

Sierra Leone's Medium-Term National Development Plan 2024 – 2030

A Transformative Acceleration
Agenda for Food Security, Human Capital
Development and Job Creation



**AN ABRIDGED
VERSION**

JANUARY 2024



This new plan, which for the next 5 to 7 years will guide the operations of all development actors in Sierra Leone, builds on gains made in the implementation of its predecessor during the first term of my administration. It addresses unfinished business and emerging challenges, as we renew our determination to accelerate efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Our new National Development Plan has been informed by my Government's Big Five Game Changers that define the strategic priorities of the state and the people of Sierra Leone for the period 2024-2030.

We have prioritised Feed Salone among the Big 5s as the flagship programme in the new plan. This constitutes a frontier shift from our human capital development (HCD) flagship programme during the previous plan 2019–2023. The HCD will be scaled-up during 2024-2030 along Feed Salone and the other Big 5s, all defining the strategic direction of the state for 2030.

His Excellency Rtd. Brig.

Julius Maada Bio

PRESIDENT | REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

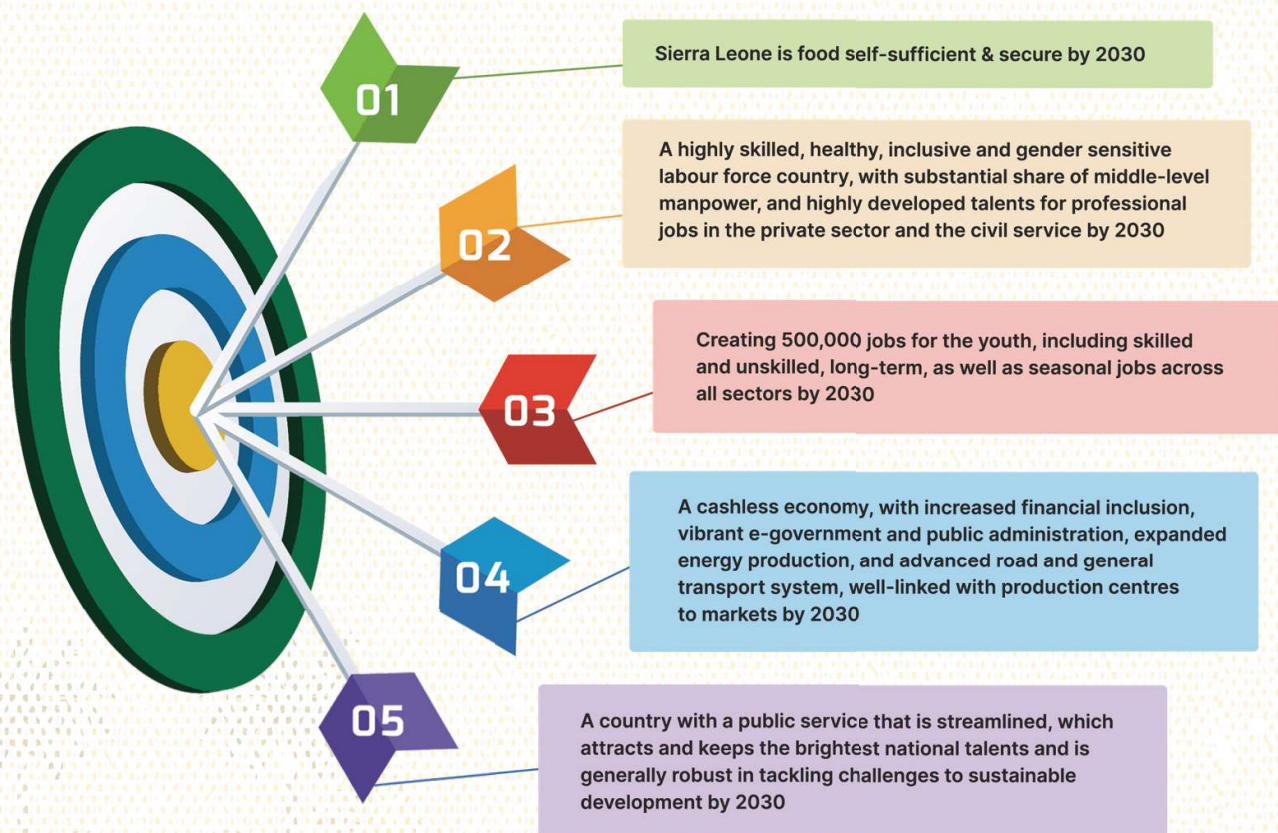


Introduction

The Government of Sierra Leone (**GoSL**) has launched a new Medium-Term National Development Plan (MTNDP). Unlike the previous plans that were implemented for five years, the new plan will be executed for a period of seven years spanning 2024-2030, in order to be fully aligned with the remaining period of implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, summarised in the 17 SDGs. The current plan is highly strategic and prioritised, drawing from crucial lessons learned in the implementation of the previous plan, the MTNDP 2019-2023. The new plan is focused on the Government's Big Five Game Changers that constitute the country's overarching agenda for 2030 and give strategic direction to the plan.

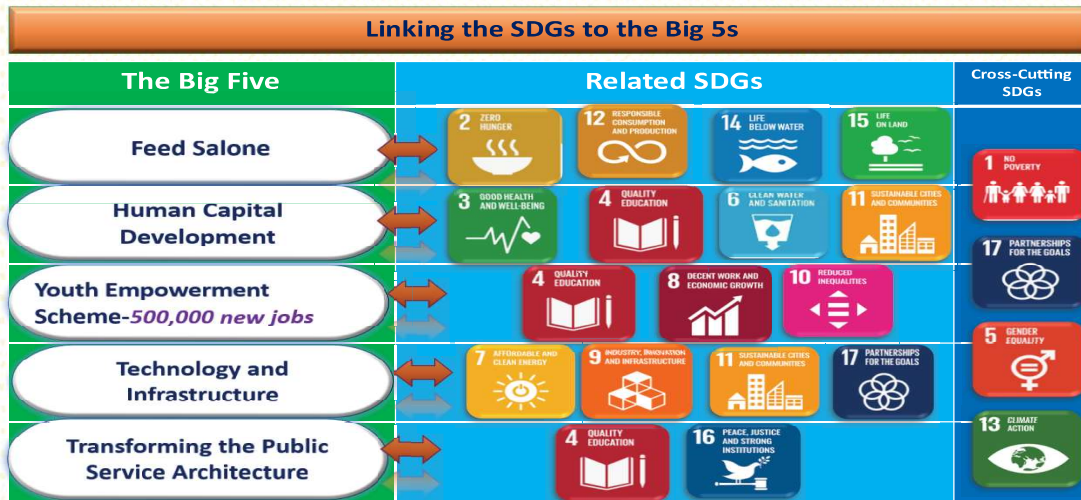
The 2030 National Goals

Five national goals for 2030 have been identified to accelerate efforts towards achieving the country's **vision** of becoming an **inclusive and green middle-income country by 2039**. Building on the goals pursued in the previous plan, the goals for the new plan are as follows:

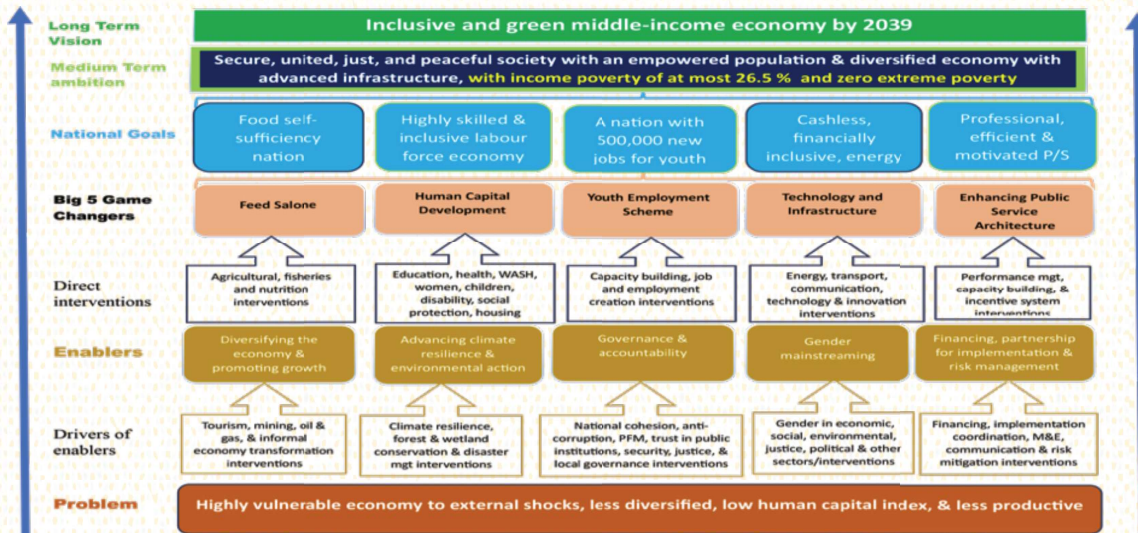




The Big 5s and the SDGs—Feed Salone the Flagship Programme

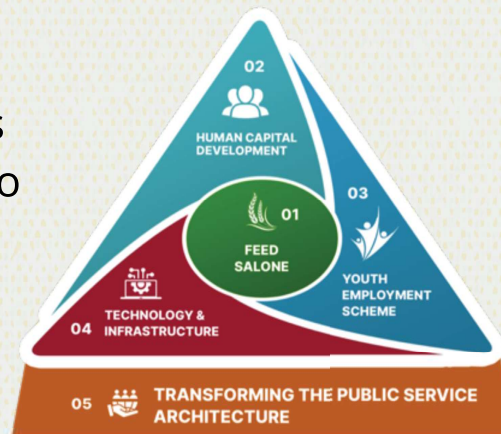


Theory of Change



Big 5 Game Changers

The Big 5 Game Changers interact with each other to accelerate the delivery of the National Goals by 2030



FEED SALONE



The government's flagship programme, Feed Salone will channel investments into districts with the highest potential for success and growth by leveraging each district's comparative advantage while also introducing synergistic value chains, and a blended financing model, where the government combines its own resources and that of partners to attract private capital.

✳ **Accelerating Productivity and Commercialization of the Agricultural Sector**

The **six strategic pillars** in the Feed Salone strategy are: mechanisation and irrigation by expanding rice production areas including inland valley swamps and irrigated rice fields; seed and input systems using research to ensure high quality inputs for optimal yields for key value chains; aggregation, processing and market linkages by streamlining processes for maximised profitability; agricultural finance – tailoring financial instruments and solutions for the sector's unique needs, especially for women and youth; ag-tech and climate smart agriculture through leveraging of technology, supporting agricultural research, promoting digitalisation and building robust data systems to inform decisions while safeguarding against climate change; empowerment of women and youth by ensuring their indispensable role in agricultural development is reflected and elevated across all strategic pillars.

Feed Salone - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Rice yields
increased from

**1.9MT in
2023 to
4.0MT by
2028**

Overall
improvement in the
Global Food security
index (GFSI) from

**40.5 in 2022 to
50.0 by 2030**

By 2030, the import value
of key staple food (rice,
poultry, onions and flour)
reduced from

**US\$500m in 2023 to
at most US\$67m**

the Marine Sector

Scale-up production and industrial processing of fisheries and other marine products.

Industrial Capacity increased from

122,000 MT in 2023 to 150,000 MT by 2030

sector increased from

NLe105m in 2023 to NLe150m by 2030

Certification for export of fish to EU and China markets obtained by 2030

Increased access to and consumption of diverse, safe and nutritious foods for sustainable reduction of malnutrition, especially for women and children.

Prevalence of stunted children under 5 years of age reduced from

23% in 2021 to 9% by 2030

Prevalence of wasting among children 5 years of age reduced from

5.2% in 2021 to 3.1% by 2030

Prevalence of underweight among children under 5 years of age reduced from

11% in 2021 to 6.1% by 2030

A workstream of the Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Food Security

Bolstering food and nutrition systems by enhancing productivity and green



HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT



* Accelerating and Expanding Free Quality Basic and Senior Secondary Education

Improve learning outcomes in the education system for all children and youth, ensuring that every child, regardless of circumstance, will have the opportunity to access and complete quality education, whilst showing proficiency in all assessed areas.

Free Quality Basic and Senior Secondary Education – Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Schools and educational institutions had curriculum responsive to needs of labour market by 2030

Pupil-to-qualified teacher ratio reduced from
63:1 to 43:1 by 2030

Children with special education needs provided with increased support by 2030

* Strengthening Tertiary and Higher Education

Increase equitable access to quality higher/skills education that promotes research, innovation, and entrepreneurship for growth, stability, and sustainable national development.

Tertiary and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Enrolment in HEIs increased from
101,645 in 2023 to 171,645 by 2030

Number of students accessing student loan scheme increased from
168 in 2023 to 10,000 by 2030, with at least 30% females

Additional
20,000 youth empowered with TVET skills by 2030

✳ **Improving Health Care Delivery**

Build a resilient and responsive health care system that provides equitable access to affordable quality healthcare services to all Sierra Leoneans across the life stages.

Key Baseline Figures as of 2023

Maternal mortality rate reduced

by 50% from 443 deaths per 100,000 live births to 219 deaths by 2030

Infant mortality rate reduced

by 50% from 75 deaths per 1,000 live births to 38 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2030

Life expectancy increased

from 53 years to 65 years by 2030

Ensure that Sierra Leone ends AIDS and TB by 2030, as a public health threat in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

By 2030, HIV and TB are eliminated

By 2030, achieve HIV epidemic control by reaching the 98:98:98 targets by that date above the global targets of 95:95:95

By 2030, the under-5 mortality rate is reduced to less than 5%





✧ **Water, Environmental Sanitation, Waste Management and Hygiene**

Increase access to safe and potable water and promote the provision of safely managed sanitation through relevant infrastructure and hygiene services for the growing population

**Water, Environmental Sanitation, Waste Management and Hygiene - Key Baseline
Figures as Against End Line Targets**

Population with
access to safe and
portable drinking
water increased from
**63% in 2023 to
90% by 2030**

Population (Urban)
with access to safe and
portable drinking
water increased from
84 to 98% by 2030

Population (Rural) with
access to safe and
portable drinking
water increased from
33 to 54% by 2030

✧ **Women's Empowerment**

Consolidate and promote gains from the state's investment in advancing the empowerment of women in the political, social, economic, and cultural spheres

Women's Empowerment - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Women's access to
financial services
drastically increased
from
**25% in 2022 to
60% in 2030**

Adolescent
pregnancy is reduced
from
**21% in 2022 to
10% by 2030**

Encouragement of the
public to report
physical and sexual
assault cases
drastically increased
annually



✳ **Children, the Aged and Disability Welfare**

**Children, the Aged and Disability Welfare - Key Baseline Figures as Against End
Line Targets**

**Child
multidimensional
poverty reduced from**

**66% in 2019 to
40% by 2030**

**By 2028, a clear
framework for the
welfare of the aged and
their participation in
service delivery drawn
up**

**By 2030, persons with
disabilities benefiting from
social protection systems
(cash transfers) is**

**20% higher than in
2023**



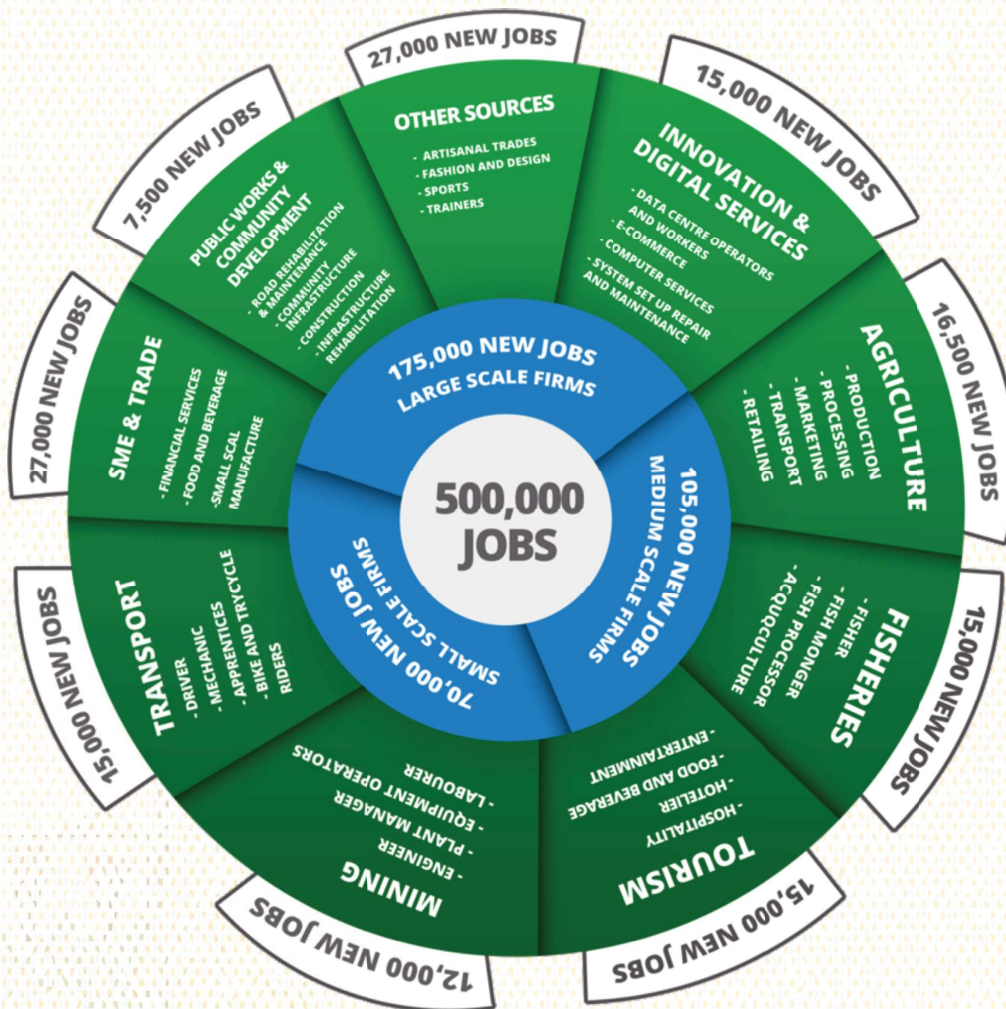


YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SCHEME



General Employment Promotion for Youth

Create a youth sector enabling environment to support young people to utilise their talents, undertake viable and innovative business activities through start-up projects and to promote collaboration among them by taking advantage of their receptiveness to global opportunities, including digital penetration in socioeconomic activities.



Infrastructure, Technology and Innovation

★ **Energy**

Provide adequate, affordable and sustainable power supply nationwide, to stimulate economic development through the consolidation, improvement and expansion of existing energy supply infrastructure and ensuring energy security for sustainable development.

Percentage of
population with
access to
electricity
increased from

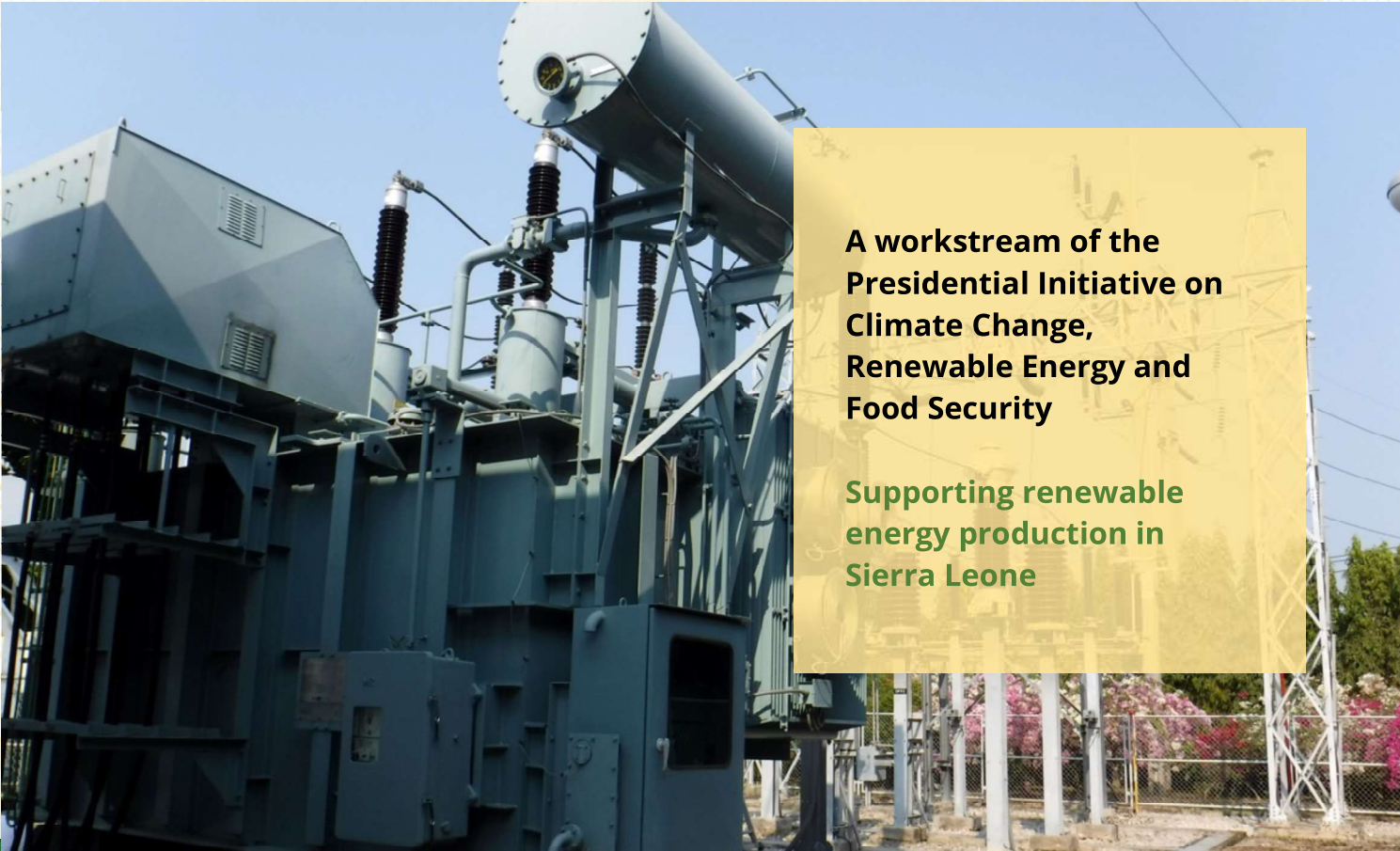
**32% in 2021 to
60% by 2030**

Percentage of the
households with
access to
electricity
increased from

**25.4% in 2021
to 60% by 2030**

Number of districts
headquarter towns
with reliable
electricity supply
increased

**from 9 in 2021
to 16 by 2030**



**A workstream of the
Presidential Initiative on
Climate Change,
Renewable Energy and
Food Security**

**Supporting renewable
energy production in
Sierra Leone**



Road and Transportation Systems

Plan, develop and implement the national transport infrastructural system in an integrated, holistic and cross-sectoral manner that will increase connection and safety for better utilisation of the transport system and broader benefit across the country

★ **Technology & Innovation**

Increase the supply of communications, technology and innovation services that are affordable to ensure they are effectively integrated into all development initiatives for growth, innovation, entrepreneurship, and building a digital economy.

Communication, Technology and Information - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Number of internet users increased by **63%** from

1.84 million in 2023 to 2.9 million by 2030

Internet penetration rate increased from

21.2% in 2023 to at least 50% by 2030

Access to digital financial services increased from

32% in 2021 to 60% by 2030

★ **Transforming the Public Service Architecture**

Create an efficient, professional and result-oriented Civil/Public Service that attracts and retains the brightest talents to be at the forefront of rolling out the government's agenda.

Transforming the Public Service Architecture - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line

By 2030, a Public Service Act is promulgated

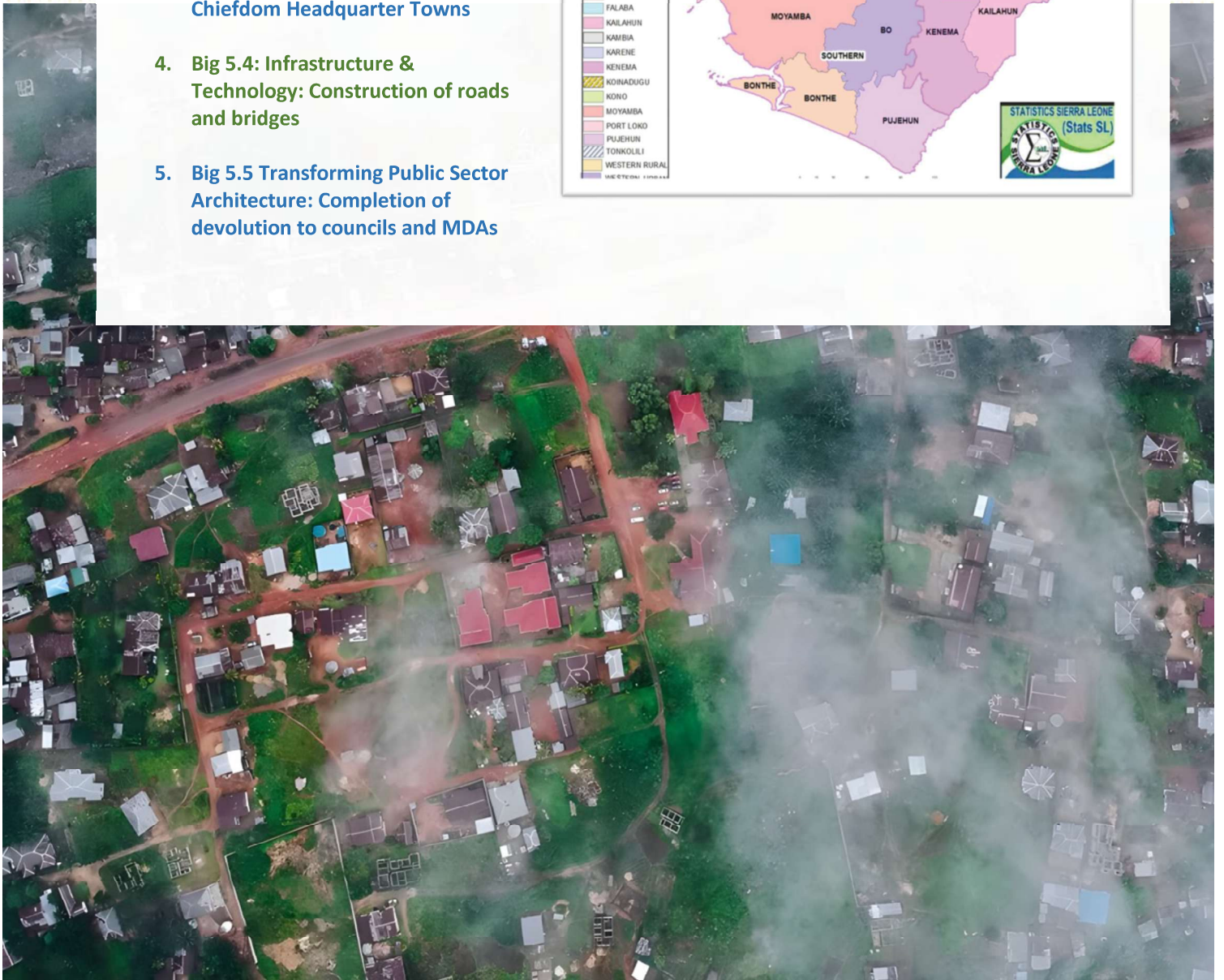
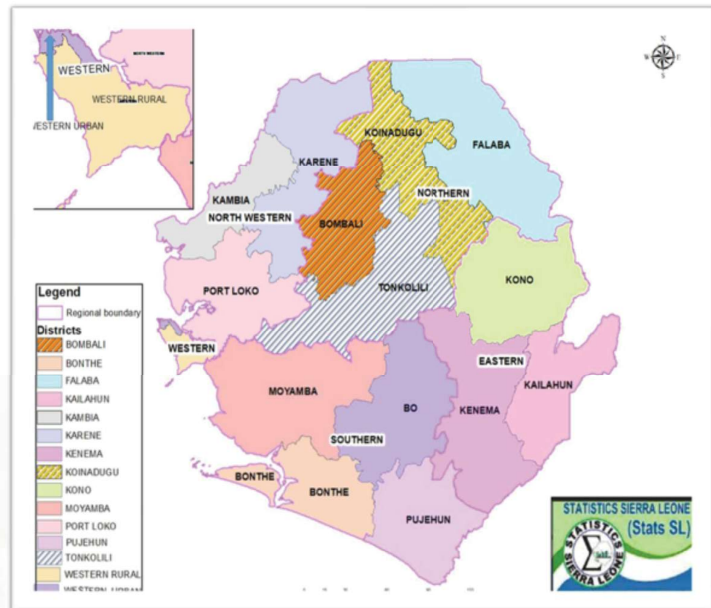
By 2026, employee head count and gender audit successfully completed

By 2026, migrating of all public service workers from paper to digital platforms completed

DISTRICT PRIORITIES

Aggregated Big 5 Priorities from the 16 Districts of Sierra Leone

1. **Big 5.1 Feed Salone: Mechanised rice farming and food crop production**
2. **Big 5.2: Human Capital Development: Construction and improvement in health infrastructure**
3. **Big 5.3: Youth Employment Scheme: Establishment of TVET in Chiefdom Headquarter Towns**
4. **Big 5.4: Infrastructure & Technology: Construction of roads and bridges**
5. **Big 5.5 Transforming Public Sector Architecture: Completion of devolution to councils and MDAs**



Enablers

Enabler 1: Diversifying the Economy & Promoting Growth

★ Transforming the Tourism Sector

Diversify tourism and culture to increase state revenue, provide jobs, and promote the cultural heritage of the country through improving the policy and legal environment, green investment and developing the relevant infrastructure.

Transforming the Tourism Sector - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

By 2030,
international
arrivals
**increased by
at least 50%
annually**

By 2030, job
opportunities in the
tourism, hospitality,
cultural and creative
industry
**increased by
30%**

By 2028,
awareness about
domestic tourism
increased by

★ Strengthening Private Sector for Trade and Sustainable Development

Strengthen the role of trade in the diversification, infrastructural development and economic competitiveness of the country.

**Economic Zones
and Agro-Parks
established
through a green
industrialisation
programme that is
inclusive and**

**Private sector
growth and
participation in
trade
tremendously
enhanced during**

**Productivity and
export
diversification and
value in businesses
drastically
increased during
implementation**



★ **Mining**

Improve the governance and management of the mining sector, including value addition for employment, poverty reduction, community benefit, environmental rehabilitation, and revenue generation.

Mining - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

Increase mining revenue from 10% of domestic revenue in 2017 to 20% by 2030	Increase the share of the mining sector's contribution to GDP from 5% in 2017 to 20% by 2030	Undertake environmental rehabilitation in five mined sites in the country by 2030
--	---	---

★ **Oil & Gas**

Revitalise the oil and gas industry through sustainable exploration and expansion of its scope, while building the capacity of the sector for operational excellence.

Oil and Gas - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

By 2030, transparency and accountability practices mainstreamed into the sector, in line with the 2016 Extra Industries Transparency Initiative standard.	By 2030, petroleum commission established	By 2030, legal frameworks and laws formulated and promulgated for the sustainable development of the oil and gas industry
---	---	---

★ **Financial Inclusion for Strengthened Rural and Informal Economies**

Promote the development of, and expand access to, client-centric financial products and services geared specifically towards key underserved population groups such as women, youth, rural communities, and MSMEs.





Enabler 2: Governance and Accountability

★ **Political Modernisation for Consolidating Peace and National Cohesion**

Ensure a peaceful, united, and cohesive Sierra Leone where diversity, inclusion, transparency, accountability, and human rights are respected.

★ **Strengthening Legislations, Policies, and Practices in Fighting Corruption and Illicit Financial Flows**

Reduce corruption significantly through the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of corruption in all its forms and scaling up the fight against illicit financial flows.

★ **Public Financial Management**

Continue to ensure the prudent, efficient, effective and transparent use of public funds.

★ **Audit Services**

Support government institutions in improving revenue generation and service delivery to citizens, by strengthening our independence and increasing our audit coverage in undertaking financial compliance and performance audits.

★ **Inclusive and Accountable Justice Institutions**

Ensure that all citizens benefit from a fair, impartial, and effective justice sector through enabling increased access to justice, expedition of justice, protection of human rights, and equal opportunities for economic development.

★ **Public Trust in Institutions**

Build trust in state institutions through the implementation of strategies to strengthen national cohesion and ensure a peaceful, just, and inclusive society.

★ **Decentralisation, Local Governance, and Rural Development**

Strengthen local governance architecture, address the staff retention deficiencies in local councils, enhance local level food security, and promote local economic development.

By 2030, roll out the Wan Fambul Framework for village chiefdom planning to

at least 40% of the chiefdoms

By 2030, the de-amalgamated process in the **remaining 27 chiefdoms completed**

By 2030, chiefdom farms and district agro-business centres established in

at least 35% of the chiefdoms and 60% of the districts

Build an efficient, effective, highly apolitical and professional security sector, that can contribute significantly to sustainable development, advancement of democracy, rule of law, and can ensure a robust response to national threats and emergencies.

Security Institutions - Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

crimes reported	By 2030, ensure that the early warning and response capacity of the security institutions is significantly higher than in 2023	By 2030, ensure that community engagement in security processes and functions is greater than in 2023
25% from baseline of 27,018		

★ **Building National Environmental Resilience**

Strengthen the environmental governance architecture, promote the sustainable management of natural resources, and build resilience and adaptive capability to climate change, nuclear, and radioactive wastes for the well-being and socio-economic livelihoods of Sierra Leoneans.

★

By 2030, at least one study conducted on the use of nuclear and isotopic techniques for the effective monitoring of Green House Gases (GHG)	By 2030, at least one Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) detector for occupational monitoring, calibration and one maintenance of radiation detection equipment procured	By 2030, Sierra Leone has access to international climate resilience finance including Green Bonds
---	---	--



★ **Forestry Management and Wetland Conservation**

Promote biodiversity conservation, wildlife management, research, and the harnessing of ecosystem services in an integrated way for the well-being of present and future communities.

Key Baseline Figures as Against Endline Targets

By 2030, the national territory under sustainable carbon financing at least doubled from a baseline of 71,000 hectares in 2023

By 2030, an additional 1 million trees are planted

By 2030, local revenue generation from ecosystem services increased by at least 35%

★ **Disaster Management and Governance**

Ensure the integration and mainstreaming of disaster risk management into national disaster risk management.

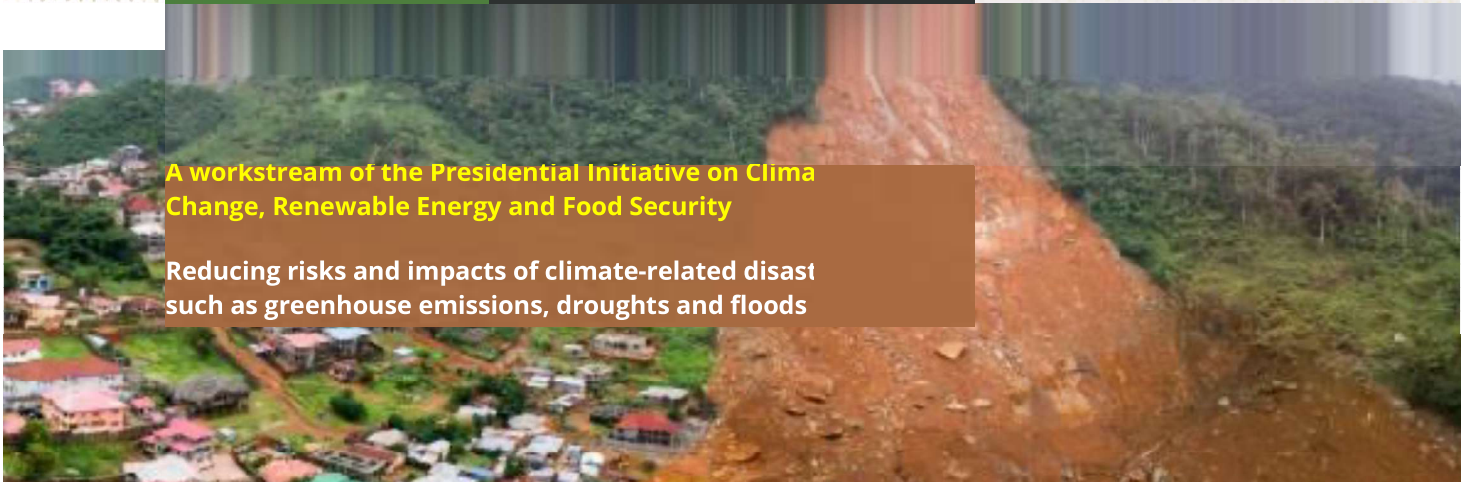
Key Baseline Figures as Against End Line Targets

By 2030, ensure that 80% of disaster risk reduction interventions are decentralised

By 2030, employ rapid and efficient response mechanism as an approach to minimising disaster impacts

A workstream of the Presidential Initiative on Climate Change, Renewable Energy and Food Security

Reducing risks and impacts of climate-related disasters such as greenhouse emissions, droughts and floods



Ensure effective mainstreaming of gender into national, sectoral and local policies, plans, budgets and programmes in order to significantly narrow gender inequality.

at least 30%
of the membership in
parliament, and in
ministerial positions,
council mayoral and
chairperson position

**By 2025, Gender
Units are
established in all
line ministries**

**By 2025, Gender-Based
Violence Information
Management Systems
Plus (GBVIMS+) is
rolled-out across the
districts**

Table 5: Financing, Partnerships for Implementation and Risk

★

The total projected cost of the seven-year New MTNDP 2024-2030 is US\$12.05 billion. Of this amount, the sum of US\$6.62 billion represents direct project-related costs, while the sum of US\$5.43 billion represents the government's statutory expenditures to support project implementation. The government has projected to raise US\$9.49 billion from both internal and already committed external resources, leaving a total financing gap of US\$2.56 billion for seven years (a US\$ 366 million average annual gap), for which new money will be sought to fully finance the New National Development Plan.

**THE MTNDP 2024-2030 IS:
US\$12.05 Billion
Gap: US\$2.56 Billion**

★ The US\$ 366 million annual gap for the new plan compares very well with the annual gap of US\$310 million for the previous five-year plan that had a total gap of US\$1.55 billion. Essentially, the new plan is highly realistic of the need to ensure increased prudence in the management of state resources in the next seven years, given the challenging fiscal situation that both global and national economies will continue to encounter. The Government will implement a robust integrated national financing framework to mobilise the needed resources, including innovative, climate and blended financing.





Integrated financing strategy

Public Investment Programme, Development Assistance and NGO Operations

- We will rationalise projects in the Public Investment Programme (PIP) system and the flagship programme of government within its Big Five Game Changers and their enablers as outlined in this plan; ensure that all project and programme outcomes and outputs positively impact growth, development, and job creation, and ensure that the PIP is implemented in line with the National Public Investment Management Policy.
- For **development assistance**, a strategic objective is to encourage joint programming and division of labour among donor agencies to reduce fragmentation and duplication of activities.
- With respect to **NGO operations**, the strategic objective will be to scale-up the coordination of operations of these organisations through increased information management on their activities; hold regular coordination meetings at national, sectoral and district levels; build operational capacity including training of NGO Desk Officers across sectors and districts; and reactivate agriculture, youth, and education platforms

Strengthening implementation of Sierra Leone's INFF

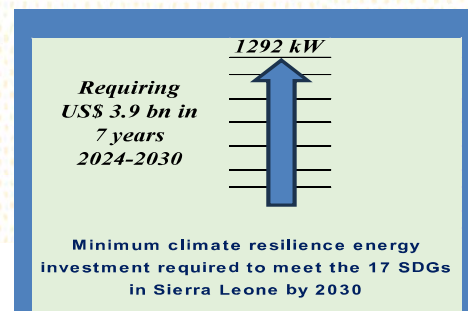
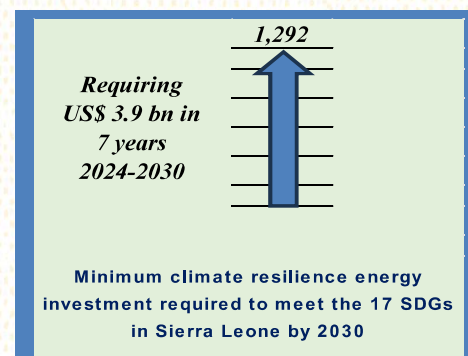
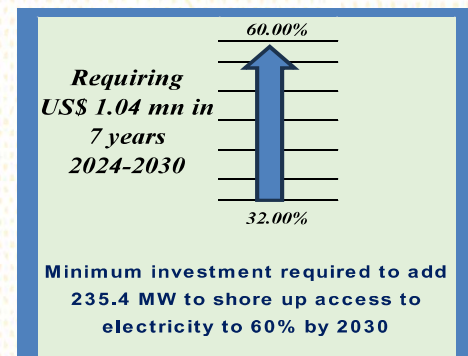
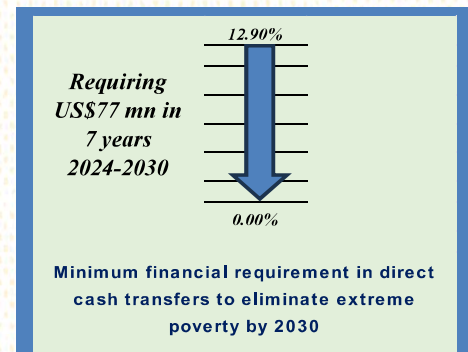
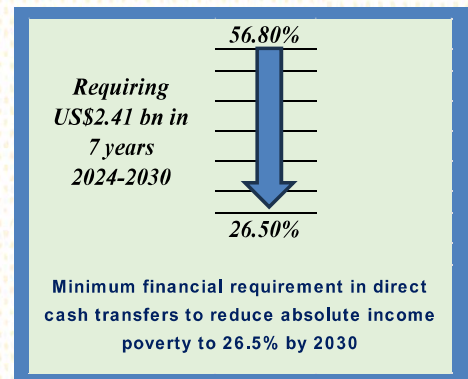
Recently, GoSL in collaboration with the UNDP concluded the following studies and assessments within the country's Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF): a) a study on *barriers and enablers of women participation in the domestic resource mobilisation in Sierra Leone*; b) a study on *diaspora investment potential in Sierra Leone*; and c) an *SDG Investor Mapping* to identify and propagate market incentives and signals for private investment. Once these studies have been launched, it will be critical to develop and implement projects to scale-up financing for the SDGs in the country.

★ Strengthening External Relations and Economic Diplomacy

Promote Sierra Leone's socio-political, economic, and strategic interests to ensure quality representation in foreign missions, as well as increased foreign direct investments and partnership opportunities for Sierra Leone.

Strengthening relations within ECOWAS and MRU

Increase visibility of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Mano River Union (MRU) in Sierra Leone and their contribution in the country's socioeconomic development, while facilitating Sierra Leone's participation in addressing sub-regional stability and sustainable development.



★ Implementation Arrangements

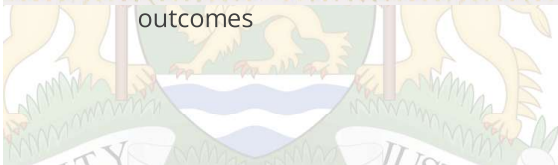
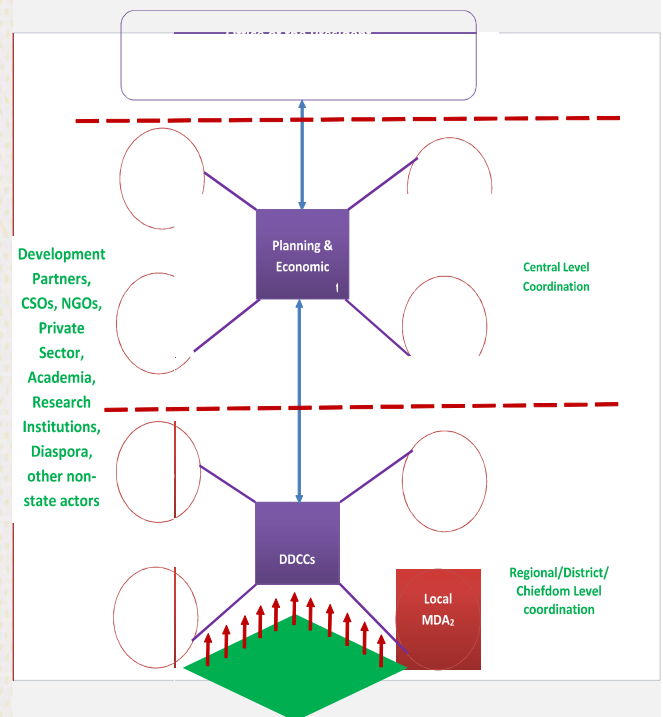
Implementation of programmes in the medium-term national development plan is coordinated at national, regional, district and community levels. Consequently, there will be decentralised arrangement for the effective coordination of implementation, as it was in the previous plan. The **Ministry of Planning and Economic Development** will continue to provide general operational leadership in the coordination of implementation across the different layers at national, sectoral, regional/district and community levels. The ministry will be providing update to ministerial cabinet and parliament on the implementation status on a regular basis.



★ Monitoring and Evaluation, Performance Management and Service Delivery

Four key principles to guide M&E for the Plan

- i. **Consistency and harmonisation between national and subnational development**— towards setting outcomes, indicators, baselines, and targets across MDAs and Local Council development strategies.
- ii. **Comprehensiveness:** The M&E framework for the plan covers arrangements for monitoring and evaluation of development policies, programmes and projects covered by MTNDP.
- iii. **Leverage of ICT:** MTNDP M&E activities will build on the National Monitoring and Evaluation Management Information System (NaMEMIS) and existing ICT-based monitoring systems (such as IFMIS, MDA Pro and specific MDA systems, including the soon-to-launch online SDG Monitoring Framework).
- iv. **Inclusiveness:** The M&E Framework is designed to facilitate reporting and data collection from all MDAs and LCs on MTNDP priorities and related outcomes



The new MTNDP 2024-2030 has been developed with a strong consideration of the lessons learned from the previous plan. Accordingly, the new plan will increase investment in building economic, social and environmental resilience to better ward off future shocks with minimised effects on national development programmes.

This plan illustrates the government's elevated ambition to bring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back on-track in Sierra Leone through this national blueprint that is heavily focused on building a capable and effective national economy as a prerequisite for social, economic, environmental and democratic stability.

We will place the people at the centre of financing for development more than ever while scaling up sectoral coordination and public policy coherence, prioritisation and sequencing. We will pursue a People's Planning Process to sustainably ensure the integration of village/chiefdom level planning with district and national planning and implementation processes.

Ms. Kenyeh Barlay

**MINISTER OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT | SIERRA LEONE**



