

**SL-MDTF**

**ANNUAL programme NARRATIVE progress report**

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

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| Programme Title & Number |  | Country, Locality(s), Thematic Area(s) |
| Programme Title: Local Governance and Decentralization  Programme Number: JV Programme 16  MDTF Office Atlas Number:   * *00075876 Local Governance UNDP/UNICEF* | Sierra Leone, nationwide  UN Joint Vision Priority Area 5: Accessible and Credible Public Services |

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| Participating Organization(s) |  | Implementing Partners |
| *UNDP*  *UNICEF* | *Ministry of Internal Affairs Local Government and Rural Development*  *Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Children’s Affairs* |

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| Programme/Project Cost (US$) | |  | Programme Duration (months) | |
| MDTF Fund Contribution:   * *UNDP - $122,285* * *UNICEF - $122,285* |  |  | Overall Duration | 31 December 2012 |
| Agency Contribution   * *UNDP - $760,010* |  |  | Start Date of Projects | 24 June 2010 |
| Government Contribution  *UNDP - N/A* |  |  | Revised End Date of Projects | 31 March 2011 |
| Other Contribution (donor)  *UNDP - N/A* |  |  | Operational Closure Date of Programme | 31 December 2012 |
| TOTAL: $1,004,580 |  |  | Expected Financial Closure Date | 30 April 2013 |

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| Programme Assessments/Mid-Term Evaluation |  | Submitted By |
| Assessment Completed - if applicable *please attach*  Yes No Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Mid-Evaluation Report *– if applicable please attach*  Yes No Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | * Name: Keith Wright * Title: Chief Technical Adviser * Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP * Email address: keith.wright@undp.org |

# Purpose

The UN Joint Vision for Sierra Leone outlines the UN’s support to the Government’s Agenda for Change. The document establishes a general framework for donor co-operation in an effort to combine efforts and resources in support of the Government and its people.

Building on the initiatives that are already under way in the area of decentralisation, Joint Vision Programme 16 aims to assist district and councils to formulate and implement development policies and plans that are based on natural resources and local business opportunities. It will in addition build the capacity of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Local Government at the national level to effectively deliver its mandate on rural development and decentralised governance, in particular to roll out the Decentralisation Policy (2010).

Two projects under this programme received funding from CIDA through the SL-MDTF, namely UNDP’s Strengthening Capacities of Traditional Leaders and Chiefdom Councils, and UNICEF’s Child Rights Awareness-Raising among Local Councils and Community Leaders.

Both UNDP and UNICEF activities were re-scheduled to start on 1 January 2011 and will be reported on in the final programme report to CIDA.

# Resources

*Financial Resources:*

* UNDP received $122,285 and UNICEF received $122,285 from CIDA via the SL-MDTF. Both amounts were re-phased to 2011, and the entire amount is expected to be used by June 30.

*Human Resources:*

* National Staff: 24 NGO Programme staff in all districts are involved in executing the project.

# Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

UNICEF will work with the Decentralization Secretariat to arrange meetings and workshops with the Local Councils to disseminate information on the situation of children with traditional leaders and encourage them to take action to address the issues. The District Focal NGOs for Child Rights will work with the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Child Protection network to identify communities in which sensitizations will be held. A timetable for these meetings will be developed and its implementation monitored by the Focal NGO with support from the UNICEF field Offices and the MSWGCA at Regional level.

# Results

* UNICEF carried conducted no activities in 2010. However, a MICS4 survey was in process when the money was received, and UNICEF felt that it would be better to use the most recent information in the dissemination of child rights information. A plan for sensitization was developed but will be implemented in 2011. The sensitization plan was developed by the Child Rights Act (CRA) Steering Committee which comprises the MSWGCA, some line Ministries and NGOs. This network of partners some of who implement programmes in the Districts will ensure regular follow up for the achievement of the desired results.
* UNDP conducted no activities in 2010. Activities were re-scheduled to 2011 due to the MLGRD review of chiefdom administration being re-scheduled from 2010 to early 2011. This review is a pre-requisite to begin the implementation of project activities.

# Future Work Plan

* Some of UNICEF’s projected activities in 2011 include the dissemination of information on child rights to traditional leaders, community sensitization workshops on child rights issues, training workshops with the Local Councils on their role in implementing the child Rights Act.
* UNDP’s future work plans involves the training of the newly constituted chiefdom committees on their roles and responsibilities and how they relate to the decentralization policy and the Local Government Act; orientation of the newly elected paramount chiefs on chiefdom administration and their role in decentralization; and consultative meetings with district officials and paramount chiefs on the new decentralization policy and local government act.
* No adjustments have been made to the planned strategies, targets or key outcomes and outputs.

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

CIDA Canadian International Development Agency

CRA Child Rights Act

MICS Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

MLGRD Ministry of Local Governance and Rural Development

MSWGCA Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and children’s Affairs.

NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations

MICS4 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey