



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Sierra Leone Economic Diversification Project**

**DISCLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DOCUMENTS**

1. The Government of Sierra Leone together with the support of the World Bank, has developed the proposed Economic Diversification project.
2. The Economic Diversification Project aims to increase investment and growth of small and medium enterprises in non-mining productive sectors. As part of the project, there is a proposal to undertake light public works to improve key sites in tourism destinations across the country as well activities to support Small Medium Enterprise (SME) development.
3. The proposed project activities triggers the World Bank's operational policy on Environmental Assessment (BP/OP 4.01) Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04), Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11) and Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12) as well as SL Environmental Protection Agency Act, 2008.
4. In response to the client's responsibility to assess and address any adverse environmental and social impacts from the project consistent with the World Bank Safeguards Policy and relevant Sierra Leone Government policies and laws, Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared to guide the implementation of the project. The prime objective of this Environmental and Social Management Framework and Resettlement Policy Framework is to bring the project into compliance with Environmental Assessment (BP/OP 4.01) Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04), Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11) and Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12) and applicable in-country environmental, social, building and labor laws, including the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 2008; Local Government Act, 2004; Freetown Improvement Extension (Amendment) Act, 1964; Factories Act, 1974; Child Rights Act, 2007; Persons With Disability Act, 2007; Domestic Violence Act, 2007; Regulation of Wages and Industrial Relations, 1971 and the Public Health Ordinance, 1960.
5. The Ministry of Finance through this publication is disclosing to the general public the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and the Resettlement Policy Framework (RFP) and copies of these documents can be found at the following offices:
  - Ministry of Finance (Treasury Building, George Street, Freetown)
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), (Old Railway Line, Freetown)
6. Copies can also be accessed online from the following websites: [www.mof.gov.sl](http://www.mof.gov.sl) or [www.epa.gov.sl](http://www.epa.gov.sl)
7. All enquiries should be forwarded to:

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