



## **THE LAUNCH OF THE PRESIDENT'S RECOVERY PRIORITIES**

TONKOLILI DISTRICT COUNCIL HALL,  
MAGBURAKA, TONKOLILI DISTRICT

**MONDAY 20TH JUNE 2016**



THE PRESIDENT'S  
**RECOVERY**  
PRIORITIES



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Page | Item   |
|------|--|
| 4    | Programme  |
| 6    | Message from His Excellency the President                  |
| 10   | Message from the Chief of Staff                            |
| 14   | Vision Statements  |
| 18   | Key Result Areas of the<br>President's Recovery Priorities |
| 20   | Vision Statements (continued)                              |
| 28   | Message from Civil Society Organisations                   |
| 30   | Messages from Development Partners                         |

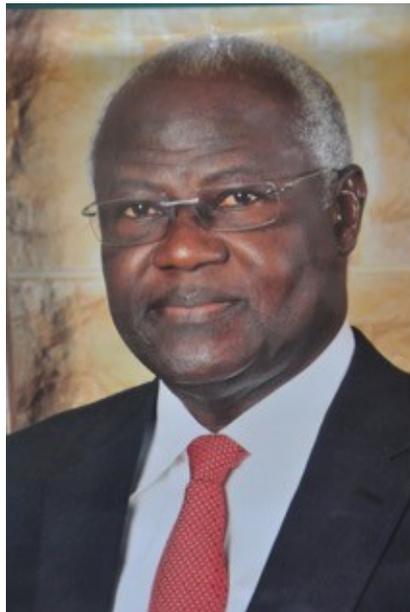
# PROGRAMME

**Chairperson:** Mrs Memunatu Pratt, University of Sierra Leone

| Time            | Agenda Items  | Speakers                                     |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 9.30-10.00am    | Registration and seating                            |  |
| 10.00 – 10.05am | Prayers   |  |
| 10.05 – 10.10am | Welcome   | Resident Paramount Chief, Magburaka Chiefdom |
| 10.10 – 10.15am | Purpose and Overview                                | Chief of Staff                               |
| 10.15 – 10.20am | Video Presentation                                  |  |
| 10.20 – 10.40am | Presentation of the President's Recovery Priorities | Delivery Team Lead                           |

| <b>Time</b>        | <b>Agenda Items</b>  | <b>Speakers</b>  |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 10.40 –<br>11.10am | State-<br>ments      | <p>President of the Association of Local Councils</p> <p>President of the Council of Paramount Chiefs</p> <p>Representative of Civil Society Organisations</p> <p>Representative of the Diplomatic Corps</p> <p>World Bank Country Manager</p> <p>United Nations Resident Representative</p> <p>Minister of Finance and Economic Development</p> |
| 11.10 –<br>11.15am | Musical<br>Interlude | Millicent Rhodes - <i>“Ebola don go, leh we mek Salone grow”</i>   |
| 11.15am            | Keynote<br>Address   | His Excellency the President Dr Ernest Bai Koroma  |
|                    | Vote of<br>thanks    | Beneficiary from the Early Recovery Phase  |

## **Message from His Excellency the President**



Last year, while we worked in partnership against the Ebola epidemic, we simultaneously tackled the resultant economic crisis. The slump in the price of commodities had added to the economic costs of Ebola, and plans for our recovery included the need to establish a more resilient foundation for Sierra Leone's future.

The first phase of our recovery process ended on 31 March 2016 and an independent evaluation has found that good progress has been made.

But we also acknowledge that there is still work to be done to put our economy back on the path of full recovery. And in the second phase of our recovery we have added Energy, Water and Governance to the initial priorities of Education, Health, Social Protection and Private Sector Development.

Over the next 12 months, we will strengthen the health sector to prevent future epidemics and save at least 600 women and 5000 children from dying. We will support our most vulnerable including over 4,000 Ebola survivors across the country and provide cash transfers to 47,000 families to help them out of poverty.

The major cause of our water crisis is the disregard for our conservation areas and we must all play our roles in reversing environmental damage. Together, we will alleviate our water crisis through new and rehabilitated infrastructure and attention to governance, improving access to water for 600,000 people in Freetown and over 700,000 people in rural areas.

My Government is committed to increasing access to energy, thereby improving the living conditions of 250,000 families and individuals around the country. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will train over 40,000 teachers, build new classrooms and introduce a national feeding programme for primary schools.

Collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security and the Ministry of Trade and Industry will help provide 10,000 more agricultural jobs, and targeted support for 1000 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises will enhance their competitiveness.

Addressing vital governance issues will be one of our greatest challenges in the year ahead as we work collectively against corruption. The Anti Corruption Commission's new 'Pay no Bribe' online platform gives everyone the tools to take part in the fight against corruption in our public services.

We will also give special attention to improving the operation of the Freetown port; improving the process of drug procurement and distribution; and ensuring long-term payroll system sustainability and accountability starting with the education and health sectors.

In our fight against Ebola and in our process of recovery, we must thank our international partners and the wider international community for their support. This is why we insist that all efforts align with these recovery priorities in pursuit of our joint vision for Sierra Leone's prosperity.

Our Recovery Priorities represent an investment in our people, our infrastructure and a new way of working - within government and across MDAs, with our development partners, with the private sector, and with the citizens of Sierra Leone.

Ebola don go; leh we make Salone grow!

## **Message from the Chief of Staff**

Over the past months, as the outcomes of the Early Recovery (6-9 month) phase have become increasingly evident and the benefits felt, we have simultaneously embarked upon planning the second phase of the recovery process in what has been an exceptionally challenging process of consultation and preparation.

The experience and expertise of 11 ministries, departments and agencies, the advice and experience of district chairs, traditional and community leaders, the support of international funding partners, the delivery expertise of national and international implementing partners and the lessons emerging from an independent process of evaluation, have been brought together in a recovery plan which has the potential to deliver significant benefits to the citizens and the economy of Sierra Leone.

This collaborative planning process is matched by an equally collaborative delivery mechanism, which unites the strengths, experience and expertise of all stakeholders – individual and institutional - in the future of our nation.

The outcome of this preparation is that today we are able to launch with confidence 13 key result areas across the seven priority sectors of education, energy, governance, health, private sector development, social protection and water.

These will create visible and tangible change in the form of better healthcare, improved education, a growing private sector within an enabling business environment, and protection for our most vulnerable – supported by improved utility infrastructure which will immediately increase access to power, water and waste management.

Underpinning this change and securing its sustainability is an increasingly robust system of governance which will deliver efficiency to government spending so that quality service delivery becomes the norm.

The design of the President's Recovery Priorities has been a partnership, with rights and responsibilities on all sides, and this principle continues through to its delivery. District Councils, religious leaders, traditional and community leaders and civil society have committed to being part of the effort. They have taken on roles as advocates, monitors and independent evaluators.

We all have a part in this process, not only as beneficiaries, but as originators and agents of the change we want to see in our nation, and our commitment to transparency will give individuals the tools to stake their claim.

Providing precise information on the activities that will improve our health, energy, education, private sector, social protection and water, via our website, through the media and in meetings, will contribute to a culture of accountability - the responsibility and answerability of institutions for delivering on their mandate – that will drive success.

These are the intangible but equally important components of recovery. Together with the physical and visible results of the President's Recovery Priorities, and the support of Sierra Leone's citizens we have the potential to begin the systemic change that will take Sierra Leone back onto the path towards the vision of sustainable middle income status that is articulated in our Agenda for Prosperity.

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Saidu Conton-Sesay', is centered on the page.

**Saidu Conton-Sesay**  
**Chief of Staff, the Office of the President**



Credits: Mike Duff





## Health

**Dr Abubakarr Fofanah**  
**Minister of Health and Sanitation:**

The gains we had made in improving health care for women and children through the Free Health Care Initiative were suddenly reversed in 2014 as Ebola struck the country. The tragic loss of healthcare workers' lives during the crisis only made the situation worse.

During the Early Recovery period, we restored basic services. Now we must work rapidly to create a health service that will stop pregnant women and children from dying needlessly and that will keep Sierra Leoneans safe and secure from disease outbreaks.

The plans launched today will save the lives of 600 more women and 5,000 more children. We are focusing on access and services at the community level, rolling out an enhanced Community Health Worker (CHW) programme that will support pregnant women to access services and deliver essential drugs such as malaria treatment to children. This new programme will ensure that no Sierra Leonean will find themselves more than 5km from a health worker.

By mid-2017, no health facilities should have stock outs of essential drugs. Twenty-nine facilities to care for pregnant women and newborn babies (25 'basic' and 4 'comprehensive' facilities) will be brought up to proper standards, including sanitation and hygiene facilities.

Ebola cost the lives of almost 4,000 Sierra Leoneans. The health system we build now will not let that happen again. We will work to improve community sanitation, hygiene, and/or solid waste management in Freetown, Makeni and Kenema, 400 rural communities and four small towns. Health facilities will benefit from strengthened 'water, sanitation, hygiene' and 'infection prevention and control' procedures and we will continue to improve data collection and surveillance systems to ensure that new disease outbreaks are picked up and responded to quickly.



## **Social Protection:**

**Dr Sylvia Blyden**  
**Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs:**

**Dr Abubakarr Fofanah**  
**Minister of Health and Sanitation:**

Our country is Ebola free – getting there and maintaining 'resilient zero' is an achievement of which we should all be proud. However, survivors and their families continue to suffer the long-term consequences of the disease. Caring for them and supporting them on their path to independence is the recovery focus of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs.

Our commitment is to deliver on our country's promise to provide free, continuous healthcare to our survivors, to support them in their crucial role maintaining awareness and vigilance within communities against any future outbreak, and to help them regain regular income and/or employment through skills training, loans for tools, materials and equipment or micro-credit.

Our delivery strategy to achieve this includes resourcing the Association of Ebola Survivors as partners in the process and establishing a definitive database of every single Ebola survivor in the country, so that not only will none of our heroes and heroines be left behind but we can ensure the social welfare and health needs of every single Ebola survivor are regularly monitored and made easily available for Government and partners to track.

**Mr Alie Badara Mansaray**  
**Commissioner, National Commission for Social Action:**

The combined shock to household budgets of Ebola and the fall in commodity prices increased levels of poverty and vulnerability across the country, creating a situation of urgent need which requires our immediate attention. The situation for many women, children and young people is particularly severe. These groups represent the future of Sierra Leone and must be supported to have stable livelihoods, where they and their households have a source of income, good health, safe water, education and nutrition.

NaCSA will provide cash transfers to over 47,000 extremely poor and vulnerable households, benefiting a total of around 282,000 Sierra Leoneans. Boosting the income available to these households will enhance their ability to access basic services such as healthcare, education, good nutrition and water. Crucially, NaCSA will also provide income to 11,600 youths through a Labour Intensive Public Works programme in the form of conditional cash transfers or cash for work.



## THE PRESIDENT'S **RECOVERY** PRIORITIES

### KEY RESULT AREAS



#### **Health**

- Save the lives of 600 women and 5,000 children
  - Prevent, detect, respond to epidemics and ensure zero cases of EVD
- 



#### **Social protection**

- Ensure continuous care for EVD-affected persons and survivors
  - Provide income support to 59,000 vulnerable households
- 



#### **Education**

- Improve learning outcomes by training at least 40,000 teachers in core subjects and reducing overcrowding in severely affected schools
- Nationwide school feeding for 1.2 million children in all GoSL / GoSL-assisted primary schools



## THE PRESIDENT'S RECOVERY PRIORITIES

### KEY RESULT AREAS



#### **Private sector development**

- Create 10,000 jobs across key agriculture value chains
- Support 1,000 MSMEs to increase their competitiveness, including agribusinesses across key value chains



#### **Water**

- Provide safe, affordable and sustainable water supply services to 600,000 people in Freetown
- Provide safe water supply to over 700,000 people in the districts



#### **Energy**

- Double access to electricity from 125,000 to 250,000 households
- Double the total operational power generation capacity from 75 MW to 150 MW



#### **Governance**

- Improve service delivery and efficiency of Government spending for recovery priority sectors



## Education

**Dr Minkailu Bah**  
**Minister of Education, Science and Technology:**

Getting children back to school and learning again has been a priority for all of us since the Ebola crisis. Now, we have an opportunity to go further. In this next phase, we will focus on three core areas: first, we will enhance school approval and teacher recruitment policy; second, we will improve learning environments by adding new classrooms in at least 150 severely overcrowded schools and ensuring all schools affected have adequate water and sanitation facilities; and third, we will train at least 40,000 teachers on how to effectively deliver new core content in maths and English. With clearer policies, better schools, and more effective teaching, our education system will generate great momentum for the country's children.

School children should not be hungry. Next school year, we will introduce nationwide school feeding, with community-based ownership starting with at least two meals a week for 1.2 million children in public schools. Everyone will benefit: Student attendance and retention will increase, local communities will be empowered. We will be a stronger nation as a result.



## Private Sector Development

**Capt. Momodu Allieu Pat-Sowe**  
**Minister of Trade and Industry:**

The Ebola crisis severely impacted local businesses. Our goal during the Recovery period is to support 1,000 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) across key value chains to become more resilient and increase their competitiveness. We will do this by creating an enabling environment for MSMEs, connecting them to markets, and helping them access affordable finance and assistance to help their businesses grow.

In the Early Recovery phase, we legislated the creation of agencies to support SME and local content development. These will become fully operational and, at the same time, we will focus on increasing the effectiveness of commercial justice and developing the capacity of the Standards Bureau, Produce Monitoring Board, Produce Marketing Company, and SLIEPA.

Working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security to add value to Sierra Leone's farm products and find new markets for them, notably by increasing the quantity of locally-sourced crops for security forces and other public institutions, will contribute to increased marketing and business opportunities in the sector, which will in turn improve living standards of Sierra Leoneans and boost our economy.

**Prof Monty Jones**  
**Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security:**

Agriculture is the backbone of our economy, and our vision is for a vibrant, productive agricultural sector that creates jobs for youth, boosts growth, lifts vulnerable households out of poverty, and takes the country closer to our goal of food self-sufficiency.

Our recovery strategy focuses on improving the agriculture and livestock sector's productivity and value addition of locally-grown products. We will do this by tapping into opportunities presented by our agribusiness sector, including outgrower schemes that integrate smallholder farmers in the value chains.

Farmers are already receiving quality inputs and training in modern farming techniques, which will improve yields as early as next harvest. Fifty two Agricultural Business Centres will be overhauled and agro-processing facilities will be serviced and upgraded. Over 1,000 kilometres of feeder roads will be constructed to help farmers get their produce to markets. We will also rehabilitate land and swamp cultivation to increase Sierra Leone's production of staple and cash crops such as rice, oil palm, cocoa, coffee and cashew, and promote reforestation. These measures will help create 10,000 more jobs across key agricultural value chains.



## Water

**Mr Momodu Maligi**  
**Minister of Water Resources:**

Water is the source of all life and our country needs clean, safe and reliable water supply. During the Recovery period, we will work with donor partners to make sure that our water infrastructure is upgraded, catchment areas stabilised and public management of water reformed.

Guma Valley was built over 50 years ago to serve a maximum population of 500,000 people. With Guma now servicing over one million people, we will act quickly to improve the availability of water by rehabilitating our service reservoirs that are currently out of service and pumping stations, extending access to 600,000 people in the process. We will do this by rehabilitating crucial Freetown water supply infrastructure, including those at Allen Town, Regent, Gloucester, Kaningo, Hill Station and Wilberforce so that communities serviced by those systems experience greater reliability of water supply.

We will work with the Ministry of Agriculture to regenerate and reforest 90% of the water catchment areas under serious threat to safeguard water security. With your support, we will ensure these areas are protected.

Working with Local Councils and SALWACO, we will extend water access to over 700,000 people in the districts by rehabilitating, deepening and constructing water supply systems, thus reducing reliance on contaminated surface water and improving their health, welfare and economies.



## Energy

**Mr Henry Macauley  
Minister of Energy:**

In alignment with the Agenda for Prosperity and the Ministry of Energy's National Strategic Plan 2014-2018, the Ministry of Energy together with its agencies for sector regulation, power generation, transmission and distribution, is desirous to implement access to clean energy nationwide. In this regard, the Government is progressing with the implementation of this agenda through the deployment of energy projects that will have the following desired outcomes:

*The doubling of the nation's energy generation capacity*

The sector will work with leading private sector providers to double operational power output on the grid from 75MW to 150MW by the end of 2017, through a mixture of renewable and non-renewable energy sources, including off-grid power solutions to service a number of hospitals, health facilities and schools.

*Increasing the nation's access to power*

The sector is expanding its transmission network, and will double access to electricity from 125,000 to 250,000 households by the end 2017. Communities and businesses within Bo, Kenema, Koidu, as well as the many unserved communities in the country will all benefit from this increase.



## **Governance**

Governance reforms will aid social and economic recovery by improving service delivery and efficiency of Government spending across key Recovery Priority Sectors.

We will consider the recommendations of an international, independent review of the national drug procurement and distribution system to make sure that Free Health Care Initiative drugs get to the right clinics, at the right time and are available to those who need them.

We will update health worker and teacher payrolls, ensuring the right people get paid for the work they do and that systems which allow 'ghost' workers to claim salaries unfairly are fixed once and for all.

**Mr Ady Macauley, Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission:**

We will roll out the 'Pay No Bribe' Campaign, which puts the weapons to beat the evil of corruption in Sierra Leone into the hands of the public. It allows individuals to tell us in confidence when they have been asked to pay a bribe for health, education, water, power and police services. Ministries and Agencies will act on this information to tackle bribery 'hotspots' and will report back to the public on the action they have taken.

**Mr Abu Bangura, General Manager, Sierra Leone Ports Authority:**

We will drive down the time and costs of doing business through the port at Freetown, simplifying and demystifying clearance and export tariffs/processes, and ensuring crucial medical and agricultural supplies get to where they need to be quickly.

## **Message from Civil Society Organisations**

Civil Society Organisations in Sierra Leone support the priorities identified in the President's Recovery Priorities and believe that the prioritised sectors - health, education, social protection, energy, governance, water and the private sector - are critical to addressing the challenges that confront Government and the people of Sierra Leone. We welcome the progress made so far, and genuinely hope that all actors, including our international development partners will remain committed to the full implementation of the plan.

Civil Society Organisations in Sierra Leone shall be willing and ready to support the implementation of the plan by, among other ways, monitoring programme implementation and contributing to educating the public about the recovery plan and conducting independent impact assessment. We recognise the Delivery Team's commitment to a transparent and accountable delivery plan and urge them to remain engaged with civil society for the purposes of building a strong and effective partnership.

It is also important that a communication strategy – aimed at keeping the citizens engaged and informed – is developed and effectively implemented across the country. We are particularly pleased to have heard from the leadership of the President’s Recovery Priorities Delivery Team that they will engage Local Councils and Paramount Chiefs in the implementation of the recovery plan. This is important not only because it enhances local ownership of the plan, but it also helps to enhance sustainability of the gains made in the course of implementation.

Abdul-Rahman M. Sesay

Non-State Actors, Western Region Co-ordinator

## Messages from Development Partners



### **African Development Bank**

The African Development Bank is committed to supporting the President's Recovery Priorities, with enhanced interventions on areas of quick wins in the sectors of energy, water supply and sanitation, social protection and private sector development including agro-business. The ADB medium to long term strategy for Sierra Leone contributes to deepening Sierra Leone's transformation and transitioning towards a more resilient development path through enhancing economic governance and transparent management of natural resources revenue as well as supporting transformational and sustainable infrastructure development to facilitate inclusive green growth, enhance private sector development and competitiveness and foster regional integration.



Department  
for International  
Development

### **Department for International Development (UK Government)**

The UK is providing £240 million of new funding to Sierra Leone in direct support of the President's Recovery Priorities, as part of our ongoing relationship with the Government of Sierra Leone. This is a unique opportunity, to improve the speed and effective implementation of development programmes, to lay a solid platform for economic recovery and growth and to bring about real and enduring improvements to the lives of the people of Sierra Leone.



### **The European Union**

The European Union is making a significant contribution to the President's Recovery Priorities through short and medium-term programmes channelled primarily through Government entities. These include a substantial budget support programme, agriculture and education sector programmes and funding for improved access to education and health facilities, all driven by Government ownership, coordination and sustainability criteria.



## **GIZ**

Germany is in full support of the President's Recovery Priorities. The German Government contributes to the implementation of the Programme in the priority areas Private Sector Development, Health and Governance via its implementing agencies GIZ and KfW and various international NGOs operating in the country.



## **International Finance Corporation**

IFC as the private sector development arm of the World Bank Group is committed to continuing its support to the Government of Sierra Leone. IFC recognizes the importance of the private sector as the engine of growth and in support of the Government of Sierra Leone's priorities for economic recovery beyond Ebola, will work on providing access to finance, linking SMEs to markets and will address issues to improve the investment climate.



### **Irish Government:**

Ireland is delighted to support the President's Recovery Priorities. We particularly welcome the focus on prevention of teenage pregnancy, agricultural diversification and critical reforms such as that of the pharmaceutical supply system and the education payroll which will have a major long-term positive impact on the lives of Sierra Leoneans.



### **Japan International Cooperation Agency**

JICA is supporting the President's Recovery Priorities with two pillars: infrastructure improvement and human capacity development. Our focus is on health, energy, agriculture and rural development, hoping to contribute to the wellbeing of the people.



### **The United Nations**

The United Nations fully supports the implementation of the President's Recovery Priorities and the focus on rebuilding a resilient nation. Following the recent challenges faced by Sierra Leone, the UN stands ready to bring its global expertise to support the recovery priorities within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals.



### **The US Government**

The United States is proud to join the Government of Sierra Leone and other international partners to support the President's Recovery Priorities. Through U.S. CDC, USAID, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and our private sector investments, we will continue to work with the government to improve the delivery of power and water, strengthen health systems, support food security, and build a more vibrant economy. We congratulate Sierra Leone on the launch of the President's Recovery Priorities, and look forward to working together to put Sierra Leone on a path towards sustainable long-term prosperity.



## **The World Bank**

The World Bank's support is fully aligned with the President's Recovery Priorities. We support the approach adopted to focus on a few priorities that are implemented through local communities. This is an approach that was adopted to defeat Ebola and we are pleased to see it translated into the development sector. We are supporting Private Sector Development, including jobs and productivity in the agriculture sector, improving quality in education, health sector systems development, social protection, and energy. A key overarching focus for us is on supporting ongoing initiatives in governance – especially accountability, citizen's engagement and strengthening anti-corruption activities.

[www.presidentsrecoverypriorities.gov.sl](http://www.presidentsrecoverypriorities.gov.sl)