

## Facts and Figures

<b>Land area</b>	7.2m hectares <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uplands: 6m hectares (84%)</li> <li>• Lowlands: 1.2m hectares (16%)</li> </ul>
<b>Arable land area</b>	5.4m hectares (75% of total area) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uplands: 4.3m hectares (59%)</li> <li>• Lowlands: 1.1m Hectares (15%)</li> <li>• Inland valley Swamps (630,000 hectares)</li> <li>• Mangroves swamps (2000 hectares)</li> <li>• Riverine Grassland (110,000 hectares)</li> <li>• Bolilands (120,000 hectares)</li> </ul>
<b>Crops (70% of agric. GDP)</b>	Rice, cassava, vegetables, citrus fruits, cocoa beans, coffee, oil palm, ginger and cashew
<b>Livestock (7% of agric. GDP)</b>	Cattle, piggery, and poultry
<b>Average rainfall</b>	Avg. of 3,000 mm (2,000 mm in the north / 4,000 mm in the south)

**Forestry** 7% of Agric GDP

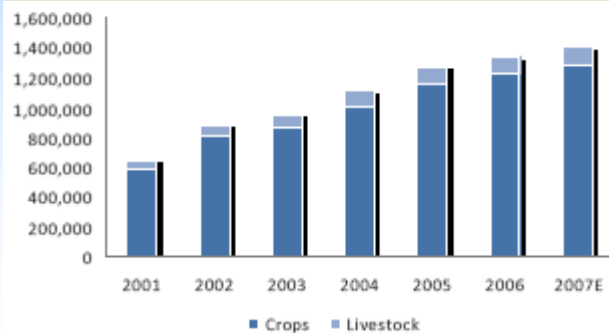
**Fishery** 16% of Agric GDP

### Climate

- Dry Season runs from mid-November to May
- Wet (Rainy) Season from May to mid-November. Mean rainfall can be divided into three climatic belts:

Coast to 80km Inland	80km – 190km	190km – Border
>3,300mm (recorded high as 8,100 mm)	2,540 – 3,300mm	1,900 – 2,500mm

### Agriculture GDP (millions of Leones)



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Government of Sierra Leone

# AGRICULTURE



## Sector Overview

- Agriculture accounts for 45% of the Gross Domestic Product, contributing a quarter of total export earnings and employing over two-thirds of the population.
- The crop sub sector constitutes two-thirds of Agricultural GDP with the main crops being rice (staple crop), cassava, sweet potato, oil palm, cocoa and coffee.
- The Fisheries, Forestry and Livestock sub sectors follow respectively in terms of importance and contribution to the economy.
- Total arable land of 5.4 million hectares, less than 20% of which is under cultivation—4.2 million hectares are upland and 1.2 million hectares are lowland.
- Unique opportunities for Bolilands with nearly 1.5 million hectares of bolilands in Northern Region of country.
- Rapidly developing Boi-fuels sector.

### Challenges currently facing the sector

- High dependency on subsistence farming.
- Heavy reliance on rain fed agriculture.
- Inadequate rural finance.
- Inadequate rural feeder road network.
- Weak extension system.

## Sector Priorities

- Enhance increase in agricultural productivity (Intensification).
- Promote commercialized agriculture through private sector/FBOs (Extensification).
- Improve research and extension services delivery.
- Promote effective and efficient resource (financial, physical and human) management; and
- Mainstream cross-cutting themes such as gender and youth promotion, farmers' health care issues (including HIV/AIDS, IVS related sickness, malaria, hazards, etc) and environmental management for natural sustainability.



## Sector Strategies—National Sustainable Agricultural Development Programme (NSADP) 2010 - 2030

### Commodity Commercialization

- i) Small-Holder Commercialization Scheme focusing on small-holder value chain development of key economic commodities specific in each district wherein small-holder producers will be linked to the national economy through new commercial groups.

TOTAL COST = US\$98 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$60 Million)

- ii) Medium and large scale promotion focusing on the development of Private Sector and or Private Public Partnership mechanization and processing businesses.

TOTAL COST = US\$5 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$4 Million)

### Agricultural Infrastructure Development:

- i) Support to the rehabilitation and upgrading of feeder roads of major agricultural importance and will focus on 2,055 kilometres of feeder roads. This will be implemented in collaboration with SLRA, NaCSA, Local Councils and private contractors.

TOTAL COST = US\$51 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$27 Million)

- ii) Support to the development of Irrigable Areas for both small scale and large scale holders to enhance multiple cropping of food crops.

TOTAL COST = US\$80 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$75 Million)

- iii) Support for the rehabilitation and modernization of existing and new storage and processing facilities and equipment to develop local storage, processing and marketing facilities

TOTAL COST = US\$40 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$38 Million)

- iv) Support rehabilitation and construction of research centers, MAFFS and MFMR and other related agricultural infrastructure.

TOTAL COST = US\$15 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$10 Million)

### Private Sector Promotion:

The objective here is to provide a conducive environment and incentive for sustainable agri-business in Sierra Leone

TOTAL COST = US\$5 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$4 Million)

### Efficient and Effective Sector Coordination and Management:

The objective here is to develop appropriate capacities for the management of the programmes as well as governance structures. There will be a multi-Partners Commodity Groups under the Presidential Task Force on Agriculture with expertise on developing specific commodities with market potentials

TOTAL COST = US\$6 Million (FUNDING GAP = US\$5 Million)

## Opportunities for investment and Public-Private Partnerships

### 1. Sugar Plantations

- Excellent growing conditions.
- Opportunities for both consumable and ethanol.
- Opportunity to satisfy local consumption demand (currently 50% local demand met through imports) as well as import to EU & West Africa.

### 2. Rapidly Developing Biofuel Sector

- High growth sector receiving material commitments of foreign capital.
- Opportunities for integrated production & refining of ethanol (sugar, cassava) & biodiesel (oil palm).
- Similar estates present in all districts, representing expansion possibilities.

### 3. The following facilities exist for developing rice has a very high comparative advantage in Sierra Leone

#### 3. Torma Bum Rice Fields

- 51,300 hectares suitable for mechanical cultivation.
- Located in Bonthe District, Southern Province, 62 miles from Bo, the provincial Capital.
- 150 tons/day capacity mill now broken down.
- 31,800 gallons capacity under-ground tanks available for fuel storage.

#### 4. Gbondapi Rice Fields

- 41,000ha suitable for mechanical cultivation located in Pujehun District, Southern Province.
- 60 miles from Bo, the provincial capital.
- Big rice store available.
- 1 mechanical workshop available.
- 31,800 gallons capacity under-ground tanks available for fuel storage.

#### 5. Cocoa & Coffee Processing

- 75,000ha of coffee and 40,000ha of cocoa in the two provinces. Southern and Eastern provinces.
- For now, the raw materials are exported, processed abroad and the finished products brought back into the country.
- Virgin area for private investment.

#### 6. Oil Palm Plantations – Gambia/ Matru Oil Palm Estate

- More than 5000 hectares located in Bonthe District, Southern Province, 54 miles from Bo.
- Several other available plantations.
- Palm Kernel Oil (PKO).
- Other ancillary products (soap, CPO etc).