

United by  
**One Bank**

We know our way  
around finance in Africa



**UBA**  
United Bank for Africa

www.ubasierraleone.com



Excellence & Objectivity

Follow us: Concord Times Newspaper | @Concordtimes | sl\_concord\_times

**CONCORD TIMES**  
NEWSPAPER

Vol. 17, No 140250946

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

Price: Le 2

**ALSO INSIDE**

**International  
Republican  
Institute holds  
post-election  
dialogue**



**RCB Bank**  
ROKEL COMMERCIAL BANK (SL) LTD  
*Bank of Choice*

# Heartbroken: Fuel price shoots up amidst economic hardship

## IOM, partners brace up to end human trafficking



By Yusufu S. Bangura

After both private and commercial drivers queued for the rest of the day yesterday to access fuel at various filling stations across Freetown and other parts of the country, the Petroleum

Regulation Agency(PRA) later in the evening announced an increment in the prices of petroleum products from Le21, 500 (equivalent to 0.86 Dollar) per litre to L25,000 (equivalent to 1 Dollar) per litre.

Cont. Page 2



## Parliament applauds new Chief Minister

## I have never sold any government asset

-Former Minister of Works

**ECOBANK  
SAVE AND WIN PROMO!**

The more you Save the Greater  
Your Chances of Winning

ecobank.com



• Terms and Conditions Apply

Save NLE 5,000,  
NLE 10,000, NLE 20,000  
or more and enter the draw

**Ecobank**  
The Pan African Bank

## Op-ED

By Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission

On 17 July, nearly one year after it was signed in Istanbul, Russia decided to not renew the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) that allows Ukraine to export agricultural goods to global markets. As underlined by the Secretary General of the UN, this initiative has been 'a beacon of hope in a world that desperately needs it'.

Before Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, a critical global food supplier, a fifth of the world's barley came from Ukraine, as well as a sixth of the maize and an eighth of wheat. After Russia invaded Ukraine, attacking grain fields and silos and blocking Ukrainian ports, global food prices spiked to record levels and endangered much needed food supply for many importer countries. The BSGI aimed to re-establish a vital route for agricultural exports from Ukraine and to lower global food prices.

Despite many challenges, it achieved its key purpose. Since August 2022, the export of almost 33 million tonnes of grains and food from Ukraine to 45 different countries played an instrumental role in reducing global food prices by some 25% since the record high reached shortly after Russia's attack. As public trade data shows, over half of the grain, including two thirds of the wheat, went to developing countries.

In addition, the BSGI ensured continued access to grain for the World Food Programme (WFP). In 2023, Ukraine supplied 80% of the wheat procured to support humanitarian operations in the most food insecure countries like Afghanistan, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. Without the Black Sea route, the WFP has to get its grain elsewhere at higher prices and with a longer lead-time at a time when the world is facing an unprecedented food crisis.

Russia's decision was taken despite the UN Secretary General's renewed proposals to work to address its concerns. In order to shift blame, Russia claims that its own agricultural exports were not sufficiently facilitated. This is not borne out by publicly available trade data, which shows that Russia's agricultural exports are thriving. Russia gained also important benefits from the Memorandum of Understanding with the UN on

# Russia must stop using food as a weapon



fertiliser exports, which had been brokered in parallel to the BSGI. The UN has worked relentlessly to clarify regulatory frameworks and engage with the private sector to find dedicated solutions across banking and insurance sectors. These efforts have been conducted in close collaboration with the EU and its partners.

Contrary to the lies spread by Russia, the EU has indeed ensured that our sanctions have no impact on global food security. There are no sanctions on Russian export of food and fertiliser to third countries and the EU has provided extensive guidance to economic operators, clarifying that these transfers to third countries are permitted. We have also worked with the UN to allow related payments.

Despite these well-known and verifiable facts, Russia decided to pull out of the BSGI, using food as a weapon and endangering the global food supply. Hours after withdrawing

from the initiative, Russia started also to destroy Ukraine's grain storage facilities and port infrastructure with daily targeted attacks, not only in the Black Sea itself but also in the Danube. As an immediate reaction, wholesale wheat and maize prices saw their biggest increase since the start of Russia's war of aggression. The increased food price volatility is likely to persist as long as Russia puts global food supply under deliberate stress, aggravating the global cost-of-living crisis and most acutely for food-insecure people in import-dependent countries. This is unacceptable and should be resolutely condemned.

As the world deals with disrupted supplies and higher prices, Russia is now approaching vulnerable countries, notably in Africa, with bilateral offers of limited grain shipments, pretending to solve a problem it created itself. This is a cynical policy of deliberately using food as a weapon.

In response to Russia's irresponsible actions, the EU is active along three main lines. First, we will continue to support the tireless efforts of the United Nations and Türkiye to resume the Black Sea Grain Initiative. Second, we continue to

strengthen our "Solidarity Lanes" as alternative routes for Ukrainian agricultural exports to reach global markets through the EU. These lanes have allowed the export of more than 41 million tonnes of Ukraine's agricultural goods so far, and we are increasing this as much as possible to mitigate the consequences of Russia's termination of the BSGI. Third, we increased our financial support to countries and people most in need, providing €18 billion to address food security until 2024.

We call on the international community and all countries to step up their own assistance in support of global food security. We ask all our partners to urge Russia to return to negotiations as the African Union already did, as well as to refrain from targeting Ukraine's agricultural infrastructure. With a clear and unified voice, we can get Russia to resume its participation to the BSGI. The world has a shared interest in responsible stewardship of global food security. We owe it to the people most in need.

Mr. Josep Borrell Fontelles is High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the EU Commission.

## Heartbroken: Fuel price shoots up amidst economic hardship

From Cover

The newly approved Minister of Trade and Industry, Ibrahim Alpha Sesay, must be contemplating on how to handle the current domestic economic crises he has been greeted with after being approved by the Sierra Leone Parliament.

First, it was the hike in the price of onion which has been of major concern to several homes across the country, followed by imminent increase in the prices of petroleum products.

Yesterday, Tuesday, August 1st, hundreds of private and commercial cars, tricycle riders and commercial motorbike riders have to wait in long queues in major filling stations across Freetown to be able buy fuel.

People who spoke to Concord Times expressed fear that the shortage might lead to price increase, since it has become a pattern in the country.

They added that such development would add injury to an already battered economy.

Most of the commercial drivers say they couldn't access fuel at filling stations unless through black market where it is



very expensive.

Alie Conteh, a commercial motor bike rider, told Concord Times that he went to the filling station very early at about 11am unto 1:30pm, but couldn't able to buy a single litre of fuel.

"As a bike rider, whenever there is fuel crisis, my family got starved because they depend on me. If I don't access fuel to ply my trade, I will not be able to feed my family. The economy is in shambles and things are difficult for us," he said.

According to Conteh, passengers will surely bear the brunt should the prices of petroleum products shoot up.

"I am calling on the authorities concern to look into this issue because most of us engaged in this business are youth and

we don't have any other job to do. We want them to please come out and advocate for us to have fuel so that we can take good care of our families. If there is no fuel in the country everyone will suffer," he called.

For Lansana Jalloh, a tricycle rider, he just resigned getting fuel from the black market because, according to him, he couldn't withstand the hustle to access same at the filling station where drivers, both private and commercial were fighting for the product.

"I have to pay my boss Nle 80.00 every day. I also have to eat and maintain the bike, change oil, so I have to do all these things. If we have this fuel crisis, it will affect us," he lamented.



# Travel light with **UBA Cards**



[f @UBASierraLeone](#)
[@ubasierra\\_leone](#)
[@UBA\\_SierraLeone](#)
[@uba-sl](#)
[@ubasierra\\_leone](#)

**For more information, contact us on:**

+23275142718 | +23231224488 | +23280419943 | +232 90 200 200 | +232 78 200 200

[@uba\\_sierraleone](#)

Africa's Global Bank | [www.ubasierraleone.com](http://www.ubasierraleone.com)

## LOCAL NEWS

By: Tamba Tengbeh  
Communications & Advocacy  
Specialist, RRVCP-MAFS

“If you give me rice, I'll eat; if you teach me how to grow rice, I'll eat every day. The words of Mahatma Gandhi are clear indication that rice value chain needs all hands on deck to enhance production and productivity. The aspect of value chain is crucial toward the advancement of the agricultural sector in the country. With Feed Salone being the flagship program of the New Direction government of President Julius Maada Bio, it is incumbent on all Sierra Leoneans to support the initiative to help change the food insecurity narrative and optimize production.

### The Essence of Value Chain

Rice Value chain contributes to reducing poverty and achieving food and nutrition security, thereby improving livelihoods of farmers and other rice value-chain actors across the country. So, it is important to identify the parameters that would support the Feed Salone initiative by increasing the productivity and profitability of rice-based agrifood systems, while ensuring the sustainability of natural resources in the country. President Bio has declared agricultural transformation as a priority for his second term for jobs and wealth creation. With dedicated agribusiness companies, the focus will be achieved with the support of the Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and Food Security, headed by a reputable subject-matter expert, Honourable Dr. Kandeh Yumkella.

Rice is the best, the most nutritive and, unquestionably, the most expended staple food in the world. So, the government and partners are making gains by putting in the right policies. But because the task ahead is huge, collaboration and networking are essential to leapfrog the 'Feed Salone' initiative at such a time when the world is experiencing food crisis.

In West Africa, rice is an important commodity for food security. Rice consumption has significantly increased since the 1960s, driven by population growth, rising per capita consumption, and urbanization. The ruling Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) in its 2023 People's Manifesto wants to steadily increase rice production due to Sierra Leone's annual per capital rice consumption. Between 2009 and 2013, rice consumption was more important in West Africa than in any other region of the continent. In particular, the highest rice consumption rates were observed in Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, and Sierra Leone (more than 90 kg per capita per year), and in Senegal, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, and Mali (more than 50 kg per capita per year).

The government is spending over \$240 million yearly to import rice from other countries. This is a worrying trend for a country that is food insecure. The Feed

# As President Bio prioritises Food Security .... The Pathways to Feed Salone Initiative

Salone initiative introduced by the government is pivotal to increase local production, especially across the value chains with the policy shift at the Ministry of Agriculture. That ministry is creating the enabling environment for the private sector investment to strive along smallholder farmers, augment the various value chain actors, and increase rice production and other agricultural products for food diversification. As a result of the policy shift, the government through the Ministry of Agriculture procured 410 machines that were handed over to machine ring companies to enhance large scale production through mechanized farming. This will complement the Feed Salone initiative with the presence of machines across the country. The machine rings are strategic partners to this initiative and essential for farmers to embrace mechanized farming.

According to the outgoing Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Ambassador Abu Bakarr Karim, "There is abundance of arable land in exercise of 5.4 million hectares of which only 15% has been utilized. We have an annual rainfall of 389 millimetres and there is water throughout the country. We believed that through good policies, it could help to curtail such huge importation that has been the case."

To enhance food self-sufficiency, there are many factors the government is going to do from fund mobilization to instituting climate smart agriculture, strengthen coordination and research, whilst addressing the challenges below.

### Challenges in Rice Value Chain

There are many challenges in large number of inherent constraints throughout the development of the rice value chain, particularly relating to farmers. The constraints at every level range from lack of inputs and capacity for utilization by farmers to poor post-harvest technology resulting in low grades of rice and high post-harvest losses, linkage and processing issues, thereby getting rice to the terminal markets. However, to advance the development of the rice value chain in the country the government must concentrate on them.

### Feed Salone Prospects

In the People's Manifesto, the SLPP outlined that the overall goal of the agricultural policy is to push for sustainable and diversified production of food, including crops and animals, on a scale sufficient enough to feed the growing population as well as providing gainful employment while maintaining the natural resource base. However, this is possible with a coordinate zest and action oriented steps in engaging the appropriate value chain actors at all level to ensure that priority actions are given preference over sentiment. The agricultural sector was



adversely affected during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the government through its Quick Action Economic Response Program intervened adequately to cushion the effects to ensure the availability of essential commodities in the country.

The COVID 19 affected the transformation drivers of many economies in various countries across the globe and rice being the staple food in Sierra Leone and production is not at optimal level comparing to the consumption pattern, the Feed Salone initiative will enhance the production through proper coordination, now that Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security has several value chains projects ongoing to increase rice production and productivity, especially with the irrigation infrastructures being developed in Torma Bum in Bonthe District and Gbondapi in Pujehun District, by the Sierra Leone Regional Rice Value Chain Project (SL-RRVCP) and Sierra Leone Rice Industry Cluster (SLRIC) with funding from the Islamic Development and African Development Bank. The President Bio first game changer will be realized in the coming years.

The initiative is a plus to the domestic rice being produced across the country. However, the focus should be on the quality of seeds supplied to farmers and following good agronomic practices in order to increase the tons per hectares. Since the tons per hectares is really low in Sierra Leone, farmers are producing rice in a variety of ecologies from upland to inland valley swamps to bolilands and mangrove. These ecologies are suitable for rice cultivation, though mangroves are mostly found in Kambia District.

Also, engaging the importers and wholesalers should be concerted efforts since they have market power in their hands. Considering the huge demand of rice in the country, the government should engage them exclusively to invest in the local market with good market information to enhance the effectiveness of the rice

value chain.

### Benefits of Value Chain

The agricultural value chain was introduced to improve productivity and profitability of the actors in the agricultural sector. The notion of value chain underscores the system approach to value added activities where the action of one component in a system affects every other component within the system either directly or indirectly. Although value chain idea is relatively new in the agricultural sector, it resides on sustainable initiatives focused on improving productivity, competitiveness, and growth of Small-Medium Enterprises.

When the Secretary-General of ECOWAS Rice Observatory at the ECOWAS Commission visited Sierra Leone in May during the formative meeting for the Sierra Leone Rice Observatory (SLRO), Dr Boladale Adebawale espoused that rice is not just a vital or strategic crop but also a political commodity in West Africa, and it is very critical because of its important role in the local economy, though it was considered an imaginary crop in the 60s and 70s, noting that it is crucial and it is contributing to food security as well as its high nutritional value and should not be overestimated.

"In 2020 over eight million (8,000,000) tons of milled rice was imported at \$ 3.4 billion in West Africa region and this depleting our sacred resources, and many of countries are either categories as low income, transiting or moving into middle income, no West Africa country is considered high income economy. But importantly we're undermining the low indigenous capabilities in rice production and development of the entire rice value chain but also adding to unemployment, we're shipping jobs through the funds we put to important rice," she added.

The ERO was set up by the ECOWAS Commission to support key actors in the West Africa rice sector to better coordinate policy and support value chain development, thereby facilitating finance and ensure research and development to coordinate synergies for greater impact. The ministry of agriculture is currently hosting the SLRO, a body that will help the government to coordinate all the rice value chain actors in the country with the Feed Salone initiative is a plus, especially now that the political will is clear and loud that food security is the primary focus of the government. The rice value chain actors have to think and collectively work together now that political will is at their doorstep.

In a nutshell, the Feed Salone initiative is a critical pathway to the progressive realization in enhancing rice value chain growth in the country. The private sector should therefore tap into the excellent opportunities the initiative is bringing with apt market forces.

## LOCAL NEWS

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

# IOM, partners brace up to end human trafficking

They observed the World Day against Human Trafficking at the Sierra Palms Hotel, the UN International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Government of Sierra Leone, USAID, UN Network on Migration and the Africa Regional Migration Program among other Government Agencies have expressed further commitment to end human trafficking.

The endeavour to end human trafficking in Sierra Leone was born out of the National Strategy to End Human Trafficking which was an outcome of the National Conference on Trafficking in Persons, held on February 28, 2022 on the theme "Strengthening National Frameworks and stakeholders Networks to STOP Modern Slavery." The World Day against Trafficking in Persons (WDATIP) was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on 30th July 2013. It is a day set aside to raise awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims and to promote and protect their rights. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) is a crime and grave human rights violation of enormous scale, which is prevalent in situation of vulnerability.

In his statement, Head of Office IOM Sierra Leone, Christos Christodoulides Human Trafficking is a crime but responses are falling short leaving many unprotected. He said the targeted are often the most vulnerable in society left behind by poverty, conflict, and climate related disasters.

As the Chair of the UN Network on Migration in Sierra Leone, Christodoulides maintained that it was a privileged to see stakeholders united here to celebrate the world day against

human trafficking on the theme 'Reach every victim of trafficking - Leave no one behind'.

Human Trafficking is a global crime that impacts people of all ages, genders and nationalities. Human Trafficking is borderless, no country no region is spared.

On behalf of IOM, I want to congratulate the Ministry of Social Welfare in Sierra Leone for combating human trafficking and for the Executive Director of the Anti-trafficking Taskforce of the Republic of Sierra Leone and his team for leading anti-trafficking coordination across the country.

The government of the Republic of Sierra Leone took an important decision in establishing the ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MIGRANT SMUGGLING ACT of 2022. The Head of IOM said his organization takes a comprehensive approach to addressing human trafficking, based on the 4P paradigm (Prevention-Protection-partnership-prosecution).

"IOM recognizes that combatting trafficking in persons requires comprehensive approach and strong partnerships with Government, UN agencies, Civil Society and NGOs to make tangible progresses in combatting and preventing human trafficking," he said.

He acknowledged that Victims of trafficking returning to Sierra Leone face a multiplicity of challenges upon their return; their return often results in disappointment and is plagued with stigma. "We must avoid revictimizing VOTs and it is essential to support dignified return and reintegration for these survivors, while also raising



Stakeholders in a photo opps after the event at the Sierra Palms Hotel in Freetown

awareness among those at risk.

Victims of trafficking' stories are horrifying yet can also be inspiring, as they show the strength to express and overcome distress, demonstrating resolve to find a dignified life after all. "On this World Day against human Trafficking, let us redouble our efforts to detect, protect, reach every victim, and leave no one behind".

In his statement, the UN Resident Coordinator, Babatunde Ahonsi said each year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, into their own countries and abroad. He said the latest global estimates by IOM and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) indicate that 28 million people are trapped in various forms of trafficking.

"On this World Day, the UN Country Team in Sierra Leone at large and through the UN Network on Migration today reaffirms its commitment to end human trafficking and calls on all partners to work together to end impunity and support the most

affected".

While officially launching the event, Minister of Social Welfare, Mrs. Melrose Karminty expressed the need for a collective work in combating human trafficking. She said the event was organized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Anti-trafficking in Persons Secretariat and IOM.

She added that the event will serve as an opportunity for the Government to reinforce its commitment in the fight against the heinous crime called human trafficking.

She highlighted the several policies including legal frame works instituted by the New Direction Government under the leadership of President Bio to tackle human trafficking.

The occasion was graced by representatives from Government Ministries Department and Agencies, the Anti-Trafficking Taskforce, members of the UN Network on Migration, members of the Diplomatic Corps, UN Youth Advisory Group and representatives of Civil Society Organizations.

# Parliament applauds new Chief Minister

By Jariatu S. Bangura

Members of Parliament yesterday applauded Dr. David Moinina Sengeh, describing him as a loyalist and a hardworking individual.

Dr. Sengeh is a scientist with data driven expertise to transform institutions through real motivation and innovation.

Prior to his appointment as Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education in 2019, he transformed the technological outlook of President Bio's governance system in his capacity as Chief Innovation Officer at the



Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation at State House; a position he held for less than two years. He energised motivational outreach skills to schools in all corners of the country coupled with enforced digitalization of the basic and secondary education sector brought even the remotest school under government watch for assessment. Hon. Bashiru Silike

said Dr. Sengeh would be on record as the youngest Chief Minister in the country, an appointment which demonstrated that President Bio has a lot of confidence in the young people of Sierra Leone.

Hon. Sia Mahawa Tommy described Dr. Sengeh as a genius and that his doctorate title is one which citizens would yearn to emulate.

She urged him to do good just as he had started in the education sector.

Hon. Mohamed Bangura called on Dr. Sengeh to introduce performance contract for ministers to be evaluated at least quarterly or yearly.



Live the  
**Good Life**  
With our



# FLEXIBLE LOAN!

- Zenith offers fast and eazy loan
- Interest rate is very attractive
- Payment tenor is up to 36 months(3years)

**HEAD OFFICE**  
18-20 Rawdon  
Street Freetown

**KENEMA**  
27 Kaisamba Terrace  
Off Hanga Road

**BO**  
54 Tikonko  
Road Bo

**WELLINGTON**  
282 Bai Bureh Road,  
Wellington Industrial Estate

**CLINE TOWN**  
155 Fourabay Road  
Freetown

**LUMLEY**  
15 Freetown Road  
Lumley Freetown

**LUNGI**  
F/T International  
Airport, Lungi

**MAKENI CASH CENTER**  
Ernest Bai Koroma University  
of Science and Technology  
Makeni Campus

*....in your best interest*

## LOCAL NEWS

By Alhaji Haruna Sani

In his handing over speech delivered at the Ministry of Works and Public Assets, Hon. Peter Bayuku Konteh, the outgoing Minister, said he had neither sold any government asset, gave freehold to anyone, nor approve the construction of any building on government land over the past five years.

Hon. Peter Bayuku said except for the construction of a temporary structure by the Sierra Leone Commercial Bank at the grounds of Youyi Building, he had never rented any government confiscated house or personalised any government asset.

In her welcome remarks earlier on, J.C Jones, Permanent Secretary, Works Ministry said everything in the sun must one day comes to an end and if humans realised that, the world would be a better place for everyone.

She bade farewell to the outgoing minister and welcomed the new minister to the ministry.

As he presents a comprehensive Handing-Over-Note that outlined the Ministry's mandate, functions, and ongoing tasks to the new Minister, Dr. Denis Sandy and his Deputy, the former minister expressed his gratitude for the opportunity given to him by President Bio to serve Sierra Leone over the past five years.

While receiving the Handing-Over-

### -Former Minister of Works

Note from the outgoing minister, the new Minister, Dr. Denis Sandy assured staff that he will not promote, demote, favour or disservice anyone.

"I am here just to recalibrate the way you have been doing things to tailor it in line with the aspiration of the New Direction mandate. Here in the capital, we will make sure that potholes in all major streets are covered so that President Bio and all other citizens will be driving smoothly on the roads," he said.

He promised to pour new and fresh energy into the staff of the ministry so that they could speed up in delivering and further promised a mutual respect to each other.

Hon. Konteh said individuals who want to do enquire related to government assets should direct such enquiries to the National Assets and Government Property Commission, while on road contracts and payments, enquires should be addressed to the Sierra Leone Roads Authority (SLRA) management. Financial and project-related queries were to be directed to the Permanent Secretary and the Professional Head of the Ministry.

He added that the Ministry's Internal Audit Unit had diligently cross-checked the items in his office, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Hon. Konteh expressed his gratitude to



Former Minister of works, Peter Bayuku Konteh in black handing over to the new Minister, Dr. Denis Sandy in white suit

the dedicated staff of the Ministry, acknowledging their professionalism and hard work. He commended the Permanent Secretary, secretaries, office assistants, budget officer, accountant, procurement officer, personal secretary, and IT unit for their contributions to the Ministry's achievements.

Statements were made by representatives from the National Assets and Government Property Commission and the Sierra Leone Roads Authority all expressing their supports to the new minister.

During his tenure, Hon. Konteh served as both the Minister of Trade &

Industry and the Minister of Works & Public Assets. He said despite facing numerous challenges, he made achievements with the available resources and manpower. The Handing-Over-Note provided the new Minister and Deputy Minister with a detailed understanding of the Ministry's structure, agencies under its supervision, and financial standing.

Some staff members expressed their overall sentiment towards Minister Konteh, describing him as a person of integrity, a team player, and someone who prioritized achieving results. They expressed their sadness at his departure and wished him well.

## International Republican Institute holds post-election dialogue

By Princess Lefevre and Stom Koroma

The International Republican Institute has concluded a one-day dialogue for Civil Society Organizations on the theme, rebuilding trust: finding the missing Link to keep the civic space Cohesive. This event took place at the Peace Hall-former Special Court of Sierra Leone in Freetown.

Making his statement on the topic 'Scramble for funding leading to unhealthy Rivalry between CSOs' Mr. Abu A. Brima, Director of NMJD said that some Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have stronger opportunities than others which creates a tendency for rivalry among them, which in turn undermines the stability of CSOs, resulting to a clash of interest, for which he called on heads of CSOs to rise up to solve funding issues.

Talking on the topic 'Mid-term census and change in the electoral system to PR caused polarization and mistrust' the Executive Director of IGR, Andrew Lavalie, said that the 2015 and 2021 census were inaccurate. He said some CSO actors failed to entertain any call for correction, but openly opposed IGR in the media for the stances it took on the census outcome, as CSOs, he called



on them to bring out issues of concern and speak in the interest of the people.

On behalf of the National Elections Watch (NEW) Rev James Lahai, spoke on the topic 'New PRVT methodology and its lack of wider consultation with others' said, the mid-term census was not timely and a waste of money, he furthered that, on many occasions they have made an open call on the government not to proceed with the census, not only because it may need

wider consultations, but because it is not timely and also the cost that is involved in carrying it out. He stated that for the 2023 elections, they have 450 organizations that observed the election under NEW.

Adbein T.J.Smith, program officer at IRI spoke of how difficult it could be to mix Civil Society work and political ambition, which he said has always affected the civil space. He said because of the affiliations or extra intentions they have with politicians,

impede their judgment and eventually become biased. For this, he called on CSOs to be neutral, impartial and work in the interest of the people, which is the reason for the formation of their organizations.

Over 70 CSOs throughout the country were invited to discuss post-election issues which will help them to bring out issues that affected them during the elections and to find ways in solving them going forward.

# MEGA PROMO

TILL JANUARY 2024

MORE THAN  
**LE 5 BILLION**  
IN PRIZES



**Recharge NLe 10 or Buy a  
New Africell SIM for a chance  
to win in the Daily, Weekly  
& Monthly Draws**

**6 Brand New Cars, 24 TVS Motorbikes  
and Thousands of Cash Prizes Winners**





## NEWS AROUND AFRICA COMPILED BY GABRIEL BENJAMIN

### Nigerian president justifies removal of fuel subsidy

Nigerian President Bola Tinubu addressed the nation in an evening broadcast on Monday, acknowledging the economic hardship caused by the removal of a subsidy on petrol.

He however said the country would save "trillions of naira" yearly by scrapping the subsidy and that the money would be used to implement reforms that would help boost the economy.

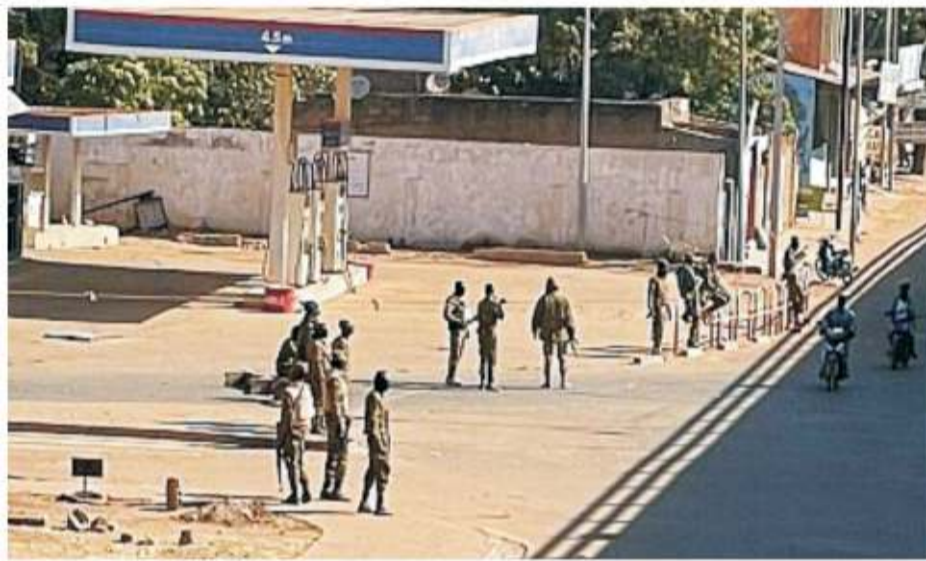
Ending the decades-long subsidy has more than doubled the price of petrol and raised prices for food and other essentials.

But Tinubu said the government had created a fund to use the savings to build much-needed infrastructure and supply cheap loans to farmers, small businesses and students.

He said the government would monitor petrol prices and intervene if and when it was necessary to do so.

"I assure you, my fellow countrymen and women, that we are exiting the darkness to enter a new and glorious dawn," he said at the end of his address.

### Burkina: gunshots in Ouagadougou were "warning shots"



Soldiers stand in front of a military base in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso. - Copyright © africanews Sam Mednick/Copyright 2020 The AP. All rights reserved.

The shots heard in the early hours of Tuesday in the centre of Burkina Faso's capital, Ouagadougou, were "warning shots" provoked by the presence of an individual within the "security perimeter" of an airbase, a government source told AFP.

"These were warning shots after an individual found himself in the security perimeter of the airbase area," said the source. Heavy gunfire began to be heard around 12:45 a.m. in the heart of the Burkinabè capital, before ceasing about 40 minutes later.

"The security authority will decide on the situation and the motivations for such recklessness," added the government source. "It's an unfortunate incident limited to the air base," a security source told AFP after the shots, without further details, saying that "the situation" was "under control".

Momentarily interrupted, traffic had timidly resumed after the shooting, noted the AFP journalist.

The heavy gunfire came 10 months after a coup, the second in less than a year recorded in this country plagued by jihadist violence and six days after a putsch in neighbouring Niger that overthrew elected President Mohamed Bazoum. On September 30, 2022, a coup brought to power

in Ouagadougou Captain Ibrahim Traoré who overthrew Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Damiba, author of a first putsch which himself overthrew on January 24 of the same year President-elect Roch Marc Christian Kaboré.

With each putsch, the inability to fight effectively against the jihadist groups linked to Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State which have struck Burkina with increasing intensity since 2015, had been highlighted.

Jihadist violence has claimed more than 16,000 civilian and military deaths in eight years, according to the latest estimates from the international NGO Armed Conflict Location Action (Aclad), including more than 5,000 since the start of 2023. This violence also led to the displacement of some two million people.

The latest July 26 coup in Niger was the third since those of 2020, 2021 and 2022 in Mali and Burkina Faso, in a region of the Sahel plagued by poverty and jihadist violence.

Mali and Burkina have obtained the departure of French troops from their soil and have approached other partners, in particular Russia, which is taking advantage of France's disengagement and stirring up the resentment of a section of the population there. against the former colonial power in this region.

### London exhibition showcases artworks by brain injury patients

An exhibition in London's Barbican centre is showcasing artworks by brain injury patients turned artists.

The Differently Various exhibition is the result of a four year collaboration between the Barbican arts centre and the charity Headway, which uses music and the arts to help those suffering with brain injuries to take back control of their lives.

Music for the exhibition was also composed by people who have been helped by the charity.

One of those exhibiting at the Barbican, is Yokabet Mekuria.

Her self-portrait shows her in bright, vibrant colours.

"With the colours I suppose it's like to say I'm

joyful, I'm not hiding in the background any more, I'm here," Mekuria says.

"To actually see myself here is unbelievable because I never thought I would be here," she adds.

For the artists like Mekuria showcasing their art here, the creative process has been a means of rehabilitation.

While the artists' lives were changed forever by their injuries, the artworks at Differently Various portray a celebration of survival and the strength of those behind their creation.

The exhibition runs at the Barbican Centre, London until August 6.

### Volunteers redouble efforts to restore Mogadishu's golden coast

On Urubo, Liido and Sugunto Liido beaches, piles of debris cover the sand.

The pollution has scarred the landscape here in a place where people come, seeking a reprieve from the fighting between rival armed factions.

Now local people in this old port city are working together to clean up and reclaim their beaches.

They're hoping that if the clean up is successful, renewed interest in the beach will again generate local tourism and help the city's economy.

Many of the volunteers here are students, or people who work at universities.

It's a grass roots movement, in which the young people in the city have taken the initiative.

They've been out here every week collecting the rubbish which blights the beauty of this coast and endangers marine life.

The work is already providing dividends, areas of the beach are once again shining in the sun.

Volunteer Maama Ugaaso says she's been a regular at the beach clean-up sessions.

Ugaaso says young people are taking pride in their city.

"It is the 87th week that we have been cleaning the beaches. This is a voluntary activity where young graduates, lecturers, and other ordinary Somalis participate. Among the reasons why these young people are doing such wonderful work is that they understand the fact that this country belongs to no one but themselves," she says.

Organisers say so far 2 million kilogrammes of rubbish has been collected here.

That included discarded plastics which are harmful to marine life.

The beach had become a landfill, even disused vehicles were dumped here.

Now all the waste is taken to a government landfill on the outskirts of Mogadishu.

Arabow is calling for government assistance for the campaign to restore beaches.

He says: "Currently, we are conducting this clean-up campaign on our beaches and we

are hoping to expand it to other beaches across the country. Also, a beach clean-up campaign like the one we've done in the Liido should be replicated throughout the country. We also have done some cleaning up work on beaches like Isaley, Jazeera, and other places, but God willing, I hope that this campaign will reach every place in the country in order to live in a rubbish-free country."

The main push is to involve young people who make up 75% of the country's population.

Fisherman Hassan Mohamed says the work is important for the survival of the coastal region.

He says: "As a matter of fact, I am very proud of these young people who have volunteered to clean the beach. As fishermen, we also request that the government support these efforts as it is important to keep the living creatures in the sea healthy, as well as to promote tourism."

They received moral support from the public and government officials who endorsed their efforts to clean the beaches.

When the municipality of Mogadishu became aware of the beach restoration, they provided vehicles to help remove the rubbish.

Yaasir Baafu is an advisor to Somalia's tourism authority.

He believes when the volunteer efforts are bolstered by government policies, serious progress will be made.

Baafu believes it's vital the environment is seen as a beneficial resource which can help revitalize the city and the country.

Pointing to old photos on his laptop he says: "It's really a breathtaking time, 1970s, 80s in Mogadishu as it was one of the most clean city in Africa, the most beautiful city in Africa. And when you look back at today what have been in Mogadishu, when we talk about the cleaning and the beach sites, so it's really totally different and that's what makes Mogadishu, people are still think about: how can we get back those glory and golden days of Mogadishu."

With a bit of work, the beautiful sand beaches can be uncovered once again.

### EU says no uranium 'supply risk' after coup in Niger

The military coup in major uranium producer Niger does not pose a problem for supplies of nuclear fuel for the European Union, an EU spokesman said Tuesday.

"There is no supply risk as such when it comes to the EU," European Commission spokesman Adalbert Jahnz said.

"EU utilities have sufficient inventories of natural uranium to mitigate any short-term supply risks and for the medium and long term there are enough deposits on the world market to cover the EU needs."

Former french colony Niger has some of the world's biggest deposits of uranium, a key ingredient in the nuclear industry.

French firm Orano, previously Areva, has been a major player in the west African nation for decades and operates a major uranium mine in the country.

Niger was the EU's second-largest supplier of natural uranium in 2022, with a share of 25 percent, after Kazakhstan, the bloc's Euratom agency said.

In total, Kazakhstan, Niger and Canada supplied 74 percent of the total delivered to the EU.

Overall, Niger's share of global production was under five percent in 2021, the EU says. Niger President Mohamed Bazoum, a western ally whose election just over two years ago marked his country's first peaceful transition of power since independence, was toppled on July 26 by the elite Presidential Guard.

The EU has strongly condemned his ouster and France has announced it is preparing to evacuate its nationals after hostile crowds gathered on Sunday outside its embassy.

Credit: Rédaction africanews with AP

■ Terms and Conditions Apply

# ECOBANK SAVE AND WIN PROMO!



The more you **Save** the  
Greater Your Chances  
of **Winning**



Save **NLE 5,000, NLE 10,000, NLE 20,000**  
or more and enter the draw

[ecobank.com](http://ecobank.com)

**Ecobank**  
The Pan African Bank



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE  
Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education

**Request for Expression of Interest (REIO)  
Terms of Reference (TOR) for Individual Expert to Develop Standard  
Operating Procedures (SOP) on Temporary Relocation of Students  
during Renovation of Existing Classrooms**

**UNDER THE SIERRA LEONE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT  
(Individual Consultant Selection)**

**Country:** Republic of Sierra Leone

**Name of Project:** Sierra Leone Free Education Project (SLFEP)

**Grant Number:** P16789

**Assignment Title:** HIRING OF A CONSULTANCY FIRM TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GENDER AUDITING AND EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF THE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES

**Reference No.** SL-MBSSE-364662-CS-INDV

**Date of Issuance:** July 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

**1.0 Source of Funds**

The Government of Sierra Leone has received a grant from a Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for the implementation of the Sierra Leone Free Education Project (FREE). The Free Education Project is worth US\$72.82 million (US\$50 million from IDA (World Bank) and US\$15.97 from Multi-Donor Trust Funds (MDTF) supported by DFID, now FCDO, EU and Irish Aid), and (US\$6.85M) towards Covid-19 Response from the Global Partnership for Education-GPE). The project has been well aligned with the main objectives and focus of the National Development Plan (NDP) 2019-2023, as well as the Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2018–2020, which also reflects the Government's and Development Partners' (DPs) priorities and strategies. These documents are geared towards addressing education sector challenges and transforming the education system over the long term. Specifically, the project was designed in close collaboration with the Government and its Development Partners, especially to support the Government's flagship Free Quality School Education (FQSE) Program—with the aim of ensuring that free quality education is provided to all school age children from pre-primary to secondary school.

This project is implemented by the Ministry of Basic Education and Senior Education (MBSSE) and coordinated by the Free Education Project Secretariat (FEPS). The project became effective in August 2020 and will continue to be implemented for a period of five years across all sixteen districts in Sierra Leone. The Project's Development Objectives are to improve the management of the education system, teaching practices and learning conditions with six major components:

- I. Policy, Governance, Accountability and Systems Administrations
- II. Teacher Management and Professional Development
- III. School Level Development
- IV. Project Management and Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation
- V. Contingency Emergency Response
- VI. COVID-19 Response.

About the Free Education Project Secretariat (FEPS)

The FEPS is tasked with coordinating all relevant institutions to implement the Free Education project and serves as liaison between the donors (MDTF) and the implementation agencies. It ensures that donors' regulations and policies are followed and stakeholders' expectations are met. It also serves as a major source of information and communication between the MBSSE, the Government and the public.

The overall environmental and social risk rating of FREE is classified as moderately satisfactory. This risk rating takes into consideration the tendency for the project to conduct an independent environmental, social and gender evaluation and monitoring of the project activities. In this regard, the Free Education Project Secretariat intends to engage an independent consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and monitoring of the project's environmental, Social and gender activities.

**Background / Introduction**

The Free Education Project renovating existing classrooms to improve the learning environment and infrastructure. During the renovation process, it is necessary to temporarily relocate students to alternative spaces to ensure their safety and continuity of education. To ensure a smooth and organized relocation process, the organization requires the expertise of an individual expert to develop comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the temporary relocation of students.

**Objective of the assignment**

The main objective of this assignment is to develop a detailed SOP for the temporary relocation of students during the renovation of existing classrooms. The SOP should provide clear guidelines and procedures to ensure the safety, well-being, and uninterrupted education of the students during the relocation process. The expert will work closely with the project team and relevant stakeholders to develop a tailored SOP that meets the specific needs and requirements of the organization.

**Scope of Work**

The individual expert will be responsible for the following tasks:

- a. Conduct a needs assessment and analysis of the existing classrooms and infrastructure to understand the renovation requirements and potential challenges associated with the temporary relocation of students.
- b. Review relevant policies, guidelines, and best practices related to temporary relocation of students during construction or renovation projects in the education sector.
- c. Consult and collaborate with key stakeholders, including school administrators, teachers, parents, and students, to gather input, insights, and concerns regarding the temporary relocation

process

Time:

**Qualification and requirements of the expert.**

**Education:** The individual should have a master's degree in education, project management, social safeguards or a related field.

**Experience:** The individual should have experience in managing projects related to education infrastructure and construction, particularly with respect to temporary relocation of students during renovation activities. Experience in developing SOPs, policies, or guidelines related to education infrastructure is preferred.

**Technical knowledge:** The individual should have technical knowledge and expertise in the construction and renovation of educational facilities, including familiarity with building codes, regulations, and standards. They should have an understanding of the specific challenges related to temporary relocation of students during renovation activities and the associated risks and mitigation measures.

**Communication skills:** The individual should have excellent communication skills, including the ability to communicate technical information to non-technical audiences. They should be able to effectively collaborate with stakeholders, including school administrators, teachers, parents, and construction teams.

**Analytical and problem-solving skills:** The individual should possess strong analytical and problem-solving skills, including the ability to analyze complex situations, identify key issues, and develop effective solutions. They should be able to develop and implement appropriate risk management strategies.

**Attention to detail:** The individual should have strong attention to detail to ensure that the SOP accurately reflects the specific needs and circumstances of the school and students.

**Time management:** The individual should be able to manage their time effectively to ensure that the SOP is completed within the required timeframe and in accordance with the agreed-upon scope and objectives.

**The Government of Sierra Leone, through MBSSE, now invites eligible ("Consultant") to indicate their interest in providing the Services.**

**2.0 Brief Description of the Assignment**

The purpose of this consultancy is to engage a consultant to conduct a water quality and pumping test for a school WASH project. The consultant will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive study of the water quality and quantity at the school site and providing recommendations for the implementation of the WASH project.

**3.0 Deliverables**

The following deliverables will be expected from the consultant:

The inception report and revised work plan
Draft Standards Operation Procedure (SOP)
Final Draft Standards Operation Procedure (SOP)
Training of contractor and teachers

Note: All of the above-mentioned deliverables must be informed by relevant stakeholders' contribution through accepted methods of strategic plan development.

**5.0 Duration of Assignment**

The consultant will complete the project within six weeks from the date of signing the contract.

**6.0 Selection Criteria**

The consultant will be selected in accordance with World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers November 2020, for procurement of goods, works, non-consultancy services and consultancy services as stated below in the procurement regulations.

**7.0 Further information**

Further details should be obtained from the Environmental Specialist, FREE Education Project-Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School, 126 Regent Road, SS Camp, Regent, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

**Submission Procedure and date**

The Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education now invites consultants to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the above services.

The envelope must be clearly marked "EOI Terms of Reference (TOR) for Individual Expert to Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on Temporary Relocation of Students during Renovation of Existing Classrooms"

*This REOI will lead to the preparation of a short list of consultants*

Expressions of Interest may take any format to represent the consultant qualifications and experience.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person or e-mail, by August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 on or before 16:00hrs (Sierra Leone Time).

Interested candidates should send their applications accompanied by their curriculum vitae and copies of diplomas and certificates to:

The Project Coordinator  
Sierra Leone Free Education Project Secretariat  
Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education  
126 SS Camp, Regent Road, Regent, Freetown  
Sierra Leone.

Application packages can also be forwarded by email to:

Email: menakallon@yahoo.com

Deadline: August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

**ATM Cardless Transaction**

**UNION TRUST BANK LTD**

- ◆ No card, Just your Mobile Phone.
- ◆ Send money to any Mobile Number.
- ◆ One-Time password for Cash-out.
- ◆ 24/7 Access

*Cardless Withdrawal*



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE  
Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education

Request for Expression of Interest (REIO)  
HIRING OF A CONSULTANCY FIRM TO CONDUCT  
INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GENDER  
AUDITING AND EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF THE  
FREE EDUCATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES

UNDER THE SIERRA LEONE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT  
(FIRM Selection)

Country: Republic of Sierra Leone  
Name of Project: Sierra Leone Free Education Project (SLFEP)  
Grant Number: P16789

Assignment Title: HIRING OF A CONSULTANCY FIRM TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GENDER AUDITING AND EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF THE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES  
Reference No. SL-MBSSE-364661-CS-QBS  
Date of Issuance: July 28<sup>th</sup> 2023

#### 1.0 Source of Funds

The Government of Sierra Leone has received a grant from a Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for the implementation of the Sierra Leone Free Education Project (FREE). The Free Education Project is worth US\$72.82 million (US\$50 million from IDA (World Bank) and US\$15.97 from Multi-Donor Trust Funds (MDTF) supported by DFID, now FCDO, EU and Irish Aid), and (US\$6.85M) towards Covid-19 Response from the Global Partnership for Education-GPE). The project has been well aligned with the main objectives and focus of the National Development Plan (NDP) 2019-2023, as well as the Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2018-2020, which also reflects the Government's and Development Partners' (DPs) priorities and strategies. These documents are geared towards addressing education sector challenges and transforming the education system over the long term. Specifically, the project was designed in close collaboration with the Government and its Development Partners, especially to support the Government's flagship Free Quality School Education (FQSE) Program—with the aim of ensuring that free quality education is provided to all school age children from pre-primary to secondary school.

This project is implemented by the Ministry of Basic Education and Senior Education (MBSSE) and coordinated by the Free Education Project Secretariat (FEPS). The project became effective in August 2020 and will continue to be implemented for a period of five years across all sixteen districts in Sierra Leone. The Project's Development Objectives are to improve the management of the education system, teaching practices and learning conditions with six major components:

- I. Policy, Governance, Accountability and Systems Administrations
- II. Teacher Management and Professional Development
- III. School Level Development
- IV. Project Management and Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation
- V. Contingency Emergency Response
- VI. COVID-19 Response.

About the Free Education Project Secretariat (FEPS)

The FEPS is tasked with coordinating all relevant institutions to implement the Free Education project and serves as liaison between the donors (MDTF) and the implementation agencies. It ensures that donors' regulations and policies are followed and stakeholders' expectations are met. It also serves as a major source of information and communication between the MBSSE, the Government and the public.

The overall environmental and social risk rating of FREE is classified as moderately satisfactory. This risk rating takes into consideration the tendency for the project to conduct an independent environmental, social and gender evaluation and monitoring of the project activities. In this regard, the Free Education Project Secretariat intends to engage an independent consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and monitoring of the project's environmental, social and gender activities.

#### Background / Introduction

A consultancy firm is required to conduct an environmental and social evaluation and monitoring for the Free Education project school construction and renovation in certain communities in Sierra Leone. The school construction and renovation project is aimed at building modern school structures and improve others that will provide conducive learning environments for students in various communities in Sierra Leone. The project will cover various aspects such as the construction of new schools, renovation of existing schools, provision of furniture, and construction of toilets, among others.

#### Objective of the assignment

The Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) through the Free Education Project Secretariat requires the services of an independent consulting firm to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and monitoring of the project's environmental, social and gender activities for the Project Implementation team to ensure the project maintains compliance with the World Bank's safeguards policies and relevant Government of Sierra Leone policies and laws.

#### Scope of Work

The consultancy firm will be required to conduct an environmental and social evaluation and monitoring of the ongoing school construction project in the country. The evaluation and monitoring will cover the following areas:

#### Environmental Evaluation:

Conduct regular environmental assessments to identify and assess the potential environmental impacts of the project on the air, water, and soil quality, biodiversity, and other related areas.  
Evaluate the effectiveness of the environmental management plan (EMP) implemented by the project team.  
Identify and assess the potential risks associated with the project, including the risks of pollution, soil erosion, and water contamination and climate change.  
Propose measures to mitigate any potential risks and enhance the positive environmental impacts of the project.  
Provide training to the project team on the importance of environmental sustainability and the need to comply with relevant laws and regulations.

#### Social Evaluation:

Conduct regular social assessments to identify and assess the potential social impacts of the project on the local communities, including their livelihoods, health, and well-being.  
Evaluate the effectiveness of the Grievance Redress mechanism (GRM) implemented by the project team.  
Identify and assess the potential risks associated with the project, including the risks of displacement, social conflict, and marginalization.  
Propose measures to mitigate any potential risks and enhance the positive social impacts of the project.  
Provide training to the project team on the importance of social sustainability and the need to comply with relevant laws and regulations.  
The consultancy firm will be required to conduct a gender evaluation of the ongoing school construction project in Sierra Leone. The evaluation will cover the following areas:

#### Gender Analysis:

Conduct a gender analysis to identify and assess the potential gender-related issues associated with the project.  
Assess the current gender dynamics and the status of gender equality in the project area.  
Identify any potential barriers to gender equality, including social norms, cultural practices, and other related factors.  
Propose measures to promote gender equality in all aspects of the project.  
Participation and Empowerment:  
Evaluate the level of participation and empowerment of women in the project activities, including decision-making processes and access to project resources.  
Identify any potential barriers to women's participation and empowerment and propose measures to promote their involvement in all aspects of the project.

#### Access to Services:

Assess the access of women and girls to project services, including school infrastructure, sanitation facilities, and other related services.  
Identify any potential barriers to their access and propose measures to enhance their access to project services.

#### Capacity Building:

Identify the capacity-building needs of women and girls in the project area, including their access to education and training opportunities.  
Propose measures to enhance their capacity and empower them to participate in the project activities and decision-making processes.

#### Monitoring and Reporting:

Develop a monitoring and reporting plan to ensure that the project's environmental, social and gender performance is regularly evaluated and reported.  
Conduct regular site visits to monitor the project's compliance with environmental, social gender standards and regulations.  
Provide regular progress reports to the project team and the project manager, detailing the project's environmental, social and performance, potential risks, and proposed measures to mitigate them.  
Prepare a final report summarizing the findings of the environmental, social and evaluation and monitoring, including recommendations for improvement.  
Provide regular progress reports to the project team and the project coordinator, detailing the project's gender-sensitive performance, potential gender-related issues, and proposed measures to mitigate them.

The Government of Sierra Leone, through MBSSE, now invites eligible ("Consultant") to indicate their interest in providing the Services.

#### 2.0 Brief Description of the Assignment

The purpose of this consultancy is to engage a consultant to conduct a water quality and pumping test for a school WASH project. The consultant will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive study of the water quality and quantity at the school site and providing recommendations for the implementation of the WASH project.

#### 3.0 Deliverables

The following deliverables will be expected from the consultancy firm:  
A comprehensive report detailing the findings of the environmental, social and gender performance of the project

A comprehensive report detailing the findings of the environmental, social and gender evaluation and monitoring, including the potential impacts of the project and proposed measures to mitigate them.

A monitoring and reporting plan outlining the measures to be taken to ensure that the project's environmental, social and gender performance is regularly evaluated and reported.

Regular progress reports detailing the project's environmental, social and gender performance, potential risks, and proposed measures to mitigate them.

A final report summarizing the findings of the environmental, social and evaluation and monitoring, including recommendations for improvement.

**Note: All of the above-mentioned deliverables must be informed by relevant stakeholders' contribution through accepted methods of strategic plan development.**

#### 4.0 Qualification and Experience of the Consultant.

##### Academic Qualification

**Team qualification and requirements.** The should have the following key staff, team lead (environmental specialist, Gender specialist and social safeguards specialist)

##### Environmental and Social Evaluator Team lead

To qualify as an Environmental Team Lead for conducting E&S (Environmental and Social) auditing for school construction and renovation, should possess a combination of education, experience, and relevant skills. Key requirements

Five years' specific experience in Environmental and social safeguarding.

Education: A bachelor's or master's degree in environmental science, environmental engineering, sustainability, or a related field would be advantageous. The degree should cover topics such as environmental impact assessment, environmental management systems, environmental regulations, and sustainable development.

Experience: Prior experience in conducting environmental audits, preferably in the construction or infrastructure sector, is highly valuable. Experience in the education sector or with school construction and renovation projects would be an added advantage. The individual should have a strong understanding of environmental issues related to construction activities, waste management, energy efficiency, water conservation, and indoor air quality.

Knowledge of Regulations: must be familiar with national environmental regulations, policies, and standards is crucial. This includes understanding the EPA and world bank E&S standards related to construction activities, waste management, air and water quality, hazardous materials, and energy efficiency.

E&S Auditing Skills: The Environmental Team Lead should have expertise in conducting environmental and social audits. This involves assessing the environmental impact of construction and renovation activities, identifying potential risks and impacts, evaluating compliance with regulations and industry standards, and recommending mitigation measures to minimize negative environmental and social effects.

Project Management: require strong project management skills for overseeing the evaluation process. The Environmental Team Lead should be capable of coordinating with various stakeholders, managing timelines, and ensuring that the audit is conducted efficiently and effectively.

Communication and Reporting: Excellent written and verbal communication skills are necessary for preparing audit reports, documenting findings, and presenting recommendations to project stakeholders. The ability to explain complex environmental concepts in a clear and concise manner is crucial.

Sustainability Knowledge: A comprehensive understanding of sustainable practices, green building principles, and environmentally friendly technologies is beneficial. This includes knowledge of energy-efficient design, renewable energy systems, water conservation strategies, waste reduction methods, and green materials.

##### A Gender Specialist

Minimum five years' experience in mainstreaming gender into project activities

Education: A bachelor's or master's degree in gender studies, women's studies, social sciences, international development, or a related field would be advantageous. The degree should cover topics such as gender and development, gender analysis, gender mainstreaming, and social justice.

Gender Expertise: Strong expertise in gender issues, gender mainstreaming, and gender-responsive approaches is crucial. The Gender Specialist should have a deep understanding of the social, cultural, and economic factors that influence gender dynamics and inequalities in the context of education and construction projects.

Experience: Prior experience working as a Gender Specialist or in a related role is important. Experience in conducting gender evaluations or gender impact assessments in construction projects, preferably in the education sector, would be highly valuable. Familiarity with gender-sensitive indicators, tools, and methodologies is essential.

Knowledge of Gender Policies and Standards: Familiarity with international and national gender policies, guidelines, and standards is necessary. This includes understanding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to gender equality, relevant international conventions, and local regulations concerning gender equality and women's empowerment.

Gender Analysis Skills: The Gender Specialist should possess strong analytical skills to assess the gender implications of school construction activities. This involves conducting gender analysis to identify potential gender biases, inequalities, and social impacts in the project. The specialist should also be able to propose strategies and measures to promote gender equality and inclusiveness in construction processes.

Stakeholder Engagement: The Gender Specialist should be skilled in engaging with diverse stakeholders, including local communities, school administrators, construction teams, and policymakers. Building effective relationships and facilitating gender-sensitive consultations and discussions is crucial for understanding the needs and perspectives of different groups.

Communication and Reporting: Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, are necessary for preparing reports, documenting findings, and presenting recommendations. The Gender Specialist should be able to effectively communicate complex gender concepts and issues to different audiences, including non-experts.

Cultural Sensitivity: Sensitivity to cultural contexts, diversity, and local norms is essential for a Gender Specialist. Understanding the intersectionality of gender with other social identities such as age, ethnicity, religion, and disability is important in assessing the specific challenges faced by different groups.

Continuous Learning: Keeping up-to-date with the latest research, best practices, and emerging trends in gender equality and women's empowerment is important for a Gender Specialist. Participating in relevant training programs and conferences can contribute to ongoing professional development.

##### Social safeguards specialist qualification

The social safeguards specialist would typically need a combination of education, skills, and experience in the field of social safeguards, environmental management, and construction practices. Key requirements

Five years specific experience in social safeguards works.

Education: A bachelor's or master's degree in fields such as social sciences, environmental management, sustainable development, or a related discipline would be beneficial.

Knowledge of social safeguards: Gain a comprehensive understanding of social safeguards and their application in construction and renovation activities. This includes understanding the relevant national and international regulations, standards, and guidelines related to social impact assessment, stakeholder engagement, labor rights, health and safety, community development, and indigenous peoples' rights. World Bank experience is required.

Environmental management knowledge: Familiarize f with environmental management practices within the construction industry. This includes understanding environmental impact assessments, waste management, pollution prevention, and sustainable resource management.

Professional experience: Gain practical experience in the construction industry, particularly in projects involving social and environmental considerations.

##### 5.0 Duration of Assignment

The consultancy firm will be required to conduct a yearly environmental, social evaluation and monitoring throughout the duration of the project. However, the duration of the assignment is three months (3)

##### 6.0 Selection Criteria

The consultant will be selected in accordance with World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers November 2020, for procurement of goods, works, non-consultancy services and consultancy services as stated below in the procurement regulations.

##### 7.0 Further information

Further details should be obtained from the Environmental Specialist, FREE Education Project-Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School, 126 Regent Road, 55 Camp, Regent, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

##### Submission Procedure and date

The Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education now invites consultants to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the above services.

The envelope must be clearly marked "EOI HIRING OF A CONSULTANCY FIRM TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GENDER AUDITING AND EVALUATION AND MONITORING OF THE FREE EDUCATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES"

**This REIO will lead to the preparation of a short list of consultants**

Expressions of interest may take any format to represent the consultant qualifications and experience.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person or e-mail, by **August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023** on or before 16:00hrs (Sierra Leone Time).

Interested candidates should send their applications accompanied by their curriculum vitae and copies of diplomas and certificates to:

##### The Project Coordinator

Sierra Leone Free Education Project Secretariat  
Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education  
126 55 Camp, Regent Road, Regent, Freetown  
Sierra Leone.

Application packages can also be forwarded by email to:

Email: menakallon@yahoo.com

Deadline: **August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.




**DRIZILIK**

# KAM JOIN WI PATNA PROGRAM!

Enji up to 30% bonya  
we yu kostoma win.



CONTACT US

 **080 732 720**

 PLEASE GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY

**DRIZILIK**  
MERCURY INTERNATIONAL  
AFFILIATE PROGRAM BRAND AMBASSADOR



Because we need each other.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR: INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT AGRICULTURAL / AGRO FOCUSED FEASIBILITY STUDY

Location	Sierra Leone – three districts of Koinadugu, Falaba and Bombali
Application Deadline	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Contract Type	Individual Consultancy – for proposed project Feasibility Study in Sierra Leone
Working Language	English
Expected Start Date	As soon as a Suitable Candidate is identified
Contract Period	1.5 months (August – mid-Sept) months with the possibility of an extension

### OBJECTIVE AND TASKS OF THE CONSULTANCY

#### a) Purpose of the Consultancy

In consultations with ChildFund International Research & Learning team and ChildFund Sierra Leone's Partners and staff, the consultant will conduct a Feasibility Study in two districts in Sierra Leone to study the cultivation and processing of cassava for food security and income promotion of smallholder groups in the country.

The results of this feasibility study will be a critical input to write a project proposal to the German Government which will promote cassava cultivation and processing for food security and income promotion of smallholder groups in the districts of Koinadugu, Falaba and Bombali. Cassava as a staple food and its processed products fufu, gari & starch have become very important in SL; to participate in value creation, the supply of smallholder production must be consolidated and commercialized in production communities. The proposed project intends to support the establishment and management of production communities, training of smallholder farmers (groups) in child protection, production, storage, investment and access to credit, market access. Goals are increased secure income, and improved food security in the environment of the agricultural production community. Target groups for the proposed project are: 40 production communities with 1600-2000 smallholders and their environment, the project's local implementing partners are Daindemben Federation and Munafa M'patie Federation. The Consultant will be expected to provide a weekly summary of the status report to the supervisor outlining all the achievements and plans for the following week, including areas where support is needed.

ChildFund Sierra Leone's Programs & Sponsorships Director is responsible for the overall management of the consultancy. Technical support and assistance will be provided by the ChildFund International Research & Learning Director and Senior Research Advisor.

#### b) Specific Tasks to be performed by the Consultant

##### Project-specific criteria for feasibility studies

The feasibility study should present the context of the planned project at all relevant levels (micro-, meso-, macro-) and incorporate essential, project-relevant data on the initial situation.

This foundation is used to develop an analysis evaluating the extent to which the proposed approach can contribute to solving the problem for the beneficiaries and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, a critical examination of the project should be provided, with respect to the OECD DAC evaluation criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

Furthermore, recommendations for adjustments to the specific project concept, including impact matrix and project measures, should be formulated as concretely as possible. The stakeholders involved, opportunities and risks, as well as suggestions for the range and scope of monitoring on outcome and impact measurement, should be considered.

### DELIVERABLES

The Consultant will have three deliverables:

- Inception Report delineating the feasibility study design and methods
- Draft Feasibility Study Report
- Final Feasibility Study Report

Structure of the study and guidelines:

The Consultant will follow the format below in the design of the feasibility study and the development of the study report; the following questions should guide the design and report:

Purpose and use of the feasibility study

What is the project objective (outcome) that will be assessed for feasibility? How conducive is the context (sector, components, project regions) with regard to the projects' objective?

What additional questions should the feasibility study address concerning the design and implementation of the intended project?

How does the feasibility study fit into the project plan in terms of shared learning?

Methodology

What participatory methods, tools, and resources will be used for data collection and analysis?

Which, and how many stakeholders will be involved? What are their backgrounds and interests?

Initial situation and problem analysis, on macro- meso- and micro-levels

What current problems of the beneficiaries have been identified relevant to the proposed project? Which of the causes of these problems will be prioritised and addressed in the project?

What existing local potential, structures (institutions, networks, umbrella organizations etc.) and social mechanisms can be built on? What gaps have been identified in the system?

Are there any approaches or results from previous development measures? If yes, how can they be extended?

What other circumstances, for example conflict dynamics, must be taken into account in the context of?

Local project partner in the partner country

Which organisation(s) have been selected as local project partner(s), and why? Who suggested the idea for the project? How will the project improve the local project partner's ownership?

Do any formal agreements exist between the stakeholders? To what extent have existing agreements between stakeholders been formalised?

Are the partners' resources and strengths, both individually and at an organisational level, well understood? What relevant professional, methodological and political competencies, both at an individual and an organisational level, will be further developed?

Beneficiaries and other stakeholders (on a micro-, meso- and macro-level)

How are the direct beneficiaries selected, and by whom? What criteria exist for selecting these beneficiaries?

What is the composition of each beneficiaries? How homogeneous or heterogeneous is the beneficiaries with regard to factors such as gender, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, language, and capacity, and to what extent must the project take this into account?

What potential does each beneficiary have for self-help? How well are the beneficiaries equipped for self-help? How can local problem-solving capabilities be improved?

Do the beneficiaries and other stakeholders have a common understanding of the problems, prioritising process and objectives of the project? Do the interests of other stakeholders align? Do any conflicts of interest exist?

How strong is the various stakeholders' support for the project, for example, in terms of their own contribution? In what ways might they influence the project? The Consultant will use the following guiding questions (based on the OECD DAC evaluation criteria identified above) to assist in designing the content of the study.

Relevance – To what extent is the planned project doing the right thing?

Will the planned project approach address a key development problem or a significant developmental bottleneck in the partner country or region?

Are the focus, priorities and objectives (approach) of the planned project clearly defined and aligned with the beneficiaries?

To what extent do the intervention objectives and design adequately take into account the specific needs of the

beneficiaries and any structural obstacles in the project region, partner/institution, or policy programs?

Are the norms and standards of the approach compatible with those of the beneficiaries?

Is the project designed to be conflict-sensitive (Do No Harm Principle)?

Coherence – how suitable is the intervention?

How consistent are the planned activities with human rights principles (inclusion, participation), and any conventions or relevant standards/guidelines?

To what extent do synergies and connections exist between the planned project and other interventions by the same stakeholder (organisation) and other stakeholders?

What similarities or overlaps exist between the beneficiaries and projects implemented by other stakeholders in the same context? To what extent does the intervention add value and avoid duplication?

Effectiveness – which project approach is best for achieving the objectives?

Are the cause-effect relationships (including assumptions) plausible? What negative effects might arise?

Is the chosen methodological approach suitable and sufficient for achieving the project objective? Are alternatives required?

At what level (multi-level approach) do you anticipate implementing additional measures to increase effectiveness?

How will changes be measured? What indicators (fields) are most suitable?

Efficiency – is the proposed project's planned use of funds a cost-effective method to achieve its objectives?

To what extent can the planned measures be implemented with the envisaged funds and personnel in the proposed time period?

To what extent can the envisaged spending be allocated cost-effectively, and are the investments, operating expenses and personnel in proportion to the intended goals?

Impact (significance) – what contribution does the planned project make to achieving higher-level development policy impact?

What particular contribution does the project objective (outcome) make to the overall objective (impact)?

To what extent does the planned project build structures, set examples and have a broad im-pact? On what levels will norms or structures be changed?

Sustainability – to what extent will the positive impact remain once the project has ended (without additional external funding)?

How can the sustainability of the results and impact be ensured and strengthened (structurally, economically, socially and ecologically)?

What long-term capacities will be established in the beneficiaries to enable them to continue the implemented measures independently?

What positive changes (role behaviour, mechanisms, networks, etc) will be of long-term benefit to civil society?

What personal risks for those implementing the project, or institutional or contextual risks, may influence the sustainability of the project? How can these be minimised?

Finally, the Consultant will include in the evaluation report, answers to the following questions:

On the basis of the main findings, and the evaluation according to the OCED DAC evaluation criteria, what concrete suggestions can be made or incorporated into the project concept in its specific context?

What components, if any, are missing from the project concept to make the cause-effect relationships more coherent and to sustainably achieve the planned objectives? What planned components are not suitable or may have a negative impact, and for what reasons?

Can the assumptions of cause-effect relationships be supported?

What findings and project-relevant data from the study are suitable for inclusion in the project logic (impact matrix of the project proposal)? What are the recommendations for possible impact monitoring and data collection

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATION OF THE CONSULTANT

The following are the required Technical Skills, Qualifications and Experience of the consultant are:

A Ph.D or Masters degree focused in Agricultural Economics.

Proven experience conducting Feasibility Studies in Agriculture and Agro-processing or other related technical content areas

Proven experience in qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods

Strong report-writing skills

Fluency in written English language required

Excellent representation, planning, and management skills

Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a team member, cultures, and offices.

Demonstrated experience using Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint)

Strong conceptual, analytical and strategic capability.

Availability between August 2023 – October 2023

Ability to travel within the four districts in Sierra Leone

Commitment to ChildFund's values and willingness to abide by Child and Young people Safeguarding Policy and hold others accountable.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

First Installment payment of 50% will be made after the approval of the Inception Report, the next 25% after the approval of the draft report and the final 25% after the approval of the final version of the report.

Processing and payment shall be made within 30 days of receipt of the invoice, with a 5% of the professional fees will be retained by ChildFund Sierra Leone as withholding tax and a certificate for the same issued to the Consultant.

ETHICS AND SAFEGUARDING

The Consultant will be expected to adhere to ChildFund International's Child and Youth Safeguarding Policy which ensures that the rights of those participating in data collection or analysis are respected and protected.

APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE

A brief summary of the consultant's capability to meet the objectives of this consultancy as well as qualifications as outlined in this document.

Resume not more than 7 pages

Share example reports of previous work done relating to this Call for the consultancy and or work previously undertaken

Provide at least three reference contacts of previous contracts or employers.

All applications received by the submission date will be reviewed by a selection committee against these Terms of Reference.

Applicants should submit documents through the email: [SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org](mailto:SierraLeoneProcurement@ChildFund.org) and copy: [bsartie@childfund.org](mailto:bsartie@childfund.org)

with email clearly marked with the title of "External Consultancy".

Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis until a suitable candidate is identified. ChildFund International reserves the right to withdraw the advert at any time once it finds a suitable candidate for the consultancy. Closing date for submission of complete applications is 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Only applicants with complete documents will go through the selection process. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

ChildFund Sierra Leone is committed to a workplace culture that promotes diversity, equity and inclusion in all its forms.

# *Request for Proposals*

## **Technical Partner for Growth Accelerator Programme to support women-led cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Sierra Leone**

**Deadline: 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023**



**T**he United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sierra Leone initiated a Growth Accelerator Programme for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in 2022. The Growth Accelerator aims to support the growth of innovative, viable, and ambitious MSMEs with transformative economic impact through improved access to finance with a specific focus on women and youth-led enterprises in Sierra Leone. During the first year of implementation, a number of informal and formal MSMEs were supported through access to investments from UNDP in form of grants to grow their enterprises, provision of technical assistance, business mentorship and coaching.

The second cohort for 2023 will support growth of innovative, viable, and ambitious women-led cooperatives and MSMEs. In this regard, UNDP seeks services of a technical partner to support in the management of the Growth Accelerator Programme focusing on women-led cooperatives and MSMEs in Sierra Leone. The deadline for submitting bids is 4th August 2023 at 11:00 PM Sierra Leone time.

This specific tender is managed via the new supplier portal system of UNDP Quantum. Interested organizations (Firms, CSO/NGO/Academia/Foundation) should submit their bids following instructions on the UNDP procurement website ([https://procurement-notices.undp.org/view\\_negotiation.cfm?nego\\_id=8822](https://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_negotiation.cfm?nego_id=8822)).

Bids must be submitted directly in the system following this link: <http://supplier.quantum.partneragencies.org> using the profile you may have in the portal. In case you have never registered before, you can register a profile using the registration link shared via the procurement notice and following the instructions in guides available in UNDP website: <https://www.undp.org/procurement/business/resources-for-bidders>. Do not create a new profile if you already have one. Use the forgotten password feature in case you do



Bake some festive treats this Christmas!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Ready, Steady, Bakol!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

"The fondest memories are made when gathered around the table."

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Spaghetti, saffell. You can use Padi items to cook it and it will taste delicious, promise!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

ARE YOU  
TEAM KETCHUP OR TEAM MAYO

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Enriched with 2 Essential Vitamins A & D

Freshly made VS Store-bought

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Padi, sharing is caring

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Padi Spaghetti, strands of deliciousness!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Daddy you are my best Padi!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

Spread the love!

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

I followed my heart and it led me to the kitchen.

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

**Padi**  
New Padi recipe

ALL CREDIBLE INSTITUTIONS HAVE ADVERTISED IN  
**CONCORD TIMES**

FOR ADVERT PLACEMENT CALL: +232 76 694292/+232 99 822587 E-mail: concordtimes100@yahoo.com

Follow us: Concord Times Newspaper @Concordtimes sl\_concord\_times

**LEGAL AID BOARD** **TRANSCO** **HIV/AIDS**  
**BRAC** **ACCESS BANK** **MINISTRY OF YOUTHS AND SPORTS**  
**FAO** **MBSSE** **GUMA VALLEY WATER COMPANY** **NACSA**  
**GTB** **CARE INTERNATIONAL** **MTHIE** **ACTIONAID** **SAVE THE CHILDREN**  
**SIERRA LEONE RED CROSS** **NASSIT** **SIERRA LEONE POLICE** **SLRA**  
**EPA** **SIERRA LEONE BREWERY** **SLTC**  
**RMF** **MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS** **NJALA UNIVERSITY** **MMCET CHAI**  
**SOS CHILDREN VILLAGE** **ACC** **MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
**TRANSFAPAY** **STAR TIMES**  
**CRS** **ACTION AGAINST HUNGER** **WORLD VISION** **UBA**  
**MINISTRY OF FINANCE** **ADB** **DSTV** **AUDIT SERVICES**  
**SELL** **MINISTRY OF ENERGY** **NRA** **SLAJ**  
**SIERRA BAY HOTEL** **MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE** **NEMS**  
**MARIE STOPES** **SEA COACH EXPRESS** **GIZ**  
**SLRSA** **NATCOM** **OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT** **WATERAID**  
**SALCAB** **ECOBANK** **LAPO MICRO FINANCE (SL) LTD**  
**HRC** **NPPA** **BSL** **SOLTHIS** **OXFARM** **AHF**  
**MIC** **UTB** **SLCB** **RCB**  
**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT** **ORANGE**  
**MERCURY SL** **UNDP** **WHO** **M.R DISTILLERIES** **IGR**  
**OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY** **AFRICELL** **MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**  
**NMA** **ZENITH BANK** **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**  
**NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD** **KENEMA CITY COUNCIL** **EUROPEAN UNION** **SMEDA**  
**STATISTIC SIERRA LEONE** **PPRC** **CHASL** **STANDARD BUREAU**  
**MARITIME** **WORLD BANK** **AFRIGAS** **RADISSON BLU HOTEL**  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES** **PLAN INTERNATIONAL**  
**PRA** **FAWAZ BUILDING MATERIALS** **ECOMED** **PARTNERS IN HEALTH**  
**PEE CEE & SONS** **SMALL ARMS** **SLWREC**  
**KINGHO MINING COMPANY** **PPRC** **MOTT MACDONALDS**  
**NEC** **NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD** **NPPA** **EBK UNIVERSITY** **JUDICIARY OF SIERRA LEONE**

Published by Concord Times Communications, 44, Edwards Street, Freetown, Sierra Leone www.slconcordtimes.com

Editor: Alusine Sesay +232 78 385923; opinion@slconcordtimes.com Advertisement: +232 79 355725, +232 76 694 292 advert@slconcordtimes.com

Follow us: Concord Times Newspaper @Concordtimes sl\_concord\_times