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APC MP pessimistic about 2024 budget

FAO, EU collaborate to support sustainable forestry in SL



SLPP MP calls for oneness in Sahn Malen

SL missed out in Commonwealth Secretary-General's innovation awards 2023

By Jariatu S. Bangura

The main opposition All People's Congress (APC) Member of Parliament from Bombali, Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay, has expressed pessimism that the 2024 budget presented by the Minister of Finance has a lot promises that may not be fulfilled in the midst of economic hard-hit.

Whilst contributing to the debate on the 2024 budget discussion, Hon. Sesay noted that mechanisms should be put in place to mobilise more revenue rather than putting more burden on the already suffering masses



Hon. Sallieu O. Sesay says the 2024 budget is a scam



Tourism Minister launches animal week

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LOCAL NEWS **FAO, EU collaborate to support sustainable forestry in SL**

The European Union and the Food and Agriculture Organization have signed an agreement for the implementation of a project titled: Support to Sustainable Forestry in Sierra Leone.

The project, designed in collaboration with the Forestry Department in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, has duration of 3 years and a total budget of 2.9 million Euro.

The project will increase Sierra Leone's capacity to protect its environment and biodiversity and promote a sustainable use of the country's forest resources.

The specific objective of the project is to establish a National Forest Inventory as the basis for a wider National Forest Monitoring and Sustainable Management System, which will provide regular and updated information on the status of Sierra Leone's forests.

In parallel, the Ministry of Environment will receive technical assistance to update and implement the relevant legal and regulatory framework that would help to halt deforestation and promote the



conservation and restoration of key forest areas and biodiversity spots of the country.

The project will also build capacities for the preparation of Sierra Leone's Forest Reference Levels, which serve to determine the amount of carbon sequestered by forests and the potential for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. This will allow Sierra Leone to comply with international climate finance requirements, such as the Reducing Emissions from

Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) scheme, and attract funding from voluntary carbon credit markets.

The project at overcoming the obstacles that have hampered the effective sustainable forest management and land cover monitoring in Sierra Leone.

According to the project design, it is expected at the end of the project that, the Government of Sierra Leone has the data, methodologies and capacities to measure, report and

verify its forest resources and land use changes at the national, sub-national, and protected area levels

The Government of Sierra Leone will also be able to have the data and capacities to strengthen sustainable forest management, improve the governance of the economic sectors linked to the use of natural resources, and access international climate finance

Expected deliverables includes having a reliable forest resource information covering a whole country to include computation of forestry statistics; assess forest areas, growing stock volumes, changes in biodiversity status, land use, carbon stock, and ecosystem services; generate scientific data and information with the primary goal to guide and support decision processes in forest-related policies; monitor the sustainability of forest management and forest policies on a national and subnational level; and enter into various international reporting processes, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

Tourism Minister launches national animal week

The Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Nabeela Tunis has officially launched the National Animal Week at a Cocktail ceremony held at Country Lodge Hotel in Freetown. The Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs in collaboration with Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary is commemorating the National Animal Week to raise awareness about the critical state of Chimpanzee and its recognition as Sierra Leone's National Animal and face of tourism.

The week-long event is packed with variety of activities to provide a platform for Sierra Leoneans to express their views and appreciation for the benefits of protecting their national animal, encourage government officials and agencies to actively participate in the cause, utilize national animal week to lobby for wildlife law reforms and policy changes, showcase the beauty of Sierra Leone's wildlife and landscape, raise awareness for the Chimpanzee and the threats they face and reshape the narrative around the national animal.

In his statement, the Founder of Tacugama Chimps Sanctuary, Bala Amarasekaran noted that they were gathered to celebrate the symbol of

the country's rich biodiversity, the Chimpanzee. "It was in 2019 that the Chimpanzee was rightfully declared the national animal of Sierra Leone, our government, recognized them as not only a symbol of our nation but also as the face of tourism, despite such declaration and awareness, the threats to Chimps persist," he said.

He maintained that Tacugama has evolved into a powerhouse of conservation, expanding its focus beyond the welfare of Chimps to encompass the protection of the entire forest and its inhabitants. He ended on a call to embark on a journey to secure a future where their national animal thrives and the beauty of Sierra Leone's wildlife continues to captivate the world.

Officially launching the Animal Week, Minister of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Nabeela Tunis said the commencement of the week-long celebration of the diverse and incredible fauna is the hallmark of what makes Sierra Leone unique. She said the declaration of the Western Chimpanzee as their national animal by President Bio symbolizes not just the species but the commitment to conservation, understanding and co-existence. She called for reflection on the inter-connectiveness of all the Line MDA's



noting that the Western Chimpanzee reminds them of the delicate balance of nature and the importance of preserving their ecosystem.

She intimated that through education and awareness, they can foster a collective responsibility to protect vital habitats and the engagement of activities that promote environmental stewardship,

tree planting, wildlife education and creating initiatives to foster reforestation.

The Minister of Environment, Jiwah Abdulai, the Mayor of Freetown, Yvonne Aki-Sawyer and the General Manager of the National Tourist Board, Fatmata Hamid Carew all made valuable contribution during the launch.



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LOCAL NEWS

By Jariatu S Bangura

West Minister Foundation for Democracy (WFD) has commenced a training for Members of Parliament (MPs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), to enhance their understanding about public debt and develop strategies on how to mitigate them in an economic uncertainty.

Senior Research Officer of ParcsoNet, Madam Memunatu Fatima Sewor, said they recognised the role played by CSOs and their active participation in the budget implementation, public expenditure management and its oversight, which is viable and essential to the financial landscape.

She said the objective of the two-day training was not just to enhance their capacity, but to engage effectively and empower them to engage in critical roles in the area of public debt and its management for citizens.

She said they can collectively

West Minister Foundation trains MPs, CSOs on public debt management



eradicate the challenges of discrepancies and improve public financial management through such engagement.

County Director, West Minister

Foundation for Democracy, Rev. Alusine Diamond –Suma, said the training for MPs and CSOs was of utmost importance to the nation's sustainable development and prosperity in the spirit of democracy. He said the Westminster Foundation is dedicated to strengthening democracy around the world for more than 30 years, and that they have actively helped democracies to grow stronger so that freedom and prosperity can flourish. He said they have helped solve problems of democracy so that democracies can address challenges that people face around the world. The Country Director stated that debt management and public finance play pivotal role in the intricate web of a nation's economic framework on how a country manages its debts and allocates its financial resources can be the difference between economic growth and stagnation, between prosperity and adversity.

"As CSOs and MPs, you are responsible for ensuring that these critical aspects are handled with diligence, transparency, and efficiency. Your role as CSOs is not just to observe and critique, but to actively engage in the policymaking process, ensuring that the government's financial decisions are aligned with the welfare of the citizens," he said.

He described MPs as stewards of the public purse and as representatives of the people, they hold a unique position in shaping the economic destiny of the nation.

He said their decisions on budgetary allocations, taxation policies, and approval of government borrowing, have far-reaching consequences.

He noted that their deep

understanding of debt management and public finance helps one to make informed decisions, prioritising the nation's long-term interests over short-term gains.

Speaking on behalf of the Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Emilia Loloh Tongi said Public finances are not just numbers on a balance sheet, but they are the lifeblood of societal progress and that they determine the quality of public services, the level of infrastructure development, and the overall well-being of citizens.

She said as CSOs, their deep understanding of PFM is instrumental in safeguarding the public interest and promoting responsible fiscal policies.

She said the challenges faced in the fiscal domain are complex and multifaceted, and joining forces, sharing knowledge, and fostering partnerships will help amplify impacts and become a formidable force for positive change.

"As we delve into this capacity building initiative, let us view it not as an endpoint but as the beginning of a sustained commitment to learning, collaboration, and advocacy. The knowledge you acquire today equips you with the tools to be formidable champions of fiscal responsibility," she noted.

Edmond Abu from the Native Consortium and Research Centre, said over the years CSOs have been working earnestly and relentlessly in ensuring that the public financial is managed well, and that it was good that the new Bank Governor has promised to withdraw all the old Leones by end of December 31st, 2023.

APC MP pessimistic about 2024 budget

From Cover



He said the amount allocated to agriculture is far less than what is expected, and that it shows that government is not ready to achieving the Feed Salone initiative.

Hon. Sesay said the five percent tax on the country's staple food, rice, should be discussed.

He charged that for any government to succeed with all the good intentions in the budget, they should be able to control inflation.

He said no matter what is being done in to mobilise revenue, government should look at the inflation rate that is causing rapid increase in the prices of basic commodities.

He said the Leones has depreciated to an extent that the Guinean currency

is now weighty than the Leones, and called on the Bank Governor to look at the re-domination and the reason behind the current inflation rate.

He urged the need for a robust revenue collection, but not an increased on tax, especially on staple food and urged that government should remove the five percent tax on rice.

But Parliamentary Chairperson for the Finance Committee, Hon. Francis Kaisamba commended the Minister of Finance and team for submitting the 2024 budget and restoring macroeconomics, while protecting the poor and the needy in the proposal.

LOCAL NEWS

By Ibrahim Sorious Samura

Sierra Leone's leading arts and fashion outlet, Vivid Emporium, has again taken the spotlight in the world of fashion and modelling.

At the just concluded TOP MODEL OF THE UNIVERSE event held in Istanbul, Turkey, Sierra Leone's female candidate Katti Fofanah mesmerised the global audience of fashionistas and modelling, as she proudly rocked an elegant dress designed by Vivid Emporium. The uniquely styled outfit was the highlight of glamour and artistry, which was complemented by Katti's beauty and intellect.

Top Model of The Universe 2023 was held for both male and female contestants. Sierra Leone was represented by Joseph Emmanuel Jalloh and Katti Fofanah in the male and female categories, respectively. Joseph was crowned as the winner in the male category, while Katti took the 1st runner-up position in the female category.

Katti walked away with several awards at the Top Model of The Universe competition in Turkey - including 'Top Model of Africa', 'Princess of Top Model of The Universe', 'Miss Face', 'Best Catwalk', and the 'Best Fashion Icon' awarded which Vivid Emporium takes pride in as the official designer of the outfit. The most important of Katti's take-home was the 1st runner-up position in the overall competition of the Top Model of The Universe.

Katti Fofanah is a model groomed and managed by the Hawawa Model Management & Image Consultancy, whose founder and CEO (Hawa Kamara) used to rock Vivid Emporium outfits in some of her previous competitions.

The CEO of Vivid Emporium, Kadiatu Kamara, was excited about Katti's performance at the Top Model of The Universe, dressed in Vivid Emporium designs.

"Vivid Emporium had the pleasure of dressing Sierra Leone's representative for the Top Model of

Vivid Emporium design excels as Sierra Leone grab 1st Runner-Up at Top Model of The Universe in Turkey

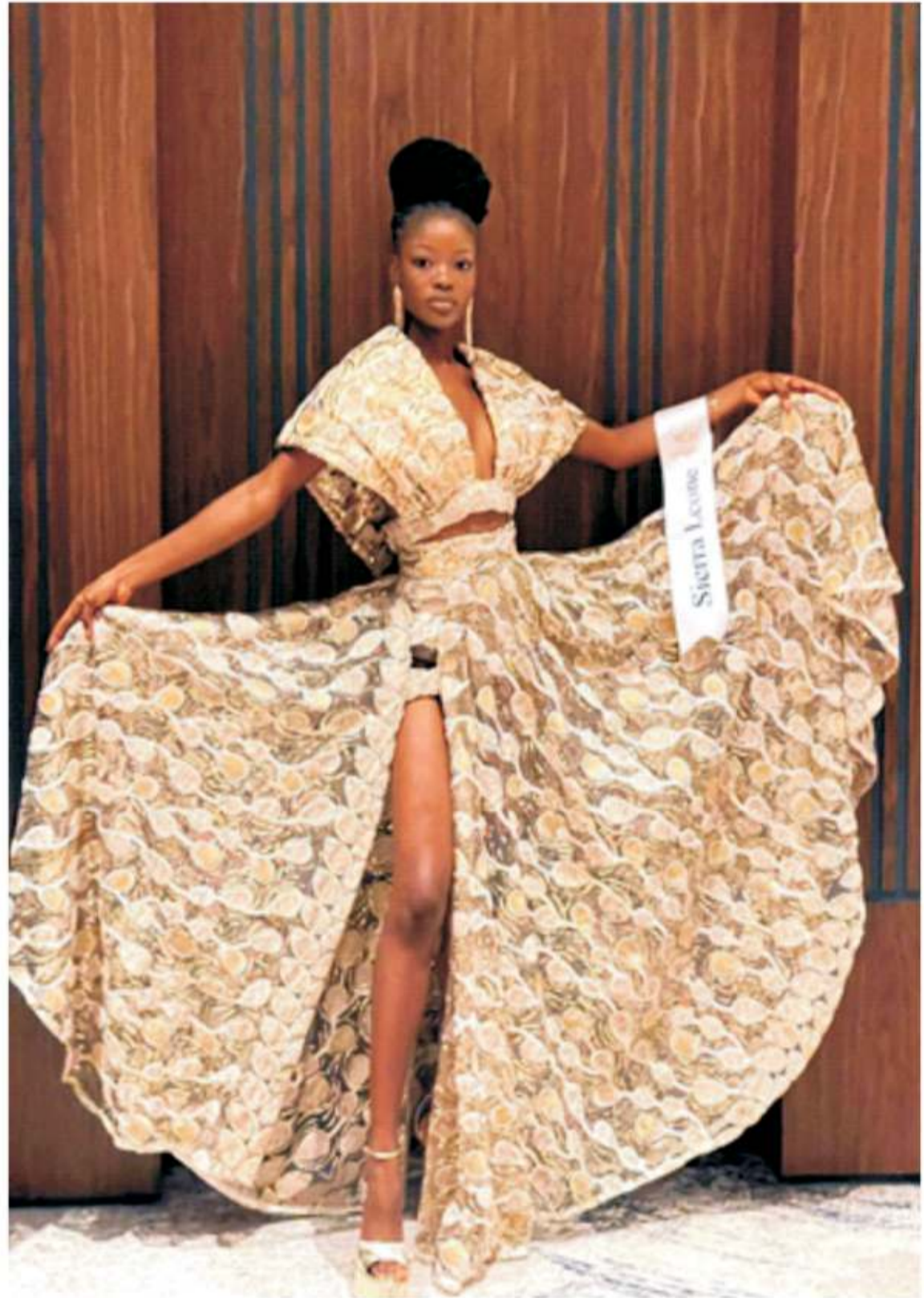
The Universe competition in Istanbul, Turkey. Our lady (Katti Fofanah) took 1st runner-up and won the Princess of Top Model of The Universe as well as the Fashion Icon award. It's an exciting and proud moment."

"This beautiful model is groomed, powered, and managed by Hawawa Model Management and Image Consultancy." ~ Kadiatu Kamara, Vivid Emporium

Vivid Emporium is renowned for dressing top models and artists from Sierra Leone and abroad. In 2016, Vivid Emporium was the official designer for Hawa Kamara, who eventually won the Miss Universe Sierra Leone, beating 17 other contestants to represent Sierra Leone at the Miss Universe competition in the Philippines in 2017. Artists such as the late Luwiz, Heyden Adama, and Famous have all been dressed by Vivid Emporium.

Vivid Emporium has also made dresses for many models and beauty queen contestants Claudia Josephine Suma for Miss Sierra Leone 2018, Davida Peacock Sawyer, and several others.

Vivid Emporium is a boutique that



works with various West African artisans, with its designs stemming from an African perspective for Western markets. Its designs are among the most sought-after African costumes in Europe and America - new tastes for a variety of

fashionistas across the world.

Vivid Emporium can be found at 21 Regent Road, Hill Station, Freetown Sierra Leone or contact +1 919 923 5804. More details coming soon at www.vividemporium.com.

Convict gets 15 years imprisonment for sexual penetration

By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

35-year-old Mohamed Koroma was on Monday sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by Justice Alhaji Momoh-Jah Stevens after he was found guilty of sexually penetrating an 11-year-old pupil.

Koroma was before the court on a two counts indictment of sexual Penetration contrary to Section 19 of the Sexual Offences Act 2012, Act No.

12 of 2012, as repealed and replaced by Section 4 (a) (ii) of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2019, Act No. 8 of 2019.

State Prosecutor, Musa Pious Sesay, had alleged that the accused on the 12th June, 2021, in Freetown, engaged in an act of sexual penetration with a child.

The convict denied the allegation upon his arraignment and the state prosecutor Musa Pious Sesay led in

evidence a number of witnesses including the victim in support of his case.

In her evidence, the school going girl admitted knowing the accused as her neighbour and recalled that on dates between the 12th June, 2021, the accused entered her room, removed her dress and penetrated her.

Justice Stevens said the accused made a denial statement in his defense, but that there was an

eyewitness who saw the accused lying atop the victim struggling with her.

Justice Stevens said the second prosecution witness upon information received made calls and the police arrested the accused at the house where they were resident.

He said at the close of the prosecution's case, the accused relied on his statement to the police.



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LOCAL NEWS SLPP MP calls for oneness in Sahn Malen

The above phrase was coined by the Leader of Government Business in Parliament when making his keynote statement on the dialogue on peace, reconciliation and development in Sahn Malen Chiefdom, Pujehun District on Sunday the 19th of November in the midst of stakeholders, government officials, local authorities, management of Socfin Agricultural Company, traditional leaders and the youthful populace of Sahn Malen. Hon. Chief Matthew S. Nyuma was very vociferous and compassionate in his plea to stakeholders of Malen Chiefdom to show sincerity and trust for the betterment and progress of the chiefdom in the years to come. According to the Leader of Government Business, the youthful population in the chiefdom should be a progressive and a blessing to both the agricultural company and chiefdom which according to him will help transformed and changed the chiefdom to a more progressive and better chiefdom. Hon. Matthew Nyuma further appealed to the people of Sahn Malen to fully cooperate with the company by discouraging all sorts of fruits theft which has being one of the biggest problems for the company over the past years. He also assured the people that the current Act before the House of Parliament will be a win-win situation for the company and the chiefdom as the company this time around will be collectively working with the local authority from a transparency and accountability points of view. "There will be no business as usual," he said. "The agricultural company

this time around with work with the relevant authorities from a transparent point of view.

It could be recalled that the agricultural company has being operating in Sahn Malen Chiefdom for over 12yrs but due to the confrontation and agitation by dissident groups there were serious communication gaps which leads to series of misinformation and trust.

Several issues were raised in the consultative meetings between the agricultural company, Malen Land Owners Association (MALOA), Chiefdom Speaker and all the sub chiefs in the chiefdom which was read Hon. Sheka Sama with raft of applaus.

Some of the issues raise were; payment of compensation, payment of annual lease rent, alternative livelihood/self-employment, revenue generated from sale of palm oil sludge from the lagoon and palm kernel from the mill, employment/welfare of employees, community development plan and corporate social responsibility, monthly honoria/allowances for sub chiefs, environmental protection, fruit theft, supply/sale of subsidized palm oil for household consumption, grievances redress mechanism/dispute resolution, chiefdom governance among others. The agricultural company have agreed to comply and effects all the issues raised by the various stakeholders for a smooth and cordial relationship going forward.

A public disclosure of the annual lease rent payment (20% for chiefdom and 50% land owners) for 2023 and also public disclosure of an authentic



(Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sheka Sama and Philip Tonks)



list of land owners/land-owning families/heads of land-owning families and size of land leased by each family (to be done after the ongoing land survey).

However, Hon. Sheka Sama has made it crystal clear that he did not want any financial help or gifts from the company but will highly appreciate and please for the full implementation of the above issues. General Manager of Socfin Agricultural in his jiffy statement applauded the strides taken by the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Sheka Sama, Minister of Trades and all those who participated in the process in finding lasting peace, unity and love in Sahn Malen Chiefdom for

generation yet unborn.

"I am one of the happiest persons today in Sahn Malen," he said. "I have been in Malen Chiefdom since 2013 and the kind of exuberance and cheerfulness I am seeing in Hon. Sheka Sama and the Leader of Governance Business is unprecedented to say the least.

According to Philip Tonks the dialogue on peace, reconciliation and development is a growth for the improvement of Sahn Malen Chiefdom and the agricultural company.

Several other statements were given by the Minister of Trades, Civil Society Organizations, Chiefdom authorities among others.

SL missed out in Commonwealth Secretary-General's innovation awards 2023

30 outstanding finalists hailing from the five regions across the Commonwealth have been selected for the Commonwealth Secretary-General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Awards. Following a rigorous judging process, these finalists were selected from a pool of exceptional candidates from across the Commonwealth by an independent jury. They embody groundbreaking innovation and dedication across five categories that resonate with the pillars of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: People,

Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership.

Building on the momentum of the previous editions held in 2019 and 2021, this year's ceremony marks a celebratory milestone showcasing the exceptional creativity and impactful contributions of Commonwealth citizens and organisations.

Additionally, it holds particular significance as it coincides with the prestigious Kenya Innovation Week, further amplifying the recognition and celebration of innovative excellence within the Commonwealth.

The highly anticipated awards ceremony is set to take place on 27 November 2023 during the opening of the inaugural Commonwealth Edition of Kenya Innovation Week 2023 and will include senior government officials, development experts, tech visionaries, and forward-thinking individuals from across the Commonwealth.

Speaking about the awards, Commonwealth Secretary-General Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC said: "A key outcome from the award ceremony will be to translate these forward-looking solutions into replicable initiatives that will serve

all the people of the Commonwealth. The Awards will also act as a catalyst for these transformative innovations to attract more support to scale up and achieve greater impact across the Commonwealth whilst helping our member states to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals."

Each of the 30 finalists will receive a certificate of recognition. The top 15 finalists will be recognised as winners. Three from each of the five categories. Each winner will be honoured with a trophy, a certificate of recognition, and a £3,000 cash prize during the ceremony.



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Invitation for Bids

Mott MacDonald SL Limited

Procurement Number: MMSL/SSEIP2/1088.27

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited, has allocated funds from FCDO for the procurement of 400 units of Wind-Up radios and now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders.

Mott MacDonald Limited trading as Cambridge Education has been appointed by UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to use UK aid to deliver the Sierra Leone Secondary Education Improvement Programme 2 (SSEIP 2). This programme supports the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education to improve primary and secondary schooling, make schools safer for girls, and target support to students with disabilities.

Bidding is open to all suppliers who can demonstrate experience and the capacity to deliver 400 units of Wind-Up radios.

Interested bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the address below between 09.00 am and 5.00 pm from 16th – 24th November 2023. Bidding documents can be collected for free at the address below.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 27th November 2023 at 09:00 a.m. All bids must be accompanied by:

- Valid business registration certificate
- Valid NASSIT clearance certificate
- Valid tax clearance certificate
- References, indicating the supplier's experience to deliver similar products to reputable organizations - corporations, INGOs and Government
- Demonstrates experience to deliver similar products and provide sample of Wind-Up radio.

Bid envelopes must be sealed and clearly marked "RFP 1088.27 - Wind-Up radios - Sierra Leone".

- The detailed specifications, unit price, total price including 15% GST shall be quoted in SIERRALEONE NEW LEONES.
- The period of bid validity shall be 90 days from the closing date of submission of bids.
- Delivery of goods to MMSL shall be within 4 – 6 weeks upon notification of award.

Bids will be opened on Monday 27th November 2023 at 9:15 a.m. in the presence of bidders and/or representatives at the address below. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened to bidders.

Mott MacDonald Sierra Leone Limited
24 Regent Road, Opposite Orange Office
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CALL FOR PROPOSAL

Marie Stopes Sierra Leone invites eligible Service Providers to submit proposal for the Provision of Human Resource Information System.

Items	Deadline to request the ToR	Deadline for the submission of Proposals	Tender reference
Provision of Human Resource Information System	24 th November 2023 - 1600hrs GMT	28 th November 2023 - 1600hrs	MSSL/PROC/HRIS/11/2023

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) can be obtained from Marie Stopes Sierra Leone via: procurement@mariestopes.org.sl / turay.mohamed@mariestopes.org.sl

Completed documentation should be submitted in soft copies to procurement@mariestopes.org.sl.

You must submit your proposal on or before 28th November 2023

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World Vision International Sierra Leone has been operational since 1996 assisting communities with various interventions in health, education, child protection, water & sanitation and livelihoods.

INVITATION TO BID

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MOBILE PHONES WITH OTHER ACCESSORIES

ITB Ref: WVISL/ITB-27/10/2023 - Supply of Mobile Phones with other Accessories.

World Vision International Sierra Leone herewith invites interested bidders to submit seal Bids for the supply and delivery of Mobile Phones with other Accessories as follows:

Item	Technical Specification	Unit of Measure	Quantity
Mobile Phone	<p>6.5-inch FHD+ Super AMOLED Infinity -O display, 1080x2400 resolution, 407 ppi, 90Hz/120Hz refresh rate for 4G/5G variants respectively.</p> <p>Rear camera:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main: 64MP OIS AF (F1.8, 0.8µm) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ultra-Wide: 12MP FF (F2.2, 1.12µm) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Macro: 5MP FF (F2.4, 1.12µm) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth: 5MP FF (F2.4, 1.12µm) <p>Zoom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Digital Zoom up to 10x <p>Front camera:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 32MP FF (F2.2, 0.8µm) <p>Software:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Android 11-based One UI 3.1 <p>SoC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Galaxy A52 - Snapdragon 720G <p>RAM/Storage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8GB RAM and 128 GB Storage <p>Dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 75.1 x 159.9 x 8.4mm / Weight - 189g <p>Battery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4500mAh with 25W fast wired charging <p>Network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac (2.4G+5GHz) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bluetooth v 5.0 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USB Type 2.0-C <p>Location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPS, Glonass, BeiDou, Galileo <p>Payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NFC, MST <p>Sensors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accelerometer, Fingerprint sensor, Gyro sensor, Geomagnetic sensor, Hall sensor, Light sensor, Virtual Proximity sensor <p>Water Resistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IP67 	Per Pcs	124
Memory Card	256GB	Per Pcs	124
Screen Protector	Quality screen protector	Per Pcs	124
Protective Casing	Quality protective case that suits the mobile phone	Per Pcs	124
Power Bank	40,000mhz	Per Pcs	124

IMPORTANT – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

- a) The proposals will be opened by the WVISL's designated Bid Opening Committee after the deadline for the receipt of the proposal. Once a decision has been made, the successful supplier will be notified of the selection via e-mail. Any attempt by a bidder to influence WVISL, outside of the instructions outlined in this ITB, in the process of examination, clarification, evaluation and comparison of proposals, or to obtain information on how the procedure is progressing, or to influence WVISL in its decision concerning the award of a Contract hereunder, will result in the immediate rejection of that Bidder's proposal.
- b) Bids received after the stipulated date and time will be invalidated.
- c) **Instructions for the tender**, you must read all the provisions of the bid to ensure that you understand World Vision International Sierra Leone's requirements and can submit an offer in compliance with them. Note that failure to provide compliant offers may result in the invalidation of your bid.
- d) Bidders are requested to address any queries concerning this ITB to: wvisl_supplychain@wvi.org by **21st November 2023 at the latest.**

BIDS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN LOCAL CURRENCY (SIERRA LEONE NEW LEONES) STATED IN THE SPECIFIC SECTION, TERMS AND CONDITIONS. BIDS MUST INCLUDE 15% GST AND OTHER PAYABLE TAXES. BIDS RECEIVED IN ANY OTHER CURRENCY WILL BE INVALIDATED.

1. Each bidder **must** meet the following **qualification criteria** with evidence of the relevant documentation:
 - i. Valid business registration certificate
 - ii. Valid NASSIT clearance certificate
 - iii. Valid Tax clearance certificate
 - iv. Valid Manufacturer authorisation
 - v. Manufacturer warranty for 12 months
 - vi. An Audited Financial Statement of the company for the last two financial years.
 - vii. Evidence of experience in providing similar supplies with detailed information on referees/references
 - viii. Bid security in the form of a certified bank or insurance company - 5% of the total bid price
 - ix. Bid Must be Valid for Two Months after the date of submission.
 - x. Bidders must ensure they submit samples of Mobile Phones with other accessories as part of their submission.
2. **Evaluation method** (selection criteria evaluation): The tender evaluation committee will evaluate and award the contract based on the following **selection criteria**:
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INT'L SPORTS **Barcelona star Sergino Dest is lambasted by his own team-mates on the pitch**

Sergino Dest faced the fury of his own team-mates after the United States defender picked up two yellow cards less than 30 seconds apart against Trinidad & Tobago on Monday night.

In the USA's second leg of the CONCACAF Nations League quarter-final, Dest took exception with a call from the referee where he was convinced he kept the ball in play, only for referee Walter Lopez to see things differently.

Upon hearing the call for a throw in to Trinidad & Tobago, Dest immediately picked up the ball and kicked it off the pitch in frustration, picking up his first yellow card of the match.

Team-mates, including Gio Reyna and Yunus Musah, tried to console Dest, with Reyna, at times, even holding his hand over his teammate's mouth, likely trying to shield any swearing from being picked up by cameras with Dest still furious.

It appeared Reyna could only do so much and soon referee Lopez pulled out a second yellow card for Dest, who, after receiving his marching orders, blew a kiss in the referee's direction as he continued to shout.

USA captain for the evening, Fulham's Tim Ream, who is usually calm and collected, was seen furious yelling in Dest's face as he walked off

the field.

Ream was joined quickly by USMNT goalkeeper Matt Turner, who plays for Premier League side Nottingham Forest, in expressing his fury at Dest. At one point, Turner was seen shoving Dest to walk off the pitch faster, while the defender was still animatedly ranting, most likely at Lopez, who was off-camera.

Following the game, Ream revealed there were 'choice words' for Dest at half-time.

'Not too many things I can say here publicly that we said privately,' Ream said.

'It's a complete lack of respect for the guys that are playing, for the guys that are on the bench. It's a lack of respect for the game itself, for the referees.'

Dest will be suspended for the Nations League semi-final in March. He missed this year's Nations League final after getting a red card and a three-game ban for scuffling in the semi-final against Mexico.

'It's inexcusable,' USA boss Gregg Berhalter said. 'It was surreal.'

'It is concerning because that's not what we represent, that's not who we are as a group,' Berhalter added.

'We pride ourselves in staying



mentally disciplined, battling through any type of conditions.

'Whether they're good decisions or bad decisions, we're supposed to keep going and respond in an appropriate way, and that obviously wasn't the right response from Sergino.'

'He apologized to the group. He said "it's not going to happen again". As a team, the players, the staff, we need to hold him accountable.'

USA were 4-0 up on aggregate in their Nations League quarter-final at the time of Dest's head-loss.

However, Trinidad & Tobago's Reon Moore scored against 10-man United States four minutes after Dest saw red to draw Monday's game level.

After the game, Dest apologized for his behavior on Instagram.

'I want to apologize to my Teammates, Staff, Fans and whole nation for my behaviour it was unacceptable. Selfish and immature I let my team down!' Dest said. 'It's

something I have to learn from and it won't happen again!'

In a postgame interview, USA defender Antonee Robinson called Dest's display a 'moment of unprofessionalism.'

Following a 3-0 win last week at Austin, Texas, Robinson scored in the 25th minute off Dest's cross to give the 11th-ranked US a four-goal lead in the CONCACAF Nations League quarter-final.

But after Dest's two yellow cards in a matter of 30 seconds in the 39th minute, Trinidad & Tobago were able to launch a comeback.

With the US a man short, Moore levelled the score in the 43rd minute.

Then, Alvin Jones put the 99th-ranked Soca Warriors ahead in the 57th minute with a 30-yard free kick, which went in off the hands of goalkeeper Matt Turner, who tried to parry the swerving shot.

Jones scored a similar long-range goal in October 2017 against Tim Howard in a 2-1 win at Couva, about 20 miles south, that ended the Americans' streak of World Cup appearances at seven.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football>

Women's Nations League: Beth Mead returns to England squad after ACL injury

Arsenal forward Beth Mead has been named in the England squad for the first time in a year following her return from a serious knee injury.

Mead, who claimed the Golden Boot as England won Euro 2022, suffered an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury in November 2022.

She is named in Sarina Wiegman's 23-player squad for next month's Women's Nations League matches. England face the Netherlands at Wembley, then Scotland at Hampden Park.

On Mead's return, manager Wiegman said: "Of course that's really nice. She's played minutes and is in a good place and still building too. It was a very nice phone call and she was very happy."

"We've had conversations all the time. We had some before the September camp and in October too because she was already fully training and getting some minutes then. I wanted to see a little more and that's what we have seen that now."

"Her health is really good so she can just go. She has shown in games that she is in a good place. She is still improving but she has shown enough for us to bring her in."

There are further call-ups for 20-



year-old Grace Clinton, on loan at Tottenham from Manchester United, and Manchester City goalkeeper Khiara Keating, 19, who were involved in October's squad for the first time.

Aston Villa defender Lucy Parker is absent with an ankle injury, while Manchester City forward Jess Park, Villa striker Ebony Salmon and experienced midfielder Laura Coombs are among those to miss out on selection.

England are the nominated nation on behalf of Team GB to seal qualification for the 2024 Paris Olympics but they must win their Women's Nations League group.

It is finely poised with England currently third in the group, three points off leaders the Netherlands, who they face on Friday, 1 December.

Opponents Scotland, who they play on Tuesday, 5 December, are currently bottom of the group with

one point.

Wiegman's squad has plenty of familiar names including 16 of the 23 players who were selected for Euro 2022.

There were calls for 20-year-old Chelsea forward Aggie Beever-Jones to be considered after she scored four goals across four consecutive Women's Super League matches, including one on her first start at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

"She scored a nice goal this weekend, again. She's in our conversations [but] I think it's a bit too early," said Wiegman.

"We see good things. She's in the England under-23s squad so it's good she can get the minutes there and keep developing. I hope she just keeps improving and gives us headaches again with our selection." Mead's return means Wiegman has an attacking line-up stacked with quality making it harder for the likes of Beever-Jones, Park and Salmon to earn selection.

Wiegman also admitted she considered the importance of the two fixtures in her selection, opting for experience over experimentation.

"We have so many options. There's huge competition in [the attacking] positions," added Wiegman.

"You can't select 10 wingers because

then you don't have balance in the squad, but it gives opportunity and a lot of competition.

"It's good for the game and for England to have options in positions. "Of course it's all about quality first and foremost but also this would not be a moment to experiment a little bit. We know what we have to do. It's one of the reasons we don't want to change the squad."

Goalkeeper Ellie Roebuck has lost her starting place at Manchester City to 19-year-old Keating and that has led to her exclusion from this month's England squad.

She has not been involved in recent City squads despite being fully fit and sat in the stands for Sunday's Manchester derby.

"Of course that's really hard for her, with the position she has at [her] club now. We did have conversations with her," said Wiegman.

"At the last camp we decided to keep four goalkeepers. Now we went back to three, so I had to give her the hard message that we didn't pick her for now."

"She just has to work hard and see if she can find opportunities to play. Right now, in the very short-term, that's probably not going to happen."

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