



REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027

1. The overall lines of the EU international cooperation in Sierra Leone

1.1. Basis for programming

The **basis for programming** is the Medium-term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2019–2023. It covers the government’s development agenda and aims to achieve middle-income status by 2039. The MTNDP is relevant to the multiple challenges of Sierra Leone. It is centred on human development focusing on youth, economic diversification and competitiveness, as well as improving infrastructure and developing private sector. Furthermore, governance and accountability target strengthened public service delivery, local governance and rural development. Empowering and addressing special needs of women, children and persons with disability will contribute to a more inclusive society. Particular attention is given to addressing the vulnerabilities and building environmental resilience. The **2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals** are all well integrated in the MTNDP’s eight clusters. The MTNDP is resilience oriented and aims at tackling climate change impacts and effects, but it lacks specific reference of climate related targets and a link with the **Paris Agreement**. It shall therefore be complemented by priorities identified under the National Determined Contribution 2020-2025, the updated country environmental and gender profiles.

EU interests and priorities focus on socio-economic development not only for the prosperity of Sierra Leone’s citizens but also as a critical ingredient for national stability and security. Furthermore, Sierra Leone’s stability is subject to and a factor in the challenges faced by its neighbours. However, for Sierra Leone to sustain the prospects of a resilient, prosperous and peaceful future, it is of **mutual interest** to achieve levels of growth, socio-economic development and democratic quality necessary for its population to reach a minimum level of social safety while preserving the ecological foundations of its agriculture-based economy.

The MTNDP is coherent with the EU’s interests and priorities, and notably the Green Deal (climate change, environment and energy), digital transformation and data technologies, alliances for sustainable growth and decent jobs (including trade and investment), EU Action plan on Nutrition, and governance. The MTNDP provides therefore an adequate framework for a renewed partnership.

However, while the MTNDP targets the thematic areas of development, the local political economy presents challenges in terms of building a consensus and ensuring effective implementation. These risks need to be taken into account.

Therefore, the **key challenges for the EU’s engagement** to address the social, economic, democratic and ecological development challenges (see 1.4) are:

- i) *Sectorial: deep gender imbalances*, the need for adequate human capital and education, strengthening social protection, increasing productivity, reducing environmental degradation, and improving access to energy and finance,
- ii) *Systemic*: supporting an independent judiciary and improving access to justice and the Rule of Law; reducing capacity constraints and institutional inefficiencies to enhance service delivery; strengthening democracy and improving the accountability of institutions (Parliament, Auditor General Human Rights Commission, Ombudsman etc.) ; reducing inequalities and poverty which drive fragility; and enhancing domestic resources mobilisation to provide for development and social protection,
- iii) *Political*: reducing political polarization through consensus-building and inclusive policies which can improve implementation.

From these key challenges, the **opportunities** arise for the EU to pioneer a comprehensive, integrated rights based approach which (a) promotes a broad-based, inclusive, economic transformation towards sustainable green growth and economic diversification that “leaves no one behind”, while (b) advancing a conscious process that addresses the drivers of fragility and enables strong social and political institutions for a prosperous, fair and peaceful future.

1.2. Status of joint programming

There are only two resident member states, Germany and Ireland, with ongoing bilateral development cooperation. Both member states have expressed a desire for closer cooperation at the strategic level through a #Team Europe approach;; however, given the limited size of respective cooperation activities joint programming is not envisaged.

1.3. Priority areas of the EU's cooperation with the partner country/region

Sustaining the prospects of a resilient, prosperous and peaceful future is in the interest of Sierra Leone and the EU. However, Sierra Leone has been struggling with achieving the necessary levels of growth and development to allow a significant share of its population to reach a minimum level of social safety as it faces a number of constraints, including:

- (i) precarious macro-economic conditions,
- (ii) weak business environment (difficulties with permits, property registration, export/import procedures, contract enforcement, etc.),
- (iii) a lack of physical infrastructure,
- (iv) weak education system contributing to inadequate human capital,
- (v) a lack of access to finance,
- (vi) rapidly degrading natural capital that endangers the ecological foundations of its agriculture dominated economy, and
- (vii) the absence of a longer-term perspective.

These constraints, although different in nature, compound one another in limiting growth and development. This however implies that the growth impact by addressing one constraint may be neutralized by the emergence of another leading binding constraints.

Underlying these constraints are policy and institutional inefficiencies, which are rooted in the political economy of the country. As a result, a “low trust” business and investment climate persists in which investments are exposed to a wide range of commercial and non-commercial risk against which traditional mitigating measures are often of limited effectiveness. Consequently, the economy is only slowly transforming from low productivity and subsistence agriculture to high productivity, sustainable food systems and vibrant manufacturing.

In this socio-political and economic context, the priority areas of the MIP are framed in a *strategic approach* that integrates the socio-economic and the political response and will contribute to:

- (i) Addressing the binding constraints simultaneously,
- (ii) Promoting a sustainable, inclusive economic and social transformation,
- (iii) Protecting the countries’ ecological foundation,
- (iv) Strengthening human development, education, social protection and resilience,
- (v) Strengthening good governance and accountability, and
- (vi) Promoting pragmatic approaches to address the socio-political fault lines which undermine development.

Priority area 1: Green Economy

For a green and resilient economy to provide decent jobs and a sustainable, inclusive green economic transformation, this priority area will focus on:

- *Access to modern energy*: Increasing access to modern, sustainable, affordable and reliable energy for jobs and growth;
- *Sustainable food systems*: Developing sustainable, employment-oriented agriculture and fisheries food systems for health and nutrition;
- *Ecosystems & Biodiversity*: Restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems.

Priority area 2: Human development

For people to enjoy long, healthy and creative lives, this priority area will focus on:

- *Basic Education and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)*: Improving the quality literacy and numeracy, skills and qualifications of the population;
- *Social Protection*: Expanding comprehensive social protection to reduce vulnerabilities and generate growth.

Priority area 3: Governance

For a just, inclusive and safe society:

- Democratic institutions, voice and accountability, and checks and balances will be strengthened to deepen *democracy, peace and social cohesion*;
- Better *government effectiveness and public service delivery* at national and local level shall leave no one behind;
- Enhanced *economic governance* will underpin sustainable economic and social policies; strengthen public finance management, transparency and domestic resources mobilisation; and improve the business climate.

The EU is committed to join forces with EU Member States under the **Team Europe Initiative “Green Pact with Sierra Leone”**, which will foster on:

- (1) Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for jobs and growth;
- (2) Sustainable agriculture and seafood systems for employment, health and nutrition;
- (3) Restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems.

While priority area 1 “Green Economy” of the MIP contributes directly to the Team Europe Initiative, priority areas “human development” and “governance” shall help to overcome binding constraints of Sierra Leone’s development and will therewith contribute indirectly to the success of the Team Europe Initiative.

These interventions at national level could be further enhanced with interventions at regional level. For instance, a regional approach could be essential for effective action in the preservation of biodiversity and natural resources, notably to tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Regional cooperation regarding connectivity (roads, ports) and the creation of regional markets (including on electricity) will boost economic development and productivity. Transnational security concerns, such as smuggling, trafficking and maritime security require regional and/or international approaches.

1.4. Justification and context

Context: Since the end of the civil war (1991-2002), the situation in Sierra Leone has progressively improved and the economy has started to grow. However, the country is still one of the poorest in the world and its full economic potential is untapped. Sierra Leone faces complex, interlinked, often persistent development challenges. Over the last twenty years, the country was hit by several external shocks (Ebola, iron ore price slump, and recently Covid 19). Although there were several development plans, alignment with strategic objectives was often difficult, undermining effectiveness and limiting impact. Living standards increased only for a few, often already in a privileged position. The vast majority of its population is still facing dire socio-economic conditions, as illustrated by a Human Development Index of 184/189.

(1) *Economic challenges of stagnation, unemployment and low productivity:* Economic growth is low, volatile (it dropped from 5,4 % in 2019 to projected minus 2,2% in 2020 due to Covid 19), depending on mining and does not significantly correlate with employment. This is neither sufficient to substantially reduce poverty nor to absorb the fast-growing working-age population. The informal sector accounts for some 60% of GDP and 85% of jobs are informal. Self-employment is the norm while wage jobs are scarce and 75% of employees are working poor. Agriculture is mainly subsistence-oriented and accounts for 57% of GDP and 60% of

jobs. Services account for 38% and industry for 8% of GDP with a lack of investment reflected in a stagnating capital formation at 15% of GDP. Currently mining represents only 1 % of GDP. Jobs concentrate in non-tradable services rather than in manufacturing and as a result limit growth, drive inequalities and hinder the emergence of a working class and associated democratic consolidation. The weak domestic revenue mobilisation is underpinned by a limited tax base and leads to weak social service delivery and little fiscal space for capital investments. Consequently, indebtedness and inflation have traditionally been high and Sierra Leone is one of the world's most aid dependent countries

(2) Social challenges of poverty, inequality, precariat combined with population growth: Poverty is high at 57% with more than 10% in abject poverty, affecting disproportionately rural areas, home to 75% of the poor, though there is a rapid migration of mainly poor youth to urban centres. The population of 8.1 million is young (80% are <40) and grows rapidly at 3.2% per year. Child mortality is amongst the highest in the world and life expectancy is low (52.2 years). Almost 50% of the population are food insecure and stunting is high (>30%). Only 26% of the population have access to electricity, which constrains businesses. Sierra Leonean women face extreme gender inequality (Gender Inequality Index 2019: 0,644 rank 155/162). Women and girls suffer marginalisation and discrimination, particularly in the areas of education, employment, political participation, and social justice. Issues of unequal opportunities for boys and girls continue to be exacerbated by factors such as early marriage for girls, teenage pregnancies and harmful practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Gender-based violence perpetrated against women and girls continues to be one of the most prevalent and pervasive problems. Despite education being a government priority since 2016, it is still characterised by: i) declining performance at secondary level ii) high numbers of unqualified teachers, iii) insufficient investment and policy implementation, iv) deficiencies in supervision and management. Currently the MTNDP is missing its education targets: only 46% of pupils passed exams for Basic Education Certificate and only 6% for the West African Secondary School Certificate against targets of 74% and 25% respectively. The combined impact is reflected in the Human Capital Index, which is below regional levels.

(3) Weak Government effectiveness and a fragile democracy: According to the World Bank, Sierra Leone has one of the lowest scores (12.5 % percentile) in the latest World Bank Government Effectiveness ranking given its weak quality of the public services and poor policy formulation and implementation. Weak state capacity and institutional inefficiencies are compounded by a fragile democracy marked by a high degree of polarisation, patronage, tension between traditional authorities and deep regional divides. As a result, economic growth should reduce inequalities if it is not to exacerbate the risks of conflict. Improving prospects and reducing persistent poverty are important for enhancing the legitimacy of the state and improving social cohesion. It is important to mitigate underlying fragilities and polarization, which if unaddressed could quickly reverse the gains and narrow the democratic space.

(4) Environmental challenges of biodiversity loss, degrading ecosystems and climate change: In 2020, Sierra Leone ranks below the regional average on the Environmental Performance Index (177/180). Benefits from natural resources hardly reach a broader population. Biodiversity, forests and fish stocks have seen significant deterioration over the past decade. The impact on environmentally sensitive sectors such as agriculture and fisheries threatens the basis of 60% of the economy and the livelihood of 70% of people, thereby increasing conflict risks. Furthermore, it appears that the habitat destruction correlates with zoonotic diseases such as the 2014/15 Ebola Virus Disease, which renders the fragmentation of Sierra Leone's forests a global public health issue. Coastal erosion, loss of mangroves and significant illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is depleting fish stocks and will, in the long term, cause huge economic losses. Rapid deforestation is driven by logging, agriculture; mining and firewood and charcoal production. Sierra Leone is vulnerable to and little prepared for climate change as illustrated by its score (38) on the ND-GAIN index amongst others due to a high dependence on natural resources, poverty and a low adaptation capacity of the population.

Priority areas in the context of Sierra Leone:

(1) Green Economy: Improving access to modern energy, sustainable food systems and protection of ecosystems will contribute to a sustainable economic transformation to higher

productivity, more manufacturing, higher-value services and reduced carbon dependency. Increasing access to modern energy responds to a key constraint for private sector. Enhanced access to energy shall specifically benefit the productive sector and target job and income opportunities for women and youth. Developing food systems mobilizes the potential of agriculture and fisheries for jobs and growth, and energy shall enhance the diversification and generation of value addition in the sector, through climate smart and agro-ecological approaches sustainability will be reinforced by halting and reversing the degradation of ecosystems and maintaining the ecological foundation for agriculture and fisheries. Considering its transformative potential, the EU and locally represented EU Member States, development finance institutes, private sector and civil society selected this area for the *Team Europe Initiative* in Sierra Leone. Particular emphasis is placed on improving the business climate; creating jobs, especially for women and young people; and improving vocational/educational skills in line with labour market requirements. This is directly related with the second priority.

(2) *Human development*. Quality basic education and social protection will be essential for achieving minimum social development required for a long, healthy and creative life. Improving basic and professional education has emerged as a catalytic element for better employment perspectives. Therefore, the EU's interventions strategy is twofold, it (1) concentrates on basic and secondary education to improve the general level of education in the long run, and (2) it addresses the short-term needs of the professionally active population. This strategy is in line with national priorities, re-enforces EU Member States' interventions in the education sector and underpins directly and indirectly the *Team Europe Initiative*. The intervention may be complemented by ERASMUS+ at a global level particularly in view of tertiary education, noting however that Sierra Leone could hardly benefit from the programme so far. Equal education opportunities for woman and girls will be a priority at all levels. At the same time, the majority of people is highly vulnerable to numerous threats mainly resulting from their poverty, which make the expansion of social protection an imperative for social cohesion and domestic stability.

(3) *Governance*: Support to good governance in its multiple dimensions will respond to the multiple governance challenges that hamper socio economic progress and as such are critical for achieving the results of the MIP. Promotion of fundamental rights and freedoms, including labour rights, support to effective policy dialogue, accountability, parliamentary strengthening and political parties dialogue, women in decision-making, decentralisation, transparent, credible and inclusive elections via follow-up on the implementation of EU EOM recommendations will remain key priorities of the EU action in Sierra Leone, as well as support to an integrated civil registration information system and Public Financial Management, transparency, and domestic resources mobilisation.

Priority areas and SDGs: The priority areas centre on at basic human needs (SDG 1,2,3) and universal values (SDG 4,5,10) as an ultimate goal. In order to achieve this, they support social and economic development (SDG 8,9,11) within the confines of sustainable resources (SDG 6, 7, 12) and planetary boundaries (SDG 13,14,15). This sustainable pathway is enabled by and relies on Governance and partnership (SDG 16,17). The specific areas under the green economy and human development have strong inter-linkages with the majority of SDGs, and contribute to build resilience against shocks. These synergies will be reinforced by mediating negative trade-offs in particular between socio-economic development and environmental sustainability through developing suitable technologies and strengthening governance. This coherent, cross-sectorial, integrated and systemic approach will allow delivering on multiple SDGs within the limited MIP resources.

Priority areas and EU priorities: In line with the Commission priorities of green deal, digital and data technology, sustainable decent jobs and growth, governance, peace and security, the MIP builds on the Agenda 2030 and mainstreams the Paris Agreement in particular the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 2020-2025 in the development process. The MIP is implementing the EU's stability-oriented priorities for Sierra Leone by supporting sustainable growth, while at the same time contributing to investment opportunities for EU businesses (win/win). The MIP will contribute to the EU Action Plan on Nutrition. The EU will continue to

contribute to the democratisation process, women empowerment and gender equality, in line with the new Gender Action Plan III and the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy.

Complementarity and coherence between cooperation under NDICI-GE and other EU instruments at regional level includes EIB investments to improve interconnectivity for energy networks, facilitate regional trade, in particular of foodstuffs, and promote best practices in terms of conservation and sustainable exploitation of natural resources. Economic growth and value change development would be enhanced by regional economic integration (EPAs, ACFTA). ECHO monitors in particular the nutritional situation in the country and intervenes in case of man-made and natural disasters. Agricultural development shall reduce the risk of starvation, be climate and environmental sensitive, and shall be fostered in line with the EU's "From farm to fork" strategy. Interventions in the fisheries sector aim at sustainable fish stock management and the creation of a "blue economy" ideally under a partnership approach. The sustainability focus will support the EU's ambitions regarding environmental protection, biodiversity and climate change. The proposed priority of human development will be coordinated with the ERASMUS programme. The engagement in the governance area shall promote democracy and human rights, in line with the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024, and facilitate collaboration on migration. Finally, the MIP will be complemented by EU contributions from regional level while respecting the subsidiarity principle (relevant regional challenges include energy, transport, fisheries, agriculture, security, Kimberley process), and through global initiatives such as GEP and GAVI.

Lessons learned:

(1) *Green Economy*: Sustainable food systems directly impact on employment, nutrition and food security with multiplier effects on domestic spending, reduction of imports, rural development and governance reinforcing the transformational potential. However, to translate this potential into sustainable growth, addressing the inefficiencies in the economy emerged as a necessary condition. This applies in particular for one of the biggest constraints: access to energy. Population growth and nutritional needs put the environment under stress. Turning to agro-ecology would reduce the adverse effects of agricultural activities on the environment.

(2) *Human Development*: The low education outcomes at basic level emanating from insufficient investment, weak policy implementation, defective classroom instruction and mismatch of skills at tertiary level with the needs of the private sector make basic education and TVET key priorities for the country. However, the limited formal employment further requires focusing on entrepreneurship and self-employment that open opportunities for youth and women in particular. Accompanying the economic progress with expanding social protection is a critical factor to address vulnerabilities and increase social cohesion. Within this context, it is in the EU's interest to support efforts by Sierra Leone to tackle informality in the labour market.

(3) *Governance* is central to the legitimacy of the state itself. Experience from the past has shown that developmental gains can be quickly reversed in fragile states and weak democracies. Important reforms could not be achieved or have not succeeded the test of time, heavily affected by political alternance, increasing polarisation, weak leadership and poor governance. As we support state-building, and transformational change there is a definite need to support robust mechanisms that promote transparency, accountability, inclusion and social cohesion, consolidate economic and democratic governance, decentralisation, deepen democracy and address the root causes of social and gender imbalance. A rights based approach shall enhance effective service delivery.

Action in support to electoral reform and democracy will continue to draw heavily from the Electoral Observation Missions recommendations as well as the evaluation of the cooperation funded under the 11 EDF. Measures in support to the fight against Gender Based Violence and FGM will build on the outcomes and recommendations of the global review of the UN Spotlight initiative.

Women represent 50.8% of the population and 60% of the population are under 25, yet women and youth have little political representation and economic power. Young men /girls

and women face specific and important challenges, and high inequality and exclusion from decision-making, can push them into political apathy, radicalisation or irregular migration. At the same time, women and young generations represent a key actor for social cohesion, change and innovation, including the fight against climate change. For these reason future programmes need to be fully gender and youth sensitive and targeted. In line with the Gender Action Plan III dedicated support will be provided to promote women in decision making, promote women economic empowerment – here included through digitalisation, access to sexual and reproductive health rights and fight against all forms of sexual and gender based violence. Particular attention will be given to address discrimination across the labour market in Sierra Leone, particularly affecting women and people with disabilities in line with ILO Conventions C100 and C111

Civil society organisations, including social partners, are critical actors in development and will continue playing a critical role in promoting accountability, transparency, and inclusion, fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as service delivery particularly in rural areas and/or targeting women/youth and marginalised groups or communities. The EU will seek to engage them in policy-dialogue and decision-making, in line with the ILO Convention 144 on Tripartite Consultation, and partner with them in the implementation of EU cooperation. A Civil Society component is included in each of the priority sectors to support CSO-led research and evidence-based advocacy, as well as innovation, awareness campaigns and pro-poor service delivery. A complementary dedicated assistance will also be provided under the support measures to support structured dialogue with CSOs, enabling policy environment and capacity building.

Engagement with **Faith-based organisations** will be sought to promote social cohesion as well as norms and behavioural change (for instance the fight against gender-based violence, hate speech or climate change). Sierra Leone enjoys a very high degree of religious tolerance and religious leaders enjoy high trust and authority in the communities in which they work, making them influential agents of change.

1.5. Duration of the MIP and option for synchronisation

The MIP will have a duration of seven years from 2021 to 2027 with a mid-term review in 2024. This will facilitate remaining synchronized with the Medium-term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2019–2023. This also takes into account the presidential and parliamentary elections slated for mid-2023.

2. EU support per priority area and proposals of Team Europe Initiatives

2.1. Priority area 1: Green Economy

Fostering a green and resilient economy to provide decent jobs and a sustainable, inclusive green economic transformation

2.1.1. Specific objectives related to the priority area

Specific Objective 1: To contribute to increased generation and access to modern, sustainable, affordable and reliable energy for jobs and growth

Specific Objective 2: To contribute to sustainable, employment-oriented agriculture and fisheries food systems for health and nutrition

Specific Objective 3: To contribute to restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems

2.1.2. Expected results per specific objective

Specific Objective 1:

Result 1.1: Increased generation and access to sustainable, reliable and affordable energy for productive use, households and communities

Result 1.2: Increased productive use of energy, expanding green entrepreneurship, business development and broadened use of technologies and digitalisation

Result 1.3: Strengthened planning, policies, governance and capacities in the energy sector

Specific Objective 2:

Result 2.1: More economic, social and environmental sustainable food value chains that increase employment, food security, nutrition, agro ecological performance and gender equality and prevent deforestation.

Result 2.2: Increased digital innovation and entrepreneurship for sustainable food systems

Result 2.3: Improved business environment, access to finance and investment climate

Specific Objective 3:

Result 3.1: Strengthened restoration and protection of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity

Result 3.2: Improved, sustainable livelihood for people and community to reduce threats to biodiversity and ecosystems

Result 3.3: Strengthened governance and improved capabilities for sustainable management of terrestrial and marine resources

Specific area of intervention	Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Modern Energy							X										
Food Systems		X	X														
Ecosystems												X	X	X			

DAC: Energy (230), Agric., Forestry, Fishing (310), Gen. environmental. Protection (410)

Major Risks: Policy decisions that lock the country into a fossil fuel development path are the main risk to hamper a renewable energy transition. Agro-food systems face environmental risks (droughts, flooding, climate change) that impact on production as well as economic risk that reduce purchasing power. The resistance to reform natural resource governance, in particular to curb the elite capturing of profits, risk to undermine changes at systemic level.

Civil Society participation: *Modern energy:* CSOs are key partners for awareness raising and advocacy on issues such as tariffs and policies as well as for collaborating with private sector in particular for community and pro-poor energy systems. *Food value chains:* CSOs will contribute to women empowerment, changing consumption and production patterns; establish food networks and knowledge sharing and organising stakeholders (farmers, consumers). *Ecosystems:* CSOs will be involved in natural resource governance in particular to ensure community rights, reduce vulnerability, promote citizen awareness (for instance on climate action) and involving the youth.

2.1.3. Indicators and targets per expected result

Specific Objective		SO 1 - Access to modern energy			SO 2 - Sustainable Food Systems			SO 3 - Ecosystems		
Indicators	Total target (Baseline 2020: 0)	Result 1.1	Result 1.2	Result 1.3	Result 2.1	Result 2.2	Result 2.3	Result 3.1	Result 3.2	Result 3.3
- Renewable energy generation capacity installed (MW) with EU support	5	5								
- Number of individuals with access to electricity with EU support through: a) new access, b) improved access	a) 50,000 b) 25,000		a) 50,000 b) 25,000							
- Number of Inclusive Green Economy policy instruments adopted / implemented	6			2			2			2
- Number of MSMEs applying sustainable consumption and production practices with EU support	2,100				2,000				100	
- Number of jobs supported/sustained by the EU, disaggregated for green jobs	122,500		2,000		120,000				500	
- Number of smallholders reached with EU interventions to increase sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land	250,000				150,000				100,000	
- Agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support (ha)	160,000					160,000				
- Number of people who have benefited from institution or workplace-based TVET and training/skills development supported by the EU	181,000		1,000			180,000				
- Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: a) firms, b) individuals	a) 1,100 b) 20,000	b) 10,000	a) 1,000		a) 100 b) 10,000					
- Number of people who are benefitting from digital services established and/or improved with EU support	650,000		400,000			250,000				
- Marine areas under a) protection, b) sustainable management (km2)	a)107,000 b)50,000							157,000		
- Areas of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems under a) protection b) sustainable management with EU support (ha)	a)370,000 b)460,000				a)185,000 b) 160,000			a)185,000 0 b)300,000 0		

NB All data shall be disaggregated by gender and age

2.1.4. Possible use of blending and guarantees for investment under EFSD+

Taking into account debt sustainability, and subject to its confirmation through the implementation phase, it is expected that an indicative amount of EUR 23 million may be used between 2021 and 2024 to provision EFSD+ guarantee operations under this priority area as follows:

Modern energy: Low electrification and limited access to clean energy are opportunities for off-grid energy companies to develop successful business models at scale despite challenging circumstance. Therefore, the focus will be on mobilizing DFI financing for companies under EFSD+ guarantee such as FMO, KfW and COFIDES to expand access to modern energy. In addition, blending and sovereign guarantees could be used to support large-scale renewable energy initiatives. Food systems: Access to finance is the main constrain for SMEs in developing domestic food value chains as well as niche export markets, which provides opportunities to use EFSD+ private sector guarantees that reduce risks and leverage finance or provide access to finance through equity funds. Furthermore, blending will be an important option for addressing the infrastructure deficit that constrains development in particular in the transport sector. Ecosystems: SMEs in forest-based value chains are generally too weak to access finance, but there are opportunities in working with established forest companies to attract fund investors to the forest sector to support sustainable use and management of forests. Government is promoting investments in the fisheries sector for domestic and export markets. However, whilst there is significant potential, numerous governance concerns negatively affect sustainable investment opportunities.

2.2. Priority area 2: Human Development

Bridging the qualification gap of youth to succeed on the job market, quality education and protection against adverse life events.

2.2.1. Specific objectives related to the priority area

Specific Objective 1: To contribute to improving the literacy, numeracy, skills (including digital skills) and economic productivity of the population,

Specific Objective 2: To strengthen the capability and sustainability of the social protection system to reduce vulnerabilities throughout people's lives

2.2.2. Expected results per specific objective

Specific Objective 1:

Result 1.1: Improved access, attendance and retention, completion and learning outcomes of inclusive and equitable quality early childhood, primary and secondary education

Result 1.2: Strengthened TVET to better match human capital to the labour market and enhance employability

Result 1.3: Increased efficiency, effectiveness and resilience of education system to provide quality education

Specific Objective 2:

Result 2.1: Improved resilience of vulnerable groups to sudden shock and cyclical stresses

Result 2.2: Strengthen policies, governance and sustainable and equitable financing for social protection

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and ODA reporting																	
Specific area of intervention	Sustainable Development Goals																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Education				X													
Social Protection	X																
DAC: Basic education (112), Secondary education (113) Social Protection (16010)																	

Major Risks: For the education sector, apart from the risk that the Government’s focus on Education is not reflected in increased national budget allocations over the medium-long term, there are several other risks that are envisaged considering prevalent contextual issues. The latter includes; (a) The continued impact of Covid to the effective operation of the school system (b) The level of professionalism and qualification of teachers (c) the low economic status of parents especially in rural communities to continue to finance children’s education. Action will be taken to work with relevant stakeholders – such as the school reopening pillar of the National Education COVID Taskforce - to monitor and support action to keep school environment and children safe. Also investments under the 11 EDF have made substantial gains in promoting effective teacher management. This will be followed through to ensure established frameworks are rolled out to improve the qualification and continuous professionalism of teachers. Finally, working with civil society organisations to promote economic empowerment of parents, especially in rural communities, will be considered. All these will be anchored in our policy dialogue to maintain and improve on investment within the sector. For the social protection, the occurrence of major economic shocks potentially endangers the resource mobilization capacity whereas political instrumentalisation of allocation risk to undermine credibility and fuel resentments.

Civil Society participation: To promote accountability and transparency within the *education sector*, CSOs participation, both networks and consortiums, local and international, will be involved for enhancing the relevance of education services and demanding quality as well as monitoring the service delivery and implementation of education policy. CSOs will be involved to ensure gender mainstreaming in the design and implementation of actions. For *social protection*, Trade unions and employers’ organisations are key actors in the social dialogue and critical partners for the EU to develop and maintain a strong national social protection system. This will contribute to improve the investment climate. CSOs will strengthen the voice and representativeness of vulnerable groups and monitor implementation to reinforce inclusivity, transparency and accountability.

2.2.3. Indicators (including baseline and targets), per expected result

Result 1.1: Improved access, attendance and retention, completion and learning outcomes of inclusive and equitable quality early childhood, primary and secondary education		
	Baseline	Target
a1) % of children both boys and girls enrolling in secondary education	41.8% (UNESCO 2018) ¹	55% (UNESCO 2027)
a2) % of students both boys and girls completing secondary education	22.2% (MICS6 2017)	50% (WB 2027)
% of students passing West African Senior Secondary Certificate Exam with university requirements	Boys 4,4% Girls 3,9% (2020 MBSSE Exam result analysis)	Boys 20% Girls 20% (2027 MBSSE result analysis)

¹ Please note that disaggregated data for expected result a1 and a2 are not available

Result 1.2: Strengthened TVET to better match human capital to the labour market and enhance employability		
	Baseline	Target 2027
Number of students benefiting from formal VET programmes supported by the EU	0 Male: 0 Female: 0	6000 Male: 3000 Female: 3000 (EU reports)
Result 1.3: Increased efficiency, effectiveness and resilience of education system to provide quality education		
Number of students benefitting from improved learning environment	2,014 (2020 MBSSE)	5000 (2027 (MBSSE))
Result 2.1: Improved resilience of vulnerable groups to sudden shock and cyclical stresses		
	Baseline	Target 2027
a1) Number of people directly benefiting from EU supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality	0	100,000 ² (Projects reports)
Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance	0	100,000 ³
Result 2.2: Strengthen policies, governance and sustainable and equitable financing for social protection		
	Baseline	Target 2027
Share of transfers for social protection using mobile solutions*	0	100% (Reports from Ministry responsible for social protection)

NB All data shall be disaggregated by gender and age

2.2.4. Possible use of blending and guarantees for investment under EFSD+

TVET beneficiaries will require access to finance to start businesses. Respective solutions for SMEs will be developed under priority area 1. No use of blending or guarantees for investment under EFSD+ are foreseen within this priority.

2.3. Priority area 3: Governance

Supporting a just, inclusive and safe society

2.3.1. Specific objectives related to the priority area

Specific Objective 1: Strengthened democratic institutions, voice and accountability, and checks and balances shall deepen the democracy, peace and social cohesion.

Specific Objective 2: Better government effectiveness and public service delivery at national and local level shall leave no one behind

Specific Objective 3: Improved social, economic and political participation of woman, girls, youths and vulnerable groups in general. Sexual reproductive health rights and fight against sexual and gender based violence/FGM supported.

² This corresponds to 20,000 households of 5 people.

³ This corresponds to 20,000 households of 5 people.

2.3.2. Expected results per specific objective

Specific Objective 1:

- Result 1.1: Electoral reform and democracy is consolidated, and elections conducted efficiently
- Result 1.2: Improved accountability and enhanced gender-sensitive legislative and budgetary processes.
- Result 1.3: Improved social, economic and political participation of women, girls, youths and vulnerable groups in general.

Specific Objective 2:

- Result 2.1: Public sector reforms are advanced; regulations, human resources management and capabilities of central civil services are enhanced; national policies are more gender sensitive policies; e-governance is promoted; the fight against corruption pursued;
- Result 2.2: An Integrated National Civil Registration Information System is established and accessible at the local, district and national level to ensure the universal, continuous and compulsory registration of vital events, in accordance to international standards for data protection and data privacy. This Civil Registration of vital statistic system would contribute to effective migration management.
- Result 2.3: Administrative and fiscal decentralization for participatory governance and effective service delivery at local level is strengthened.

Specific Objective 3:

- Result 3.1: Reduce poverty
- Result 3.2: Fair and efficient taxation promoted which is accountable, transparent, efficient and gender sensitive public spending.
- Result 3.3: Improved investment and business environment

Specific area of intervention	Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and ODA reporting																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Democratic																X	
Social																X	
Economic																X	
DAC: Government & Civil Society-general (151)																	

Major Risks: Escalating polarisation and instrumentalisation of ethno-regional agendas of the political space, along with tensions between traditional and civil structures are key risks for democratic quality and could fuel authoritarian temptations. The willingness and ability of the political and economic leadership to initiate real change to governance and power structures can be challenging to the development of a fair and inclusive society. This potentially limits reforms to areas that do not challenge the interests of the political and economic elite.

Civil Society participation: CSOs will contribute to safeguarding democratic space, improve participation and representation in the democratic and governance process and promote equity and justice. They will also be a critical partner for social cohesion and conflict prevention. CSOs will be strengthened and act as partners to fight misinformation and promote digital literacy and skills. CSOs have a key role in advocating for sustainable and fair policies in particular for marginalised groups. CSOs will work with vulnerable/marginalised groups to develop their capacities for addressing critical social and cultural challenges including gender based violence and women empowerment. CSOs will facilitate the dialogue between private sector and government to improve business and investment climate and contribute to promoting transparency in particular public procurements, fight against corruption and cronyism. The role of CSOs in budgeting and policy processes as well as in promoting responsible investments will be strengthened.

2.3.3. Indicators (including baseline and targets), per expected result

Result 1.1: Electoral reform and democracy is consolidated, and elections conducted efficiently		
	Baseline	Target
Percentage of electoral reforms adopted in line with EU EOM recommendations.	0	75% (Project reports)
Number of credible, peaceful local parliamentary and presidential elections conducted	0	2 (EOM statements)
Result 1.2: Improved accountability and enhanced gender-sensitive legislative and budgetary processes.		
	Baseline	Target
Number of own initiative bills enacted by the Parliament	0	7 (Parliament reports)
Number of Women as Members of Parliament	18	36 (2023) (Parliament reports)
Result 1.3: Improved social, economic and political participation of woman, girls, youths and vulnerable groups in general.		
	Baseline	Target
Gender inequality index	2019: 0.664	2027: 0.5 (Source:GII)
Number of individuals benefitting from EU-funded programmes to counter sexual and gender-based violence	0	10000 (Project reports)
Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age (SDG 5.3.2)	83 %	75 % (SLDHS 2019)
Result 2.1: Improved public/civil service management and capacity		
	Baseline	Target
Government Effectiveness score (as measured by the World Bank Worldwide Governance indicators)	12.5% (2019)	18% (2027) (WB WGI)
Number of people supported by the EU with enhanced access to digital government services	0	100.000 (Project reports)
Result 2.2: Establishment of an integrated national civil register of vital statistics contributing to effective migration management.		
	Baseline	Target
Birth and death registration rates	Birth 78%, Death 16%	Birth 95% Death 90% (Project reports)
Result 2.3: Enhanced decentralization		
	Baseline	Target
Proportion of District Councils that adopt and implement local district development plans	6%	16% (Project reports)
Transfers to Local Councils (amount in SLL)	SLL 120 billion (2021)	SLL 180 billion (2027) Ministry of Finance
Result 3.1: Reduce poverty		
	Baseline	Target
Proportion of national population in absolute poverty	57% (SLIHS 2018)	50% (SLIHS 2027)
Result 3.2: Improved PFM system		
	Baseline	Target

Domestic Revenue Mobilisation: Budget revenue (excluding grants) as % of the GDP	13% (IMF est. 2020)	17,5% (2027)
Result 3.3: Improved investment and business environment		
	Baseline	Target
Ease of Doing Business Ranking	163 (WB 2020)	150

NB All data shall be disaggregated by gender and age

2.3.4. Possible use of blending and guarantees for investment under EFSD+

NA

2.4. Country Team Europe Initiative “Green Pact with Sierra Leone”

The Team Europe Initiative “Green Pact with Sierra Leone” brings together European actors including EU member states (IR, DE, FR), EU-DFIs and EIB as well as the European private sector in Sierra Leone and the EU and builds on three mutually reinforcing pillars:

- (1) Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for jobs and growth,
- (2) Sustainable agriculture and seafood systems for employment, health and nutrition,
- (3) Restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems.

For Sierra Leone, the “Green Pact” responds to the critical problem cluster of energy – agriculture - biodiversity, which is at the intersection of Sierra Leone’s multidimensional development challenges. It will boost the green and blue economy as engine for low-emission growth and support the ecological and digital transformation to a sustainable and fair future. This will create decent jobs, bringing new opportunities to the population and mitigate the impact of the Covid crisis by emphasising food security, nutrition and employment.

For the European Union, the “Green Pact” resonates with key strategic priorities and promotes a green, digital and resilient recovery from Covid. Centred on the Agenda 2030, it implements the green deal dimension of EUs policy agenda whilst promoting fair digitalisation and sustainable financing as well as mainstreaming women, youth, education and skills development as crosscutting priorities. It contributes to the Africa-Europe Alliance, the Africa-Renewable Energy Initiative, the Africa-EU digital economy partnership as well as the EU Gender Action Plan and assists Sierra Leone in delivering under the Paris Agreement.

Pillar 1: Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for jobs and growth

Lack of access to sustainable energy constrains households and enterprises. The sector is small, with less than 150 MW capacity and only 26 % of the population have access to electricity. Biomass accounts for 80% of energy, 96% cook with firewood or charcoal. Imported petroleum products are highly subsidized and account for 13% of energy, mainly for transport and private generation. Most energy is used in households, not for production. There are high losses of 40%, share of sustainable renewable energy is low, while demand far exceeds supply. Better access to sustainable, energy services will improve livelihoods, productivity and employment. The main areas of intervention are:

- *Increasing renewable power generation, transmission, distribution and energy efficiency:*
 - Increase renewable energy generation through a wide range of sustainable gender sensitive smart distributed energy solutions with diversified ownership;
 - Extend and upgrade the grid to increase access and reduce losses;
 - Provide affordable energy services to critical productive sectors;
 - Promote market based energy efficient solutions, clean cooking, use of smart technology and the digitalisation of energy system;
 - Strengthen integration in regional energy markets to improve supply and lower price in particular the CLSG interconnector and the West African Power pool.
- *Scaling up technologies, digitalisation and knowledge cooperation to increase productivity*

and entrepreneurship:

- Enhanced applied research and technology through collaboration of European research and education institution with institution in Sierra Leone in particular at tertiary level;
- Provide business support, TVET and access to finance to promote new technologies, raise productivity and facilitate the transition to higher qualified jobs ;
- Strengthened economic empowerment of women and gender equality.
- *Strengthening planning, policies, governance and capacities of energy institutions:*
 - Improve the policy and regulatory framework to promote investment, private sector engagement and productive use of energy, energy efficiency;
 - Strengthen governance, sustainability and capacity institutions and stakeholders in the energy sector to improve sector performance including e-government and information systems;
 - Strengthen multi-stakeholder participation to safeguard sustainability and to promote a conducive environment for enhanced private and public sector engagement.

Pillar 2: Sustainable, employment-oriented agriculture and seafood systems for health and nutrition

Currently some 63% of the population (5.1 million people) are food insecure in Sierra Leone with an upward trend in urban areas. High food prices force 60% of households to spend over 65% of income on food and less than one third have acceptable consumption for a healthy life. The food insecurity is rooted in low productivity, climate change, unsustainable practices, policy failures and import dependency as well as limited access to finance, information, energy and transport. The food systems approach of the Green Pact, will address food security, nutrition and health while improving socio-economic, governance and environmental outcomes. Increasing staple food production will strengthen food security and have positive macroeconomic effects by offsetting imported, subsidised rice. It will address impact of climate change and contribute to the NDC through climate smart agriculture, and environmentally sound business models. The main areas of intervention are:

- *Food value chains, nutrition, employment and gender equality:*
 - Support private sector in developing sustainable food value chains (agriculture and fisheries), agro-ecology and bio-based businesses through research, business support and access to finance. Employment prospects for the youth and strengthening economic empowerment of women are key priorities. Establish food networks connecting consumers and producers to increase availability and affordability of nutritional products in particular for vulnerable groups (poor households, pregnant mothers and children). CSOs will be key partners in promoting sustainable consumption and healthy diet (including breast-feeding);
 - Improve critical infrastructure for economic development and access to social services in particular for transport and better connection to the Trans-West African Coastal Highway.
- *Scaling up the use of digital technologies and research cooperation:*
 - Expand e-agriculture and e-government for agriculture services and to monitor policies and regulations, increase production, improve value chains and address some of the most critical issues including climate change, loss of biodiversity and deforestation;
 - Support digital skills development & entrepreneurship through research between education institutions (tertiary) EU and Sierra Leone business support and access to finance. This will enable private sector including EU businesses to utilize digital technologies to find solutions to binding constraints such as access to finance, inputs, markets, economic opportunities, climate change and connecting producers with consumers;
 - Increase access to digital infrastructure by accelerating the expansion of affordable access to networks, with a focus on unserved and underserved areas and population.
- *Business environment and investment climate:*
 - Improve the legal and regulatory framework for land tenure to promote commercially driven agriculture, ensure food security and empower women;
 - Support micro, small and medium size businesses through a combination of skills

- development, business support and access to finance;
- Improve public infrastructure to better connect producers with consumers and facilitate exports.

Pillar 3: Restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems

Weak governance, besides economic challenges, is a key reason for environmental degradation with serious social consequence. Continued deforestation and the complex land tenure drive asset accumulation, dispossession, and territorialisation. Administrative and traditional structures compete to control natural resources and often lack accountability. Institutions have low capabilities and information gaps undermine decision-making and limit awareness of stakeholders. This erodes livelihoods, allows elite capturing of natural resource, corrodes state credibility, increases conflict risks and the potential for zoonotic diseases. This is exacerbated by a high vulnerability to and insufficient preparedness for climate change. The Green Pact will build on regional EU initiatives in forest reserves at the border with Guinea and Liberia and promote synergies with the NaturAfrica initiative on mangrove eco-systems. The main areas of intervention are:

- *Protection of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity:*
 - Restoration, protection and management of key landscapes;
 - Combatting wild life trafficking and addressing bush meat consumption as well as marine litter and sewage in oceans;
 - Support the implementation of the NDC to strengthen resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.
- *Community centred development for people living from protected areas:*
 - Promote a Forest Partnership to develop sustainable value for timber and forest products, tourism and deforestation free agriculture;
 - Promote sequenced development of the fishery sector and its value chains aligned with improvement of sector governance to ensure sustainability;
 - Improve business support, access to finance, vocational training and environmental education to foster adaptive capacities, resilient communities and sustainable livelihood.
- *Governance of terrestrial and marine resources:*
 - Strengthen policies, laws and regulations as well as their implementation, in particular in the context of the fight against IUU fishing, land tenure, fisheries, forest and mining;
 - Improve governance and capabilities of institutional framework for informed decisions, accountability, effective enforcement and increased compliance with policies and legislation;
 - Strengthen the business and investment climate for sustainable and inclusive investments into natural resource value chains in particular forestry;
 - Strengthen green fiscal policies, public finance and investment as well as sustainable public procurement for a transition to a sustainable low-carbon, climate resilient economy.

Priority area 1 “Green Economy” of the MIP is the EU’s initial contribution to the “Green Pact” TEI. The EU’s indicative contribution to this TEI (EUR 122.5 million) is subject to the confirmation of the Team Europe partners’ indicative meaningful contribution as early as possible. In the absence thereof, the EU’s indicative contribution may be redirected in accordance with the priority areas of the MIP and their allocations. The obligation of the Union and the Member States to coordinate their development policies following initiatives by the Commission to this effect, as per article 210 TFEU, always applies.

The two other priority areas (human development and governance) will strongly contribute to the success of the TEI. It has strong regional and transnational linkages through improving connection to regional infrastructure (energy and transport) and transnational initiatives on ecosystems and biodiversity (forestry). The TEI responds to interlinked and central energy-

agriculture-biodiversity problem nexus with a multi-sector approach that is coherent with the SDGs and mobilizes synergies and multiplier-effects while mitigating trade-offs. This will allow the TEI to have a significant transformational impact in particular due to leveraging the critical importance of energy and agriculture for social (nutrition, food security, equality, poverty) and economic progress (jobs, diversification, aggregated demand) while strengthening ecosystems as a basis for livelihood and resilience. In order to maximise the transformational impact, the TEI will implement a comprehensive approach that aligns the policy and political dialogue with a mix of appropriate modalities. This will allow to effectively pool resources as well as to build the necessary alliances to leverage EU's position. Combined with promoting local participatory process by involving civil society, local authorities and communities, the Green Pact will establish a strong and comprehensive programme for human development based on the transition to green energy, human centred digitalisation, sustainable and resilient agri-food system and protection of biodiversity and ecosystems.

3. Support measures

3.1. Measures in favour of civil society and local authorities

Engagement with civil society will be mainstreamed in each of the priority areas with a particular focus on women and youth. In addition, targeted support will be provided in the following areas:

- Fostering an enabling environment for civil society to bring communities together for collective action, mobilizing society to articulate demands and voice concerns at local, national, regional and international levels. Specific attention will be put to ensure that women and youth civil society organizations are part of the process.
- Promoting participation of civil society in national, sub-national and sectoral multi-stakeholder policy processes such as the Voluntary National Reviews for the 2030 Agenda; the implementation of national and sectoral development strategies; the updating and monitoring of Nationally Determined Contributions to the climate agenda in the context of the Paris Agreement; the renewal of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans in the context of a renewed international agreement on biodiversity, and other environment related targets and goals; the responses to pandemics and other key domestic and international policy processes.
- Strengthening of CSOs' (including women and youth organizations) capacity to hold authorities accountable, be legitimate representatives of the interests of citizens groups (central to the achievement of the SDGs) and effectively perform their roles as independent actors of development, governance and public diplomacy.

Local Authorities play a key-role in achieving the commitments set out in the agenda of the EU and the international community, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the European Consensus on Development, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sendai Framework. Therefore, the MIP will support Local Authorities regarding:

- Support to decentralisation, focusing on the establishment of a conducive legal and policy environment for decentralisation and on institutional and capacity development, so that Local Authorities enjoy a degree of autonomy to fulfil their functions.
- Enhance Local Authorities' ability to contribute to good governance and consequently to achieve development goals at local level. Local elected officials and administrative staff have to overcome capacity constraints, such as managing and mobilising public sector resources, leadership skills, public financial management, revenue raising and expenditure, transparency, participation and interaction with other actors.

- In view of accelerating urbanisation, EU will seek to promote sustainable strategies to promote non-discrimination and break down the barriers that exclude various groups from access to resources and opportunities offered by local development, with the view to promote social inclusion, territorial cohesion and environmental protection.

Complementarity and synergies between geographic and thematic programmes:

Resources from geographic and thematic programmes will be combined to create a coherent and consistent support at national, sub-regional, continental or international level.

3.2. Cooperation facility

A cooperation facility could be used for:

- Actions that promote the EU interests, policies and positions in the country.
- Economic and cultural diplomacy.
- Policy analysis, organisation, preparation and support of policy dialogues.
- Advisory services in key areas including political economic, social and environmental issues.
- Fostering Team Europe and concerted action under a Team Europe approach.
- Strategic Communication, public diplomacy (to promote EU policies as well as in relation to EU multilateral agenda).
- Supporting the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the EUs cooperation, including via technical assistance.
- Prepare and promote the interventions of other EU instruments in the country (EFSD+, Erasmus+, Research, etc.) including feasibility studies, preparation of blending or private sector investments.
- Participation of the country in EU Programmes and cooperation with EU Agencies.
- Capacity development and institutional building, including through exchanging public expertise, such as TAIX and Twinning.
- Small-scale interventions (incl. small infrastructures, purchases, services or grants) outside of priority areas, but of specific interest of the EU.

4. Financial overview

Although the duration of this MIP is seven years, the indicative allocations for Sierra Leone and for each of the priority areas and support measures laid down in the table below are provided for the 2021-2024 period only. The indicative allocations for 2025-2027, as well as the possible modification of other substantial elements of this MIP, will be subject to a decision by the EU. This decision should be preceded by a review of the implementation of this MIP, which should include a dialogue with the authorities and other stakeholders of Sierra Leone.

Overall indicative amount for first MIP period		
Priority area	Amount (EUR M)	% of total
1. Green Economy	122.50	50%
2. Human development	61.25	25%
3. Governance	36.75	15%
Support measures	24.50	10%
Total for the first MIP period*	245	100%

* Subject to its confirmation through the implementation phase, it is expected that out of the total of EUR 245 million, an indicative amount of EUR 23 million may be used between 2021 and 2024 to provision EFSD+ guarantee operations.

Attachment 1. Template for intervention framework

Priority area 1: Green Economy		
Specific objective 1: To contribute to and increased generation and access to modern, sustainable, affordable and reliable energy for jobs and growth		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
a) Increased generation and access to sustainable, reliable and affordable energy for productive use, households and communities	a1) Renewable energy generation capacity installed (MW) with EU support	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 5 Source: Ministry of Energy and projects reports
	a2) Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: a) firms, b) individuals	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) 1,000 b) 10,000 Source: projects reports
b) Increased productive use of energy, expanding green entrepreneurship, business development and broadened use of technologies and digitalisation	b1) Number of individuals with access to electricity with EU support through: a) new access, b) improved access	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027) a) 50,000 b) 25,000 Source: Ministry of Energy and projects reports
	b2) Number of jobs supported/sustained by the EU, disaggregated for green jobs	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 2,000 Source: projects reports
	b3) Number of people who have benefited from institution or workplace-based TVET and training/skills development supported by the EU	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027):1,000 Source: projects reports
	b4) Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: a) firms, b) individuals	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) 1,000 b) 10,000 Source: projects reports
	b5) Number of people who are benefitting from digital services established and/or improved with EU support	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 400,000 Source: projects reports
c) Strengthened planning, policies, governance and capacities in the energy sector	c1) Number of Inclusive Green Economy policy instruments adopted / implemented	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 2 Source: Ministry of Energy and projects reports

Specific objective 2: To contribute to sustainable, employment-oriented agriculture and fisheries food systems for health and nutrition		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
a) More economic, social and environmental sustainable food value chains that increase employment, food security, nutrition and gender equality	a1) Number of MSMEs applying sustainable consumption and production practices with EU support	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 2,000 Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries and projects reports
	a2) Number of jobs supported/sustained by the EU, disaggregated for green jobs	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 120,000 Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries and projects reports
	a3) Number of smallholders reached with EU interventions to increase sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 150,000 Source: Ministry of Agriculture and projects reports
	a4) Number of beneficiaries with access to financial services with EU support: a) firms, b) individuals	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) 100 b) 10,000 Source: projects reports
	a5) Areas of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems under a) protection b) sustainable management with EU support (ha)	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) see SO 3, indicator a2 b) 160,000 Source: Ministry of Environment and projects reports
b) Increased digital innovation and entrepreneurship for sustainable food systems	b1) Agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support (ha)	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 160,000 Source: Ministry of Agriculture and projects reports
	b2) Number of people who have benefited from institution or workplace-based TVET and training/skills development supported by the EU	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 180,000 Source: projects reports
	b3) Number of people who are benefitting from digital services established and/or improved with EU support	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 250,000 Source: projects reports
c) Improved business environment, access to finance and investment climate	c1) Number of Inclusive Green Economy policy instruments adopted / implemented	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 2 Source: Ministry of Environment and projects reports

Specific objective 3: To contribute to restoring, managing and protecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecosystems		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
a) Strengthened restoration and protection of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity	a1) Marine areas under protection, b1) sustainable management (km ²) a2) Areas of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems under a) protection b) sustainable management with EU support (ha)	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) 107,000 b) 50,000 Source: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Fisheries and projects reports Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): a) 185,000 b) 300,000 Source: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Fisheries and projects reports
b) Improved, sustainable livelihood for people and community to reduce threats to biodiversity and ecosystems	b1) Number of MSMEs applying sustainable consumption and production practices with EU support b2) Number of jobs supported/sustained by the EU, disaggregated for green jobs b3) Number of smallholders reached with EU interventions to increase sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 100 Source: projects reports Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 500 Source: projects reports Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 100,000 Source: Ministry of Agriculture and projects reports
c) Strengthened governance and improved capabilities for sustainable management of terrestrial and marine resources	c1) Number of Inclusive Green Economy policy instruments adopted / implemented	Baseline (2020): 0 Target (2027): 2 Source: government and projects reports

Priority area 2: Human Development			
Specific objective 1: To contribute to improving the literacy, numeracy, skills and economic productivity of the population			
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification	
a) Improved access, attendance and retention, completion and learning outcomes of inclusive and equitable quality early childhood, primary and secondary education	a1) % of children enrolling in Secondary education	Baseline: 41.8% (UNESCO 2018) ⁴	Target: 55% (UNESCO 2027)
	a2) % of students completing secondary education	Baseline: 22,2% (MICS6 2017)	Target: 50% (World Bank, 2027)
	a3) % of students both boys and girls passing West African Senior Secondary Certificate Exam with university requirements	Baseline: Boys 4,4% Girls 3,9% (2020 MBSSE Exam result analysis)	Target: Boys 20% Girls 20% (2027 MBSSE result analysis)
b) Strengthened TVET to better match human capital to the labour market and enhance employability	Number of students benefiting from formal VET programmes supported by the EU	Baseline: 0 2021-2022 Male : 0 Female: 0	Target: 6000 2026-2027 (EU reports) Male: 3000 Female 3000
c) Increased efficiency, effectiveness and resilience of education system to provide quality education	Number of students benefitting from improved learning environment*	Baseline: 2,014 (2020 MBSSE)	Target: 5000 (2986 additional students in this programming period) 2027 (MBSSE)
Specific objective 2: To strengthen the capability and sustainability of the social protection system to reduce vulnerabilities throughout people's lives			
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification	
a) Improved resilience of vulnerable groups to sudden shock and cyclical stresses	a1) Number of people directly benefiting from EU supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality	Baseline: 0 Target: 100000 ⁵ Source: projects reports	
	a2) Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance	Baseline: 0 Target: 100,000 ⁶ Source: projects reports	

⁴ Please note that disaggregated data for expected result **a1** and **a2** are not available

⁵ Households= 5 people-20000*5=100,000

⁶ Households= 5 people-38,000*5= 190,000

b) Strengthen policies, governance and sustainable and equitable financing for social protection	b1) Share of transfers for social protection using mobile solutions*	Baseline: 0 Target: 100% Source: Reports from Ministry responsible for social protection
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Priority area 3: Governance		
Specific objective 1: Strengthened democratic institutions, voice and accountability, and checks and balances shall deepen the democracy, peace and social cohesion.		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
a) Electoral reform and democracy is consolidated, and elections conducted efficiently	Percentage of Electoral reforms adopted in line with EU EOM recommendations.	Baseline: 0 Target: 75% Source: project reports, EOM reports
	Number of credible, peaceful local parliamentary and presidential elections conducted.	Baseline: 0 Target: 2 Source: EOM statements
b) Improved accountability and enhanced gender-sensitive legislative and budgetary processes.	Number of own initiative bills enacted by the Parliament	Baseline: 0 Target: 7 Source: Parliament reports
	Number of Women as Members of Parliament	Baseline: 18 Target: 36 (2023) Source: Parliament reports
c) Improved social, economic and political participation of woman, girls, youths and vulnerable groups in general.	Gender inequality index	Baseline: 0.664 (2019) Target: 0.5 (2027) Source: GII
	Number of individuals benefitting from EU-funded programmes to counter sexual and gender-based violence	Baseline: 0 (2021) Target: 10000 (2027) Source: project reports
	Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age (SDG 5.3.2)	Baseline: 83 Target: 75 Source: SLDHS 2019

Specific objective 2: Better government effectiveness and public service delivery at national and local level shall leave no one behind

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
<p>a) Public sector reforms are advanced; regulations, human resources management and capabilities of central civil services are enhanced; national policies are more gender sensitive policies; e-governance is promoted; the fight against corruption pursued.</p>	<p>Government Effectiveness score (as measured by the World Bank Worldwide Governance indicators)</p>	<p>Baseline: 12.5% (2019) Target: 18% (2027) Source: WB WGI</p>
	<p>Number of people supported by the EU with enhanced access to digital government services</p>	<p>Baseline: 0 Target: 100000 Source: project reports</p>
<p>b) A Integrated National Civil Registration Information System is established and accessible at the local, district and national level to ensure the universal, continuous and compulsory registration of vital events, in accordance to international standards for data protection and data privacy. This Integrated National Civil Registration Information System would contribute to effective migration management.</p>	<p>Birth and death registration rates</p>	<p>Baseline: Birth: 78% - Death, 16% Source: project reports Target: Birth: 95% - Death, 90% Source: project reports</p>
<p>c) Administrative and fiscal decentralization for participatory governance and effective service delivery at local level is strengthened.</p>	<p>Proportion of District Councils that adopt and implement local district development plans</p>	<p>Baseline: 6% Target: 16% Source: project reports</p>
	<p>Transfers to Local Councils (amount in SLL)</p>	<p>Baseline: SLL 120 billion (2021) Target: SLL 180 billion in 2027 Source: Ministry of Finance</p>

<p>Specific objective 3: Improved social, economic and political participation of woman, girls, youths and vulnerable groups in general. Sexual reproductive health rights and fight against sexual and gender based violence/FGM supported.</p>		
Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline & targets Means of verification
a) Reduce poverty	Proportion of national population in absolute poverty	Baseline: 57% (SLIHS 2018) Target: 50% (SLIHS 2027)
b) Fair and efficient taxation promoted which is accountable, transparent, efficient and gender sensitive public spending.	Domestic Revenue Mobilisation: Budget revenue (excluding grants) as % of the GDP	Baseline: 13% (IMF est. 2020) Target: 17,5% (2027)
c) Improved investment and business environment	Ease of Doing Business Ranking	Baseline: 163 (WB 2020) Target: 150

DONOR MAPPING - SIERRA LEONE LANDSCAPE

MTNDP Policy Clusters (2019 -2023)		Development Partners/Donors																																						
		UKAID/DFID	NETHERLANDS	EU/EDF	CANADA	GERMANY	IRELAND	US INU/USDS	JAPAN/JICA	S. KOREA	NORWAY	GEF	GCF	WB	AfDB	ISDB	IMF	UNDP	WFP	FAO	UNWTO	UNAIDS	UNIDO	KUWAIT FD	SAUDI F	WHO	BADEA	CIDA	GIZ	SIDA	OPEC	GoA	IFAD	UNICEF	UNFPA	ECOWAS	UN Peace Building Fund	UN-Habitat		
1. Human Capital Development																																								
1.1	Free Quality Basic and Senior Secondary Education	X		X			X						X															X		X	X		X							
1.2	Strengthening Tertiary and Higher Education	X		X									X		X													X		X	X									
1.3	Accelerating Healthcare Delivery	X		X	X	X	X						X	X			X			X	X	X						X					X							
1.4	Enhancing Environmental Sanitation & Hygiene																																							
1.5	Increasing Social Protection			X									X	X			X																X	X						
1.6	Advancing Housing and Land Management						X	X					X				X		X																		X	X		
2. Diversifying the Economy & Promoting Growth																																								
2.1	Improving Productivity and Commercialization of the Agricultural Sector	X		X	X		X						X	X	X													X				X								
2.2	Improving Productivity and Sustainable Management of Marine Sector																																							
2.3	Revitalizing the Tourism Sector												X																											
2.4	Revamping the Manufacturing and Service Sector																																							
2.5	Improving the management of Oil and Gas exploration and production																																							
2.6	Improving the management of mineral resources																																							
2.7	Improving an inclusive and rural economy																																							
3. Infrastructure and Economic Competitiveness																																								
3.1	Accelerating the provision of energy supplies	X		X			X						X	X	X																									
3.2	Transforming the transportation systems			X									X	X	X								X																	
3.3	Improving the water infrastructure system	X											X	X	X		X							X		X							X							
3.4	Improving information and communication technologies			X									X	X																										
3.5	Fostering private sector growth				X								X				X											X												
4. Governance and Accountability for Results																																								
4.1	Advancing political development for national cohesion	X		X													X																							
4.2	Fighting corruption and illicit financial flows	X		X		X																																		
4.3	Strengthening public financial management	X											X	X																										
4.4	Strengthening audit services			X									X																											
4.5	Promoting inclusive and accountable justice institutions	X											X				X																							
4.6	Building public trust in state institutions	X		X											X																									
4.7	Strengthening public service delivery	X		X									X																											
4.8	Strengthening decentralization, local governance and rural development	X		X			X						X																											
4.9	Strengthening security institutions	X															X																							
4.1	Strengthening external relations for integration																																							

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5. Empowering Women, Children, Adolescents and Persons with Disability (PWDs)																																							
5.1 Empowering women	X		X			X																												X		X			
5.2 Increasing investments in children and adolescents	X																																				X		
5.3 Increasing investments in PWDs	X																																						
6. Youth Employment Sports and Migration																																							
6.1 Increasing youth employment and empowerment	X		X										X	X			X										X	X											
6.2 Revitalizing sporting activities across the country																																							
6.3 Addressing migration challenges																																						X	
7. Addressing Vulnerabilities and Building Resilience																																							
7.1 Building national environmental resilience			X			X							X				X																					X	
7.2 Strengthening forest management and wetland conservation																			X																				
7.3 Improving disaster management governance	X																																					X	
8. Means of Implementing The Plan																																							
8.1 Governance arrangements for supervising and monitoring plan implementation																	X																						
8.2 Pursuing a sound resource mobilization strategy																	X																						
8.3 Mitigating risks and instituting a robust monitoring and evaluation performance management systems																	X																						
8.4 strengthening data collection, information and statistical systems												X					X																		X				