

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION

ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN VALIDATION WORKSHOP

TABLE OF CONTENT

- 1.0 INTRODUCTION**
- 2.0 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES**
- 3.0 WORKSHOP PROGRAMME**
- 4.0 QUEST PRESENTERS**
 - 4.1 WORLD BANK REPRESENTATIVE:**
 - 4.2 DEPUTY MINISTER:**
 - 4.3 DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT HEALTH AND SANITATION:**
 - 4.4 UNOPS REPRESENTATIVE:**
 - 4.5 UNFPA REPRESENTATIVE**
 - 4. 5.1 COMMENTS/ CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER STAKEHOLDERS:**
- 5.0 WASH COORDINATOR, MOHS**
- 6.0 GROUP WORK**
- 7.0 RECOMMENDATION**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The directorate of Environmental Health and Sanitation in the ministry of health and sanitation hosted one-day workshop to discuss Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Environmental Management Plan(EMP) which is required ahead of the construction of Triage and the rehabilitation of selected hospitals and Community Health Centers within the country. Guest presenters in the workshop include Director of Environmental Health and Sanitation, Chief Medical Office, Deputy Minister of Health and Sanitation I, World Bank representative, UNOPS representative and UNFPA representative respectively.

2.0 WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Disclosure of ESMF & EMP
- Ensuring that all infrastructure work should go through the ESMD&EMP.
- To ensure that all civil work project should undergo Environment Safe guide policies.
- To get feedback on the ESMF&EMP.
- Enhance positive environmental outcome
- Prevent negative environmental impact
- Identify and mitigate with appropriate measures, the adverse impact that might arise
- Obtain environmental clearance from the DOE
- Ensure compliance with the World Bank's environmental safeguards policies.

3.0 WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

The ESMF) and EMP validation workshop took place on Wednesday 12th August, 2015, at Shangri La Hotel, Aberdeen, Freetown, in which 50 (fifty) participants participated . The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Doris Bah therein she requested for individual silence prayers and welcomed the authorities to high table and subsequently introduced chairman for the programme.

In the mainline, the workshop was chaired opened officially by Dr. Ansumana Sillah; Dr. Sillah welcomed all the participants and thus read the agenda of the workshop.

He quenched the workshop by apologizing for the absence of Chief Medical Officer as he was attending an important meeting at National Ebola Response Center(NERC). He extended thanks to the World Bank for their support towards the preparation of ESMF and EMP documents as well as Chief Medical Officer, Minister of Health and Sanitation, UNOPS and UNFPA for their commitment and supports for the development of the documents. He further highlighted that ESMF and EMP are critical for health infrastructural development, disease prevention and basic sanitation in Sierra Leone.

However, he registered that Chief Medical Officer was unable to attend the workshop as he had meeting with NERC.

Moreover, he admonished that UNOPS is to deal with waste management which is crucial in disease prevention and, also, restoring essential health services in the country. He said infrastructural work is good for national development, but it needs to be done in line with safeguarding potential health risks, while setting mitigation measures ahead of time. He confirmed that Ebola viral disease has revealed the weakness of Sierra Leone health service system in Sierra Leone; he strongly prayed for freezing Ebola cases to zero. At last, he pleaded to all the participants to look at the ESMF and EMP documents critically and was delighted to looking forward to making productive contributions to the validation of the documents.

4.0. GUEST PRESENTERS:

4.1 WORLD BANK REPRESENTATIVES:

World Bank representative registered that World Bank is committed to work hand-in-hand with MOHS, and affirmed that the ESMF and EMP documents are going to address potential hazards. He said WB and UNOPS are committed to developing both ESMF and EMP and that EIA consultant will be hired ahead of the health

infrastructural development project. He said WB is committed to support health facility infrastructural development under the Post-Ebola Health recovery project.

4.2 DEPUTY MINISTER KEY NOTE ADDRESS:

From the outset, the government of his Excellency Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma recognized that environmental Health problems in Sierra Leone. In order that his Excellency's Government could keep the environmental Health and Sanitation phenomenon firmly under control, it has been identified as a very high priority in our development agenda.

Therefore the presence of partners in this workshop indicates that, according to the expectation of Government, you are equally taking this matter very important.

There is another very important aspect of this one day meeting. As you are all aware over the years his Excellency's Government has been doing its best to improve the capacity and quality of curative health care. Nonetheless apart from Ebola, unacceptable numbers of Sierra Leoneans in general but even more so, women and children continue to die from easily preventable causes such as cholera, malaria and other such infectious diseases.

It is no gainsaying that proper management of our waste will drastically minimize transmission of various forms of infectious diseases including cholera and malaria and dramatically improve the environmental health situation of the communities present in diverse forms including municipal solid waste, liquid waste, industrial waste and health care waste.

Before now there existing the waste management plan. But that plan is devoid of health care waste. In order to make good the existing gap an integrated waste management strategic plan has been developed incorporating a National medical waste management plan which address the requirement for handling medical waste including those from Ebola treatment centres.

As well as emphasizing the need to meet the needs of the beneficiaries. The plan also emphasizes the strengthening of the entire waste management system as a key

strategy to enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of quality services that will ultimately improve health outcome

The plan is developed around strengthening of six key pillars:

- Leadership and Governance
- Service delivery
- Human resources for waste management
- Waste management equipment and Technology
- Waste management Financing
- Waste management Information System

The priority of the integrated waste management strategic plan are to improve waste management with the aim of progressively moving towards universal coverage, reducing the burden of communicable diseases and improving the quality of services provided by retaining highly qualify and motivated staff in an enabling environment through training.

Like the previous document the integrated waste management plan is being table for all stakeholders to scrutinize and improve the content where appropriate.

4.3 DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT HEALTH AND SANITATION:

The director of Environmental Health and Sanitation forwarded that Environmental health is the oldest department in MOHS with mandate from Sierra Leone Parliament to sanitize Sierra Leone. He said ESMP and EMP documents will be useful as guideline for WASH facilities in School and Healthcare facilities respectively.

Noteworthy in his presentation was that he manifested that health service has been more concentrated on learning, but it is high time we focused on full implementation of public health ordinance, policy and guidelines already being developed by DEHS. He reiterated that these documents are valid for proper management of WASH as well as strengthening waste management strategy. He highlighted the six(6) health building blocks including leadership and governance and the number of health facility and the data base to be created on WASH facility.

4.4 UNOPS REPRESENTATIVE:

UNOPS representative said has Africa Office with sub-regional in West African Anglophone countries based at Accra covering Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Gambia ..

He said, since 2014, UNOPS has been Ebola Emergency Response and now on Post Ebola Recovery in the three countries

He said up to 25 people will be engaged on duty by August, within three Offices (Freetown, Bo and Makeni) on Policy focused on Principles of Quality Standards, Resilience and safe use, functionality, Sustainability, Contextualization

He explained on the UNOPS has developed strategy for Management of Environment, Health and Safety, and Quality and as well as Environmental Management System Handbook, guiding and governing implementation plan on all infrastructure Projects with templates and form for the site management.

He assure the country that UNOPS SIPG Team at Headquarter will support the Project Team in the three countries

He echoed that UNOPS environmental management plan focused on Management of construction, Management of air quality, Protection of water bodies from pollution, dealing with possible contaminated materials plus Characteristic, advantage and disadvantages of Incinerator

Furthermore, he said the approach to Quality will target Standards, Design, Planning, Developing contractor capacity, Inspection and test plans respectively.

Finally, he also confirmed UNOPS has been supportive to the development of ESMF and EMP documents, while committed rehabilitate/construct 11 health care facilities after an Environmental Impact Assessment is done.

Dr. Sillah quickly browsed over the presentation and commented that the key issues on UNOPS presentation basically focused on quality standard, resilience, safe use, functionality and conceptualization of work.

Comments/ contributions from other stakeholders:

- Sustainability of incinerator and safeguard with respect emission
- The involvement of Office of national security(ONS).
- Level of protection that prevent community people from grabbing healthcare wastes

In response to all comments or questions, he said the incinerator will be operating at lower cost with total decontamination of ash using 1500 Joules for efficient decontamination. He said geological survey will be done to assess geologic risk, while red-zone will be designed to restrict people's movement around incinerator plant.

4.5 UNFPA REPRESENTATIVE

The representative of UNFPA (Philip Makerses) explained the link between MOHS and UNFPA in terms of procurement of materials. He advanced that UNFPA is operating in Sierra Leone and has been committed to supporting MOHS on sanitation, safe delivery, Family planning, HIA/AIDs etc in a bid to reduce deaths, especially maternal and under five respectively. He said their operations on Health recovery targets 14 districts in the country covering rehabilitations of Health care facilities to meet maternal needs and that 11 Health Facilities have rehabilitated(PCMH, Bo, Kono,Kenema,Lungi,Waterloo CHC,Mapotollon, Benducha CHC ,Boama Koya CHC,Pendembu HC, Taiama CHC) from January to August,2015

In addition, he MOHS identified 51 health facilities; research was conducted, while MOHS reviewed the reviewed the result for intervention. So far, he talked on:

- Measures for procurement process for 6 facilities has been evaluated, while the contracted had been awarded by PS.
- Green pre-equipment strategy which targets energy consumption and waste reduction and reduction of potential hazards
- Quality assurance modalities
- Community stakeholders involvement to identify social and environmental issues; staff availability to report MOHS and UNFPA on ESMF on the health care
- MOHS and UNFPA to take joint monitoring of contraction
- UNFPA has developed lots of joint monitoring tools to be used by engineers

He said the UNFPA is committed to comply with national rules and regulations from EPA-SL and WR and that they will inform authorities at national and community level on interventions via MOHS/DHMT. He said UNFPA has documentations to reporting any odd issues in future but, at the same , is committed to inform capacity at all levels.

At this junction, the director of Environmental Health and Sanitation announced on the delay on waste management policy and strategic plan but registered that both DFID and WHO has recommended to go to BO to roll out the Integrated National waste management policy and strategic plan respectively.

4. 5.1 COMMENTS/ CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER STAKEHOLDERS:

- The need to institute national rules and regulations from Environmental Protection Agency Sierra Leone
- The need to inform authority at national and community level
- Documentation and reporting of any odd issues in future
- Capacity building at all level on incineration management.

5.0 WASH COORDINATOR, MOHS

Mrs Doris Bah made a brief summary on successes on WASH activities and challenges which need vigorous interventions.

6.0 GROUP WORK:

The entire participants were divided into five groups with portion on ESMF and EMP documents to review. After lunch, individual group presentation was made: Group 1 presentation was subscribed by Charles Ngombu, group2 by , group 3 by Ibrahim Sorie Bangura and group 4 by Lovetta Juanah

6.0 CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

The initiative by DEHS IN MOHS for the workshop and the commitment by partners especially WB, UNOPS and UNFPA were appreciated by the participants. There is still a need to ensure that errors and major comment made by participants in ESMF and EMP drafting are corrected.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

All the points discussed here above will be reviewed by interested participants from WB, UNOPS AND UNFPA respectively. Any further questions/comments made by participants will be considered by the drafting group, although no further workshop will be hosted

8.0 CLOSING

In closing the ESMF and EMP validation workshop, Madam Christiana Fortune expressed her satisfaction to all the participants and assures them all necessary corrections will be made as recommended by each work-group.

She thanked the World Bank, UNOPS and UNFPA for their relentless support to developing, while assuring them the Environmental Impact Assessment will be done accordingly to the terms of reference

8.0 APPENDIX

TIME TABLE FOR ESMF AND EMP WORKSHOP

DAY 1			
TIME	SESSION	Event Type	Facilitator
8:30-9:00	Registration, Opening prayer and Self-Introduction	Plenary	All
9:00-9:10	Objective of the Workshop		
Statement			
9: 10-9:20	Chairman Opening Remark and Statement		CMO
9:20-9:30	Statement		World Bank Representative
9:30-9:40	Statement		Director Env. Health
9:40-9:50	Statement		Director Hospital and

			Laboratory services
9:50-10:00	Keynote Address and official opening of workshop		Deputy Minister 1
10:00 – 10:30			
Tea Break			
10:30-10:40	Introduction of ESMF and EMP document		Christiana Fortune
10:40-11:10	Presentation		UNOPS
11:10-11:30	Presentation		UNFPA
11:30-12:00	Presentation		Director Environmental Health and Sanitation
12:00-12:30	Presentation		WASH Coordinator
12:30-1:30	Group work		
1:30-2:30			
Lunch Break			
2:30-3:30	Group presentation		
3:30-4:30	Questions/Discussion and closing of workshop		

8.2 AGENCIES ATTENDANCE:

Name	organization	phone number
Lovetta juanah	EPA SL	079912296/099262744
Patrick pokawa	Wash net	078317574/079460607
Sahid P. J Abu Dingie	UNDP	076676753
Dennis Zimurya	ERC/IRC	078344711

Tom Oleun	ERC/IRC	078341258
Humphrey M. Bango	HFAC SL	078448917
Joe Mclean	GOAL	
Michael Sexton	WORLD Bank	079884784
Eva Samalea	Soudarites international	079989927
Antonio Baio	UNOPs	076395663
Isaac T. Gblee	yOUFPA	079586138
Ks Manu	ASI	076926890
Isata Tarawalie	Ministry of Water resources	078 081801
Anthony D. Foday	MoHS	079 827660
Bockarie P. Sesay	MoHS	076 504630
Mrs. Doris Bah	MoHS	076 350925
T. J Chatrles Sansie	MoHS	076 662547
Charles A.J. Ngombu	MoHS	076 993041
Ibrahim S. Bangura	BEHS-SL	077 510937
Jonathan A. Kamara	MoHS	076 678021
Kadrie Koroma	MoHS	076 672962
Daniel A.H. Cooper	MoHS	076 146915
Christiana Fortune	MoHS	078 403189
Abdulai Conteh	Environmental Consultant Service	076 918088
Sinneh Mansaray	ONS	076 612775
Sayeed Osman Swaray	MoHS	076 279345
Abdulai I. Jallon	MoHS	076 184415
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