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1.0 Introduction

Climate change poses significant threat to nations, impacting their socioeconomic fabric and causing shifts long-term and weather temperature patterns. Sierra Leone, ranked as the third most vulnerable country, faces adverse effects to climate due change. exacerbated by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, mining, logging, and fishing. Access to safe and clean water is a fundamental human right denied to a large segment of the population in the Kenema district, with only 22% of the population having access to safe drinking water mainly located within the city. Destruction of the few WASH infrastructure due to excessive rainfall contributes to erosion, contamination and scarcity of water sources, as well as increased health risks and water-borne diseases.

In response, the Citizen-Driven Climate-Sensitive WASH Management Project (P 150), implemented by a consortium of NGOs (SEND Sierra Leone and World Hope International and an international partner (Engineers without Borders-Denmark), aims to help communities adapt to climate hazards and serve as an example for other communities in Sierra Leone. The project focuses on climate risk assessments, mitigation measures, and climate-robust WASH infrastructure.



2.0 Project Objectives

Main Objective



Improved livelihood in Kenema district through cross-sector engagement in climatesensitive WASH governance

Sub-Objectives



Access to climate robust WASH infrastructure in 50 rural communities



Application of participatory and inclusive climate-robust WASH governance in the Kenema district.



Kenema district serves as a catalyst for citizen-led rural climate adaptation in the national climate adaptation strategies.

3.0 The Advocacy Plan

To advance an integrated problem-solving approach, an advocacy plan has been developed to address critical gaps, issues, priorities, and resources required for effective planning, implementation, and monitoring of climate adaptation in the Kenema district. Facilitated by SEND Sierra Leone in consultation with key stakeholders including the KDWASHCord, EPA-SL, ONS, media, and residents of 50 rural communities the Plan focuses on advocating for climate risk analysis, climate-robust WASH solutions, reduced vulnerability, increased coordination among partners, and citizen engagement. It incorporates inputs, experiences, and lessons learned from communities, aligning with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) strategy, National WASH Policy and the District development plan. It also addresses various climate and WASH issues, including infrastructure challenges, capacity building, deforestation, flood adaptation, and livelihood support.

3.1 Aims of The Advocacy Plan



Overall Aim

Kenema district is a catalyst of citizen-driven rural climate adaptation in the Climate WASH sector and influences national climate adaptation strategies that will improve continuous coordination, resource mobilization and utilization towards climate mitigation and adaptation actions.

Strategic Objectives



Develop strategic climate mitigation and adaptation actions to strengthen resilience and reduce the level of climate fragility in the Kenema district



Improve the availability of climate-sensitive robust WASH infrastructures in rural communities in the Kenema district



Provides knowledge on climate WASH resilience programs and creates participatory platforms for actions on WASH adaptations in the Kenema district



Establish a citizen-driven approach for best practices through capacity building and knowledge sharing on climate WASH hazards affecting citizens' livelihood in Kenema

3.2 Stakeholders and Audience of The Advocacy Plan

The advocacy plan identifies stakeholders at different levels, including donors, ministries and general public who play crucial roles in addressing climate change and WASH issues in the Kenema district.

Donor Organisations

The Plan identifies donor organisations that support actions and actively engage in mobilizing resources for advocacy activities related to climate change, WASH, and health interventions in vulnerable communities. Some of these organisations include UNFCCC, CISU, EWB-DK, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and World Bank.

Ministries, Departments and Agencies

Decentralized institutions including the Ministry of Lands and Country Planning, Ministry of Environment (MoE) through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Ministry of Water Resources (MWoR) through the Water Directorate (WD), MoHs through the District Health Management Team; and MoLG through the Kenema District Council are the key MDAs that are responsible for managing and supervising environmental, water, and decentralization issues in Sierra Leone, serving as critical audiences for communicating and integrating climate adaptation actions.

Kenema District WASH Coordination

The KDWASHCord is a coordination forum where government agencies, civil society, and local NGOs working on WASH issues in the district meet to share information, develop action points, and building on best practices to improve water and sanitation in the district. The KDWASHCord are integral to this process as they will be supporting the popularization of the regulation and implementation of the advocacy plan.

Policymakers

These include Government officials, Parliamentarians, Traditional authorities and other relevant policymakers at the national and district levels who have the authority to shape policies, allocate resources, and implement climate change adaptation measures. Engaging policymakers is crucial for integrating climate-robust WASH governance and infrastructure into national and local plans and strategies.

Media Houses

Local media outlets, including newspapers, radio stations, and television channels, play a vital role in raising awareness, disseminating information, and advocating for climate change adaptation and WASH issues. Engaging with media houses helps in reaching a wider audience and generating public support for the advocacy plan.

Civil Society Organisations

Non-governmental organizations working in the areas of climate change, WASH, and community development. They are important stakeholders in advocating for policy changes, mobilizing resources, and implementing on-the-ground activities to address climate change and WASH challenges.

The Water Management Committees (WMCs) and Technicians

The WMC will be the main point of community entrance to ensure mainstream climate adaptation and mitigation in district planning, particularly in the WASH sector at the community level. They will ensure community climate robust service delivery, awareness creation and community resource mobilization towards climate actions; create trust-building strategies to improve their resilience at community level. They will organize monthly meetings to discuss Climate, WASH and community development work and disseminate topics/action points taken during the meeting panel to the community. They will serve as intermediary between KDWASHCord, community people and other development organizations.

Service Providers

Companies responsible for providing WASH services, including water supply, sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion. They need to be involved in the advocacy plan to ensure the implementation of climaterobust WASH infrastructure and services.

Ward Development Committees (WDCs and Councilors)

Ward Development Committees (WDCs and councilors): Comprises the councilors and stakeholders at the Ward level representing the communities at the monthly Kenema District Council (KDC) meetings. These meetings could serve as a platform for them to share climate WASH issues, the capacity needed, and the functionality of WASH facilities at the community level; hence, the district council will be able to take action for sustainable solutions. Through capacity building, WDCs can identify and address community needs related to climate WASH mitigation and adaptation.

Lecturers and students at the Eastern Technical University and secondary school pupils in Kenema

The KDWASHCord will collaborate with the Eastern Technical University Sierra Leone (ETU-SL) throughout the implementation process. Actions developed in the plan will be main-stream in the academic institution curriculum and other innovative events. Lecturers and students at ETU-SL in Kenema will be engaged, to give them hands-on experience in conducting climate risk assessments, research and or surveys on how to mitigate the impact on WASH through more climate robust community driven interventions. Also secondary school pupils will be informed on climate resilience and adaptation through organizing quiz and workshops for school pupils on climate related issues.

Communities

This group of audience includes communities in the Kenema District. This includes traditional leaders, farmers, Water Management Committees, women and men in the 16 chiefdoms in Kenema District. These are the primary audience upon which most advocacy activities will be targeted.

General Public

Public communication efforts through mainstream and social media will aim to reach divergent audiences to communicate advocacy goals, implementation strategies, results, and lessons learned. To identify medium – short-term and long-term adaptation needs and to develop and implement strategies and programs to address these needs, every step of the advocacy plan implementation will directly impact the general public. They have affected persons by climate change hazards and consequently directly impact their living standards.

The advocacy plan highlights crucial findings from the climate risk assessment conducted in partnership with P150, EPA, and KDWASHCord. The assessment reveals significant challenges faced by the citizens of Kenema district in relation to climate sensitivity and the establishment of effective WASH governance systems (P. 150, 2022).

Limited Climate-Resilient WASH Infrastructure in Kenema District

Currently, only 22% of the population in Kenema district has access to safe water, primarily concentrated in urban areas. This indicates that communities have limited opportunities to develop climate-resilient WASH infrastructure. It is imperative for the District Council, MDAs, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs, and development partners to be aware of this situation and work together to find solutions. Therefore, the advocacy message emphasizes the importance of improving climate change adaptation infrastructure, particularly in rural communities, through the provision of climate-resilient WASH infrastructure.

Educating Rural Communities on Climate Change Resilience and WASH

There is a lack of general knowledge about the causes and impacts of climate change, as well as a lack of preparedness among rural communities to address climate threats. According to the risk assessment report (P150, 2022), only 2% of respondents acknowledged having a community preparedness plan for climate change impacts. Therefore, it is essential to provide technical support in the form of training and workshops to enhance the capacity of communities regarding WASH and environmental protection issues. The advocacy activities will focus on raising awareness about the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and WASH policy documents to promote self-reliance.

Advocating for Inclusive and Participatory Climate-Resilient WASH Governance

The climate risk assessment report (SEND, 2022) indicates that only 19% of responses confirmed the existence of community-based climate risk assessments. Consequently, the advocacy efforts will emphasize the need for inclusive and participatory climate-resilient WASH governance. The message aims to bring together all stakeholders in the climate and WASH sectors to integrate diverse perspectives into climate change and WASH governance

Enhancing Climate-Resilient WASH Monitoring and Evaluation

The advocacy plan intends to inform actors in the climate and WASH sectors, particularly the water directorate, about the importance of improving and strengthening their monitoring and evaluation frameworks as standard practice for robust WASH governance. This will encourage tailored actions among climate and WASH actors, ensuring effective implementation and accountability



4.0 The Advocacy Plan Matrix

The Advocacy Plan Matrix describes the issues, strategies and the target audience that would be addressed and used to deliver the aims of the Advocacy Plan.

AUDIENCE

KEY MESSAGE

STRATEGY

ADVOCACY CHANNEL

MDAs

- Develop SOP for the operationalization of the NAP and WASH policy
- Intensify monitoring activities
- Improve coordination among MDAs and external partners

- Workshops
- Dialogue meetings
- Digital advocacy through social media platforms
- Radio, television programs
- Newspaper publications

- Round-table meetings
- Radio & television talk shows
- Annual reports
- Physical visits
- Letter, text, email
- Telephone calls
- Newsletter and articles.

Policy Makers (MPs)

- Intensify monitoring on focused MDAs on the NAP and WASH policy.
- Support the transitioning of the NAP into policy
- Enact WASH policy into law

- Engagement meetings
- Social networking
- Radio, television and newspapers
- Lobbying/Dia logue
- Online publications

- Letters
- Emails/text message
- Phone calls
- Conferences & press releases,
- Television & radio programs
- Physical meetings
- Social media

Donors

- Support environmental resilience projects
- Support the popularization of the NAP document
- Provide support for capacity building trainings

- Meetings
- Proposal writing
- Digital
- Reports
- Letters
- Emails,
- Social Media

KDWASHC ord

- Ensure the operationalization of Priority 2 in the NAP document (WASH)
- Mobilize resources for the implementation of the advocacy plan and other related interventions in the district
- Create a forum for exchange learning and experience sharing to other districts.
- Improve coordination among partners

- District action plan meetings
- Coordination Meetings
- Town hall meetings
- Fund raising (Proposal writing)
- Social events
- Pledges

- M&E database
- Letters
- Annual report
- Community engagement meeting
- IEC materials
 (flyers, brochure, T-shirt, banner, branded pens, books and calendars)
- Radio and television shows
- Lobbying

CSOs

- Monitor the implementation of NAP and WASH policy
- Action and hold stakeholders accountable
- Town hall meetings
- Social events
- News publication
- Round table discussion
- News papers
- Reports
- Social media

The Media

- Support the popularization of the NAP and WASH policy.
- Educate the general public on climate change and WASH hazards.
- Create the platform for dialogue between service users and service providers
- Publish/broadcast climate change and WASH related issues

- Meetings
- Radio and TV
- Newspaper publications
- Events
- Press releases, articles, newspaper
- Social media handles
- Radio, Television talk shows.
- Letters, text, calls and Email.

AUDIENCE

KEY MESSAGE

STRATEGY

ADVOCACY CHANNEL

WMCs & Technicians

- Support the dissemination of NAP and WASH policy
- Mobilize resources to take care of climate robust WASH facilities
- Increase the construction of climate robust WASH infrastructure
- Rehabilitate WASH facilities
- Take ownership of climate WASH infrastructures in the community.
- Formulate by-laws to ensure climate adaptation approach in the communities
- Disseminate
 occurrences of
 climate change WASH
 situation in their
 communities

- Community engagement meetings
- Radio
- Meeting Minute
- Radio talk show
- Local media announcement (town crier, megaphones)
- IEC materials

The Communiti es

- Understand the content of the NAP and WASH policy
- Control activities that aggravate the impacts of climate change.
- Embark on climate
 WASH mitigation and adaptation activities.
- Take collective actions in the implementation of the NAP and ensure compliance of the community by-laws
- Construct climate robust WASH infrastructures

- Community engagement meetings
- Supportive monitoring
- Formulate bye-laws
- Radio

- Radio talk shows
- Meeting minutes
- Follow up reports
- Monthly report
- Drama
- Jingles
- IEC materials (Banners, billboards, flyers,

AUDIENCE

KEY MESSAGE

STRATEGY

ADVOCACY CHANNEL

Lecturers and students at the (ETU)

- The University through Career Advisory Program (CAP) to organize sessions for student to understand the NAP document
- Integration of the NAP into academic curriculum (pure applied science, engineering, public health, Agriculture etc.)
- Design research topics and other academic related work from the NAP document.

- Meetings
- Workshops
- Fund raising
- Letters
- Newspapers
- PowerPoint presentations
- IEC materials (Banners, billboards, flyers, brochures)

5.0 The Climate WASH Implementation Plan

Strategic Objective 1: Develop strategic climate adaptation actions to strengthen resilience and reduce the level of climate fragility in Kenema district.

Activities	Responsible Person or Institution	Target Audience	Resource	Time	Expected Outcome	Indicators
Organize district stakehol ders engage ment on climate adaptati on and	 KDWASHCo rd District Council MDAs NGOs 	 Community people Community and district stakehol ders 	Stationeri esRefreshm ent	Mar- Sept 2023	Increased stakeholders awareness on climate resilience	Number of district stakeholder s' engagemen t and pictorial evidence, and
Conduct and validate district climate risk assessm ent.	District CouncilMDAsNGOs	MediaETUCommun ty and district stakehold ers	Stationeri esRefreshm entMobilityRisk	Nov 2023	Climate risk assessment conducted and report validated to identifies challenges related to	Climate risk assessmen
Raise awarene ss on the report to commun ity and	District CouncilStakeholder	CommunityresidentsKWASHCordMDAsMedia	fees • Awarene	Nov- Dec 2023	Improved understanding on climate risk induces hazards and	Existing communit y laws to strengthen climate resilience

Activities	Responsible Person or Institution	Target Audience	Resource	Time	Expected Outcome	Indicators
Develop ment of annual district action plan on WASH climate adaptatio n and mitigatio n	KDWASHC ordDistrict Council	 KDWAS HCord District Council MDAS ETU 	 Stationer ies Refresh ment 	Jul- Aug	Annual district climate WASH action plan developed and	Evidence of signed action plan developed and number of action points completed
Pilot project on adaptation and mitigation actions	District CouncilNGOs	CommunitiesKenema District	 Project writing docume nts 	Sept- Oct	Developed project proposal on climate WASH	Number of proposals developed
Review, popularize and enforce existing land tenure systems.	MoA,MoE, andMDALands ministry	 Community and district stakehol ders KDWASH Cord Members 		Nov 2023	Improved land tenure system that support climate resilience	Number of policies reviewed, popularized and enforced.

, media, EPA, ONS, ETU

Strategic Objective 2: Improve the availability of climate sensitive robust WASH infrastructures in rural communities in Kenema district

Construct and Rehabilita te climate sensitive WASH infrastruc tures in the rural communi ties

- Kenema District Council
- KDWASHC ord
- NGOs
- MDAs
- Deprived commun ities/affected commun ities
- Deprived Mobility commun Construc
 - tion material
 - Refresh ment
 - Rehabilit ation kits

Mar 2023-Mar 2024 Increased climate WASH infrastructures in communities.

Number of communit ies with visible Climate WASH infrastruct ure (water wells/pum ps and latrine).

Establish ment of community monitorin g structures and training of the water manage ment committe e

- Kenema District Council
- MDAs
- All
 commun
 ities with
 WASH
 infrastruc
 ture
- Mobility
- Training manuals/ material
- Refresh ment

S

Tool kits for WMCs Apr-May 2023 Established and Improved capacity building on water management committees

Number of communit ies with establishe d WMCs and improved access to safe drinking water.

Construct ion of public latrine to schools

- NGO partners
- Local authorities
- District Council
- MOHS
- Affected schools and commu nities
- FundsConstruc
- tion Materials

May- Acces
Dec public
2023

Access to public latrine public latrine

Number of public latrines constructed in schools and institutions.

Conduct
M&E of
annual
district
plan on
climate
WASH
infrastruct
ures and
adaptatio
n
measures.

- KDWASHC
- KDWASH
 Cord
 Kenema
 District
 Council
- MobilityMobility
- Mobilit kits

Nov-Dec 2023

Annual M&E report developed on climate WASH adaptation and mitigation actions.

Implementat ions of findings and recommend ation from the M&E climate WASH adaptation mitigation report

Strategic Objective 3: Provides knowledge on climate WASH resilience programs and create participatory platforms for actions on WASH adaptations in Kenema district

Raise awarenes s on the causes of climate WASH hazards, its effect and adaptive measures at communi ty, chiefdom and district level.

- Kenema District Council
- KDWASHC ord
- Market women
- Local artists.
- Schools 8 Mega universiti es
- Commu

Sensitiza material

phones

s.

tion

Jan-Apr 2023 Increased knowledge on climate WASH resilience program

Improved Hygiene behavioral change

Hold seminars on NAP and WASH policy.

- Kenema District Council
- MDAs
- Commu nity and district stakehol ders
- NAP and WASH Policy manual.
- Presenta tions
- Stationer ies
- Hall rental
- Refresh ment
- Transpor t refunds

Oct-Nov 2023 District and community Stakeholders have improved knowledge and skills on NAP and WASH policy to increase climate WASH resilience

Report and pictorial evidence on

Hold district level radio campaig ns on NAP and WASH policy.

- NGO
- KDWASHC ord
- MDAs
- The general public
- Funds for media fees and jingles

Jan-Dec 2023

Increased general public awareness on NAP and WASH policy.

Number of radio sessions held on NAP and **WASH** policy

Strategic Objective 4:Establish citizen-driven approach for best practices through capacity building and knowledge sharing on climateWASH hazards affecting citizens' livelihood in Kenema district

Capacity building on climate-WASH adaptatio through citizens

- Kenema District Council
- KDWASHCo rd
- NGOs
- MDAs
- **WMCs** and Technicia ns
- Refreshm ent Training
- materials Climate WASH manuals
- Stationeri es
- **Transport** refunds

Mobility

- Apr-May 2023
- Increased knowledge on climate WASH adaptation strategies
- Number of participa nts
- Number of

Organize annual district **WASH** summit

- Kenema District Council
- MDAs
- - **ETU**

ers

KDWASH Cord

Communi

stakehold

ty and

district

- Stationeri es
- Hall rental
- Refreshm

Decemb er 2023

Establishment of a citizen driven platform to improve accountability and participatory between

Summit report, pictorial evidence. stakeholders'

Capacity strengthen ing of WMCs and technician on managem ent. maintenan ce and constructio n of WASH infrastruct

ures and climate adaptation initiatives.

- Kenema District Council
- MDAs
- **WMCs**
- **VDCs**
- **CWCs**
- Technicia
- Training manuals
- Tool kits
- Refreshm ent

Apr-May 2023

Improved WMCs capacity on climate WASH hazards and livelihood

WMCs formed. SOP signed between WD, ETU and other institution

Number of

 Number of committee members certified

Develop
a social
media
platform
for
exchang
e of
ideas on
climate
WASH
related

- NGO
- KDWASHCo rd
- MDAs
- Media
- The general public
- FundsCompute rs/Phone
- Internet modems

Sept 2023 Organized online public campaign/ lectures on climate resilience.

- Number of meetings organized
- Social media links
- Minutes of meetings

6.0 The Monitoring and Evaluation Process

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team of the Kenema District Council will oversee the implementation of activities outlined in the advocacy plan to ensure progress tracking. A comprehensive M&E system will be established to monitor all aspects of the plan. The team's primary focus will be on collecting data related to indicators, database evidence, immediate or expected outcomes/outputs. They will utilize a combination of field monitoring visits and other appropriate approaches to gather both quantitative and qualitative data. The M&E calendar will include quarterly, biannual, and annual assessments, depending on the agreed approach by the team.

In terms of knowledge sharing, the M&E team will regularly meet with the responsible institutions after each activity to provide them with feedback and insights gathered from the field. Through these meetings, both teams will discuss the findings, identify opportunities, address challenges, and explore possible ways forward to effectively achieve the objectives outlined in the advocacy plan. This collaborative approach will facilitate continuous learning and improvement throughout the implementation process.



6.1 Advocacy Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

KEY MESSAGE: Develop strategic climate adaptation actions to strengthen resilience and reduce the level of climate fragility in Kenema district.

Activities	Indicators	Outcome
Organize district stakeholders' engagement on climate adaptation and resilience.	Number of district stakeholders' engagement and pictorial evidence, and meeting minutes.	
Conduct and validate district climate risk assessment	Climate risk assessment report	
Raise awareness on the report to community and district stakeholders in Kenema	Existing community laws to strengthen climate resilience	
Review, popularize and enforce existing land tenure systems.	Number of policies reviewed, popularized and enforced.	
Development of annual district action plan on WASH climate adaptation and mitigation.	Evidence of the number of cultivation agroforestry.	
Pilot project on adaptation and mitigation actions	Number of proposals developed.	

KEY MESSAGE: Improve the availability of climate sensitive robust WASH infrastructures in rural communities in Kenema district

Activities	Indicators	Outcome
Construct and Rehabilitate climate sensitive WASH	Number of communities with visible Climate WASH infrastructure (water	
Establishment of community monitoring structures and training of the water	Number of communities with established WMCs and improved	
Construction of public latrine to schools and institutions	Number of public latrines constructed in schools and	
Conduct M&E of annual district plan on climate WASH infrastructures and adaptation	Implementations of findings and recommendation from the M&E climate WASH adaptation	

KEY MESSAGE: Provides knowledge on climate WASH resilience programs and create participatory platforms for actions on WASH adaptations in Kenema district

Activities	Indicators	Outcome
Raise awareness on the causes of climate WASH hazards, its effect and adaptive measures at community, chiefdom and district level	Improved Hygiene behavioral change	
Hold seminars on NAP and WASH policy.	Report and pictorial evidence on seminars conducted.	
Hold district level radio campaigns on NAP and WASH policy.	Number of radio sessions held on NAP and WASH policy.	
Capacity building on climate- WASH adaptation through citizens driven approach.	Number of participantsNumber of training sessions held	
Organize annual district WASH summit.	Summit report, pictorial evidence, stakeholders' action points developed.	

KEY MESSAGE: Establish citizen-driven approach for best practices through capacity building and knowledge sharing on climate WASH hazards affecting citizens' livelihood in Kenema district

Activities	Indicators	Outcome
Capacity strengthening of WMCs and technician on management, maintenance and construction of WASH infrastructures and climate adaptation initiatives.	 Number of WMCs formed Number of SOP signed between WD, ETU, and other institutions Number of Committee members certified 	
Develop a social media platform for exchange of ideas on climate	Number of meetings organisaedSocial media linksMinutes of meetings	

