



Project Information Document (PID)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 26-Jun-2023 | Report No: PIDA36144

**BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Project Data**

Country Western and Central Africa	Project ID P181088	Project Name Additional Financing to the Food System Resilience Program, Phase 2 Sierra Leone	Parent Project ID (if any) P178132
Parent Project Name West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) Phase 2	Region WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 15-May-2023	Estimated Board Date 21-Jul-2023
Practice Area (Lead) Agriculture and Food	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Republic of Ghana, Republic of Chad, Republic of Sierra Leone	Implementing Agency Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - Sierra Leone, Ministry of Agricultural Development - Chad, Ministry of Food and Agriculture - Ghana

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

To increase preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in participating countries.

Components

Digital Advisory Services for Agriculture and Food Crisis Prevention and Management
Sustainability and Adaptive Capacity of the Food System's Productive Base
Regional Food Market Integration and Trade
Contingent Emergency Response (CERC)
Project Management

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**SUMMARY**

Total Project Cost	25.00
Total Financing	25.00
of which IBRD/IDA	0.00
Financing Gap	0.00



DETAILS

Non-World Bank Group Financing

Trust Funds	25.00
Global Agriculture and Food Security Program	25.00

Environmental and Social Risk Classification
Substantial

Other Decision (as needed)

1. This paper seeks the approval of the Regional Vice President of an Additional Financing (AF) in the amount of US\$25.0M to the Multi-phase Programmatic Approach (MPA) of the West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP, Phase 2, P178132) for the Republic of Sierra Leone from the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). The proposed AF, which will be the second AF to FSRP for Sierra Leone, will complement short-term emergency responses, while also contributing to building medium - to long-term resilience for the recovery of the agriculture and food systems in Sierra Leone.

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

2. Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world, with a Human Development Index of 0.477 and ranked 181 out of 191 countries in 2022, and with Gross Domestic Product per capita of only US\$478 in 2022. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, and subsequent disruptions to global supply chains, the economy contracted by 2 percent in 2020. The national poverty rate declined by 5.6 percentage points over the past decade but remains high at 56.8 percent.¹ Poverty is concentrated in rural areas, with a poverty incidence of 78.7 percent and the poorest households are those headed by people engaged in agriculture. More than 70 percent of the rural poor are women, most of whom are engaged in agriculture. Economic growth resumed in 2021 to an estimated rate of 4.0 percent in 2022 mainly driven by recovery in the agricultural sector.² The economy is highly vulnerable to domestic and external shocks due to its dependence on mining – which is sensitive to shifts in global demand and prices – and on agriculture – which is rain-fed and subject to erratic weather changes.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

3. Sierra Leone is chronically food insecure, experiencing recurrent episodes of acute need. The country has

¹ World Bank. 2019. Poverty and Shared Prosperity in Sierra Leone, 2011-2018C

² Statistics Sierra Leone



consistently rated low on the Global Hunger Index recording levels of hunger considered “serious” or “alarming”, especially over the past decade. Food insecurity and malnutrition are currently worsening in Sierra Leone. In January 2023, 788,000 individuals (9.3 percent of Sierra Leone’s population) were facing crisis or emergency (IPC3+) level food insecurity. The Cadre Harmonisé results from March – May 2023 indicated that country-wide 889,225 (12%) people of the analyzed population require urgent assistance in the current period. During the projected period (June to August 2023), these figures are expected to increase to 1,180,824 (16%) people unless resilience-driven interventions and humanitarian assistance is sustained. The number of people projected to face emergency (IPC4+) level food insecurity in August 2023 stands at over 21,500.³

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Original PDO

To increase preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in participating countries.

Current PDO

To increase preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in participating countries.

Key Results

- Program beneficiaries
- Area under sustainable landscape management
- Producers adopting CSA technologies and services
- Farmers reached with agricultural assets or services
- Number of producers supported in crop practices

D. Project Description

4. The proposed Additional Financing will complement parent project activities under Components 2, 4 and 5.
5. **Component 2: Sustainability and Adaptive Capacity of the Food System’s Productive Base.** Under this component additional resources from the GAFSP AF will complement the parent project in improving access to advisory services to accelerate the adoption of productivity enhancing technologies, and to scale-up interventions supporting integrated landscape and water management, and adoption of CSA practices to enhance resilience and improve productivity.
6. **Subcomponent 2.1: Consolidate Regional Agricultural Innovation System.** This sub-component supports the consolidation of the national research and extension systems to deliver technological innovations for the

³ Résultats de l’analyse de l’insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle aiguë courante en octobre-décembre 2022 et projetée en juin-août 2023. https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/ch/Resultats_Analyses_Nov2022_fichedecommunication.pdf



country's food system. Under this sub-component the GAFSP AF will fund the scale-up of interventions to enhance the delivery of agricultural extension services to farmers and other economic operators in the agricultural value chains in Sierra Leone. This activity will contribute to the strengthening of the agricultural extension system with additional equipment and staff training to enhance the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) to deliver extension services. It will (i) support the review and strengthening of the current extension system to enhance extension service delivery through the use of digital platforms with private sector participation; (ii) expand the space for innovative technologies and digital techniques in the delivery of agricultural advisory and other services; (iii) support the operational needs of the field extension staff through skills development, provision of relevant technology and digital tools; (iv) promote private sector participation in the delivery and operation of the recently launched MAFS e-extension system to ensure sustainability; and (v) provide logistical and mobility support to frontline extension staff to enhance field operation and monitoring. The core beneficiaries of this sub-component will be the extension staff of the MAFS both at national and district level, private service providers and farmer-led facilitators.

7. **Sub-component 2.2: Strengthening Regional Food Security through Integrated Landscape Management (ILM).** This sub-component contributes to improved food security for rural households and build their resilience to climate variability by supporting ILM. The additional resources to this sub-component will scale interventions of the parent project that promote climate smart and nutrition sensitive agriculture practices, technologies and interventions. It will also scale-up FSRP interventions towards the development of ILM technologies, focusing on communal lands to strengthen the natural resource base in a sustainable way. This support will increase the target of FSRP's ILM intervention in the IVS by 8,000 ha. The AF will also promote nutrition-sensitive practices for vulnerable groups through a variety of activities, including the support for training and establishment of homestead/kitchen and community vegetable gardens for a subset of beneficiaries, support to women groups to establish horticulture value chains to expand the supply of nutritious food in the country, capacity-building in MAFS and other institutions, and information campaigns for rural families to grow, purchase and consume more nutritious food and increase dietary diversity. Prioritized value chains for support under the AF include rice, biofortified cassava, beans, orange flesh sweet potatoes and vegetables.
8. **Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component.** Under this component, additional resources will be provided to increase the productive capacities of 18,000 eligible vulnerable farmers to enable them to engage in continued production of key staple foods in the short-medium term (6-24 months), to complement the emergency response interventions of FSRP to alleviate the impact of the food crisis in Sierra Leone. The project will finance: (i) procurement and distribution of improved seeds and planting materials, with a focus on key food crops and vegetables through private sector delivery using e-vouchers cultivate an additional of 9,000 ha of land for rice (5,000 ha), bio-fortified cassava (2,000 ha) and sweet potatoes (1,000 ha orange flesh variety) and vegetables (1,000 ha for female producer groups mainly); and (ii) provision of requisite advisory services in support of improved productivity and production system resilience to climate change.
9. **Component 5: Project Management.** To ensure proper implementation of project activities including new activities, the AF will contribute to the costs of managing the project and compliance with financial management, procurement, environmental and social (E&S) requirements including corporate commitments (such as citizens' engagement activities) as well as monitoring & evaluation (M&E) arrangements, and knowledge management activities. The component will facilitate the continuous engagement of civil society engagement through the implementation of the project.



Legal Operational Policies

Triggered?

Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50

Yes

Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60

No

Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

10. Environmental and social impacts of the proposed AF2 are associated with civil works (water control structures and land development) such as dust pollution, use of chemicals and fertilizers, occupational safety, labor influx, exclusion risks, as well as risks Gender Base Violence (GBV) and violence/exploitation of children and persons with disabilities, specifically related to food distribution. The project's ESF instruments prepared under the parent project and the AF1 provides clear measures to avoid or limit these impacts. These tools will be updated to include specific impacts and related mitigation measures for the proposed AF2.

E. Implementation

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

11. The implementation arrangements will remain the same as the parent project. The project will be implemented through the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and implemented the existing PIU for the parent project will be responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the activities to be financed under the AF to ensure seamless coordination and minimize overhead cost. However, a technical team lead will be recruited as a project advisor to focus on the delivery of the GAFSP project activities and ensure proper reporting and accountability.

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