

GEF-6 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Building and strengthening Sierra Leone's national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Agreement		
Country(ies):	Sierra Leone	GEF Project ID:¹	10027
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01647
Other Executing Partner(s):	Environment Protection Agency (EPA) of Sierra Leone	Resubmission Date:	May 31, 2018
GEF Focal Area(s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	36 months
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>		Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of parent program:	[if applicable]	Agency Fee (\$)	127,727

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES²

Objectives/Programs (Focal Areas, Integrated Approach Pilot, Corporate Programs)	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
		GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
CBIT	CBIT	1,344,495	200,000
Total Project Cost		1,344,495	200,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To build and strengthen Sierra Leone's national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement.						
Project Components	Financing Type ³	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
<u>Component 1:</u> National Capacity to track NDC implementation and sustain transparency efforts over time	TA	Outcome 1.1 NDC transparency system in place in accordance with the UNFCCC modalities, procedures and guidelines	Output 1.1.1. Institutional arrangements for data collection and management established under EPA's coordination in prioritized sectors for both mitigation and adaptation Output 1.1.2	CBIT	850,000	100,000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC and to be entered by Agency in subsequent document submissions.

² When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on [GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF](#) and [CBIT guidelines](#).

³ Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

			<p>Sectoral transparency guidelines and methodologies including emission factors and indicators for adaptation developed in prioritized sectors</p> <p>Output 1.1.3 Continuous quality control and assurance program for Sierra Leone's transparency instruments designed (e.g. National Communications, Biennial Communications)</p> <p>Output 1.2.1 Data teams from the prioritized sectors trained in collection, processing and management of data</p> <p>Output 1.2.2 Peer-to-peer learning activities in the region for key stakeholders undertaken and through participation in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform</p>			
		Outcome 1.2 Capacity of key Ministries, Agencies, Departments (MDAs) and other stakeholders strengthened to effectively utilize the NDC transparency system (1.1)				
<u>Component 2:</u> Integrated Platform for Data Sharing and Policy Making hosted by EPA	TA	Outcome 2.1 Fully developed digital data integration and sharing system in place and hosted by EPA	<p>Output 2.1.1 Online system for collecting and managing all NDC information including data about climate finance developed and hosted by EPA in partnership with academia.</p> <p>Output 2.1.2 Training on GHG emissions projections and climate vulnerability projections delivered to strengthen NDC policy making</p>	CBIT	372,268	100,000
Subtotal					1,222,268	200,000

Project Management Cost (PMC) ⁴	CBIT	122,227	0
		1,344,495	200,000

For multi-trust fund projects, provide the total amount of PMC in Table B, and indicate the split of PMC among the different trust funds here: ()

C. INDICATIVE SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE, IF AVAILABLE

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Recipient Government	Government of Sierra Leone	In-kind	200,000
Total Co-financing			200,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES), COUNTRY (IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS ^{a)}

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b) ^{b)}	Total (c)=a+b
UNEP	CBIT	Sierra Leone	Climate Change		1,344,495	127,727	1,472,222
Total GEF Resources					1,344,495	127,727	1,472,222

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested? Yes X No If no, skip item E.

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), TRUST FUND, COUNTRY(IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

Project Preparation Grant amount requested: \$50,000					PPG Agency Fee: \$4,750		
GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					PPG (a)	Agency Fee ⁵ (b)	Total c = a + b
UNEP	CBIT	Sierra Leone	Climate Change	(select as applicable)	50,000	4,750	54,750
Total PPG Amount					50,000	4,750	54,750

F. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	<i>Hectares</i>
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	<i>Hectares</i>

⁴ For GEF Project Financing up to \$2 million, PMC could be up to 10% of the subtotal; above \$2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

⁵ PPG fee percentage follows the percentage of the Agency fee over the GEF Project Financing amount requested.

3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	<i>Number of freshwater basins</i>
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	<i>Percent of fisheries, by volume</i>
	750 million tons of CO2e mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>metric tons</i>
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	250 million tons of CO2e mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	<i>Metric tons of CO2e mitigated.</i>
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	<i>metric tons</i>
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	<i>metric tons</i>
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	<i>ODP tons</i>
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	Number of Countries:
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	Number of Countries: <i>1</i>

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

1. Project Description. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area⁶ strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) [incremental/additional cost reasoning](#) and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and [co-financing](#); 5) [global environmental benefits](#) (GEFTF) and/or [adaptation benefits](#) (LDCF/SCCF); and (6) innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

1) The global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed:

Sierra Leone has been identified by the United Nations as one of the fifty Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Its economic and social development factor poses a major challenge to development and makes the country vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Efforts to improve the quality of life of its people have been hampered by extreme poverty, structural weakness in the economy, civil conflict, Ebola disease outbreak of 2014 and the lack of capacity related to growth and development. All these are further aggravated by the negative impacts of climate change. Sierra Leone has been ranked as the third most vulnerable nation after Bangladesh and Guinea Bissau to adverse effects of climate change. Our vulnerable population has low capacity to adapt to climate change and the rural populations will be the most affected because of their high dependence on rain-fed agriculture and natural resource-based livelihoods. According to the science of climate change, these impacts are likely to continue to affect Sierra Leone in the future, despite the country being least responsible for the problem since Sierra Leone's contribution to global emissions of greenhouse gases is negligible. The United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Parties agreed in Paris in December, 2015 to an historic international climate agreement to cope climate change. The adoption of the Paris Agreement made fundamental progress towards meaningfully addressing climate change. Earlier to reaching the Agreement, developed and developing countries submitted

⁶ For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which [Aichi Target\(s\)](#) the project will directly contribute to achieving.

their national post-2020 climate action commitments, known as Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). These commitments form the foundation of the 2015 climate agreement. As countries ratified the Paris Agreement, their INDCs turned to National Determined Contributions (NDC). Countries are at different stages in developing plans or strategies that will guide national implementation of their NDCs. Sierra Leone's NDC includes both conditional mitigation and adaptation components based on its national circumstances and in line with decisions 1/CP.19 AND 1/CP.20. The vision of the NDC is to create a new era for a harmonious relationship between the economy, environmental, social and long term sustainability; shifts to a green economy and provide for the identification and implementation of various mitigation and adaptation measures. The national circumstances of Sierra Leone have been fully taken into consideration during the development of the NDC. This includes national and sectoral strategies which already exist in the National Development Plan—the Agenda for Prosperity.

The scope of implementation of Sierra Leone intended contributions on mitigation and adaptation is contingent upon the provision of adequate resources by the international community (financial resources, capacity building and the transfer of technologies). In view of this, there is clearly a need to strengthen Sierra Leone's national capacity to implement the different components of the Paris Climate Agreement. As indicated in Sierra Leone's NDC, additional support is required to develop a transparency system for tracking the performance and the implementation progress of the NDC. The proposed project presents an important opportunity to support the Government of Sierra Leone in building its institutional and technological capacity, designing methodological tools and indicators, and engaging all relevant stakeholders. The future implementation of Sierra Leone's NDC intends to integrate the climate objectives of the national Low Carbon Development pathway with the sustainable development agenda outlined in the government Agenda of Prosperity, which is Sierra Leone's third Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper (PRSP 3).

Article 13 of the 2015 Paris Agreement establishes the Enhanced Transparency Framework (UNFCCC 2015). The framework was established to enable the tracking, comparing and understanding of national commitments worldwide to fight climate change. The “transparency framework” requires countries to regularly provide: (i) A national inventory of greenhouse gas emissions (by sources) and removals (by sinks) (ii) Information necessary to track progress toward achieving their NDC (iii) Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation (iv) Information on financial, technology transfer and capacity building support needed and received; and (v) Information on any support they provide to developing countries. The Paris Agreement requested the GEF to support the establishment and operation of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) to assist developing countries in meeting the enhanced transparency requirements of the agreement in both the pre- and post-2020 period. The CBIT is to enable countries to establish or strengthen their in-house capacity to track progress on national commitments made under the Paris Agreement and also to produce more comprehensive and accurate reports capturing their implementation in the medium to long-term. The CBIT also supports countries to build capacity to enhance the level of ambition under the Paris Agreement, including by enhancing capacities for the generation of more accurate and updated data on emissions in all sectors as well as in the impacts of adaptation measures in increasing resilience of communities and ecosystems.

The INDC of Sierra Leone has three components, one for Mitigation, one related to Adaptation and the third for Loss and Damage consistent with Sierra Leone's green growth pathway to development. The NDC intends to maintain the emission levels of Sierra Leone relatively low (close to the world average of 7.58 MtCO₂e) by 2035 or neutral by 2050 by reducing its carbon footprint and by following green growth pathways in all economic sectors. This target will only be achieved by Sierra Leone with the availability of international support that will come in the form of finance, investment, technology development and transfer, and capacity building. This would require substantial donor support estimated to about \$ 900 million. The NDC very clearly states that Sierra Leone “plans to develop a tracking system (MRV) to analyze the support (finance, technology transfer and capacity building) for its implementation”. Translating Sierra Leone's NDC into concrete policies, programs, and projects will be key to successful implementation. The proposed project will help the government of Sierra Leone to realize these ambitions in its NDC.

Sierra Leone, as a signatory to the Paris Agreement will need to provide necessary information to track progress towards implementing and achieving NDCs and on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Sierra Leone will also need to demonstrate good practices, and highlight needs and gaps to provide inputs to the five-yearly Global Stock take. Information submitted by countries will undergo a technical expert review. This process is intended to be facilitative and will include assistance to developing countries to identify capacity-building needs. The Paris Agreement also encourages other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to participate in efforts to address and respond to climate change.

Sierra Leone has been ranked as the third most vulnerable nation after Bangladesh and Guinea Bissau to adverse effects of climate change and faces multiple threats from climate change impacts. The level of climate change impact is defined by geographical conditions, incidence of poverty, gender and unique ecological zone conditions, but the dominant climate change impacts are related to agriculture where change in precipitation and temperature results in yield reduction. Droughts also endanger hydro power supply (60-70% of power) and floods impact cities and infrastructure in vulnerable areas. Variable precipitation increases water stress and increase in risk of malnutrition, poor sanitation, diseases and natural disasters. The most recent example is the mudslide in Freetown in August 2017 that killed 500 people, led to the outbreak of cholera and is still affecting around 6,000 people. Finally is rising sea levels increasing danger of flooding and coastal erosion in the coastal areas.

The recent submission of the Third National Communication demonstrates that Sierra Leone is committed to comply with the UNFCCC requirements and the inventory done as part of the TNC was prepared using the 2006 IPCC inventory guidelines. Only a few of the 2006 IPCC emission categories are reported in the inventory due to the lack of available data. The TNC assessed climate change impacts for the key sectors of agriculture, water, health, coastal areas, and human settlements, and included an assessment of potential mitigation options to reduce GHG emissions in the following sectors: transport, energy, agriculture, forestry and waste. As per May 2018 the country has not initiated its first Biennial Updated Report.

2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects:

Baseline scenario

Due to the outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease-2013-15 in Sierra Leone which claimed 3,461 lives by February 2015 the development gains made by Sierra Leone after the country's emergence from a ten-year civil war in 2000 were rudely reversed. A major setback was the Ebola outbreak leading to the collapse of many climate change activities nationwide and there is there a vital need for support to kickstart the process related to climate change capacity building in Sierra Leone. So far, all National Communications in Sierra Leone presented to UNFCCC, have been led by a few consultants, leaving the capacities created outside the public administration. This include the Third National Communication that was submitted on March 4th 2018, where a task force of approximately 10 individuals in different working groups were responsible for the implementation. The National Communications so far have been undertaken with a project-based approach rather than a programmatic approach and hence failed to foster institutionalized capacity building. The implementation of the TNC was no exception and involved local and international experts from different public and private institutions. Four working groups were temporarily established and responsible for completing the inventory for the four sectors, namely; Energy, IPPU, AFOLU and Waste. Each working group had a lead and membership drawn from the University of Sierra Leone, public and non-governmental organizations working closely with a number of institutions (Ministries of Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Trade and Industries, the Petroleum Regulatory Agency and the Waste management sector) that supplied data to the inventory compilers. In order to ensure that there is no double counting, the inventory group leader ensured that there is enough coordination among the working groups. A project management team provisionally recruited by the National Communication project coordinated all these arrangements.

Formally, the Meteorological Agency under the Ministry of Transport and Aviation is the UNFCCC Focal Point and responsible for the management of the entire inventory process. The agency is the technical arm responsible for submitting inventories of good quality and above all meets international standards as far as feasible. The office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for the official approval and endorsement of the TNC and onward submission to UNFCCC. The Climate Change Secretariat of EPA coordinates the country's response to climate change and is the key node for information on climate change issues and on the country's response to managing and adapting to climate change. It is the official repository and clearing house for regional climate change data, providing climate change-related policy advice and guidelines to Sierra Leone. In this role, the EPA is recognized by the UNFCCC, UNEP, UNDP, and other international agencies as the hub for climate change issues in Sierra Leone. The Meteorological Agency and EPA were involved in the implementation of the TNC and the lessons learned and gaps analysis from the process will inform the design of the CBIT project.

The CBIT project will focus on strengthening this institutional set-up with EPA and the Meteorological Agency as the key institutions managing a national transparency system. The Third National Communication mentions the gaps and methodological problems (among others) listed below:

Barriers (baseline scenario)	Elaboration	Outputs that will address the barriers
Lack of legal framework for GHG data collection and guidelines for data management.	Access to reliable activity data is a problem in all sectors in Sierra Leone and the country has not been able to develop and maintain a national inventory of GHG emissions. Sierra Leone has therefore not been able to accurately report its emissions to the UNFCCC on an ongoing basis. In the national communications developed so far Sierra Leone has used default factors to generate data for the inventory. The lack of legal agreements makes it difficult to enforce data compilation and generate the data necessary to establish a sound inventory. The lack of a legal framework for data collection and management is preventing the improvement of Sierra Leone's national inventory system. To complete the procedural framework for an efficient transparency system, it is vital to develop guidelines including data management and QC/QC methodologies for involved sectors. Sectoral guidelines for data collection and management play an important role in the establishment of a National Inventory System (NIS). Funding for climate change adaptation interventions is scarce and methodologies to M&E impact is currently non-existing.	<p>Output 1.1.1. Institutional arrangements for data collection and management established under EPA's coordination in prioritized sectors for both mitigation and adaptation</p> <p>Output 1.1.2 Sectoral transparency guidelines and methodologies including emission factors and indicators for adaptation developed in prioritized sectors</p> <p>Output 1.1.3 Continuous quality control and assurance program for Sierra Leone's transparency instruments designed (e.g. National Communications, Biennial Communications)</p>
The current capacity of the EPA and other relevant stakeholders is limited in the area of transparency. It is a high priority to strengthen the capacity of the national climate secretariat under EPA and Meteorological Agency to enable effective coordination of the national transparency system.	EPA is responsible for coordinating national communications and will naturally also be hosting and coordinating the CBIT activities. The coordination of the latest (third) national communication was done with technical support from the Meteorological Agency. Focus should hence be on establishing and strengthening the capacity of the EPA and other relevant stakeholders to ensure adequate technical capacity at sector level to implement NIS guidelines and methodologies	<p>Output 1.2.1 Data teams from the prioritized sectors trained in collection, processing and management of data</p> <p>Output 1.2.2 Peer-to-peer learning activities in the region for key stakeholders undertaken and through participation in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform</p>

Inadequate capacity for coordinating reporting of NDC implementation progress.	There is a lack of capacity of lead institutions to coordinate tracking and reporting of NDC implementation. Institutional roles and responsibilities and online system for implementing and tracking the NDC do not exist and need to be developed.	Output 2.1.1 Online system for collecting and managing all NDC information including data about climate finance developed and hosted by EPA in partnership with academia.
Lack of evidence-based climate change policy making	A major area of constraint is the availability of data necessary to make ex ante impact assessment of policies and actions supporting NDC implementation. With limited financial resources available, it is crucial to prioritize the most efficient policies and measures fostering development impact and implement the NDC in the smartest possible way. Access to data and scenario analyses are lacking to support decision makers to select the appropriate and most cost efficient policy framework to implement the NDC.	Output 2.1.2 Training on GHG emissions projections and climate vulnerability projections delivered to strengthen NDC policy making

Baseline projects:

Sierra Leone has so far only benefitted from international support related to monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) through National Communications; the most recent (Third National Communications) will naturally guide the design of the CBIT. Sierra Leone will need to establish and maintain institutional capacity capable of analysing and interpreting independent data as reference or input for national estimations, and link local monitoring and reporting on mitigation activities with national estimations. A capacity needs assessment will be carried out during the PPG phase.

The following existing national systems provide a basis for monitoring transparency and accountability in different sectors in Sierra Leone but are necessarily related to climate change.

- **The Sierra Leone Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (SLEITI):** In June 2006, Sierra Leone expressed intent to become an Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) candidate country, the country became a candidate on February 22, 2008 and established the Sierra Leone EITI and multi-stakeholder group, comprised of Mining Companies, Government Agencies and Citizen Advocacy groups, including the media. The SLEITI follows the global transparency and accountability standards for the mining, oil and gas industry. The initiative aims at creating standards for countries to implement to increase greater transparency where companies disclose their payments to government and government disclose their receipts from these resources. In an effort to make natural resources universally beneficial, the initiatives are implemented through a multi-stakeholder group of government, companies and civil society.
- In Sierra Leone, the European Union has implemented a four-year (2004-2007), GEF-funded project, **Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change into National Development Planning (MACC)**, which aimed to integrate climate change and variability into the agendas of the tourism, agriculture, fisheries and infrastructure sectors. The project was implemented through the EPA climate change secretariat together with the Meteorological Agency which supports the people of Sierra Leone as they address the impact of climate variability and change on all aspects of economic development through the provision of timely forecasts and analyses of potentially hazardous impacts of both natural and man-induced climatic changes on the environment, and the development of special programs which create opportunities for sustainable development”.

- ***The Sierra Leone Right to Access Information Act 2013:*** This Act was passed in parliament to provide for the disclosure of information held by public authorities or by persons providing services for them and to provide for other related matters.
- ***The Sierra Leone National Decentralization Policy and Local Governance:*** This process is being coordinated by the Governance Decentralisation Commission, which provides support and training for the local councils. The goal of Sierra Leone's decentralisation is to ensure that the local people and their communities are empowered and fully involved in political and socio-economic development processes and actually formulate and implement development plans, while governments working in collaboration with the private sector and civil society provide the enabling environment, oversight and effective management of national and local development.
- ***The REDD+ Capacity Building in Sierra Leone Project.*** Funded by the European Union and implemented by the Forestry Division and National Protected Area Authority (NPAA) of the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS). It was the only project to address building REDD+ readiness at the national level in Sierra Leone. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the establishment of low-carbon and pro-poor development, whilst enhancing the degree of environmental protection and maximizing the benefits offered by environmental services. REDD+ is seen as a way to contribute to this general aim. More specifically the project aims to generate the basic conditions for developing the institutional, technical and social experience and capacities necessary for sound forest governance; for Sierra Leone to benefit from pro-poor REDD+; and to develop a renewable energy sector in Sierra Leone. The project had 5 expected results: 1) the capacity of the Forestry Division of the MAFFS is strengthened so as to fully fulfill its mandate to protect and sustainably manage forest resources in the country; 2) basic REDD+ readiness is completed in Sierra Leone (complete forest cover and forest carbon inventory and a Measurement, Reporting and Verification system is developed); 3) public awareness, especially amongst women and children, significantly increased (through close collaboration with the Environment Protection Agency and the Ministry of Education); 4) sustainable charcoal production is piloted, showing its potential to reduce pressures on forests; 5) the potential for generating solar power in Sierra Leone is mapped in order to inform a national strategy and action plan. In May 2013 the REDD+ Capacity Building project was still at early stages of development and the official start date of the project was July 2013.
- ***Sierra Leone's 1st, 2nd and 3rd National Communications.*** The National Communications underscore the need for colossal training, capacity-building and awareness raising at all levels to reduce challenges in the statistics and develop national- and/or sector specific emission factors with the ultimate objective of improving and updating the national GHG inventory. The National Communications identified capacity building needs to strengthen further the reporting and monitoring national GHG data gathered through different sector and the implementation of standardized technical guidelines and regulations, codes of practice for accountability and transparency. The proposed project will deliver some of these training and capacity building needs, while at the same time build a process for the long- term sustainability of GHG data management and reporting in Sierra Leone.

3) The proposed alternative scenario with the proposed project, with a brief description of the expected outcomes and components of the project:

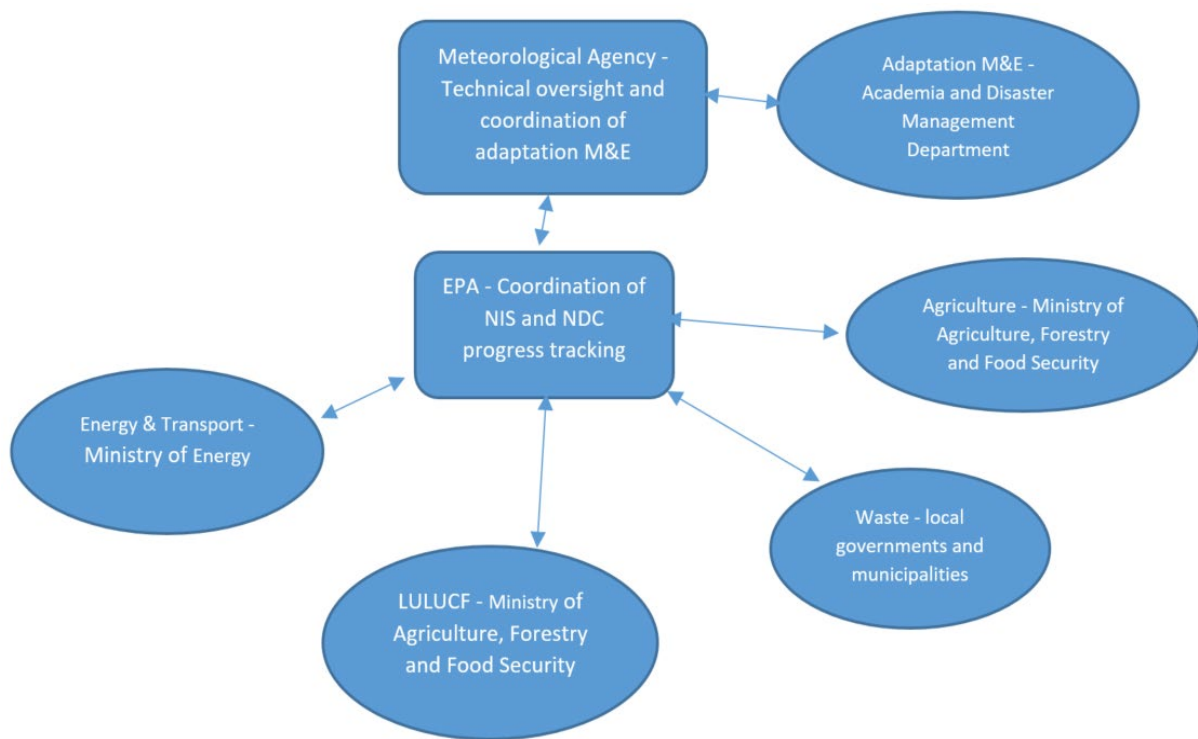
The proposed project will build and strengthen Sierra Leone's national capacity to implement the Paris Climate Agreement through the development of an effective transparency framework which will measure and track mitigation, adaptation and financial support. This transparency framework will enable the government of Sierra Leone and other stakeholders to track impacts in key sectors and provide a concrete basis for the country to meet its mitigation and adaptation targets and achieve a low carbon climate resilient development pathway. It is also expected that a transparency system tracking these efforts have the potential to unlock additional sources of climate finance for Sierra Leone.

The two components suggested for this project are aligned with the overall objectives of CBIT (as per paragraph 85 of the COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement):

- (a) To strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
- (b) To provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement;
- (c) To assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

EPA is the Designated National Authority (DNA) for the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the UNFCCC, as well as the GEF Focal Point for Sierra Leone. EPA is also the institution coordinating the implementation of the national communications in collaboration with the Meteorological Agency under the Ministry of Transport. EPA is hence the government focal point for transparency activities and comprises the national executing entity for the CBIT project in collaboration with the Meteorological Agency. The figure below describes the key institutions expected to be involved in the transparency system in Sierra Leone. The sectors were identified in the Third National Communication as the most important for mitigation actions. M&E of adaptation will initially be done on a project-by-project basis to ensure that only high-impact projects are implemented. Development of adaptation indicators/metrics to measure NDC implementation will over time also be developed for the most vulnerable focus areas like coastal areas and water related areas i.e. flooding and drought.

Current Institutional arrangements/coordination framework that will be strengthened and formalized through the CBIT project in Sierra Leone:



PROJECT COMPONENTS, OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

Component 1: Strengthen the capacity of national institutions to track NDC implementation and sustain transparency efforts over time

Sierra Leone's National Communications and the NDC submitted to the UNFCCC accentuates the need to strengthen or build capacity in ensuring that data collection and management to inform the NDC implementation; this includes data collection, interpretation and storage. EPA will be strengthened to lead in planning, coordinating, implementing, monitor, and evaluate policies, strategies, and programs to enhance transparency, including identification and dissemination of best/good practices for institutional strengthening and national network of practitioners. In partnership with select academia institution EPA will enhance institutional effectiveness in data collection on emissions, and adaptation. This component will strengthen institutional arrangements for data collection and processing in energy & transport, agriculture, LULUCF and waste. The aim is to establish an inter-ministerial coordination framework and focal points in each of the sectors. This will ensure that established capacity is more sustainable in the long term by avoiding that changes in one ministry would undo or negatively impact the established/strengthened capacity resulting from this project. Inter-ministerial coordination will also ensure that project results and NDC tracking information is higher up on the agenda of other ministries. This coordination framework will be strengthened, institutionalized and will function as hubs for data collection and processing. Linkages between the hubs and the centre will be strengthened; and information and knowledge management structures will be enhanced to meet Article 13. Formal cooperation between government, civil society organisations (CSOs), private sector and academia will also be defined and institutionalized through the signing of Memorandum of Understandings.

This component will also strengthen the capacity of the EPA, Meteorological Agency, Ministries of Energy, Agriculture, Local Government, Lands, Water Resources, the Universities, Statistics Sierra Leone etc. to measure, track and report mitigation and adaptation data from key sectors through user-friendly guidelines and methodologies for data collection. Staff will be identified and trained from all the NDC sectors on the basic functions of the system, data management and reporting. Several Training of Trainers (ToT) workshops will be conducted for selected sectors and technicians to further strengthen and broaden the knowledge on the transparency requirements of the NDC and also to ensure that there will be a process in place to ensure continuity.

Outcome 1.1 NDC transparency system in place in accordance with the UNFCCC modalities, procedures and guidelines

Measuring and tracking mitigation and adaptation activities is complex and requires a broader set of measurements than are collected and monitored in many countries today. The proposed project will establish a transparent monitoring system that will identify and define the parameters for collecting data and ensure that this aligns with global best practices. Improving capacity in Sierra Leone should provide a firm basis for updating the NDC and establish a GHG emission reduction target in the near future by identifying specific emission reduction targets in each sector. Outcome 1.1 is directly related to:

Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13:

(f) Development of country-specific emissions factors and activity data.

Output 1.1.1 Institutional arrangements for data collection and management established and formalized in identified sectors for both mitigation and adaptation

This output will support the development of legal/institutional arrangement validated by the highest political level guiding involved ministries and data providers to produce and report the necessary activity data in the required time and manner. Legal binding instruments will further be implemented to enforce the use of guidelines and methodologies. Coordination mechanisms with academia will be established to ensure its participation in the process. EPA will serve as the one stop shop for all relevant data. EPA will be responsible for collecting compiling and achieving of all the relevant data from the various government Ministries, Departments and Agencies and the private sector.

Output 1.1.2 Sectorial guidelines and methodologies including emission factors and indicators for mitigation and adaptation developed in identified sectors

The activities under this output will be developed to ensure consistency and high quality data, as Sierra Leone does not have its own emission factors. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's emission factors are currently used and they need to be customized to the country needs, in order to be accurate. The output will deliver methodologies and guidelines to gather and compile, in a timely and efficient way, relevant data considering inputs from all involved public and private stakeholders. This output will provide methodologies to GHG inventory data compiling and M&E of mitigation and adaptation, as well as standardized sectoral templates so as to formally establish how the data has to be gathered, processed, estimated and presented, solving the problem of dependence on external consultants. The proposed project will provide direct technical assistance to help Sierra Leone calculate its net emissions from the key sectors identified in the TNC.

Output 1.1.3 Continuous quality control and assurance program for Sierra Leone's transparency instruments designed (e.g. National Communications, Biennial Communications and National Greenhouse Gas Inventories)

It is important to acknowledge that Sierra Leone with this project is taking its first steps towards institutionalizing an NDC transparency system and that it is a step-by-step process to accomplish producing high quality transparency data. The QA/QC plan will take this into consideration and introduce yearly improvements to allow capacity to be built before advancing with QA/QC procedures. The QA/QC plan is important to ensure alignment with new reporting requirements and to continuously improve the quality of the NDC progress reporting.

Outcome 1.2 Capacity of key Ministries, Agencies, Departments and other stakeholders strengthened to effectively utilize the NDC transparency system (1.1)

There is a clear need to develop capacities for data collection, reporting, monitoring and evaluation and/or verification mechanisms. The project will provide substantial opportunities for capacity building to ensure that all stakeholders in Sierra Leone can effectively understand and know how to use the established NDC transparency system once it becomes operational. Outcome 1.2 is directly related to CBIT programming directions:

Activities to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities:
(a) Support to national institutions to lead, plan, coordinate, implement, monitor, and evaluate policies, strategies, and programs to enhance transparency, including identification and dissemination of best/good practices for institutional strengthening and national network of practitioners.

Activities to provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13:
(e) Country-specific training and peer exchange programs on transparency activities, such as establishing domestic MRV systems, tracking nationally determined contributions (NDCs), enhancement of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and economic and emissions projections, including methodological approaches, data collection, and data management, and adaptation monitoring, evaluation, and communication measures.

Activities to assist with improvement of transparency over time:

(j) Capacity needs assessment for transparency, in particular to assess institutional arrangements for data collection, analysis, and reporting; the assessment supports mapping of current baseline and planned reporting and related activities, including associated institutions, tools, methodologies, MRV systems, associated data systems; and
(k) Support to introduce and maintain progress tracking tools for transparency-related actions and progress towards targets/goals.

Output 1.2.1 Data teams from the prioritized sectors trained in collection, processing and management of data

Training packages will be developed and used to train participants from relevant government institutions, universities, civil society and the private sector to effectively understand and know how to use the established NDC transparency system. Participants in these trainings will be selected in the initial phase of the project but at a minimum would include staff from the Statistics Sierra Leone, Forestry of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Lands, Environment Protection Agency, National Protected Area Authority, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Ministry of Local Government Petroleum Regulatory Agency and the Universities of Sierra Leone. A training of trainers (ToT) approach will be used in order to ensure continuous capacity building of stakeholders. Each prioritized sector will

nominate key technical staff that will participate in ToT workshops as the means to increase institutional capacity. The project will work with each ToT participant to rollout similar training for identified staff within their institutions as a long-term strategy for sustainability. Under the Third National Communication, a series of workshops and seminars were held in Freetown to train the members of the different technical teams (GHG Inventory, Vulnerability and Adaptation and Mitigation) in the implementation of the project. The CBIT project will build on the lessons learned from this process.

Output 1.2.2 Peer-to-peer learning activities in the region for key stakeholders undertaken and through participation in the CBIT Global Coordination Platform

Through this output Sierra Leone will benefit from the lessons learnt by other countries in their path to implement the Enhanced Transparency Framework, through platforms such as the Global Coordination Platform, and other opportunities. The peer exchange activities proposed will strengthen Sierra Leone's capacity building process through south-south cooperation. The CBIT project will also contribute and ensure that Sierra Leone is an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, by updating and exchanging information with other countries through the global platform as well as actively participating at the workshops. The output will therefore define how national CBIT information shall be shared and updated on the global coordination platform. Sharing lessons learnt and experiences under the platform will ensure alignment of Sierra Leone's CBIT project with other national, regional and global transparency initiatives.

Component 2: Integrated Platform for Data Sharing and Policy Making hosted by EPA

A centralized digital system will be developed and housed at EPA. EPA will serve as the administrator of this online system for collecting and managing NDC information and data. It is important for Sierra Leone to analyze the best options for tracking its NDC that align with national circumstances and are consistent with the UNFCCC principles for inclusiveness and transparency. The project is as such proposing to build a user-friendly online system for managing all NDC information and data collected. The online system will be linked to relevant websites and will serve as a central repository for public information.

Outcome 2.1 Fully developed digital data integration and sharing system in place and hosted by EPA

This project will develop procedures that allow each sector to integrate and share data with the centralized digital system (as described in Component 1) and will circumvent the problem associated with knowledge accumulation in single individuals. The digital system will be hosted by EPA and the design of the system will be guided by the task force that was established to provide technical support to the implementation of the third national communication to ensure continuity in the capacity building process. Sectoral guideline and methodologies will be available together with the latest data compiled from all relevant sectors. Outcome 2.1 is directly related to CBIT programming directions:

Activities to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities:

- (b) Support on how to integrate knowledge from transparency initiatives into national policy and decision-making;
- (c) Assistance with deployment and enhancement of information and knowledge management structure to meet Article 13 needs.

Output 2.1.1 Online system for collecting and managing all NDC information including data about climate finance developed and hosted by EPA in partnership with academia.

Sierra Leone, as many developing countries, displays a high staff turnover in government, which puts at risk the retention of acquired capacities in terms of data generation and analysis. To overcome this barrier, a comprehensive and user-friendly digital system will be developed. The platform/system will serve as a digital library for historical data, methodologies and models associated with data generation, processing, measuring, and reporting and contribute to a transparent climate data information management system. It will host all relevant procedures regarding transparency, reporting and data methodologies, serving as a centralized institutional backup for sectoral and national data, reports and methodologies. The online system will include tracking of received climate finance and assessment of required finance.

Output 2.1.2 Training on GHG emissions projections and climate vulnerability projections delivered to strengthen NDC policy making

A key risk which affects Sierra Leone's transition towards a low-emission economy is the lack of credible data-based policy design and assessment. Through the present CBIT initiative the transparency shall not only be seen as an exclusive reporting mechanism but also make use of its data generation in the development of climate policies leading to a more effective implementation of its NDC. Training in analyzing climate data and building scenarios will be done in collaboration with the Ministry of Lands, Country Planning and the Environment to support evidence based climate change policymaking.

4) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions to the baseline:

This project will strengthen the capacity of the EPA to coordinate, lead, plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate programs, strategies and policies to enhance transparency. The project will also promote a diversity of approaches and initiatives with the purpose of increasing transparency and broadening stakeholder participation and confidence by providing free and open methods, data, and tools that are complementary to mandated reporting by national governments. Without this GEF intervention current investments would focus primarily on the establishment of monitoring systems that are sector specific and do not account for the full extent of implementation of the intended contributions on mitigation and adaptation in Sierra Leone. For example, the government of Sierra Leone is investing in an MRV system for REDD+ in Sierra Leone that would measure, report and verify the country's forest and associated GHG emissions and removals, including their changes over time. The proposed project will help provide a more complete representation of the Sierra Leone's mitigation, adaptation, capacity, technology transfer and finance contributions. In the absence of this GEF funded project, many climate activities would likely remain as standalone activities and fail to provide a full account of Sierra Leone's contribution to global targets.

In the absence of this intervention, the country may fail to secure adequate, predictable, and sustainable financial, technological, and capacity support for implementation of its NDC mitigation and adaptation interventions. REDD+ is one tool for achieving mitigation goals while also delivering a number of social and environmental co-benefits in Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone's NDC and implementation policies should explicitly recognize and communicate the role of nature in contributing to its mitigation and adaptation goals. These contributions could be effectively measured and monitored through natural capital accounting frameworks, which would increase clarity on the benefits and services that ecosystems deliver for both climate stabilization and improving the resilience of communities.

5) Global environmental benefits:

The global environmental impacts will be delivered by supporting the Government of Sierra Leone to implement and reports on commitments made in its NDC. The designed tracking system for the NDC will help to report GHG emission from other sectors including that relates to adaptation and mitigation.

6) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up:

Innovation:

Climate Change Mitigation is not a stand-alone problem. It will both affect and be affected by socio-economic policies and by choices involving development, sustainability and equity. Policies to limit net emissions can best promote sustainable development if they are consistent with broader societal objectives. Some mitigation options can even promote benefits far beyond immediate climate change concerns such as reducing health problems, increasing local employment, minimizing air pollution, protecting and enhancing forest and water sheds, minimizing certain subsidies and taxes and accelerating the development and diffusion of energy-efficient technologies. The implementation of this project will present a central national system for transparent monitoring and accounting for GHG emissions, which will provide the relevant data of different sectors in Sierra Leone. The project will also support the development of institutional capacities, which will strengthen the enabling environment to sustain decentralized implementation of sustainable forest sector management, with the engagement of local communities, sustainable solid waste management. As part of the enabling environment, the proposed project will also include the implementation of a robust MRV system to track the country's emission pathway and progress made in the reduction or removal of GHG emissions over time. Key stakeholders will be trained and empowered to conduct independent monitoring at different sectors in our national development. The independent monitoring process will increase transparency, strengthen data integration approaches and reduce bias at the local level, by combining independent reference data with regional and global datasets.

Sustainability:

The increased inclusion, participation and accountability of multiple stakeholders (e.g. the private sector, forest- dependent people, development partner, CSOs, non-government organizations) in land-use mitigation actions, decision-making and monitoring will ensure sustainability. The MRV system will be built in the Climate Change Secretariat of the Environment Protection Agency and will integrate existing Geo-Information System tools, equipment and trained staff. The proposed project will not solely rely on consultants/technicians, rather the technicians shall be used to consolidate institutional methodologies and protocols. These protocols will be well documented and readily available for use by new staff. The capacity building exercises will not be standalone activities, ToT will ensure that each institution experiences long- term continuity of capacity building activities. The proposed project will work with the Government of Sierra Leone to ensure that funding is available for these efforts in the future. To ensure sustainability of this intervention multi-stakeholder inclusion, participation and accountability (e.g. the Government Ministries, Agencies and Departments (MDAs), private sector, forest-dependent communities, Development partner, CSOs, non-government organizations etc.) in appropriate mitigation actions, decision-making and monitoring .

Potential for Scaling Up:

The capacity increased and system developed during the successful implementation of this project will provide important information for future projects and UNFCCC reporting. This project will also offer an opportunity to improve existing data protocols required for the implementation of the NDC including the establishment of think tank applying climate data to design NDC implementation policies.

2. Stakeholders. Will project design include the participation of relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations (yes X/no) and indigenous peoples (yes /no X)? If yes, identify key stakeholders and briefly describe how they will be engaged in project preparation.

Name of Institution	Role
Environment Protection Agency (EPA)	<p>The EPA was established by an Act of Parliament in September, 2008 as a body that aims to effectively protect and sustainably manage the environment and its natural resources. The EPA is placed under the Office of the President, headed by an Executive Chairperson, steered by a Board, and coordinates with both national and local Government institutions on issues relating to environmental protection and management. The Agency (i) advises government on the formulation of policies on aspects relevant to the environment as well as climate change; (ii) prescribes standards and guidelines relating to ambient air, water and soil quality; (iii) ensures compliance with relevant procedures in the planning and execution of development projects; (iv) issues EIA permits; and (v) promotes relevant studies, research, surveys and analyses.</p> <p>The EPA deals with climate change and almost all multilateral environmental agreements and the implementation of the Paris Agreements. The EPA has coordinated the implementation of the national communications submitted so far and will be the custodian of the developed transparency system and will integrate data into subsequent national report processes. The EPA will be a key coordinating partner throughout preparation and implementation of the CBIT project. The online system facilitating the coordination will be hosted by EPA</p>
National Climate Change Secretariat (NCCS)	<p>The National Climate Change Secretariat was established in May 2012 under the EPA, as a Coordinating Body with a focus on ensuring that climate change activities, programmes and relevant policy development and implementation are handled promptly and in a harmonized manner. The Executive Chairperson of the EPA supervises the operations of the NSCC. The Secretariat aims to (i) ensure mainstreaming of climate change concerns into national development planning to reduce vulnerability and promote environmental sustainability; (ii) promotion and strengthening of national initiatives relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation in a participatory manner involving relevant socio-economic sectors.</p>

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS)	<p>The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security is charged with the growth and development of the agriculture sector. Through its Rural Development Strategy the Ministry aims to facilitate: (i) increased competitiveness, productivity and rural wealth accumulation through smallholder commercialization; (ii) productive and sustainable management of natural resources including lowland rice and food crop production initiatives; (iii) growth in human capital, innovation and technology using Agricultural Business Centres; (iv) diversification in social capital, institutional efficiency and effectiveness; and (v) good governance and market planning. This institution will participate in the development and implementation of this project.</p>
National Protected Area Authority (NPAA)	<p>The National Protected Area Authority was established by an Act of Parliament in 2012 with the aim to ensure the sustainable use of biodiversity and forest resources with regards to their benefit for soil and water conservation, economic development, wildlife habitats, and aesthetic and recreational values. The NPAA focuses on the following intervention areas: (i) biodiversity and wildlife conservation through the development of strategies for sustainable use of the ecosystem services and genetic resources; (ii) enhancement of stakeholder capacity for forest reserve management; (iii) promotion of watershed management in critical catchment areas to protect domestic water supply systems; (iv) reduction of land degradation; (v) increase support for NGOs; (vi) community tree-planting programmes. NPAA is also a very key player in the development and implementation of the project</p>
Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLARI)	<p>The Sierra Leone Agricultural Research Institute (SLARI) under MAFFS is responsible for generating knowledge and technological solutions to facilitate higher yields in production, agro-business and food and nutritional security. SLARI is responsible for implementing research activities that contribute to the development of strategies for environmentally sustainable management and use of land for agricultural production. The institute is responsible for the coordination of key research programmes, in cooperation with national centres specialised in research on agricultural and horticultural crops, fisheries, forestry, as well as land and water.</p>
Ministry of Transport and Aviation (MTA)	<p>The Ministry of Transport and Aviation's mission is to develop policies and provide effective and efficient guidelines for the delivery of safe, reliable, affordable and sustainable maritime, land transport, aviation, and rail systems throughout Sierra Leone. The goal of the Ministry is to: (i) increase access through the provision of transport services; (ii) connect rural farming populations as well as urban poor to market centres; (iii) provide social and economic services through efficient, affordable and sustainable transport systems; (iv) effective coordination of relevant agencies resonated by policy directives and effective monitoring. The MTA includes amongst others: the National Roads Authority, Meteorological Department, Ports Authority, Road Transport Corporation, Road Safety Authority, National Shipping Company, Transport Infrastructural Development Unit and the Maritime Administration. The Roads Authority includes an environmental unit that aims to ensure environmental sustainability concerns are taken into consideration during the planning, implementation and maintenance of road infrastructure. This institution will be involved in the implementation of this for the onward transmission of transport emission data to central system.</p>
Statistics Sierra Leone (SSL)	<p>The SSL serve as the Government agency responsible for collecting, managing, coordinating, supervising, evaluating, analyzing, disseminating and setting quality standards for statistical data for overall national socio-economic</p>

	reconstruction and development. The SSL will be engaged in project preparation and implementation.
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED)	The MoFED is the central institution charged with the responsibility to formulate, institutionalize and administer economic development, fiscal and tax policies for the promotion of sound and efficient management of financial resources of the government. The MoFED currently chair the National Climate Change Finance Steering Committee and will be engaged in project preparation and implementation.
National Disaster Management Department	In 2004, the government established the National Disaster Management Department in the Office of National Security and adopted disaster risk reduction (DRR) as a national and local priority. The department coordinates disaster management at various levels and takes a lead role in developing a comprehensive disaster management plan through a participatory process involving all stakeholders.
Sierra Leone Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs	This CBIT project will seek to build on past efforts of linking gender issues to climate change. Reference shall be made to the GEF Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) to ensure that gender perspectives are introduced into MRV as well as facilitate the involvement of gender actors.
NGOs and civil society organizations	There are a number of NGOs and civil society groups working with different Government institutions and local communities towards climate change adaptation and mitigation. The project will seek the involvement of these groups to collaborate with the project.

3 *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.* Are issues on *gender equality* and *women's empowerment* taken into account? (yes X/no). If yes, briefly describe how it will be mainstreamed into project preparation (e.g. gender analysis), taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men.

This CBIT project will include women in the implementation of the project, from the project board and project management team to consultants, and from training to active participation in consultation workshops. In this sense, project management and monitoring will be gender-sensitive, including gender disaggregated indicators showing who is involved and whose views are represented targeting equal participation. The project will engage through current leadership structures and will seek to add to or strengthen these groups when key stakeholders are underrepresented. We will ensure men, women, youth and other groups are engaged and build monitoring systems that include necessary disaggregation to track this throughout the life of the project.

The Project will build its gender strategies on the National Gender Policy and the national climate change policy frameworks which objective is to ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed into climate change policies, programs, and interventions. Sierra Leone Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs will be involved in the project and provide guidance during the development phase so that gender issues are fully embedded in project activities

4. *Risks.* Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design (table format acceptable).

Risks	Ranking	Mitigation Strategy
Risk the credibility of conducting standard GHG inventory based on national circumstances	Modest	Using default value to start while working with partners to improve data

Archiving of data and inability to compile GHG emission data	Modest	GHG emission data will be compiled using default values. Also as part of institutional capacity proper archiving tools will be provided
Political commitment without financial resources will slow implementation	Modest	It is important to emphasize that MRV and can benefit Sierra Leone's access to climate finance and contribute to the development of high impact policymaking to ensure the political commitment. A decree from the highest level political formalizing the transparency system is vital to build trust among parties and engage sectors.
Limited capacity, commitment and/or governance among Government staff in GHG emission sector institutions	Modest	Starting with the design phase, the project will work in a participatory manner with Government staff in GHG emission sector institutions to discuss and define the strategies to be implemented the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement

5. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other initiatives.

The EPA will lead and coordinate the implementation of this project. They will also support the establishment of institutional arrangements (government, CSOs, private sector etc.) for a robust national system for GHG emission inventories and adaptation MRV systems. The EPA will run the day-to-day implementation, administration, and monitoring. The department will also hold meetings, communications and information flow among partner institutions and other stakeholders. EPA will also coordinate implementing partners including government institutions and departments, and research institutions and universities who will participate in data collection and information sharing to feed into the MRV system. Each of the priority sectors will also have a focal point for data collection.

Sierra Leone is also part of the international CBIT community through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform which facilitates coordination of peer-to-peer learning with CBIT projects in other countries. UNEP DTU Partnership will be engaged when necessary to support the implementation of selected activities.

6. Consistency with National Priorities. Is the project consistent with the National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions? (yes X/no). If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

This project is highly consistent with several international/regional agreements, as well as national plans and initiatives related to the issue of biodiversity and land degradation, such as:

National strategies/plans/reports/assessments	GEF Project Alignment and Contribution
National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Roadmap	Sierra Leone is in the process of mobilizing resources to develop its National Adaptation Programme of Action. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) when developed will serve as the means of identifying Sierra Leone's short, medium and long-term adaptation priorities and needs. The proposed project will assist the government to identify additional activities for like MRV for inclusion in the NAP.
Sierra Leone's Nationally Determined Contribution	Sierra Leone's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in response to decisions adopted at the 19 th and 20 th sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), that invite Parties to communicate to the Secretariat their INDCs, towards achieving the objective of the UNFCCC as set out in Article 2 of the Convention.

	<p>The national circumstances of Sierra Leone have been fully taken into consideration during the development of the NDC. This includes national and sectoral strategies which already exist in the National Development Plan—the Agenda for Prosperity. A review of the current status of implementation of the cross-cutting issues of the Climate Convention at the national level has been documented. These include (a) research and systematic observation systems; (b) technology transfer; and (c) education, training and public awareness. The process is also built on the participatory multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral consultative processes at national and district levels. Monitoring, Reporting and Merification of the implementation of the NDC of Sierra Leone have been articulated with the objective of tracking the transition of Sierra Leone to a low carbon and climate resilient economy. It will be necessary to develop and apply an integrated framework for measuring, monitoring, evaluating, verifying and reporting results of response (mitigation and adaptation) actions and the synergies between them. Effective implementation of the NDC is highly dependent on the internal “feedback” generated through monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) processes</p>
<p>Sierra Leone’s 2nd National Communication</p>	<p>The Second National Communication of Sierra Leone underscores the following to improve on its GHG data collection and management in a transparency manner: (i) an improvement in some areas of the national statistics; (ii) building of national capacity and expertise; (iii) appropriate institutional framework; (iv) orientations of policies, in particular more specific policies in agriculture, forestry, land use and land use change and energy water sectors.</p>
<p>Sierra Leone’s 3rd National Communication</p>	<p>The Third National Communication of Sierra Leone reiterates much of its predecessor, but also includes important advancements. It contains the GHG Inventory for 2005-2010, which is calculated using the 2006 IPCC guidelines, thus representing an advancement compared to the Second National Communication where the 1996 IPCC guidelines were used. However, previous limitations and barriers remain. The Third National Communication highlights the need to improve the MRV system of Sierra Leone. It emphasizes the need to have a sustainable data collection system, but that stakeholder institutions are constrained by inadequate human and institutional capacity; the need for technical assistance and capacity building is large.</p>
<p>Sierra Leone’s Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs)</p>	<p>NAMAs are an important tool for climate change mitigation since it gives policy-makers the opportunity to design mitigation measures in accordance with national circumstances and priorities as fleshed out in Low-Carbon Development Strategies and Plans (LCDS) or other relevant development plans. This enables states to avoid the lock-in of outdated, high-emission technologies and catalyses the transformation of the economy towards low-carbon and sustainable growth patterns. For Sierra Leone, the planning of “supported NAMAs” can open up promising new opportunities for fast-track and long-term funding by public and private actors.</p> <p>The preparation and implementation of Sierra Leone’s a Low Emissions Climate Resilient Development Strategy(NAMA) is a priority identified in the Sierra Leone National Development Plan –</p>

	<p><i>the Agenda for Prosperity 2013 -2018</i>. Sierra Leone is committed to mainstreaming inclusive green growth in the Agenda for Prosperity (A4P, 2012). The transition to low-emission development in both developed and developing economies has been recognized internationally as an imperative to stabilizing greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in line with a 2°C temperature increase scenario. Reducing emissions and maintaining a safe operating space for humanity, requires transition to low emission development pathways around the globe. This means decoupling carbon emissions from economic growth through a series of measures across all economic sectors, such as energy efficiency improvements, usage of renewable energy sources, managing land use change and others.</p>
<p>Agenda for Prosperity (Sierra Leone’s PRSP 3)</p>	<p>"The Agenda for Prosperity" (A4P) which focuses on inclusive green growth, in a bid to achieve sustainable development through low emissions development pathway. Sierra Leone has developed its own definition of green growth: developing infrastructure, energy, and cities sustainably; managing renewable and non-renewable natural resources efficiently; and building resilience for the benefit of its citizens. Together with an emphasis on inclusiveness, green growth requires pursuing a cross-sectoral approach to growth through policies, programs, and projects that are economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable in a transparent manner. Green growth under the A4P focuses on the actions that are needed in the next five years to facilitate longer-term sustainable and inclusive growth.</p>
<p>National Climate Change Policy (NCCP)</p>	<p>NCCP is a national document developed to strengthen national initiatives to adapt to and mitigate climate change in a participatory manner that involves engaging all sectors of the Sierra Leone’s society with appropriate and adequate consideration for the women, the youths, the aged, the poor and other vulnerable groups within the overall context of advancing sustainable socio- economic development in Sierra Leone. The proposed project will inform the implementation of Sierra Leone’s National Climate Change Policy.</p>

7. *Knowledge Management*. Outline the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

As discussed in the baseline, there are different sectors that provide basis for monitoring transparency and accountability in Sierra Leone. The proposed project will build on these existing initiatives and other national stakeholders engagement public consultation tools experiences to strengthen information sharing and data collection related to climate change. In addition, the developed NDC transparency system seek to increased and improve the knowledge management on climate change and enabling activities including sourcing, sharing and reporting of nationally approved GHG activity data.

The expertise from key GHG emission sectors stakeholders will be encouraged to converge in different technical meetings to brainstorm and exchange information on the best option to track Sierra Leone NDC. Sierra Leone is committed to the fully implementation of the Paris Agreement and aim to remain an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and the processes of sharing lessons with other parties to the UNFCCC.


PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT⁷ OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
 (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this SGP OFP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Abdul Bakarr Salim	Deputy Director – climate change Secretariat	ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AGENCY, REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE	03/08/2018

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁸ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email
Kelly West, Senior Programme Manager & Global Environment Facility Coordinator Corporate Services Division UN Environment		May 31, 2018	Geordie Colville, Portfolio Manager	254207623257	Geordie.colville@un.org

C. ADDITIONAL GEF PROJECT AGENCY CERTIFICATION (APPLICABLE ONLY TO NEWLY ACCREDITED GEF PROJECT AGENCIES)

For newly accredited GEF Project Agencies, please download and fill up the required **GEF Project Agency Certification of Ceiling Information Template** to be attached as an annex to the PIF.

⁷ For regional and/or global projects in which participating countries are identified, OFP endorsement letters from these countries are required even though there may not be a STAR allocation associated with the project.

⁸ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT