



United Nations Development Programme

Country: Sierra Leone

Project Title: *Access to Justice*

UNDAF Outcome(s): Joint Vision Programme 2: *Access to Justice and Human Rights:*

Expected CP Outcome(s): *Effective, responsive, accessible and fair justice systems promote the rule of law, including both formal and informal processes, with due consideration on the rights of the poor, women and vulnerable groups*

Expected Output(s):

- i) *Strengthened state capacity for efficient justice service delivery;*
- ii) *Enhanced civil society capacity to elicit accountability for justice service delivery*

Implementing Partner: *Ministry of justice (MoJ), Judiciary, Sierra Leone Police (SLP): Family Support Unit (FSU) and Legal & Justice Support Department, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)*

Responsible Parties: UNDP

Project Description

The Access to justice Project is an integral part of the United Nations Joint Vision Programme 2 on 'Access to Justice and Human Rights' and it complements the Government of Sierra Leone's 'Agenda for Change' (PRSP II), both of which set consolidation of peace in Sierra Leone as their priority objective and recognize that access to justice and the rule of law underpin it. The project design was informed by the Government of Sierra Leone Justice Sector Reform Strategy & Investment Plan, (JSRSIP) 2008-2010 and continues to be in line with the Government's new JSRSIP II (2011-2014) which was approved by Cabinet in July 2011. Its overall aim continues to be, to contribute to Sierra Leone's current peace consolidation programme through enhancing access to justice for the population.

In the period preceding the 11 year protracted civil war, Sierra Leonean society was characterized by a dysfunctional judicial system, wherein most Sierra Leoneans, particularly those residing in the provinces, had limited access to justice. This, coupled with weak rule of law institutions, a perception of a lack of independence of the judiciary, and unpunished human rights violations resulted in poor overall governance, and was one of the root causes of the hostilities. Post-conflict Sierra Leone continues to be characterized by a dual system of justice, with approximately 70 percent of the population living under the jurisdiction of customary/traditional law which is practiced in the majority of the 149 chiefdoms across the country. Access to, and the administration of justice, particularly justice for the poor and vulnerable (especially women and girls), is weak. There is great reliance on traditional dispute resolution methods, i.e. through the paramount chiefs, while the formal justice system is hardly accessed, often due to its distance from the population. In addition, the lack of infrastructure and the difficulty in both access and awareness further hampers the administration of justice by the formal system.

To aid in the administration of justice, the Government of Sierra Leone developed a Justice Sector Reform Strategy and Investment Plan (JSRSIP) and established a Justice Sector Coordination Office (JSCO) under the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General's Office. The JSRSIP sets forth a work plan which identifies areas of intervention as well as the main force behind that intervention. This Project falls within that umbrella and endeavours to support

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the JSRSIP, ensuring coordination and coherence with the other players in the field, while taking stock of UNDP's comparative advantage in its practice areas and building on the previous PBF interventions.

The project built on a series of rather ad hoc interventions that provided essential logistical support to restore justice sector institutions severely destroyed or degraded during the war. As the country moved from the recovery to the development phase, it became clear that more technical and advisory services were needed. UNDP has provided these services through the Improving Access to Justice project, in co-ordination with other partners, through the framework provided by the Justice Sector Reform Strategy and Investment Plan (JSRSIP). This project continues to be aligned with the outputs under the new JSRSIP II (2011-2014).

Project interventions, inter alia, support initiatives that focus mainly on the prevention and prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) cases, consistent with the requirement of the Security Council Resolution 1820 for an effective security and legal response to issues of SGBV. The project builds capacity of national institutions through training of law enforcement officers and CSOs, enhancing operational capacity of both formal and informal courts, development and delivery of knowledge products and reference materials, community outreach, awareness raising and legal education, supporting advocacy for law reforms and support services to victims of sexual violence to enable them have access and obtain justice remedy. Looking back over the last three years, the project has made good progress towards many of its objectives especially in the area of increasing SGBV victims' accessibility to formal justice institutions as well as capacitating the latter for effective response to the justice needs of such victims. Notwithstanding, the progress made so far, access to justice for many Sierra Leoneans still remains a challenge, rule of law is weak, and peace is fragile. Two years on, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) processes conducted by the project and (separate) Independent Mid-Term Review evaluations conducted by independent experts in 2009 and 2010 confirm that the project is achieving its objectives and is a 'very relevant and responsive project [that] has been well received by partners and beneficiaries'.


Over the course of the two years however, the project was 'fine tuned' to accommodate institutional changes and to take advantage of opportunities that emerged in the fast changing post-conflict context. In 2011, the project's strategies were streamlined to focus on a two-pronged approach of strengthening capacities of both the 'supply and demand' sides of justice; the state to deliver justice services to the population and the civil society to demand accountability for delivery of justice services respectively. It seeks to foster an effective, *responsive, accessible and fair justice systems, promote the rule of law, including both formal and informal processes, with due consideration on the rights of the poor, women and vulnerable groups. In order to achieve this, the project anticipates achieving the following two main outputs:*

- Strengthened state capacity for efficient justice service delivery;*
- Enhanced civil society capacity to elicit accountability for justice service delivery*

Programme Period:	2012
Key Result Area (Strategic Plan):	Fostering Democratic Governance
Atlas Award ID:	00049271
Start date:	01/01/2012
End Date :	31/12/2012
PAC Meeting Date:	2009
Management Arrangements:	DIM Framework

2012 AWP Budget:	USDS 1,416,280.08
Total resources required	_____
Total allocated resources:	_____
UNDP	1,260,184.08
PBF	106,096
Italian Govt.	50,000

Agreed by (Ministry of Justice):  **FRANKLYN NARGISO**
AG + MOJ/

Agreed by (UNDP):  **MOHAMED ABCHIR**
2 Country Director and

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ANNUAL WORKPLAN & BUDGET

Year 2012

Expected Outputs (Baselines & Indicators)	Planned Activities	Time-frame				Resp. Party	Planned Budget		
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		Budget Description		Amount US\$
							Acct	Description	
<p>Output 1: Strengthened state capacity for efficient justice service delivery</p> <p>Baseline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several conflicting laws on sexual offences leading to limited prosecution & high level impunity for sexual and gender-based offences <p>Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of MPs trained Successful enactment of sexual offences bill into law with technical support from Parliamentary Human Rights Commission (PHRC) # of printed copies of Sexual Offences Act, 2010 <p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) training supported for the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee (PHRC) 	<p>Activity Result 1: <i>Strengthened Advocacy and technical support for review and passage of the Sexual Offences Bill</i></p> <p>Action 1: Contribute to Joint UN effort at training MPs on human rights based approach to legislative review processes to facilitate enactment of the Sexual Offences Act</p> <p>Action 2: Support printing and distribution of Sexual Offences Act 2010</p>					JVP2 PHRC	71305 71635 71620 72315 72505	Local Cons- DSA-Local Travel – local Food Stationery,	8,000
		x				UNDP MSWGCA	71300 74200 72500	Contractual service, Print, Pubs, Stationery	6,500

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<p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First batch of 129 FSU personnel trained • 183 Police Investigators and Prosecutors trained in 2009 – 2010 	<p>Activity Result 2:</p> <p><i>Enhanced capacity of law enforcement personnel to respond to SGBV Cases and deliver justice services to the poor and vulnerable</i></p>	x			UNDP, FSU	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,	Local Cons- DSA-Local Travel – local Food Stationery,	34,264
<p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judgments making references to human rights standards relating to women • SGBV Practice direction developed • Increased number of FSU personnel trained on the new SGBV Case Management Guidelines • Increased number of Police Prosecutors trained, • Reduced # of cases thrown out of court for want of evidence • # of SGBV Cases prosecuted to their logical end • Number of judges trained 	<p>Action 1: Organize encounters (colloquia) with judges and magistrates on women's rights and SGBV and development of a module on gender and justice for the National Judicial Training Institute (NITI)</p>				UNDP, GoSL	71300, 71600, 72500,	Allowances, Transport, Fuel,	25,000
<p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) encounter with Judges organised • One (1) Bar-Bench Forum organised • Four (4) training including 3 at Regional level and 1 in 	<p>Action 2: Bar-Bench Forum to develop practice directions on SGBV to reduce complexity of procedures and increase confidence of victim witnesses.</p>		x		UNDP, FSU	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,	Local Cons- DSA-Local Travel – local Food Stationery,	41,000
<p>Action 3: Conduct training for personnel of the FSU of the SLP nationwide using the 'Guidelines on SGBV Case Management'</p>			x					

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<p>Freetown conducted for second batch of FSU personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) training conducted at Regional Level for Police Prosecutors on Prosecutorial techniques 	<p>Action 4: Conduct nationwide training for personnel of the Legal & Justice Support Department of the SLP on the revised Criminal Procedure Act and the Sexual Offences Act for effective prosecution of SGBV cases</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>UNDP, SLP</p>	<p>71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,</p>	<p>Local Cons- DSA-Local Travel – local Food Stationery,</p>	<p>45,000.00</p>
<p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 FSU-Community outreach conducted in Makeni, Bo, Kenema and Freetown • 3 SGBV information desk (2 in Freetown and 1 in Makeni) <p>Indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and % of communities reached through FSU awareness raising programmes • Number and % of cases reported to the FSU • Number and % of people making enquiries on SGBV issues 	<p>Activity Result 3: Increased public awareness and realization of legal rights and protection under the law</p> <p>Action 1: Support FSUs to conduct community outreach programmes on SGBV to school going teenagers</p> <p>Action 2: Establish regional SGBV information desk within the Magistrate Court</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>UNDP, FSU</p>	<p>71300, 71600, 72500,</p>	<p>Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery,</p>	<p>30,000.00</p>
<p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSU-Community outreach conducted in four (4) additional locations • Three (3) SGBV information desks established 			<p>x</p>	<p>UNDP Judiciary</p>	<p>71300</p>	<p>Contractual service</p>	<p>22,906</p>

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<p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 nationwide trainings conducted for 300 Local Courts chairpersons and 12 L/Courts Supervisors nationwide in 2009 – 2010 • One (1) training of PCs supported <p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of training supported • Evidence of respect for human rights and fair trials in customary justice system 	<p>Activity Result 4: Support to harmonize customary practices with human rights principles through dialogue with traditional authorities</p> <p>Action 1: Support the Judiciary to develop and implement training for local courts chairpersons on the new Local Court Act, customary law, international and regional human rights standards, and mediation.</p>	x	x	x	x	UNDP, Judiciary,	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,	Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food Stationery,	50,000
<p>Targets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) regional trainings of Local Courts Chairpersons & supervisors supported • Three (3) regional trainings of PCs supported 	<p>Action 2: Train Paramount chiefs (PC) on Human Rights, Gender and on the laws governing their operations in order to ensure fairness and consistency in their decisions</p>			x		UNDP, MSW/GCA	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,	Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery,	40,000
<p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 (2 Magistrates and 1 High) Saturday Courts already established and functioning in Freetown • * 507 backlog cases cleared out 700 in 2011 <p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ * Evidence of additional 	<p>Activity Result 5: Formal justice services extended to deprived rural areas and expansion of Saturday Courts to the Regions supported</p> <p>Action 1: Funding for mobile courts in under- or subserviced areas</p>	x	x	x	x	UNDP, GoSL	71300, 71600,	Allowances, Transport, Fuel,	25,000

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<p>Saturday Courts servicing SGBV survivors in other areas,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of Defence Counsels utilised for the Saturday Courts • # of beneficiaries of legal aid services • Reduced rates of adjournments of SGBV cases • Speedy adjudication of SGBV cases in Saturday Courts due to availability of witnesses 	<p>Action 2: Support continued functioning of the Special Saturday to hear cases of SGBV arising from the '3 Gender Acts' and fast track cases involving female accused and complainants</p> <p>Action 3: Provide funds for witness support to facilitate the effective functioning of the Saturday Courts in the Provinces and Freetown</p>	x	x	x	x	UNDP, GoSL	71300, 71600,	Allowances, Transport, Fuel.	70,000.00
<p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) additional mobile courts supported in Eastern Province • Three (3) additional Special Saturday Courts established and functioning in Eastern and Northern Region 									
<p>Baseline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission supported in 2011 leading to the first hearing involving 235 ex-servicemen of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and the Ministry of Defence and the RSLAF • NA <p>Indicator(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of backlog cases 	<p>Activity Result 6: Increased capacities of national judicial and legal system to deliver justice services to the population</p> <p>Action 1: Support the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone (HRCSL) to strengthen the rule of law, including the exercise of quasi-judicial functions</p>	x	x			UNDP HRCSL	71300,	International Cons-	9,000

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigated and cleared # of public hearings held Research and information units in key justice sector Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs) <p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support retention of services of 1 Human Rights Lawyer and 1 Institutional Development Advisor 6 Research and Information units set-up in Justice Sector MDAs 	<p>Action 2: Support JSCO on the implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy and Investment Plan (2011-2014) especially on capacity building on justice sector data collection, analysis and management.</p>	x	x			UNDP JSCO	71300	Contractual service	26,678
Sub-total (Output 1)									
<p>Output 2: Enhanced civil society capacity to elicit accountability for justice service delivery</p> <p>Baseline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 convictions secured in 2010 127 victims supported in 2011 with 5 conviction secured 2 Legal orientation trainings held with 89 (57 	<p>Activity Result 7: Strengthen access to justice for vulnerable groups through provision of direct victims support services and legal aid</p> <p>Action 1: Provide grants to women's organizations to provide legal assistance, as well as transportation, medical services, and shelter facilities for victims and their families</p>	x	x	x	x	UNDP CSOs	71300	Contractual service	211,469

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<p>with 89 (57 male & 32 female) beneficiaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 CSO Clusters supported in 2011 	<p>Activity 2: Provide incentives and logistical support to the Bar Association to provide pro-bono legal services to facilitate the effective functioning of the Saturday Courts in the Provinces and Freetown at the community level</p>	x	x			UNDP SLBA	71300	Contractual Service	15,000
<p>Indicator(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. and % of victims of SGBV and their families that benefited from grants • # and % increase in SGBV convictions • # and % Increase in reporting SGBV cases to formal justice institutions & CSOs 									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of monitoring reports submitted to UNDP <p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten (10) CSOs provided with grants to support victims of sexual offence • Three (3) Legal orientation trainings held • Five (4) clusters of CSOs supported • 2000 Copies of public information handbook produced and distributed • Five (4) clusters of CSOs supported 	<p>Action 3: Support capacity building on legal orientation and court monitoring on issues related to SGBV and human rights for women-led and women-interest CSOs, with expansion to SGBV Steering Committees</p>			x		UNDP CSO	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505,	Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery,	40,000

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CSOs supported	Action 3: Support CSOs to undertake monitoring of both formal and traditional courts			x		UNDP CSO	71300,	Contractual services,	30,000
	Action 4: Printing and distribution of a public information handbook on steps involved in commencing legal action and accessing legal services	x				UNDP CSOs	71300, 74200, 72500, 74500	Contractual service, Print,	12,736
Baseline N/A	Activity Result 8: <i>Strengthened capacity for advocacy and dialogue on women's rights to land and property thereby contributing to the land reform agenda</i>	x	x			UNDP COOPI	71300,	Contractual services, Misc.	
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Report of National conference on women's right to property and land ● Report on dialogues meetings held ● Report on mapping exercise on women's rights to land & property ● An action plan for dissemination and implementation by local authorities developed ● # of participating local authorities ● Increased advocacy amongst stakeholders including NGOs/CSOs for women's land and property right issues 								22,000
	Action 1: Support to COOPI's national conference on women's property and land rights								
	Action 2: Support COOPI to organise dialogue session between community women and local authorities on the reality of property and land rights violations for women, and the implications for the community and the region	x	x			UNDP COOPI	71300,	Contractual services	5,853
	Activity 3: Support COOPI to conduct capacity training of community women leaders on the Gender Justice Laws 2007, advocacy and lobbying skills for effective		x	x		UNDP COOPI	71300,	Contractual services	15,359
Target(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One (1) National conference on women's right to property and land 								

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<p>supported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four regional dialogue sessions organised • Four (4) regional trainings on advocacy and lobbying skill for women community leaders • 1 Mapping exercise on problems and barriers women face in relation to property and land rights violations. 	<p>engagement on women's rights to property and land</p>					<p>7,273</p>	
<p>Activity 4: Support community women leaders to undertake community mapping exercise in their local communities to identify the key problems and barriers women face in relation to property and land rights violations.</p>	<p>Activity 5: Support follow-up activities on the national campaign for women's rights to property and land</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>UNDP COOPI</p>	<p>71300, 71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505, 74500</p>	<p>Contractual services</p> <p>Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery, Misc</p>	<p>15,000</p>
<p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Lectures organized for the Law School in 2011 • 54 Lawyers capacitated in human rights thematic and prosecution of SGBV offences <p>Indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of a course on SGBV integrated into the Law School Curriculum <p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A curriculum on SGBV mainstreamed into the Sierra Leone Law 	<p><i>Activity Result 9: Capacity of future generation of legal professionals developed to contribute to strengthening rule of law in Sierra Leone</i></p> <p>Action 1: Support to the Sierra Leone Law School to develop curriculum on SGBV for Bar Candidates</p>	<p>x</p>		<p>UNDP SILS</p>	<p>71300, 74500</p>	<p>Contractual services, Misc.</p>	<p>20,000</p>

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School Programme																
<p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A consultative/ training workshop to inform contents of the Media handbook was conducted in 2012 2 media Awards with 6 awardees supported in 2010 and 2011 	<p>Activity Result 10: <i>Enhance the capacity of media practitioners to publicize SGBV cases and convictions in Sierra Leone in an attempt to achieve a level of deterrence</i></p>					UNDP SLAJ	71305, 71635, 71620, 72315, 72505, 74500		Local Cons-DSA, Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery, Misc					30,000		
<p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of SGBV trainings for media personnel # of media reporting handbook printed and distributed # of media consultative form on SGBV reporting organised 	<p>Action 1: Training workshops for media personnel nationwide on SGBV legal matters</p> <p>Action 2: Institute national and regional media consultative forums to review and document media reporting of SGBV cases</p>		x	x		UNDP SLAJ	71600, 72300, 72500, 74500, 71300		DSA-Local Travel – local, Food, Stationery, Misc					15,000		
<p>Target(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One (1) training for media personnel nationwide organised 4 (3 Provincial & 1 Western Area) media 	<p>Action 3: Publish handbook on reporting SGBV cases by media personnel</p>	x				UNDP SLAJ	71300, 74200, 72500, 74500,		Contractual service, Print, Pubs Stationery Contractual services					10,935.29		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consultative fora held A handbook with guidelines on media reporting of SGBV cases published 2012 media award supported 	<p>Action 4: Continue supporting national media awards for consistent and professional reporting of SGBV cases</p>	x		UNDP IMC	71300	Contractual services	9,102
Sub-total (Output 2)							459,727.94
<p>Project Administration / Management</p>	<p>Activity Result 11: Effective project management ensured</p>						370,016
	<p>Action 1: Project Staffing</p>						40,200
	<p>Action 2: Conduct HACT Assessment and audit for 2010 -2011 implementation</p>						44,000
<p>Sub-total</p>							454,216
<p>Project Admin / Mgmt</p>							924,283
<p>Total for Programmed Activities (Outputs 1 & 2)</p>							454,216
<p>Total for Project Administration / Management</p>							27,570
<p>ISS</p>							10,212
<p>GMS</p>							1,416,280.08
<p>Grand-Total:</p>							1,416,280.08