**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

**FIELD VISIT REPORT[[1]](#footnote-1)**

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| **Project title and ID** | NRM, CCMitigation and Disaster Resilience (Atlas ID: 00126338 ) |
| **Date(s) of Visit** | **From: 04/12/2020** |  | **To: 07/12/2020** |  |
| **Purpose of the field visit** | To conduct Monitoring on activities implemented under UNDP support by the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources and NACOVAC (Covid 19 response) and to Monitor the installation of Equipment at one of UNDP supported water project sites in Kono District |
| **Locations visited** | Kono and Kambia |
| **Field visit team members (names & title)** | Tanzila W. Sankoh, Team Lead, SLED, UNDP; Moi Swaray- M&E Officer, UNDP; Isaac Kojo Souzey, Joseph Allieu and Pedro Souzey- Technicians, Infinity Trading and 2 UNDP Drivers  |
| **Outcomes** | By 2023, Sierra Leone benefit from a more productive agricultural sector, an improved food and nutrition security and increased resilience to climate change, through commercialized sustainable agriculture, equitable and sustainable use of land and natural resources and better feeding practices |
| **Update on outcomes** | Through UNDP support to the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources (MMMR), 12 Hectares of degraded mined out land in Kono District have been reclaimed and restored with Agricultural activities, thus providing sustainable livelihood to artisanal miners and mining communities. Part of the package saw the training of 50 miner youth on improved agricultural and agronomic practices. As a result, they were able to cultivation 10 Ha of the reclaimed land into rice and vegetable production. Out of the 12 bushels planted, they have so far been able to get a yield of about 110 bushels after harvesting only about 50% of the cultivated land. |
| **Outputs** | **Output 2:** Capacity of MDAs in NRM at national and local levels strengthened to ensure sustainable use of environmental resources including livelihoods  |
| Output 5: COVID19 response capacity of DDMCs increased to support community mitigation efforts |
| **Update on outputs** | 10 Hectares of degraded mined out land have been rehabilitated in Kono District where Agricultural activities have been undertaking. The project also capacitated 50 Artisanal miners on improved agricultural and Agronomic practices.In Kono also, one of the Water facilities which have been faulty and which is located in Njagbema Fiama Chiefdom gained some attention for refurbishment. The pumping equipment which was stolen have been procured by the project for which Water teachicians were taking to the site to develop the framework and reinstall the pumping machine. This has been done. The Covid 19 response component for which Monitoring was conducted in Kambia Government Hospital observed that training related to surveillance or Contact tracing designed for Community Health Workers was not conducted as planned.  |
| **For Gender Marker 2 and 3 Projects** | The land reclamation project is gender biased to the women. This is because male are mostly engaged in Artisanal mining activities. As such, out of the 25 miners who eventually took part in the rice and vegetable cultivation on the reclaimed mined out land, only 4 are female.  |
| **Update on partnership strategies** | For the land reclaimation component of the portfolio, UNDP partnered with the MMMR to raise awareness on the dangers around mined out open pits and the consequences on the environment. Through so many engagements with mining community stakeholders in Kono District, the Ministry have gradually succeeded in changing mindsets towards sustainable environmental practices as demonstrated by the miners themselves in cultivating 10 Ha of mined out land into agricultural production. Over the years, the partnership has been working well.In the same way, UNDP partnered with the Ministry of Water Resources to implement the water project in the context of Climate Change Adaptation in water production and management. To attain this, Private contractors were hired to do the installation of innovative water facilities while being monitored by the community, UNDP and the Ministry of Water resources. In the context of Covid 19 Response, UNDP partnered with the National Covid 19 Emergency Response Centre (NaCOVERC) to conduct orientation training in contact tracing for Community Health Workers in 8 Districts in Sierra Leone.  |
| **Project performance and Implementantion issue(s):** |
| The partner (Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources) who implemented the land reclaimation complained of inadequate man power to cultivate the 12 Ha of reclaimed land into Agricultural use. There was also the issue of delay in accessing improve seed. Funds meant to implement planned activities was not disbursed on time. This posed serious challenge in catching up with the planting season, as Agricultural activities are time bound.Pumping equipment that was initially attached to the water facility at Njabema Fiama was stolen by unknown person (s). The project has purchased the stolen equipment which has been reinstalled at the said water point. However, the water source at this water point is located at a spot which exposes it to unwanted materials, thus rendering the water source (dam) unhygienic and therefore not suitable for drinking. This is so because the dam is widely open and exposed to external materials. With regard the training that was slated for Community health workers which aimed at strengthening their capacity in community surveillance for Covid 19 response, this was not achieved at the time of the Monitoring. Authorities concern maintained that funds allocated by UNDP for the activity did not get, nor reflect into their account on time as expected. As such, they deferred the training to a slightly latter date.  |
| **Lessons learned:** |
| **Land Reclaimation:**1. There were several unsubstantiated claims on mined out lands. Community consultations helped to resolved the issue which led to the success of the reclaimation process;
2. There were so much water in selected reclaimed land for Agriculture. The establishment of the water control system (irrigation) enabled Miner farmers to carry out swamp preparation and planting effectively .
3. The use of improved rice seeds saw a quick turnover (3 month) of rice for harvest. This variety also led to increased yield compare to quantity planted.

**Replacement of stolen water pump equipment:**1. Low security awareness could have contributed to loss of initial pumping equipment at Njagbema Fiama
2. The dam is widely open without covering of any sort to project it from being conterminated with external or harmful materials.
3. Exposed dam needs to be protected from harmful particles
4. The dam at the time of monitoring visit was conterminated with external and harmful materials

**Training of CHW in contact tracing:**1. Late disbursement of funds could not permit timely implementation of activity;
2. Poor coordination did not allow enough time for the District medical team to mobilise PHU staff for the training;
3. The training have been agreed to be done for 150 CHWs, which is to be divided in 8 batches to reduce risk of Covid 19 transmission;
 |
| **Recommendations:** |
| **Land Reclaimation:**1. Miner farmers to be supported to build on the foundation they have already started in terms of replanting and extending the farming activity to unutilized area in the reclaimed land;
2. There is a need for the farm to have a storage facility where harvested produce can be stored;
3. The miner farmers should embark on planting improved seeds for sustained and improved productivity.

**Replacement of stolen water pump equipment:**1. Community leaders should put security measures in place at the water facility to avoid stealing of pumping equipment or even the solar gadgets.
2. There is a need to provide covering for the dam to help protect it from being conterminated with harmful materials;

**Training of CHW in contact tracing:**1. Funds for implementation of planned Activities should be disbursed to partners on a timely basis;
2. There is need to also follow-up with the District Medical team including DICOVERC to determine whether the proposed surveillance training for CHW has actually been undertaking;

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| **Action Plan(s):** |
| *Provide actions on any matter related to outcome, progress of outputs, and/or partnerships and corrective measures.*

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| **Priority** | **Issue**  | **Action** | **Who** | **By When** |
| *List in order priority* | *What is the issue that needs to be addressed.*  | *What action is recommended to directly address this issue* | *Who is responsible to follow up on the issue* | *When should the recommendation be implemented by* |
| *1* | *Late disbursement of fund* | *Timely disbursement of fund* | *UNDP* | *Jan. 2021* |
| *2* | *Storage facility for harvested rice* | *To create storage facility to support post harvest activities* | *UNDP* | *2021 programme period* |
| *2.* | *Incomplete Activity*  | *To follow-up with DHMT, Kambia* | *M&E Officer* | *Dec. 2020* |
| *3* | *Distortion in flow of water from the dam to the tank* | *Engage the Contractors to solve the problem* | *M&E Officer/Team Lead* | *Dec. 2020* |

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| **Prepared by *(name & title)*** | Moi Swaray, M&E Officer |
| **Reviewed and approved by** | Madhab Regmi, M&E Specialist |
| **Annexes** | See for Participants list Annex 1Annex 2: Specific tools used: Photos, Interviews, Field visit.Annex 3: Success stories (Optional)Annex 3: Field visit photos with caption |

Annex 3: Photos



 **Reclaimed Mined out Land Transformed into Rice Production** **Bagged rice harvested from reclaimed plot**



**Installation of Pumping machine to the well** **Solar panel to provide electricity to the water facility at Njagbeme Fiama, Kono**

**Participants List**

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| S/N | Name | Designation | Phone |
| Participants-Transformation of Mined out Land into Agricultural production- Kono |
| 1 | Emanual T. Ngauja | Farm Manager | +23276731547 |
| 2 | Osman Turay | Site Supervisor |  |
| 3 | Marian Kandeh | Weeding, bird scaring |  |
| Persons spoken To-Water Project, Njagbema Fiama |
| 1 | Chief Aiah T. Gbembo | Town Chief | +23278536366 |
| 2. | Isaac Kojo Souzey | Engineer-Infinity | +23276625151 |
| Monitoring of Suivellance Training (Covid 19 response) in Kambia-Persons Spoken to |
| 1 | Mohamed M. Dumbuya | District Coordinator-DICOVERC, Kambia | +23276748340 |
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1. Adapted from UNDP’s [Handbook for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results](http://web.undp.org/evaluation/handbook/documents/english/pme-handbook.pdf) (Pg. 193). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)