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**OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP**

**REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE**

**SIERRA LEONE’S SECOND NATIONAL ACTION PLAN (NAP 2)**

**April 30th, 2014**

**April 30th, 2014**

**April 30th, 2014**

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# ACRONYM

|  |
| --- |
| ACC- Anti Corruption Commission |
| APRM- African Peer Review Mechanism |
| BAN- Budget Advocacy Network |
| CBOs - Community Based Organizations |
| CGG- Campaign for Good Governance |
| CSO- Civil Society Organization |
| DACO- Development Assistance Coordination Office |
| DFID - Department for International Development |
| EITI- Extractive Industry Transparency Imitative |
| EPA- Environment Protection Agency |
| FSU- Family Support Unit |  |
| IATI- International Aid Transparency Initiative |
| INGO- International Non-Governmental Organization |
| MAFFS- Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food security |
| MDA- Ministry Department and Agencies |
| MEST- Ministry of Education Science and Technology |
| MOFED- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development |
| MOHS- Ministry of Health and Sanitation |
| MTA- Ministry of Transport and Aviation |
| MTEF - Medium Term Expenditure Framework |
| MWHI- Ministry of Works Housing Infrastructures |
| NACS - National Anti-Corruption Strategy |
| NAP- National Action Plan |
| NEC- National Electoral Commission |
| NEW- National Election Watch |
| NGO- Non Governmental Organization |
| OGI- Open Government Initiative |
| OGP - Open Government Partnership |
| SDG- Sustainable Development Goals |
| SGBV- Sexual Gender Base Violence |
| SLANGO- Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organizations |
| TRC- Truth and Reconciliation Commission  |

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The OGP supports efforts geared towards promoting transparency, fighting corruption, encouraging innovation and new technology to strengthen governance through a multi-stakeholder approach. OGP is particularly important for the development of the country.

Over the past eighteen years, Sierra Leone has shown its dedication to democratic governance by promoting citizens’ engagement, transparency and accountability. Furthermore in 2008, His Excellency Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma established the Open Government Initiative (OGI) with the mandate of promoting Democracy, Human Rights, the Rule of Law and Good Governance. It serves as a link between the three arms of government in addition to the Local Councils and citizens to ensure transparency, accountability and participation in governance process, “**bringing Government Closer to the People and the People Closer to the Government.”** These are the pillars on which OGP is hinged. Therefore, the ideals of the Initiative are not novel to governance in Sierra Leone.

The OGP provides an opportunity for Sierra Leone to mount its efforts towards open governance initiatives and strengthen governance structures through collaborative efforts between CSOs and government. Indeed the opportunity for promoting good governance through building strong linkages between CSOs and government prompted Sierra Leone to sign into the OGP in September 2013 just before passing the Right to Access to Information Act in October 2013.

Importantly, it is worthwhile to note that Sierra Leone is one of the 31 countries participating in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), to which it voluntarily acceded on the 4th of July, 2004. APRM mandates Sierra Leone to uphold its standards, ethics, codes and principles as articulated in the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance. This inspires the construction of transformational leadership promoted through self-assessment and independent review processes.

The National Action Plan 2 addresses all the grand challenges. Inputs from citizens during radio programs and consultative town hall meetings, as well as the results from a survey conducted of citizens across the four administrative regions in the country, in which individuals were asked to prioritize which grand challenges they wanted to see in the NAP, indicate that Sierra Leoneans want the NAP 2 to address issues around all the grand challenges. Table 1 summarizes the NAP 2 commitments by OGP Grand Challenge.

## Table 1: Action Plan Commitments by OGP Grand Challenge.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Commitments | **GRAND CHALLENGES** |
| **Improving public services** | **Increasing public integrity** | **More effective management of public resources** | **Creating safer communities** | **Improving corporate accountability**  |
| **Gender (Sexual Violence)**Publish national data on sexual violence, ensure service provision and provide an enabling environment to bring perpetrators to book  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fiscal Transparency and Open Budget**To make budget data (MTEF and Midyear Report), Parliament Audit Committee Reports and tax exemptions publicly available and increase citizen participation in the budget process. |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Records Management**Pass a robust and proactive Archives and Records Management Bill to support the implementation of the Right to Access Information Act in a bid to improve public transparency  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Foreign Aid Transparency** Increase foreign aid transparency on the post Ebola funds |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Audit Report**Implement the procurement recommendations from the Auditor General’s Audit reports for 2014 and 2015  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Open Contracting**Improve accountability of procurement management in Sierra Leone |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Elections**Promote transparency and accountability in the management of elections  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Access to justice** Increase transparency in case management and establish structures at the local level to improve access to justice |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Climate Change**Providing user friendly data and information regarding climate related action  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Waste Management** Improve quality of life through effective service delivery for cleaner and healthier communities |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **3** | **4** | **4** | **5** | **1** |

Furthermore, Sierra Leone is using the National Action Plan to support the achievement of key objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals. All of the commitments are explicitly linked to the SDGs, as illustrated in Table 2 below:

## Table 2: OGP and the SDGs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Commitments** | **SDGs goals and Targets** |
| **Gender (Sexual Violence)**Publish national data on sexual violence, ensure service provision and provide the enabling environment to bring perpetrators to book  | **Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls****Target 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation. |
| **Fiscal Transparency and Open Budget**To make budget data (Pre-budget Statement and Midyear Report), Parliament Audit Committee Reports and tax exemptions publicly available and increase citizen participation in the budget process. | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.Target 16: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.  |
| **Records Management**Pass a robust and proactive Archives and Records Management Bill to support the implementation of the Right to Access Information Act in a bid to improve public transparency  | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.Target 16: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements  |
| **Foreign Aid Transparency** Increase foreign aid transparency on the donor funds for post Ebola recovery | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.Target 16: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.**Goal 17**: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. |
| **Audit Report**Implement the procurement-related recommendations from the Auditor General reports for 2014 and 2015  | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.Target 16: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. |
| **Open Contracting**Improve accountability of procurement management in Sierra Leone | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.**Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels |
| **Elections**Promote transparency and accountability in the management of elections  | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.**Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. |
| **Access to Justice** Increase transparency in case management and establish structures at the local level to improve access to justice | **Goal 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.**Target 16.6**: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. |
| **Climate Change**Providing user friendly data and information regarding climate related action  | Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.**Target 13.3**: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. |
| **Waste Management** | **Goal 11:** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.**Target 11.6**: By 2030 reduce the adverse per capita environmental impacts of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.  |

# 2. OPEN GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO DATE: ONGOING INITIATIVES

Sierra Leone has been undertaking strategic reforms for making government transparent and more accountable to its citizens. The process of reviewing the 1991 Constitution has set in motion public discourse and practical actions for undertaking a major transformation of governance and service delivery structures, systems and procedures in line with the aspirations of citizens. Sierra Leone therefore seeks to amplify the following efforts through a concise and measurable action plan:

## Improving Public Services

The Government of Sierra Leone has prioritized improving its structures, systems and processes for efficient and effective service at the highest levels, and all related initiatives are managed and supervised by the Office of the President. Below are some of the initiatives for improving public service delivery;

* **Established the Open Data Portal:** Sierra Leone has established an open data portal which will support the emergence of a pro-active disclosure culture, in line with the Right to Access to Information Act. This portal now provides a one- stop shop to all government documents.
* **Performance Contracts:** In order to ensure that performance and delivery become the center of Government operations, the Office of the President has championed efforts to introduce a performance contracting system. Today all key tiers of Government including MDAs, Local Councils, and tertiary education institutions operate under performance contracts through which MDAs’ effectiveness, efficiency and level of accomplishment of annual work are measured. Through the Performance Management and Service Delivery Directorate, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), local council officials and other public servants are required to sign performance contracts with the Office of the President which sets out their yearly objectives and activities. Performance is assessed on a bi-yearly basis and performance results are made available to the public. This is an ongoing initiative which has helped to improve public service delivery in various sectors.
* **Free Health Care Initiative:** In September 2009, Sierra Leone started the change with the announcement that all health user fees would be removed for pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five. This initiative was formally introduced in April 2010. In the first year alone, there was a 214% increase in the number of children attending outpatient units. This is an ongoing initiative which has helped women, children and lactating mothers to receive free health care.
* **The President’s Delivery Team for the Recovery Priorities**: The President’s Delivery Team for the Recovery Priorities, established within the Office of the Chief of Staff, coordinates and drives delivery of the President’s top priorities for the nation’s recovery in the areas of: education, health, social protection, private sector development, water, energy and governance after the Ebola epidemic.
* **Development of Service Charters by MDAs:** As a way to empower citizen to access various services from MDAs, the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Performance Management and Service Delivery Directorate of State House have facilitated the development of Service Charters for all the MDAs. These Charters show the various services offered by MDAs, the cost of the services, the length of time to access the services and also complaints mechanisms for aggrieved citizens.

## Increasing public integrity

The President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, His Excellency Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma, in his State Opening of Parliament in 2014 and in the foreword of the Agenda for Prosperity reiterated his zero tolerance policy on corruption. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has been given independence since 2008 and benefits from the cooperation of the highest office in the country to systematically root out corruption in order to improve service delivery.

* **Archives and Records Management:** GoSL is committed to building a reliable and trustworthy evidence-based information/data management system to support policy-making and service delivery across the public service. To achieve this, it requires an integrated records and information management strategy linked to a sound legal and organizational structure and a capacity-building program. A comprehensive Policy has been drafted and approved by Cabinet and the enabling legislation currently in the drafting stage.
* **Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Act:** The amended 2008 ACC Act is one of the strongest in the sub region which allows for independent prosecution of corrupt individuals without reverting to the Office of the Attorney -General. Between 2008 and 2013, over 50 prosecuted cases ended in a conviction, including against sitting Ministers and political and administrative heads of the Local Councils.
* **Asset Declaration through the ACC:** all public servants are required to declare their assets, income and liabilities three months after taking office following which they should provide yearly submissions until they leave office. In 2014, approximately 51,381Asset Declaration forms were distributed to public officials nationwide and over 45% were returned to the Asset Declaration Unit in the ACC**.** It is important to note that Asset Declarations are currently still private and are not in the public domain, though the ACC has announced that as of January 2017 all declarations should be made via an online portal.
* **Pay No Bribe Campaign:** an inter-governmental campaign was launched in February, 2014 to tackle the issue of petty bribery in key service delivery institutions in collaboration with DFID. This campaign will firstly ensure that citizens are empowered by being aware of their rights through the publication and dissemination of service charters of key Government services. Government then intends to scale up monitoring and reporting on incidence of bribery through a robust data collection and management system that will be established in the Anti-Corruption Commission.
* **The National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) 2014-18**: This is an essential instrument set up by the government of Sierra Leone to ensure an effective service delivery towards the welfare and wellbeing of all Sierra Leoneans. The NACS looks at various aspects of the integrity system in the public sector which encompasses facets of accountability, transparency and the rule of law. The 2014-18 strategy focused mainly on the principles of institutional autonomy in order to function without undue external control; enhancing coalition building with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the implementation of the measures of corruption. It is however an essential part of the transformation process rather than a single tool for fighting graft. The implementation of the strategy is ongoing and CSOs are monitoring it on a quarterly basis.
* **Develop and implement a Public Integrity Pact with 5 pilot MDAs**: The Public Integrity Pact document details key integrity obligations that institutions signing it must abide by when conducting government affairs. The Public Integrity Pacts are part of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2014 – 2018, outlining the range of specific measures to be taken to prevent corruption in public offices. Five institutions have already signed the pact and implementation is ongoing.

##

## More effective management of public resources

The Government of Sierra Leone is continuing to work steadfastly to improve transparency across Government by bringing the citizens closer to governance. This has been the cornerstone of the Agenda for Change (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II) and the more recent Agenda for Prosperity (PRSP III) especially in the areas of public resources management, public integrity, fighting corruption and corporate accountability. Further, in October 2013, Sierra Leone passed the Right to Access Information law which further emboldened its commitment to transparency.

**Key Actions:**

* **The Public Financial Management Act 2016:** Parliament on Tuesday 31st May 2016 passed the Bill entitled “the Public Financial Management Act 2016,” to make provision for prudent and transparent management of public financial resources.
* **Establishment of a Treasury Single Account:** Sierra Leone has established a Single Treasury Account. A Treasury Single Account is a structure that links all government bank accounts held in several commercial banks. The new system enables consolidation and optimum utilization of government cash resources. It separates transaction-level control from overall cash management. Simply put, it is a bank account or a set of linked bank accounts through which the government transacts all its receipts and payments and gets a consolidated view of its cash position at the end of each day.
* **Audit Service Sierra Leone:** Recent policy reforms in the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament have ensured that audit reports are reviewed and published within a shorter time frame. In addition, audit reports are made public at the same time it is laid in Parliament. Currently, the Auditor General’s report is submitted within the twelve months period as required by the 1991 Constitution of Sierra Leone. Furthermore, Parliament organizes public hearings on the Auditor General's Report which have been aired live by TV and Radio stations. In addition, Parliament also produces a report on the Auditor General's Report which presents series of recommendations for actions by the Executive.
* **Citizen’s Budget:** Citizens’ budget summarizes the budget document and explains basic information on services the Government plans to deliver, how it will be done, and who will do it. It shows how much they will cost and how citizens can verify if those services budgeted for were delivered accordingly. Since 2012, the citizen budget has been produced and this has helped increase Sierra Leone's score on the Open Budget Index from 39 in 2012 to 52 in 2015 out of 100.

## Creating safer communities

**Three Gender Laws**

Sierra Leone operates under three sets of laws - formal law, customary law and Muslim law, and the three Gender Acts (the Domestic Violence Act, the Devolution of Estates Act and the Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act), provide protection to women under all three types of law.

1. The Domestic Violence Act is the first formal law in Sierra Leone to specifically criminalize domestic violence. The new law makes domestic violence a criminal offence, and strengthens the ability of the police and Family Support Units to respond to domestic violence.  People can also bring civil proceedings under the law, for example seeking protection orders.  The law provides a broad definition of domestic violence, including economic abuse (unreasonably withholding or destroying the other person’s financial resources); harassment; emotional, verbal or psychological abuse; intimidation; physical abuse and sexual abuse. Marital rape is an offence under the Act.
2. Devolution of Estates Act surviving spouses of either gender are entitled to remain in the family home until they die; it is now a criminal offence to eject them from the home.  Husbands and wives now inherit property from each other equally, and male and female children also inherit equally when a parent dies without a will.  Certain property under customary law still cannot be passed to a widow, but it remains a criminal offence to eject her from the home she shared with her husband during marriage.
3. Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act sets 18 as the legal age for marriage, requires consent of both parties for a marriage to be lawful, and provides that applications can be made for spousal and child maintenance of a reasonable level. This reinforces recent similar provisions made in the Child Rights Act 2007. The Act also requires that marriages be registered.

**Sexual Offences Act 2012**

The Act criminalizes all sexual acts, including sexual touch, without the expressed consent of the victim. The Act applies to mentally challenged, disabled and minors.

**Environment Protection Act 2008**

The EPA Act 2008 has the strategic objective of ensuring effective protection of the environment (i.e. land, air, water and all flora, fauna and human beings and their inter relationships). The policy objectives and related activities of the Environment Protection Agency encompass a wide range of related activities for improving the quality of life including, formulating, coordinating and implementing environmental policies, regulations; raising public awareness and promoting understanding of the essential linkages between environment and development and encouraging individual and community participation in environmental improvement efforts; promoting environmental research studies and analyses to ensure effective  protection  and management of the environment and the maintenance of a sound ecological system; and ensuring environmental mainstreaming into national policies, programs and projects. The EPA conducts EISH assessments as one of the legal requirements for engaging in mining, agricultural, and other substantial industrial activities.

## Improving corporate accountability

* **Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative:** The EITI is an international standard for transparency in extractive industry payments and receipts. In countries participating in the EITI, companies are required to publish what they pay to governments and governments are required to publish what they receive from companies. Sierra Leone joined the EITI in 2006 and, as of 2016, has remained an EITI-compliant country. This means that the country continues to adhere to the EITI principles.
* **Finance Act 2016:** This Act makes provision for corporate accountability especially in relation to reducing transfer pricing for companies. The Act states that a transaction with related party during a year of assessment shall disclose the following:
	+ The relationship with related party
	+ the volume and value of the transaction
	+ the price charged and the basis or method of ascertaining the price and
	+ the comparative price for a similar transaction made with non-controlled entities or charged by non-controlled entities.
* **Publishing of Mining and Agricultural Contracts:** Mining and agricultural contracts are published online. This has improved corporate accountability through more transparent processes for mining and agricultural activities, and utilization of the government website to give the public access to mining and agricultural contracts and other relevant documents.

## Progress on NAP I

The OGP Secretariat conducted a performance for the period April 2014 to June 2016, including progress on implementation of the milestone activities for the commitments in NAP 1.

##

## Table 3: Completion Rate for NAP 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Commitment** | **Number of milestones** | **Number of milestones not started** | **Number of milestones limited completed** | **Number of milestones Substantial completed** | **Number of milestones completed** | **Number of milestone not applicable** |
| 1 | ***Develop and implement a Public Integrity Pact with 5 pilot MDAs that identifies key commitments in line with Section 8 -- Public Integrity -- of the ACC Act, 2008 to improve public trust in public service delivery and to ensure effective accountability of public officials.*** | 4 | 0 | 0 |  | 4 |   |
| 2 | ***Archives and Records Management Act*** | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 |   |
| 3 | ***Scale up and deepen the activities of the Performance Management and Service Delivery Directorate to improve accountability and increase civic participation in governance***. | 4 | 1 |   | 1 | 2 |   |
| 4 | ***Increase compliance with audit measures to improve transparency and accountability in public resource spending*** | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 5 | ***Establish a Single Treasury Account to improve financial accountability*** | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 6 | ***Enact the Revenue Management Bill ( RMB)*** | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 7 | ***Scaling up extractive industry transparency initiatives*** | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 |   |
| 8 | ***Improve monitoring of the Local Content Policy especially around monitoring the implementation of activities and improving linkages with MDAs in order to improve local participation and accountability in the process*** | 5 |   | 0 | 0 | 5 |   |
| 9 | ***70% of all Mining and Agricultural lease agreements and contracts revised and made public with a view to improve transparency, accountability and public participation*** | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| 10 | ***Implementation of the Right to Access Information Law*** | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 11 | ***Establish an open data portal to improve transparency in fiscal and extractive transactions.*** | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |   |
|   | **Totals** | **45** | **11** | **2** | **7** | **24** | **1** |

# 3. DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN 2

The development of Sierra Leone’s National Action Plan 2016-2018 has been more deliberate, systematic, and inclusive compared to the previous process. Learning from best practice amongst other OGP member countries, the OGP Steering Committee which is composed of representatives from national government and civil society, was more proactive in leading the development of a co-created NAP 2. There was marked improvement in the appreciation for and ownership of OGP among both non-government and government Steering Committee members due to their participation in various multi-stakeholder meetings and events.

## Methodology

During the production of the National Action Plan 2, Sierra Leone utilized a number of complimentary methods for collecting inputs from citizens. These included requesting inputs from the public through Phone calls, Whatsapp, radio and TV programmes; expert surveys; and multi-stakeholder meetings and regional consultations.

### Initial Call for input into NAP 2

During the Datafest organized by Right to Access to Information Commission on the 20th and 21st April 2016, the OGP manned a booth where information about OGP was displayed. Key among this information were briefs about the OGP and its importance for open governance and contact information (Toll free numbers, email, whatsapp number and address) if someone wanted to make input into the NAP. In addition, flyers and car stickers which contained information about how to make input into the NAP 2 were distributed to the public. Initial commitments proposed by the public during this period were collated for incorporation into the NAP 2.

### Steering Committee Meeting to review the NAP 1 and develop Timelines

Two meetings of the OGP Steering Committee were held to review progress on implementation of the commitments in NAP 1 and to develop timelines for awareness-raising and consultations for the development of NAP 2. These timelines were shared with the public through the media.

### Presidential Announcement for the start of the development of NAP 2

The Office of the President on the 20th May 2016 officially announced the commencement of NAP 2via Press Release which was disseminated through print and electronic media.



### Regional sensitization on the OGP and NAP 2

Float parades were organized in the regional cities of Freetown, Bo and Makeni during which flyers which contained information about the OGP, timelines for the development of the NAP 2 and how to make input into it, were distributed. Renowned comedians used skits to educate the people about the OGP and how to make meaningful inputs to the NAP 2 in their various locations. The float parade could not be held in Kenema City due to politically motivated skirmishes that occurred on the day the event was to be held. So, instead of the float parade, a radio call-in program was held to educate residents in that region about the OGP and the timelines for the development of the NAP 2.

### Multi-stakeholders meeting to review NAP 1 and discuss initial commitments from the public

A meeting was held between CSOs, Media and Government to assess progress on NAP 1 and to determine those commitments that could be carried on to NAP 2. The meeting also discussed the initial commitments proposed by the public. The meeting recommended a few critical commitments to carry on for NAP 2, as well as proposed new commitments on Elections, Gender, Access to Justice and Local Council service delivery.

### Expert Group Meetings

Three experts’ group meetings were held to discuss specific commitments.

1. CSOs-The Budget Advocacy Network facilitated a meeting of CSOs to propose a commitment on fiscal transparency and open budget. The outcome of this meeting was agreement on description of the commitment and identification of milestones, which were submitted to the OGP Secretariat.

2. Women Groups- CGG with support from the OGP Secretariat facilitated a meeting of Women's groups and relevant stakeholders to discuss a commitment on gender. It was agreed in that meeting that the commitment should be focused on sexual violence against women and milestones were developed.

3. Private sector- A meeting was held with relevant institutions in the private sector to discuss inputs to NAP 2 and other issues related to the objectives of the OGP.

### CSOs Consultative Meeting

The Budget Advocacy Network and Campaign for Good Governance with support from the OGP Secretariat organized a CSOs’ meeting to discuss the CSO proposals for NAP 2. During this meeting the initial commitments proposed by the public were reviewed and approved for inclusion into the NAP 2.

### Multi-stakeholder Meeting

A meeting between CSOs and government was held wherein the proposed NAP 2 commitments were discussed and milestones defined.

### Regional Consultations

Regional consultations were held on NAP 2 in Waterloo in the Western Rural District, Makeni the headquarter town for the Northern Province, Bo the headquarter town for the Southern Province and Kenema the headquarter town for the Eastern Province. These consultative meetings were well-attended by citizens, traditional/ local leaders and activists, national and local government officials, and civil society organizations including members of the OGP Steering Committee. Presentations were made on the OGP Guidelines and Process, NAP 1, and the proposed commitments for NAP 2. A survey on the Grand Challenges as well as commitments for the NAP 2 were administered at each location. Participants were requested to suggest critical areas for the NAP 2 commitments, and there were lively discussions on local and national level service delivery in all the meetings. Members of the OGP Steering Committee participated in radio discussions with local/ community radio stations either before or after the consultative meetings, during which people called in to comment on the OGP process and to make suggestions for NAP 2 commitments and milestone activities.

**Consultation with Parliament**

A dialogue was held on the 15th of June 2016 with selected Members of Parliament to discuss the OGP NAP 1 implementation progress report and proposed NAP 2 commitments. A presentation on the background of OGP, its mandate, vision and mission was made. The Country Director for OSIWA also presented on his organization’s commitment towards the promotion of collaboration between government, CSOs and Parliament, and for supporting good governance in general. A progress report on the status of the implementation of NAP 1 was presented and it was followed by discussions that reaffirmed Parliament’s commitment towards OGP. The MPs endorsed the proposed commitments under NAP 2 and vowed to support effective implementation and achievement of targets, especially for those related to lawmaking.

### Radio and TV programs

Several radio and TV discussion programs were held on the national as well as local/ community stations to update the general public about the status of the NAP 1 and to encourage people to propose commitments for the NAP 2. The radio discussion programs were held in all four regions of the country, specifically in Freetown, Waterloo, Bo, Makeni and Kenema. In addition, a radio jingle on the OGP principles and the action plan was developed and broadcast as a way of encouraging the general public to support the OGP process and to make inputs into the NAP 2.

### Documentation and feedback

The reports of the consultations and meetings, including feedback from participants, are posted online.

# 4. NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

|  |
| --- |
| COMMITMENT ONE (1)GENDER |
| **THEME: GENDER- SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & CHILDREN** |
| Leading implementing agency | Family Support Unit Sierra Leone Police  |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Superintendent Mira Koroma  |
| Title, Department | Family Support Unit (FSU) of the Sierra Leone Police  |
| Email | mirakoroma@gmail.com  |
| Phone | +232 30269296  |
| Other actors involved  | Government | Sierra Leone PoliceThe JudiciaryMinistry of Internal AffairsMinistry of Social Welfare and Children’s Department |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Campaign for Good GovernanceWomens ForumUnited for HumanityAdvocAid Network Movement for Youth and Children WelfareRainbow CenterNational Committee on Gender-Based Violence (NacGBV)  |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) found that women and girls were subjected to systemic abuse during the conflict, such as torture, rape, sexual abuse, sexual slavery, trafficking, enslavement, abductions, amputations, forced pregnancy, forced labour, and detention. The TRC noted that due to discrimination, women suffer from low socio-economic status. This affects women’s personal security, inhibits their access to and participation in public decision-making bodies, and is a barrier to viable economic activities. Sadly this trend has continued in the post-war period. Currently data on sexual offences are partly found with the FSU and also with the Judiciary after prosecution. There is a need for a comprehensive data and approach to addressing this issue.The Family Support Unit (FSU) of the Sierra Leone Police, as part of the post-conflict reconstruction effort and reinstituting a human rights culture in Sierra Leone, is the Government’s focal institution mandated to deal with issues of Sexual and Gender-based Violence. However, despite the commitment shown by the leadership of the FSU, this unit is one of the most under-resourced within the Government. This lack of funding and weak human capacity has a trickledown effect on women and girls ability to access justice. As a result, perpetrators of sexual violence continue to commit crimes of sexual violence with utmost impunity. The lack of a forensic lab with trained and qualified technicians is also an impediment to achieving justice as many cases brought before the Court lack the required evidence. Furthermore, the lack of data and directory of convicted perpetrators provides protection of their identity, making it easier for them to migrate to other jurisdictions to commit the same crimes. It is evident from the current FSU Report that sexual violence crimes are on the increase especially for young girls under 18, while conviction rates remain extremely low. It is therefore incumbent on the Government of Sierra Leone to commit fully to protecting women and girls from sexual violence as stipulated in Pillar 8 of the Agenda for Prosperity which is the country’s development plan and the full implementation of the Sexual Offences Act 2012.  |
| Main objective | Eliminate Sexual Violence against Women and Girls in Sierra Leone |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | The SLP will publish data on sexual violence against women and girls, establish a forensic lab with trained and qualified personnel, develop a directory for all sexual violence convicts, and provide free health services for women affected by sexual violence in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | **Safer Communities**Dramatic decrease, Prevention and possible elimination of sexual violence against women and girls in Sierra Leone (Sexually related offences are scientifically proven. An increase in convictions of SGBV cases. A reduction in Sexual Abuses as convictions would serve as deterrence. A proper and speedy investigation of SGBV cases .Linking the actual perpetrator to the crime.Through comprehensive data collection and verification together with forensic evidence dramatic decrease, prevention possible elimination and accountability of sexual violence against women and girls in Sierra Leone.  |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | This commitment is relevant to:**Access to information**: Citizens will have access to information on the prevalence rates and conviction rates of sexual violence cases across the country.**Innovation/Technology**: The directory on predators and perpetuators of sexual violence against women and girls will be an innovative tool that will be available online as well as hardcopy. Considering that trust is a very big issue, a directory would be a possible deterrent to violators of sexual violence. The forensic lab will address the proper identification of criminals in a timely manner. **Accountability**: The evidence from the forensic lab will enhance justice for victims.  |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | The ambition is to create a safer community for women and children against sexual violence and to provide the environment for quick and speedy prosecution of perpetrators of sexual offences. Also, this commitment is geared towards reducing the barriers of access to medical reports on sexual violence cases.  |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Publish data on sexual violence issue on a half yearly basis  | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Develop the framework for the establishment of a forensic lab on gender base violence | July 2016 | December 2016 |
| Set up a forensic lab to fast track sexual violence cases | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Development of online directory of all sexual violence convicts and published on a half yearly basis. | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT TWO (2): FOREIGN AID TRANSPARENCY |
| THEME:  **Foreign Aid Transparency**  |
| Leading implementing agency | Ministry of Finance and Economic Development |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Kawusu Kebbay |
| Title, Department | Development Aid Coordination Office |
| Email | kawusukay@yahoo.co.uk |
| Phone | +232-76610968 |
|  Other actors involved | Government | DACO, Anti Corruption Commission |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Society for Democratic InitiativeBudget Advocacy NetworkNon State ActorFederationSLANGO INGO forum |
| **Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed** | A number of donor, INGO and NGOs do receive funds on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone to implement various activities geared towards providing service for the citizen. However, the citizens do not know the amount of resources and for what purpose these institutions receive funds on their behalf. Donors are funding different aid projects in Sierra Leone. Many of these projects are implemented unbeknownst to the government, which struggles to capture information about the diverse and competing initiatives in the country. |
| Main objective |  Increase transparency of aid for efficient and effective use of resources |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | Donor, NGO, INGO and CSOs will publish funds meant for the post Ebola recovery online and in an open data format. Also annual district meeting will be held for donors, INGO, NGOs and CSOs to disclose funds meant for that particular district and detailed activity level budget shared |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | * Improving public services
* Increasing public integrity
* More effective management of public resources
 |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: Citizens will have detail access to foreign aid resources meant for the post Ebola recovery**Public accountability**: Citizens will use the information on funds meant for post recovery to demand accountability for public service delivery in their respective district.**Technology and innovation**: the funds meant for the post Ebola recovery will be published on the open data portal. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | This commitment will help to bring about a bold shift in foreign aid transparency and will empower the citizen oversight to hold donors, INGOs, NGOs and CSOs accountable for the use of foreign aid.  |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| DACO to publish  details donor fund meant for the post Ebola recovery online according to the standard established by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and the on the open data portal  including activity level budget  | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| INGOs and NGOs to publish  details of donor funds meant for the post Ebola recovery online according to the standard established by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and the on the open data portal  including activity level budget  |  |  |  |
| Donor, INGOs and NGOs hold annual District public meetings to disclose fund meant for that particular district and for what purpose and detail activity-level budget shared. | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Donor publish all funds that go directly into the national budget according to the IATI Standard. | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT THREE (3): WASTE MANAGEMENT |
| THEME:  **WASTE MANAGEMENT**  |
| Leading implementing agency | Freetown City Council |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Mayor Franklyn B Gibson and Zainu Kpaka |
| Title, Department | Environment Department of the Council |
| Email | Madiesil8121@gmail.com |
| Phone | +232-77256168 |
| Other actors involved  | Government | Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Youth Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Road Maintenance Fund |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Masada Waste Management CompanyHealth Committee in Freetown City CouncilNational Youth CoalitionNetwork Movement for Youth and Children WelfareCampaign for Good Governance  |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | Continued filth in the city with no clear authority on which agency should take action on where waste should be deposited, collected and disposed of. |
| Main objective | Establish structures to address waste management issues in Freetown |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) |  The governance around waste management in the city is uncoordinated with lack of information on the roles of the various stakeholders. The resultant effect is continued filth posing a serious challenge for diseases such as malaria and cholera and the circumstances even worrying in the aftermath of Ebola. This situation has been persistent even when a private company MASADA has been contracted and operating for two years to clear the waste in the city and transform it to fertilizer and gas. Government of Sierra Leone is paying huge sums of money without citizens receiving the required services. As Sierra Leone moves to the Ebola recovery phase of its development planning process it becomes necessary that **a clear policy** around waste management is formulated in the city; detailing specific roles of key institutions, companies and players in order to ensure clear lines of accountability on the delivery of services.The commitment will ensure the development of **an implementation strategy** which will serve as a roll out plan with clear deliverables and timelines that will be made available to the public through education so that both citizens and Agencies will be clear on their duties and responsibilities |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing corporate accountabilityImproving Public servicesCreating safer communities |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: This commitment will increase access to information on the roles and responsibilities of relevant players including citizens on the management of waste as laid out in the designed policy and popularize in the implementation strategy**Technology and innovation**: The Company in Charge i.e. Masada be able to create the enabling environment to transform waste into fertilizers and gas**Citizens Engagement:** Regular Information and education to citizens on Waste disposal and education on “Keep the City Clean” |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | The vision of the Freetown City Council is to ensure that citizens’ welfare is paramount in all its actions. It is important that there is value for money spent by the government and council to ensure effective waste collection disposal and a clean and healthy city |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Review of existing Waste Management Contract and report on the effectiveness of the present Waste Management Process in the Freetown City Council | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Engage local communities/general public to determine a most effective way for Waste Collection through community meetings and media outreach programs involving Civil Society, Ward Development Committee and Tribal Authorities, Freetown residents and responsible agencies. | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Development of a Comprehensive Waste Management Policy and implementation strategy with Waste Management Authorities, Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Local Councils and private Company outlining clear roles and responsibilities. It should also include responsibility for Waste Management Company to transform waste  | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Popularize the new policy and implementation strategy at local communities and the national level | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Ministry of Health to train and Deploy 50 Sanitary officers in the City | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Create Citizens Education Programmes on “Keep the City Clean” theme. | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Conduct annual assessment of the effectiveness of the implementation of the new policy and implementation strategy for waste management | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT FOUR (4):FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN BUDGET |
| THEME:  **FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN BUDGET**  |
| Leading implementing agency | Ministry of Finance and Economic Development |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Idrissa Kanu and Mathew Dingie |
| Title, Department | Budget Bureau and Tax Policy and Revenue Department |
| Email | dingiemc@yahoo.co.uk, idrisskanu@gmail.com |
| Phone | +232-78342843 and +232-76-788413 |
| Other actors involved  | Government | Ministry of Finance and Economic DevelopmentNational Revenue AuthorityAnti-Corruption Commission International Budget Partnership |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | * Transparency International
* Citizen Budget Watch
* Budget Advocacy Network
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| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | If you want to fight poverty, you need to care about budgets. They are the government’s most powerful tool to meet the needs and priorities of a country and its people. Public budgets are the blueprints on how the government will raise and spend the public funds needed for the policies and programs that will translate its priorities into action. There is no feedback mechanism from the budget discussion process to know the extent to which citizen inputs are incorporated or not in the budget, and improvements must be made in communicating the budget statements and other related information through accessible media. Tax exemption granted by the government are a major reason for Sierra Leone’s low tax revenues. Some of the tax exemptions granted are not utilized for the purpose they are granted and as such the country loses twice. Information around tax exemption is not published which would have helped citizens to monitor the use of these exemptions. |
| Main objective | To make budget data (Pre-budget statement and Mid-year report), Parliament audit committee reports and tax exemptions publicly available and increase citizen participation in the budget process. |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | This commitment is geared towards the government publishing the pre-budget and mid review budget and also publish all tax exemptions in an open data format. In addition it will provide feedback mechanism to citizens on their inputs into the budget. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | This commitment will address more effective management of public resources and will also increase corporate accountability in Sierra Leone. |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | This commitment is relevant to:**Access to information**: Citizens will have access to budget and tax exemption information in an open data format.**Public accountability**: Government will account for all tax exemption granted. Citizens will also use the published information to hold government accountable.**Civic Participation**: The feedback mechanism will engender public participation in the budget discussion process. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | This commitment will allow the electorate and financial markets accurately assess the government’s financial position and the true costs and benefits of government activities, including their present and future economic and social implications. Disclosure of fiscal information reduces market risk and asymmetries of information allowing markets to function more efficiently. By enabling accountability for public spending, fiscal transparency can also reduce fiduciary risks and improve efficiency and effectiveness of public spending. Analyses have shown that countries whose public finances are more transparent have better fiscal discipline, a lower perceived level of corruption, better credit ratings and lower public sector borrowing costs.It will also increase the Sierra Leone Open Budget Index score, hence increasing the credibility and openness of the government at international level.In addition, CSOs can also use the published information in an open data format to do further analysis and hence provide policy alternatives and also hold government accountable. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestone to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Publish, in a timely manner, the budget reports each budget year: the MTEF and a mid-year review as these two reports are still not yet published by the Government of Sierra Leone. ( Pre- budget for 2017 and 2018 and mid-year review budget for 2016, 2017 and 2018) | NEW | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| In line with the Public Financial Management Act 2016, publish all tax exemptions, on a half yearly basis starting 2016 in government website.*This should include an estimate of the total amount of revenue losses attributable to all tax exemptions, the amount of revenue losses attributable to* *tax exemptions divided by the various revenue streams, the amount of revenue losses attributable to tax exemptions from various sectors, both public and private, the amount of revenue losses attributable to tax exemptions to 20 of the largest investors, divided by company.** *Exemptions granted from January to June 2016 published latest September ending 2016*
* *Exemptions granted from July to December 2016 published latest March ending 2017*
* *Exemptions granted from January to June 2017 published latest September ending 2017*
* *Exemption granted from July to December 2017 published latest March ending 2018*
 | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Publish Budget data (a pre-budget statement; the executive’s budget proposal; the enacted budget; a citizens budget; in-year reports on revenues collected, expenditures made and debt incurred; a mid-year review; year-end report; and audit reports) online, in machine-readable formats.  | July 2016  | June 2018 |
| Provide and publish the detailed feedback on how public perceptions have been captured and taken into account on the budget discussion process during the formation stage. | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT FIVE (5): AUDIT REPORTS |
| **THEME: AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT** |
| Leading implementing agency | Audit Service Sierra Leone |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Abdul Aziz |
| Title, Department | Audit Service Sierra Leone |
| Email | Abdul.aziz@auditservice.gov.sl |
| Phone | +232-76611813 |
|  Other actors involved | Government | MOFED, MOHS, MEST, MHWI, MAFFS and PMSD, ACC |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Budget Advocacy Network Transparency InternationalYouth CoalitionEducation for AllNetwork Movement for Justice and Development |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | Majority of the recommendations of the Auditor General's report were not implemented and public officials most times go unpunished resulting in the loss of government resources which would have been used to provide services for the people of Sierra Leone. Also, the report of the PAC on the Auditor General’s report is not made available online.  |
| Main objective | Increase compliance with audit measures to improve transparency and accountability in public resource spending |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | This commitment seeks to improve compliance with procurement related recommendations from the Audit Service and the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee report published online. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | More effective management of public resourcesImproving public service deliveryIncreasing public integrity |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: Citizens will have access to PAC report on the Auditor General's report online and also the status of implementation of the procurement related recommendations**Accountability**: MDAs will account for their stewardship in the use of public resources for public procurement.  |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | MDAs implement procurement related recommendation since around 75% of government budget goes into procurement. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
|  3 MDAs (MOHS, MHWI and MOFED) implement 50% of procurement related recommendation of the Auditor General’s reports 2014 and 2015 and the Audit Service publish the status of the recommendation in their audit report. | ongoing | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| MDAs to develop action plans to show how they are going to implement the recommendation and these plans are to be published. Each plan should be submitted together with the progress report on the implementation of the recommendation of the 2014 Auditor General's report. | ongoing | July 2016 | September 2016 |
| 50% of the special procurement audit reports conducted by the Audit Service Sierra Leone for 2015 implemented by MEST and MAFFS | ongoing | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Publish the reports of the 2014 and 2015 Parliamentary Audit Committees online  | ongoing | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT SIX (6): CLIMATE CHANGE |
| **THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE** |
| Leading implementing agency | Environment Protection Agency |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | *Abdul Bakarr Salim* |
| Title, Department | *Climate Change Secretariat,* |
| Email | abdul\_salim007@yahoo.co.uk |
| Phone | *+232- 78-363989* |
| Other actors involved   | Government | Meteorological DepartmentMinistry of Transport and Aviation, Water resources, Marine, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs, Mines, Tourism, Energy |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Civil Society Advocacy Network on Climate Change and Environment - Sierra LeoneFederation |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | Citizens do not have access to climate change information and are not part of the process in developing climate change policy and data. |
| Main objective | Providing user-friendly data and information regarding climate-related action. |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | This commitment is geared towards empowering the citizen with climate change information in an open data format and also track the policy implementation on gas targets, renewable energy, and forest restoration, clean mobility, green buildings, and other policy goals and targets. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | Safer communities. |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: Citizens will have access to climate change information including early warning in an open data format.**Civic participation**: The early warning information in open data formats and web-based would help educate, empower and engage all stakeholders about climate change issues.**Technology and innovation**: The user friendly public tool to track policy implementation. This will be tracked through a central database that showcases progress on commitments. Furthermore, a web base will be used to publish climate change information in an open data format. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | This commitment will track climate change policy implementation and will empower the citizens with climate change information which they can use for early warning purpose and for further analysis. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Creating a user friendly public tool to track policy implementation with critical milestones in specific sectors. Country and national actors could commit to track policies through a central database that showcases progress on commitments, including toward specific greenhouse gas targets, renewable energy, and forest restoration, clean mobility, green buildings, and other policy goals and targets. Making use of MRV (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification) systems.* Public consultation with MDAs, CSOs and local councils on how to develop monitoring tools (4 consultations)
* System Investigation and design to identify measurable indicators and show the information flow.
* Desk Review of relevant data from the various sectors.
* Generate report from the monitoring, reporting and verification system on half yearly basis.
* Undertake yearly climate change greenhouse gas inventory
 | New | July 2016January 2017May 2017July 2016 | December 2016April 2017July 2017June 2018 |
| Providing adequate and relevant climate information to the public at the policy and project levels (reactively and proactively) with a focus on usability, accessibility and publicity.* Awareness raising activities on climate change impact through the media and stakeholders ( radio monthly and TV quarterly)
* Development of quarterly newsletter and brochures on specific climate-related and thematic-related
* Simplify the format of relevant climate change documents such as the climate change policy and the national climate change strategy and action plan disseminated to the public
* Providing web based information on climate data working closely with the Department of Meteorology, Ministry of Transportation and Aviation (half yearly)
 |  | January 2017 | June 2017 |
| iii. Making use of the early warning project supported by GEF and implemented by UNDP to release information or datasets in open data formats and web-based to meet the requirements of the Doha Plan of Action that would help educate, empower and engage all stakeholders. * Collaboration with the relevant MDAs, CBOs, CSOs and other NGOs to develop the relevant tools required to raise awareness and promote environmental education
* Desk review of the information provided and system analysis
* Development of web based platform and making the platform public
* Call for proposal for GEF small grant projects to raise awareness by CSOs for climate change
 |  | July 2016October 2016January 2017 July 2016 | September 2016December 2016December 2017December 2016 |

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| COMMITMENT SEVEN (7): ELECTIONS |
| **THEME: ELECTIONS** |
| Leading implementing agency | National Electoral Commission (NEC) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Albert Massaquoi |
| Title, Department | Education and Outreach |
| Email | necexternalrelations@gmail.com  |
| Phone | +232-76647569 |
|  Other actors involved | Government | National Registration Secretariat, Ministry of Internal Affairs |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | National Election Watch NEW Campaign for Good Governance (CGG) Youth Coalition, Women's ForumSociety for Democratic |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | Currently, and boundary limitation are not published online and in an open data format. As Sierra Leone plans for the fourth post-conflict elections in 2017/18 it becomes necessary to digitize access to elections related information so as to allow citizens access and promote a level playing field for all players. The publishing of boundary delimitation data allows for scrutiny and review at the individual political level and makes for substantial savings, better data discovery and data reuse. More importantly it fosters credible and free and transparent elections.  |
| Main objective | Promote transparency and accountability in the management of elections.  |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) |  This commitment will promote transparency and accountability in the management of elections by making available constituency and boundary information in electronic format online. It will also improve the transmission of election results through technology and making them available online in open data format. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrityCreating safer communities |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: This commitment will increase access to information on boundary limitation and hence increase transparency in the management of public elections in Sierra Leone.**Technology and innovation**: The transmission of elections result will be posted online on NEC website and in an open data format. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | The vision is for NEC to make available boundary and constituency data and the transmission of the election results online in an open data format.Publishing election results in a consistent way will assist those who need to quickly understand the political landscape after an election and encourages other third parties to do analysis services to help to inform the public faster about the overarching outcome from elections. It will also promote wider engagement and outreach with innovative application development and scrutiny by the electorate.It is our aim that by 2018, all election results will be reported digitally using a standard, machine-readable and open standard. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Promote transparency and accountability in the management of elections by making available 1. constituency and boundary information in electronic format online,

 (ii) improving the transmission of election results through technology and making them available online in open data format | New | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT EIGHT (8): RECORD ARCHIVE MANAGEMENT |
| **THEME: RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT** |
| Leading implementing agency | Ministry of Information and Communications |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Mr. Paul Sandy |
| Title, Department | Permanent Secretary |
| Email | pmsandy@yahoo.com |
| Phone | +232 76 613504 |
|  Other actors involved | Government | Public Sector Reform Unit |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Muniru Kawa, Independent Consultant +232 76 539718 Society for Knowledge ManagementSociety for Democratic InitiativesFederations |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | The Public Archives Act is an essential step in ensuring effective implementation of the Right to Access Information Act. Without proper records management systems of key government documents, they cannot be publicly disclosed. Effective records management is also important for accountable and transparent operation of public institutions. |
| Main objective | To complete the passage of the National Records and Archives Bill in 2016, and to harmonize policies and procedures for managing digital records with the Right to Access Information law and the open data portal. |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | This commitment is geared towards ensuring that Sierra Leone has a law on Archives and Records management which will support the implementation of the Right to Access Information. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | * Increasing public integrity
* More effective management of public resources
* Innovation and Technology
 |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Access to information**: The passing of the Archives and Records Management Law will support the implementation of the right to access information law. **Public Accountability**: When there is a law that makes it mandatory for public officials to keep public documents, citizen will use it to hold public officials accountable especially when the records relate to service delivery.**Technology and innovation**: The assessment of digital records in the government agencies to determine what exists and to develop structures for coordinating, capturing, preserving and sharing these records will set the pace for accessing digital records. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | This commitment will support the implementation of the Right to Access Information Act in a bid to improve public transparency. It will also support the fight against corruption  |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Drafting of the Record Management Act | Ongoing | July 2016 | Sept 2016 |
| Publishing of the Bill online in government website  | Ongoing | Sept 2016  | Nov 2016 |
| Tabling of the Record Management Bill in Parliament | Ongoing | Dec 2016 | March 2017  |
| Parliament debate and pass the Record Management bill into law  | Ongoing | March 2017 | December 2017 |
| Begin the process of harmonizing laws, policies and procedures across the functional areas, ensuring that the coordinating body has an ongoing role in supporting harmonization.  | New | July 2016 |  December 2017 |
| Carry out an assessment of digital records in the government agencies, including Statistics Sierra Leone, National Electoral Commission and the National Registration Secretariat, to determine what exists and to develop structures for coordinating, capturing, preserving and sharing these records.  | New | July 2016 | December 2017 |
| Carry out consultations on the harmonization and assessment with civil society organizations and local communities within existing structures for local governance. | New | July 2016 | December 2017 |

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| COMMITMENT NINE (9): ACCESS TO JUSTICE |
| **THEME: ACCESS TO JUSTICE** |
| Leading implementing agency | Sierra Leone Police |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Steven Yayah Mansaray and Al Shek Kamara |
| Title, Department | Office of the Master and Registrar and Sierra Leone Police |
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| Phone | +232-76613893+232-269616 |
| Other actors involved  | Government | Office of the Master and Registrar and Sierra Leone Police |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | Campaign for Good Governance Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law Society for Democratic Initiative |
| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | The citizens do not have access to information on court cases and there are certain cases which require mediation and can be settled out of court. |
| Main objective | Increase transparency in case management and establish structures at the local level to improve access to justice |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | Local structures will be established to address justice issues and government will publish on a quarterly basis updates on all cases starting July 2016 |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | **Safer communities** |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | **Transparency**: Citizens will have access to updates on court cases. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | Empower citizens with court information to build their trust and confidence and reduce the number of cases that go to court. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| Activate child mediation panels with stakeholders in all the Nineteen (19) local councils | NEW | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Have pictures and finger print evidence for offenders | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Quarterly publication of all cases that go through the justice system  | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| Setting mediation panels in all police stations | July 2016 | June 2018 |

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| COMMITMENT 10: OPEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CONTRACTING |
| **THEME: OPENING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CONTRACTING** |
| Leading implementing agency | National Public Procurement Authority |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Mr. Mohamed J. Musa |
| Title, Department | National Public Procurement Authority |
| Email | kiniemusa@yahoo.com |
| Phone | +232-76665929 |
| Other actors involved  | Government | Office of the PresidentLine MinistriesAnti-Corruption Commission |
| CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals | * Transparency International
* Open Contracting Partnership
* Society for Democratic initiative
* Budget Advocacy Network
* Network Movement for Justice and Development
* Education for All
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| Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed | This commitment addresses corruption and misuse of government funds, inefficiency, ineffectiveness, and lack of opportunities for businesses in public procurement and public expenditure. |
| Main objective | The main objective is to improve accountability of procurement management in Sierra Leone. |
| Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit) | The government will improve citizen and business access to open, timely, and credible information about public procurement and promote their engagement in monitoring public procurement processes. |
| OGP challenge addressed by the commitment | Open contracting addresses three of the main challenges by the OGP: Improving public services, increasing public integrity, and managing public resources more effectively. |
| ***Relevance*** *Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf* | This commitment is relevant to:**Access to information**: Accessing public information about how contracts are negotiated, what has been contracted for, how they are being performed, and who is responsible in a single portal and in standardized and machine readable format, will enable citizens to monitor public contracts.**Public accountability**: It is increasingly recognized that CSOs will use the published information to hold MDAs accountable. |
| ***Ambition****Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.*  | The concept of open contracting is emerging as a strategy to increase contract transparency and monitoring, with major expected benefits in terms of quality of governance, better value for money, reduced corruption, increased service delivery and better development outcomes. When procurement information is made public, citizens will use it to ask questions and hence demand accountability and transparency on how public resources are used to provide services through procurement processes. |
| **Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment**  | **New or ongoing commitment**  | **Start Date:** | **End Date:**  |
| * Publish on yearly basis all contracts entered into by Government above the threshold for the preceding year:
	+ 2015
	+ 2016
 | NEW | July 2016July 2017 | June 2017June 2018 |
| * 8 Ministries (MOFED, MAFFS, MOHS, MEST, MMR, MWHI, MOE, MTA ) will proactively publish on NPPA websites contracts entered into with private contractors above the threshold on regular basis ( Contract entered between January to December of each year from 2016 to 2018 ).
 | July 2016 | June 2018 |
| * A forum comprised of public officials, civil society leaders and National Public Procurement Authority to promote open contracting will be established
 | July 2016 | June 2018 |