



Government of Sierra Leone

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) through the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has requested financing in the amount of US\$ 50 million from the World Bank Crisis Response Window as an Additional Financing (AF) to the Sierra Leone component of the West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) Phase 2. The Project Development Objective (PDO) of FSRP-SL is to increase preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in Sierra Leone. The Government of Sierra Leone will use this grant to address the immediate impact of the global food security crisis on the most vulnerable population and scale up the investment in food security and resilience interventions in response to severe food and nutrition insecurity in Sierra Leone. The PCU of MAF will coordinate the overall implementation of national subcomponents with national project objectives that are aligned with regional project's objectives.

The Food System Resilience Program (FSRP2) has five key components that are oriented towards medium to long-term investments aimed at building the resilience of the food systems and the country's productive base. These five core components are described below: Component 1: Digital Advisory Services for Agriculture and Food Crisis Prevention & Management, Component 2: Sustainability and Adaptive Capacity of the Food System's Productive Base, Component 3: Regional Market Integration & Trade, Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) and Component 5: Project management. The Contingency Emergency Response Component is being activated as part of the project restructuring that accompanies the Additional Financing to make resources available to address the current food insecurity crisis. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's National Development Partners Project Coordinating Office (NDPPCO) will manage the project, working with national and regional implementing partners.

FSRP was prepared under the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). The following eight Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) are applicable to the project:

- ESS1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
- ESS2: Labor and Working Conditions
- ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management
- ESS4: Community Health and Safety
- ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement
- ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources
- ESS 8: Cultural Heritage
- ESS10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Consequently, the Government of Sierra Leone, through the **Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**, has prepared the following safeguards instruments:

- (1) *Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)*
- (2) *Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)*
- (3) *Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)*
- (4) *Pest Management Plan (PMP)*
- (5) *Labor Management Procedure (LMP)*
- (6) *Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)*

These frameworks would guide mitigation of any potential negative impacts in accordance with Sierra Leone and World Bank requirements. The ESCP, ESMF, PMP, RPF, LMP and SEP have been prepared in consultations with different stakeholders at regional and national levels, in May 2022, to guide mitigation of any potential negative impacts in accordance with Sierra Leone and World Bank requirements. The above listed safeguards instruments are being updated to reflect the additional safeguards risk associated with the activities to be financed under the AF. This publication announces the public disclosure of the ESCP and SEP which have been updated to address the potential impacts of the AF.

The *Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)* articulates planned activities and timelines for managing and or monitoring the project's ESS framework.

The *Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)* promotes and supports inclusive and transparent participation of all stakeholders in the design and implementation of the FRSP-SL project.

During implementation, site specific action or management plans will be prepared by MoA, using consultative processes guided by the Frameworks, prior to starting any project activities that entail environmental and social impacts. The Ministry is, through this publication, giving the public:

**NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE FOR THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SAFEGUARDS INSTRUMENTS
AS PART OF THE REQUIREMENT OF THE WORLD BANK SAFEGUARDS COMPLIANCE
MEASURES**

The two safeguard documents: ESCP and SEP are now being disclosed to the Public and can be found at the following offices: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), the Sierra Leone Meteorology Department (SLMD), the Ministry of Water Resources, SLARI, the Department of Soil Science at Njala University and Ministry of Finance (MoF).

A Public Disclosure meeting will be held at MAFS Youyi Building Freetown on open to all stakeholders and the general public for further enquiries about the project and to access the documents.

Copies of the two (2) updated safeguards documents can also be accessed from the following websites: <https://maf.gov.sl/food-system-resilience-program/> These documents will also be disclosed on the World Bank's website.

All queries and enquiries should be forwarded to:

**Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security First Floor, Youyi Building
Freetown, Sierra Leone
May 9th, 2022**