



REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

**REGIONAL EMERGENCY SOLAR POWER INTERVENTION (RESPITE)
PROJECT (P179267)**

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

4 December 2025

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AF	Additional Financing
ARAP	Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan
CLSG	Côte d’Ivoire-Sierra Leone-Sierra Leone-Guinea
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EDSA	Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority
DSI	Design and Supply Installation
EGTC	Electricity Generation and Transmission Company
ESHIA	Environmental, Social and Health Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management Specialist
ESMU	Environmental and Social Management Unit
ESURP	Energy Sector Utility Reform Project
EWRC	Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission
FM	Financial Management
FMS	Financial Management Specialist
GoSL	Government of Sierra Leone
GPC	General Project Coordinator
GM	Grievance Mechanism
IDA	International Development Association
IFC	International Finance Corporation
LV	Low Voltage
MLCPH	Ministry of Lands Country Planning and Housing
MoE	Ministry of Energy
NGOs	Nongovernmental Organizations
NPA	National Power Authority
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PAP	Project-affected People
PIT	Project Implementation Team
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PMT	Project Management Team
PMU	Project Management Unit
PV	Photovoltaic
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
SEA/SH	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment
WDC	Ward Development Committee
WAPP	West African Power Pool

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Sierra Leone is one of the countries in the West Africa sub-region with one of the lowest electrification rates, where only 23% of Sierra Leoneans have access to electricity, which is below the Sub-Saharan average of 30%. The country like many other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, is also faced with inadequate infrastructure, high losses, and inadequate generation capacity have tried to meet demand through oil-based Emergency Power Plants (EPPs), which has resulted in high costs of electricity supply. Rising oil prices have further increased the liabilities of electricity utility companies/providers who are unable to pay for their power purchases and often turn to the government for additional support to keep the lights on. With very limited fiscal space to support the rising sector arrears, countries are staring at an acute power supply crisis that threatens to upend their economic growth.

The Ukraine war exacerbated the situation with the rising prices, especially the fuel/oil price which is leading to important fiscal impacts for the region given the continued dependence on oil-based generation. The Regional Emergency Solar Power Intervention (RESPITE) Project is an emergency response to the Ukraine war and supports clean energy transition. Ukraine war and resulting oil price rise is leading to important fiscal impacts for the region given the continued dependence on oil-based generation. The proposed project will increase the supply of clean energy on the grid, help four (4) West African countries Sierra Leone, Liberia, Chad, and Togo to move away from expensive and polluting diesel and HFO generation, reduce fiscal impacts of rising oil prices and provide some space for countries to address food crisis resulting from the Ukraine war. Therefore, the Government of Sierra Leone will implement the Regional Emergency Solar Power Intervention (RESPITE) Project to be financed by World Bank (WB). The proposed electrification project supports the government sector strategy and builds on WB's sustained engagement in the country's energy sector. The main objective of the project is to increase electricity access rates and improve the financial performance of the power sector. The proposed activities, when completed, will enhance the capacity of the distribution network to take and distribute additional electricity from New 10MW solar PV generation plant at Lungi to load centers in Port Loko, Papel, Lungi airport, Lungi Lol, and additional 30 mw solar PV generation plant with battery energy storage system at Newton to be linked to existing 161kv and 33kv lines near the site respectively. Njala in Mokonde is also expected to get a 1mw solar plant. The proposed project will increase the supply to the university and neighboring surroundings.

Additionally, Release by SCATEC in collaboration with the Government of Sierra Leone funded by International Finance Corporation (IFC) and WB, is developing a Photovoltaic Power Plant of about 40MWp which is a component covering a total surface of 45Ha, located in Kamakwie, Sella Limba Chiefdom, Karene District, in Sierra Leone's Northern Region. The Solar Power Plant Capacity, 40MWp PV plant, with provisions in the electrical system and land set aside for battery installation at a later stage. The land is owned by Local communities, which is presently not in use. The PV plant will connect to the Kamakwie substation.

The transmission line from the Substation to the Solar Plant will be constructed by the Project Company

The project aims to improve electricity generation in Sierra Leone as part of a World Bank initiative by way of solar PV generation and battery energy storage, interconnection, and other generation capacity, and further improve the technical and commercial performance of the Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority (EDSA).

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared in accordance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and IFC Performance Standards on Stakeholders Engagement and Information Disclosure (ESS10), which requires the preparation, disclosure, adoption, and implementation of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), as well as to maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism as described in the SEP in a manner consistent with ESS10 and acceptable to the Bank.

Stakeholder engagement is about building and maintaining constructive relationships over time. In this context, it is the two-way interaction between stakeholders and the government implementing agencies that gives stakeholders a voice in decision-making with the objective of improving the development outcomes of the intervention. It is an ongoing process that extends throughout the life of the project and encompasses a range of activities and approaches, from information sharing and consultation to participation, negotiation, and partnerships. The nature and frequency of this engagement would reflect the level of project risks and impacts.

1.2 Purpose, Objective, and Rationale of SEP

The purpose of this Stakeholder Engagement Plan is to describe the project's strategy and program for engaging with stakeholders in a culturally appropriate manner: encompassing guiding principles, how stakeholders will be identified and involved throughout the course of the project, provide information on previous engagements undertaken, prescribe processes and procedures to be followed for stakeholder engagement and information disclosure, and outline the responsibilities of the relevant institutions and contractors in the implementation of upcoming engagement activities etc. The goal is to ensure the timely provision of relevant and understandable information to all stakeholders. It is also to create a process that provides opportunities for stakeholders to express their views and concerns and allows the project to consider and respond to them.

Key principles that will undergo effective engagement include:

- Providing meaningful information in a format and language that is readily understandable and tailored to the needs of the target stakeholder group(s)
- Providing information in advance of consultation activities and decision-making
- Disseminating information in ways and locations that make it easy for stakeholders to access it
- Respect for local traditions, languages, timeframes, and decision-making processes
- Two-way dialogue that allows both sides to exchange views and information, to listen, and to have their issues heard and addressed
- Inclusiveness in representation of views, including women, vulnerable, and/or minority groups
- Processes free of intimidation or coercion
- Clear mechanisms for responding to people's concerns, suggestions, and grievances

- Incorporating feedback into project or program design and reporting back to stakeholders

The objectives of the SEP include the following:

- **Ensuring open and transparent understanding between the project and stakeholders:** A good stakeholder engagement should ensure an open, inclusive, and transparent process that is sensitive to the cultural and social environments of the stakeholders.
- **Involving stakeholders in implementation:** Local knowledge and information plays an important role in project preparation, implementation and management, including scoping, impact assessments, disclosure and validation of all safeguard instruments.
- **Building relationships:** Open, fair and transparent dialogue and engagement will help establish and maintain a productive relationship between the project team and stakeholders.
- **Engaging vulnerable groups:** Often, the concerns of vulnerable people are not adequately addressed but an open and inclusive approach to the consultation would increase the opportunity for stakeholders to provide comments on the Project, and to voice their concerns. Some stakeholders, however, need special attention in such a process due to their vulnerability. Special measures will be considered to ensure that the perspectives of vulnerable stakeholders are heard and considered.
- **Managing expectations:** The expectations of stakeholders are usually very high, and it is important to ensure that the Project does not unrealistically raise the expectations of stakeholders on proposed project benefits. The engagement process will serve as a mechanism for understanding and managing stakeholder and community expectations, where the latter will be achieved by disseminating accurate information in a timely and accessible way. Information will be made freely, transparently, and objectively by EDSA/EGTC/EWRC/ to all stakeholders.
- **Ensuring compliance:** The stakeholder engagement process will ensure compliance with both local regulatory requirements and international best practice.
- Provide project-affected parties with accessible, inclusive, and culturally sensitive means to raise issues and grievances, and allow the EDSA/EGTC/EWRC/MOE to respond to and manage such grievances effectively.

1.3 Project Description

The proposed project is aligned with GoSL's sector development and electrification goals as stipulated in the new Medium-Term National Development Plan (2019–2023), entitled "Education for Development: A New Direction for Improving People's Lives through Education, Inclusive Growth, and Building a Resilient Economy".¹ The new MTNDP aims at increasing the country's electricity access from about 15 to 30 percent, including the electrification of all district headquarters by 2023. The government has conducted various studies and analyses, supported by donors, to derive a general path to gradually increase the electricity access rate.

Sierra Leone's mid-term energy plan, notably the "Mission 300," focuses on significantly increasing energy access and capacity, aiming for over 1,000 MW of installed capacity and 78% electrification by 2030. Key strategies include expanding renewable energy sources, developing both grid-connected and mini-grid systems, and attracting private and multilateral investment

¹ http://moped.gov.sl/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/sierra_leone_national_development_plan-1.pdf

through de-risking reforms. The plan seeks to make the country a net energy exporter and boost economic growth by powering businesses, agriculture, and households (Mid-Term Development Goal 2024- 2030)

The Project will be implemented in four of Sierra Leone's 16 districts. The total population in these two districts, Port Loko, Kerene, Moyamba, and Western Rural District, accounts for about 23.8.9.8% of the country's total population (Statistics Sierra Leone, 2021 midterm census). See Figures 1a and 1b for beneficiary project districts.

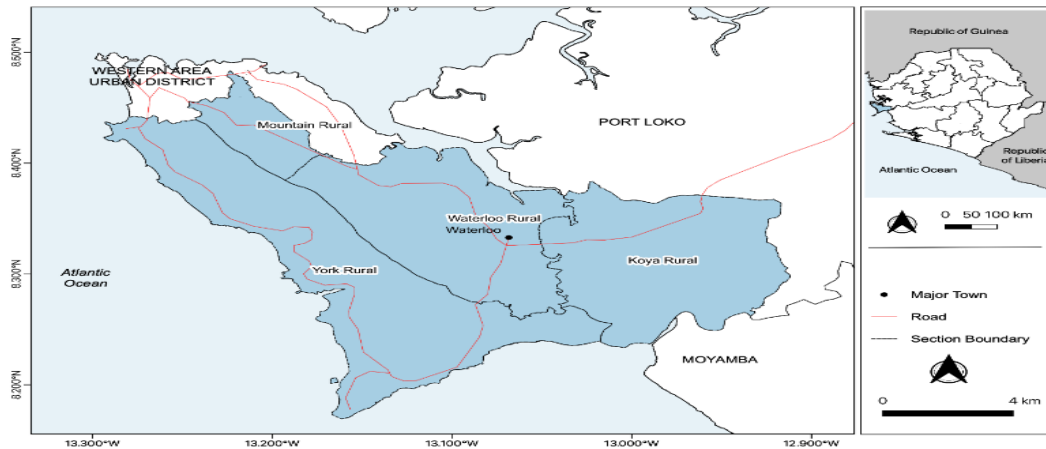


Figure 1a: Beneficiary Project Districts- Western Area Rural



Figure 1b: Beneficiary Project Districts- Port Loko District

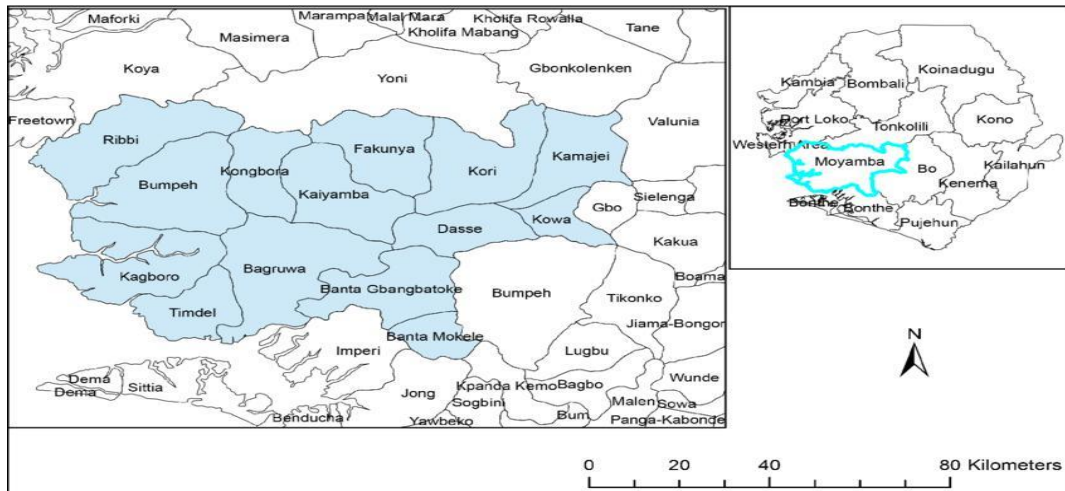


Figure 1c Beneficiary Project Districts- Moyamba District

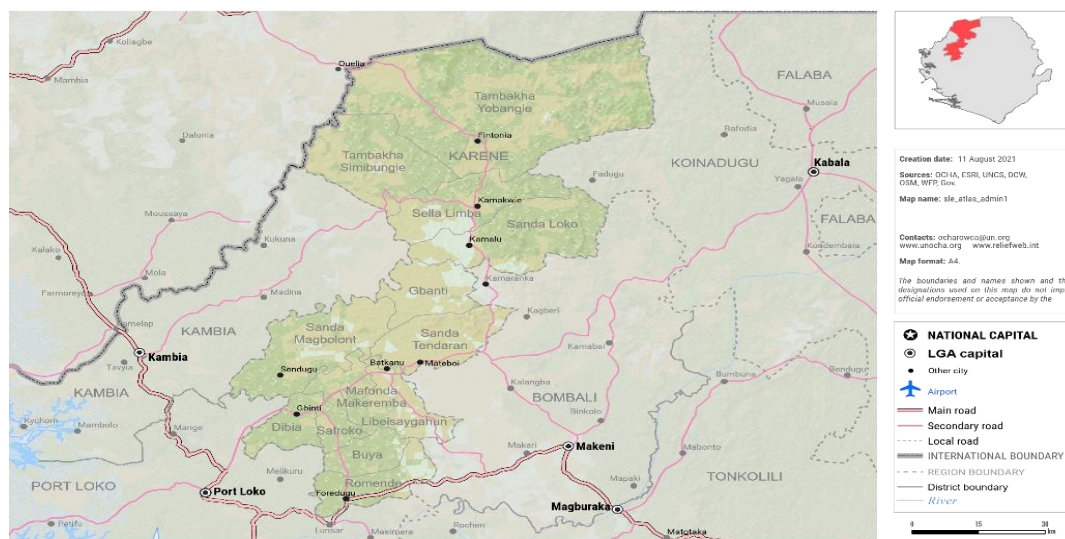


Figure 1d Beneficiary Project Districts- Karene District

In specific, the project will support the development of 45MWp (30MWac) with 5 MWh Battery storage and addition of 5 MWh battery storage to the existing 6MWp/4.9MWac solar plant at Newton (USD 45 million). A 1MW solar plant will be constructed in Kamakwei and Njala Respectively. A 6 MWp solar power plant has been developed in the Newton area (see below, Figure 1c) through a grant from Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD). The RESPITE project will finance the design-supply-installation (DSI) and O&M for additional storage capacity for the existing plant and add 45MWp (30MWac) of ground-mounted solar PV. The proposed site is at 8.322621°, -12.993666, with the government already having acquired the 120 acres of land. The site will be linked to the proposed Waterloo substation through a 33kV line and further to the 161kV Bumbuna transmission line to Newton.

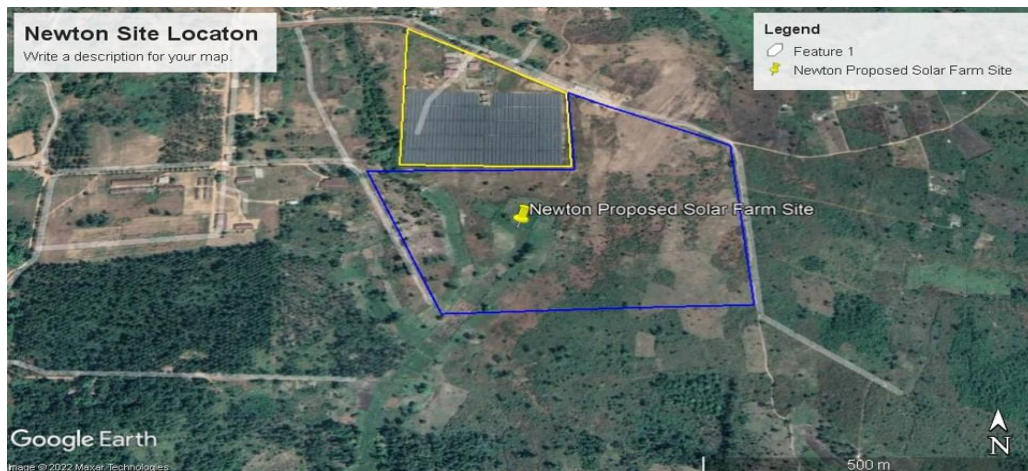


Figure 1e. Proposed site at Newton in Sierra Leone. (Source: Government of Sierra Leone)

The project will also support the Construction of 15MWp (10MWac) solar PV plant in Lungi Airport Area with 5MVa storage (USD 20 million): A 15MWp (10 MWac) solar PV site is planned in the Lungi area (see Figure 2) that houses the Lungi International Airport and the government has identified land (8.663171, -13.187704) for this purpose. The proposal is for a 15MWp (10MWac) fix tilt PV power plant connected to the existing MV switching station at Lungi through 11kV lines. The project will finance the DSI and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) for the 15MWp (10MWac) solar PV plant and 5MVa/5MWh storage system as well as the construction of 11kV connection to the existing 11kV substation at Lungi Airport. See below 2



Figure 2. Proposed site at Lungi in Sierra Leone (Source: Government of Sierra Leone)



Figure 3. Proposed site at Kamakwei in Sierra Leone (Source: Government of Sierra Leone)

Finally, the project will support the Bumbuna-Freetown 161kV transmission line capacity requirement for voltage performance and Supply and installation of 33kV and 11kV lines to optimize the integration of the Newton Solar Park (USD 6 million): This sub-component will finance the works associated with increasing the wheeling capacity of the existing 161kV transmission line from 70MW to 90MW. The 161kV line is around 205km long, which results in a high impedance that induces voltage drop along this line, especially during peak demand operations, and significantly impacts both the power transfer and voltage profiles in Freetown. The planned solar PV plant at Newton will evacuate part of its generation in the 161kV transmission line and will also use a 33kV sub-transmission line that is under the existing ESURP project (P12304). The project will cover the cost of design, procurement, and installation of devices for reactive power compensation (capacitor banks) for voltage regulation support and the 33kV and 11kV distribution lines needed to optimize the use of the solar park generation. Increasing the 161kV line capacity will alleviate grid congestion and help in meeting the rapidly growing demand in Western Areas.

2.0 APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

This SEP is prepared in accordance with Environmental and Social Standard 10 of the World Bank's and IFC Environmental and Social Performance Standards, and the national institutional and regulatory requirements to stakeholder participation in development initiatives. The SEP will comply with stakeholder consultation and information disclosure requirements as stipulated in national legal instruments and international best practice.

2.2 Key National Legislation and Policies on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

The national laws, regulations and policies that are related to stakeholder engagement and information disclosure as follows:

The Constitution of Sierra Leone: Section 3 of the Sierra Leone Constitution guarantees the fundamental human rights and freedoms of the individual without regard to race, tribe, place of origin, political opinion, colour, creed or gender; which must be exercised in consonance with the rights and freedoms of others and for the public interest. Paragraph 25 of Section 3, which states that no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of expression, including the freedom to hold opinions, receive and impart ideas as well as information without interference, is consistent with the provisions of ESS10 that admonish for full disclosure of project information to all stakeholders.

The Local Government Act, 2004 (as amended in 2017): The Local Government Act, 2003 has a number of areas where stakeholder consultation is required. For example, Section 23 makes provision for local councils to be consulted by central government ministries, departments, agencies, NGOs, etc. in development projects. Then Section 85 (4) notes that "A local council shall, before approving or reviewing a development plan, consult residents of the locality, agencies of Government and non-governmental and international organizations that have interest in working in the locality". It is therefore expected that the PIU, in collaboration with the Local Councils, will actively engage and consult project stakeholders, especially those at the community level and other disadvantaged segments of the society.

The Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008 (as Amended in 2022): The EPA Act is the legislation governing the protection of the environment in Sierra Leone. The Third Schedule (under Section 26) of the Act describes the content of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and admonishes that EIA must report on communities, interested parties and Government ministries consulted and by extension issues consulted on. In terms of information disclosure, a requirement of ESS10, Section 27 (1) of the Environment Protection Agency Act, 2008 stipulates that the Agency upon receiving the draft EIA report shall circulate it to professional bodies, associations, ministries, and governmental organizations for their comments. Under Section 27 (2), the Agency is also required to openly display the EIA report in two consecutive issues of the Gazette as well as in the newspapers to allow for public viewing. The proponent is expected to address the comments from the public as received through the Executive Director within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the comments.

The National Country Planning Act 1976(as amended in 2025): The Town and Country Planning Act mandates the Minister of Housing and Country Planning to consult the various Local Councils and Paramount Chiefs in the planning and management of cities and towns in Sierra Leone. The Minister is also mandated by this Act to direct the posting of all relevant information such the surveyed maps, layouts, and values of buildings or lands in the planning area to guide any compensation in case where the Project takes land.

Sexual Offences Act, 2012: The confidentiality of victims (survivors) during investigation and prosecution are guaranteed under the Act. The Act also provides medical assistance for survivors. This project’s grievance mechanism (GM) will ensure that in line with this Act, the GM process to address SEA/SH incidents will respect confidentiality, be survivor centered and will provide access to services.

The GBV Referral Protocol: The GBV Protocol document is a technical guide that aims to ensure that all survivors/victims of GBV (domestic and sexual violence) receive prompt and comprehensive response from service providers.

2.2 World Bank Requirements

WB and IFC has outlined ten (10) comprehensive set of specific Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) that projects are expected to meet. Stakeholder engagement in line with the World Bank and IFC requirement associated with ESS 10. The World Bank’s Environmental and Social Framework (ESF)’s Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 10, “Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure”, recognizes “the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice”. Specifically, the requirements set out by ESS10 are the following:

- “Borrowers will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and in a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design. The nature, scope, and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts.
- Borrowers will engage in meaningful consultations with all stakeholders. Borrowers will provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.
- The process of stakeholder engagement will involve the following, as set out in further detail in this ESS: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) planning how the engagement with stakeholders will take place; (iii) disclosure of information; (iv) consultation with stakeholders; (v) addressing and responding to grievances; and (vi) reporting to stakeholders.
- The Borrower will maintain and disclose as part of the environmental and social assessment, a documented record of stakeholder engagement, including a description of the stakeholders consulted, a summary of the feedback received, and a brief explanation of how the feedback was considered, or the reasons why it was not.” (World Bank, 2017: 98).

ESS 10 requires that a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts needs to be developed by the Borrower. It must be disclosed as early as possible, and the Borrower needs to seek the views

of stakeholders on the SEP, including on the identification of stakeholders and the proposals for future engagement. If significant changes are made to the SEP, the Borrower must disclose the updated SEP. According to ESS10, the Borrower should also propose and implement a grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate the resolution of concerns and grievances of project-affected parties related to the environmental and social performance of the project in a timely manner.

Identification of stakeholders will ensure wide participation in project acceptability and the project design. To ensure that there is citizen participation in the project life span, this SEP has been prepared clearly, stipulating the process of consultation and disclosure of key project information to the public and relevant stakeholders during the preparation and implementation of the project.

3.0 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

3.1 Stakeholder Engagement during project inception

During the project identification and preparation stage, several consultations took place at the national level involving the Ministry of Energy (MoE), Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority (EDSA), Electricity Generation and Transmission Company (EGTC), Ministry of Lands Country Planning and Housing (MLCPH) and other interested parties and at the respective local levels involving other agencies and key stakeholders. There were Stakeholder consultations to discuss the project locations, areas of influence, concept, design, institutional arrangement, potential impacts, mitigation measures, stakeholder engagement plan, environmental and social commitment plan and MoE/EDSA commitments. The Project was launched on the 30th - 31st January 2023, in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The occasion was well attended by the relevant Stakeholders from the Republic of Chad, Republic of Liberia, the Republic of Sierra Leone, and the Republic of Togo.

Further consultations were embarked on by the World Bank's Safeguards Team, and the PIT Safeguard team on the 1st and 2nd February 2023 to the Newton and Lungi Project Communities respectively. There was positive reception from the relevant Stakeholders.

The key issues discussed and the conclusions and recommendations ensuing from these stakeholder engagement sessions are;

- The Lungi Community Stakeholders have agreed to provide the available Parcels of Land for the New 10MW solar PV generation plant with battery energy storage systems
- The Site was identified at Oku Town (Gbanne Bana), Lungi
- Ministry of Lands Housing and Country Planning (MLHCP) has surveyed the Site and granted the Site plan with the Survey No.: **SLS 107/22** (See the Site Plan Offer from MLHCP below)
- About 45 acres to be surveyed at Oku Town, Lungi

- About 225arces has surveyed the Project site at Newton Community and granted the Site plan with the Survey No.: **SLS 112/22** (See the Site Plan Offer from MLHCP below)
- **The Environmental Protection Agency – SL undertook the Ground Truthing process in the Project Communities with positive outcomes (See annex below)**

3.2 Stakeholder Engagement during Project Implementation

Table 1: Summary of Consultations

Summary of Stakeholders in Lungi, Newton, KamaKwei, and Njala (Sex-Disaggregated)						
No	Aactivity	Dates of Activities	Locations	Male	Female	Total
1.	Initial Meeting with Land Claimants	02/03/2025	Newton	8	1	09
2.	Meeting on the Verification of Land Documents	26/03/2025	MoE	10	3	13
3.	Meeting on the Land Resolution	02/04/2025	MoE	18	3	21
4.	Training on GBV	03/04/2025	Newton	30	6	36
5.	Training on GBV	08/04/2025	Lungi	14	11	25
6.	Community Engagement on Project status	09/04/2025	Newton	86	40	126
7.	Training on GBV	10/05/2025	EDSA	20	5	25
8.	Community Stakeholders Engagement on Project status	14/04/2025	Lungi	50	39	89
9.	Health Education	19/05/2025	Lungi	49	19	68
10	Health Education	22/05/2025	Newton	35	6	41

11	Stakeholders Consultation on Land Resolution	15/07/2025	MoE	18	1	19
12	Community Sensitisation on GRM, GBV/SEA/SH	20/07/2025	Newton	49	31	80
13	Refreshers Training on GRM and GBV/SEA/SH	21/07/2025	Newton	40	24	64
14	OHS Training for Project Contractors	22/07/2025	Lungi	97	33	130
15	Community Sensitisation on GRM, GBV/SEA/SH	23/07/2025	Lungi	40	22	62
16	Refreshers Training on GRM and GBV/SEA/SH	24/07/2025	Lungi	61	21	82
17	OHS Training for Project Contractors	25/07/2025	Newton	81	20	101
18	Land Resolution Meeting	05/08/2025	MoE	10	4	14
19	Interministerial meeting on the final resolution on the land	21/08/2025	MoL	10	3	13
20	Final Land resolution meeting	28/08/2025	MoL	16	4	20
21	Consultative meeting in Kamakwei	20/03/2025	Kamakwie	107	35	142
22	Meeting in Njala					
	Grand Total			841	330	1,171

Table 2: Stakeholders Resolution on Newton Land disput/issues

NO	ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	OUTCOME
1	Initial engagement with Land Claimants	3rd March 2025	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Newton	Initial engagement by the E&S team involves engaging the land claimants, providing guidance on filling the GRM forms. Claimants completed grievance forms, registered in the World Bank Grievance Platform.
2	Site visit to Newton Project site	5th March 2025	10:00 AM – 1:30 PM	Newton Project Site	The E&S team and EDSA visited the claimed land site to take GPS coordinates of individual land claimants.
3	Stakeholders meeting	26th March 2025	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	EDSA Board Room	Dr. Yumkella (Chairman EGCG) chaired a multi-stakeholder meeting with Ministries of Agriculture, Lands, Energy, and land claimants to begin addressing the dispute.

4	Stakeholders engagement	2nd April 2025	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Ministry of Energy Conference Room	Dr. Yumkella (Chairman EGCG) chaired the meeting with various Ministries and the Land claimants.
5	Inter Ministerial meeting	3rd April 2025	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Ministry of Energy Conference Room	The three (3) Ministries met to verify the authenticity of the documents and the way forward. All the land documents were declared invalid, and claimants were informed accordingly. None of the documents was signed by the appropriate authorities at the Ministry of Lands.
6	Joint meeting with Claimants	15th July 2025	3:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Ministry of Energy, 6th Floor	Joint meeting with Ministries of Agriculture, Lands, Energy, PIT, and land claimants to review and plan the next steps.
7	Field assessment on the verification of	16th July 2025	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Newton	Dr. Yumkella (Chairman EGCG) paid a site visit to ascertain the claims. Beacons were identified between the Ministry of

	Land boundary				Energy and the claimed land.
8	Joint assessment with Inter-Ministerial committee & Community Stakeholders	7th August 2025	3:00 PM	Newton	Joint assessment was conducted with ministries and local authorities (Magbafti, Kattu Town, Kpoubu) to verify the 528 acres belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture, from which 205 were allocated to the Ministry of Energy. This activity was conducted.
9	Inter-Ministerial meeting	21st August 2025	3:00 PM	Ministry of Lands	An interministerial meeting with deputy ministers, EDSA PIU, and EDSA PMU was held to decide on either compensation or relocation of the seven land claimants. It was resolved in the meeting that the land claimants will be relocated.
10	Final resolution meeting	28th August 2025		Ministry of Lands	It was agreed in the meeting to submit an official letter to the Seven

					(7) land Claimants' documents officially informing them that the land documents were invalid. A committee has been established, and letters have already been submitted to the land claimants on the decision taken.
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4.0 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

The WB and IFC ESS 10 recognizes three broad categories of stakeholders, namely i) Project Affected Parties; ii) Other Interested parties; and iii) Disadvantaged / vulnerable individuals or groups.

Project-affected parties includes those likely to be affected by the project because of actual impacts or potential risks to their physical environment, health, security, cultural practices, well-being, or livelihoods. These stakeholders may include individuals or groups, including local communities. They are the individuals or households most likely to observe/feel changes from the environmental and social impacts of the project.

The term “Other interested parties” (OIPs) refers to: individuals, groups, or organizations with an interest in the project, which may be because of the project location, its characteristics, its impacts, or matters related to public interest. For example, these parties may include regulators, government officials, the private sector, the scientific community, academics, unions, women’s organizations, other civil society organizations, and cultural groups.

It is particularly important to understand project impacts and whether they may disproportionately fall on disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups, who often do not have a voice to express their concerns or understand the impacts of a project.

4.1 Stakeholder Identification

The first step in the process of stakeholder engagement is to identify and understand who the stakeholders are and understand their needs and expectations for engagement and their priorities and objectives in relation to the Project. This information shall be used to tailor engagement to each type of stakeholder. As part of this process, it will be particularly important to identify individuals and groups who may find it more difficult to participate and those who may be differentially or disproportionately affected by the project because of their disadvantaged or vulnerable status.

With respect to the RESPITE Project, different categories of stakeholders will be involved, these are:

1. **Central government:** Include ministries, departments and agencies of the Government of Sierra Leone that will either be impacted by the project or have influence over its outcome
2. **Municipalities:** Includes Government of Sierra Leone's institutions, agencies and elected officials within the beneficiary municipalities that will either be impacted by the project or have influence over its outcome
3. **Non-governmental/Donor:** Donors and non-governmental agencies and sector coordination entities that will either be impacted by the project or have influence over its outcome
4. **Civil Society:** Representatives from organizations that represent the interests and the opinions of the public
5. **Public:** Public representatives, both individuals and groups, at District/Ward level who will either be impacted by the project or have influence over its outcome
6. **Private Sector:** Private businesses/firms that may be positively or negatively affected

Table 1 presents a preliminary list of all potential stakeholders who have a role and responsibility for the implementation of the Project at all levels, as well as relevant stakeholders that could be involved in any way with the implementation of the RESPITE activities or affected by its activities. The project will continue to identify and engage additional stakeholders throughout the project implementation. The scale and extent of the engagement will be dependent on the nature of the impacts on the different stakeholder groups and the extent of the influence of the group on the project.

Table 3: List of Stakeholders identified for RESPITE Project

Project Proponents	Affected Parties	Other Interested Parties	Vulnerable groups
• Ministry of Energy • Ministry of Finance	• Project affected individuals and communities • Electricity users	• Local communities • Chiefs • NGOs • CSOs	• Elderly people • Women • Children

	• EDSA, EGTC and EWRC workers • Small business that require electricity • Community leaders, religious leaders • Workers at construction sites • Ministry of Lands Housing and Country Planning • Ministry of Information and communication • Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development • Ministry of Labour and Social Security • Ministry of Social Welfare • Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs • Ministry of Environment • Environment Protection Agency • District and Local Councils • Sierra Leone Roads Authority	• Ministry of Health and Sanitation • Ministry of Water Resources • National Protected Areas Authority • Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Schools • Ministry of Technical and Higher Education • Community Organizations • The public • Other national and international Independent Power Producers (IPPs) • The police and military (security forces) • Market associations • Youth groups • Residents of the beneficiary towns • Businesses locally and with international links • Media (local and national)	• Persons with disabilities (including visual and hearing impaired, physical disabilities and cognitive disabilities) • Commercial sex workers • Illiterate people • The homeless • Landless persons
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	Operations and maintenance team of substations, and transmission lines		
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Cooperation and negotiation with stakeholders will require the identification of persons within groups who act as legitimate representatives or advocates of their groups' interests in the engagement process. Community representatives, for instance, will be very important links for information dissemination to their people and to project staff.

4.2 Stakeholder analysis

The opinion of affected persons and other stakeholders shall be sought through regular public consultations and the engagement will be directly proportional to the impact on the particular group or individual and their level of influence on the project. The interests of the different stakeholder groups and individuals, how they will be affected by the project and to what degree, and what influence they could have on the project will form the basis from which to build the project stakeholder engagement strategy. Again, cognizance should be taken of the fact that not all stakeholders in a particular group or sub-group will necessarily share the same concerns or have unified opinions or priorities. Also, the means of engagement will be informed by what culturally acceptable and appropriate methods are for each of the different stakeholder groups targeted.

The table below presents an analysis of roles, interest and influence of key stakeholder groups on the RESPITE

Table4: Stakeholder Groups and their Interest and Influence on the Project

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
Project Proponents:			
Ministry of Energy	Responsible for oversight and overall coordination of the project. Responsible for policy formulation. Regulate generation, distribution and transmission. Will lead the implementation of two	High	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	components. The Ministry and EDSA will also assume the responsibility for environmental and social risk management		
Ministry of Finance	Provide oversight and control of disbursement of project funds to implementing agencies. Reporting and monitoring of compliance	High	High
Affected Parties:			
PAPS potentially losing land and other assets for the construction of substations and power lines	Lose lands or right to their lands or livelihoods and would therefore be important in the consultation and engagement process	High	Low
Electricity users	Participate in consultation on energy supply and tariff	Moderate	Low
Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority	Main implementing agency Responsible for the overall implementation of the project and sub-projects and works directly and in close collaboration with MoE and has oversight over the PIT. Responsible for the implementation of Environmental and Social safeguards instruments of projects and stakeholder management. All projects have a GM within the ESMU of EDSA. Coordinate and organize	High	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	disclosure, work with District and Local Councils. EDSA is responsible for the distribution network, connection and for electricity sales to customers		
Electricity Generation and Transmission Company	Responsible for power generation and transmission at high voltage levels	High	High
Electricity and Water Regulatory Commission	Regulate the generation, transmission and sale of electricity and issue permit for operation of EDSA. They will probably be involved in tariff setting and regulation issues for the new RESPIT especially because some of the towns are going to be having new connections.	High	High
Small business that requires electricity	Participate in consultation on energy supply and tariff	Moderate	High
Community leaders, religious leaders	Stakeholder management. GM within at community levels. Coordinate and organize work with District and Local Councils	High	High
Workers at construction sites	Undertake construction activities, to abide by OHS/SEA/SH requirements	Moderate	Moderate
Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development	Local monitoring of project and through their District Council can help in monitoring, providing land and enhancing compensation and livelihood	High	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	issues for PAPS. They are directly responsible for working with the District and Local councils who have important structures to help in site monitoring of the project. They are expected to play a key role in lands, resettlement, compensation and environmental impacts monitoring.		
Ministry of Labor and Social Security	In collaboration with the PIU, will provide oversight over labour and social issues. They are important for oversight of contractors to make sure that workers are treated fairly and work with the laws of Sierra Leone	Moderate	Moderate
Ministry of Social Welfare	Oversight on Social Issues. Works closely with the Police and advocacy groups on Social related issues.	High	High
Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs	Oversight on Gender and Children related Issues. Works closely with the Police and advocacy groups on gender-based violence issues. This Ministry will be critical in monitoring and resolving GBV and other gender-related issues	High	High
Ministry of Environment	Provide oversight on compliance on environmental and social	High	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	safeguards and on EPA. Review and issue licenses for ESHIA. They are the main stakeholders in terms of environmental and social safeguards monitoring and compliance		
Environment Protection Agency-SL	The lead environmental regulator and is the agency in the Ministry of Environment that is directly responsible for oversight, compliance with E&S concerns, facilitate public disclosure of E&S documents. They require stakeholder engagement, consultations and public disclosure of all safeguard instruments.	High	High
Other Interested Parties			
Local communities/ Chiefs/local leaders/Ward Development Committee	Involve in Stakeholder consultations and inputs. Receive information through sensitizations/awareness, community engagements, and the Media	High	High
NGOS/CSOs in the project area of influence	Advocates the interests of communities on land-related issues including compensation. Involved in consultations and monitoring of corporate social responsibilities, make contributions to ESHIAs and other reports	Moderate	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
Ministry of Health and Sanitation	In charge of all public health, clinics and hospitals in the Districts where the electricity is improved and will enhance healthcare for all. They can be important stakeholders	High	Moderate
Ministry of Water Resources	In charge of all water bodies and catchment areas in the country and would play important role in the event any of the towers/poles go through water bodies. They also help in the provision of water services to substations and project site.	Low	Low
National Protected Areas Authority	In charge of all protected Areas and would ensure projects are not impacting Pas. They will constitute the stakeholders and would be important should any of the project activities go through any Protected Areas which is under their jurisdiction.	Moderate	Moderate
Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary School	Responsible for education in school and the schools would be connected to the grid for the enhancement of the Government's flagship program "free and quality education"	Moderate	Moderate
Ministry of Technical and Higher Education	Responsible for University and higher institutions in the Districts and would benefit from sustainable and regular	Moderate	Moderate

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	electricity which will enhance education in the country		
Local Community Organizations	Advocates the interests of communities on land-related issues including compensation. Involved in consultations and monitoring of corporate social responsibilities, make contributions to ESHIAs and other reports	Moderate	Moderate
Other national and international Independent Power Producers (IPPs)	Provides alternative source of supply to the electricity sector	High	Low
Sierra Leone Police	Provide security and protection services for all and during construction, demolition and traffic management. Project can bring crime, violence and other offences Used to report Gender Based Violence through their Family Support Unit	Moderate	Moderate
Market associations	Advocates the interests of the associations on land-related issues including compensation. Involved in consultations and monitoring of corporate social responsibilities, make contributions to ESHIAs and other reports	Moderate	Low
Youth groups	Advocates the interests of communities on land-related	High	Moderate

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	issues, including compensation. Involved in consultations and monitoring of corporate social responsibilities, make contributions to ESHIAs and other reports		
Residents of the beneficiary towns	Advocates for a better energy supply and tariff. Participate in consultation and receive information through public media	High	Moderate
Businesses locally and with international links	Advocates the interests of Businesses on energy supply/tariff-related issues.	High	Moderate
Media electronic, print, and social media	Help raise awareness on the project, public disclosure of , GM, SEP, ESCP	Moderate	High
Office Attorney General and Minister of Justice	Draft compensation agreements, provide guidance on GM and participate in compensation and sign-off meetings	Moderate	Moderate
Ministry of Agriculture	Provide valuation of crops and trees for compensation and support linkages to livelihood promotion initiative	Moderate	Moderate
Parliament/Energy Committee	Provides oversight on energy projects and EDSA including RESPITE	Moderate	High
District and Local Councils	Assist in project implementation including land acquisition, employment, asset valuation and other issues to do with the	High	High

Stakeholder Groups	Role/involvement in project	Interest	Influence
	livelihood of the people in the project areas of influence. Verify asset valuations, support in providing land and manage the councilors		
Vulnerable/Disadvantaged groups are likely to be part of the PAPs and may have difficulty in fully engaging			
• Elderly people	Receive information on the RESPITE project	Low	Low
• Women	Receive information and would benefit from sustainable electricity generation, especially for small businesses	Low	Low
• Children	Receive information, they are mainly school-going, and exposed to potential abuse	Low	Low
• Persons with disabilities (including the visually and hearing impaired, physical disabilities, and cognitive disabilities)	Receive information on the RESPITE Project	Low	Low
• Homeless/Landless persons	Participation in community consultations & receive information and protection from the appropriate sources/Institutions responsible.	Low	Low

5.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Stakeholder engagement is an important inclusive process conducted throughout the project cycle and is critical to the successful implementation of projects. The engagement will be free of manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation; and conducted based on timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, in a culturally sensitive format.

In this section the program elaborated to facilitate effective stakeholder engagement throughout project implementation and operation is outlined. It addresses key factors considered in elaborating the program, the specific communication tools to be adopted for different stakeholder groups, the specific stakeholder engagement activities and the resource requirements and responsibilities for implementation.

5.1 Stakeholder Engagement Considerations

The following factors were considered in the planning of the stakeholder engagement program presented in this document:

i) Time and resources

Trust of the stakeholders is important and takes time to develop and build relationships with stakeholders. From the outset of the project, relationships with stakeholders will be developed, nurtured, and allowed to grow. Time and resources are always critical components of the stakeholder engagement process that require different levels of engagement (consultation, involvement, collaboration and yet some others multiple levels). The various dimensions of the process, including education on the concepts of engagement, capacity to implement a broad engagement strategy and the complex issues that requires technical and specialized knowledge will be allocated adequate resources to meet international best practice.

ii) Managing expectations

The key to securing stakeholder engagement revolves around managing their expectations and satisfying their requirements. Stakeholders usually have high and unrealistic expectations of benefits that may accrue to them from a project. Therefore, EDSA, and EGTC from the outset shall be clear on what they can and cannot do, establishing a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities. The engagement processes shall provide EDSA, and EGTC with an opportunity to develop relationships with stakeholders and potential project partners who can assist with implementing corporate social responsibility projects. The consultation process is an opportunity to manage expectations, challenge misconceptions, disseminate accurate project information, and gather stakeholder opinions, which are feedback to the client and other project specialists.

iii) Securing stakeholder participation

EDSA, and EGTC will respect cultural norms and values and show respect and understanding that disregard for these can prevent stakeholders from freely participating in meetings. Often there are conflicting demands within a community, and it can be challenging to identify stakeholders who are representative of common interests. This shall be avoided by employing local consultants who are sensitive to local power dynamics, which will require project proponents to develop an awareness of the local context and implementing structures to support and foster effective stakeholder engagement.

iv) Consultation fatigue

Engagement fatigue can hinder projects, particularly those where individuals are not actively involved in decision-making but are brought in for consultation or opinions. Evidence suggest that stakeholders can easily tire of consultation processes, especially when promises are unfulfilled, and their opinions and concerns are not taken into consideration. Often stakeholders feel their lives are not improving because of a project and this can lead to consultation meetings being used as an area to voice complaints and grievances about the lack of development. This shall be avoided by coordinating stakeholder engagement activities throughout project implementation and to avoid making promises to stakeholders.

v) COVID-19 AND MPOX RESTRICTIONS

In general, a precautionary approach will be taken to the consultation process to prevent contagion, given the highly infectious nature of COVID-19. The following will be considered while selecting channels of communication, in light of COVID-19 and any other situation:

- Avoid public gatherings (taking into account national restrictions or advisories), including public hearings, workshops and community meetings;
- If smaller meetings are permitted/advised, conduct consultations in small-group sessions, such as focus group meetings. If not permitted or advised, make all reasonable efforts to conduct meetings through online channels;
- Diversify means of communication and rely more on social media and online channels. Where possible and appropriate, create dedicated online platforms and chatgroups appropriate for the purpose, based on the type and category of stakeholders;
- Employ traditional channels of communications (TV, newspaper, radio, dedicated phone-lines, and mail) when stakeholders do not have access to online channels or do not use them frequently. Traditional channels can also be highly effective in conveying relevant information to stakeholders, and allow them to provide their feedback and suggestions;
- Assess and deploy alternative tools to engage stakeholders such as the use of community radio, use of key community influencers and peer groups, visual aids, and social media;
- Where direct engagement with project affected people or beneficiaries is necessary, identify channels for direct communication with each affected household via a context specific combination of email messages, mail, online platforms, dedicated phone lines with knowledgeable operators;
- Each of the proposed channels of engagement should clearly specify how feedback and suggestions can be provided by stakeholders.

5.2 Specific Communication Requirements

A variety of communication methods will be used as appropriate for each set of stakeholders and stage of project implementation. In general, these include: a) public and individual meetings, b) announcements in media and portals, c) provision of general information on notice-boards at public locations, and d) regular mail and email correspondence and publication of relevant project information on the website of the EDSA, EGTC, MoE and other relevant institutions (including the World Bank and IFC).

There are a variety of engagement techniques used to build relationships with stakeholders, gather information from stakeholders, consult with stakeholders, and disseminate project information to

stakeholders. When selecting a particular consultation technique, appropriate consultation methods, and the purpose for engaging with a stakeholder group shall be considered. The general framework of techniques to be adopted under the project for the different stakeholder groups are presented in Table 6 below.

Table 5: Stakeholder Engagement Techniques

Stakeholder group	Engagement Technique	Phase of the projects
Projected affected people/land owners/adjacent communities	Public consultation meeting, group meetings and individual meetings as necessary	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works - throughout project implementation
	Public consultation meeting, and individual meetings as necessary	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works
	Informing through the media – radio/TV/social media (announcements),	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works
	- Direct information through the local authorities - Communication through bulletin boards (placed in appropriate places) and posting project information/notices there	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the distribution centres
Community/Local and regional authorities	Publishing information on the extent, timing and duration of planned works and any expected disruptions and inconveniences on the central bulletin board in the branch offices of the Municipalities at least two weeks prior to the start of any construction works,	Before starting with implementation of the project activities
	Public consultation meeting, and individual meetings as necessary	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works
	Informing through the media – radio/TV/social media (announcements),	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works

Stakeholder group	Engagement Technique	Phase of the projects
	▪ Direct information through the local authorities ▪ Communication through bulletin boards (placed in appropriate places) and posting project information/notices there	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the distribution centres
	▪ Group meetings with local communities and businesses	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the electricity infrastructure.
	▪ Direct communication with residents, businesses etc.	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the electricity infrastructure.
	▪ Direct information via a contact person or person responsible for the implementation of the SEP.	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the electricity infrastructure.
Governments and regulatory bodies/National institutions	▪ Official correspondence	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the electricity infrastructure.
	▪ Meetings, public hearings	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works
	▪ One on one meetings	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works
Non-governmental organizations, business associations and professional organizations	▪ Public consultation meetings, and individual consultation, meetings as necessary	-Before starting implementation of the project activities -During the construction works -During the operational phase of the electricity infrastructure.
	▪ Direct email communication	
	▪ Media/ press releases.	
Contractors, Suppliers, clients, service providers	▪ Information through tender procedure and Contracts	Before starting implementation of the project activities
	▪ Communication via supervising engineers	During the construction works

Stakeholder group	Engagement Technique	Phase of the projects
	Toolbox talks at construction sites on health and safety topics	During the construction works
	Monthly reports on progress of works to be submitted by contractors during construction works	During the construction works

5.3 Methods of Consulting Disadvantaged / Vulnerable Individuals or Groups

It is particularly important to understand whether the Project may disproportionately fall on disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups who often do not have voice to express their concerns or understand the impacts of the project. The National Disability Policy (NDP) refers to the United Nations definition of persons with disability as persons ‘who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others’. Impairments are problems in body function or structure such as a significant deviation or loss. Disability may be experienced by people of any age, including children, young and older people, exacerbating sometimes the existing vulnerability of some (e.g., children and elderly people). Persons with disabilities often lack equitable access to the same opportunities enjoyed by their peers without disabilities.

Disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals and groups who often do not have voice to express their concerns or understand the impacts of a project are sometimes excluded from stakeholder engagement. The table shows potential disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals/groups and limitations they may have regarding participating in the consultation process.

Consultations will better determine the needs and strategy for community dialogue and awareness-raising and will be detailed. Awareness campaigns, trainings, dissemination activities about the different entry points, among other activities, will ensure the sustainability of the actions taken and will prepare the community to address cases properly in the future and after project completion.

Table 6: Methods of consulting disadvantaged /vulnerable individuals or groups

Vulnerable Groups & Individual	Specific Needs & Characteristics	Preferred Means of Consultation	Additional Resources Required
Ebola/COVID-19/Mpox Survivors	Stigma, limited voice	Focus group meetings, meeting with association of Ebola/COVID-19/Mpox survivors.	Engagement of local NGOs to embark on sensitization related to the mitigation of COVID-19/Mpox transmission and engage those who survived Ebola and COVID-19

Stakeholders in remote area/high illiteracy including the homeless	Limited voice, low representation, no access to information,	Focus group meetings, engagement at local level, including use of radio & townhall meetings	More information dissemination through local radio & town criers, posters, local language skits & discussions. community level engagement & consultation at district headquarters
Physically-challenged persons with visual & hearing impairment	Lack of access to meeting places, transportation & language barriers, visual impairment	Meet identifiable associations of persons with disabilities	Information translated to indigenous languages, sign language/translators, braille, accessible meeting locations
Women, girls, poor & disadvantaged, children, pregnant school-age girls	Limited voice, low representation, lack of access to information, cultural & traditional barriers, poverty stigma	Focus group meetings, use of gender champions, focus group meetings with disadvantaged children & their guardians	Engage local NGOs & CBOs who work with vulnerable people at community level to help disseminate information & organize consultations
Residents in informal settlements & flood-prone inaccessible areas	Limited voice, poor representation in decision table, lack of access to information, inaccessible to meeting places	Focus group meetings, engagement at local level, including use of radio & townhall meetings	More information dissemination through local radio & town criers, posters, local language skits & discussions, community level engagement & consultations at district headquarters
Drug addicts, commercial sex workers	Stigma, gender-based violence, limited voice	Focus group meetings	

5.4 Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Stakeholder engagement is the practice of influencing a variety of outcomes through consultation, negotiation, communication, compromise, and relationship building. The SEP seeks to define technically and culturally appropriate approach to consultation, disclosure and grievance resolution.

Table 7 below outlines the activities earmarked to engage, consult and provide relevant project information to project stakeholders throughout project preparation, implementation and

subsequent operations. Stakeholder engagement will be a continuous process and the consultations thus far are not final but will be ongoing throughout the life cycle of the project.

Table 7: Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Project Stage	Topic of consultation / message	Engagement Technique	Appropriate application of the technique/measures	Target Stakeholders	Institutional Responsibility
Preparation	- Agreeing on components and institutional arrangements and E&S mitigation measures for Enhancing Sierra Leone Energy Access Project - Risk, mitigation and management	- Correspondence (Phone, Emails); - Formal and informal meetings; - specialized agencies dealing with vulnerable groups - Radio and Television with sign language interpretation - Radio and TV Discussion and Phone-in Programs - Engagement with representatives of specialized agencies dealing with vulnerable groups - WhatsApp calls and video messaging - Print and electronic media - Posters and brochures	- Stakeholder invitation to meetings - Contribution of stakeholders and feedback - Dissemination of information to all stakeholders and public - Training in environmental and social issues	- Ministry of Energy - EDSA - Relevant MDAs - World Bank Group - NGOs/CSOs - Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs - All stakeholders - General public - District and Local Councils - PAPs, - Elderly persons - Illiterate people - Persons with disabilities - Direct beneficiaries	- MoE - EDSA - EGTC
Implementation	Plan project implementation and strategies for District and Local	- Correspondences (Phone, Emails); - Formal and informal meetings	Invite stakeholders to meetings and follow-up	- Ministry of Energy - EDSA - Contractors - World Bank Group	- MoE - EDSA - EGTC - Contractor

	Council involvement Site preparation and clearing Project environmental and social risk identification (noise, dust, air pollution, loss of land, soil erosion, runoff, waste generation, health and safety), mitigation and behavioural change • Disclosure of safeguards instruments	• Radio and Television Discussion and Phone-in Programs • Ministry of Energy Website http://www.energy.gov.sl/ EGTC, and EDSA website https://www.edsa.sl/ • Print and electronic media • Call centres)	• Soliciting stakeholder input into the project preparation, land acquisition, RoW issues and general safeguards issues • Seeking views and opinions of PAPs • Enable stakeholders to speak freely about project related issues • Build public trust and confidence • Resolve concerns and grievances as appropriate • Present project information and progress updates; • Disclose ESMF, ESMP, RAP, SEP, GM and other relevant project documentations • Training in environmental and social issues	• Ministry of Energy • Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs - Security forces • Relevant MDAs • General public • District and Local Councils • PAPs, • Elderly persons • The homeless • Illiterate people • Persons with disabilities • The homeless • Direct beneficiaries • Contractor • Impacted Communities, • Persons with disabilities • Elderly persons • Illiterate people	
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			• Implementation of ESMP and GBV plan		
Construction of substation and Transmission and Distribution lines	• T & D design • Land acquisition and preparation • Transport of equipment to site • Clearing RoW/ tower route for safety of vendors • Construction of substations • Stringing of lines and cables • Install new transformers, generators, solar and other equipment	• Formal meetings • Correspondences (Emails, Phones/WhatsApp) • Site visits • Public Address Systems • Press statements/public notices • Public disclosure • Posters/flyers • Workshops	• Present Project information to stakeholders • Allow stakeholders to comment – opinions and views • Disseminate technical information • Record discussions and decisions • Training in environmental and social issues • Adopt Safety procedures	• Ministry of Energy • Ministry of Lands • SLRA • Contractors • Land owners • PAPs • SLRA • District and local councils • Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs	• MoE • EDSA • EGTC • Contractors
Operation and maintenance of Transmission and Distribution Lines and Right Of Way	• Vegetation loss and control • Loss of income from fruit trees • Maintenance of ROW and construction site • Tower maintenance and EMF issues	• Formal meetings • Correspondences (Emails, Phones/WhatsApp) • Site visits • Public Address Systems • Press statements/public notices • Public disclosure • Posters/flyers	• Present Project information to stakeholders • Allow stakeholders to comment – opinions and views • Disseminate technical information • Record discussions and decisions	• Ministry of Energy • SLRA • Contractors • Land owners • PAPs • SLRA • District and local councils • Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and	- MoH - EDSA - EGTC - SLRA - District and Local Councils

	• Adequate supply of PPEs and waste management	• Workshops	• Training in environmental and social issues • Adopt Safety procedures	Children's Affairs	
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5.5 Stakeholder Engagement Resources and Responsibilities

5.5.1 Responsibilities

The successful implementation, management and coordination of the project will depend on EDSA, MoE and PIU, the capacity within the institutions, and appropriate and functional institutional arrangements.

The Project Implementation Team (PIT) will be responsible for the preparation and physical implementation of the project. The team will benefit from the services of specialized consultants with experience on World Bank Projects. This unit will be under the oversight of the Deputy Director General, comprising the following staff:

Project Coordinator: responsible for the overall management of the project and the day to day coordination of the various components

Deputy Project Coordinator: responsible for the assistance and support to the Project Coordinator. Also assumes the role of the Project Coordinator in his absence

Senior Procurement Specialist: will be responsible for all procurement and contract management of the project.

Financial Management Specialist: an experienced individual supported by a finance assistant will responsible for all financial transactions including withdrawal applications, Bank Guarantee and provide guidance on all financial matters of the project.

Project Engineer: a supervision engineer responsible for the monitoring of the implementation of the project. S/he will work closely with other members of the PIT.

Environmental and Social Management Unit

There is a structured environmental and social Management unit (ESMU) at EDSA but the embedded consultant worked to support the establishment and training of the ESMU at EDSA. The Environmental and Social Safeguards Unit is responsible for the implementation of the SEP.

The ESMU comprises the following specialists:

Environmental Management Specialist: responsible for the overall Environmental and Social Safeguards of the project and works closely with the gender and social development specialist. Provides leadership, guidance, project level information on safeguards for all stakeholders, and ensure the adequacy of ToRs for safeguards consultancies. Overseeing all environmental and social safeguards training and capacity building. will work closely with the Senior Environmental specialist to receive additional training. The Environmentalist forms an integral member of the ESMU established at EDSA.

Social Risk/Development/Safeguards/Management Specialist: will be responsible for all social and gender related issues. He will oversee all stakeholder engagement, manage the GM and liaise with all project managers to ensure requirements are understood and followed. will work closely with the Social Safeguards and Gender Specialist to receive additional training. The Social Risk Management Specialist forms an integral member of the ESMU to established at EDSA.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) Specialist: The GBV Specialist will provide technical guidance, oversight and capacity building to ensure that GBV/SEA/SH risks are identified, mitigated and responded to across the Project Life Cycle.

Citizens' Engagement Specialist (CES): The CES is responsible to facilitate Stakeholders and community engagement programs. She manages/coordinate communications and information with the respective specialists, Stakeholders/communities and other interested parties to ensure public awareness and information disclosure.

5.5.2 Resources

The management, coordination and implementation of the SEP and its integral tasks will be the responsibility of the Environmental and Social Management Unit (ESMU) of the Project Implementation Unit. The Gender and Social development Specialist will provide management oversight of SEP and will work closely with the Senior Environment Specialist and the PIT for expertise in their different functions to ensure a successful implementation of the SEP.

i) Training

Training will be organized for all personnel involved in the implementation of the SEP. The Gender and Social Development officer and field team will be given additional training and capacity building on the SEP and the GBV/SEA/SH through workshop that will be organized by EDSA. The environmental and social officer of the contractors will also be trained on SEP especially on GM and GBV/SEA/SH.

ii) Budget

The estimated budget for the implementation of the SEP is \$ **63,149.33**, specific activities will be submitted to EDSA, and the RESPITE in time for approval before the activities are conducted. To facilitate planning, design and implementation of the project, meetings will be held with various stakeholders of the project.

Table 8: Budget Estimate for Stakeholder Engagements and Disclosures

No	Description	No of units	Unit Cost (NLe)	Total Cost (NLe)	USD
1	Community consultations	12 (twice each communities)	9,500	114,000	5,132.00
2	Hall rentals for public engagements and disclosure for 7 Communities	7(Communities)	5,000	35,000	1,575.87
3	Publication/Printout of E&S Instrument	Bulk	10,000	10,000	619.57
4	GM Meetings for Towns	28 (4X/Communities)	2,000	56,000	2,521.39

5	Food and drinks	1,750 (250People/comm unity)	150	262,500	11,819.00
6	Transportation fair to Local Councilors/Reps. for support to disclosure	70 (People)	100,000	7,000	315.17
7	Transportation fare to Project Affected Persons/stakeholders during Public disclosure	190(People)	50,000	9,500	427.74
8	Launching of project (hall rental, food, publicity, printing and transportation)	Bulk	444,200	444,200	20,000.00
9	Media houses print and electronic	6 (Media h) X 6(engagements)	3,000	108,000	4,862.67
10	Information Communication/Sensitization/Training during the Project Cycle	Bulk	222,100	222,100	10,000.00
11	Paramount Chiefs/Chiefs during public disclosure	20	150	3,000	135.07
	Total			1,271,300	57, 408.48
12	Contingency (10% of the Total budget)	1		127,130	5,740.848
	Grand Total			1,398,430	63,149.33

Note: Exchange rate as of November 13th, 2025 = 22.21

6.0 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

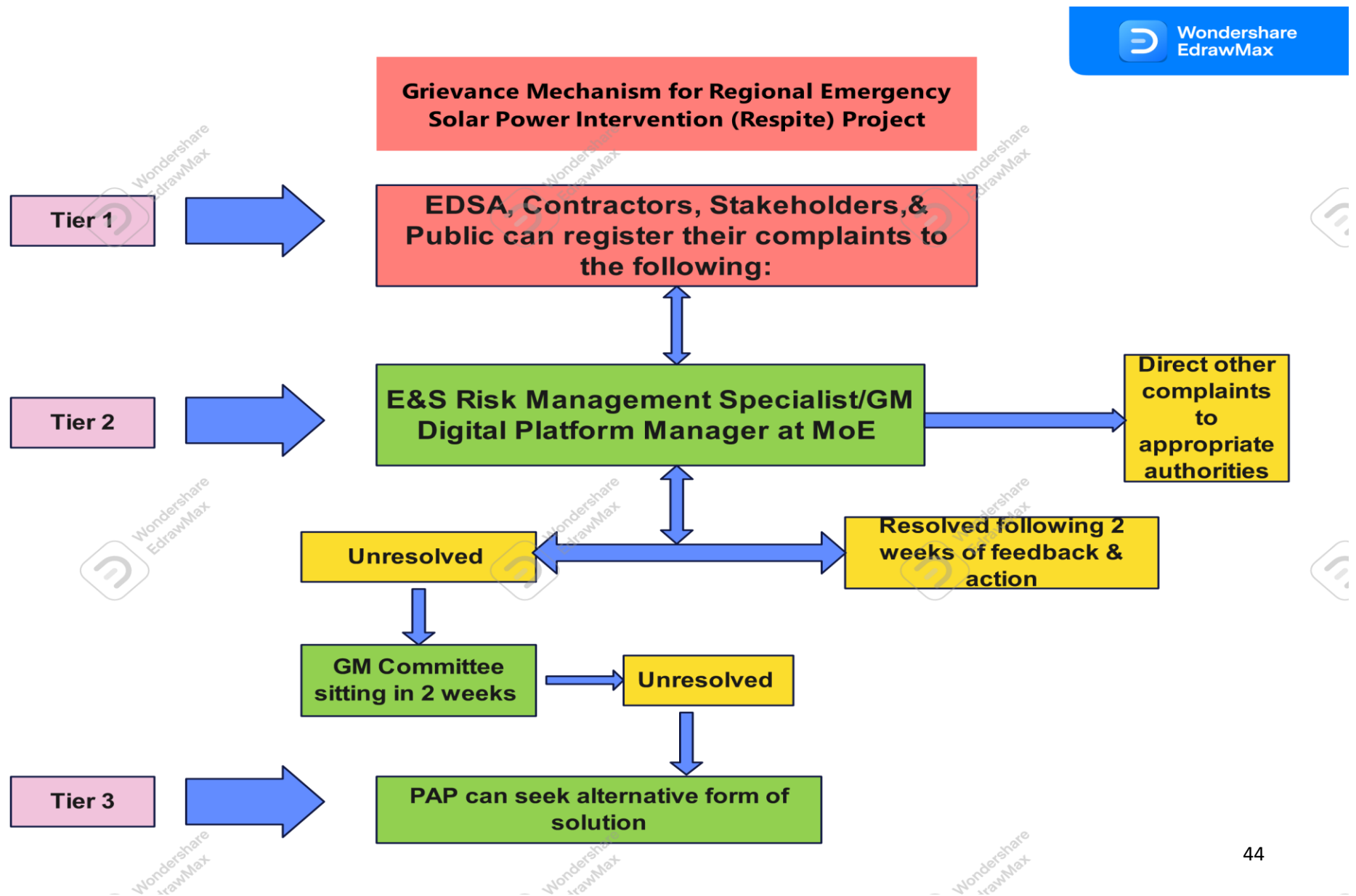
A comprehensive project wide GM has been instituted to enable a broad range of stakeholders channel their concerns, questions, and complaints to the various implementation agencies, through multiple grievance uptake channels.

The mechanism details the processes involved in registering grievances at no cost to the complainant. Grievance resolution procedures is in place with the sole objective of minimizing disputes that may arise in relation to the project design and implementation. Each tier of the complaint should be addressed within two weeks of feedback and action. If unresolved, the complaint is moved to the next tier with the complainant having the option of seeking redress in the courts of Law.

The Energy Sector has a finalized operational GM (Figure 2) including GM registry/log (Annex 2) which is used for RESPITE. The digital platform has been established and functional with Seven (7) complaints registered under the RESPITE. The platform made provisions to accommodate emerging sensitive issues around SEA/SH for confidential reporting and referral to GBV service providers as well as survivor centered procedures for management of SEA/SH complaints. Multiple channels including suggestion boxes, sign posts, complaint log sheets have been established at the local level to ensure safe and accessible procedure during consultations with women/women specific groups and led by a woman to enhance their participation. The Digital platform has an integrated platform for all Energy Projects including the RESPITE Project, while the Grievance mechanism is stakeholders based due to the Project areas/communities (including Kamakwie and Njala in the North-Western and Southern Provinces respectively).

The web application will be hosted at MoE/EDSA/EGTC and provides access to relevant Project Stakeholders and contractors to register complaints received at sub-project level or the field. It also provides channels for direct complaints from the general, project stakeholders, PAPs etc. to complain directly. The safeguards/Information Technology specialist at MoE/EDSA/EGTC will man the platform to ensure timely sorting and escalation of grievances to resolving officer. Local level structures will include the councilors and GBV service providers that will support grievance receipt and escalate to contractors, EDSA or MOE as appropriate for resolution. The project will identify an NGO GBV service provider to setting up and ethically manage SEA/SH complaints. Each tier of the complaint should be addressed within two weeks of feedback and action. If unresolved, the complaint is moved to the next tier with the complainant having the option of seeking resolution in the courts of Law. The important lesson is to have a practical, functional mechanism that can respond to complaints in a timely manner.

Figure 4: Grievance Mechanism for RESPITE



7.0 MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring and reporting is a key component of the SEP. EDSA/EGTC shall adopt a participatory monitoring and evaluation system to ensure that the ESMU is able to bring to the fore the active participation of all stakeholders and respond to identified issues and alter schedules and the nature of engagement activities to make them more effective. The effective involvement of stakeholders in the monitoring and evaluation process will enhance acceptance of the project and improve sustainability of the project. Arrangements for monitoring of the engagement process by EDSA/EGTC and supplemented by independent monitors to ensure complete and objective information, performance monitoring indicators, and outcomes for engagement activities that involve all key stakeholders in the monitoring process shall be completed. The monitoring would include tracking of the commitments made to stakeholders at various stages of the plan and inform them of progress on those commitments. The successful implementation of the SEP will hinge on the following:

- A clearly defined methodology
- Adequate resources
- Transparency and accountability
- Inclusiveness of all key stakeholders
- Trust in EDSA/EGTC
- Awareness to promote stakeholder engagement

Early short-term monitoring would be done, and adjustments made during engagement. This would be followed by review of the outputs at the end of the engagement to evaluate the effectiveness of the SEP as implemented.

A series of key performance indicators for each stakeholder engagement stage have been developed as part of the SEP and presented in Table 9. Stakeholder engagement activities will continue through the project life cycle. Therefore, the review of ESIA and other safeguards instruments by all key stakeholders including the vulnerable would be conducted to the end of the project.

Table9: Key Performance Indicators for Monitoring Framework

Phase activities				
Indicator name	Description/definition	Frequency	Data Source	KPI
Project development and initial consultations	Share update and consult with key stakeholders on the project	Quarterly	Project reports	The Seven Affected communities in the project Districts consulted (1, 750 people) 250 per community including women and vulnerable people Preliminary stakeholder information gathered
Planning for construction	Share updates on project	Quarterly	Project reports	Public disclosure done, Seven (7) billboards up in the affected communities
ESF Instruments/ESIA Implementation	Share updates and ESFM, RF, SEP, ESCP, ESMP, CESMP and disclosure of instruments	Quarterly	Project reports	ESF instruments and processes (SEP and GM, ESCP, ESMP, SEA/SH Action Plan, RPs, LMP) to be disclosed on EDSA and MoE websites and with EPA. Publicly disclosed with participation of all stakeholders, including with Ward Development Committees (WDC)Communities

				will be able to provide feedback via project website, phone, written communication or verbal (and can request verbal transmission of key points in the instruments for those who are illiterate)
	Contract preparation with appropriate safeguard language	Once	Project reports	EDSA/EGTC to include provisions on Bidding Documents drawing on from safeguards instruments
	Full complement of safeguards staff identified and recruited to provide implementation support. Contractors prepare their CESMP	Biannually	Project reports	EDSA/PIT ESMU strengthened CESMP prepared and implemented
	GM implementation and percentage of cases received and resolved	Quarterly	Project reports	Number of complaints received; logged; resolved; pending and reported; Number of complaints referred to other organizations Number of complaints submitted by age and gender of complaint

	• Female beneficiaries • Vulnerable people	Quarterly	Project reports	• Reports on number of females engaged • Report on number of vulnerable people engaged
	Develop standard reporting forms for monthly, quarterly and annual reports for consultations, update on GM, training. Compliance monitoring checklist prepared and in use by contractors and the PIT	Quarterly	Project reports	Number of monthly, quarterly and annual reports received. EFM, ESMP to guide management and monitoring process

7.1: Reporting Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Performance will be reviewed periodically and updated following engagement sessions conducted in the field. Any major changes to the project-related activities and schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP. Monthly summaries and reports on ESIA, grievances, enquiries and reports on status of implementation of associated and corrective actions will be done and collated by responsible staff for the attention of the senior management of the EDSA/EGTC.

Evaluation of performance will be done to determine the extent to which the engagement activities and outputs meet those in the SEP. The following will be considered during assessing performance:

- Materials disseminated: Types, frequency, and location.
- Venue and time of engagement and participation including specific stakeholder groups (women, community leaders [such as Chiefs and Ward Development Committee or WDC] and youth);
- Attendance (number attending public or formal meetings);
- Meeting minutes with attendance registers and photographic evidence.
- Comments received on specific issues; types of stakeholder and details of feedback provided.
- Number and type of stakeholders meeting the team by phone, email and other means.
- Comments received and passed on to the project by community leaders (i.e. Chiefs, WDC), government and other stakeholders.
- Number and type of feedback/grievances and the nature and timing of resolution
- Extent to which feedback and comments are addressed and led to corrective measures
- Level of satisfaction of project activities

8.0 ANNEXES

Annex 1: Cross – Section Photos of Stakeholders Engagement & Consultation



Photo plate 1: Initial Stakeholders Engagement & Site visit at Lungi



Photo plate 2: The RESPITE Project Lunching; Freetown Sierra Leone



Photo plate 3: Site assessment & Stakeholders consultation by the WB Safeguard Team at Newton



Photo plate 4: Site assessment & Stakeholders consultation by the WB Safeguard Team at Lungi



Photo plate 5: Stakeholders consultation on the SCATEC SOLAR pv in Kamakwie

Annex 2: RESPITE Grievance Resolution Procedure and Complaints Log Sheet

The GM will be a project wide GM and will be available for use by all project stakeholders including those directly and indirectly impacted, positively or negatively. This will offer an opportunity to project affected persons to submit questions, concerns/complaints, comments, suggestions and obtain resolution or Feedback.

MOE will provide oversight to GM process in coordination with EDSA, contractors, local councilors and the GBV service provider (NGO). A web application will be housed at MOE and provides access to EDSA and contractors to register complaints received at sub-project level or the field. Complaints can also be made to the local councilor who will then channel the complaint to EDSA, MOE or contractors to be filed in the digital platform for tracking of resolution. Complaints from the general, project stakeholders, PAPs etc. may also be made directly through the digital platform either by calling, sending text, WhatsApp etc. The project will identify an NGO GBV service provider to setting up and ethically manage SEA/SH complaints.

The GM implementation process will involve the following steps:

- The safeguards specialist at MOE will operate the platform to ensure timely sorting and escalation of grievances to resolving officer
- Assign a focal person (s) from ESDA, Contractors and Councilors for component and community level grievance uptake and reporting
- Train assigned focal person (s) to receive and log complaints in the GM Database (see Annex 3 for sample registry)
- Constitute GM Committee to resolve grievances
- Screen, classify and refer complaints to appropriate unit for redress
- Monitor, track and evaluate the process and results
- Provide feedback to complainant within two weeks, and an opportunity for appeal if not satisfied with resolution approach

COMPLAINTS LOG SHEET
RESPITE
Ministry of Energy

NAME OF COMPLAINANT.....

Address

Date of Complaint.....

Subject of Complaint

(If complaint is more than 50 words, please prepare separately and attach to this form)

.....

.....

.....

NAME OF COUNCILLOR (Ward)/ESMS/SUPERVISING ENGINEER/GM IC MEMBERS.....

Address

Date Complaint Received

Comments/Recommendations

.....

.....

.....

I am satisfied with this recommendation ☐

I am **not** satisfied with this recommendation ☐

Date

Signed Name.....

Complainant

Signed Name

Councilor

GM IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (GM-IC)

.....

Meeting Location

.....

Date Complaint Received

.....

Comments/ Recommendation

.....

.....

.....
.....
.....
.....

I am satisfied with this recommendation/ I am **not** satisfied with this recommendation

Signed..... Name

.....Complainant

Date

Signed Name Committee
Chair

Signed Name ESMS,
RESPITE

ALTERNATIVE FORM OF RESOLUTION

NAME OF LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE

Address

Date Complaint Received

.....

Comments/Recommendations

.....
.....
.....

I am satisfied with this recommendation/ I am **not** satisfied with this recommendation

Signed Name Complainant

Date

Signed Name Legal Representative

NAME **OF** **COURT**

.....

Address

.....

Date Complaint Received

.....

Court ruling

.....

.....

I shall abide by this ruling

Signed..... Name

.....Complainant

Date

Annex 3: Site Plan Offers to the Ministry of Energy from the MLHCP

When replying, please quote:

Ref: SF/MLHCP/20080



Ministry of Lands, Housing
and Country Planning,
3rd Floor, Youyi Building,
Brookfields,
Freetown.
13th March, 2023

Minister of Energy and Power
36 Siaka Steven Street
Electricity House
Freetown.

Dear Sir/Madam,

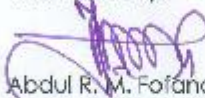
ALLOCATION OF STATE LAND TO MINISTRY OF ENERGY
OFF OLD WATERLOO – MASIKA HIGHWAY NEWTON
PLOT 1: AREA = 205.4512 ACRES, PLOT 2: AREA 17.7377 ACRES

I am directed to refer to the above subject, and to convey the approval of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning for the allocation of State Land to Ministry of Energy and Power at the above-mentioned site under the following terms and conditions:

1. The land is allocated gratis (**meaning that no fees will be paid for it**)
2. The acreage of the land is **Plot 1: 205.4512 acres, Plot 2: 17.7377 acres**
3. The land is to be used for the construction of Solar Power Plant
4. A Building Permit is to be obtained from the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning before construction work.
5. There should be minimal cutting down of trees in the area and in compliance with the Sierra Leone Environmental Protection Agency Act.
6. You are to bear the cost of surveying, as well as preparation and registration of the Conveyance.

If you will let me have your written acceptance of the above, arrangement will be made for the preparation of the Conveyance.

Yours faithfully,


Abdul R. M. Fofanah
Permanent Secretary

Cc: Minister, Lands, Housing & Country Planning
" **Deputy Minister Lands, Housing & Country Planning**
" **Director Surveys and Lands**

Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning
Visit our Website at: www.molhpc.gov.sl for more information

When replying, please quote:

Ref: SF/MLHCP/20080



Ministry of Lands, Housing
and Country Planning,
3rd Floor, Youyi Building,
Brookfields,
Freetown.
13th March, 2023

Minister of Energy and Power
36 Siaka Steven Street
Electricity House
Freetown.

Dear Sir/Madam,

ALLOCATION OF STATE LAND ACQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
FOR THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND POWER
(AT YURIYA GBANNEH BANA MOTOR ROAD) - GBANNEH BANA - LUNGI
AREA = 44.7583 ACRES

I am directed to refer to the above subject, and to convey the approval of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning for the allocation of State Land to Ministry of Energy and Power at the above-mentioned site under the following terms and conditions:

1. The land is allocated gratis (meaning that no fees will be paid for it)
2. The acreage of the land is **44.7583 acres**
3. The land is to be used for the construction of a Solar Power Plant
4. A Building Permit is to be obtained from the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning before construction work.
5. There should be minimal cutting down of trees in the area and in compliance with the Sierra Leone Environmental Protection Agency Act.
6. You are to facilitate the payment of compensation to the land-owning family to enhance access to the land.
7. You are to bear the cost of surveying, as well as preparation and registration of the Conveyance.

If you will let me have your written acceptance of the above, arrangement will be made for the preparation of the Conveyance.

Yours faithfully,


Abdul R. W. Fofanah
Permanent Secretary

Cc: Minister, Lands, Housing & Country Planning

" Deputy Minister Lands, Housing & Country Planning

" Director Surveys and Lands

Ministry of Lands, Housing and Country Planning
Visit our Website at: www.molhcp.gov.sl for more information

Annex 4: Ground Truthing report from the EPA – SL on the Newton, Lungi, & Kamakwie Solar
Pv sites respectively



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
Environment Protection Agency
Ministry of the Environment
92 Dundas Street



Ref: EPA-SL/AR/214/330/01/GIS/SGIS/01/M3/2023

3rd March 2023.

The Director General
Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority
36 Siaka Stevens Street
Electricity House
Freetown

Dear Sir,

**OUTCOME OF THE GROUND-TRUTHING FOR THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY SOLAR
POWER INTERVENTION PROJECT**

I am directed to refer to the above subject and inform you of the ground-truthing exercise conducted by the Agency at the proposed site of the Regional Emergency Solar Power Intervention Project for developing and operating a 10MW solar PV facility at Ghaneh Bana in Kailu Bullom Chiefdom, Port Loko District, North-Western Region and 30MW at Newton, Western Area Rural District Sierra Leone.

Ground truthing allows the Agency to verify the information in the EIA License application form and ascertain whether the area is suitable for the proposed project before further processing.

The Ground Truthing exercise brought forward the following findings and recommendations:

KEY FINDINGS:

- The coordinates of the proposed project were confirmed and found to be consistent with those submitted to the Agency;
- The approximate total land area of the proposed solar project is 270 acres (225 acres and 45 acres for Newton and Ghaneh Bana, respectively);
- The project is not in ecologically sensitive sites.

EPA-SL, Promoting our environment for a better future, website: www.epa.gov.sl email: info@epa.gov.sl





Protecting Our
Environment for a
Better Future



Ref: EPA-SL/ HA/286/790/11/10/2025

11th November, 2025.

Managing Director
CEMMATS Group Limited
7A Cantonment Rd.
Off Kingharman Rd Freetown.

Dear Sir,

Whiters
12:06 pm

GROUND TRUTHING REPORT FOR THE RELEASE 40 MW SOLAR PV PROJECT IN
KAMAKWIE, KARENE DISTRICT

The Agency conducted the ground-truthing exercise on the proposed Solar project in Karene District, North of Sierra Leone as required, on the 11th October, 2025. The EPA officials were able to adequately engage key stakeholders in Kamakwie town and visited the proposed site.

FINDINGS

1. The community stakeholders are fully aware of the project and they are happy to have solar electrification project within their community
2. There were concerns on crop compensation issues subject to clarification by the consultant
3. Some Soil samples have been collected and the locations were identified
4. Community people that were involved in Stone mining at the site have been stopped as reported by the youth in the list above
5. The proposed solar project site is in closed proximity with an energy sub-station
6. Feasibility study was reported to have been conducted
7. Government Officials like Dr Yumkella had held stakeholder's consultation on the said project in Kamakwie

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Project to consider providing giving compensations as appropriate to project affected persons (Stone Miners, farmers etc)
2. Project to continue the stakeholder's engagement to ensure community ownership and sustainability of the project

The Agency further wishes to inform you to proceed with the next stage of the EIA License process: the scoping phase. However, the categorization of the project will be done by the Executive Chairman and communicated accordingly.



Protecting Our
Environment for a
Better Future



We count on your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Alusine C. A Kargbo
For Executive Chairman, EPA-SL

CC: Chief Director, EPA-SL
Director of Field Operation and Extension, EPA-SL
Director of Policy Planning and Research, EPA-SL

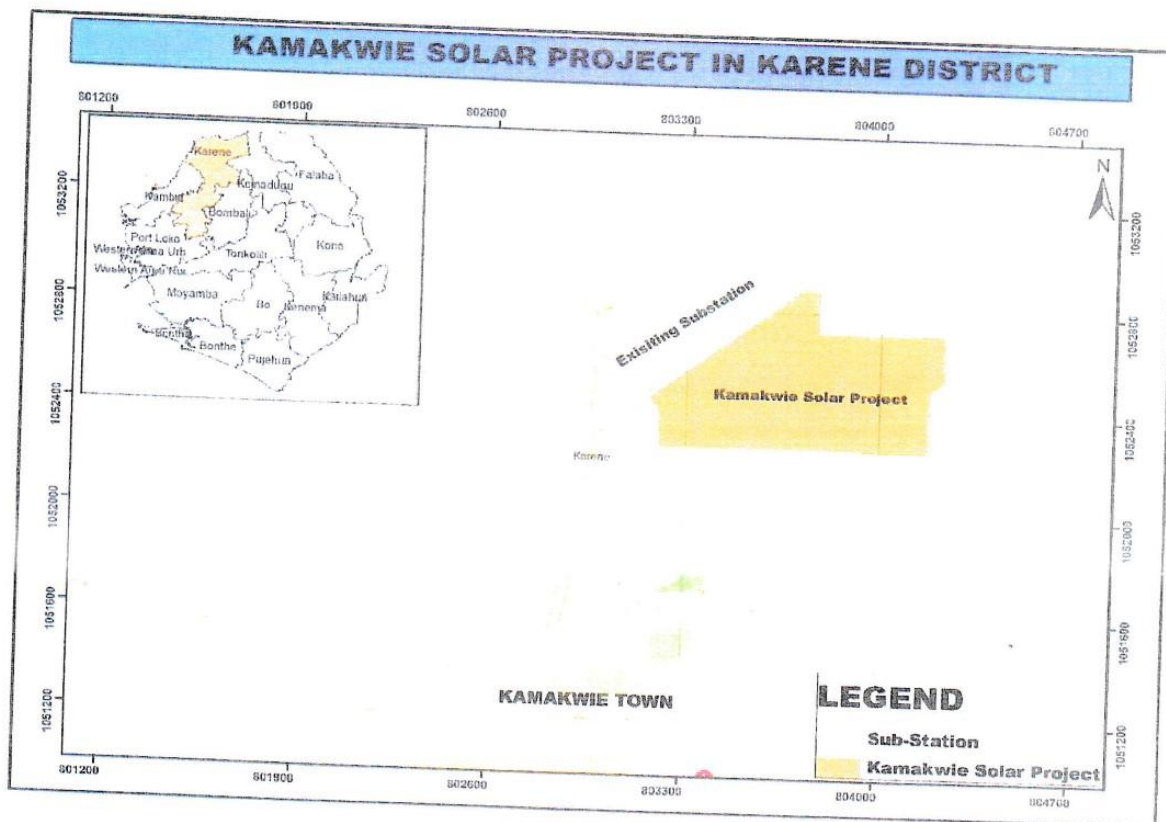


Figure 1 Map Showing the proposed Concession Area of Solar Project in Karene District

Annex 5: Grievance Registry (for non-SEA/SH complaints)

Case no.	Date Claim Received	Name of Person Receiving Complaint	Where/how the complaint was received	Name & contact details of complainant (if known)	Type of Claim Add content of the claim (include all grievances, suggestions, inquiries) *please note if the	Was Receipt of Complaint Acknowledged to the Complainant? (Y/N – if yes, include date, method of communication & by whom)	Expected Decision Date	Decision Outcome (include names of participants and date of decision)	Was Decision communicated to complainant? Y/N If yes, state when, by whom and via what method of communication	Was the complainant satisfied with the decision? Y/N State the decision. If no, explain why and if known, will pursue appeals procedures	Any follow up action (and by whom, by what date)?

Annex 6: Final Resolution notice to about the Newton Land dispute



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

REF: CONF/AD.77/255/01

FROM: The Senior Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security

TO: The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy

11th September, 2025.

Copy: The Chairman, EGCG, Ministry of Energy
The Minister of Agriculture & Food Security
The Deputy Minister of Agriculture & Food Security 1
The Deputy Minister of Energy 1
The Deputy Minister of Energy 2
The Director General, EDSA
The Project Coordinator, EDSA PIU ✓

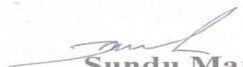
**NOTIFICATION ON CLAIMS IN RESPECT OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE &
FOOD SECURITY (MAFS) NEWTON LANDED PROPERTY IN THE WESTERN
AREA RURAL DISTRICT**

I am directed to inform you that this Ministry is in receipt of a memorandum Ref: MLHCP/CONF/80 dated 9th September, 2025 on the above subject emanating from the Ministry of Lands, Housing & Country Planning (see attached copy) ascertaining that the Newton Agricultural parcels of Land are State properties, owned by the Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security.

Having followed due process on the matter, the Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security is granting you approval to proceed with the Regional Emergency Solar Power Intervention Project (RESPITE) within the 205 acres space already allocated to you.

Be assured of our cooperation at all times.

Yours faithfully,


Sundu Marrah
For: Senior Permanent Secretary

