### Reporting Unit: **Energy and Environment Unit**

### Country: **Sierra Leone**

### **STANDARD PROGRESS REPORT**

### No. and title: **00080863** **Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Management**

### Reporting period: **January-December, 2017**

### **I. PURPOSE**

MEANS OF

In Sierra Leone, the vast majority of people rely on natural resources and its associated activities for their main sources of livelihoods, but these livelihoods face a host of different internal and external pressures. Management of the natural resource sector is closely tied to stability, economic development, rural integration, and improved governance. This is particularly relevant in the context of the country’s high vulnerability to climate change and disasters, and weak institutional capacities to address these vulnerabilities and foster resilience. Integrating environmental aspects into local and national development strategies, thereby enhancing both environmental and social resilience to external shocks is an essential part on the path towards sustainable development.

UNDP’s Energy, Environment & Natural Resource Management Programme in 2015-2018 aims to effect development change through two priority programmatic areas:

1. Strengthening mechanisms and frameworks that promote social and environmental sustainability in natural resource management.
2. Enhancing capacity for climate change adaptation and disaster risk management at the national, district and community level.

UNDP support is focused both at the level of enhancing the legislative enabling environment (e.g. improving legislative frameworks, policy reviews, development of strategies and action plans), as well as enhancing implementation capacities at national, district and community levels.

FICATION

* The main **Implementing Partners**: Environmental Protection Agency, Office of National Security-Disaster Management Department, National Protected Areas Agency, Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources Metrological Department.

### **II. RESOURCES**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Atlas ID** | **Project Title** | **Fund Code** | **Donor Code** | **2017 budget** | **2017 Expenses** | **Commitments** | **Budget Balance** | **Project Duration** | **Status** |
| 60863 | Environment & Natural Disaster Management | 04000 | 00012 | 1,025,649 | 851,029 | 151,316 | 23,304 | 4 Years | Active |
| 26960 | 00055 | - | - | - | - |
| 04120 | 00012 | 100,000 | 49,969 | - | 39,439 |
| 11422 | 00012 | 400,000 | 342,862 | 0 | 57,138 |
| 28400 | 12711 | 200,000 | 186,865 | 0 | 13,135 |
| 30000 | 12270 | 226,268 | 198,522 | 4 | 27,742 |
|  | | | | **1,951,917** | **1,629,247** | **151,320** | **160,758** |  |  |

### **III. RESULTS**

**Output 1: Gender-sensitive policies, legal and institutional frameworks strengthened for land tenure**

Following the Cabinet endorsement of the National Land Policy, late 2016. The UNDP in partnership with the FAO printed more than three thousand copies of the policy. This 2017 UNDP support focused on the the popularization of the document across a wide range of stakeholders and communities within the regions including traditional leaders), civil society organisations (CSO) and other stakeholder’s to understand the linkages between good land governance and economic development, climate change and food security. The popularization was done through jingles, radio and TV discussions in all districts around the country.

**Output 2:** **Strengthened, gender-sensitive policies, legal and institutional frameworks relevant to the extractive sector.**

With support to the Ministry of Mines, a policy unit has been established and equipped for the implementation of the strategic plan and sharing of information on the countries natural resources there by promoting transparency in the countreis natural resource management.

**Output 3:** **Improved governance of natural resources and national and local capacities for monitoring enhanced**

The ECAS has been successfully set up and training has been conducted for the EPA-SL staffs. The Project has generated significant progress/achievements in the area of improved monitoring and compliance at the EPA-SL. However, the ECAS has not yet been publicized to the GoSL Online Repository for public access. The general perception in the EPA-SL is that the ECAS will help to increase effectiveness and accountability of the management of environmental licenses and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) documentation.

Additionally, support was provided to the National Minerals Agency to facilitate in collaboration with Non Governmental Organizations to strengthen the capacities of the established Natural Resource Committees in the Kono to function as required. I.e to dialogue with people on the identification, design, and implementation of projects geared towards natural resource governance to be funded by resources paid towards the community development agreements by Octea mining.

**Output 4: Enhanced national and local capacity for protection of key biodiversity areas**

Legal Policy and Regulatory framework for Revenue Sharing within the Protected Area Communities and Government has been developed to aid the distribution of revenues realized from the the natural resources. The involvement of Community members in developing the legal framework for revenue sharing has increased their commitment in the protection of the Protected Areas around their communities.

Majority of the Senior and Junior Officers in the Sierra Leone Police were not conversant with the National Protected Area Authority (NPAA) and Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) Act, 2012 and the Wildlife Conservation Act, 1972. As such UNDP supported the training of 40(30 men and 10 women) Law Enforcement or Security Officers on the relevant legislations in protected area management to capacitate them to arrest and posecute defaulters of the law.

**Output 5: Enhanced national and local capacities for disaster risk management:**

The support in 2017 strengthened national and district level capacities to anticipate, plan and mitigate the effects of natural disasters through the updated hazard profiles (per district). As a result of the updated hazard profiles, 207 District Development Committees (DDCCs) were trained and sensitized accordingly. Also trained were community volunteers as first respondents to disasters. 30(%) percent of all those trained at DDCC and community level were women.

Facilitated the strengthening of effective response and coordination mechanisms for disaster and risk reduction through the establishment of a coordination platform for the mainstreaming of DRM interventions. The platform is inter-institutional, and multi-sectoral. It ensures comprehensive stakeholder consultation, development of interventions, monitoring, assessing and sharing of information on disaster risk reduction. A notable achievement was in the sensitization and awareness raising of fire hazards and wind storms which are an annual occurrence through dedicated radio messages and discussions; community sensitization led by DDCCs in collaboration with ONS-DMD and cooperating partners. A total of 100 female and 200 male community volunteers were trained in DRR (flood and fire responses) in the central and eastern districts of Kambia, Portloko, Kabala, Moyamba, Pujehun, Kailahun and Matrujong. As a result of this they were involved in responding to save life and properties in the August/September 2017 mudslides at Motema and flooding in Kaningo and Kamayama communities. DDCCs were also supported in in the following:

* Holding their monthly coordination meetings.
* Data collection, analysis and dissemination
* Information storage and processing through ICT (Dis-Inventer and WhatsApp)
* Partnership building with the Red Cross on mitigation and response efforts

The 200 male volunteers were engaged in retrieving dead bodies, debris clearing and awareness raising to communities to stay away high risk or disaster prone areas in Motema, Regent, Culvert, Dwarzack, Kaningo, Kamayama and Lumley.

Technical assistance was engaged from MSB-Sweden to support community and institutional capacity building in debris management which included the introduction of innovations such as terracing, composting, and sand banking as an integrated approach on DRM and livelihood support for disaster prone communities in Dwarzack, Kamayama, and Culvert.

Cash-for-work was introduced in disaster affected communities as resilience building activities. 500 beneficiaries were enlisted.

***Progress towards results as defined in the AWP*: Clearly state what has changed (at the outcome level) and any intended and unintended results**

An assessment of the extent to which activities and outputs in the AWP contributed to the outcomes expected for the year *(please provide evidence).*

* There has been an increased number of trained women (over 100) engaged in DRR response and awareness raising for people to relocate from risks prone areas. His was demonstrated during the mudslides and flooding disaster response in August/September 2017. Reports on response activities are forthcoming.
* Increased awareness on district hazards as a result of updated hazard profiles.
* Increased capacities of district structures in analyzing and disseminating DRR information at district level through DDCC
* Increased coordination of national structures in response interventions (information sharing and collaboration

**IV. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT**

* There is the need for technical training support for all IPs for better delivery of mandates.
* Limited capacity in coordination mechanisms across key actors often limit synergies and buy-in and participation by all.
* Limited funds to cover all affected communities (scale-up)

### **V. FUTURE WORK PLAN**

* Popularization of the lands policy
* Mainstreaming DRM and climate change to MDAs and School curriculum
* Formation and review of chiefdom disaster management committees
* Launching of DRM policy and popularization of the policy
* Ongoing capacity building at all levels
* 600 youths provided with ulternative livelihoods in the kono district
* Operationalization of the Mines policy unit.
* Improved legislative frameworks for environmental sustainability
* Enhanced capacity for environmental monitoring and effective coordination
* Facilitated the celebration of world environmental days
* Eco Village Concept Framework developed and implemented

### **VI. FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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