

PROGRAM 2

Agriculture Infrastructure

The Government of Sierra Leone's National Sustainable Agriculture Development Programme (NSADP), the country's agriculture investment programme, provides the basis for the development of national and district programs to overcome the challenges that militate against the development of agriculture in Sierra Leone. The challenges are clearly interdependent and require a concerted action. The proposed program combines policy, institutional, infrastructure and technology related measures to address the multiplicity of supply-side constraints to enhance the growth potential of Sierra Leone's agriculture. The programme would integrate on-going programmes and projects into this framework and take on the role of a national programme for food security.

The NSADP Program Objectives

The overall objective of the program is to increase the agriculture sector's contribution to the national economy by increasing productivity through commercialization and private sector participation. The program will facilitate and strengthen the productive capacities of small and medium scale farmers to provide enabling environment to promote large scale farming and development of agribusiness, and facilitate access to markets and value addition for the selected commodities. The selected commodities are: rice, cassava, oil palm, cocoa, fisheries and non-timber forest products (firewood, charcoal, rattan, raffia).

Key Performance Indicators

Increase in the agriculture sector growth from its current estimate of 2% to 6% per annum by 2015 enhances incomes and food security status of the producers.

Sub-Programmes

The NSADP/CAADP Agriculture Sector Investment Program will have four major sub-programs, namely:

1. Commodity Commercialization
 - Component 1: Small-holder Commercialization Scheme
 - Component 2: Medium and Large Farm Producers Promotion Scheme
2. **Agriculture Infrastructure**
 - Component 1: Support to the Rehabilitation and Upgrading of Feeder Roads
 - Component 2: Support to the Development of Irrigable Swamps
 - Component 3: Rehabilitation and Modernization of Existing Storage and Processing Facilities and Equipment
 - Component 4: Rehabilitation and Construction of Research Centers, MAFFS Offices
 - Component 5: Rehabilitation and Construction of Fish Harbors, Processing and Packaging Facilities
3. Private Sector Promotion
4. Sector Coordination and Management.

Outcomes and Objectives

The objective of this component is to develop appropriate infrastructure of public goods to support agricultural development. Infrastructures of most immediate need are roads, irrigation facilities, markets, and processing, packaging and storage facilities.

COMPONENTS

I. SUPPORT TO THE REHABILITATION AND UPGRADING OF FEEDER ROADS

Target: Rehabilitate and upgrade 2,055 km feeder roads of major agricultural importance. This component will be implemented in collaboration with SLRA, NaCSA, Local Councils and private contractors.

Activities:

- i. Identification and prioritization of strategic feeder roads that will link major production areas to market centers;
- ii. Formulation of a common policy on feeder roads construction, rehabilitation and maintenance;
- iii. Construction, rehabilitation and upgrading of 2,055 km of feeder roads into all weather roads within five years;
- iv. Regular maintenance of the upgraded roads.

Key Performance Indicators

- i. Reduction in transportation costs ;
- ii. Increase in the volume of goods and services transported from production areas to market centers;
- iii. 2,055 km of feeder roads rehabilitated.

2. SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGABLE AREAS

Target: Support both small scale and large scale holders to enhance the double cultivation of rice, vegetables and other crops.

Activities:

- i. Conduct an inventory of all perennial inland valley swamps to consider appropriate usage;
- ii. Embark on feasibility studies and investment analysis of three major irrigable areas: Gbondapi, Torma Bum and Komrabai Mamayla. Studies have already been conducted for Rhombe and Rolakoh swamps;
- iii. Formulate a strategic irrigation investment plan;
- iv. Develop necessary irrigation infrastructure including land development to make it suitable for mechanization in accordance to the strategic plan.

Key Performance Indicators

- i. Three major feasibility studies undertaken;
- ii. Strategic irrigation investment plan formulated;
- iii. Irrigation project underway in accordance to strategic plans in selected locations.

3. REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF EXISTING STORAGE AND PROCESSING FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

Target: Develop local storage, processing and marketing facilities to improve stable availability of food supplies.

Activities:

- i. Strategic location of market centers, storage and processing facilities to effectively service production areas;

- ii. Storage facilities should be commodity focused to ensure quality control;
- iii. Providing drying, processing and packaging facilities (private sector) for the storage facilities and market centers;
- iv. Establish market information systems
- v. Encourage the private sector to invest in transportation, especially water transport for the riverine areas.

Key Performance Indicators

- i. Increase in the number of storage and processing facilities;
- ii. Increase in the quantity and number of locally processed products in the market.

4. REHABILITATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH CENTERS, MAFFS OFFICES, STAFF QUARTERS, OUTSTATIONS AND OTHER RELATED AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE.

Activities:

Construction and rehabilitation of MAFFS offices and staff quarters, research centers, and markets.

Key Performance Indicators

- Number of MAFFS offices, staff quarters, Research and Information Centers rehabilitated and/or constructed.

5. CONSTRUCTION OF FISH HARBORS, PROCESSING AND PACKAGING FACILITIES IN SELECTED AREAS

Activities:

- i. Assessment and identification of suitable sites for the construction of fish harbors and associated facilities;
- ii. Construction of the facilities.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Number of functioning fish harbors, processing and packaging facilities appropriately constructed.

Table 1 – Cost of program 2: Agricultural Infrastructure Development

SOUS-PROGRAMS	Total	Mobilized	Support	Associated	Gap
1. Rehabilitation and upgrading of 2,055 km of feeder roads	51.3	24.3	WB/RPSDP ADB/ASREP IFAD/RCPRP IDB/RIDP/NaCSA KfW/GPC/NaCSA IDB/DFPP EU/STABEX-USTP, ADB/NERICA GoSL/SLRA		27
2. Support to the development of irrigable swamps	80	5	ADB/ASREP IDB/DFPP IFAD/RCPRP		75
3. Rehabilitation and modernization of existing storage and processing facilities and equipment	30	2	WB/RPSDP		28
4. Rehabilitation and construction of research centers, MAFFS offices, etc..	15	5	ADB/ASREP		
5. Rehabilitation and construction of fish harbors, processing and packaging facilities, etc.	10	0		ADB/AFDEP/Fisheries	10
TOTAL PROGRAM	186.3	36.3			150