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Follow up cases to ensure punitive measures on GBV are effected -Conduct dialogue with local councils and Traditional Authorities and FSU on application of WPS Localisation Strategy Guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of satisfactory response/assistance to victims in order to pursue matter to the end -Number of articles published/or trends in the print media on SGBV 				
2.3 SGBV/VAWG in communities reduced by 2023		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mobilize, provide funding and undertake necessary tasks -Monitor and evaluate the work done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Council Reports/Local Councils Development Plans -Number of safe homes operational 				

	- Creation of more consistent electronic data base on the outcomes of reported VAW/SGBV cases		-Number of times M&E conducted on available safe homes				
2.4 Teenage pregnancy in local communities reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage in media and public lobbying and advocacy sensitization/ conscientization, education and training on ending VAW and SGBV, including particularly, forced/ early girl child marriage, promoting SRHR focusing on Traditional Leaders and parents, especially fathers. - Perpetrators on jail term should in no way qualify for Presidential pardon; - Promotion and facilitation of Livelihood support to families - Engaging National, Regional and communities stakeholders on FGM/C - Revisiting and engaging communities to reflect on traditional practices and beliefs, especially, on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hold dialogue sessions with key community stakeholders, including traditional leaders, male champions, parents, especially fathers, and teenagers -Fast track the adoption of the amendment to the Child Rights Act (2007) to make it consistent with the Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act (2009) -Conduct training sessions on life skills for girls in formal and non-formal school systems using the national life skills manuals -Establish adolescent youth friendly centres at community level to help localities reduce teenage/early girl child pregnancy -Provide livelihood skills trainings in agriculture and other sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of dialogue sessions held; percentage of parents and traditional authorities involved. -Amended Child Rights Act - Number of training sessions and number of girls reached -Number of skills trainings facilitated/ supported -Number of persons particularly women actively involved in VSLAs -Case study/report on immediate benefits/ impact realized through VSLAs ready loans -Assessment of traditional views 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSWGCA, MPs (Female Caucus), teenagers, and male champions, women-led CBOs, CSOs, parents/ mothers' clubs, Traditional Authorities MBSSE, MTI, MoHS -MSWGCA, Development Partners -CSOs/ NGOs, UN Women, UNDP, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women-led NGOs, CSOs, UNICEF, IRC, UN Women NGOs/CSOs 	825,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019-2023 2019-2023 2019-2023 2019

	<p>traditional view of adolescent girls, puberty, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and on the negative consequences of teenage-pregnancy.</p> <p>- Advocacy on free medical treatment for all SGBV survivors</p>	<p>-Conduct IEC for women's groups on mobilizing income through engagement in microfinance schemes such as Village Savings and Loan Associations</p> <p>-Conduct dialogue/IE/reflection meeting with key community members, including Traditional Authorities, parents of teenage girls and young adults to assess their traditional view on puberty, and sexual and reproductive, health rights and responsibilities</p> <p>-Conduct research on access in the 16 districts</p>	<p>-Extent of appreciation of appropriate SRHRs and negative consequences of teenage pregnancy and percentage of early marriages stopped</p> <p>-Number of M&E exercises conducted on free health care services provided for survivors in the 16 districts</p>	<p>FAO, MTI, USAID, CARE</p> <p>-MPs women's CSOs, MSWGCA, MLGRD, Local Councils, Chiefdom Councils, UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA</p>			
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Pillar 3: Prosecution and punishment perpetrators of SGBV effectively and their rehabilitation, and safeguarding of women’s, young adults’ and girls’ human rights at all times

Outcome objective: Contribute to increased conviction of perpetrators and promotion of women’s, young adults’ and girls’ rights

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Timeline for completion
3.1 Policies and mechanisms to protect women, adolescent young adults and girls from SGBV improved and operated, their rights recognized, perpetrators being punished effectively and impunity strongly deterred by the end of 2023	-Sentencing perpetrators to serve maximum penalties/jail terms	-Stakeholders at community levels, particularly women-led CSOs/CBOs collaborate with agencies serving youth and girls, and male champions undertake advocacy campaigns using multiple channels of communications	-Number of SGBV perpetrators sentenced to maximum terms/or jailed for life	-SLP/FSU, MoJ, MSWGCA, women’s organizations, male champion groups	NGOs, Bilateral and Multilateral Partners	920,000	2019–2023
	-Improving witness protection system	- MSWGCA and women’s organizations engage the Sierra Leone Correctional Services to provide effective services of such types to their clients	-Number of inmates provided with counselling service/or other means	-Sierra Leone Correctional Service, Women’s NGOs, MSWGCA, Local Councils, Community Stakeholders FSU & Justice Sector			2019–2023
	-Discouraging the culture of silence in matters of SGBV, and FSU/justice sector authorities strictly maintaining confidentiality code with respect to informants	-Local Councils and MSWGCA to support and provide transportation allowance/refunds to witness and victims, thereby enabling them to report at nearest FSU and subsequently attend court sessions	-Number of SGBV victims assisted by local councils to report and attend court sittings				

<p>3.2 Institutions and other justice sector mechanisms commitment to protect women, adolescents and girls from, and respond to VAW and sexual violence offences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reviewing the Gender Justice Laws and addressing conflicting clauses and/or magnitude of sentences: reviewing maximum penalty to 20 years -Applying the life imprisonment penalty in the case of sexual penetration of minors -Institutions and CSOs engaging MPs to use their oversight roles in ensuring enforcement of laws with regard to VAW/GBV - Continuing popularization of Gender Justice laws at community level - Justice Department/AG expediting review and approval of relevant by-laws submitted by PCs, Mayors/ Village Head Persons; Consistently expediting the allocation of Judges to serve District courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MSWGCA in partnership with the Justice Sector including FSU organise dialogue and trainings for key stakeholders including legal practitioners on the gender justice laws. -Conduct Parliamentary outreach programme to communities-taking the parliament to the people activity; -Hold IEC forums at community levels on their uses Monitor the approval rate of by-laws already on the table of the Attorney General for approval in 2018 -MSWGCA to furnish, equip and properly staff already built Safe Homes in Makeni, and construct and equip homes in the other districts nationwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of participants, including legal practitioners, FSU, social workers trained in/provided with gender justice information -Number of/adequacy of penalty applied -Number of forums held and number of pictorial IEC flyers distributed -Percentage of by-laws approved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -MSWGCA, Justice Sector, MPs, Law Reform Commission, -MPs (Female Parliamentary Caucus), MSWGCA, MLGRD, Human Rights Commission, CSOs -MLGRD, Local Councils/Council of Village Heads -MPs/Female Caucus/Parliamentary Oversight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NGOs, CSOs, women-led CSOs, /CBOs, Bilateral and Multilateral Partners, e.g., Irish Aid, UNICEF, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO - NGOs, CSOs, women-led CSOs, /CBOs, Bilateral and Multilateral Partners, e.g., Irish Aid, UNICEF, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO 	<p>425,000</p>	<p>2019-2023</p> <p>2019-2023</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilitating and supporting the training of women as court monitors - Constructing and furnishing Safe Homes 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Seek information on this activity and monitor progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee -MSWGCA 			
3.3 Processes and laboratory analytical facilities to enable speedy trials, especially in cases of rape and sexual penetration improved.	Establishing forensic laboratories for DNA testing in all regional/district hospitals	MSWGCA holds consultations with MoHS and the Justice Sector about the setting up of DNA testing facilities including training of medical laboratory staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of meetings and progress on in-country DNA testing service -Number of SGBV convictions 	MoHS	Development Partners	1,200,000	2019
3.4 Advocacy outreach to Government to implement the remaining recommendations, on women and girls, in the TRC report conducted	Lobbying and advocating for the setting up of the TRC follow-up committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize representation and hold advocacy meetings with Government and the Human Rights Commission on the matter -Collaborative activities with the media, in particular WIMSAL, in conducting advocacy on WPS issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -TRC follow-up committee established -Number of joint activities organized to foster WPS Agenda in Sierra Leone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CSOs, Human Rights Commission -Women's organizations, UNESCO, WIMSAL, UN Women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NGOs -Bilateral agencies, UN Agencies 	60,000	2019 2019–2023

Pillar 4: Participation and representation of women in leadership at all levels of decision-making, in peacebuilding and development processes

Outcome objective: Contribute to increased meaningful participation and representation of women in decision-making in all sectors, and at all levels

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Timeline for completion
4.1 Minimum of 30 per cent women’s active participation and representation in decision-making positions at all levels, especially, in peacebuilding, and governance institutions moved towards or attained by 2023	- Lobbying and advocating at Government and political parties levels	-Organize advocacy meetings with Government line ministries and political parties on WPS Agenda, gender equality and the meaningful inclusion of women in policies, and facilitate/disseminate the He4She campaign	-Number of advocacy engagements/ meetings held with institutions on becoming gender sensitive and applying gender parity approach	-MSWGCA, Parliament/ Female Caucus and key parliamentary Oversight Committees, MTI, MPPA, women’s CSOs	PPRC, APPWA, Male Champions UN Women , UNDP	295,000	2019
	- Reforming institutional policies including cultural/traditional institutions to embrace the minimum 30 per cent quota in line with CEDAW	-Parliamentarians to push for the amendment of Section 27(4)(d)&(e) of the 1991 Constitution through Private Members Bill by Female MPs at a Question Time to AG on the status of the Constitutional review process to speed it up	-Number of male champion groups that support women’s empowerment established and trained in the 16 districts	-MSWGCA, Council of Paramount Chiefs, Female PCs, Parliamentary Female Caucus, women-led CSOs/CBOs, male champion groups			2019-2023
	-Continuing advocacy at SSIs to intensify their actions with respect to CEDAW	-Organize exchange visits on best practices among chiefdoms with female PCs and MPs, and those with less gender sensitivity	-Availability of PMB -Availability of question asked in parliament on the issue	-MSWGCA,			2019-2023

	<p>-Mapping of women in the SSIs and advocating for reviewing security sector recruitment and promotion criteria and policies</p> <p>-Lobbying MPs for the passage of the GEWE Bill in parliament</p> <p>-Continuing sensitization/ conscientization of women, particularly young females about their roles and responsibilities in all development fields, including the necessary engagement in empowerment /capacity-building processes</p>	<p>-Engage PPRC in advocacy meeting to review the political party registration criteria to include minimum 30 per cent quota of women in leadership positions</p> <p>- Engage SSIs including ONS to continue training of female officers/staff members to enable minimum 30 per cent participation and representation in leadership positions, including in peacebuilding, and Peace Support Operations mission, and to develop and apply as necessary, mechanisms like targeting and quotas at all levels of their structures</p> <p>- MSWGCA to fast track next steps soon as the GEWE policy is developed</p> <p>- Conduct awareness raising and capacity-building training of trainers (ToT) workshops for women, especially at chieftom levels, in collaboration with male champions</p> <p>-Organize community advocacy campaigns on the importance of female</p>	<p>-Availability of the reviewed code</p> <p>-Number of advocacy engagements</p> <p>-Mapping reports</p> <p>-Number of training courses organized by respective institutions to build/strengthen capacities on gender, gender analysis gender mainstreaming, WPS, gender and peace processes</p> <p>-GEWE Policy finalized and Bill passed by Parliament</p>	<p>ONS RSLAF, SLP/FSU, women-led CSOs/CBOs</p>	<p>Bilate- ral and Multilat- -eral agence s</p>		<p>2019</p> <p>2019- 2023</p> <p>2019- 2023</p>
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		representation and the fight against VAWG					
4.2 Representation of women in Security committees at provincial, district and chiefdom levels and other governance committees, especially at chiefdom levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobby officials in the security sector - Sensitize women about their roles and responsibilities in building peace, engaging with SSIs - Capacity-building for women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize meetings amongst key stakeholders - Sensitization and awareness raising workshops for women - Training workshops for women in peacebuilding - Organize Mock Parliament involving school pupils /school clubs on International Women's Day in the Chamber of Parliament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of meetings held with officials in the security sector - Percentage of women made aware of their roles and responsibilities in peacebuilding - 100 women trained in peacebuilding and human rights in districts and chiefdoms 	-ONS, Regional, District, and local council officials, Chiefdom Council officials, Community women, Traditional Authorities , parliamentary Female Caucus, Legislative committee, male champions, women's organizations	Bilateral and Multilaterals, UNDP	400,000	2019-2022

Pillar 5: Promote culture of peace and empower communities to generate and sustain their own well-being, environmental security and early response to health emergencies

Outcome objective: Contribute to sustainable peace and community resilience to environmental and health emergencies

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Timeline for completion
5.1. Communities' capacity to generate sustainable livelihood strengthened, their resilience and coping strategies to environmental disasters and health emergencies improved	- Capacity-building and strengthening through knowledge sharing on policies, practices and perspectives on positive behavioural/attitudinal change, including facilitation/supporting access to available services at all levels	<p>-Hold consultative dialogue for and IEC sessions at community levels with key stakeholders on enhancing lasting livelihood activities, resilience/coping strategies by mitigating environmental disasters, practising and maintaining good hygiene and sanitary practices</p> <p>-Conduct ToT sessions with key community groups to cascade outcomes of dialogue sessions and impart practical actions widely at community level</p> <p>-Establish woodlots for fuel wood, planting of fruit and nut trees around houses and farmlands at community level and train women and girls especially in the use of energy- and fuel-saving stoves</p>	<p>Number of IEC sessions on environmental, natural resource management and conservation, preventing environmental disasters such as flooding and droughts, and promoting health and hygiene to prevent outbreaks of Ebola, cholera, typhoid, etc.</p> <p>-Number and percentage of women using energy efficient fuel materials</p> <p>-Percentage of farming spaces at community level</p>	EPA, NPAA, MAFFS, MLGRD, MSWGCA, MLE , MPs Local Councils, Chiefdom Councils, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Meteorology Dept., women's CSOs/CBOs	NGOs, UNDP-GEF UNIT,UN WOMEN, UNICEF	225,000	2019–2023

Pillar 6: Promote effective coordination of implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting of SiLNAP II

Outcome objective: Capacity and systems for effective and efficient implementation, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and reporting strengthened

Output objectives	Strategies	Specific activities	Indicators	Primary stakeholders	Other partners	Financial allocation	Time for completion
6.1 Institutional and technical capacity of the MSWGCA and other relevant entities for the coordination and management of the SiLNAP for full implementation and promotion of UNSCRs1325,1820 and their supporting UN Resolutions strengthened by 2023	<p>Regular coordination and implementation, monitoring reporting meetings of the National, Regional, District and Chiefdom Steering Committees</p> <p>-Strengthening capacity for peace, security and gender analyses, including the creation of data hub on SiLNAP implementation outcomes</p> <p>-Availability of simplified reader-friendly version of SiLNAP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold monthly meetings on implementation and coordination - Establish Chiefdom Steering Committees - Conduct specialized training on WPS programme planning, coordination, collection of gender statistics, M&E for Steering Committee and Partners - Establish a SiLNAP database at MSWGCA National Office - Produce reader-friendly flyers and disseminate copies of NAP yearly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number meetings held - Number of chiefdom committees established - Number of personnel skilled in stated areas - Availability of database at MSWGCA, and ensure it contains gender statistics on WPS - Number of copies reproduced and distributed yearly 	<p>MSWGCA & Parliament (Female Caucus), Committee on Supplies, Institutions /MDAs represented on the Steering Committees</p> <p>-MSWGCA, SSL</p>	UN family, International Partners	310,000	2019–2023
6.2 Monitoring framework strengthened, institutionalized and operated with adequate funding for the purpose	Collaborate and coordinate with other Partners for proper M&E of implementation of SiLNAP activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hold joint meetings with stakeholders, especially with the relevant Parliamentary Oversight Committees, to share information on implementation and strengthen monitoring protocol of SiLNAP - Training workshop on monitoring for partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of information sharing meetings held -Existence of M&E plan 	MSWGCA & Steering Committees the other key MDAs Parliamentary oversight committees		230,000	2019

Each pillar contains priority outcome and output objectives with indicators for monitoring progress towards full implementation. Appropriate activities including responsible parties and timelines have been identified. In all, there are six expected outcome objectives, twenty-three key output objectives and thirty-three indicators.

3.4. National Action Plan Budget Estimate

National Action Plan Budget Estimate							
Objectives	Specific activities	Amount required (USD)					Activity total (USD)
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
1. Contribute to achieving reduced conflict in Communities and addressing their root causes at all levels	1.1.1. Harmonize/ align the relevant provisions of and remove inconsistency between the Child Rights Act and the Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act with respect to age of marriage	30,000	10,000	0	0		30,000
	1.2.1. Develop messages in jingles and local languages to be disseminated by air, by village/community criers; publicize through pictorial flyers	40,000	35,000	30,000	10,000	5,000	120,000
	1.2.2 Organize community theatre and radio dramas for message dissemination	30,000	30,000	30,000	35,000	30,000	155,000
	1.2.3 Organize radio programmes, panel discussions and town hall/ community barray-style meetings	60,000	50,000	30,000	30,000	20,000	190,000
	1.3.1. Conduct trainings for community stakeholders including women themselves on WPS issues and structural barriers that impede women's enjoyment of political rights and active participation in decision-making - Enable women to have support groups	60,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	30,000	240,000
	1.3.2. Educate and train local councils and provide refresher seminars on	50,000	50,000	30,000	30,000	20,000	180,000

	Localization Guidelines of SiLNAP and its monitoring framework						
	1.3.3. Hold community dialogue forums on benefits of peaceful coexistence/social cohesion, including advocacy on the implementation of the remaining TRC recommendations on women and girls	60,000	60,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	230,000
2. To protect women, girls and other persons vulnerable from SGBV and promote human dignity and equality	2.1.1 Hold meetings with stakeholders to raise awareness, and follow up on community monitoring of the implementation of by-laws and gender justice laws	60,000	60,000	50,000	50,000	30,000	250,000
	2.1.2. Conduct dialogue with local councils and Traditional Authorities and FSU on application of WPS Localisation Strategy Guidelines , create two female advocacy groups at chieftdom levels and established toll free line to report cases	60,000	45,000	40,000	40,000	30,000	215,000
	2.3.1 Mobilize, provide funding and undertake necessary tasks for establishment and equipping of safe homes -Monitor and evaluate the work done	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
	2.4.1 Hold dialogue sessions with key community' stakeholders, including traditional leaders, male champions, parents, especially fathers, and teenagers	50,000	50,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	220,000
	2.4.2 Conduct training sessions on life skills for girls in formal and non-formal school systems using the national life skills manuals	55,000	50,000	55,000	50,000	45,000	255,000

	-Establish adolescent youth friendly centres at local community level to reduce teenage pregnancy and early child marriage						
	2.4.3 Provide livelihood skills trainings in agriculture and other sectors	80,000	80,000	80,000	60,000	60,000	360,000
	2.4.4 Conduct IEC for women's groups on mobilizing income through engagement in microfinance schemes, e.g., Village Savings and Loan Associations	40,000	40,000	40,000	45,000	45,000	210,000
	2.4.5 Conduct dialogue/IE/reflection meeting with key community members, including Traditional Authorities, and parents of teenage girls and young adults to assess their views on puberty, sexual and reproductive, health rights and responsibilities, including research in the 16 districts	40,000	40,000	0	0	0	80,000
3. Contribute to increased conviction of perpetrators and promotion of the rights of women, young adults and girls	3.1.1 Stakeholders at community levels, particularly, women-led CSOs/CBOs, collaborate with agencies serving youth and girls and male champions, and undertake advocacy campaigns using multiple channels of communications	50,000	80,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	310,000
	3.1.2 MSWGCA & Women's organizations engage the Sierra Leone Correctional Services to provide effective services to their clients	10,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	60,000
	3.1.3 Local Councils and MSWGCA to support and provide transportation allowance/refunds to witness and victims, thereby enabling them to report at nearest FSU and subsequently attend court sessions	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
	3.1.4 MSWGCA in partnership with the	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000

	Justice Sector including FSU organizes dialogue and trainings for key stakeholders including legal practitioners on the gender justice laws						
	3.1.5 Hold joint IEC forums at community levels on their uses including two parliamentarian programmes	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	50,000
	3.2.1 Monitor the approval rate of by-laws already on the table of the AG for approval in 2018	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
	3.2.2 MSWGCA furnishes, equips and properly staffs existing Safe Homes in Makeni, and construct and equip homes in the other districts nationwide	90,000	90,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	420,000
	3.3.1 MSWGCA holds consultations with MoH and the Justice Sector about the setting up of DNA testing facilities including training of medical laboratory staff	800,000	200,000	100,000	50,000	50,000	1,200,000
	3.4.1 Organize representation and hold advocacy meetings with Government and the Human Rights Commission on the follow-up to the TRC recommendations - Collaborative activities with the media, in particular WIMSAL, in conducting advocacy on WPS issues	10,000	10,000	15,000	10,000	15,000	60,000
4. Contribute to increased meaningful participation and representation of women in decision-making in all sectors, and at all levels	4.1.1 Organize advocacy meetings with Government line ministries and political parties on WPS Agenda, gender equality/meaningful inclusion of women in policies, and facilitate/disseminate the He4She campaign	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000	90,000
	4.1.2 Organize exchange visits on best	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000

	practices among chiefdoms with female PCs and MPs, and those with less gender sensitivity						
	4.1.3 Engage PPRC in advocacy meeting to review the political party registration criteria to include minimum 30 per cent quota of women in leadership positions	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
	4.1.4 MSWGCA to fast track next steps as soon as the GEWE policy is developed. Parliamentarians to push for the amendment of Section 27(4)(d)&(e) of the 1991 Constitution, through a private member bill by female MPs during question time to the AG on the constitutional review process, to speed it up	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000
	4.1.5 Engage SSIs including ONS in continued training of female officers/staff members to enable minimum 30 per cent participation and representation in leadership positions, including in peacebuilding /Peace Support Operations mission in particular, and to also develop and apply as necessary, mechanisms like targeting and quotas at all levels of their structures	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	70,000
	4.1.6 Conduct awareness raising and capacity-building ToT workshops for women, especially at chiefdom levels, in collaboration with male champions	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000
	4.1.7 Organize community advocacy campaigns on the importance of	20,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	80,000

	women's representation and the fight against VAWG						
	4.1.8 Organize meetings amongst key stakeholders -Sensitization and awareness raising workshops for women and schools including mock parliament and student clubs - Training workshops for women in peacebuilding	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000
5. Contribute to sustainable peace and community resilience to environmental and health emergencies	5.1.1 Hold consultative dialogue and IEC sessions at community level with key stakeholders on enhancing lasting livelihood activities and resilience/coping strategies by mitigating environmental disasters, and practising and maintaining good hygiene and sanitary practices	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	15,000	55,000
	5.1.2 Conduct ToT sessions with key community groups to cascade outcomes of dialogue sessions and imparting practical actions widely at community level	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	80,000
	5.1.3 Establish woodlots for fuel wood, planting of fruit and nut trees around houses and farmlands at community level and train women and girls, especially, on use of energy- and fuel-saving stoves	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000	90,000
6. Capacity and systems for effective and efficient coordination of implementation, M&E	6.1.1 Hold monthly meetings on implementation and coordination	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	100,000
	6.1.2 Establish Chiefdom Steering Committees	20,000	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000	90,000
	6.1.3 Conduct specialized training on WPS programme planning, coordination, collection of gender statistics, M&E	30,000	30,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	120,000

	for Steering Committee and Partners						
	6.1.4 Establish a SiLNAP database at MSWGCA National Office -Produce reader-friendly flyers and disseminate copies of the NAP yearly	60,000	25,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	115,000
	6.1.5 Hold joint meetings with stakeholders, especially the relevant Parliamentary Oversight Committees, to share information on implementation and to strengthen monitoring protocol of SiLNAP	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	75,000
	6.1.6 Training workshop on monitoring for partners	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,010
						TOTAL	6,850,010

3.5. Resource mobilization for full implementation

3.5.1 Financing SiLNAP II

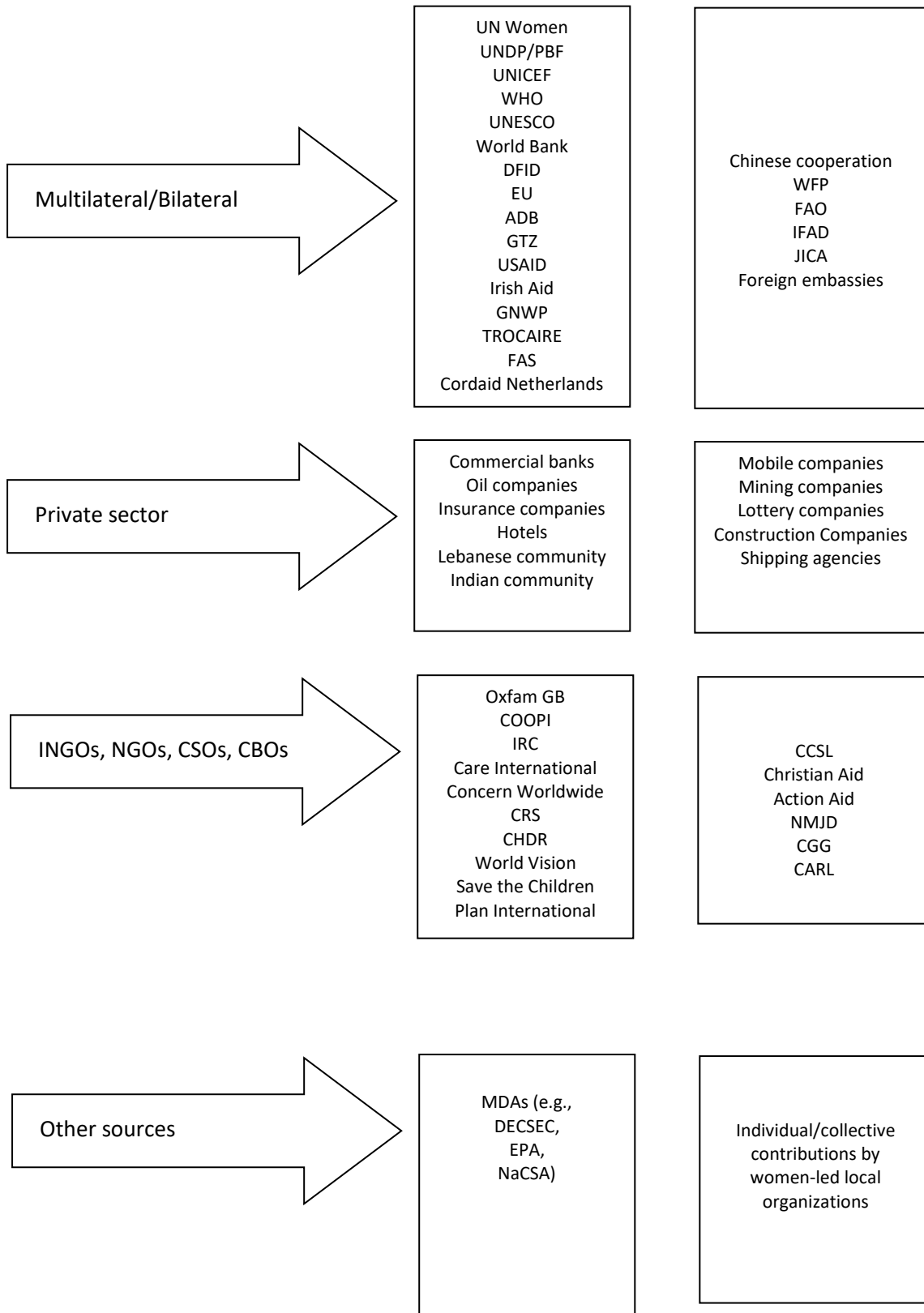
The purpose of this strategy is to identify realistic approaches to mobilizing resources for the implementation of the SiLNAP process in Sierra Leone. The Government, as forerunner in the implementation of the SiLNAP, shall take the lead in resource mobilization. It should be noted, however, that Government resources as articulated in the national budget always fall short of the requisite finance to implement its development programmes.

Financing the SiLNAP to enhance effective operation is in two phases: getting the National Steering Committee for Implementation, and coordination and reporting on the implementation of the SiLNAP. The Sierra Leone Government, through the MSWGCA, has expressed its strong commitment throughout the crafting stages of SiLNAP. There is manifest political will to support the implementation. However, the existing national budget allocation for gender equality, and specifically for SiLNAP, are far from meeting the programmed financial resources to ensure its successful implementation.

While the Government contribution will continue to remain fundamental to the resource mobilization strategy, there is a strong need to identify other sources to mobilize additional resources. Support (financially or in-kind) will be sought from various sources including international donors, the private sector, CSO/NGOs, and individuals/ households/communities (*see Figure 1 below*). Mobilizing resources from domestic sources is extremely critical for ownership and sustainability of the implementation process.

The MSWGCA, together with its supporting NSC, have a huge task in this respect to lead the fundraising exercise, taking advantage of its heterogeneous composition including representatives from civil society, faith-based organizations, the private sector, academia, parliament, SSIs and other MDAs. Each member of the NSC can lead a fundraising move in its constituency and among other potential donors.

Figure 1: Potential sources of donations



3.5.2 Role of Government, non-state and private sectors

3.5.2.1 The role of Government

The effective implementation of SiLNAP II is premised on a tripartite foundation consisting of the GoSL (State Party), UN Agencies, and CSOs working on WPS. Sierra Leone has recognized the need to address issues of gender inequality, inequity and women, peace and security, and Government has to take the lead in mobilizing all the resource types required for responding to these issues. Examples include the signing and in some cases ratification of the relevant international and regional human rights laws and instruments. These include CEDAW, signed on 21 September 1988 and ratified on 11 November 1988, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPfA), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the African Union Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality, and the African Union Protocol to the African Charter on Human Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, signed in 2005 and ratified in 2015.

The optional Protocol to CEDAW, signed in 2005, is yet to be ratified. CEDAW is yet to be fully domesticated; the passage of the four Gender Justice Laws, comprising the Domestic Violence Act, Devolution of Estates Act, Registration of Customary Marriages and Divorces Act and the Sexual Offences Act, between 2007 and 2012, reflects a degree of Government commitment to domesticate some of the provisions of CEDAW. However, a major impediment to the full application of the practical tools that these three gender laws and legal reforms provide in general, remain the non-domestication of CEDAW, and the non-repeal of Section 27(4)(d)&(e) of the 1991 Constitution. Government's role in addressing WPS has to be strong, to ensure that these protection laws are effectively enforced, despite deep rooted cultural and customary practices which contradict, and fly in the face of these statutory laws, and in some cases, with impunity. Since the passage of these relevant Bills that directly bear on enabling effective implementation of UNSCR 1820, the other supportive process instrument, the Matrimonial Causes Act, is moving too slowly through the legislative process.

The MSWGCA has embarked on a review of the twin National Policies, namely the Policy on the Advancement of Women and the National Gender Mainstreaming Policy that were in place since 2000. The NGSP has been reviewed and the revision of a draft Gender Equality & Gender Empowerment Policy that was first done with UNDP support in 2014 has been completed. The finalization of the draft policy was supported by UNDP and UN Women through the Peace Building Fund.

The Sierra Leone Medium-Term National Development Plan, 2019–2023, titled 'A New Direction for Improving People's Lives through Education, Inclusive Growth and Building a Resilience Economy', has been produced and launched; it has a Cluster Five dedicated to 'Empowering women, children and persons with disability'.

These policies are designed to promote, protect and advance women's rights in social, economic, political and cultural fields with special emphasis on women's participation in decision-making especially in democratic governance processes. The MSWGCA in partnership with women's civil society, and various human rights organizations have continued to sensitize communities on the benefits which these policies and legal instruments provide.

The MLGRD, in collaboration with MSWGCA and with technical support and funding from partners,¹⁵ developed and rolled out the 'Guidelines for the Alignment/Harmonisation of SiLNAP on UNSCRs 1325 & 1820 with Local Development Planning Process in Local Councils' among the then 19 local councils. Refresher trainings for all the current 21 councils on the application of the Guidelines need to be organized by the MLGRD and MSWGCA in partnership with the NSC/and GNWP-SL.

The National Security Apparatus

The National Security Apparatus of Sierra Leone encompasses among other institutions the Sierra Leone Police (SLP), RSLAF, Sierra Leone Correctional Centre, Sierra Leone Fire Force (SLFF) and Sierra Leone Immigration Services (SLIS). Policy and institutional reforms within these peace and security institutions to which UNSCR 1325 and 1820 are most substantially directed have been undertaken.

In general, the Sierra Leone Security Sector apparatus through SSR has been gradually moulded to admit a gender process that incorporates women, so that the respective institutions could better play their role in accordance with the tenets of UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

The pattern of recruitment and promotion, for instance, has been reported as currently "largely dependent on competence, ability, qualification and general output rather than sex, patronage or nepotism. Despite policy reforms from a gender perspective, and substantial increase in women's engagement and involvement in the security forces, the inclusion and representation of women at the decision-making levels is still glaringly low, especially in the RSALF and the Correctional Centre. Women are expected to be represented in the various Security Sector structures; such as the Provincial, District and Chiefdom Security Committees (PROSECS, DISECs, CHISECS). This is happening in some Provinces, Districts and Chiefdoms, while in others; women are not empowered or are denied access to taking up roles on these platforms.

Security Sector Reform

SSR implementation started in 2000, as a significant element of the peace consolidation process, through the support of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), PBF Projects and other bilateral Agencies like DFID, and took place within the SSR process. Although it does not explicitly factor in gender mainstreaming,

¹⁵ GNWP New York Coordinating Team and GNWP-SL members.

gender policies are in place in institutions within this sector, to promote gender-focused development. However, a lot more still needs to be done.

The role of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces

Again, there has been policy reform and restructuring within the RSLAF with regard to recruitment, training and retention with some gender perspective. An increase in women's participation has been achieved through the application of quotas, maintaining academic criteria, but with adaptation in relation to physical fitness. A sexual harassment and fraternization policy, which was passed on 15 March, is being actively implemented and so too is its gender mainstreaming policy. Female officers are trained and also nominated to participate in Peace Support Missions to, for example, Somalia. The most high-ranking woman in the RSLAF, a Brigadier-General, has retired. She was in fact the first female Brigadier in the West African Region. There is only one female of colonel rank, who heads the Gender Unit, and by projection, it would take quite a few years for another woman to rise to the rank of Brigadier-General.

In a 14th February Resolution on WPS tabled and passed in parliament by MPs, one of the calls was to the Sierra Leone military leadership and the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to increase the rate of recruitment and promotion of women in the RSLAF. In general, being gender-responsive and applying a gender mainstreaming approach would enhance the RSLAF's role in its security mandate.

The role of the Sierra Leone Police

The SLP seems to have acquired a great deal of gender sensitivity as a result of its work with the UN System in Sierra Leone especially in the post-war recovery phase with UNIPSIL, UNFPA, UN Women and UNICEF. Through gender training and resources support it is responding to women's concerns and special needs to a greater extent than before.

The Police increasingly engage women through the Local Police Partnership Boards (LPPB). Through this initiative, women are being involved in community policing. This process includes creating awareness and educating communities on their human, legal and constitutional rights. Within the LPPB, women are involved at executive levels and are participating actively at meetings and assisting the LPPB in disseminating key messages on personal security at the community level. The Women's Situation Room worked actively with the Police at national and local levels and advocated for no violence during the March 2018 presidential, parliamentary and local councils elections. Working with the police, some of these women are leading advocacy for sharing information on the harmful impacts of conflict on women, and contributions that women in particular can make to building and reaching stable, fair and prosperous post-conflict communities if involved in peace processes, at a critical mass.

These trainings helped community understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the police.

The most popular section in the police is said to be the Family Support Unit (FSU). Through this Unit, communities are assisted in taking measures to prevent and respond to issues of GBV. Community members are encouraged to be involved in community policing which enable women and men to report cases of SGBV and all its forms to the FSU. Women-led CSOs and mixed gender CSOs in communities contribute to providing intelligence to the police to assist them in their duty of ensuring the safety and security of communities. However, the culture of silence which seems characteristic of some communities nowadays, poses a huge challenge to effective community policing and speedy apprehension of violators especially in VAW cases of rape and sexual penetration. Recently the Community Policing Unit dialogued with CSOs who work in communities and included LPPB members on making the community policing approach more effective and efficient; detailed capacity-building was conducted for LPPB members at the Sierra Leone Peacekeeping and Law Enforcement Academy (SILEA).

With support from UNDP, UNESCO and UN Women, the Sierra Leone Police have also taken the lead in training 700 Security Sector personnel (200 female and 500 males) drawn from (police, correctional centre, fire force and chiefdom police) and equipping them with guidance on election security from a gender and human rights perspective. Consequently, security forces were able to quickly identify and respond to gender-related violence during the 2018 elections.

Sierra Leone Correctional Service

The Sierra Leone Correctional Service, previously referred to as the Sierra Leone Prison, was brought into operation by an Act of Parliament in 2014. The Sierra Leone Correctional Service works collaboratively with the MSWGCA in ensuring the welfare of the female inmates. As part of its reforms, the Sierra Leone Correctional Service has established a Gender Unit and has separated the female correctional centre from the male correctional centre, especially in the capital city, Freetown, which had the most prisons known to be overcrowded. The female inmates are now occupying the former Special Court premises.

3.5.1.2 The role of non-state and private sectors

Non-state actors, in particular women-led CSOs, CSOs and NGOs with mandates on peace, human rights, rule of law and accountability, are primarily on the frontlines of implementing the WPS agenda. They work as individual organizations or in collaboration with others, while all of them engage with MSWGCA. Taken together, the UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, and subsequent related resolutions dedicated to women, not only engender peace and security but also provide tools to enhance accountability. They also leverage strategic responses towards intensified, equitable and inclusive security, and development initiatives.

A conscious, and to an extent, coordinated initiative spearheaded by women's organizations, and mixed networks of civil society and human rights organizations, under the leadership of the Government, was intensified in 2008 to translate the principles and provisions of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 into practice in Sierra Leone. This effort which culminated in the elaboration of the SiLNAP I National Action Plan adopted on 4 September 2009 at the National Consultative Conference funded by Cordaid (Netherlands) with some Resource Support from Femme Africa Solidarite (FAS) and Women in Peacebuilding and Security Network (WIPSEN), was amplified with the transformation of the then Task Force to the National Steering Committee for the full implementation of UNSCRs 1325 & 1820/SiLNAP (NSC). The NSC comprises all relevant MDAs including Defence, Sierra Leone Police, ONS, Foreign Affairs as well as CSOs, Parliamentarians, INGOs and UN Agencies, especially UNFPA and UN Women. The NSC is chaired by MSWGCA and co-chaired by CSO. Through the scaling up and application of a Localisation Programme strategy approach, Regional and District Steering Committees were established in 2012 with arrangements for the use of the localization tool in chiefdoms. The establishment of Chiefdom Steering Committees is yet to be realized and it is an action in SiLNAP II. This action is a key aspect in the popularization strategy of SiLNAP II. The localization approach is a practical mechanism which directs the effective embrace of community priority needs in peace and security realms, into local councils' programming.

At the consultation workshops of the drafting process in September 2018, the responses to the Guiding Questions and Mapping Survey Questionnaire found out that a number of challenges constrain full implementation in the country. Among these are the average level of knowledge and understanding of Resolution 1325 and its applications through SiLNAP. It is important for CBOs at chiefdom levels, with reinforcement from national/regional level CSOs and male champion advocates, to start and/or intensify initiatives (which build and support the active leadership, empowerment, representation and participation of women in politics and peacebuilding), so as to achieve the full advancement of the WPS Agenda and prevent future violent conflict in Sierra Leone.

3.5.3 Coordination between and among stakeholders – Government, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, INGOs

The effective implementation of SiLNAP is premised on a tripartite foundation consisting of the GoSL (State Party), UN Agencies and CSOs.

The MSWGCA as the national principal focal point will be the primary stakeholder in the coordination of the overall implementation and monitoring of SiLNAP in conjunction with the NSC. The MSWGCA chairs the NSC which is co-chaired by civil society. For the SiLNAP to be inclusively implemented it will take strong and efficient collaboration and partnership through active coordination with other MDAs, especially DECSEC/Local Councils and other partners. The

SiLNAP II central implementation strategy will be the Localization Approach which directly engages local authorities, traditional leaders, local/community women, community youth groups and organizations, local police, local military officers, ONS/DISEC/PROSEC/CHISEC and other key local actors to reflect the plan based on the Localisation Guidelines and address WPS issues in the locality. Hence, Local and Chiefdom Councils will lead in coordinating the implementation of SiLNAP II at district and chiefdom levels in conjunction with the District Steering Committee (DSC), and the Chiefdom Steering Committee, respectively, while the MSWGCA with the RSC and NSC will lead coordination of the implementation of the SiLNAP at the regional level and national level, respectively.

The NSC will measure progress on the execution of the NAP and proffer recommendations for its successful implementation. At the Regional Levels, implementation progress will be measured by RSC comprising the Assistant Directors, who chair, with CSO co-chair, Regional Gender Officers (MSWGCA and Local Councils,) other Local Council Representative, FSU/SLP, PROSEC, Traditional Authorities, and CSOs working on WPS. The DSC will comprise the councillors, MSWGCA District Officer, FSU/SLP, DISEC, Traditional Authorities, customary law courts and CSOs, CBOs and NGOs working on the WPS Agenda. The DSC will be chaired by the Local Council, with secretariat assistance from the MSWGCA District Office.

The MSWGCA shall constitute a technical group for the monitoring of the SiLNAP. The M&E Framework is intricately designed to foster proper coordination between the various stakeholders and actors, so as to achieve the deliverables of the plan. It includes a joint mid-year and annual monitoring mechanism to measure progress and ensure that the plan moves on track.

The MSWGCA/NSC will commission and produce an end of SiLNAP II evaluation.

3.5.4 Advocacy

Developing an advocacy strategy for resource mobilization is a critical role for the National Steering Committee for Implementation with leadership from the MSWGCA. It will bring together Government development partners such as the World Bank, AfDB, IFAD, EC, DFID, UN Agencies, JICA, the Chinese and others, including non-traditional partners. This meeting provides a platform to market the philosophy of the SiLNAP. Similarly, contacts will be made with the private sector for support.

3.5.5. Capacity-building

Capacity-building of the actors is very important to the full implementation of the SiLNAP. In this regard we need technical support from our Development Partners in moving this process forward.

In conclusion, the NSC should be proactive in its fundraising responsibility. The Government, especially the MSWGCA, has to play a big role in the fundraising process. There is a need for an effective advocacy strategy to market SiLNAP, and the creation of a website is critical in this direction. All reachable sources of funding should be explored; there is no 'small money' especially from the perspective of ensuring ownership through local contributions.

4.0: Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

4.1. Introduction to the M&E Framework

4.1.1. Background

The GoSL continues to recognize the need to address gender imbalances and protect women to ensure sustainable socio-economic development. The country signed and ratified CEDAW in 1988. A long lag was encountered in the effective domestication of the Convention, largely as a result of the protracted civil conflict in Sierra Leone. However, post-conflict interventions have rekindled the need to bring to the fore gender and women's issues as a fundamental pre-requisite for a lasting peace and sustainable development. GoSL enacted four gender laws in 2007 towards the effective domestication of CEDAW: The Domestic Violence Act, The Devolution of Estate Act, The Registration of Customary and Divorce Act and the Sexual Offences Act. A strategic roll-out plan has been developed for the implementation of these Gender Acts. These laws need review because of the challenges in their effective application.

The GoSL has also been making progress towards domesticating UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 (UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820) with respect to the special situation of women and children in conflicts and their role in post-conflict peacebuilding. These resolutions, mutually reinforcing in nature, are consistent with earlier and ongoing policy and institutional reforms and strategies of GoSL: they are aligned with the Gender Justice Laws, the NGSP and the New Direction Agenda, Sierra Leone's Fourth Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, and The Medium Term National Development Plan, 2019–2023.

However, while the GoSL has made laudable efforts to conceptualize and policy front, huge challenges to implementing gender programmes remain. Key among these relate to the need to set up a robust M&E system to track progress and effectively manage programme implementation.

4.1.2 Objective

The overarching objective of this plan is to prepare M&E guidelines for the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The plan specifically focuses on:

- determining the institutional readiness at all levels (national and local level) for the M&E of the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820;
- defining an institutional framework with clear roles and responsibilities for all relevant actors;
- identifying monitor able indicators and developing a results framework that will guide the tracking of progress in the implementation of the NAP;
- setting up data collection guidelines for measuring progress in the implementation of the NAP.

4.2. Monitoring and Evaluation Matrix

Output Objectives	Strategy	Output	Indicator	MoV	Baseline data	Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3	Milestone 4	Target
Community stakeholders' commitment to promoting peaceful coexistence by addressing the root causes of conflict at community level increased/strengthened	Advocate and lobby for the harmonization appropriate Acts	A single Act bridging conflicting Acts	Content of the harmonized Acts	Harmonized Act	Two conflicting Acts	Consensus reached with stakeholders, including Cabinet, Parliament and Law Reform Commission, for the enactment of a harmonized Act	Harmonized Act enacted	Harmonized Act Enacted	Harmonized Act Enacted	Harmonized Act Enacted
	Enhance the communities understanding of the revised Acts	Communities aware of the revised Acts	Level of awareness of the revised Acts	-Meeting records, crime records at police stations -Copy of the harmonized bill enacted	Two conflicting acts	Revision of the two acts	Draft harmonized Bill enacted	Communities aware of the harmonized Acts increased by 30 per cent	Communities aware of the harmonized Acts increased by 40 per cent	90 per cent of communities in Sierra Leone are aware of the harmonized Act
Policies and mechanisms to protect women, adolescents, young adults and girls from SGBV improved and operated, their rights recognized, perpetrators are effectively being punished and impunity strongly deterred by the	Strengthen the capacity of institutions to implement policies in sentencing perpetrators to serve maximum penalties/jail terms	Adequately campaign for skilled women-led CSOs and male champions	-Number of SGBV perpetrators sentenced to maximum terms -Number of cases reported -Number of advocacy workshops/community engagements	-List of perpetrators sentenced -Reports and attendance list of participants in the workshop/advocacy training -Database of cases reported	To be determined	Women-led CSOs and male champions, and their gaps identified	Perpetrators penalized for SGBV increased by 10 per cent	Perpetrators of SGBV penalized increased by 10 per cent	Perpetrators of SGBV increased by 15 per cent	Perpetrators of SGBV penalized increased by 35 per cent

end of 2023			held							
	Reform and rehabilitate convicted perpetrators through counselling and productive skills	Reformed perpetrators engaged in productive skills	Number of inmates provided with counselling services or other services	Counselling reports on life skills training conducted	Data on perpetrators jailed (to be determined)	Perpetrators needs identified	Reformed perpetrators with productive skills increased by 10 per cent	Reformed perpetrators with productive skills increased by 10 per cent	Reformed perpetrators with productive skills increased by 10 per cent	Reformed perpetrators with productive skills increased by 30 per cent
	Establish funding support for survivors of SGBV in communities through local councils	Survivors' basket funds	Number of SGBV victims assisted by local councils to report and attend court sittings	Report/record on victims attending courts and reviving livelihood support	To be determined	Victims attending courts and receiving livelihood support increased by 10 per cent	Survivors attending courts and receiving livelihood support increased by 10 per cent	Survivors attending courts and receiving livelihood support increased by 10 per cent	Survivors attending courts and receiving livelihood support increased by 10 per cent	Survivors attending courts and receiving livelihood support increased by 40
Institutions and other justice sector mechanisms committed to protecting women, adolescents and girls from VAW, and responding to VAW and sexual violence offences	Enhance the effectiveness of gender justice institutions	Capacitated gender justice institutions	Number of gender related issues speedily investigated, prosecuted and verdict passed	FSU, courts and related NGOs, e.g., Rainbow Centre records	To be determined	Gaps in gender justice sector institutions identified	Capacitated gender justice sector institutions	Period for investigation , prosecution and verdict passed on gender related issues reduced by 20 per cent	Period for investigating, prosecuting and passing verdict on gender issues reduced by 20 per cent	Period for gender related trials reduced by 40 per cent

Policy mechanisms and procedures for prevention of conflicts and how to address their root causes at community levels	Design and implement mechanism for prevention of conflicts by addressing the root causes at community level	Peaceful communities	Frequency of community engagements	Reports on community engagements	To be determined	Local councils mainstream peace initiatives in their programmes	Ward Committees and traditional authorities adopt peace initiatives	Peaceful communities increased by 10 per cent	Peaceful communities increased by 20 per cent	Peace in 30 per cent of hot spot areas
			Content of community engagements	Community engagement modules and materials	None within the ministry	Local councils mainstream peace initiatives in their programmes	Ward Committees and traditional authorities adopt peace initiatives	Peaceful communities increased by 10 per cent		
			Coverage of communities engaged	Reports on peace initiatives	Zero community covered		Peace initiatives in five pilot communities in each region	Peaceful communities increased by 10 per cent		
Contributions by stakeholders in communities to finding solutions to women and girls' peace and security issues enhanced	Raise awareness about women and girls' peace and security issues	Community stakeholders have knowledge about women and girls' peace and security issues	Level of knowledge about women and girls' peace and security issues among stakeholders	KAP survey report	To be determined	Community stakeholders can identify women and girls' peace and security issues	Communities can identify women and girls' peace and security issues	Existence of women and girls' peace and security community groups	Existence of women and girls' peace and security community groups	peace and security for women and girls enhanced by 40 per cent.
	Train community stakeholders in women and girls' peace and security issues	Trained and skilled community stakeholders on women and girls' peace and security issues	Number of women and girls' peace and security issues serving as barriers overcome, e.g., access to education, life	Community and social welfare workers report on women and girls' peace and security barriers	To be determined	Availability of skilled and trained community stakeholders on women and girls' peace and security issues	Existence of community action plans to address women and girls' peace and security barriers	Women and girls accessing education and life skills, and meaningfully and actively participating	Women and girls' accessing education and life skills, and meaningfully and actively	

			skills, and participating actively in community level decision-making, and women's ideas recognized	successfully managed				in community level decision-making increased by 15 per cent	participating in community level decision-making increased by 30 per cent	
	Lobby and advocate for women and girls' education and sustainable peace	By-laws to overcome barriers against women and girls' peace and security issues	Number of doable by-laws that supports breaking women and girls' peace and security barriers, e.g., every girl child of school-going age should be in school	Community by-laws	Existing by-laws	Review of by-laws	Revised bylaws based on harmonized Act	Women and girls' accessing education and life skills, and meaningfully and actively participating in community level decision-making increased by 15 per cent	Women and girls' accessing education and life skills, and meaningfully and actively participating in community level decision-making increased by 30 per cent	

Mechanisms undertaken to ensure women, girls and other vulnerable groups are protected from SGBV and their dignity enhanced	Design/ strengthen structures to enforce the three Gender Acts with cooperation and collaboration among strategic stakeholders and institutions	Functional structures and institutions for the enforcement of the Three Gender Acts at all levels	Number of SGBV issues and cases judiciously addressed and successfully completed at community, district, regional and national levels	SGBV issues, case files and verdict records	To be determined from police and court records	Gaps identified in dealing with SGBV issues and cases at community and institutional levels, including the FSU, and the courts	Community structures re-established /strengthened and national institutions capacitated to deal SGBV issues and cases	SGBV issues and cases reduced by 15 per cent	SGBV cases reduced by 15 percent	Comprehensive database on SGBV/VAW
	Establish and equip Safe Homes in all 16 districts	Functional SGBV safe homes	Number of functional Safe Homes	Reports on Safe Homes	Number of Government-owned Safe Home	Establishment of Safe Homes included in GoSL national budget	Safe Home equipped and operationalized in three regional towns	Safe Home equipped and operationalized in the two remaining regional towns	Safe Home equipped and operationalized in three-fourth of the districts in Sierra Leone	
	Establish a comprehensive database of incidences of GBV/VAW, through the justice institutions onto the outcome stage	GBV/VAW electronic database	Extent of details of reported and trial cases of SGBV/VAW contained in the database	GBV/VAW reports	Non-availability of a comprehensive database on SGBV/VAW	Social welfare workers and community volunteers identified and trained in the use of toll free lines	Equipment and gadgets available across the country	Comprehensive database on SGBV/VAW	Comprehensive database on SGBV/VAW	

Lower rates of VAWG/GBV at national level are achieved	Strengthen through cooperation and collaboration VAWG/SGBV justice sector institutions to fast track related cases	Reduced reported VAW/SGBV cases in communities	Number of cases reported, charged with satisfactory outcomes/ convictions	VAWG/SGBV records at FSU/SLP and in the courts	To be determined	Trial period of VAW/SGBV increased by 10 per cent	Trial period of VAW/SGBV increased by 10 per cent	Trial period of VAW/SGBV increased by 10 per cent	Trial period of VAW/SGBV increased by 10 per cent	SGBV issues reduced by 40 per cent
	Constructively involve the public and other stakeholders in the fight against VAW/SGBV, including journalists, the executive and Law Officers Department	Reduced reported VAW/SGBV cases in communities	-Number of articles published/or trends in the print media on SGBV; -Local Council's Reports -Local Councils Development Plans	-Published articles, newspapers - Local Council's Reports -Local Councils Development Plans	To be determined	Memorandum of understanding signed between MSWGCA and SGBV actors including SLAG/Local Councils	Newspaper /local council coverage on VAW/SGBV increased by 20 per cent	Newspaper/ local council coverage on VAW/SGBV increased by 20 per cent	Newspaper /local council coverage on VAW/SGBV increased by 20 per cent	SGBV issues reduced by 40 per cent
Teenage pregnancy in local communities reduced	Build resilience against VAW/SGBV and other harmful traditional practices within communities and at national, regional and	Communities are aware of the hazards of teenage pregnancy and harmful traditional practices	Communities level of knowledge, attitude and practice about the hazards of teenage pregnancy and other harmful traditional practices	KAP survey report	To be determined	Awareness level about the hazards of teenage pregnancy increased by 10 per cent	Awareness level on the hazards of teenage pregnancy increased by 10 per cent	Awareness level on the hazards of teenage pregnancy increased by 10 per cent	Awareness level on the hazards of teenage pregnancy increased by 10 per cent	Teenage pregnancy rate reduced to 60 per cent

	district levels	Functional structure at community and other levels to fight against teenage pregnancy and related harmful traditional practices	Number of functional structures at community and other levels	Reports on capacity-building initiatives at community, district, regional and national levels	0	10 per cent of structures established/strengthened at community and other levels	10 per cent of structures established/strengthened at community and other levels	10 per cent of structures established/strengthened at community and other levels	10 per cent of structures established/strengthened at community and other levels	
			Number of persons, particularly women actively involved in VSLAs	List of women participants	0	Women received training on VSLAs	Women actively involved in VSLAs	Families/communities engaged in FGM/C are provided with alternative livelihood support		
			-Assessment of traditional views -Extent of appreciation of appropriate SRHRs and negative consequences of teenage pregnancy - Percentage of early marriages	Assessment report	0	Survey on traditional views of teenage pregnancy and early marriage conducted	Possible gaps in the survey report addressed	Advocacy on free medical treatment for all SGBV survivors		

			stopped							
		SGBV survivors are accessing free health care services	Percentage of SGBV survivors accessing the free health care services at district levels	Health care services records	To be determined	Database on SGBV survivors accessing the free health care services set at district and national levels	SGBV survivors accessing free health care services increased by 20 per cent	SGBV survivors accessing free health care services increased by 10 per cent	SGBV survivors accessing free health care services increased by 10 per cent	SGBV Survivors access the free health care increased by 50 per cent
Institutions and other justice sector mechanisms committed to protect women, adolescents and girls from VAW, and respond to VAW and sexual violence offences	Review the gender justice laws and address conflicting causes and/or magnitude of sentences	MSWGCA in partnership with the justice sector including FSU organizes a policy dialogue and trainings on gender laws	Number of participants, including legal practitioners, FSU, Social Workers trained in/provided with gender justice information	Training report, Training List	The former gender policy	Training module & manual on gender laws developed	Training personnel of gender laws identified	Community engagement and coordination meetings held	Communities are aware of gender laws	Institutions and other justice sectors committed to protect women, adolescents and girls from SGBV
			-Number of forums held -Number of pictorial IEC flyers distributed	Pictorial IEC flyers	0	Forums on gender laws held	Communities are aware of gender laws	Gender Laws information shared with key stakeholders		
			Percentage of by-laws approved	Approved by-laws	0	Community by-laws on VAW and sexual violence offences established	Community by-laws on sexual violence offences implemented	Women/girls are protected from SGBV		

Processes and laboratory analytical facilities to enable speedy trials, especially in cases of rape and sexual penetration improved	Lobby with key stakeholders to establish laboratory analytical facilities for SGBV cases	Laboratory analytical facilities to enable speedy SGBV case investigation established	Progress towards the setting up of an in-country DNA testing service	DNA testing laboratory progress report	0	Central Government and Partners contract agreement for the setting up of SGBV laboratory and analytical facilities	Inclusion of the setting up of a DNA laboratory in the national budget	SGBV Laboratory and analytical facilities operationalized	DNA testing of SGBV cases	DNA evidence base of SGBV trials
Advocacy outreach to Government to implement the remaining recommendations, on women and girls, in the TRC report conducted	Embark on constructive engagement with the GoSL on the exhaustive implementation of the TRC recommendations for women and girls	Sustaining peace for women and girls promoted	Number of TRC follow-up committees established	List of committee members	0	Contractual agreement by the GoSL to implement the outstanding TRC recommendations on women and girls	40 per cent of outstanding TRC recommendations on women and girls implemented	20 per cent of outstanding TRC recommendations on women and girls implemented	20 per cent of outstanding TRC recommendations on women and girls implemented	All TRC recommendations on women and girls implemented
Minimum of 30 per cent women's active participation and representation in decision-making positions at all levels, especially in peacebuilding and governance institutions moved towards or attained by 2023	Conduct advocacy and lobby Government and other strategic institutions to uptake women and girls' issues in structures at all levels	Women and girls are in peacebuilding and governance leadership positions	Percentage of women and girls in leadership positions	Representations in decision-making and governance structure reports	To be determined	Memorandum of understanding with peacebuilding and governance structure key stakeholders for 30 per cent minimum representation for women and girls	Peacebuilding and Governance structures/institutional policies reformed to reflect 30 per cent minimum representation for women and girls	Women and girls' representation in peacebuilding and governance structures increased to a minimum of 10 per cent	Women and girls' representation in peacebuilding and governance structures increased to a minimum of 20 per cent	Minimum 30 per cent participation and representation in peacebuilding and governance decision-making and leadership structures and

	Support and motivate the increased voice of male counterparts for increased representation of women and girls in peacebuilding and governance decision-making and leadership positions	Male champion are existing at community and national levels	Level of coverage of male champion groups that support women's representations in peacebuilding and governance decision-making and leadership structures	Male champion groups survey report	0	At least four pilot male champion groups in each region	Male champion available in four districts	Male champion support groups in eight districts	Male champion support group in all 16 districts	institutions
	Empower women and girls to assume leadership positions in peace building and governance institutions including political parties	Women and girls winning leadership contest at all levels	Percentage of women and girls winning competitive leadership contests	Women and girls' participation in leadership contests survey reports	To be determined	Empowered women and girls participating in competitive governance positions increased by 15 per cent	Empowered women and girls participating in competitive governance positions increased by 15 per cent	Empowered women and girls participating in competitive governance positions increased by 15 per cent	Empowered women and girls participating in competitive governance positions increased by 15 per cent	

			GEWE Policy finalized and Bill passed by Parliament	Enacted Law	Draft Policy in Place	GEWE Policy finalized	GEWE Bill drafted	GEWE Bill enacted by Parliament	Availability of PPRC reviewed code on political parties' registration criteria to include minimum 30 per cent quota of women in leadership positions	GEWE Act implemented
Community capacity to generate sustainable livelihoods strengthened, their resilience and coping strategies to environmental disasters and health emergencies improved	Cooperate and collaborate with other livelihood support MDAs, e.g., Agriculture and Youth, and other national and international organizations to support sustainable livelihood generation and build resilience and emergency response initiatives	Sustainable livelihood initiatives are ongoing in communities	Number of ongoing sustainable livelihood interventions	Reports on ongoing sustainable livelihood activities or projects	To be determined	Two pilot sustainable livelihood groups in each of the five regions	Sustainable livelihood groups in each region increased by four	Sustainable livelihood groups in each region increased by four	Sustainable livelihood groups in each region increased by four	80 sustainable livelihood groups spread across the country
		Resilience and emergency environmental disaster preparedness and response initiatives are ongoing in communities	Types and number of resilience and emergency preparedness and response initiatives in communities	Report on community emergency preparedness response initiatives	To be determined	Two pilot resilience and emergency preparedness and response initiatives in each of the five regions	Resilience and emergency preparedness and response initiatives increased by four in each of the five regions	Resilience and emergency preparedness and response initiatives increased by four in each of the five regions	Resilience and emergency preparedness and response initiatives increased by four in each of the five regions	80 resilience and emergency preparedness response initiatives spread across the country

Institutional and technical capacity of the MSWGCA and other relevant entities for the coordination and management of the SiLNAP for full implementation and promotion of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and their supporting UN Resolutions, strengthened by 2023	Embark on comprehensive institutional and technical capacity audit and gap analysis	Institutional and technical capacity gaps for the exhaustive implementation of SILNAP 2, in terms of human, equipment, materials and other resources are identified	Variety of institutional and technical capacity gaps	Institutional and technical capacity gap analysis report	Existing institutional and technical capacity gaps, if any	MGSWCA's national budget costs for interventions to address the gaps	Ongoing interventions to address the institutional and technical capacity gaps	Ongoing interventions to address the institutional and technical capacity gaps	Ongoing interventions to address the institutional and technical capacity gaps	MSWGCA scores high performance rating in the performance contract signed with the President of Sierra Leone
Monitoring framework strengthened, institutionalized and operated with adequate funding for the purpose	Conduct capacity scan of the MSWGCA's M&E system	MSWGCA's M&E capacity gaps	Variety of M&E gaps	M&E capacity scan reports and action plans	Existing M&E gaps, if any	MSWGCA's budget reflecting costs to address M and E gaps	Ongoing actions to address M&E gaps	Ongoing actions to address M&E gaps	Ongoing actions to address M&E gaps	MSWGCA's scores high performance rating in the performance contract signed with the President of Sierra Leone

			Existence of MSWGCA's unit/program -me and individual operating plans	Unit plans and IOPs	No unit operational plans and IOPs for personnel	Unit operational plans and IOPs designed	Performance appraisal system institutionalized	Performance appraisal system institutionalized	Performance appraisal system institutionalized	MSWGCA scores high performance rating in the performance contract signed with the President of Sierra Leone
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4.3 Financing the Monitoring and Evaluation plan

Financing is critical to fulfilling the purpose of the M&E framework articulated in this plan. Huge financial implications are envisaged for the effective coordination of the institutional framework, building the capacity of actors involved in the implementation process and meeting the data needs for the tracking of and reporting on progress made in the implementation of the NAP. This plan comes out with an indicative cost, as shown below in Table 4.3.1, for the various M&E needs identified therein.

4.3.1. Budget for the implementation of the M&E plan	
Budget heads	Cost 2019-2023 (USD)
Capacity-building	
Personnel support	30,000
Equipment & logistics	25,000
Training	60,000
Subtotal	115,000
Running institutional framework	
Coordination of meetings (national, regional, districts and chiefdom level)	50,000
Capacity-building MSWGCA, FSU, Justices, Local Council and other community structures	45,000
Documentation, communication and information dissemination	40,000
Subtotal	135,000
Support to routine data system	
Data collection and processing	80,000
Analysis and dissemination	30,000
Central level institutions	20,000
Local level institutions	20,000
Subtotal	150,000
Grand total	400,000

4.4 Structure of the plan

The M&E plan is structured as follows. Section 4.4.1 presents an organizational landscape enumerating the various institutions and actors that carry out activities related to addressing gender and women's issues, especially in the context of post-conflict peacebuilding in Sierra Leone. It highlights the capacity situation of institutions for M&E policies, programmes and projects relating to gender and women's development. Section 4.4.2 describes the institutional arrangement for monitoring the implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 1820; it

identifies actors and defines roles and responsibilities. Section 4.4 analyses the indicators developed for monitoring progress; it discusses the results framework, showing planned deliverables and targets over the implementation period. Section 5 highlights the data needs and institutional responsibilities in data collection. Section 6 summarizes the plan and presents a summary of indicative.

4.4.1. Institutional readiness for monitoring the National Action Plan

There is a growing realization in Sierra Leone of the potential benefits the country would realize by supporting gender-sensitive programmes and promoting special activities for the advancement of women. The growth in gender awareness and sensitivity has come to the national policy frontline especially after the civil war. In addition to Government's responsiveness, a flurry of non-governmental institutions with activities bearing on gender and women's development has been experienced in our national peace and development processes.

However, while these well-intentioned institutions have contributed towards gender development and working with Government to reach the SDGs, especially 5 and 16, a major factor constraining the operations of many is the lack of adequacy of capacity to fully implement programmes.

4.4.2 Institutional arrangement for monitoring the NAP

Description

There is a broad landscape for managing the implementation of the SILNAP with regard to UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

There are many actors needed to implement the provisions of the resolutions, calling for a clearly defined and well-coordinated framework. Roles and responsibilities need to be clearly carved out.

This institutional arrangement draws heavily on the framework for monitoring the roll-out plan for the implementation of GEWE and the NGSP developed by MSWGCA. The Sierra Leone National Action Plan on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 is aligned with elements of Cluster Five in the National Medium-Term Plan (2019–2023).

The actors expected to play a critical role in the monitoring of the NAP include: MSWGCA, Sierra Leone's Parliament, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, the Decentralisation Secretariat, Local Councils, NaCSA, FSUs, Special Unit on Sexual Penetration of Minors, the Sierra Leone Police, The Judiciary, The Human Rights Commission in Sierra Leone, The National Commission for Democracy, other line MDAs, National Committee on Gender-Based Violence, NGOs, women's

organizations, CBOs, Traditional Authorities, Chiefdom Councils and local communities. These are relevant institutions in the production of data and reporting on the implementation of Resolutions 1325 and 1820.

4.4.3. Coordination of M&E activities at the national level

The lead institutions at the national level to steer the overall M&E process are the MSWGCA/National Steering Committee for full implementation of SiLNAP II (NSC), Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, NaCSA, FSUs/SLP, The Human Rights Commission in Sierra Leone, The Judiciary and the NAC-GBV. These shall constitute a core technical group for the monitoring of the NAP within the framework of an established national M&E National Steering Committee. The core technical group will be providing technical support to the National Steering Committee for the full implementation of SiLNAP (NSC). The former will be gathering national data, analysing the data and preparing discussion notes for periodic meetings to be held by the NSC. The NSC will be reviewing progress on the implementation of the NAP and would make recommendations for enhancing programme success. The NSC will be the anchor for updating Government, Parliament through the Social Welfare Oversight Committee, the Female Parliamentary Caucus, the UN and the donor community in general regarding progress on the implementation of the SiLNAP II/ UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

The MSWGCA will serve as the principal national focal point for coordinating the monitoring of the NAP; it will provide secretariat back-up to the core technical group and NSC.

4.4.4. Coordination of M&E activities at the regional level

Progress shall be tracked at the regional level. Monitoring at this level will be coordinated by the Regional Gender Office in collaboration with M&E Officer-Local council, the regional judiciary system, FSU/SLP, the Provincial Secretary's Office, Regional Minister's Office, MP's office and NGOs. There shall be a Regional Steering Committee on the NAP comprising key stakeholders beyond the core regional working group to broadly discuss and review progress at the regional level. The Regional Steering Committee will collect and analyse data at the regional level and prepare reports for the attention of the NSC, which will review reports and make recommendations to the Regional Steering Committee for effective implementation.

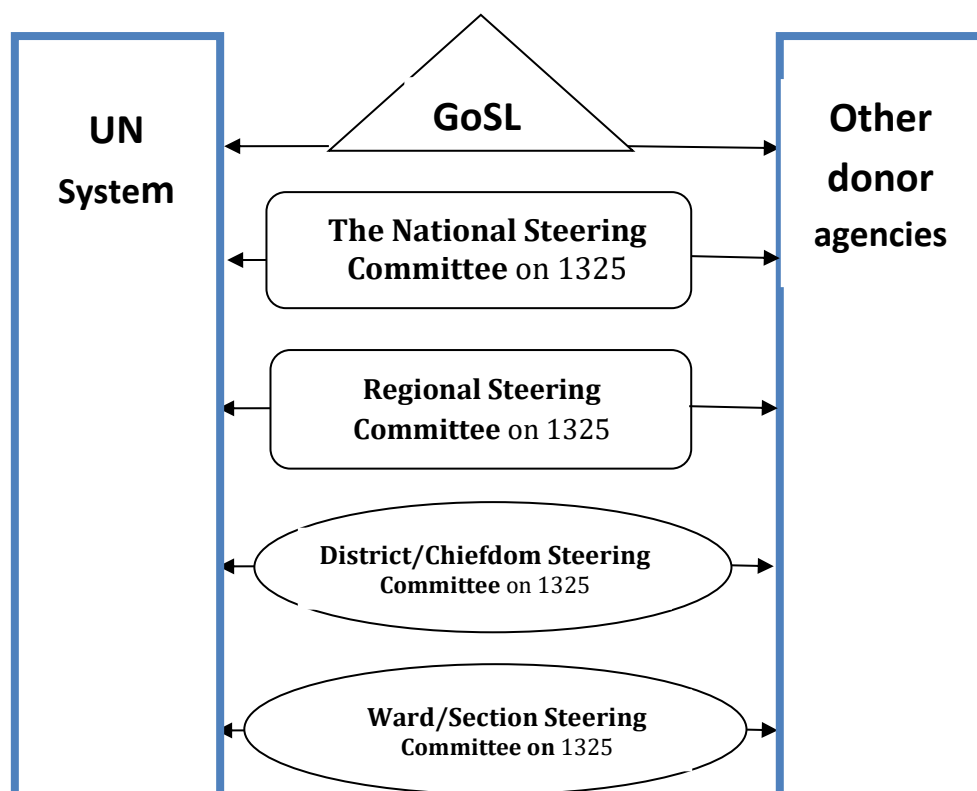
4.4.5 Coordination of M&E activities at the district, community and chiefdom level

Here, Local Councils will take the lead in coordinating the implementation of the NAP. A District Steering Committee will be set up and chaired by the Local Council with secretariat support from the District Gender Officer. The District Steering Committee will comprise councillors, the Gender Office, FSU/SLP, the DISEC, Traditional Authorities, customary law courts, NGOs, women's groups and other members deemed necessary. The committee will set up the M&E agenda with guidance from the RSC and NSC. The DSC will be reviewing progress at the district level on a periodic basis for the attention of the RSC and NSC. The RSC and NSC will review district reports and give feedback to the District Steering Committee to inform effective implementation at the district level. The RSC will keep the NSC constantly updated on progress at district and regional level.

The District Steering Committee will coordinate efforts at the community level. Councillors, Chiefdom Police and village/town headmen, in collaboration with CBOs and community women's organizations shall gather data and submit to the District Steering Committee who will carry out an initial analysis. Efforts at the community level could be coordinated with the framework of the existing Ward Committees.

The institutional arrangement is summarized in Figure 2 below, showing relations and information flow. Data collected at the community level flows up to the district level, where the District Steering Committees carry out basic analysis for onward reporting to the RSCs, who, in return, will review and report accordingly to the NSC. Feedback and recommendations filter down from one level to the other right through to the communities. This creates space for learning and knowledge sharing and can strengthen implementation of activities; it enables re-planning where necessary. The UN System and donor agencies relate to all national actors in the M&E system as depicted in the figure below. Information shall flow vertically and horizontally and synergies will be enhanced in the implementation and M&E of the NAP.

Figure 2: M&E institutional framework



4.5 Indicators for monitoring the SiLNAP

In Sierra Leone, the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 has been developed around six pillars. Pillar One focuses on the prevention aspect of the resolutions; Pillar Two focuses on protection of victims especially women and children; Pillar Three focuses on prosecution of perpetrators; Pillar Four focuses on participation of women; Pillar Five relates to human security perspective and emergencies; and Pillar Six focuses on coordination of the implementation of planned programmes to achieve the objectives of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820.

Various indicators have been developed and agreed for monitoring progress made under each pillars. The vast majority of these indicators are qualitative in nature, and they are mainly process and output indicators.

In all, about 33 indicators have been developed: 11 impact indicators and 23 output indicators. The agreed indicators are elaborated in the SiLNAP II Matrix and M&E Framework presented under section 4.0 showing indicators at their respective levels, arranged by policy pillars, with baseline information and annual targets.

4.6 Data requirement for Monitoring and Evaluation of the SILNAP

4.6.1 Data collection

Data shall be collected from different sources. Monitoring will highly depend on routine (administrative) data collected by different agencies. Routine data will be provided by the FSU, the SLP, the Judiciary, Human Rights Commission, MoHS, MoE and other institutions that can provide ample information relating to gender equality, women's empowerment, and WPS.

CSOs, particularly women's movements, are also engaged in routine generation of data relating to gender and the situation of women. They are also a source of information for monitoring UNSCRs 1325 and 1820. The media is also crucial in this context.

Information gathered from these sources would give indicative direction as to the progress made in achieving intended results by implementing the UN Resolutions. To ensure in-depth analysis and evaluation of outcomes and impact, detailed surveys and studies will be carried out.

Statistics Sierra Leone (SSL) can play a big role in this context as the lead national institution for coordinating and advising on statistical practices in the country. SSL could help in identifying and carrying out detailed surveys where necessary in the implementation process of the resolutions.

4.6.2 Data storage and management

A critical aspect of any successful M&E system is ensuring a robust system for data storage and management. Monitoring gender development in Sierra Leone should be continuous and institutionalized. Therefore, even beyond the envisaged implementation period of the NAP on UNSCRs 1325 and 1820, it should be expected that Sierra Leone will continue to support gender and women's development programmes. To this end, developing a database could help in the management of long-term implementation of programmes and analysing progress trends in the process.

4.7. Budget for implementing the M&E plan

The table in Section 4.3.1 presents a summary of the indicative financial requirements for the implementation of the M&E plan for the NAP on UNSCR 1325 and 1820. The budget heads are divided into capacity-building, running the institutional framework, gender survey anticipated at the end of the programme, and support for routine data collection.

5.0. Conclusion

The development of a second generation of the NAP for the continuing implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) will remain a welcome and invaluable tool. It is opening important channels for women's agency in peace, security and development, with the expectation of meeting elements of the SDGs, in particular 5 and 16, as well as creating policy measures and strategies that better address the harm suffered by women and girls not only during the war and its lingering negative fallout, but also in their continued position of marginalization, while also addressing the challenges of violent weather events (such as flooding and mudslides) and health emergencies like the EVD outbreak.

Judging from activities undertaken to achieve the goal of aligning national objectives with the international requirements, the SiLNAP manifests inclusiveness and cooperation between Government and civil society to engender peace and security.

The enthusiasm among all actors for pursuing programmes and projects to address gender and women's concerns has not flagged. Most NGOs, CSOs and CBOs would be excited and willing to align their activities to the provisions of UNSCR 1325. There is great interest, (including among men) to address protection of women and girls, prevention of abuse and the curtailment of women's and girls' rights, and the promotion of meaningful gender inclusive representation and participation. As reflected by the Pillars, the following priority policy areas will be focused on when applying a Localization Strategy:

- implementation of the Gender Justice Laws;
- implementation of programmes to address women's economic, social and environmental security;
- protection for women, adolescents and girls from all forms of VAWG and SGBV;
- human capacity-building;
- development of advocacy skills;
- environment and energy;
- follow-up on disciplinary actions;
- health/hygiene and sanitation.

To take advantage of the existing institutional willingness to work on gender and women's related issues, there is need to develop a capacity-building programme for the effective implementation and M&E of UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

The SiLNAP should be regarded as a major step in removing the barriers to women's active representation and participation in peace and security issues; as well as ensuring that perpetrators of sexual violence in the post-conflict period in Sierra Leone are adequately dealt with under the law.

The provision of adequate funding for financing the plan is crucial to translating ideas into reality, i.e., support for an implementation process that embraces effective M&E procedures and timely reporting on the plan to measure effectiveness and accountability, especially at the community and chiefdom levels.

In sum, the SiLNAP offers a rare opportunity for promoting gender equality in peace and security in the post-conflict transformation period in Sierra Leone.

We are hopeful that the efforts put into developing the SiLNAP will not go in vain. These efforts should be actualized by sustained political will, adequate national funding, with assistance from international partners, an enabling environment and sheer commitment from all stakeholders to move a coordinated implementation process forward.

In all of this, individual women and women in collectives such as women-led CSOs, and CBOs are at the centre of these efforts. With championing by men, especially Traditional Authorities, Sierra Leonean women young and old are called upon to take ownership of the implementation process and reap the benefits of effectively implementing this new results-based WPS agenda in the country.

6.0. Appendices

6.1 United Nations Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security

- UNSCR 1325 (2000): 1st recognition of the unique role and active agency of women in conflict, peace and security
- UNSCR 1820 (2008): Recognition of sexual violence as weapon of war
- UNSCR 1888 (2009): Reiteration of the threat of sexual violence and call for deployment of experts to areas sexual violence is occurring
- UNSCR 1889 (2009): Focus on the importance of women as peacebuilders at all stages of the peace process
- UNSCR 1960 (2010): Reiteration of the importance of ending sexual violence in conflict
- UNSCR 2106 (2013): Addressing the Operational details for combating sexual violence
- UNSCR 2122 (2013): Focus on stronger measured monitoring mechanisms to allow women engage in conflict resolution and recovery
- UNSCR 2242 (2015): Further focus on 1325 and its obstacles including incorporation of 1325 in the UN itself
- CEDAW General Recommendation 30 (2015): Links the women peace and security agenda to CEDAW including measures to ensure protection of women during and after conflict and promote reporting on progress
- UNSCR 2250 (2015): Youth, Peace and Security; deals specifically with the role of young people in issues of peace and security, recognizing the positive role young people can play in conflict setting to build more peaceful and safe societies
- UNSCR 2272 (2016): Provide measures to address sexual exploitation and abuse in peace operations
- UNSCR 2349 (2017): Peace and security in Africa

6.2 Continental commitments and instruments

- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Right on the Rights of Women in Africa
- Common Africa Defence and Security Police
- Framework for Post conflict Reconstruction and Development 2008
- AU Gender Policy (2000)
- Africa Women's Decade (2009) 2010–2020
- African Union Convention for the Protection and of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (2004)
- Policy Framework for Security Sector Reform (2011)
- African Union Aide Memoire on the Protection of Civilians (2013)
- AU Agenda 2063, First 10 Year Implementation Plan (2015)
- African Union Declaration on 2015 Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa Agenda 2063(2015)

6.3 Regional & sub-regional instruments and commitments

- ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (2001)
- ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework, Women, Peace and Security Act 2008
- POA for the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 & 1820 (2010)
- ECOWAS Parliament Gender Strategy, 2010-2020 (2011)
- Mano River Union 15th Protocol



6.4 National policies and legal frameworks

The GoSL has passed various policies and laws and ratified several conventions in order to protect and promote women's and children's human rights and to also address gender inequalities:

- Policy on the Advancement of Women and the National Gender Mainstreaming Policy (2000)
- The Domestic Violence Act of 2007: Allows for alternative dispute resolutions in cases where there are no injuries, which further limits justice for women
- The Devolution of Estates Act 2007
- The Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act 2007: States that a person can only legally marry if they are over the age of 18 years, however, it has a critical loophole which permits the marriage of 16-year-old boys and girls with parental consent. Thus there is a need for these two Acts to be harmonized.
- The Child Rights Act of 2007: Articulates the minimum age of marriage
- The Chieftaincy Act of 2007
- The Sexual Offences Act of 2012: Specifies that a person aged less than 18 years cannot consent to sex, making sex below this age illegal.

Appendix II

Parliamentary Motion for Adoption of Resolution on the Women, Peace and Security
Agenda tabled and adopted on 14 February, 2019

 **OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT**
PARLIAMENT BUILDING
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL
FREETOWN

E-mail: sierraleoneparliament@hotmail.com/admin@parliament.gov.sl

PoSL/OC/CERT/5/001 VOL II

FROM: The Clerk of Parliament

TO: The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Social Welfare,
Gender and Children's Affairs


11th April, 2019

cc: The Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs

MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

I hereby refer to the above-subject and to inform you that Parliament at its sitting on Thursday 14th February, 2019 adopted the following Motion, which was laid on the table of House on Thursday 14th February, 2019:

A Certificate of Adoption is enclosed for your further action.


Mohamed Lebbie
For: **Clerk of Parliament**

7.0 Bibliography

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Project: PBF/IRF-207: Improving Women's Participation in Political Processes as Peacebuilding Ambassadors (Project ID: 00108243)

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