

**PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)
CONCEPT STAGE**

Report No.: AB2866

Project Name	Sierra Leone Health Sector Reconstruction and Development Project Additional Financing and Project Restructuring
Region	AFRICA
Sector	Health (100%)
Project ID	P103740
Borrower(s)	GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
Implementing Agency	Ministry of Health and Sanitation
Environment Category	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI <input type="checkbox"/> TBD (to be determined)
Date PID Prepared	February 7, 2007
Estimated Date of Appraisal Authorization	March 29, 2007
Estimated Date of Board Approval	May 15, 2007

1. Key development issues and rationale for Bank involvement

The additional financing, which will be provided as a Grant, will support achievement of the Project Development Objectives through: (a) implementing additional and expanded activities to scale up project's impact and development effectiveness; and (b) completing original project activities that were scaled back due to cost overrun materials for civil works. The on-going Health Sector Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Project (HSRDP) is also being restructured, following a mid-term review in February 2006, by proposing changes to the key performance indicators (KPIs).

Onchocerciasis became a major concern, both for Sierra Leone and as a threat to neighboring countries, in 2004 – 2005. As HSRDP provided for enhancing district ability to respond to unplanned for health emergencies, including disease outbreaks, the Bank therefore agreed to the Government's request to include Onchocerciasis control among the priority technical programs covered by the project. Accommodating this request necessitated a downsizing of some planned infrastructure (e.g. reduced staff housing, solar panels). At the same time that the onchocerciasis support was being added to the project, rehabilitation costs were increasing for civil works starting in 2005. This resulted in further reductions in the scope of planned civil works (e.g. additional reductions in staff housing, solar panels). Furthermore, the fight against Avian Influenza has also become a priority for the sector. The DGA did not have to be amended to include onchocerciasis control and avian influenza activities because of the broad description of sub-component B.1 in Schedule 2 of the DGA.

The Recipient and the implementing agency (Ministry of Health and Sanitation) are fully committed to the project and have complied with all covenants specified in the Development Grant Agreement. The performance of the MoHS at the central and decentralized levels has been satisfactory. The MoHS has established an acceptable accounting and reporting system for the project that will continue for the additional financing.

At present, the Government is unable to provide sufficient funding to finance the scaled up proposed activities. Regarding other donors, the EU, the AfDB are supporting restoration of health facilities in other parts of the country while Sight Savers International, Hellen Keller International and the Special Intervention Zone are contributing about US\$ 500,000 to the Oncho Control Program. Hence, additional financing from the World Bank is essential to help the Government to consolidate and expand gains in the control of diseases in the country.

The total cost of the additional financing, based on actualized unit costs, is estimated at US\$8.0 million, all of which will be allocated to component 1. The additional financing will also be subject to 100 percent IDA financing according to the Country Financing Parameters for social sectors. The costs and financing plan for the original operation and for the additional financing are presented in the table below. The additional financing is a Grant.

Normal Bank appraisal standards have been satisfied for each kind of addition and that implementation systems are expected to operate satisfactorily during the remainder of the project, in particular the environmental safeguard systems that encountered difficulties earlier during project implementation.

Activities to be financed under the additional financing are expected to be completed by February 28, 2009; as such the closing dates of both the initial and additional grants are proposed for August 31, 2009 (18 months extension).

2. Proposed objective(s)

The original project objective, which remains unchanged, are to assist the Government to: (i) restore the most essential functions of the health delivery system; and (ii) strengthen both public and private health sector capacities, so as to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of the health sector to the needs of the population.

The project has two components: (a) restoring essential health services through (i) restoring health service delivery in four priority districts (Bombali, Koinadugu, Kono and Moyamba), and (ii) supporting three priority technical programs to improve their performance and control infectious diseases of high public importance in Sierra Leone (malaria, tuberculosis (TB), and sanitation); and (b) strengthening public and private sector capacity through (i) fostering decentralization and improving the performance of District Health Management Teams; (ii) strengthening the key MoHS support programs in the area of human resources development, planning, financial management, monitoring and statistics, procurement and donor/NGO coordination; and (iii) promoting development of the private sector and participation of civil society in the health sector.

3. Preliminary description

The activities to be funded under the additional financing are:

(a) The activities to be funded under the additional financing are:

(a) a new Oncho program, including provision of office equipment, procurement and distribution of drugs, furniture, community sensitization, training, operational research and monitoring and evaluation. The total cost of the program is estimated at US\$2.8 million equivalent;

(b) a new Avian Influenza program, including staff training , establishment of sentinel sites, and provision of laboratory equipment. The total cost of Avian Flu activities is estimated at US\$0.4 million equivalent; and

(c) the completion of civil works, in the form of staff quarters, incinerators, clinical and surgical wards, one administrative building, oxygen in the theaters, maternity and surgical wards, solar power systems for the facilities and an access road for the Makeni hospital. The total cost of all additional civil works is estimated at US\$4.8 million equivalent.

Project Restructuring

While the project is performing satisfactorily, the Government has also requested several project changes for the following reasons:

- Redeploy resources – The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria recently committed additional funds to support the Government’s malaria program, which means that the IDA funding originally allocated to malaria can be redeployed to other high priority uses in the health sector.
- Revise the outcome indicators in the results framework – The original outcome indicators in the project results framework were very general, overly numerous for strategic management for results, and not consistent with the sector-wide indicators recently developed by the MoHS for monitoring its activities. The Government is therefore proposing to make them more specific, measurable, and outcome-based.

4. Safeguard policies that might apply

The proposed additional financing does not raise any major additional environmental or social issues. Activities to be funded by the additional financing are designed to improve the efficiency of existing health facilities and also strengthen and enhance the awareness of health issues and preventive measures to avoid transmission of infectious diseases. The on-going health project is supporting solid waste management activities in Freetown and, in parallel with the stabilization of the situation in districts, in district capital cities (where the first referral hospitals are located). This includes IEC for the workers involved in garbage collection and the like. The project is also supporting the construction of small incinerators and water wells in health facilities rehabilitated with IDA funds and also finance IEC for health providers and the population. The additional financing will fund the completion of specifically civil works already under construction, hospital and health center equipment, onchocerciasis control activities (based on ivermectin supply and distribution) and avian influenza control activities.

The Ministry of Health and Sanitation prepared an Environmental Impact Assessment Report, a Waste Management Plan and an Environmental Management Plan before the on-going project started implementation. The MoHS has subsequently been implementing the EMP. For the

purpose of the additional financing the Ministry has started the process of updating these documents to be disclosed in-country by March 29, 2007.

5. Tentative financing

Source:	(\$m.)
BORROWER/RECIPIENT	0
IDA Grant	8
Total	8

6. Contact point

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