



Sierra Leone Government

Strategy for the Development of a Climate Change Abatement Economy: Introducing and Implementing REDD/REDD+ in Sierra Leone

Concept Note

10

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July 2010

List of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
Introduction.....	6
The Vision for Sierra Leone’s REDD Programme.....	7
Sierra Leone’s Strengths.....	8
Sierra Leone’s Challenges.....	8
Strategic Goals.....	9
Critical Next Steps for the Implementation of the REDD Programme.....	10
Annexes.....	11
Annex I: Stakeholders met during mission.....	11
Annex II: Potential forest areas for consideration.....	13
Annex III: Important areas for wildlife conservation and development of eco-tourism.....	15
Annex IV: Proposal for the establishment of the National Secretariat for Climate Change.....	16
Annex V: Organizational structure of the NSCC.....	19
Annex VI: Notes on the implementation budget of the REDD Programme and the NSCC.....	20
Acronyms.....	21
Contact details.....	22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Forest carbon credits otherwise known as REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries) is the foundation of the strategy and main tool with which the climate change abatement economy will be accomplished.
2. The government of Sierra Leone must set up an anti-deforestation task force that must vigorously work to control illegal logging and other drivers of deforestation to achieve a sustainable outcome of the on-going ban on timber logging and export.
3. Sierra Leone having reached a turning point in the management of her forest and biodiversity resources envisages a vision of transformative development that harnesses the country's forest and other biodiversity resources in a sustainable climate change abatement manner and proposes the establishment of permanent institutional, business, legal and policy frameworks – the National Climate Change Secretariat (NCCS) or National Secretariat for Climate Change (NSCC) - for the realization of the vision.
4. **The Vision for Sierra Leone's REDD+ Programme** is for Sierra Leone to have the following:
 - 2.5 million hectares of forest lands developed and managed, within the next 10 years, for climate change abatement activities including carbon, non-timber forest products, sustainable tree crops and ecotourism;
 - a wide spread practice of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in all forested districts or communities;
 - a Forest Industries Corporation (FIC) and an Anti-deforestation Task Force of over 2000 foresters, including rangers and community forest workers; and,
 - to generate a revenue of more than US\$ 100 m per annum.
5. **Sierra Leone's strengths**
 - Extremely high political will, support and leadership of the Koroma administration;
 - Sierra Leone is in a strong position to develop a sustainable PES economy. Significant amount of high carbon habitat: natural tropical high forest or rain forest, secondary forest, farm bush, woodlands, swamp forest, mangrove forest, abandoned tree-crop plantations and preserved and degraded forest reserves;
 - Strong potential of community involvement in the forestry sector – a fertile soil for the growth of participatory forest management (PFM) and the REDD+ programme;
5. **Sierra Leone's challenges**
 - No district/provincial and/or national level REDD carbon institutional framework/architecture in place (e.g. the NSCC, including the National Registry for REDD and non-REDD carbon);
 - Local district council vs. national ownership of carbon potential within the devolved functions of government; and
 - Low institutional capacity at national/district and site levels.

6. Three main strategic goals or objectives are identified for the realization of the REDD Programme:

Goal 1: National government institutions are engaged and preparing a national institutional and legal framework for REDD and other PES implementation.

Goal 2: National level institutional and legal environment is welcoming and prepared to handle nation-wide REDD and other PES initiatives.

Goal 3: At least three integrated REDD/PES pilots are developed all over Sierra Leone for early learning.

7. Critical next steps for immediate implementation of the REDD programme

- Finalization of the Technical Adviser's new role as lead implementer of the National REDD/REDD+ Programme of Sierra Leone: Appropriate designation, including the definition of emolument/terms and conditions of service, official appointment, and placement in an appropriate proxy ministry/department until the new institutional framework is set up. **It is hereby advised that a "money-making-machine" like this (i.e. the proposed NSCC) be located in the Presidential Affairs Ministry and under the watchful eyes of the President and/or the Vice President and an inter-ministerial, department and agency (Inter-MDA) board. This will to a greater extent help in building credibility for both the institution and the nation and generate the requisite impetus for growth and development;**
 - Review, revision and broad endorsement of the concept note;
 - Preparation of the REDD Preparedness Plan (R-PP);
 - High level discussions with key players in Freetown including Ministries of Environment, Lands and Country Planning, Energy and Water Resources, Forestry, Agriculture and Food Security, Finance and Economic Development, Trade and Industry, Local Government, Justice (Attorney General's Office), Transport and Aviation, Tourism, National Climate Change Unit, SLEPA, National Revenues Authority (NRA), National Security Office (NSO), Sierra Leone Police/Inspector General, Information and Communication, Steering Committee on Climate Change – House of Parliament (if any), Secretary to the President, Secretary to Government or Cabinet of Sierra Leone and representatives of our development partners (EU, FAO, UNDP, WB, etc.);
 - Presentation of Sierra Leone's REDD vision/plan, initially, to the President of Sierra Leone and later to Cabinet and/or Parliament for approval;
 - Engagement of nation-wide stakeholders to ensure broad endorsement and buy-in to the concept;
 - Enactment of legislation for the establishment of the National Secretariat for Climate Change (i.e. including the forest carbon secretariat or national registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon);
 - Establishment of the National Secretariat for Climate Change and recruitment of initial personnel (provided government funding is available. Otherwise, this point becomes the final item on this list);
 - Expansion of concept into full proposal; and,
 - Secure financial resources to begin implementation (Please note that the EU and the World Bank have already reacted to our proposal on the way forward to the CA and

the establishment of the NSCC, including the preparation of a REDD Preparedness Plan , with a pledge of Euro 4 million and US \$ 200 K, respectively. This concept note and the response of government to it will in effect facilitate the release of these funds).

7. National Secretariat for Climate Change (including Forest and non-Forest Carbon Secretariat or National Registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon)

It is proposed that Sierra Leone establish a permanent National Secretariat for Climate Change, including a Forest and non-forest Carbon Secretariat (i.e. a national registry for REDD and non-REDD carbon) – NSCC - in the Office of the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone. The Secretariat will be advised and guided by a Climate Change and Forest and non-Forest Carbon technical working committee with the following composition:

- Sierra Leone Government agencies, including SLEPA - 5 reps
- Community forestry groups - 2 reps
- Government agencies: Forestry Division/ Agriculture, Environment/SLEPA, Finance, Local Government, Trade and Industry, Tourism, Transport and Aviation.
- Academia and Research Institutions: University of Sierra Leone (FBC and NU), Institutions of higher education in forested areas, SLARI, Climate Change Unit, etc.
- National Registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon;

Key functions of the NSCC or NCCS will include the following:

- Provision of guidance, direction and regulation on Climate Change (CC) and Carbon Trading (CT) issues in Sierra Leone;
- Registration of all carbon trading projects and transactions in Sierra Leone;
- Approval or authorization of all carbon trading projects in Sierra Leone;
- Advice government and stakeholders on climate change and carbon financing related issues;
- Sponsor [or represent external sponsors], formulate, review and own national climate change and carbon policy;
- Raise nation-wide awareness in climate change and carbon financing matters (i.e. capacity building for forested communities and decision makers in central and local governments).
- Please note that Carbon Trading will also cover transactions for all capped emissions resulting from the use of solar panels used for street lights and other renewable and energy efficient projects.

8. The Proposed Budget for the three years implementation plan

A comprehensive budget has been packaged for a three years implementation period starting with the next critical steps which should cost us about (six hundred thousand US dollars (US\$ 600 K) in year one. The entire three years budget is for approximately three million seven hundred US dollars (US\$ 3.7 m). Please see notes to the full budget attached to the annex.

It is recommended that government funds the initial phase of this programme while funding from other sources is being sought.

1. Introduction/Context

Sierra Leone is reported to have had about half of her total land area under moist tropical lowland forests in the 1500s. The country is also reported to have very unique species that characterize the Upper Guinea ecosystem but with a few locally endemic species found nowhere else on earth.¹ However, 85 percent of the country's natural rainforests have been lost as a result of the influence of various drivers of deforestation such as illegal logging, legal logging for export, expansion for resettlement, agriculture and wild fires; all of which have contributed to Sierra Leone's high deforestation rate of 1.6% in the region – 0.4% short of Nigeria's 2% deforestation rate.² A very recent assessment of deforestation rate by the Forestry Division of the MAFFS indicates a 2.9% national deforestation rate (i.e. 33,000 km² loss of forest cover per annum).³ The civil war that lasted for 10 years in the country could have also had its own toll on our biodiversity as a result of the breakdown in law and order, disruption of conservation schemes, mass movement of people into the forest both as a guerrilla warfare strategy and as sanctuary from the rebels. This notwithstanding, the forest cover in some parts of the country (Outamba Kilimi, Loma Mountains, including the Bintumani, which still remains pristine and breath-taking, Kangari Hills, Kambuyi Hills and Youri Bay) remains very impressive. Some other areas where the forest cover equally remains impressive have also been recently inundated with water in a bid to create a reservoir for hydropower generation (e.g. Bumbuna, in the Northern Province). The country has in excess of 257,000 ha of Tropical Rain/Closed High Forest with additional areas of open/secondary forest, forest re-growth (Farm Bush), savannah woodlands, coastal woodlands, mangrove/swamp forest, tree crop plantations (Rubber) – giving a total forested land coverage of 5,980,300 ha excluding cocoa, coffee and other tree-crop plantations in the country.

Since mid last year the government realised that urgent action must be taken to curb illegal logging and reduce the rate of deforestation in order to avoid a crisis. It embarked on a review of the forestry policy and this action led to the introduction of a ban on all logging and export of timber for an indefinite period in January 2010 – although it was later lifted to allow for domestic consumption of timber only. This was a tacit response to a looming crisis but if the government wants to achieve a sustainable outcome from the current ban, it must set up an anti-deforestation task force that must vigorously work to control illegal timber harvesting and other drivers of deforestation in the country. Furthermore, the government must commit significant human and financial resources in support of the task force to underpin its courageous and decisive leadership that is likely to create a window of opportunity, throughout the tenure of the ban, to make tangible and constructive progress in the sustainable management of our forest/biodiversity resources.

In recent decades, as the issue of climate change continues to receive greater international attention, there has been a corresponding growth in the movement for PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) as a financing mechanism for conserving the world's tropical forests. One

¹ Chris B. Squire. 2001. *Sierra Leone's Biodiversity and the Civil War: A Case Study Prepared for the Biodiversity Support Program*. Washington, D.C.: Biodiversity Support Program.

² FAO, 2007. Deforestation rates for the West African region.

³ Personal communication, 2010. Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS), Sierra Leone Government.

of the key recommendations of the Stern report (2007) was that protection of the world's forests would be the most cost effective means of addressing climate change from the increased concentrations of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere.⁴ This makes sense given that over 20% of CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere come from the clearance of the world's forests.

This has resulted in the growth of a new range of PES opportunities for forested countries including payments for:

- Forest carbon credits otherwise known as REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries);
- Biodiversity offsets;
- Watershed protection services; and,
- Eco-tourism and other PES transactions.

Sierra Leone has reached a turning point in the management of her forest and biodiversity resources. Given the government's bold decision to place an indefinite moratorium on logging and export of timber [and possibly the establishment of an anti-logging task force to bring illegal logging under control] -- the question now is *what comes next?* How can this vision of transformative development harnessing the country's forest and other biodiversity resources in a sustainable climate change abatement manner be achieved?

In this context, two teams, John Mason (NCRC) and Professor Yervinder Malhi (Oxford University), and John Frazer-Stewart (World Bank) and Henrique Pereira (World Bank) were invited to assess the PES potential, conduct stocktaking and compile an inventory of the forests, of Sierra Leone, respectively. Backup support was also provided to these teams by staffs from the MAFFS (Peter S. Turay and Sheku Mansaray) and MEWR (Abdulai Barrie and Abdulai Jalloh). During the course of their missions, the two teams (Mason, Malhi, Pereira, Barrie and Turay) held two workshops, visited a wide range of state and community level stakeholders in Freetown and selected communities and a number of forested areas across the country. The results of the workshops and visits indicate that the PES potential of Sierra Leone appears to be very considerable. The report on the inventory of our forests is currently being prepared by Henrique Pereira in the World Bank in Washington. This concept note is a next step in articulating a long-term vision for Sierra Leone's REDD+ programme.

2. The Vision for Sierra Leone's REDD+ Programme

The vision is for Sierra Leone to:

1. have 2.5 million hectares of forest lands developed and managed, within the next 10 years, for climate change abatement activities including carbon, non-timber forest products, sustainable tree crops and ecotourism;
2. generate a minimum of US \$ 100 million per annum as additional revenue into the country's economy;
3. have a wide spread practice of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in all forested districts or communities; and,

⁴ Stern, N. (2007). The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review. UK Cabinet Office, HM treasury; Cambridge Publ. ISBN-13 : 9780521700801

4. develop a minimum of 30 community-based forest management organisations over the next 3 years and form the Forest Industries Corporation (FIC), which has the potential to eliminate illegal power saw operators and subsequently illegal logging, before then.

3. What are Sierra Leone's strengths?

Sierra Leone is in a strong position to develop a sustainable PES economy. Some of these strengths include:

- Extremely high degree of political will, support and leadership of the Koroma administration;
- Significant amount of high carbon habitat: natural tropical high forest or rain forest, secondary forest, farm bush, woodlands, swamp forest, mangrove forest, abandoned tree-crop plantations and preserved and degraded forest reserves;
- High degree of biodiversity, even after the war, including internationally charismatic species dependent on critical habitat;
- Strong potential of community involvement in the forestry sector – a fertile soil for the growth of participatory forest management (PFM) and the REDD+ programme;
- Significant documented NTFP potential and simple operating systems for sustainable harvesting of certain products;
- Significant tree crop farming including cocoa, coffee and rubber farms;
- Excellent ecotourism potential and some existing tourism investments operating in the country;
- Preliminary expressions of interest and a large potential client base for purchase of future credits as developed in Sierra Leone; and,
- Sierra Leone recognizes forestry as a climate change issue in her international UNFCCC negotiation process; and, very strongly intervened for the inclusion of REDD into the Kyoto Protocol and, subsequently into, the CDM.

4. What are Sierra Leone's challenges?

If Sierra Leone is to move forward with the vision outlined above, the nation faces a number of significant challenges that include the following:

- No district/provincial and/or national level REDD carbon institutional framework/architecture in place (e.g. the NSCC, including the National Registry for REDD and non-REDD carbon);
- Some legislators (members of parliament) and unscrupulous international and local businessmen/businesses have already started cashing into the programme without the consent of government; thus posing a threat to national interest as the country could be disqualified for “double counting”, lack of transparency/credibility and other defaulting factors;
- Uncertainty exists on legal tenure of land and related carbon rights in some cases (not all);
- Absence of appropriate national level legislation for carbon (but this could be overlooked for the time being while capacity and experience are being acquired);
- Local district council vs. national ownership of carbon potential within the devolved functions of government;
- Low budgets to environment at national and districts/provincial levels;

- Low awareness of REDD/PES potential at national, provincial, district and site levels (e.g. our legislators, top public servants, private sector leaders and others need to be enlightened on this subject);
- Low institutional capacity at national/district and site levels;
- Ineffective tourism strategies to date and limited community involvement in ecotourism development;
- Significant gaps in documentation and plans for sustainable NTFP harvesting and marketing;
- Need to set up mechanisms for equitable distribution of benefits in the benefit shearing schemes;
- Significant need to build capacity in land-use planning and carbon accounting;
- Significant need to strengthen capacities in financial budgeting, accounting, fiscal management and other aspects of financial governance – i.e. Financial monitoring, reporting and verification (F-MRV) capacity building as part of REDD readiness for effective management of REDD financial flows from Annex-1 countries or the global climate change fund; and, finally,
- Significant need for funding by the international community to finance F-MRV capacity building and the setting up of the institutional, business, legal and policy framework for the implementation of REDD/REDD+ in Sierra Leone.

5. Strategic Goals

Goal 1: National government institutions are engaged and preparing a national institutional and legal framework for REDD and other PES implementation.

- Conduct a national legal and institutional review for REDD initiatives;
- Catalyze national level engagement on the implementation of REDD/REDD+ (e.g. Hold international Carbon workshop in Sierra Leone and engage all local and international stakeholders);
- REDD Readiness process with international institutions (already in progress with the WB, NCRC, KG, Forest Trends – US, and Oxford University – UK); and,
- Consensuses on climate change strategies achieved among Forested districts of Sierra Leone and communicated to the national REDD process and the international community.

Goal 2: National level institutional and legal environment is welcoming and prepared to handle nation-wide REDD and other PES initiatives.

- Assessment of drivers of deforestation and degradation conducted and response strategies agreed (this could be achieved through the establishment of an anti-deforestation task force);
- Forest cover and carbon mapping for state completed (the World Bank has already started this process for us. An interim report is soon to be produced);
- Requisite institutional structures for REDD and PES outlined and put in place;
- National level legislation for REDD and PES passed;
- National level NTFP gaps study and comprehensive sustainable development strategy completed;
- National level ecotourism review and CBE plan completed;

- National level benefit sharing mechanism outlined to ensure adequate returns to rural communities, government and other stakeholders;
- Nation-wide awareness campaign on CC economy started;
- Engagement with potential buyers of generated carbon credits and private sector brokers (already in progress with a few interested parties); and,
- Development of a financing plan.

Goal 3: At least three integrated REDD/PES pilots are developed all over Sierra Leone for early learning

- Feasibility study at 3 to 5 pilot sites within Sierra Leone conducted [one already completed for the Bumbuna Watershed Protection (REDD+) project];
- Identification of potential baseline and methodological approaches for each pilot site;
- Boundary definition of each pilot site; and
- Review and structuring of institutional arrangements at each pilot site.

6. What are the critical next steps?

The following is a list of critical steps in the coming days/weeks or months in order to move this process forward:

- Finalization of the Technical Adviser's new role as lead implementer of the National REDD/REDD+ Programme of Sierra Leone: Appropriate designation, including the definition of emolument/terms and conditions of service, official appointment and placement in an appropriate proxy ministry/department until the new institutional framework is set up. **It is hereby advised that a "money-making-machine" like this (i.e. the proposed NSCC) be located in the Presidential Affairs Ministry and under the watchful eyes of the President and/or the Vice President. This will to a greater extent help in building credibility for both the institution and the nation and generate the requisite impetus for growth and development;**
- Review, revision and broad endorsement of this concept note;
- Preparation of the REDD Preparedness Plan (R-PP);
- High level discussions with key players in Freetown including Ministries of Environment, Lands and Country Planning, Energy and Water Resources, Forestry, Agriculture and Food Security, Finance and Economic Development, Trade and Industry, Local Government, Justice (Attorney General's Office), Transport and Aviation, Tourism, National Climate Change Unit, SLEPA, National Revenues Authority (NRA), National Security Office (NSO), Sierra Leone Police/Inspector General, Information and Communication, Steering Committee on Climate Change – House of Parliament (if any), Secretary to the President, Secretary to Government or Cabinet of Sierra Leone and representatives of our development partners (EU, FAO, UNDP, WB, etc.);
- Meeting of Council Chairmen and Paramount Chiefs from Forested districts to develop common position on Climate Change Abatement Economy (We agreed on this strategy in the COP15, in Copenhagen last year, under responsible governance, to gain favour from major opponents to REDD/REDD+. Therefore, this will help boost our governance record internationally);

- Presentation of Sierra Leone's REDD vision/plan to the Katoomba Group (KG) and research and academic institutions of Sierra Leone for peer review;
- Presentation of Sierra Leone's REDD vision/plan, initially, to the President of Sierra Leone and later to Cabinet and/or Parliament for approval;
- Engagement of nation-wide stakeholders to ensure broad endorsement and buy-in to the concept;
- Enactment of legislation for the establishment of the National Secretariat for Climate Change (i.e. including the forest carbon secretariat or national registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon);
- Establishment of the National Secretariat for Climate Change and recruitment of initial personnel (provided government funding is available. Otherwise, this point becomes the final item on this list);
- Expansion of concept into full proposal; and,
- Secure financial resources to begin implementation (Please note that the World Bank has already reacted to our proposal on the way forward to the CA and the establishment of the NSCC, including the preparation of a REDD Preparedness Plan, with a pledge of US \$ 200 K while the EU has set aside the sum of Euro 4 m for the capacity building of SLEPA – a fund from which this programme could probably benefit. This concept note, and the response of government and donor organizations to it, will in effect facilitate the release of these funds).

Annexes

Annex I: Stakeholders met during mission

National level stakeholders met with:

- President of the Republic of Sierra Leone (Feasibility Study Report on the Bumbuna Watershed Protection (REDD+) Project presented on Wednesday, 9th June, 2010; technical advice on other related REDD matters submitted on 11th June 2010).
- Minister of Energy and Water Resources and a range of senior staff.
- Minister of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment.
- Deputy Minister of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment and a range of senior staff.
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security.
- Director of Forestry and some senior members of staff of the Forestry Division, MAFFS.

Site level stakeholders and sites visited:

- **Bumbuna Hydropower Plant, Bumbuna**
 - Bumbuna Hydropower Plant Senior Management Team
 - General Communities of the tree chiefdoms in the Bumbuna catchment area.
- **Moyamba District : Gondama or Moyamba Hill Community Forests**
 - Kongbora Initiative and Chief's Council of Elders
 - General community of Gondama
- **Kambia District : Outamba Kilimi Reserved Forest and communities**

- **Koinadugu District: Loma Mountains (Bintumani) Reserved Forest and Communities**
- **Koinadugu District: Tama-Tonkoli Forest Reserves - General Community in Sumbaria, including section chiefs, elders and youths**
- **Tonkolili District: Kangari Hills Reserved Forest and Communities**

Annex II: Potential Forest Areas for Consideration (identification still on-going)

Site	Approximate Size (ha)	Condition	Deforestation Risk	Management challenges	CO ₂ Equivalence Values
<u>Wet Evergreen THF or Closed High Forest</u>	257,400				
Gola Forest Reserves	76,100	Intact, pristine and impressive	High (due to mining threats and some illegal logging)	High	Very High
Gola North and Extension	47,039.7	Very much intact and impressive	Ditto	High	Very high
Gola East	22,844.11	High recovery and intact	Ditto	High	Very high
Gola West	6,216.11	Moderately intact and impressive	Ditto	High	Very High
Kambuyi Hills Forest Reserves	21,223.26	Very much intact and impressive	High (due to logging, farming and urban settlements)	High	Moderate
Kambuyi Hill North and Extensions	20,342.65	Moderately intact and impressive	High (due to logging, farming and expansion/urban settlements)	High	Moderate
Kambuyi South	880.61	Moderately intact and impressive	High (due to logging, farming and urban settlements)	High	Moderate
Kangari Hills Forest Reserve	8,872.05	Moderate-Low somehow threatened	High (due to mining, farming and hunting)	High	Moderate
Loma Mountains Forest Reserve	33,200.73	Moderately intact	Moderate (due to farming)	High	High
Moyamba Hills Reserved Forest/Gondama Community Forest	? (To be determined)	Moderately intact and impressive/slightly degraded in places	Moderate to High (due to farming)	High	Moderate to High
Tingi Hills Forest Reserve (Sankan Biriwa)	11,885.47	Moderately intact	Moderate (due to farming and mining)	High	High

Sankan Biriwa (Tingi Hills, Kono District)	11,885.47	Intact	High (due to mining and farming)	High	High
Western Area Peninsula Forest Reserve	17,688.29	Moderately intact – threatened	High (due to Urban settlements and other illegal activities)	High	Moderate
Tama Forest Reserve	17,094.29	Highly degraded due to legal and illegal logging (critical)	High (due to farming and mining)	High	Low (rehabilitation highly required)
Tonkoli Forest Reserve	47,656.82	Highly degraded due to legal and illegal logging (critical)	High (due to logging and farming)	High	Low (rehabilitation highly required)
Nimini Hills Forest Reserve	12,553.62	Moderately degraded	High (due to farming and logging)	High	Moderate
Secondary Forest (Open areas country-wide)	205,600	Moderate – Low in some areas	High (due to short fallow period and logging)	High	Low
Forest Regrowth or Farm Bush (Open areas country-wide)	3,909,300	Moderate to low in some areas	High (due to short fallow period and fuel wood collection)	High	Low
Savannah Woodlands	1,327,200				
Outamba/Kilimi National Park	110,900	High – moderate in some areas	High (due to illegal logging, farming and fire in some areas)	High	Moderate -Low
Other Northern Districts Areas (Bombali, Kambia, Koinadugu and Port Loko)	1,216,300	Moderate	High (due to illegal logging farming and fire in most areas)	High	Moderate -Low
Coastal Woodlands & Swamp Forest (Areas across the country but mainly along the coastline)	122,600	Moderate	High (due to illegal logging, farming and fire in most areas)	High	Moderate -Low
Mangrove Forest	156,500				
Scarcies River Estuary		Moderate	High (due to farming and woodcutting)	High	Moderate
Sierra Leone River Estuary		Moderate	High (due to farming)	High	Moderate

			and woodcutting)		
Yawri Bay (Ribbi, Bumpe and Kagboro Creeks)		Moderate	High (due to farming and woodcutting)	High	Moderate
Sherbro River Estuary	10,100.00	Relatively intact and impressive	Moderate (due to logging and farming)	High	Moderate - High
Tree Crops/Plantations					
Rubber Plantations (Kenema and Pujehun Districts)	1,700	Relatively intact and impressive in places	Moderate to low due to investment interests; thus, indicating a potential CC stock.	Moderate	Moderate to High
Total Area (hectares)*	5,980,300				

* Total for areas expressed in bold print only; and, does not include area under other tree crops such as cocoa, coffee, cashew, etc.

Annex III: Important Areas for Wildlife Conservation and Development of Eco-tourism

Site	Area (ha)	Vegetation	Rear Species	Threats
Loma Mountains Non-hunting forest reserve	32,816	Montane, grassland and rain forest vegetation	Leopard	Flora; Triplochiton Scheleroxylon
Sankan Biriwa Non-hunting forest reserve	11,997	Montane, grassland and rain forest vegetation		
Western Area Peninsula Forest Protected Forest; Non-hunting forest reserve	17,688	Closed High Forest	Jentinks Duiker	
Outamba Kilimi National Park; Reserved forest	98,420	Savannah and closed forests	Bongo	Elephants, Chimpanzees
Tiwai Island Game Sanctuary	12,000	Closed High Forest	Pigmy Hippo	Banded Duiker; Rare Flora; Afzelia Africana
Mamunta Mayoso Proposed Game Sanctuary	2,500	Wetland swamp vegetation		Large variety of bird life
Total	175,421			

Source: Agricultural Sector Review and Agricultural Development Strategy. Vol. III, Sector Report: Forestry and Wildlife. MAFFS Publ. June 2004

Annex IV: National Secretariat for Climate Change (including Forest and non-Forest Carbon Secretariat or National Registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon)

It is proposed that Sierra Leone establish a permanent National Secretariat for Climate Change, including a Forest and non-forest Carbon Secretariat (i.e. a national registry for REDD and non-REDD carbon) - NSCC - in the Office of the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone. The National Secretariat for Climate Change will be chaired by a suitably qualified and competent expert and will answer to the President or his designated representative and the Cabinet. She/He will also answer to the Climate Change Committee of the House of Parliament, when required to do so; and, will advise the President and his government on Climate Change, Forest Carbon, other Carbon and non-Carbon related matters.

The Secretariat will be composed of a compact team that can grow over time. The Secretariat will be advised and guided by a Climate Change and Forest and non-Forest Carbon technical working committee with the following composition:

- Sierra Leone Government agencies, including SLEPA - 5 reps
- Academia and Research Institutions - 4 reps
- Civil society groups - 4 reps
- Community forestry groups - 2 reps
- Private sector - 2 reps

The suggested representatives of each group include:

- Government agencies: Forestry Division/Agriculture, Environment/SLEPA, Finance, Local Government, Trade and Industry, Tourism, Transport and Aviation.
- Academia and Research Institutions: University of Sierra Leone (FBC and NU), Institutions of higher education in forested areas, SLARI, Climate Change Unit, etc.
- Civil society organizations: Relevant NGOs/INGOs, Voluntary Organizations, etc.
- Community entities represented could include: representatives (preferably PCs and/or Council Chairmen) from forested areas.
- Private sector entities should be included as they demonstrate significant engagement with the process.

Key components of the NSCC will be as follows:

- Executive board;
- Technical board;
- National Registry for REDD and non-REDD Carbon;
- The Designated National Authority (DNA); and,
- Technical Unit for Climate Change, MRV, R&D and consultancy.

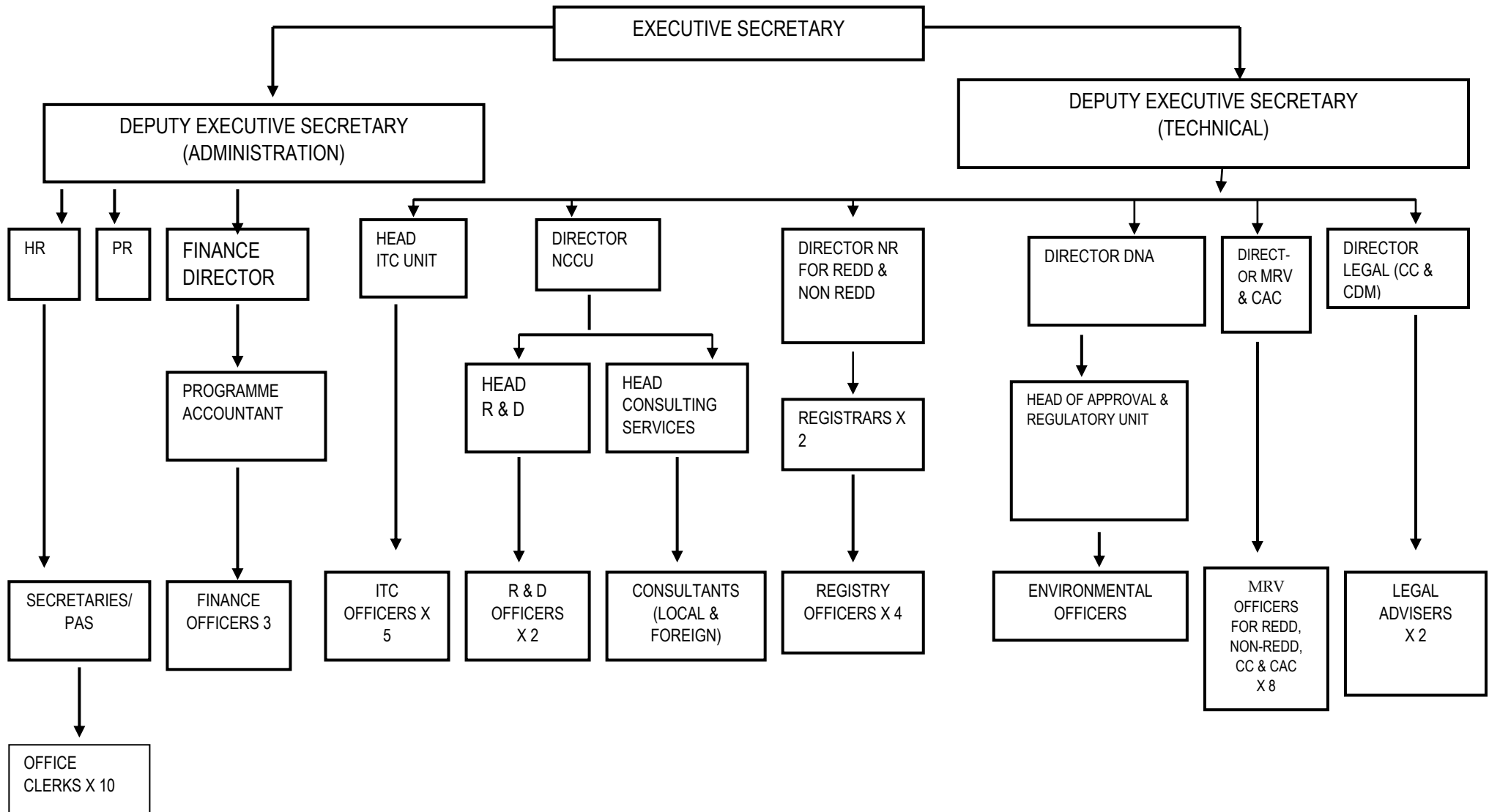
The key functions of the NSCC will be as follows:

- Provision of guidance, direction and regulation on Climate Change (CC) and Carbon Trading (CT) issues in Sierra Leone;
- Registration of all carbon trading projects and transactions in Sierra Leone;
- Designing and/or provision of guidance in the design and implementation of all carbon trading projects;
- Approval or authorization of all carbon trading projects in Sierra Leone;

- Advise government and stakeholders on climate change and carbon financing related issues;
- Serve as the focal point for all climate change and carbon financing matters;
- Serve as a clearing house and assist allied MDAs in strategizing for climate change;
- Encourage and actively engage in the generation of relevant national and international policy dialogues;
- Sponsor [or represent external sponsors], formulate, review and own national climate change and carbon policy;
- Work closely with the Forestry Division of MAFFS to develop the Forest Industries Corporation (FIC);
- Raise nation-wide awareness in climate change and carbon financing matters (i.e. capacity building for forested communities and decision makers in central and local governments);
- Conduct relevant research and development and provide consultancy services for government, development partners and international agencies, when necessary.

ANNEX V

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE NSCC



Annex VI: Notes on the revised NSCC Budget

1. The first year budget has been reduced from US\$ 1.6 m to US\$ 1.1 m.
2. It is intended to be reduced below US\$ 1 m. However, the share of procurement and logistical items is responsible for the rise above US\$ 1 m. Therefore, if an alternative provision of accommodation with some, or all, of the logistical items identified in the budget could be provided, this will considerably reduce the first year's budget to slightly over US\$ 500 K.
3. The implementing activities or critical next steps, which are one-off items, are only US\$ 600 K for year 1.
4. Capacity building and human resource of a very thin staff for year one is US\$ 258 K only. This could be further reduced but such a reduction will be detrimental to the implementation of the programme.
5. The overall 3 years budget was initially US\$ 4.2 m but has now been reduced to US\$ 3.7 m – making a saving of almost US\$ 500 K.
6. Stocktaking of our forest cover and engagement of stakeholders represent a key function of the budget and the programme in general.
7. The critical next steps, which have already started without funding, must be intensified and funded immediately to expedite the implementation of the programme.

Acronyms

CA - Copenhagen Accord, the
CAC - Carbon Accounting
CC - Carbon credits
CBE - Community Based Environmental management Plan
CDM - Clean Development Mechanism
COP15 - The 15th Session of the Conference of the Parties
CT - Carbon Trading
DNA - Designated National Authority
EU - European Union
FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization
FBC - Fourah Bay College
FIC - Forest Industries Corporation
F-MRV - Financial Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
INGOs - International Non-governmental Organizations
ITC - Information Technology and Communication
K [after figure(s)] - signifies thousand(s)
KG - Katoomba Group
MAFFS - Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security
MEWR - Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
MRV - Measurement/Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NCRC - Nature Conservation Research Centre
NGOs - Non-governmental Organizations
NRA - National Revenues Authority
NU - Njala University
NTFP - Non-Timber Forest Product
NSCC - National Secretariat for Climate Change [and carbon Trading]
NSO - National Security Office
PCs - Paramount Chiefs
PFM - Participatory Forest Management
PES - Payment for Ecosystem Service
R & D - Research and Development
REDD - Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
REDD+ - Reduced Emissions form Deforestation and forest Degradation and other forest-related activities
R-PP - REDD Preparedness Plan
SLARI - Sierra Leone Agriculture Research Institute
SLEPA - Sierra Leone Environment Protection Agency
UNDP - United Nations Development Plan
UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UK - United Kingdom
US or USA - United States of America
WB - World Bank

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