Sierra Leone

2013 DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL AND BIOENERGY INVESTMENT

IN COLLABORATION WITH
At the time of printing (October 2013) this document was approved as final by the Bioenergy and Food Security Working Group of Sierra Leone, but was not yet passed by Cabinet and therefore should still be considered as a draft. The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities. The use of quotes by specific entities, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of FAO.
Sierra Leone

DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL AND BIOENERGY INVESTMENT

FAO | BEFS
Bioenergy and Food Security
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Guidelines for Sustainable Agricultural and Bioenergy Investment have been developed by an inter-ministerial working group including representatives from the Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food Security; the Ministry of Local and Rural Development; the Ministry of Land Country Planning and Environment; the Ministry of Trade and Industry; the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; the Ministry of Labour and Social Security; the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Children’s Affairs; the Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone.

The Guidelines have been developed based on a review of the existing regulatory framework and an assessment of specific challenges and priorities related to agriculture and bioenergy development in Sierra Leone. The Working Group has consulted with a broad range of experts and stakeholders in the process of developing the Guidelines including 1) civil society organizations; 2) investors and companies operating in agriculture/bioenergy; 3) donor institutions and the UN Country Team; and 4) communities surrounding existing agricultural/bioenergy operations.

The working group would like to thank all those who took the time to provide detailed feedback and comments, particularly the investors and civil society organizations who helped to facilitate feedback directly from communities. We would also like to thank the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for their technical assistance in the preparation of this document.
ACRONYMS

BEFS - WG  Bioenergy and Food Security Working Group
EPA  Environmental Protection Agency
ESHIA  Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization
FPIC  Free, Prior and Informed Consent
HRC  Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
MAFFS  Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security
MOFED  Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MoE  Ministry of Energy
MLGRD  Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MLSSIR  Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Industrial Relations
MLCPE  Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment
MSWGCA  Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs
MTI  Ministry of Trade and Industry
MoWR  Ministry of Water Resources
MoUandA  Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement
NASSIT  National Social Security and Insurance Trust
SLIEPA  Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL TERMS AND DEFINITIONS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJECTIVE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOPE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RATING SYSTEM</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Role and Responsibilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Definition and Requirements</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Role and Responsibilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Society Role and Responsibilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process and Procedures</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSUES - CROSSCUTTING</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land tenure</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Security</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Use and Management</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Access</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate-Smart Agriculture</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSUES - ENVIRONMENTAL</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity and Conservation</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilizer Management</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide Management</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management and Residues</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSUES - SOCIAL</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Rights and Employment</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts with local suppliers (smallholders, etc.)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Equity</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX A - GUIDELINES SCREENING AND MONITORING CHECKLIST</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX B - CONSULTATION PLAN TEMPLATE</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX C - SAMPLE LEASE AGREEMENT</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNEX D - IMPACTS AND BENEFITS AGREEMENT TEMPLATE</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFERENCES AND RESOURCES</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**General terms and definitions**

1 Specific definitions are included under each issue to which they are applicable

**AFFECTED COMMUNITY**
Defined in the broadest sense to include all individuals and families affected; including those who may have to resettle; those who may remain in the area but their access to resources is affected; and those who may not live near the investment area but are affected (e.g. a community that lives downstream from an investment project).

**AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT**
Any investment in agricultural production including crops, forestry, and livestock production and processing. Fisheries are not included in this definition, within the scope of the Guidelines.

**BIOENERGY**
Heat and/or power derived from biomass such as crops, agricultural and forestry waste and by-products, municipal and industrial waste, manure and/or microbial biomass.

**BIOENERGY AND FOOD SECURITY WORKING GROUP (BEFS-WG)**
The Bioenergy and Food Security Working Group (BEFS-WG) was established in September 2011 as an inter-ministerial forum to discuss the range of issues related to the sustainability of bioenergy development and agricultural investment, define roles and responsibilities, and to draft the Guidelines included herein. The BEFS Working Group includes representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Forestry; the Ministry of Local and Rural Development; the Ministry of Land Country Planning and Environment; the Ministry of Trade and Industry; the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Childrens Affairs; the Ministry of Labour; the Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency; the Human Rights Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency of Sierra Leone.

**CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS**
Refers to a broad range of non-profit and non-governmental organizations which may represent a variety of interests including environmental, development, human rights, labour and associations of local producers.

**COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**
Established by the local communities affected by the investment to serve as the main representative body between the investor and the local communities. The Committee should include a lead representative chosen by the community; a representative of a local and Paramount Chief; at least 3 representatives of each affected community; at least one representative of civil society; and at least one representative of the District Assembly or Local Government.

**ECONOMIC DISPLACEMENT**
Individual and/or community loss of assets or access to assets (crops, natural resources, roads, etc.).

**GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS**
A way to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns between an enterprise and affected communities, workers, and civil society organizations.

**LIVELIHOODS**
A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities or assets while not undermining the natural resource base.

**LIVING WAGE**
A wage that enables workers, for their labour during a standard workweek, to support half the basic needs of an average-sized family, based on local prices near the workplace. Basic needs include essential expenses such as food, clean water, clothes, shelter, transport, education and a discretionary income, as well as the workers’ costs for legally required social benefits (e.g. health care, medical insurance, unemployment insurance, retirement plan, etc).

**PHYSICAL DISPLACEMENT**
Individual and/or community relocation or loss of shelter.

**STAKEHOLDERS**
Stakeholders should always be defined in the broadest sense to include all individuals, families, and communities affected by investments including those who may have to resettle; those who may remain in the area but their access to resources is affected; and those who may not live near the investment area but are affected (e.g. a community that lives downstream from an investment project).

**TIME POVERTY**
Working excessive hours without the choice to do otherwise. Time is an important economic resource and demands on a person’s time may reach a point where the individual may be categorized as time poor. Time poverty may vary across gender, occupational groups, industries, regions, and income levels.

**YOUTH**
Youth in Sierra Leone is defined as any 15-35 years old and represents approximately 34 percent of the population.
The primary objective of the Guidelines for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioenergy Investment (hereafter ‘the Guidelines’) is to inform investors and companies, the Government, civil society, and communities on all criteria that are important in ensuring the sustainability of agricultural and bioenergy production in Sierra Leone. The Guidelines have been formulated considering international sustainability standards approved through multi-stakeholder processes, with the objective of ensuring that globally agreed best practices are adopted in Sierra Leone, and to maximize opportunities for export and financing.

The Guidelines address all private and public investments/enterprises engaged in land-related agricultural production and processing, with the exemption of small enterprises that do not exceed the established thresholds (see Table 1 below). The process and procedures vary depending on the size of the investment, as does the methodology for the rating system, with some criteria applying only to the production of bioenergy. The Guidelines apply to both new investors and existing agricultural and bioenergy enterprises. On the date that the Guidelines enter into force, all investors currently in the process of negotiating agreements should follow the procedures from the stage at which they are currently engaged in. Investors/enterprises that have already entered into legal agreements (outlined in Process and Procedures) can refer to the section on Monitoring and Enforcement.

Use

Multiple stages
The Guidelines have been developed for use as: 1) a screening tool; 2) a checklist for final approval; and 3) a framework for monitoring performance along the indicators included herein.

Process and Procedures
Describes the steps, documents required (templates available in Annexes) and the associated responsible actor at each step and stage to receive approval.

Issues
Under each issue, qualitative and quantitative minimum criteria, good practices, exemplary actions which contribute to the sustainability of agriculture and bioenergy investments/enterprises have been defined. Information required to show compliance at both the screening and monitoring stage, the relevant government authority, and the underpinning regulatory framework are also outlined.

Annexes: Templates for some of the required forms (Consultation Plan, Guidelines Checklist, Land Lease, and Impacts and Benefits Agreement) are included to illustrate examples of the information requested. The information in the Guidelines Screening and Monitoring Checklist are aggregated from the specific Issue areas.

References and Resources: Additional international guidance for each issue area is provided.

2 Including but not limited to The Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture; the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of Food Security; the European Union’s Renewable Energy Directive; The United States Renewable Fuels Standard; The Global Bioenergy Partnership; The Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels; and the International Finance Corporation’s Performance Standards. Other international standards are referred to under specific issues that they address.

3 Including international conventions to which Sierra Leone is a signatory such as The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights; Convention on Biodiversity; ECOWAS Rules on Pesticides and the Mano River Basin Trade Agreement; among others.

4 Fisheries are not included within the scope of the Guidelines; nor are agricultural entities not involved in land related production or processing. For example, fertilizer providers and/or post-harvest logistics operators are not covered within the scope of the Guidelines.
The Guidelines include a rating system with minimum criteria, good practices and actions that demonstrate exemplary performance in relation to each issue area. The minimum criteria are based in most cases on the existing domestic regulatory framework, and where there is no domestic policy or law in place, on international best practices. The allocation of points for good practices and actions exhibiting exemplary performance are based on the potential environmental and social impacts and livelihood benefits of each of the actions; and on the difficulty of implementing the action. The objectives of the rating system are: 1) that enterprises understand what corporate social responsibility actions are of priority to the Government; 2) to provide a means of communicating how enterprises are performing in these areas; and 3) to provide a means for the Sierra Leone Government to monitor performance. The more points the higher (more favourable) the rating. Therefore the weighting of the points by size of the investment/enterprise is intended to make it easier for investments/enterprises under 5 000 hectares (medium and large) to reach a higher rating.

- **Minimum criteria:** Required
- **Good Practices:** Points depend on size of investment/enterprise (see Annex A)
- **Exemplary Performance:** Points depend on size of investment/enterprise (see Annex A)

**Rating System**

Depending on the number of good practices or exemplary performance actions implemented, an enterprise can achieve a rating of Silver, Gold, or Platinum.

### Silver

A Silver rating indicates that the enterprise has undertaken at least one good practice or exemplary performance action and up to 33 percent of the points possible for a very large enterprise; 16 percent for a large enterprise; and 11 percent for a medium enterprise. Silver is the lowest rating that an enterprise can earn illustrating environmental and social performance above the minimum criteria.

### Gold

A Gold rating indicates that the enterprise has undertaken good practices or exemplary performance actions of the total points possible between 34 - 67 percent for a very large enterprise; 17 - 35 percent for a large enterprise; and between 11-22 percent of the points possible for a medium enterprise. Gold is the mid-level rating and signifies considerable effort to enhance the environmental and social performance sustainability of the enterprise’s activities.

### Platinum

A Platinum rating indicates that the enterprise has undertaken good practices or exemplary performance actions of the total points possible between 67-100 percent for a very large enterprise; over 34 percent for a large enterprise; and over 22 percent of the total practices for a medium enterprise. Platinum is the highest rating that an enterprise can earn illustrating outstanding effort to enhance the environmental and social performance of the enterprise’s activities.
“It doesn’t matter how perfect the document is. If the community does not strengthen their role as a community and work in coordination with investors and government, the Guidelines will not serve the interest of Sierra Leoneans”

Alphajoh Cham
Ministry of Lands, Country Planning, and Environment
Institutional Framework

CONTEXT
Given the multi-disciplinary nature of agricultural and bioenergy investment, the Guidelines require inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration to implement the process and procedures detailed herein, and monitor the issues and information requested. Each Ministry with a defined role within the Guidelines has been included in the development process in order to ensure inclusion of the variety of perspectives on agricultural and bioenergy investment in Sierra Leone. In addition, investors, enterprises, civil society organizations, and affected communities have played a key role in the development of this policy by providing input on what is feasible to implement and desired to ensure that agriculture and bioenergy investment is not only environmentally and socially sustainable but also economically sustainable.

GOVERNMENT ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

INVESTMENT/ENTERPRISE WINDOW
The primary window for all agricultural investments, including bioenergy, is through the Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SLIEPA) that will coordinate with the relevant Ministries to assign specific focal points for each investment.

LEAD MINISTRIES
The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS) is the lead Ministry for all agricultural investments. The Ministry of Energy (MoE) is an additional lead ministry for any agricultural investments with a bioenergy component.

TECHNICAL REVIEW
The Working Group members serve in a technical advisory role, as focal points for their respective Ministries in the matter of all agriculture and bioenergy related investments at all stages of the investment approval process, and through monitoring and enforcement with existing enterprises.

APPROVAL
Approval is granted for each stage in the process and procedures through the issuing of licenses (e.g. EPA) and permits (e.g. MLSS work permit) and through signing of agreements with landowners (e.g. Land lease agreement) and communities (e.g. Impacts and Benefits Agreement). A Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement must be approved by Parliament for investments over 5 000 hectares and by the Chiefdom Council for all investments under 5 000 hectares. The Working Group focal points in each Ministry provide technical input to both approval processes.

MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT
SLIEPA will coordinate Monitoring with relevant Ministries and the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone, based on specific aspects of the investment. Enforcement will be lead by EPA and the relevant technical Ministry on each issue, under the existing legal framework.

REVISION (OF THE GUIDELINES)
The Guidelines will be reviewed on an annual basis, or if otherwise deemed necessary, through an inter-ministerial working group to update them as needed.

FIGURE 1 GOVERNMENT ROLES THROUGH THE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCEDURE</th>
<th>REGISTRATION</th>
<th>CONSULTATION</th>
<th>LAND LEASE NEGOTIATION</th>
<th>ESHIA</th>
<th>REVIEW AND APPROVAL</th>
<th>MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEAD MINISTRY</td>
<td>SLIEPA</td>
<td>MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>MLCPE</td>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>MAFFS + MOE</td>
<td>EPA + HRC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TECHNICAL LEAD ON ISSUES</th>
<th>MIN. WATER</th>
<th>MLSS</th>
<th>MIN. SOC. WELFARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OVERALL COORDINATION</th>
<th>SLIEPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**ENTERPRISE DEFINITION AND REQUIREMENTS**

For new enterprises, at initial screening the definition of the size of the enterprise will be based on: 1) the number of hectares included in the investment; and 2) projected annual turnover. At initial screening, if an enterprise falls into multiple categories (e.g. small land area, large annual turnover), the largest category shall apply in order to take into account the fact that at initial screening information is based on projections.

**Following the establishment of the enterprise, and for existing enterprises, differentiation is based solely on annual turnover.**

Annual turnover has been chosen as the preferred measure for defining the size of the enterprise due to: 1) comparability across sectors; 2) universal definition; and 3) data availability; and 4) conversion to international currency. If an existing enterprise expands the land area of its operation (through leasing or otherwise); annual turnover is still used as the basis for differentiation, although the new land area would be subject to comply with Stages 2-6 of the Process and Procedures and each of the criteria, good practices, and exemplary performance outlined under each Issue Area of the Guidelines. The rationale for differentiation is based on a desire to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises through 1) the exemption of small enterprises from the Guidelines and 2) the possibility for medium-scale enterprises to achieve a higher rating than that for large scale investments. It’s important to note that the level of ‘risk’ posed by the investment is not considered in the differentiation through the rating system.

EPA differentiates projects and monitoring based on risk and this system for differentiation of fees and process should be followed for both the 1) legal representation for communities; and 2) EPA Scoping, ESHIA, and Monitoring.

**TABLE 1 DEFINITION OF ENTERPRISES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Total Hectares</th>
<th>Annual Turnover</th>
<th>Guidelines Rating System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro and Small</td>
<td>Under 50</td>
<td>Under US$50 000</td>
<td>Outside intended scope of Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>51 - 500</td>
<td>US$51 000 – US$500 000</td>
<td>Good Practices: 3 points Exemplary Performance: 6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>501- 5000</td>
<td>US$500 001 – US$5 million</td>
<td>Good Practices: 2 points Exemplary Performance: 4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Large</td>
<td>Over 5000</td>
<td>Over US$5 million</td>
<td>Good Practices: 1 point Exemplary Performance Actions: 2 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ENTERPRISE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

All agricultural investors and enterprises (included in the Scope of the Guidelines) are required to meet all of the minimum criteria detailed herein and follow the process and procedures outlined herein. Enterprises are fully responsible for following and demonstrating, through documented procedures, that they have complied with the requirements set forth. In the case of sub-leasing or the sale of one investment to another, responsibility for compliance is transferred to the sub-lessee/new owner(s). All subcontractors are also bound by the criteria stipulated herein.

**CIVIL SOCIETY ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Civil society, including communities affected by investments, is expected to actively engage with investors/companies and the Government in all negotiations and decision-making, as set forth in the SABIInvest Policy to ensure that all agricultural and bioenergy production is sustainable.

---

6 See Step 6 in Process and Procedures
7 See EPA Act 2009 Third Schedule
8 Multiple investments by the same owner will be counted as one investment.
9 Total hectares are calculated considering only the land under operation by the enterprise and does not include hectares under operation by ‘outgrowers’. If an ‘outgrower’ exceeds any of the criteria above the threshold for a micro enterprise, they would themselves be required to comply with the Guidelines.
10 To refine the thresholds for the agriculture and bioenergy sectors in line with the objectives of the Guidelines, annual turnover thresholds were adjusted based on current average regional yields and price forecasts for the principle agricultural production in Sierra Leone to arrive at an average annual turnover of US$1 000 per hectare per year
The process detailed herein is to centralize the window through which investors are approaching communities and the Government. In all cases where an investor approaches a community prior to contact with the Government, investors must simultaneously follow Stage Two regarding Consultation and Stage Three regarding land surveying; and to the specific criteria included under Consultation and Land Tenure.

Information not available at this stage should be updated throughout the Process and Procedures (e.g. registration numbers)

The Guidelines Checklist is a summary list of the environmental and social criteria of importance to the Government of Sierra Leone in ensuring sustainable agriculture and bioenergy investment. Criteria in the checklist are weighted based on the size of the investor. At this stage, investors should fill information based on their planned activities.

Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008, section 23 stipulates that a license is required under the first schedule for any investment that includes: a) substantial changes in renewable resource use (e.g. the conversion of land to agricultural production/) and b) substantial changes in farming practices (the introduction of new crops or farming methods). Accordingly, every application for an agricultural investment requires a license issued by EPA.

The total amount of the payment will depend on the market prices of the legal representation, with the average in July 2013 ranging from US$500 - $1,500 per month.

The Community Justice Fund will be administered by the Legal Aid Board as soon as it becomes operational.

See EPA Third Schedule on Point based Criteria for determination of License Fees and Human Rights Commission Guidelines for Business and Human Rights.

Based on the categorization of the project under EPA Act, Schedule 2.
STAGE TWO CONSULTATION

08 Lead Ministry(s) focal points review Consultation Plan and the ESHIA Checklist and Scoping Report. SLIEPA coordinates the collection of all comments from focal points within 10 days.

09 Representatives from the Lead Ministry and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development request to visit communities with the enterprise.

• All potentially affected communities identified through the review of the Consultation Plan, are encouraged to participate through radio broadcasts, publication at local town halls and/or public notice boards, and/or dissemination among local civil society groups, as appropriate.

10 Communities respond to the request and choose representative spokesperson(s) as the designated authority for communication with the enterprise to form a Community Committee.  

11 Community Committees choose lawyer/legal representation from the network of justice service organizations supported by the Human Rights Commission, which includes lawyers and paralegals with technical expertise in land investment in the Provinces with knowledge of local dialects and English, and knowledge of the differentiated interests of various groups in communities. Each Community Committee must register their selection with the District Council and Human Rights Commission.

12 Investment details (from Letter of Intent, and ESHIA Scoping Report) are presented by the enterprise to the communities in the presence of the community legal representative and observers from HRC. Communities have the opportunity to review, accept or reject the documents.

13 Enterprise and community legal representative record data regarding each consultation including the main questions and concerns raised by both parties, the demographic information of participants, and any agreements reached.

14 Records of consultation with communities’ comments are submitted to SLIEPA, EPA, and HRC.

15 All enterprises shall hold two or more public hearing meetings open to civil society (in addition to the affected community consultations), one in Freetown and one in the District/Chiefdom principal town where the investment is located, to allow the opportunity for comments and public participation in the review of the Letter of Intent, Guidelines Checklist and ESHIA Scoping Report.

“Without access to legal assistance communities are at a serious disadvantage in negotiations with investors or in addressing grievances with them. By establishing mechanisms and funding for community legal representation, the Guidelines address one of the core issues necessary to improve the sustainability of agribusiness investment in Sierra Leone – Giving voice to communities.”

Sonkita Conteh Esq., Namati

19 Investor agrees with community on the facilitation of the Committee, including funding for transport costs to meetings and subsistence allowances for those traveling to meetings.
STAGE THREE LAND LEASE NEGOTIATION (WHERE APPLICABLE)

16 A preliminary assessment conducted with communities is carried out identifying land-use patterns, land users and beneficiaries, land tenure regimes, and livelihoods; and is presented to the communities for review, including identification of the specific areas of land of interest to the enterprise for leasing.

17 With FPIC of communities, the land use and livelihoods information collected is combined with the ESHIA Scoping Report to develop a draft Impacts and Benefits Agreement for negotiation with communities.

18 With written FPIC of communities, preliminary land surveying (identifying property boundaries and size) is conducted by a licensed surveyor selected by the enterprise, of the areas of interest to the enterprise for leasing, and results are shared with the communities including a map signed and dated by the enterprise.

- Enterprise registers land surveys with the Ministry of Lands and pays a fee based on the size of the land lease area.

19 With FPIC of affected communities to proceed, enterprise is given approval by the Lead Ministry(s) to begin land lease negotiations with Community Committee and Community Legal Representative.

- Enterprises shall refer to communities’ guidelines, bylaws, or land-use and management plans throughout the negotiation.
- Land use, land surveying, and land lease consultations and negotiation records are submitted and lodged with MLCPE for record-keeping and monitoring.

20 Land lease is reviewed by MLCPE and signed between the enterprise and all affected landowners, facilitated through the Community Committee and Community Legal Representative.

- Land lease documents and draft Impacts and Benefits Agreement are made available to land-owning individuals in English and local dialect.

STAGE FOUR ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND HEALTH IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

22 After visiting the communities and approval of the Scoping Report and terms of reference, the ESHIA is conducted by a third-party accredited institution chosen by the enterprise.

23 Following completion of the ESHIA, the enterprise submits hard copies of the report to the EPA for circulation to Board members for review and an updated draft of the Impacts and Benefits Agreement to the Community Committees.

24 Enterprise must schedule two public comment hearings with the affected communities to present the results of the ESHIA.

- General public and affected communities have 30 days to review the ESHIA, with legal assistance if required through the Justice Fund, and to request revisions in the ESHIA and/or make suggestions for inclusion in the Impacts and Benefits Agreement.

25 Based on the results of the land-use assessment (Stage 3) and the ESHIA (Stage 4), if there is any physical or economic displacement, a Resettlement and Livelihood Restoration plan must be developed jointly with communities and included in the Land Lease Agreement and Impacts and Benefits Agreement.

---

20 Two options for land leasing exist: 1) Government leasing from land-owners and sub-leasing to investors and 2) Investor leasing directly from land owners.

21 Production and investment plans that reduce land transfer are encouraged. See Land Tenure section for further detail.

22 Assessment may be based in part on secondary data when available and up to date.

23 See Annex D Template for Impacts and Benefits Agreements; it includes all aspects over and above the land lease that the community and investor have agreed to in terms of development projects, budget, timeline, grievance mechanisms etc.

24 Conditioned to the approval of the overall investment outlined in Step 26.
STAGE FIVE REVIEW AND SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENTS

26 The Community Committee is presented with the final drafts of the Land Lease Agreement, approved ESHIA, draft Impacts and Benefits Agreement, and Guidelines Checklist. The Committee issues any final edits within 30 days after the presentation of all of the documents required, and justification in the case of non-approval. The final Impacts and Benefits Agreement is then signed between the enterprise and the Community Committee representatives.

- In the case of non-approval, the Enterprise has 90 days to appeal the decision by submitting additional information and/or addressing the concerns outlined in the justification of the committee.

27 A Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement (MoUandA), as an overall agreement, is signed between the Enterprise and the Government of Sierra Leone

- For investments under 5,000 hectares, the MoUandA and the Impacts and Benefits Agreement are submitted to the Chiefdom Council, who shares with the Community Committee, for review and approval.

- For investments over 5,000 hectares, the MoUandA and Lease Agreement are presented to Parliament for approval and the MoUandA is signed by the Lead Ministry(ies) together with the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

28 The final signed agreements are registered by SLIEPA, Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment (land lease agreement), EPA (ESHIA), and relevant Lead Ministry (Guidelines Checklist).

STAGE SIX MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

28 Enterprises who have already signed legal contracts outlined in the previous steps, should begin by filling out the Guidelines Checklist and submitting copies to SLIEPA, EPA, and the HRC for monitoring.

- For any subsequent legal arbitration, refer to Step Six regarding fee structure to support community legal representation.

29 Grievance mechanisms established during Consultation are reviewed with Community Committee to determine effectiveness for Monitoring on an annual basis to ensure that they are continuing to meet the needs of communities.

30 SLIEPA and EPA monitor investment commitments on behalf of the Government of Sierra Leone.

The HRC supports the Community Committee in monitoring investment commitments and impacts for reporting to SLIEPA, EPA, and Lead Ministry(ies).

31 Enterprise submits quarterly reporting based on the information requested in the Guidelines Monitoring Checklist, with accompanying documentation to the HRC, SLIEPA, and Community Committees. Risk of non-compliance areas are highlighted for audit and relevant technical Ministry focal points are informed.

32 Annual compliance auditing is coordinated by SLIEPA and EPA, by identifying the audit team including relevant Ministries based on risk areas identified.

- Enterprise and District Councils will receive a notification letter with the scope of the compliance audit, based on the risk factors identified.

- Enterprise is invited to submit mitigation plans for any identified risk of non-compliance including a time frame for reaching full compliance.

35 If audit reveals non-compliance with any minimum criteria and/or any false claims, enterprise is given 180 days to reach full compliance or the license to operate is revoked.

---

25 Multiple investments by the same owner will be counted as one investment. If an investment grows to over 5,000 hectares, the additional investment area will have to be presented to Parliament.

26 See HRC Monitoring Tool for further detail.

27 This is a checklist of information required for monitoring and verification of actions included in the Agricultural Investment Guidelines Checklist, in order to highlight areas of potential non-compliance/false claims for auditing.

28 Supported by EPA Act, 2008, establishing power to cancel, suspend, or modify any license (s.34) which is not transferable.
Consultation needs to be as broad and inclusive as possible in order to ensure that all those potentially affected by the investment are encouraged to participate. Free, prior and informed consent should include full transparent consultation to achieve permission for any affect that an investment will have on communities. The requirement to obtain ‘Free prior and informed consent’ (FPIC) is based on the idea that a community has the right to give or withhold its consent to proposed projects that may affect the lands they customarily own, occupy or use. FPIC is a mechanism to allow communities to reach consensus and make decisions according to their own customary systems of decision-making.

The underlying principles of free, prior and informed consent can be summarized as follows: (i) information about and consultation on any proposed initiative and its likely impacts; (ii) meaningful participation of affected communities; and (iii) representative institutions. The main characteristics of FPIC are that it is: 1) freely given; 2) fully informed; 3) obtained before permission is granted to a proponent to proceed with the project; and 4) is consensual.

Investment activities requiring consultation include any negotiated agreement, compensation, acquisition, or voluntary relinquishment of rights by land users or owners. The principles of FPIC should be applied throughout the life of the enterprise, in all activities concerning communities.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Consultations are announced publicly and all community members, women and men, are encouraged to participate
- Consultation must include at least 3 representatives of each community, and at least a total of 5 representatives of civil society organizations
- Consultation conducted with independent observers/facilitators chosen/delegated by the community
- Communities have independent legal representation
- Consultation is conducted in the local dialect and cultural norms of the community
- Continuous stakeholder consultation/engagement plan for the life of the project developed and agreed with communities
- Grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms are defined jointly with the community
- Measures are taken to support marginalized group’s (e.g. women, youth, disabled, elderly) participation in the consultation process

**GOOD PRACTICES**

Consultation includes separate/individual consultations followed by a collective consultation with:

- Traditional leaders (Paramount Chiefs and Councils)
- Land users
- Land owners
- Women
- Youth
- Vulnerable groups (e.g. people with disabilities, widows, etc.)

Refer to Human Rights Commission Guidelines for further reference
EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

- Facilitate, through a neutral third party, training for affected communities on roles and responsibilities with investors
- Facilitate, through a neutral third party, community organization to identify common goals, and create a monitoring and communication mechanism for assessing impacts of the investment

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Mapping and identification of affected communities and livelihoods assessment
  - Directly vs. indirectly affected communities
  - Type/scope of affect on each community
- Consultation Plan, including translation and communication mechanisms that are clear and accessible in local dialect
- Media and public awareness raising mechanisms and venues
- Name and contact information for community legal representative

For monitoring:

- # and dates of consultations
- # of attendees, by community and civil society organizations, and disaggregated by gender
- Copy of consent agreement (FPIC)
- Plan for continuous consultation including frequency, locations, and budget
- Description of grievance mechanism(s) and log of grievances, disputes, and resolutions filed
- Description of measures taken to support marginalized groups
- Training and education conducted on roles and responsibilities

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead Ministry
Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development

Supporting Ministries/Agencies
Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and Environment;
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security;
Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender, and Children’s Affairs; Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Environment Protection Agency Act, n.11 of 2008
Environmental Protection Agency (Amendment) Act 2010
Environmental Protection Agency (Environmental Impact Assessment License) Regulations 2010
Environmental and Social Regulations for the Minerals Sector, 2011
MAFFS (2009) Investment Policies and Incentives For Private Sector Promotion in Agriculture in Sierra Leone in 2009
Land tenure can be defined as the relationship, whether legally or customarily defined, among people, as individuals or groups, with respect to land. Rules of tenure define how property rights to land are to be allocated within societies. They define how access is granted to rights to access, use, control, and transfer land, as well as associated responsibilities and restraints. Land tenure systems determine who can use what resources for how long, and under what conditions. Access to land and other natural resources is essential for the survival of the vast majority of rural households.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Land surveying is conducted prior to lease negotiation initiation and only with FPIC of communities
- At least one alternative project design/business model (e.g. outgrower schemes, joint venture, etc.) is explored to reduce land transfer and potential displacement
- Lawful land tenure rights, including customary rights, informal rights, and use rights, are respected
- Maximum lease length of 50 years, with possibility for renewal of 21 years
- Any relocation/resettlement results in improved asset base and livelihoods of affected people and is based on free, prior, and informed consent
- Compensation for the land lease is negotiated with a community legal representative present based on an assessment of the value of the natural resources and assets on the land; and projected income over the length of the land lease; and is negotiated directly with landowners
- Compensation for assets or loss of access to assets as a result of economic displacement is based on the value of the asset and asset income to the land users over the length of the land lease, and is negotiated directly with land users
- Land leases are registered with District Council and copies are distributed to landowners with legal assistance for interpretation and monitoring for all signatories through the Community Justice Fund administered by HRC
- If the land is not put to the required use, the lessor may re-enter and resume possession after 3 years
- **Net plantable area for bioenergy production is 20,000 hectares**

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- Provision for rent increase each year is included in initial lease agreement and/or provision for rent review with community representatives where there is a significant gap with market value is included in land lease agreement
- Size of land transfer is reduced through incorporation of outgrowers to meet production capacity

---

30 Land in the Provinces, comprising 90% of Sierra Leone land mass (outside of the Western Area), is held in communal ownership under customary tenure and is controlled by traditional rulers who administer it on behalf of their communities in accordance with customary principles and usage.


33 Based on The Non-Citizens (Interests in Land) Act, 1966, Section 3 pertaining to the Western Area, since the laws pertaining to the Provinces date back to Colonial times. Section 3(1) of Cap. 122 states “No land in the provinces shall be occupied by a non-native unless he has first obtained the consent of the tribal authority to his occupation of such land”. Section 4 states “No Non-native shall acquire a greater interest in land in the provinces than a tenancy for a term of fifty years . . . for a second or further term not exceeding twenty-one years.”

34 With documented FPIC of landowners and land users through land lease and compensation agreements.

35 Addresses all dedicated agricultural production for energy end use
EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

- Over 80 percent of feedstock is purchased from outgrowers (local cooperatives or local farmers)
- Land lease agreement includes community equity stake in investment, in addition to land lease value

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Baseline study of land considered for leasing including size, location, productive capacity of the land, natural resources that people rely on, current livelihoods and income, the local population and demographics, and the existing infrastructure
- Land-use assessment of the project area including mapping of all tenure rights, including customary rights, informal tenure in investment area, and secondary land-use rights (e.g. crop cultivation, gathering, and herding) especially of women and vulnerable groups
- One alternative project design/business model that explores reduced land transfer (e.g. outgrower schemes)
- Resettlement and compensation plan, including both physical and economic displacement (where applicable) with documented FPIC of affected individuals, families and communities (see Consultation recommendations), including specific provisions for women and disadvantaged groups
  - Description of rent review/increase provision
  - Number of outgrowers incorporated and percentage of total production

For monitoring:

- Land lease agreement and equity stake conditions
- Compensation distributed to landowners and land users
- Current activity on leased land
- Resettlement and compensation to date

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead Ministry
Ministry of Land, Country Planning, and Environment

Supporting Ministries/Agencies
Ministry Local Government and Rural Development;
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food Security

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Public Lands Ordinance, 1898
The Concessions Ordinance 1931, Cap 121
Protectorate Land Ordinance 1927, Cap 122
The Concessions Amendment Act 29 of 1972
The Provinces Land Act of 1927, Cap 122
The Provinces Lands (Amendment) Act 11 of 1965
The State Lands Act 19 of 1960
The Non-Citizens (Interests in Land) Act, 1966, No.30 of 1966
The Unoccupied Lands (Ascertainment of Title) Ordinance, 1911 (Cap 117)
Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008

36 IFC Performance Standard 5,
http://www1.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/cb1f524004a73daeca09afdf998895a12/IFC_Performance_Standards.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

37 Section 9 of the Ordinance limits the interest that could be alienated by the Tribal Authority in land larger than 50 acres to 99 years except where the land is alienated to the GoSL for a public purpose.
An Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment license is required for all projects according to the First and Second Schedules of the EPA Agency Act, 2008, Section 24 and 26.

MINIMUM CRITERIA

- ESHIA information requested, as per Schedule 3 (Section 26) is submitted, including the following contents:
  - Location of project and surroundings;
  - Principle, concept and purpose of the project;
  - The direct and indirect effects that the project is likely to have on the environment;
  - The social, economic and cultural effect that the project is likely to have on people and society;
  - The communities, interested parties and Government ministries consulted;
  - Any actions or measures which may avoid, prevent, change, mitigate or remedy the likely effect on people

- Potential impacts, mitigation measures and compensation are included in Impacts and Benefits Agreement, agreed jointly with communities, and updated annually based on actual impacts and mitigation measures.

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Baseline data and source for establishing potential impacts and mitigation measures including
  - Physical environment
  - Biological environment
  - Social, local economic, health and environment
  - Areas already disturbed

- ESHIA Schedule 3
  - ESHIA Scoping Report
  - Full ESHIA

- Description of Environmental, Social, Health Impacts Management System for the full length of the investment outlining risks and mitigation measures

For monitoring:

- If a project for which an approved ESHIA does exist does not commence for twelve months, it ceases to be valid.
- Impacts and Benefits Agreement

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead:

Environment Protection Agency, including Board of Directors with representatives from relevant Ministries

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008

Environmental and Social Regulations for the Minerals Sector, 2011

---

38 Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008, section 23 stipulates that a license is required under the first schedule for any investment that includes: a) substantial changes in renewable resource use (e.g. the conversion of land to agricultural production)/ and b) substantial changes in farming practices (the introduction of new crops or farming methods). Accordingly, every application for an agricultural investment requires a license that has been issued by EPA.
Food Security

DESCRIPTION

Food security can be defined as having regular, permanent and unrestricted access, either directly or by means of financial purchases, to quantitatively and qualitatively adequate and sufficient food corresponding to the cultural traditions of people to which the consumer belongs. Additionally, food security means that food is produced in an environmentally and socially sustainable and socially just manner, and that people are able to make informed decisions about their food choices. At the core of food security is access to healthy food and optimal nutrition for all.

GOOD PRACTICES

• Integrating food production for local market in investment area
• Training programme established on good agricultural practices for community members/farmers (ex. Farmer Field School) comprised of at least 30 percent women, youth, and landless individuals
• Provision of improved agricultural inputs and/or equipment (e.g. higher quality fertilizer or more efficient harvesting equipment)

MINIMUM CRITERIA

• Investment has a positive impact on local food security through:
  » Improved availability;
  » Improved access;
  » Improved stability of supply; or
  » Improved utilization.

EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

• Supply of food to the domestic market is increased (from prior to the investment)
• Subsistence plots, at reduced cost, are provided for all communities with displaced access to assets
• Provision of improved mechanisms for cooking and heating (e.g. cookstoves, fuel, etc.) at reduced cost
• Improving rural infrastructure for farmer access to markets
• Training programmes and information on nutrition and climate-smart agriculture are provided to farmers, employees and members of the affected communities

INFORMATION REQUIRED

• Assessment of:
  » change in supply of food to the domestic market as a result of the investment;
  » resource availability and efficiency of use by the investment;
  » resettlement, compensation, income generation, and access to assets.
• Map and description of integrated food production
• Description of training programmes with associated budget

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

An Agenda for Prosperity 2012 - 2016

39 FAO. (2008). An Introduction to the Basic Concepts of Food Security. Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
40 Food Security Network, www.fsnnetwork.org
41 Good Agricultural Practices are defined as actions, technologies and systems that are accepted as most effective for optimal management of soil and water, and for crop and livestock production, from the point of view of microbiological and chemical safety, with the added dimensions of environmental, economic and social sustainability. They should be adapted locally (taking into consideration local conditions and market requirements, if any).
Water Use and Management

**DESCRIPTION**

The right to water is a basic human right and access to clean and safe drinking water is a key criteria for ensuring food security. Water is also extremely important for improving yields in agricultural production, thus enhancing food security. It is important that water use and management for agricultural production enhance food security rather than pose any risk. Water use and management can affect communities adjacent to the investment and/or downstream, even across national borders. Sierra Leone is fortunate to have abundant water resources, but lacks water management and treatment options. Integrated water resource management (IWRM) is defined as a process that promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Water audit is conducted at the basin level in consultation with local water users
  - Water for agricultural production cannot be at the expense of subsistence needs
  - Water resources under legitimate dispute shall not be used for the operations of the investment
- Pollution mitigation of local waterways/groundwater

**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**

- Access to safe drinking water for local communities is improved
- Use of reclaimed water (treated wastewater or grey water) for productive use
- Biogas utilization from anaerobic wastewater treatment
- Biomass produced from wastewater treatment (e.g. sludge, macrophytes, duckweed, etc.) utilized for production
- Provision of rainwater harvesting systems, at reduced cost, for local households
- Engagement in public-private partnership to enhance smallholder access to irrigation
- Cleaning and restoration of local waterways

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

- Water audit
- Quantity and frequency of water extraction
- Description of pollution mitigation measures and change in N, P, sediment, and pesticides at field-level and watershed
- Description of measures to reduce run-off
- Description of irrigation technology installed
- Water storage/reuse/treatment plan and energy produced
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the watershed
- Smallholder/ Household engagement plan (on irrigation and/or rainwater harvesting)
- Waterway restoration activities conducted
- Biomass/bioenergy production

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**

Lead Ministry: Ministry of Water Resources
Supporting Ministries: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security; and Environmental Protection Agency

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- Reduced runoff for productive use by crops
- Rainwater harvesting/management/storage/reuse system implemented for irrigation
- Efficient irrigation systems/technology are employed

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**

Water Control and Supply Act 16, 1963
Draft Water Bill, 2010

---

44 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a calculation of the maximum amount of pollutant that a water body can receive and still safely meet water quality standards
The provision of modern energy services is a critical component of sustainable development. Energy access is a major issue in Sierra Leone and traditional wood energy is still the primary energy source, especially for rural populations. Bioenergy can provide an alternative to fossil fuels for electricity, heating, cooking and transport. Improved energy access can be at the household level (e.g. cooking and heating) and/or for productive use (e.g. industry or agricultural development).

**DESCRIPTION**

The provision of modern energy services is a critical component of sustainable development. Energy access is a major issue in Sierra Leone and traditional wood energy is still the primary energy source, especially for rural populations. Bioenergy can provide an alternative to fossil fuels for electricity, heating, cooking and transport. Improved energy access can be at the household level (e.g. cooking and heating) and/or for productive use (e.g. industry or agricultural development).

**MINIMUM CRITERIA** FOR BIOENERGY INVESTMENTS ONLY

- Local access to energy is improved

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- Local access to energy is improved (in agricultural investments/enterprises)
- Provision of energy from investment area for local use
- Development or improvement of energy infrastructure
- Provision of fuels to be used in cookstoves, and/or cookstoves, at affordable cost
- Development of a measurement and verification plan to evaluate energy performance and to assess where energy efficiency measures and modern energy generation is possible (at production facility)

**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**

- Improve access to energy for at least 50 percent of community members, measured on the basis of the Total Energy Access Index
- Provide at least 10 percent of total bioenergy produced for domestic/national use
- Training for local community on energy efficiency and renewable energy resources/technologies

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

- Baseline information on energy access, Total Energy Access Index
- Quantity of energy supplied for local use by type
- Description of energy infrastructure enhanced/added by enterprise to support local energy access
- Description of measurement and verification plan for energy performance
- Description of training conducted

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**

**Lead Ministry:** Ministry of Energy (MoE)

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**

Sierra Leone Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission Act (Vol. CXLII, N. 15 7. April. 2011)
Energy Policy of 2009
National Power Authority Act, 1982 (as amended in 2008)

---

45 Modern energy services are energy efficient and safe to human health. Modern bioenergy services do not include biomass used for cooking or heating purposes in open stoves or fires with no chimney or hood or any other energy systems that release five gases indoors or release high concentrations of air pollutants, irrespective of the feedstock or biofuel employed (The GBEP Indicators for Bioenergy, GBEP, 2011).  

Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) addresses the challenges of building synergies among climate change mitigation, adaptation and food security, which are closely related within agriculture. CSA combines sustainable crop intensification and productivity increases to support food security objectives, while increasing resilience of productive systems and livelihoods and reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a result of agricultural activities. Bioenergy can serve as a renewable alternative to expensive and polluting fossil fuels, especially for transport and/or rural electrification through generators or use of biogas for cooking. However, bioenergy can also increase pressure on land and lead to greater deforestation and/or be produced with fossil fuel intensive inputs. A life cycle assessment (from field to tank) of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with bioenergy production can provide the information to ensure that only bioenergy that achieves mitigation targets is pursued. Sierra Leone’s economy is largely dependent on natural resources and thus is highly vulnerable to the risks of climate change. Implementing location specific adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures can help to reduce the impacts of changing weather patterns and greater stability and growth for Sierra Leone’s natural resource based economy.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Disaster risk reduction plan, developed with community based on local knowledge and expertise, included in community development agreement

**GOOD PRACTICES POINTS ALLOCATED IN OTHER ISSUE AREAS**

- Increased efficiency of Nitrogen fertilizer application (See Fertilizer Application)
- Reduced tillage (See Fertilizer Application)
- Reforestation, agroforestry (See Biodiversity)
- Intercropping (See Biodiversity)
- Crop rotation with legumes (See Biodiversity)
- Use of cover crops (See Biodiversity)
- Water Management and storage system (See Water Management)

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

- Description of disaster risk reduction plan implemented
- GHG lifecycle assessment
- List of CSA practices
- Description of training and education programmes

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**

- **Lead Ministry**
  Environmental Protection Agency

- **Supporting Ministries/Agencies**
  Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security and Ministry of Water Resources

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**

- Environmental Protection Agency Act 11 of 2008
- Environmental Protection Agency (Amendment) Act 2010
- Environmental Protection Agency (Environmental Impact Assessment License) Regulations 2010

---

Biodiversity and Conservation

**DESCRIPTION**

Biodiversity can be defined as the variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species (intra-specific genes, genetic diversity), among species (inter-specific diversity), and of ecosystems (ecological diversity). Biodiversity and conservation involves maintaining the following dimensions: variety (number of different types); quantity and quality (how much there is of any one type); and distribution (where located). Agro-biodiversity is related to the number of plants, animals, and micro-organisms at genetic, species, and ecosystem levels, indispensable in sustaining key functions for food production and food security.

Forests are defined as including a minimum area of 0.05 hectares with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent, with trees with the potential to reach a minimum height of 5 meters at maturity in situ. Invasive species are defined as a species whose spread is not controlled in a particular habitat and causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. See Global Invasive Species Database for further information.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Agricultural production cannot occur in key biodiversity areas and biological areas (defined as areas important for the conservation of regional biodiversity), including:
  - IUCN Protected Area Management Categories I-IV
  - World Heritage Sites
  - Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
  - World Biosphere Reserves
  - UN List of National Parks and Protected Areas
- No clearing of primary forests for agricultural production
- Investment area must include buffer zones and corridors with surrounding ecosystems
- No planting of crops with a Weed Risk Assessment score greater than 1
- Land and waterways rehabilitation following project closure

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- On-farm conservation and utilization of traditional varieties of crops and livestock
- Agroforestry systems
- Intercropping, increasing the diversity of crops planted
- Planting and maintenance of shelter belts, hedgerows and nature strips to link uncultivated spaces
- Reduce soil preparation to maintain soil ecosystems
- Reduce use of pesticides through integrated pest management (IPM)
- Training programme for farmers and workers on local crop diversity, agro-ecological practices and the value of (agro)biodiversity conservation

---

48 The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1993, Article 2)
49 The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 2000, Article X)
51 Convention on Biological Diversity definition: A forest that has never been logged and has developed following natural disturbances and under natural processes, regardless of its age. It is referred to "direct human disturbance" as the intentional clearing of forest by any means (including fire) to manage or alter them for human use. Also included as primary, are forests that are used inconsequentially by indigenous and local communities living traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
53 See Pesticide Use and Management criteria
**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**

- Restore or protect 20 percent of total project area with native or adapted vegetation as buffer zones
- Allocate land equal to or greater than 60 percent of the agricultural production area to restore the natural ecosystem
- Purchase/payment of/for environmental services from farmers

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

- Map of key biodiversity areas and investment location
- Spatial dated maps of land cover
- Mapping of existing or planned buffer zone area
- Map of vegetation type and quantity to be cleared
- Weed Risk Assessment for crop used
  - Conditions under which the plant species can become invasive, and cultivation techniques employed to control invasiveness
- List of traditional varieties of crops planted
- Description of location and conservation and agro-biodiversity practices implemented
- Description of training programme
- Conservation/restoration area size and map
- Description of training conducted
- Description of environmental services and associated budget for payments

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**

**Lead Ministry**
Environmental Protection Agency

**Supporting Ministries**
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**

Sierra Leone National Biodiversity Action Plan
Forestry Act, 1988 and the Regulations of 2011
Environmental Protection Agency Act 11 of 2008
Environmental Protection Agency (Amendment) Act 2010
Environmental Protection Agency (Environmental Impact Assessment License) Regulations 2010
Wildlife Conservation Act, 1972

---

55 Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool, (IBAT) https://www.ibatforbusiness.org/login
56 For land cover mapping sources see References and Resources
Fertilizer Management

**DESCRIPTION**
Fertilizer application can improve yields, but also presents environmental and health challenges in terms of polluting local waterways, releasing greenhouse gas emissions and ammonia, damaging soil, and increasing exposure of farmers to hazardous substances. Producing chemical fertilizers also creates significant greenhouse gas emissions. Increasing demand for fertilizers can also lead to higher prices, which creates greater pressure on rural farmers and producing affordable food. Improved farming and fertilizer management practices can improve yields while reducing potential negative environmental and health impacts, reducing greenhouse gas emissions from application and production, and can save farmers and enterprises money.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**
- Integrated plant nutrient management to enhance nitrogen fixation while reducing volatilization, nitrate runoff, and leaching from fertilizer application

**GOOD PRACTICES**
- Reduced tillage
- Cover crops
- Nitrogen fixing crops
- Intercropping/crop rotation
- Reduced/displaced chemical fertilizer through use of:
  - Crop residues
  - Green manure
  - Farmyard manure and animal slurry
  - Compost
  - Oilcake
  - Biofertilizers
- Use of controlled release fertilizers
- Use of nitrification inhibitors
- Liming
- Spot application
- Reduced soil compaction and excessive wetness

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**
- Soil characteristics and description of IPNM practices implemented
- Fertilizer management plan including chemical and non-chemical inputs and practices
- Application rate, kilograms per hectare
- Description of contribution amount and or type of cooperation with applied research

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**
**Lead Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security
**Supporting Ministry:** Environmental Protection Agency

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**
Agriculture Act Cap. 185

**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**
- Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research in non-chemical input management in Sierra Leone

---

58 Integrated plant nutrient management is using nutrients in a more rational way (yield-targeted, site- and soil specific); understanding the interrelation of different nutrients; using combinations of mineral and organic fertilizers; providing nutrients on a cropping-system/rotation basis; and using on-farm and off-farm waste through recycling.
“As a small company seeking to make a big impact in fostering sustainable development in Sierra Leone; the Guidelines’ rating system provides a useful framework for understanding the national priorities and communicating our progress to the Government and stakeholders more broadly.”

Emiliano Mroue, West African Rice Company
Pesticide Management

DESCRIPTION

Pesticide management is important to reduce adverse effects on health and the environment. Poor practice in the field can mean higher risk to farmers, unsustainable production and more pesticide residues in food and the environment. At the same time, pesticides can help farmers to protect their crops from serious damage by pests and diseases, and competition from weeds. Risks to health and the environment can be reduced significantly based on the type of pesticide applied, and the way that the pesticide is applied and managed. Integrated pest management (IPM) is key to the Sustainable Intensification of Crop Production. IPM may include encouraging the use of natural enemies and microbial control agents, traps and behaviour disruptants, plant extracts, mechanical devices and low risk chemicals. There is a wide variety of techniques that can be applied under IPM approaches. Applicability of individual techniques depends on various factors, including: the crop, the cropping system, the pest complex, the climate, the agro-ecological conditions, etc. Generally, IPM involves a combination of techniques.

MINIMUM CRITERIA

- Integrated pest management is practiced to reduce chemical pesticide application
- No pesticides may be applied that are subject to:
  - the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
  - the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade;
  - the Montreal Protocol;
- World Health Organization Hazard Class 1.
- Pesticides applied must be registered in Sierra Leone or other recognized market for use.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided to all pesticide operators.
- Pesticide operator training for safe product handling (including storage and disposal); how to deliver the product to the target; and on using the relevant spray equipment.

GOOD PRACTICES

- Spraying equipment complies with FAO and WHO guidelines
- IPM training for local community/smallholders

59 Sustainable crop production intensification provides opportunities for optimizing crop production per unit area. Recent trends would indicate that the incorporation of scientific principles of ecosystem management into farming practices can enhance crop production (yield). With a particular focus on environmental sustainability through an ecosystem approach, sustainable crop production intensification aims to maximize options for crop production intensification through the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

60 IPM is an ecosystem approach to crop protection that incorporates different management strategies and practices such as using pest resistant crop varieties, crop rotation, weeding and enhancing natural enemies to pests to grow healthy crops, prevent pest attacks, and minimize pesticide use.

61 The list of pesticides concerned can be found at: www.chm.pops.int

62 The list of pesticides concerned can be found at: www.pic.int

63 The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer at: http://ozone.unep.org/Ratification_status/montreal_protocol.shtml

64 WHO Classification of Pesticides by Hazard (Table 1, 19-46 pp.) and/or the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

65 PPE complies with European Commission, United States or other internationally accepted standards

EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

- Only organic pesticides are applied
- Natural enemies and microbial control agents are produced/purchased locally
- Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- IPM practices\textsuperscript{67} employed
- List of pesticides used and location registered
- Pest resistant crop varieties used
- Type(s) and quantities of pesticides (organic and inorganic)
- Description of pesticide application equipment and personal protection equipment
- Description of training programme(s)
- Quantity, type, and location of natural enemies and microbial control agents
- Description of contribution and/or collaboration with applied research

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead Ministry
Environmental Protection Agency

Supporting Ministries
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Forestry

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Agriculture Act Cap. 188
Phytosanitary and Pest Control Act 2010

\textsuperscript{67} For example: crop rotation; intercropping; stale seedbed technique; sowing dates and densities; conservation tillage; pruning; direct sowing; pest resistant/tolerant cultivars; standard/certified seed and planting material; field sanitation and hygiene measures; trapping (pheromone trapping, sticky traps, water traps, etc.); counts of eggs, larva/nymphal instars, pupae, adults (sweep nets) etc.; hand weeding; mechanical/physical controls (including barriers, crushing devices and use of heat); post-harvest loss prevention; biological control through release of predators, parasites, pathogens; biological control through fish, ducks, geese, goats, etc.; release of sterile male insects; bio-pesticides; and biological preparations (e.g. natural plant extracts). For further information see Annex I http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/agphome/documents/Pests_Pesticides/Code/Policy_2010.pdf
Waste Management and Residues

**DESCRIPTION**
Waste is defined as a by-product of agricultural production which does not have any productive use and must be disposed. Waste includes mixed municipal solid waste, hazardous waste, and electronic waste. Agricultural and forestry residues are a result of logging, wood processing, saw-milling, pruning, replanting, weeding, harvesting and processing. Residues have many uses which are site specific, such as animal feed or fodder; fertilizer or soil conditioner; fuel for heat or power; and other industrial uses such as insulation, bedding, clothing, etc. Determining where and how to use residues for energy purposes will depend on the specific conditions regarding soil quality, local demand, infrastructure, and available technology.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**
- All liquid effluent and solid waste must meet treatment standards stipulated by EPA
- A collection and storage area for management of waste materials

**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**
- All by-products and residues of agricultural production are channeled to where they can be used for electricity generation, organic fertilizer, animal feed, biogas production, and any other productive use

**GOOD PRACTICES**
- Recycling mechanisms are employed
- Use of by-products and residues for productive use

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**
- Quantity and type of by-products produced, and their use, if any
- Quantity of waste produced and treatment plan
- Description and location of recycling system and identification of local recycling company, purchaser or collector

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**
**Lead Ministry:** Environmental Protection Agency

**Supporting Ministries**
Ministry of Energy and Water Resources;
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**
Draft Integrated Waste Management Policy and Strategic Plan, 2012
Environmental Protection Agency Act 11 of 2008
Environmental Protection Agency (Amendment) Act 2010
Environmental Protection Agency (Environmental Impact Assessment License) Regulations 2010
“Government, farmers, investors – we are all living Sierra Leone together”
Villager, Tormabum
Labour Rights and Employment

**DESCRIPTION**

Employment, especially in rural areas, can improve food security and livelihoods, if specific labour rights and conditions are met. The quality of jobs generated is also important to consider. Training and skills development programmes to enhance the number of skilled versus unskilled labourers in line with local labour demand requirements can provide further benefit. The creation of local employment, in particular, can have important positive effects on the dynamism of the local economy. Incorporating marginalized or disadvantaged individuals into the workforce, such as women, youth, widows and the disabled, can help to reduce their vulnerability. Demographically speaking, Sierra Leone is a very young country with 80 percent of the total population under 35. About 70 percent of young people are unemployed due to the high rate of illiteracy, lack of diverse job opportunities, lack of business/employable skills, limited educational opportunities, in the case of rural areas or geographical isolation.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- Labour conditions meet International Labour Organization core standards, specifically:
  - Freedom of association and collective bargaining
  - Elimination of forced and compulsory labour
  - Elimination of discrimination in respect of hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination, or retirement based on race, national or social origin, caste, birth, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, marital status, union membership, political opinions, age, or any other condition that could give rise to discrimination.
- Occupational health and safety considerations are incorporated including:
  - Appropriate personal protective equipment
  - Written instructions and training on health and safety procedures
  - Access to clean toilet facilities, access to potable water, and sanitary facilities for food storage
- Normal work week not to exceed 40 hours
- A living wage\(^{68}\) is paid which meets at least the basic salary levels set by Ministry of Labour and Social Security\(^{69}\)
- Information in local dialect is provided regarding labour and employment conditions including all withholdings, prior to employment
- Written contracts are provided stipulating employment conditions
- National Social Security and Insurance Trust\(^{70}\) cards and records are shared with workers annually
- Individuals from affected communities are given hiring preference when the skills are available

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- Percentage of local population in skilled positions increases each year
- Seasonal and migrant workers are ensured access to clean and safe housing and basic social services in the community (health and education) for them and their families while employed
- Youth (age 15-35) are trained and employed
- Child care facilities are provided on site
- Training and education programmes relevant for investment, are provided
- Enterprise has a policy and/or programme addressing the reduction of employee exploitation/abuse of children and women
- At least 30 percent of the labour force is from the affected communities

---

\(^{68}\) A “living wage” means one that enables workers, for their labour during a standard workweek, to support half the basic needs of an average-sized family, based on local prices near the workplace. Basic needs include essential expenses such as food, clean water, clothes, shelter, transport, education and a discretionary income, as well as the workers’ costs for legally required social benefits (e.g. health care, medical insurance, unemployment insurance, retirement plan, etc).

\(^{69}\) In July 2013, minimum monthly salary for agriculture was 215,000.

\(^{70}\) The National Social Security and Insurance Trust Act (2001) provides for retirement benefits to meet the contingency needs of workers and their dependants. Employers are required to pay 15 percent of the monthly salary of the employee to NASSIT, 5 percent of which is deducted from employee’s salary.
EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

- At least 60 percent of the labour force is from the affected communities
- Members of the affected communities in management positions
- At least 40 percent of skilled positions are filled by women
- People with disabilities are employed
- Provide post high-school scholarships for youth from affected communities

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Business plan with labour requirements and
  » Percentage from affected communities
  » Percentage and number of women employed
  » Percentage and number of youth employed
  » Percentage and number of disabled people employed
  » Percentage of skilled vs. unskilled labourers (by sex and age), including in management and leadership positions
- Description and location of child care facilities and facilities for seasonal and migrant workers
- Relation of wage with minimum/average wage or industry minimum standard (by sex and age) and wages by sex/job categories/related qualifications
- Written health and safety instruction/training plan on OSH
- Training and education programme/plan
- Description of scholarship programme

For monitoring:

- Employment records with data on age, sex, address, wages, hours of work, vacation leaves of absence, a record of the date each employee began work and, if the employee no longer works for that employer, the last day he/she was employed
- Written records of all accidents that occur in the workplace and in company-controlled residences and property
- Records and mechanisms for disseminating information regarding labour and employment conditions

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead Ministry
Ministry of Labour and Social Security

Supporting Ministries
Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs;
Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development;

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Factories Act 1974
Prohibition of Forced Labour Act Cap 215
Registration of Employees Act Cap 213
Minimum Wages Act of 1997
National Youth Commission Act 2009
Work Permit Act 2007
The Persons with Disabilities Act 3 of 2011
Local Content Policy 2012
The National Social Security and Insurance Trust (NASST) Act of 2001
Contracts with local suppliers (smallholders, etc.)

DESCRIPTION

Contracts can be defined as an agreement between a buyer and seller, which places conditions on the production and marketing of the product or service. Contracts can range in formality and scope of issues/details that they address, but typically include provisions related to quality, costs and risk responsibility.

MINIMUM CRITERIA

- Contractual arrangements are fair⁷¹ and meet local requirements and industry standards
- Contracts include:
  - Product quality criteria
  - Method and timing of payment
  - Responsibility for input supply
  - Timing and place of delivery/collection
  - Responsibility for transportation
  - Responsibility for losses
  - Conditions for termination
  - Dispute resolution mechanism
  - Laws governing the contract

GOOD PRACTICES

- Enterprise should make pricing mechanism with contractors public, such as through a reference price
- Flexibility mechanisms in case of market shift
- Risk sharing mechanism established in the event of catastrophe (e.g. natural disaster, armed conflict, etc.)
- Third-party mediation and dispute resolution
- Training and development of Sierra Leonean suppliers

EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE

- At least 30 percent (based on $ value) of contracts (including feedstock supply) are from local suppliers
- Technical assistance offered to contract suppliers
- Higher quality inputs provided to suppliers at reduced cost
- Skilled labour provided to outgrowers at reduced cost
- Contracts with local research institutions

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Smallholder engagement plan
- Description and identification of reference price
- Description of risk sharing mechanisms
- Identification of third party mediator in case of dispute and description of dispute resolution mechanisms
- Description of training and development programme for Sierra Leonean suppliers
- Description of flexibility mechanisms

For monitoring:

- Copy of contracts with local suppliers
- Percentage of contracts ($ value) with local suppliers
- Technical assistance provided to contract suppliers
- Description and/or copy of contract with local research institutions including duration and type of research

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead: Ministry of Labour and Social Security
Supporting: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

- The Cooperative Societies Act 1977
- Local Content Policy, 2012
- The Sale of Goods Act 1839
- The Arbitration Act Cap 25 of the Laws of Sierra Leone 1960
- The Registration of Instruments Act, Cap 256

⁷¹ Supported by both parties with reciprocal dependency
Community Development

**DESCRIPTION**

Any community development plan should be determined by the communities affected by the investment. Community development programmes can include priority areas such as health, education, finance, infrastructure, etc.

**MINIMUM CRITERIA**

- An engagement and development programme, defined jointly with communities with objectives, targets, budget, and indicators
- The enterprise includes a menu of options based on community-defined needs, for individuals to select from without assuming that all members will require/desire the same option.

**GOOD PRACTICES**

- A minimum expenditure of at least one percent of the gross revenue amount earned in the previous calendar year is contributed to community development

**EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**

- Facilitation of protection of local cultures and traditions integrated in community development activities
- Leverage of additional funding for community development

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

- Description of community development plan with records of community engagement/participation in designing it based on potential impacts
- Percentage of investment revenue allocated for community development and social services
- Percentage of local shareholding in investment
- List of expenditures for community development to date

**TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)**

**Lead**
Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs

**Supporting**
Ministry of Local Government, and Rural Development;
Environmental Protection Agency;
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

**DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES**

Mines and Minerals Act 2009
Local Council Act 2004

---

Gender Equity

DESCRIPTION

Gender equity means fairness and impartiality in the treatment of women and men, according to their respective needs. By designing processes and social relations where neither sex suffers discrimination, gender equity measures should improve gender relations and gender roles. Equity does not necessarily mean identical treatment, but should be equivalent in terms of rights, benefits, obligations and opportunities. Advancing rural women’s economic empowerment through 1) access to decent rural employment, 2) supporting women’s associations, and 3) fostering access to land are three priority areas that will help enable rural women to realize their full potential for food and nutrition security.

MINIMUM CRITERIA

- Women and men actively participate in all consultation and decision-making processing

GOOD PRACTICES

- Women are consulted separately from men/elders to ensure the possibility to speak freely (see Consultation)
- Promote and facilitate women’s access to extension services, credit, insurance and inputs, and monitor retention of benefits
- Employment of widows

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Gender disaggregated data on landownership and access to assets in investment area (income, employment, natural resources)
- Records of consultation with women separately
- Records of women, including number involved, in all consultations, land lease agreements, and community development planning
- Number and age of women and men employed
- Number and age of women and men involved in decision-making (including Consultation)
- Ratio of men to women’s wages
- Number of women in leadership positions, and description of position
- Description of measures to reduce time poverty
- Description of training/education programmes
- Description of healthcare and benefit programmes
- Description of system to monitor retention of benefits

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead: Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Domestic Violence Act 2007
Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act 2007
Devolution of Estates Act 2007
Cultural Heritage

DESCRIPTION

Cultural heritage includes tangible property and sites having religious, historical, artistic, and/or ceremonial significance, as well as unique natural features that embody cultural values, such as sacred groves. Cultural heritage also includes intangible forms of culture such as cultural knowledge, innovations and practices of communities embodying traditional lifestyles.

MINIMUM CRITERIA

- Agricultural production does not occur in cultural heritage sites
- Where cultural heritage (knowledge, innovations, practices) is used for commercial purposes by the enterprise, the enterprise must receive FPIC of the affected communities

GOOD PRACTICES

- Facilitation of protection of local cultures and traditions integrated in community development and consultation activities

INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Map of cultural heritage sites and investment area
- Description of cultural heritage in investment area
- Plan for commercial use of cultural heritage
- Measures to facilitate protection of cultural heritage

TECHNICAL GOVERNMENT FOCAL POINT(S)

Lead
Ministry of Local Government, and Rural Development

DOMESTIC LAWS AND POLICIES

Local Content Policy
Rural Development Policy
ANNEX A
GUIDELINES SCREENING AND MONITORING CHECKLIST

The Guidelines Checklist is intended to facilitate information sharing between the Government, investors/enterprises, and communities regarding performance along key environmental and social sustainability criteria. The minimum criteria are required and no points are allotted. Depending on the number of good practices or exemplary performance actions implemented, an enterprise can achieve a rating of Silver, Gold, or Platinum (See Table 1). The more practices/actions implemented by the enterprise, the greater number of points achieved, and thus a higher (more favourable) rating. Check the boxes for the minimum criteria, good practices, and exemplary performance actions which have been implemented. For new investors, check the boxes based on the planned activities of the investment. The Checklist should then be updated before final approval, and throughout monitoring and reporting. The Guidelines Checklist also serves as a tool to gather data and monitor trends in agriculture and bioenergy investment; in order to target Government policy interventions.

RATING SYSTEM DIFFERENTIATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Guidelines Rating System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro and Small</td>
<td>Outside intended scope of Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Good Practices: 3 points Exemplary Performance: 6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Good Practices: 2 points Exemplary Performance: 4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Large</td>
<td>Good Practices: 1 point Exemplary Performance Actions: 2 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>SILVER 1-47 points</th>
<th>GOLD 48-95 points</th>
<th>PLATINUM Over 95 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro and Small</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>1 – 11% of total possible</td>
<td>12 – 22% of total possible</td>
<td>Over 22% of total possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>1 – 16% of total possible</td>
<td>17 – 34% of total possible</td>
<td>Over 34% of total possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Large</td>
<td>1 – 33% of total possible</td>
<td>34 – 67% of total possible</td>
<td>Over 67% of total possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHECKLIST TOTAL (ADD POINTS FROM PAGES 41 - 52)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Minimum Criteria Met</th>
<th>Approved Investment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crosscutting Performance Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Performance Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Performance Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL (RATING SEE ABOVE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

73 Multiple investments by the same owner will be counted as one investment.
## Guidelines for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioenergy Checklist

### Company Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANY NAME</th>
<th>CONTACT PERSON (NAME, TITLE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHONE NUMBER</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EMAIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Financial Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE</th>
<th>HEADQUARTERS LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FINANCING SOURCE(S) AND COMMITMENT LEVEL(S)</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESTIMATED TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT (US$)</th>
<th>ESTIMATED ANNUAL TURNOVER (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATIONAL AREA (PROPOSED OR ACTUAL) (DISTRICT, CHIEFDOM)</th>
<th>BUSINESS LICENSE NUMBER FROM MUNICIPALITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REFERENCE NUMBER(S) THROUGH REGISTERING WITH:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR AND REGISTRAR GENERAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) NATIONAL REVENUE AUTHORITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Description of Investment/Enterprise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY ACTIVITIES (PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, ETC.)</th>
<th>RAW MATERIAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL HECTARES REQUIRED</th>
<th>PRODUCTION/PROCESSING CAPACITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**IMPORTS**
For those imports for which the company wishes to be exempted from duty waivers, please provide details of inputs description, quantity expected and arrival expected. (attach extra pages if necessary)

**EXPORTS**
Description of items and quantities per year (attach extra pages if necessary)

### Certification of Truth of Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>SIGNATURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Submit form to
the Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency

For further Information or questions contact
the Sierra Leone Investment and Export Promotion Agency;
the Ministry of Energy; and or the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food Security.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidelines Checklist</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSUES CROSSCUTTING</strong></td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>LARGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation</td>
<td>max 168</td>
<td>max 112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Consultation is announced publicly and community is encouraged to participate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Consultation must include at least 3 representatives of each community, and at least a total of 5 representatives of civil society organizations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Consultation conducted with independent observers/facilitators chosen/delegated by the community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Communities have independent legal representation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Consultation is conducted in the local dialect and cultural norms of the community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Continuous stakeholder consultation/engagement plan for the life of the project agreed with communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms are defined jointly with community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Measures taken to support marginalized groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Consultation includes separate/individual consultations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Facilitate training for affected communities on roles and responsibilities with enterprises</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Facilitate, through a neutral third party, community organization to identify common goals, and create a monitoring and communication mechanism for assessing impacts of the investment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Criteria**

- Consultation Plan
- Media announcements
- Name and contact information for community legal representative
- Number and dates of consultations
- Number of attendees, disaggregated by land owners/users, Chiefs, CSO members, and by gender and age
- Mechanism for record-keeping in English and local dialect
- Copy of Consent Agreement
- Plan for continuous consultation including frequency, locations, and budget
- Grievance mechanisms established, log of grievances and disputes filed, and resolutions adopted
- Description of measures taken to support marginalized groups
- Description of separate consultations held and attendees
- Description of training conducted to date on roles and responsibilities and community organizing with enterprises
- Name and contact information for neutral third party who has conducted training

**Good Practices**

- Consultation is announced publicly and community is encouraged to participate
- Consultation must include at least 3 representatives of each community, and at least a total of 5 representatives of civil society organizations
- Consultation conducted with independent observers/facilitators chosen/delegated by the community
- Communities have independent legal representation
- Consultation is conducted in the local dialect and cultural norms of the community
- Continuous stakeholder consultation/engagement plan for the life of the project agreed with communities
- Grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms are defined jointly with community
- Measures taken to support marginalized groups
- Consultation includes separate/individual consultations
- Facilitate training for affected communities on roles and responsibilities with enterprises
- Facilitate, through a neutral third party, community organization to identify common goals, and create a monitoring and communication mechanism for assessing impacts of the investment

**Exemplary Performance**

- Minimum Criteria
### Guidelines Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUES CROSSCUTTING</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Land Tenure</strong></td>
<td>max 18 max 12 max 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **✓ Minimum Criteria**
  - Land surveying is conducted prior to land lease negotiation initiation, with FPIC
  - One alternative project design/business model is explored to reduce land transfer
  - Lawful land tenure rights are respected
  - Maximum lease of 50 years, with 21 year renewal
  - Relocation/resettlement results in improved asset base and livelihoods of affected people
  - Compensation negotiated with community legal representative present
  - Compensation for assets or loss of access to assets is based on the value of the asset and asset income over the course of the land lease
  - Land leases are registered with District Council and given to land owners
  - If land is not put to the required use, the lessor may reenter and resume possession after 3 years

- **+ Good Practices**
  - Provision for rent increase each year is included in the initial lease agreement and/or provision for rent review where there may be a significant gap with market value
  - Size of land transfer is reduced through incorporation of out-growers to meet production capacity

- **🌟 Exemplary Performance**
  - Over 80% of feedstock is purchased from out-growers
  - Land lease agreement includes community equity stake in addition to land lease

| Other               | Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry | Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way |

- **Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance**
  - Land surveys, dated and signed
  - Description of alternative project design and why it was not selected to reduce land transfer
  - Land lease agreement
  - Current activity on leased land, including net planted area for bioenergy production if applicable
  - Description of resettlement and compensation to date
  - Description of compensation distributed to landowners and land users
  - Description of rent review/increase clause and any review conducted (monitoring)
  - Number of outgrowers incorporated and percentage of total production from outgrowers
  - Land lease agreement, description of equity stake conditions
### Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidelines Checklist</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSUES CROSSCUTTING</strong></td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>LARGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>max 168</strong></td>
<td><strong>max 112</strong></td>
<td><strong>max 56</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESHIA Schedule 3 information included in Scoping Report</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential impacts, mitigation measures, and compensation are included in Impacts and Benefits Agreement, agreed jointly with communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Food Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidelines Checklist</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSUES CROSSCUTTING</strong></td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>LARGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>max 168</strong></td>
<td><strong>max 112</strong></td>
<td><strong>max 56</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
<td><strong>max</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food Security</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment/enterprise has a positive impact on food security</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated food production for local market in investment area</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training program established on good agricultural practices for community members comprised of at least 40% women and youth</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of improved agricultural inputs/equipment to community/outgrowers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply of food to the domestic market is increased from prior to investment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence plots, at reduced cost are provided for all communities with displaced access to assets</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of improved mechanisms for cooking and heating</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved rural infrastructure for farmer access to markets</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training program and information on nutrition and climate smart agriculture are provided to farmers, employees, and members of the affected communities</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Criteria** + Good Practices + Exemplary Performance
Water audit is conducted at the basin level in consultation with local water users

Pollution mitigation of local waterways/groundwater

Reduced run-off for productive use by crops

Rainwater harvesting/management/storage/re-use for irrigation

Efficient irrigation systems/technology are employed

Access to safe drinking water for local communities is improved

Use of reclaimed water for productive use

Biogas utilization from anaerobic wastewater treatment

Biomass produced from wastewater treatment utilized for production

Provision of rainwater harvesting systems for affected communities at reduced cost

Engagement in public-private partnership to enhance smallholder access to irrigation

Cleaning and restoration of local waterways

Other

Guidelines Checklist

Water and Use Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues Crosscutting</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>max 168</td>
<td>max 112</td>
<td>max 56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Water audit
- Quantity and frequency of current water extraction
- Description of pollution mitigation measures
- Description of measures to reduce run-off
- Rainwater harvesting systems installed and number of beneficiaries
- Irrigation systems installed (smallholders and commercial scale) and number of beneficiaries
- Description of baseline conditions for households’ access to safe drinking water, measures to improve access, and number of households benefitting
- Description of water reclamation system
- Biomass/bioenergy production from wastewater treatment
- Number of households installed with rainwater harvesting systems and cost charged to households
- Description of public-private partnership and smallholders benefitting from enhanced irrigation
- Waterway restoration activities conducted

Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way

Minimum Criteria
Good Practices
Exemplary Performance
### Energy Access

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Points/Medium</th>
<th>Points/Large</th>
<th>Points/Large</th>
<th>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local access to energy is improved in bioenergy project</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>✔️ Description of baseline conditions for households’ access to energy, measures to improve access, and number of households benefitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local access to energy is improved in agriculture project</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✔️ Quantity of energy supplied for local use by type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of energy from investment area for local use</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✔️ Total investment in local energy infrastructure and status of development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development or improvement of energy infrastructure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✔️ Total investment and dissemination of improved cookstoves and/or fuels for local use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of fuels to be used in cookstoves at affordable cost</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✔️ Description of measurement and verification plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of a measurement and verification plan to evaluate energy performance to assess where energy efficiency measures and modern energy generation is possible (at processing facility)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>✔️ Description of baseline conditions for households’ access to energy, measures to improve access, and number of households benefitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve access to energy for at least 50% of community members, measured on the basis of the Total Energy Access Index</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✔️ Quantity of energy supplied for domestic use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of at least 10% of total bioenergy produced for domestic/national use</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✔️ Training conducted to date, including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training for local community on energy efficiency and renewable energy resources/technologies</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✔️ Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Climate Smart Agriculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Points/Medium</th>
<th>Points/Large</th>
<th>Points/Large</th>
<th>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disaster risk reduction plan, developed with community based on local knowledge and expertise, included in community development agreement</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>✔️ Description of disaster risk reduction plan implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bioenergy production that results in at least a 35% reduction from the fossil fuel baseline</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✔️ Life cycle GHG assessment of activities to date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training on climate smart agriculture practice for local community</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>✔️ Training conducted to date, including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ✔️ Minimum Criteria
- + Good Practices
- ⭐ Exemplary Performance
### Guidelines Checklist

#### ISSUES ENVIRONMENTAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biodiversity and Conservation</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MEDIUM</strong></td>
<td><strong>LARGE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Agricultural production cannot occur in key biodiversity areas and biological areas</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% No clearing of primary forests for agricultural production</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Investment area includes buffer zones and corridors with surrounding ecosystems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% No planting of crops with a Weed Risk Assessment Score of greater than 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Land and waterways rehabilitation following project closure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ On farm conservation and utilization of traditional varieties of crops and livestock</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Agro-forestry systems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Intercropping, increasing the diversity of crops planted</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Planting and maintenance of shelter belts, hedgerows and nature strips</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Reduce soil preparation to maintain soil ecosystem</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Reduce use of pesticides through integrated pest management</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Training program for farmers and workers on local crop diversity, agro-ecological practices and the value of agrobiodiversity conservation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Restore or protect 20% of total project area with native or adapted vegetation as buffer zones</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Allocate land equal to or greater than 60% of the agricultural production area to restore the natural ecosystem</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Purchase/payment of/for environmental services from farmers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Criteria** □ **Good Practices** + **Exemplary Performance** ★
### Fertilizer Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>MEDIUM</th>
<th>LARGE</th>
<th>VERY LARGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrated plant nutrient management to enhance nitrogen fixation while reducing volatilization, nitrate runoff, and leaching from fertilizer application</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced tillage</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover crops</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen fixing crops</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercropping/crop rotation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced/displaced chemical fertilizer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of controlled release fertilizers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of nitrification inhibitors</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liming</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot application</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced soil compaction and excessive wetness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research in non-chemical input management</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Guidelines Checklist**

**Points / Enterprise Size**

- **Max** 111 points for small enterprises
- **Max** 74 points for medium enterprises
- **Max** 37 points for very large enterprises

**Monitoring Checklist**

- **Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance**

  - Description of integrated plant nutrient management practices implemented to date
  - Description of practices implemented to date to reduce volatilization, nitrate runoff, and leaching from fertilizer application
  - Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research to date

  Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way.

**Minimum Criteria**

- ✔

**Good Practices**

- +

**Exemplary Performance**

- ★
## Pesticide Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrated pest management practices implemented to date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of pesticides used and place and date of registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal protective equipment description and budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training conducted to date, including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spraying equipment description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training conducted to date, including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity and type of organic pesticides used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase quantity and location of natural enemies and microbial control agents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Minimum Criteria

- Integrated pest management
- No pesticides applied which are subject to Stockholm Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Montreal Protocol, or World Health Organization Hazard Class 1
- Pesticides must be registered in Sierra Leone or other recognized market for use
- Personal Protective Equipment is provided to all pesticide operators
- Pesticide operator training for safe handling
- Spraying equipment complies with FAO and WHO Guidelines
- IPM training for local community/smalholders
- Only organic pesticides are applied
- Natural enemies and microbial control agents are produced/purchased locally
- Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides

### Good Practices

- Spraying equipment complies with FAO and WHO Guidelines
- IPM training for local community/smalholders
- Only organic pesticides are applied
- Natural enemies and microbial control agents are produced/purchased locally
- Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides

### Exemplary Performance

- Spraying equipment complies with FAO and WHO Guidelines
- IPM training for local community/smalholders
- Only organic pesticides are applied
- Natural enemies and microbial control agents are produced/purchased locally
- Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidelines Checklist</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSUES ENVIRONMENTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>MINIMUM CRITERIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>GOOD PRACTICES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide Management</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>LARGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Integrated pest management</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ No pesticides applied which are subject to Stockholm Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Montreal Protocol, or World Health Organization Hazard Class 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Pesticides must be registered in Sierra Leone or other recognized market for use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Personal Protective Equipment is provided to all pesticide operators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Pesticide operator training for safe handling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ Spraying equipment complies with FAO and WHO Guidelines</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ IPM training for local community/smallholders</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Only organic pesticides are applied</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Natural enemies and microbial control agents are produced/purchased locally</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★ Cooperation and/or contribution to applied research on the use of organic pesticides</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management and Residues</td>
<td>Points / Enterprise Size</td>
<td>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All liquid effluent and solid waste must meet treatment standards stipulated by EPA</td>
<td>max 12</td>
<td>Total waste produced and current treatment and recycling descriptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A collection and storage area for safe management of waste materials</td>
<td>max 8</td>
<td>Description and location of collection and storage area for waste materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling mechanisms are employed</td>
<td>max 3</td>
<td>Description of recycling mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of by-products and residues for productive use</td>
<td>max 3</td>
<td>List and quantity of total production of by-products and residues and their use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All by-products and residues of agricultural production are channeled to where they can be used for electricity generation, organic fertilizer, animal feed, biogas production, and any other productive use</td>
<td>max 6</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guidelines Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUES ENVIRONMENTAL</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management and Residues</td>
<td>max 12</td>
<td>Total waste produced and current treatment and recycling descriptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description and location of collection and storage area for waste materials</td>
<td>max 8</td>
<td>Description and location of collection and storage area for waste materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of recycling mechanisms</td>
<td>max 3</td>
<td>Description of recycling mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List and quantity of total production of by-products and residues and their use</td>
<td></td>
<td>List and quantity of total production of by-products and residues and their use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
<td></td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum Criteria Good Practices Exemplary Performance
### Labour Rights and Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidelines Checklist</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISSUES</strong></td>
<td><strong>SOCIAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labour Rights and Employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Employment records with data on age, sex, address, wages, hours of work, vacation periods, including seasonal workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labour conditions meet International Labour Organisation core standards</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Records of accidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal work week does not exceed 40 hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Records and mechanism for disseminating information regarding labour and employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A living wage is paid, which meets the basic salary levels of MLSS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Copy of employment contracts with wage paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information in local dialect is provided regarding labour and employment conditions including all withholdings prior to employment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Description of hiring strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Written contracts are provided stipulating employment conditions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Social Security and Insurance Trust cards and records are shared with workers annually</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individuals from affected communities are given hiring preference when the skills are available</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Percentage of local population in skilled positions increases each year</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Number of the labour force from the affected communities and annual rate of change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seasonal and migrant workers are ensured access to clean and safe housing and basic social services in the community while employed</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Description of facilities and services for seasonal and migrant workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth (15-35) are trained and employed</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Number of youth employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child-care facilities are provided on site</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Description of child care facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training and education programs relevant for investment are provided</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Training and education programmes conducted to date, including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy on exploitation/abuse of children and women is in place</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Copy of policy on exploitation and abuse of children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At least 30% of the labour force is from the affected communities</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>- Number of the labour force from the affected communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At least 60% of the labour force is from the affected communities</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- Number of the labour force from the affected communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Members of affected communities in management positions</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- Number of management positions held by members of the affected communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At least 40% of skilled positions are filled by women</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- Number of skilled positions held by women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>People with disabilities are employed</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- Number of people with disabilities employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provide post high school scholarships for youth from affected communities</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>- Number of scholarships provided for youth from affected communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Criteria** + Good Practices ★ Exemplary Performance
### Guidelines Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues Social</th>
<th>Contracts with local suppliers</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy of contracts with local suppliers, including information on:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Product quality criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Method and timing of payment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Responsibility for input supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Timing and place of delivery/collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Responsibility for transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Responsibility for losses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Conditions for termination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Dispute resolution mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Laws governing contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pricing mechanism, reference price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Description of flexibility mechanisms in case of market shift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Description of risk sharing mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Description of third-party mediation and dispute resolution mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Training and development programmes conducted to date with Sierra Leonean suppliers including attendance data disaggregated by gender and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% (based on $ value) of contracts are from local suppliers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Technical assistance (inputs, labour) provided to date to contract suppliers, with rate charged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Description and/or copy of contract with local research institution including duration and type of research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Criteria</th>
<th>Good Practices</th>
<th>Exemplary Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contracts with local suppliers

- Contractual arrangements are fair and meet local requirements and industry standards
  - Contracts include:
    - Product quality criteria
    - Method and timing of payment
    - Responsibility for input supply
    - Timing and place of delivery/collection
    - Responsibility for transportation
    - Responsibility for losses
    - Conditions for termination
    - Dispute resolution mechanism
    - Laws governing the contract

### Monitoring Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Minimum Criteria</th>
<th>Good Practices</th>
<th>Exemplary Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>max 147</td>
<td>max 98</td>
<td>max 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARGE</td>
<td>max 45</td>
<td>max 30</td>
<td>max 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERY LARGE</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Guidelines Checklist

### Community Development

- **An engagement and development program, defined jointly with communities with objectives, targets, budgets, and indicators**
  - Points: Max 15
  - Large: 10
  - Very Large: 5

- **The enterprise includes a menu of options based on community defined needs, for individuals to select from without assuming that all members will require/desire the same option**
  - Points: Max 6
  - Large: 4
  - Very Large: 2

- **A minimum expenditure of at least one percent of the gross revenue amount earned in the previous calendar year is contributed to community development**
  - Points: Max 3
  - Large: 2
  - Very Large: 1

- **Facilitation of protection of local cultures and traditions integrated in community development activities**
  - Points: Max 6
  - Large: 4
  - Very Large: 2

- **Leverage of additional funding for community development**
  - Points: Max 6
  - Large: 4
  - Very Large: 2

### Other

- Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry

## Monitoring Checklist

### Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance

- Description of community development plan with records of community engagement/participation in designing it
- Copy of Impacts and Benefits Agreement
- Description of options presented to community to both mitigate potential impacts and ideas for community development
- List of expenditures to date
- Description of how local culture and tradition has been integrated in community development planning and activities
- Additional funding leveraged for community development.

### Minimum Criteria

- Good Practices
- Exemplary Performance
### Guidelines Checklist

#### ISSUES SOCIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Heritage</th>
<th>Points / Enterprise Size</th>
<th>Monitoring Checklist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
<td>LARGE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Guidelines</strong></th>
<th><strong>Points / Enterprise Size</strong></th>
<th><strong>Submittals/Information Required to Show Compliance</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women and men actively participate in all consultation and decision-making processing</td>
<td>max 33</td>
<td>max 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women are consulted separately from men/elders</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote and facilitate women’s access to extension services, credit, insurance and inputs, and monitor retention of benefits</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of by-products and residues for productive use</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment of widows</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of maternity care services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measure to reduce women’s time poverty</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/literacy/training programs targeted to women’s empowerment</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitate nutrition education programs</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Pending review by SLIEPA and Lead Ministry</td>
<td>Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Minimum Criteria

- Women and men actively participate in all consultation and decision-making processing
- Where cultural heritage is used for commercial purposes, the enterprise must receive FPIC of the affected communities
- Facilitation of protection of local cultures and traditions integrated in community development and consultation activities

#### Good Practices

- Women are consulted separately from men/elders
- Promote and facilitate women’s access to extension services, credit, insurance and inputs, and monitor retention of benefits
- Use of by-products and residues for productive use
- Employment of widows
- Provision of maternity care services
- Measure to reduce women’s time poverty
- Education/literacy/training programs targeted to women’s empowerment
- Facilitate nutrition education programs

#### Exemplary Performance

- Description of measures to facilitate women’s access to services and mechanisms to monitor retention of benefits
- Number of widows employed
- Measures implemented to date to reduce women’s time poverty
- Number of women in leadership positions
- Education/literacy/training programmes conducted to date with gender-disaggregated data
- Nutrition programmes conducted to date with gender disaggregated attendance data
- Information should illustrate that the practice/action has been implemented in a measurable way
Following the Consultation Criteria of Guidelines for the proposed location of the investment and investment activities, the Consultation Plan includes:

- Name of District and District Officers
- Name of Section, Headquarters, and Section Chief
- Names of Chiefdoms, Headquarters, and Paramount Chiefs
- Names of affected villages and village heads
- Names of additional relevant contact persons in each village
- Identification of local civil society organizations and contact information
- Proposed Dates and venues for each consultation meeting with associated:
  » Purpose
  » Target group (if applicable)
  » Facilitator/Translator
  » Name of local Police Unit Commander(s)
  » Budget
- Publication, advertisement, and media events to inform and encourage participation from communities, with associated budget
- Methods for record-keeping and data collection
- Dissemination plan for the results of the consultation process, with associated budget
ANNEX C
SAMPLE LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS DEED is made under the provisions of the Provinces Land Act Chapter 122 of the Laws of Sierra Leone 1960 as amended (“the Act”) on the ___ day of ____ in the year of Our Lord ____________ BETWEEN PARAMOUNT CHIEF [insert name of paramount chief]of [insert name of chiefdom district and province] of the Republic of Sierra Leone together with CHIEFDOM SPEAKER [insert name of chiefdom speaker or other senior elder of the chiefdom] and COUNCILLOR both also of [insert name of chiefdom district and province] as representatives of the Chiefdom Council of [insert name of chiefdom]aforesaid (hereinafter referred to as “the Grantors”) which expression shall include their successors-in-office of the first part and [insert name(s) of the heads of the landowning family(ies)] also of [insert name of section, town or village] in [insert name of chiefdom] Chiefdom aforesaid on behalf of the [insert name of the landowning family(ies)] (hereinafter referred to as “the Landowners”) of the second part (The Grantors and Landowners hereinafter collectively referred to as “the Lessors”) and [insert name address description and place of registration of the lessee company] (hereinafter called “the Lessee” which expression shall where the context so admits include its successors and assigns) of the third part.

WHEREAS

1. According to the preamble of the Act all land in the Provinces of Sierra Leone is vested in the Chiefdom Councils who hold such land on behalf of the native communities concerned.

2. The Landowners herein are the owners and/or persons entitled to possession of the piece or pieces of land situate lying and being at [insert name of the chiefdom district and province] more fully described in the Schedule hereunder (hereinafter referred as “the demised pieces of land”) and intended to be hereby demised and the have represented to the Lessee that they are entitled and duly authorized by all the family members beneficially entitled to share in the proceeds of this grant to make the same subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter contained.

3. The Lessees have expressed to the Paramount Chief and other members of Chiefdom Council, the competent authorities of the District Council of [insert the name of the district] and the officials of the Ministry of XXX their desire to take a lease of the demised pieces of land for the purposes of establishing a XXX for the growing or processing of XXX.

4. The duly authorized representatives of the landowners have expressed their willingness and have agreed to grant a lease of the demised pieces of land to the Lessees subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter contained.

5. The Chiefdom Council of [insert the name of the chiefdom] Chiefdom aforesaid has duly given its consent for the making of the grant herein.  

6. The Chief Administrative Officer of [insert the name of the district] District Council has given his approval for the making of the grant herein.

NOW THIS DEED INDENTURE WITNESSETH AS_follows:

ARTICLE 1
GRANT OF LEASE

Parcels of land to be leased are specified including survey maps

ARTICLE 2
DURATION OF LEASE

2.1 The lease shall for a term of term of XX years certain with effect from the day of ___ with an option to renew for a further term not exceeding 21 (twenty-one) years.

2.2 Option to surrender land to lessors if not required by lessee and option for lessors to reposess land if no activity by lessee has taken place after 5 years

74 See section 2 of Cap 122 (“the Act”).  
75 This is required by section 3(1) of the Act  
76 See section 3(2) of the Act. Since the enactment of the Local Government Act, No. of 2007, the Chief Administrative Officer of the District where the land is situated acts in lieu of the District Officer in consultation with the Provincial Secretary.  
77 Maximum 50 years, with option to renew of 21 years  
78 See section 4 of the Act.
ARTICLE 3
LEASE RENT

3.1 The rent shall be the yearly sum of US$ /00 (United States Dollars) per hectare to be paid to a designated account of the District Council\textsuperscript{79} for disbursement among those persons and entities entitled to share in the same as prescribed for the time being by the competent authorities.

3.2 [During an initial period of x years when the Lessee shall be engaged in an evaluation of the demised pieces or parcel of land for the purposes of ascertaining their suitability for use for the intended purpose of the grant herein the annual rent shall be capped at US$ $/00 per hectare.\textsuperscript{80}]

3.3 The first [insert number] year(s) rent shall be paid on or before the execution of these presents and thereafter on the day of every [insert number] year(s).

3.4 Provision for rent review by the Chief Administrative Officer of [ ] District Council taking into account [here insert the formula to be agreed in advance by all the parties to the lease] subject to a right of appeal to the Provincial Secretary of the [insert name of province] Province.\textsuperscript{81}

3.5 In revising the rent the Chief Administrative Officer shall not increase the same by reason only of improvements made on the demised pieces of land by the Lessee or its predecessor in title.

3.6 The Lessee shall not be made party to disputes regarding repartition among persons and entities entitled to the disbursements contemplated in Article 3.1. To the extent that the lessee suffers damages as a result of such disputes, lessee shall be indemnified by the Lessors.

ARTICLE 4
ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS BY THE LESSEE

There shall be further additional payments of US$ /00 by the Lessee directly to the Landowners as [insert the consideration and purpose for any additional payments agreed with the Landowners] for every hectare of land held by the respective landowning families.

ARTICLE 5
OBLIGATIONS OF THE LESSEE

5.1 The lessee for itself and its assigns hereby covenants with the Chiefdom Council as follows:

- To pay the annual rent hereby reserved in the manner set out above;
- To use the demised pieces of land hereby granted for the establishment of related to the operations of agriculture and/or bioenergy;
- Not to assign or sublet the demised pieces or parcels of land or any part thereof without the consent of the Chiefdom Council and the approval in writing of the Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert the name of the district] District such consent not to be unreasonably or arbitrarily withheld.\textsuperscript{82}
- On the determination of the term hereby granted the Lessee shall give to the Chiefdom Council XXX months prior notice in writing before removing any fixtures buildings or economic trees from the demised pieces of land;\textsuperscript{83}
- To pay all taxes and rates levied upon the demised pieces of land and to pay all charges for all other utilities supplied to the demised pieces of land during the term hereby granted;
- At all times during the term hereby granted to keep the interior and exterior of any buildings erected on the demised pieces of land all fixtures and appliances and all additions thereto in good and substantial repair and condition and to do all repairs and work necessary to put and keep the same in such repair and condition;
- To permit the Lessors and/or their agent with or without workmen or others at all reasonable times in the day time and upon prior written notice to enter upon buildings erected on the demised pieces of land to view the condition thereof and upon notice being given by the Lessee or their agent to repair in accordance with his covenant in that regard;
- To insure and keep insured any buildings erected on the demised pieces of land against loss or damage by fire and other major catastrophes and to cause all sums received in respect of such insurance to be forthwith laid out and

\textsuperscript{79} See Rule 5 of the Schedule to the Act.
\textsuperscript{80} This is a matter for negotiation if the Lessee deems it necessary to have such “grace period”
\textsuperscript{81} This is required by section 5 (1) of the Act
\textsuperscript{82} This is required by section 9 of the Act
\textsuperscript{83} This is required by section 11(4) of the Act
expended in rebuilding and repairing or otherwise reinstating the same if the same be destroyed or damaged;

• To yield up the demised pieces with all non-tenant’s fixtures and fittings and any additions thereto in a state of tenantable repair at the end of the present tenancy;

• To pay all Solicitors charges relating to the preparation and registration of this agreement.

5.2 Corporate Social Responsibility
[In fulfillment of its corporate social responsibility to the local community in the Chiefdom where the land is situated the Lessee shall engage in such activities in as may be agreed upon with the Chiefdom Council, traditional rulers in local community relevant non-governmental agencies engaged in developmental work and other stakeholders and competent authorities in the chiefdom. Participation in community environmental and social planning with a commitment to aid in the plans’ implementation is an example of an arrangement likely to satisfy all parties’ interests.]

ARTICLE 6
OBLIGATIONS OF THE LESSORS

THE CHIEFDOM COUNCIL AND THE LANDOWNERS hereby covenant with the Lessee to permit the Lessee on its paying the rent hereby reserved and observing and performing the several covenants and stipulations on its parts contained peaceably and quietly TO HOLD and ENJOY the demised pieces of land during the term hereby created and during any optional term without any unlawful interruption by the Chiefdom Council the Landowners or any person or authority rightfully claiming under or in trust for the Chiefdom Council and/or the Landowners. The Chiefdom Council and the Landowners hereby covenant to perform their obligations under this agreement together in good faith. Breach by one Lessor does not relieve the remaining Lessors from their obligations under this agreement.

ARTICLE 7
FURTHER AGREEMENTS

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

7.1 RENEWAL OF THE LEASE
That if the Lessee shall be desirous of renewing the term hereby granted and of such desire shall prior to the expiration of the term hereby granted give 12 months written notice to the Chiefdom Council, the Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert the name of the district] District Council, and the Landowners respectively. Within 60 days from the date of receipt of the Lessor’s written notice by each the Chiefdom Council, Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert the name of the district], and the Landowners, the Chiefdom Council and the Landowners shall with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert name of the district] District Council grant to the Lessee a new Lease of the premises hereby demised for a further term of 21 (Twenty-One) years certain to commence from and after the expiration of the term hereinbefore created and with the like provisions and covenants as are herein contained at an increased rent to be agreed between the parties but provided always that any such increase shall not exceed [insert agreed percentage] percent of the rent paid for the term hereby granted.

7.2 RIGHT OF RE-ENTRY BY THE CHIEFDOM COUNCIL

• Absent the existence of a dispute between the Lessor and Lessee that is being handled in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.5, if the rent hereby reserved or any part thereof shall be in arrears for 21 (twenty-one) days after the same shall have become due (whether formally demanded or not), then it shall be lawful for the Chiefdom Council and the Landowners with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert name of the district] District Council at any time thereafter to re-enter upon any part of the demised premises in the name of the whole and thereupon this demise shall determine.

7.3 RIGHT TO TERMINATE AGREEMENT FOR LESSEE NON-PERFORMANCE

Absent the existence of a dispute between the Lessor and Lessee that is being handled in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.5, [if the Lessee shall fail to use the land for its stated purpose or fail to make improvements to the land as obligated under this agreement, then shall be lawful for the Chiefdom Council and the Landowners with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer of the [insert name of the district] District Council to terminate the agreement, at any time greater than [insert number of months] months after the execution of this agreement and [insert number of days] days after the issuance written notice to the Lessee. Lessee may respond to Lessor’s notice within [insert number of days] days of receipt by providing to Lessor, in writing, the reasonable justifications for the delay].
7.4 FORCE MAJEURE

- The obligations of each of the Parties hereunder, other than the obligations to make payments of money due, shall be suspended during the period and to the extent that such Party is prevented or hindered from complying therewith by Force Majeure (as hereinafter defined). In such event, such Party shall give notice of suspension as soon as reasonable possible to the other Parties stating the date and extent of such suspension and the cause thereof. Any of the Parties whose obligations have been suspended as aforesaid shall resume the performance of such obligations as soon as reasonable possible after the removal of the cause and shall so notify all the other Parties.
- In this Clause “Force Majeure” means any event which could not have been reasonably anticipated and avoided by the Party seeking to rely on such event and which is beyond its reasonable control including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) strikes, labour disputes and compliance with any laws, orders, rules, regulations or directions of governmental agencies or bodies in or applicable to Sierra Leone. “Force Majeure” shall not include the financial inability of any Party to meet its obligations and liabilities regardless of whether such inability results from applicable currency or investment controls or restrictions.
- Nothing herein shall require the Party concerned to settle strikes or labour disputes by acceding to demands deemed to be unreasonable by such Party but subject to this, the Party concerned shall use its reasonable endeavours to remove, avoid and/or mitigate the effects of such circumstances.

7.5 APPLICABLE LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- This Deed shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Sierra Leone law excluding any provisions thereof which would require the application of any other jurisdiction. All disputes arising in connection with this Deed, including disputes as to its existence, validity and termination, shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration Act Cap 25 of the Laws of Sierra Leone 1960 [or conducted at the London Court of International Arbitration under the ICC Arbitration Rules in effect on the date of this Agreement.]
- The arbitration award may include compensatory damages against any of the Parties, but under no circumstances shall the arbitrators be authorized to, nor shall they, award punitive damages or multiple damages against any Party.
- Each Party shall be solely responsible for its own costs and expenses incurred in connection with any arbitration proceedings under this Clause.
- Any arbitration hereunder shall be final and binding upon the Parties and the Parties hereby exclude any right of application or appeal to any court, to the extent that they validly may so agree, and in particular in connection with any question of law arising during the course of the arbitration
- The place of arbitration shall be [insert venue].
- The arbitrations proceedings shall be conducted, and any written decision shall be rendered, in the English language.
- Lessor and Lessee shall continue to perform their obligations under this agreement while resolution of the dispute is pending. Lessee shall make rental payments pursuant to the agreement into an escrow account, with the arbitration panel as authorized signer, in a bank located within the Republic of Sierra Leone.

7.6 NOTICES

Any notice required to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and may be given by delivering the same by hand or by sending the same prepaid first class post to the relevant address specified below or such other address as any Party may notify to the other Parties from time to time. Any such notice given as aforesaid shall be deemed to have been given or received (i) at the time of delivery if delivered by hand and (ii) the date of actual receipt if sent by post.

ARTICLE 8 MISCELLENEOUS

8.1 Entire Agreement

This Deed, any agreements and documents referred to in it and the Related Agreements embody the entire understanding of the Parties in respect of the matters contained or referred to herein and there are no promises, terms, conditions or obligations oral or written express or implied other than those contained in this Agreement and the surviving agreements and documents referred to in it.

8.2 Successors and Assigns

Subject to the limitations on transfer contained in Article 8.3 this Deed shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Parties.

8.3 Waiver

No waiver by any Party of any one or more defaults by another Party in the performance of this Deed shall operate or be construed as a waiver of any future default or defaults by the same Party, whether of a like or of a different character. Except as expressly provided in this Deed, no Party shall be deemed to have waived, released or modified any of its rights under this Deed unless such Party has expressly stated, in writing, that it does waive, release or modify such right.

8.4 Severance of Invalid Provisions

If and for so long as any provision of this Deed shall be deemed to be judged invalid for any reason whatsoever, such invalidity shall not affect the validity or operation of any other provision of this Deed except only so far as shall be necessary to give effect to the construction of such invalidity, and any such invalid provision shall be deemed severed from this Deed without affecting the validity of the remainder of this Deed.
THE SCHEDULE HEREINAFORE REFERRED TO:
PLOT NO.1
PLOT NO.2
ETC

IN WITNESS WHEREOF The aforementioned Paramount Chief and Chiefdom Speaker and the Councillor as representatives of the Chiefdom Council and the aforementioned representative (s) of the Landowners have hereunto set their respective hands and seals and the Common Seal of the Lessee has been hereunto affixed the day and year first above-written.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED for and on behalf of the CHIEFDOM COUNCIL by the within-named PARAMOUNT CHIEF

[        ] CHIEFDOM SPEAKER[        ]
and COUNCILLOR [        ]
and by the within-named [        ]
representative (s) of the Landowners
all as LESSORS

PARAMOUNT CHIEF

____________________________
CHIEFDOM SPEAKER

____________________________
COUNCILLOR

____________________________
LANDOWNERS REPRESENTATIVE(S)

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

1ST WITNESS:
NAME:
ADDRESS:
OCCUPATION:
SIGNATURE:

2ND WITNESS:
NAME:
ADDRESS:
OCCUPATION:
SIGNATURE:

The Chiefdom Councilors of Chiefdom, District, having consented in Open Assembly held at the said Chiefdom on the day of 2009 in customary manner to this Lease, I hereby give my approval:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Lease was executed in my presence:

____________________________
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
[        ] DISTRICT COUNCIL

SITHE COMMON SEAL of
the within-named LESSEE
the said [ ] COMPANY LIMITED
was hereunto affixed
IN THE PRESENCE OF:-

1ST WITNESS:
NAME:
ADDRESS:
OCCUPATION: DIRECTOR OF [ ] COMPANY LIMITED
SIGNATURE:

2ND WITNESS:
NAME:
ADDRESS:
OCCUPATION: COMPANY SECRETARY OF [ ] COMPANY LIMITED
SIGNATURE:

I hereby certify that this Lease was executed for and on behalf of the Lessee in my presence:

_____________________________
MAGISTRATE
[ ] DISTRICT

DATED THE ___ DAY OF ___ 20XX

PARAMOUNT CHIEF

CHIEFDOM SPEAKER

COUNCILLOR

REPRESENTATIVE OF LANDOWNERS

AND

[ ] COMPANY LIMITED

_____________________________
LEASE IN RESPECT OF ALL THOSE PIECES OR PARCELS OF LAND SITUATE Lying AND BEING AT [ ] CHIEFDOM [ ] DISTRICT IN THE [ ] PROVINCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

_____________________________
SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS ETC
The Community Impacts and Benefits Agreement shall include how the enterprise will implement the findings of the ESHIA and the specific terms and conditions of the agreement between the enterprise and the community members, following the Criteria of the Guidelines, including but not limited to:

**IMPACTS**
- Information on the third-party accredited firm engaged to conduct the ESHIA:
  - Name
  - Identity document/registration
  - Legal representation
  - Address
  - Telephone number
  - Email address

**A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL**
- Site area
- Nature of the project
- Time scale of operations

**ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND HEALTH BASELINE CONDITIONS**
- Topography and relief
- Climatic conditions
- Air quality
- Water and drainage
- Geology and soils
- Flora and fauna
- Landscape character and quality
- Human settlements and social characteristics
  - Local language requirements
  - Primary economic activities taking place
  - Project requirements for skilled and unskilled labour and services
  - Demographics
  - Nutrition (food security) statistics
  - Literacy rates
- Land use
- Land and natural resource requirements for project development

---

84 The applicant for an environmental, social, and health license shall prepare and submit a Scoping Report to the EPA before commencing detailed investigations as part of an environmental impact assessment.
**Potential Areas of Impact:** A one paragraph description of the potential areas of environmental, social, health impacts that could arise during each phase of the planned activity for each of the topics described in the baseline.

**Plan for Avoiding, Mitigating or Compensating for Potential Adverse Impacts:** One paragraph on the scope for minimizing impacts in relation to each of the topics described in the baseline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
<th>Preventative</th>
<th>Mitigation</th>
<th>Compensation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pilot</td>
<td>Nutrient runoff</td>
<td>IPNM</td>
<td>Waterway cleaning</td>
<td>Under US$50 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing plant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>construction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Large</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BENEFITS**

- A participatory framework;
- A statement on the company’s policy, procedures and institutional arrangements necessary to implement sustainable development opportunities in the host communities;
- A local employment and procurement strategy that commits the enterprise –
  - To a policy of utilizing local employment wherever practical during all stages of project development; and
  - To purchasing local materials and products wherever practical.
- A strategy outlining actions for improving the conditions of disadvantaged groups including women and youth, within the host community
- A community development programme which includes at least the following:
  - Objectives
  - Milestones
  - Implementation timetables
  - Schedule of anticipated expenditures
  - Metrics by which to measure progress
  - Periodic reporting to community including actual expenditures
  - How the plan works in coordination with GoSL priorities and activities, services, infrastructure provided to the affected communities.
  - How and when the plan will be reviewed for effectiveness and updated
  - How the plan will be amended and ratified by the community
  - Any other content mutually agreed by the community and the enterprise
OUTLINE OF INFORMATION REQUIRED

• Enterprise’s Commitment to Community Development

• Community Capacity to Negotiate
  » Identification of community legal representation and agreed rate for continual assistance through the Human Rights Commission’s Justice Fund for the life of the investment

• Contents of Community Development Agreement
  » Goal and objectives
  » Duration of the agreement and suspension or termination of the agreement
  » The person(s), committee, trust, body or other entity that shall manage the agreement
  » The person(s), committee, trust, body or other entity that represents the community
  » The means by which a registry of the community members will be developed, maintained, and updated
  » The means by which the interests of women, youth and sub-communities will be represented in the community agreement related to decision-making processes and implementation
  » The means and consultation process for defining the roles and obligations of the enterprise and the community for sustainable development
  » Roles and obligations of the enterprise to community development

• Planned activities to environmental, social, health, and economic development of the community
  » Roles and obligations of the community to the enterprise
  » Roles and obligations of any other party to the agreement
  » The means by which the Agreement will be reviewed and how parties will be bound by the current agreement if any modifications sought by one party can not be agreed to by the other party
  » The consultative and monitoring framework between the enterprise and the community and the means by which the community may participate in the planning, implementation, management, measurement and monitoring of activities
  » Communication mechanisms between parties
  » The language(s) to be used in the preparation of reports, plans, and other written matters required under the agreement
  » The means by which any funds made available under the agreement are to be disbursed, for what purposes they may be disbursed, and what accounts must be kept and by whom, and reporting and auditing requirements
  » Location where the agreement may be accessed by the parties
  » Grievance and dispute resolution mechanisms
  » Reasons and procedure for declaring force majeure
  » Explanation of the coordination with other development assistance provided by local or central planning authorities which are responsible for providing schools, medical centers, hospitals, and other social infrastructure to local communities
  » Transparency and annual reporting mechanisms
  » Signatures by the Enterprise, Paramount Chief, and Community Committee Representatives
REFERENCES AND RESOURCES
CONSULTATION


Forest People’s Programme. (2012). Respecting the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent: Practical guidance for governments, companies, NGOs, indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to land acquisition (DRAFT)


LAND TENURE


FOOD SECURITY


WATER USE AND MANAGEMENT


FAO. (2010). The wealth of waste: The economics of wastewater use in agriculture, Rome, Italy


http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsguidance/cwa/tmdl/upload/tmdl-sw_permits11172008.pdf

ENERGY ACCESS


http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user_media/Services/Energy_and_Climate_Change/EPP/Publications/bazilian%20et%20al%202010%20measuring%20energy%20access%20supporting%20a%20global%20target.pdf

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE


Global Bioenergy Partnership GHG Methodological Framework

FAO (2011) FAO Adapt Framework Programme on Climate Change Adaptation
http://www.fao.org/climatechange/27594-03ecd7bd225b93086e7dca3944de64307.pdf


McCarthy, N.; Lipper, L.; Branca, G. (2011). Climate-Smart Agriculture: Smallholder Adoption and Implications for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy


BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

Convention on Biological Diversity
http://www.cbd.int/

CITES
http://www.cites.org/

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-home/main/ramsar/1_4000_0_

International Plant Protection Convention
http://www.ippc.int/

IUCN Conservation Databases
http://www.iucn.org/knowledge/tools/databases/

Conservation International’s Rapid Assessment Program
https://library.conservation.org/Published%20Documents/RAP%2020%20Year%20Book%20Final%20pdf%2003-03-11.pdf

Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool, (IBAT)
https://www.ibatforbusiness.org/login

Global Invasive Species Program.N.d. Assessing the risk of invasive alien species promoted for biofuels: Available at


Weed risk assessment system

Land cover mapping sources:
• Global Land Cover Facility http://glc.f.umn.edu/
• USGS EarthExplorer http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/
• USGS DAAC https://lpdac.usgs.gov/

FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT

FAO, Fertilstat

International Fertilizer Association Manual (2011)


PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT


WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard and Guidelines to Classification
http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/pesticides_hazard/en

The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_welcome_e.html

FAO.(2010), Guidance on Pest and Pesticide Management Policy Development, Rome, Italy
(includes an outline of the IPM approach in Annex I, page 34)

FAO.(2001). Guidelines on Good Practice for Ground Application of Pesticides, Rome, Italy
http://www.fao.org/docrep/006/Y2767E/Y2767E00.HTM

Guideline on Good labelling practice for pesticides

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESIDUES

UNEP.(2005). Solid waste management


EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR RIGHTS

ILO Eight Core Conventions on Fundamental Human Rights

International Labour Organization standards

ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and related Conventions:

ISO 26000 – Social Responsibility
http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/management_and_leadership_standards/social_responsibility.htm

Social Accountability (SA) 8000
http://www.sa8000.info/
CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL SUPPLIERS


http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/17507IIED.pdf

FAO Contract Farming Resource Center


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT


http://www.fao.org/nr/com/gtzworkshop/a0892e00.pdf

GENDER EQUITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

FAO (2009). Gender equity in agriculture and rural development: A quick guide to gender mainstreaming in FAO’s new strategic framework, Rome, Italy


http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am293e/am293e01.pdf


http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am293e/am293e02.pdf

CULTURAL HERITAGE

IFC Performance Standard 8

http://www1.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/Topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/ifc+sustainability+framework/2012+edition/performancestandard8
GENERAL REFERENCES


FAO’s Investment Center, Guidelines for the Design of Agricultural Investment Projects

CREDITS

PHOTO CREDITS
Cover page, pages 1, 6, and 24 Luca Trinchieri
Page 11 Mohamed Kamara
Page 18 Lidia Martinez
Pages 3, 7, 28, 32, 38 and 67 Fulvio Cenci
Pages 5 and 14 P. Di Campo

DOCUMENT DESIGN
Giorgio Perugini

WITH SUPPORT FROM FAO ENERGY, BIOENERGY AND FOOD SECURITY PROJECT
www.fao.org/bioenergy/foodsecurity.befs/76973

LEAD CONSULTANTS
Elizabeth Beall and Lidia Martinez

FAO SIERRA LEONE OFFICE
PO Box 71, Freetown
UNFAO 11 Jallow Terrace
Aberdeen, Freetown
Sierra Leone
The Guidelines aim to be a comprehensive document outlining the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders; the process and procedures for investment approval; and the criteria and information required to address specific environmental and social issues. The Guidelines have been developed based on a review of the existing regulatory framework and an assessment of specific challenges and priorities related to agriculture and bioenergy development in Sierra Leone.

“The Guidelines fill an urgent need in Sierra Leone to establish new transparent governance structures that address existing policy and regulatory gaps, facilitate opportunities for investment, and create an enabling environment for food and energy security”

Yero Baldeh
Resident Representative for Sierra Leone, African Development Bank