

Mainstreaming Green Growth into Sierra Leone's Agenda for Prosperity 2013-2017



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Country Background



Development Context

10 years of civil war ended in 2002. Average annual GDP growth has reached 5–6% amid greatly improved security.

- Population: 6 million
- Growth rate: 6% (2011, IMF)
- 21% of population live in the capital of Freetown



Country Background



Environmental Context

- **Fertile lands and varied topography**, including lowland and mountain forests, savannah woodlands, freshwater and wetland, coastal and marine ecosystems.
- **Abundant water resources.** Annual precipitation varies geographically but averages 3,000 mm annually.
- **Renewable natural resources are important for livelihoods and Sierra Leone's economy.** Agriculture accounts for 33% of GDP, fisheries 9%, and forestry 3%.
- **Rich in non-renewable resources :** minerals. oil, gas????

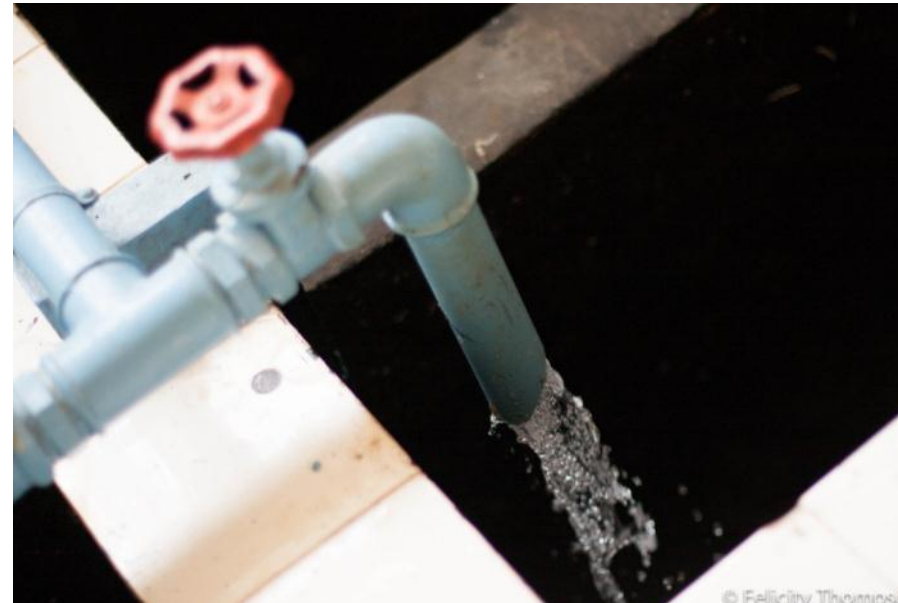


Country Background



Challenges

- Persistent Poverty (209th globally).
- Inadequate provision of basic services, e.g. water and sanitation.
- Substantial Infrastructure deficit, e.g. energy, transport.
- Weak social indicators (though improving), e.g. high under-five child mortality (217 per 1,000) and high youth unemployment rates.



Agenda for Prosperity



- Sierra Leone’s “Agenda for Prosperity” (A4P) will define the development path for 2013–2017.
- It builds on the 2nd PRSP: “Agenda for Change” (2008-2012).
- Nine Pillars:
 - Economic diversification for inclusive growth
 - Ensuring natural resources are a blessing, not a curse
 - Accelerating the MDGs
 - International competitiveness
 - Employment and Labour strategy
 - Social protection
 - Governance and public-sector reform
 - Gender
 - Cross-cutting and regional issues

Transitioning Towards Green Economy: Why, What and How?



- Economic growth policies must be environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable.
- **Success of A4P will partly depend on how natural resources are managed.**
- Need for integrated cross-sectorial solutions, which promote economic, environmental and social sustainable development by:
 - ✓ Ensuring near-term local benefits
 - ✓ Avoiding costly lock-in



3. Transitioning Towards Green Economy: Why, What and How?

Sierra Leone's Working Definition of Green Growth:

Green Growth means developing infrastructure, energy, and cities sustainably; managing renewable and nonrenewable natural resources efficiently; and building resilience for the benefit of the citizens.

Transitioning Towards Green Economy: Why, What and How?



Institutional Arrangements

- The government recognises that the same cross-sectoral co-ordination that is key for implementation of the A4P also applies to green growth interventions.
- The A4P is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Finance and Development.
- For the preparation phase, the A4P institutional arrangements will be leveraged for co-ordination of green growth planning.



Transitioning Towards Green Economy: Why, What and How?



- The government requested support for green, inclusive growth from the African Development Bank (AfDB).
- AfDB sent a Green Growth Team to Freetown in September 2012 to discuss green growth issues with major stakeholders (government officials, development partners, civil society).
 - One-day stakeholder workshop.
 - Team meeting with the A4P Core Technical Committee to identify opportunities for mainstreaming Green Growth in the A4P.
- **The A4P covers all three of AfDB's areas of focus relating to green growth (managing natural resources; sustainable energy and infrastructure; building resilience).**



Agenda for Prosperity and green growth: overriding concerns



- Policies and programs need to manage political economy realities and capacity constraints
- For Sierra Leone social inclusion, and solutions adapted to local circumstances, using social capital are key, together with simple, transparent governance
- Implementability is key. Decision making processes need to be robust but adaptable.
- There are also information gaps.

1. Market Led Economic Diversification to Promote Inclusive Growth



- Focus on an enabling environment for agriculture, fishing, tourism and manufacturing
- Moving up the value chain
- Employment intensive industries
- Improving the macro economic and business environment and access to finance
- Links with land and water management are intrinsic.



2.Managing Natural Resources for Green Growth



Priority actions for managing natural resources:

- Prepare a comprehensive inventory of natural resources to determine the optimal and sustainable levels of exploitation;
- Undertake a continuous assessment of changes in the value of natural resource capital;
- Establish a development fund: a sizable portion of resource revenues should be assigned to a special fund to promote transformation and sustain the level of inclusive economic development;
- Engage in **appropriate** international best practice in the management of natural resources;
- Scale-up sustainable land and water management practices.



3. Accelerating the MDGs for Human Development



- Building human capital through improving basic education and health services, improving access to water and sanitation and gender mainstreaming
- A green growth approach should also focus on the links between human capital, resilience and better drainage flood management, solid waste management and land use planning, all of which are key for controlling water-borne diseases.



4. Demand Driven International Competitiveness



– Products not commodities

- Six focal areas: institutional reform, infrastructure, access to finance, skills development, business environment, and regional integration.
- Improving energy access, efficiency, reduced environmental impact, sustainable generation.
- Strong emphasis on transport infrastructure maintenance, environmental management in road construction, road safety.
- Improved port and customs procedures
- Agricultural efficiency, productivity and marketing.



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5. Employment and Labour Strategy



- Focus on market driven employment promotion for sustainability
- Skills development and training
- SME Development and Local Content
- Promote industrial harmony, occupational health and safety, international labour standards.
- Pillars 5 and 1 are interlinked: economic diversification and reform of agriculture, fisheries tourism and manufacturing should create new employment opportunities.



6. Social Protection



- Strengthening social protection and community resilience by combining more robust natural resources management with effective social safety nets.
- Better forecasting, monitoring crop and animal disease and productivity, and improved risk management.
- Effective CSR policy and monitoring of implementation

7. Governance and Public-sector Reforms



- Strengthening capacity, accountability and transparency;
- Strengthened decentralisation; **Development is local**
- Improved procurement and financial management;
- Increased capacity in environmental and social impact assessment, especially in mining, energy and agricultural agencies.
- Effective negotiations of investment deals and implementation monitoring and evaluation

8. Gender



Key objective is to raise female participation in production and public life as sound economic policy and a moral imperative.

- Cross-cutting issue par excellence;
- Five target areas:
 - raised capacity in the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children
 - Continuous policy review and adjustment
 - Compliance with international norms and standards
 - Gender-responsive budgeting and accountability
 - Promotion of gender equality public life as well as increased economic productivity. (Barefoot/ Biogas)



9. Cross-cutting and regional issues



Shared borders means shared environmental challenges and opportunities for shared green growth.

- International co-operation creates efficiency gains in forestry management, transport planning and trade.
- Regional development of energy markets and exploitation of transboundary water resources
- Improved data collection and risk management across the entire region.
- Pooling resources and identifying comparative advantages in skills training and development contribute to shared human capital development.



What we have done and what comes next



What has been done:

- Preparation of a report « Stocktaking and the Way Forward for Green Growth in Sierra Leone »
- Ongoing mainstreaming of GG in the PRSP3
- Raising awareness on inclusive green growth in the country
- 2013 National Budget entitled: *“Accelerating structural transformation and inclusive green growth for prosperity”*.

What comes next:

- Finalising the PRSP3 with GG mainstreamed and raising adequate financing
- Developing and starting the implementation of an Action Plan for efficient operationalization of key GG interventions
- Developing a communication/awareness raising strategy for 2013

Conclusion



- A green PRSP will lead to inclusive growth and prosperity for Sierra Leoneans over the next five years and lay the groundwork for future sustainable growth and development.
- The opportunity now exists for a change to the development strategy that seeks short-term gains with little regard to the future.
- As the economy develops and grows, green growth will become an even more important imperative.
- The foundations laid for green growth now will ensure that a green strategy continues to be the basis for growth in the future.
- Sierra Leone is committed to move forward with this inclusive green growth approach.



Thank you !

