



**OUTLINE FOR THE INITIAL REPORT AND UPDATED
INITIAL REPORT REFERRED TO IN DECISION
2/CMA.3, ANNEX, CHAPTER IV.A (INITIAL REPORT)¹**

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(Version 02.0)

Party	The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone
NDC period	2021 - 2030
Report number for the NDC period^a	1
Report type: Initial report Updated initial report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Updated initial report number	1
Version^b	1.0
Date	17/02/2026
Name(s) of cooperative approach(es) included in this report <i>(Include a line for each additional cooperative approach)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DelAgua Clean Cooking Grouped Project in Sierra Leone – VCS Project 3837

^a Ascribe sequential number for updated initial reports. The number '1' is reserved for the initial report.

^b Ascribe version number as follows: decimal increase for minor revisions (typos, corrections) and digit increase for content changes.

Note: For updated initial report fill in only section IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3).

¹ This template has been developed based on the outline adopted by decision 6/CMA.4. Para 36 of decision 6/CMA.4 further encourages participating Parties to prepare their initial report, updated initial report and annex 4 to the biennial transparency report (Regular information) in accordance with the outlines contained in annexes V and VI respectively, as referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (Initial report) and IV.C (Regular information); Supplementary elements of information have been added as per decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1.

² The list of the acronyms and abbreviations used in this template are available in decision 6/CMA.4: <https://unfccc.int/documents/624474>.

³ References to chapters and paragraphs in the outline are to chapters and paragraphs in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, unless stated otherwise. "Article" refers to an Article of the Paris Agreement.

I. PARTICIPATION RESPONSIBILITIES (PARA. 18(A))
A: INFORMATION ON HOW THE PARTY ENSURES THAT IT IS A PARTY TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT (PARA. 21(A), PARA. 4(A), UPDATE TO PARA. 18(A))
<p>The Government of Sierra Leone signed the Paris agreement on 22 of September 2016 and ratified the agreement on 01 November 2016 and is a party to the Paris agreement thereupon.</p>
B. INFORMATION ON HOW THE PARTY ENSURES THAT IT HAS PREPARED, COMMUNICATED AND IS MAINTAINING AN NDC IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPH 2 (PARA. 18(A), PARA. 4(B), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(A))
<p>Sierra Leone submitted its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the UNFCCC in Dec 2025 . The NDC 3.0 outlines a commitment to reduce domestic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 36.2% by 2035 relative to BAU economy-wide emissions.</p>
C. INFORMATION ON HOW THE PARTY ENSURES IT HAS ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE FOR AUTHORIZING THE USE OF ITMOs TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF NDCs PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 3 (PARA. 18(A), PARA. 4(C), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(A))
<p>Sierra Leone Meteorological Agency under the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is the designated national authority (DNA), the DNA has the responsibility of assessing and subsequent approval of potential mitigation, removal or avoidance projects under the carbon regime that can potentially help Sierra Leone in achieving its NDC and also it is the mandated national entity for authorizing the use of ITMOs.</p> <p>Sierra Leone has committed to developing a national carbon registry to ensure the transparent tracking of mitigation outcomes and to avoid double counting.</p>
D. INFORMATION ON HOW THE PARTY ENSURES IT HAS ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2, GUIDANCE AND RELEVANT DECISIONS OF THE CMA FOR TRACKING ITMOs (PARA. 18(A), PARA. 4(D), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(A))
<p>Sierra Leone is in the process of establishing institutional arrangements and frameworks to participate in Article 6 cooperative approaches. The country has committed to developing a national carbon registry system to ensure the transparent tracking of mitigation outcomes and to avoid double counting.</p> <p>While the Government of Sierra Leone is in the process for establishing the institutional arrangements, the Government of Sierra Leone is committed to reporting and tracking ITMOs under the existing cooperative approach with DelAgua and the agreement that is in place requires regular reporting from DelAgua to the DNA whilst the national registry and carbon frameworks are being developed.</p>
E. INFORMATION ON WHETHER THE MOST RECENT NATIONAL INVENTORY REPORT REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION 18/CMA.1 HAS BEEN PROVIDED (PARA. 18(A), PARA. 4(E), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(A))
<p>Sierra Leone submitted its most recent national inventory report (NIR) as part of its first Biennial Update Report (BUR1) to the UNFCCC on 05 April 2024. The inventory covers the year 2020 and includes emissions data across Energy, Industrial Processes and Product Use (PIUP), Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use (AFAT) and Waste.</p>
F. INFORMATION ON HOW THE PARTY ENSURES PARTICIPATION CONTRIBUTES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS NDC AND LONG-TERM LOW-EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, IF IT HAS SUBMITTED ONE, AND THE LONG-TERM GOALS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT (PARA. 18(A), PARA. 4(F), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(A))

Sierra Leone applies a set of policy, institutional, and procedural safeguards to ensure that participation in cooperative approaches under Article 6.2 contributes to the implementation of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and is consistent with its longer-term low-emission development objectives.

At present, Sierra Leone does not yet have a fully enacted carbon trading law or national carbon registry. Participation in cooperative approaches is therefore governed through government authorisation procedures, inter-ministerial coordination, and policy guidance led by the Government of Sierra Leone, including the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (DNA). Authorisation decisions are designed to ensure that mitigation outcomes transferred internationally are consistent with national climate priorities and do not undermine Sierra Leone's ability to achieve its NDC.

In line with Decision 2/CMA.3, Sierra Leone applies revenue-sharing arrangements under cooperative approaches as a key safeguard and benefit-sharing mechanism. A share of proceeds and/or revenues generated from authorised mitigation outcomes is allocated to the Government of Sierra Leone and is intended to be used to support the implementation of conditional NDC measures. These revenues provide an important source of climate finance to strengthen national mitigation and adaptation efforts and enhance institutional capacity.

To ensure that participation in cooperative approaches does not impede achievement of the NDC, Government of Sierra Leone assesses proposed activities and authorisations against national mitigation priorities, progress toward NDC targets, and alignment with sustainable development objectives. Government of Sierra Leone may limit or withhold authorisation of mitigation outcomes in sectors or activities deemed critical for domestic NDC achievement, or where international transfers could adversely affect Sierra Leone's ability to meet its nationally determined climate goals.

As Sierra Leone continues to develop its national carbon market policy framework and associated legal instruments, these safeguards are expected to be further formalised, including provisions related to authorisation procedures, use of proceeds, and accounting for internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs), in accordance with Article 6.2 guidance and future reporting requirements.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY'S NDC, AS REFERRED TO IN DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARAGRAPH 64, WHERE A PARTICIPATING PARTY HAS NOT YET SUBMITTED A BIENNIAL TRANSPARENCY REPORT (PARA. 18(B), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 21(B))

A. TARGET(S) AND DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING TARGET TYPE(S) (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(A))

Sierra Leone's NDC 3.0 target is a relative emission reduction target type.

Target is to reduce domestic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 36.2% by 2035 relative to BAU economy-wide emissions.

B. TARGET YEAR(S) OR PERIOD(S), AND WHETHER THEY ARE SINGLE-YEAR OR MULTI-YEAR TARGET(S) (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(B))

Sierra Leone has adopted a relative and multi-year target approach, with 2015 being the base year and 2030 as the target year. The relative target is to reduce 36.2% of its domestic GHG emissions by 2035 as compared to BAU economy-wide emissions.

C. REFERENCE POINT(S), LEVEL(S), BASELINE(S), BASE YEAR(S) OR STARTING POINT(S), AND THEIR RESPECTIVE VALUE(S) (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(C))

The IPCC 2006 Guidelines were used to calculate emissions in the GHG Inventory of The Sierra Leone.

D. TIME FRAME(S) AND/OR PERIODS FOR IMPLEMENTATION (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(D))

The relative target is to reduce 36.2% of the domestic GHG emissions by 2035 as compared to BAU economy-wide emissions. , with 28.96% conditional and 7.24% unconditional.

E. SCOPE AND COVERAGE, INCLUDING, AS RELEVANT, SECTORS, CATEGORIES, ACTIVITIES, SOURCES AND SINKS, POOLS AND GASES (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(E))	
<p>Gases covered: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulphur dioxide (SO₂).</p> <p>Sectors/categories covered:</p> <p>1Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use Emissions (AFOLU): .</p> <p>2Industrial Processes and Product Utilization Emissions (IPPU).</p> <p>3Energy.</p> <p>4Waste.</p>	
F. INTENTION TO USE COOPERATIVE APPROACHES THAT INVOLVE THE USE OF INTERNATIONALLY TRANSFERRED MITIGATION OUTCOMES UNDER ARTICLE 6 TOWARDS NDCs UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(F))	
<p>Sierra Leone intends to make use of voluntary cooperation under the framework provided by Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. Sierra Leone does not plan to achieve any of its commitment by acquiring internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs). Instead, Sierra Leone would be a host country of mitigation projects aiming at securing the protection of the planet by meeting standards that deliver real, permanent, additional and verified mitigation outcomes that contribute to sustainable development while avoiding the double counting of emission reductions.</p> <p>Mitigation measures that are in need of additional resources to be implemented, such as those identified in the NDC as conditional upon international support, could be facilitated by international voluntary cooperation under Article 6.2 (cooperative approaches) or be registered under the Article 6.4 Mechanism. Furthermore, Sierra Leone welcomes international support through nonmarket approaches (NMAs) as recognised by Article 6.8.</p>	
G. ANY UPDATES OR CLARIFICATIONS OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION (E.G. RECALCULATION OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INVENTORY DATA, OR GREATER DETAIL ON METHODOLOGIES OR USE OF COOPERATIVE APPROACHES) (DECISION 18/CMA.1, ANNEX, PARA. 64(G))	
Not applicable	
III. INFORMATION ON ITMO METRICS, METHOD FOR APPLYING CORRESPONDING ADJUSTMENTS AND METHOD FOR QUANTIFICATION OF THE NDC (PARA. 18(C-F))	
5A. ITMO METRICS (PARA. 18(C))	
Sierra Leone will apply and report ITMOs only in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO ₂ e), whereby one ITMO equals one tonne of CO ₂ e (1tCO ₂ e).	
B. METHOD FOR APPLYING CORRESPONDING ADJUSTMENTS AS PER CHAPTER III.B (APPLICATION OF CORRESPONDING ADJUSTMENTS) (PARA. 18(C))	
<p>1. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustment for multi- or single year NDCs that will be applied consistently throughout the period of NDC implementation, if applicable (para. 18(c))</p>	<p>Request Corresponding Adjustment:</p> <p>The project developer shall submit a formal request to the DNA, including the following documents:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application letter • Proof of project registration and issuance of emission reduction credits. • Details of the share of proceeds to the host country. • Evidence of compliance with local regulations and technical requirements. • A draft agreement specifying the use of ITMOs and the corresponding adjustment mechanism. • Specify the number of credits. <p>Government Review and Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Designated National Authority (DNA), with support from other Government entities as applicable, evaluate the applications or requests from carbon project developers to ensure they align with national priorities, the NDC, and international guidelines and national carbon market framework. • Upon approval, the DNA issues and apply corresponding adjustment, and account transferred ITMOs in the national GHG inventory and complete the necessary reporting obligations to the UNFCCC.
<p>2. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustments where the method is a multi-year emissions trajectory, trajectories or budget, if applicable (para. 18(c))</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>3. Description of how the method for applying corresponding adjustments aligns with decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 7 (para. 18(c) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant⁴</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

⁴ Decision 4/CMA.6 para. 18 requests each participating Party to incorporate the elements contained in annex I when providing information in its initial report and any updated initial reports, as referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex,

<p>4. Description of the methods used for establishing the indicative trajectory, trajectories or budget and the resulting trajectory, trajectories or budget and their relationship to the indicators referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 65, to which corresponding adjustments will be applied (para. 18(c) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant⁵</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>C. QUANTIFICATION OF THE PARTY'S MITIGATION INFORMATION IN ITS NDC IN T CO₂ EQ, INCLUDING THE SECTORS, SOURCES, GHGs AND TIME PERIODS COVERED BY THE NDC, THE REFERENCE LEVEL OF EMISSIONS AND REMOVALS FOR THE RELEVANT YEAR OR PERIOD, AND THE TARGET LEVEL FOR ITS NDC OR, WHERE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE METHODOLOGY FOR THE QUANTIFICATION OF THE NDC IN T CO₂ EQ (PARA. 18(D)).</p>	
<p>Sierra Leone NDC covers the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use Emissions (AFOLU) • Industrial Processes and Product Utilization Emissions (IPPU). • Energy • Waste • Others <p>GHG covered: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulphur dioxide (SO₂).</p>	
<p>D. QUANTIFICATION OF THE PARTY'S NDC, OR THE PORTION IN THE RELEVANT NON-GHG INDICATOR, IN A NON-GHG METRIC DETERMINED BY EACH PARTICIPATING PARTY, IF APPLICABLE (PARA. 18(E))</p>	
<p>Not applicable.</p>	
<p>E. FOR A FIRST OR FIRST UPDATED NDC CONSISTING OF POLICIES AND MEASURES THAT IS NOT QUANTIFIED, INFORMATION ON QUANTIFICATION OF THE PARTY'S EMISSION LEVEL RESULTING FROM THE POLICIES AND MEASURES THAT ARE RELEVANT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH AND ITS MITIGATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE CATEGORIES OF ANTHROPOGENIC EMISSIONS BY SOURCES AND REMOVALS BY SINKS, AS IDENTIFIED BY THE FIRST TRANSFERRING PARTY PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 10, AND THE TIME PERIODS COVERED BY THE NDC (PARA. 18(F))</p>	
<p>Not applicable.</p>	

paragraphs 18–19, as relevant. These elements are supplementary elements of information. These elements are referred to across the template as supplementary elements and are written in italic to differentiate them from the initial elements of the outline of the initial and updated initial reports.

⁵ Ibid.

IV. INFORMATION ON EACH COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(G-I), PARA. 19)

Note: For the initial report and the updated initial report, chapters A–H below should be repeated for each cooperative approach. For each further cooperative approach, each participating Party shall submit the information referred to in para. 18(g–i) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 in an updated initial report (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 19)

A. COPY OF THE AUTHORIZATION BY THE PARTICIPATING PARTY (PARA. 18(G))

A copy of Letter of Authorization is found on VERRA website:
<https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/3837>

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(G))

The cooperative approach promotes the adoption of Improved Cook Stoves (ICS) in rural areas of Sierra Leone, where wood fuel is the primary source of energy for cooking. Energy demand for cooking is a major driver of deforestation throughout Sierra Leone, resulting in significant GHG emissions.

The cooperative approach will achieve emissions reductions through the dissemination and use of ICS technology. Specifically, the cooperative approach involves distributing wood stoves with pot-skirts with thermal efficiencies ranging 51.3% with pot skirt and 43.4% without pot skirt. As the ICS burns woodfuel more efficiently than traditional three-stone stoves, this results in less wood being burned and therefore lower CO₂ emissions.

This cooperative approach covers one grouped project registered on Verra with the ID VCS3837, the project is operated and owned by the authorized entity listed herein as DelAgua. The emissions reductions achieved by this cooperative approach will be quantified and certified in accordance with the most recent domestic energy demand Verra methodology VMR0006 v1.1.

Over the duration of this cooperative approach, it is expected to result in 11,041,980 tCO₂e reductions. These emission reductions are authorized both for NDC and OIMP use.

C. DURATION OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(G))

The duration of the LoA is from 22nd February 2023 until the end of the current NDC period in 2030

D. EXPECTED MITIGATION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE DURATION OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(G))

The cooperative approach implemented through the DelAgua cookstove project is expected to deliver annual mitigation outcomes across the NDC2 and NDC 3.0 implementation period (2020–2030). Based on verified stove adoption and fuelwood savings, the achieved emissions reductions to date are 117,989 tCO₂e in 2023 (22nd February 2023-31st December 2023), 191,565 tCO₂e in 2024 (1st January 2024-31st December 2024), 22,257 tCO₂e in 2025 (01st January 2025-31st December 2025), for a total of 331,811tCO₂e.

The expected reductions quantified in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent for 2025-2030, including ERs issued are as follows:

Year	Duration	ER Forecasted & Reductions Issued (tCO ₂ e)
2023	22-February-2023 to 31-December-2023	117,989
2024	01-January-2024 to 31-December-2024	191,565
2025	01-January-2025 to 31-December-2025	22,257
2026	01-January-2026 to 31-December-2026	2,266,895
2027	01-January-2027 to 31-December-2027	2,244,226
2028	01-January-2028 to 31-December-2028	2,227,870
2029	01-January-2029 to 31-December-2029	2,199,566
2030	01-January-2030 to 22-February-2030	310,229
Total (Forecasted)		331,811
Total ERs (Issued + Forecasted)		9,912,408

E. PARTICIPATING PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(G))

The Republic of Sierra Leone

F. AUTHORIZED ENTITIES (PARA. 18(G))

DelAgua Health Sierra Leone (Voluntary) Limited

A copy of Letter of Authorization is found on VERRA website:
<https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/3837>

**G. DESCRIPTION OF ANY ARRANGEMENTS FOR AUTHORIZING USING PARTICIPATING PARTIES AND AUTHORIZED ENTITIES, IF APPLICABLE (PARA. 18(G)) SUPPLEMENTED BY DECISION 4/CMA.6, ANNEX 1)
 - SUPPLEMENTARY ELEMENT OF INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY PARTIES AS RELEVANT⁶**

⁶ Ibid.

The Sierra Leone authorizes Parties and entities to participate in cooperative approaches under Article 6 in accordance with national climate change policies, applicable regulations, and relevant CMA decisions. Authorization is granted where it promotes higher ambition in mitigation and adaptation, contributes to sustainable development, and ensures environmental integrity.

The due diligence is conducted by the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change and approved by the Minister of Environment and climate & Change. Upon approval, a Letter of Authorisation (LOA) is issued and recorded in the registry where mitigation activity is registered (in this case Verra.)

Parties and eligible entities may be authorized during the development of a cooperative approach or apply at any time thereafter. The Sierra Leone shall make publicly available a list of all authorized entities and reports it to the UNFCCC Secretariat in its Initial Report or updated Initial Report.

Authorized entities may include:

6 Parties to the Paris Agreement, and

7 Any natural or legal person eligible to hold, transfer, and use Mitigation Outcomes in accordance with The Sierra Leone’s laws and Article 6 guidance.

**H. TYPE OF COOPERATIVE APPROACH, IF APPLICABLE (PARA. 18(G) SUPPLEMENTED BY DECISION 4/CMA.6, ANNEX 1)
- SUPPLEMENTARY ELEMENT OF INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY PARTIES AS RELEVANT⁷**

Not Applicable

I. DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH ENSURES ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY (PARA. 18(H), TO BE UPDATED BY PARA. 22(B))

1. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods (para. 18(h)(i), to be updated by para. 22(b)(i))

Sierra Leone has implemented robust environmental safeguards to ensure that cooperative approaches do not result in a net increase in global emissions, both within and across NDC implementation periods.

The activities covered by this cooperative approach demonstrate additionality and would not have been implemented without carbon financing.

All mitigation outcomes generated by the cooperative approach are certified and accounted for using a robust methodology and using a conservative below BAU baseline (Verra VMR0006 v1.1 Methodology). The project and all credit issuances are independently reviewed by third party validators. All audit reports

⁷ Ibid.

	<p>and project documentation are made publicly available on Verra.</p> <p>To ensure authorised mitigation outcomes are not double counted, Sierra Leone shall apply and report corresponding adjustments in accordance with all applicable CMA decisions.</p>
<p><i>2. Description of how the cooperative approach avoids locking in emission levels, technologies or practices that are inconsistent with achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (para. 18(h)(i) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant⁸</i></p>	<p>The cooperative approach aligns with the 2025 Sierra Leone National -Energy-Compact-Mission-300.pdf. https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/ce215ab7fd4bf5cd190c8ddb32477fa6-0010012025/original/Sierra-Leone-National-Energy-Compact-Mission-300.pdf which encourage the transition towards modern cooking solutions.</p>
<p><i>3. Description of how the mitigation outcomes from the cooperative approach are shared between the participating Parties (para. 18(h)(i) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>Under the cooperative approach, DelAgua has committed to transferring a share of the mitigation outcomes to the Government of The Sierra Leone as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fixed payment of \$5.00 USD per Verified Carbon Unit (VCU) sold internationally as mitigation outcomes. • An additional payment of 30% of any sale price exceeding \$20.00 USD per VCU. <p>This arrangement ensures that The Sierra Leone receives a fair share of the benefits from the sale of mitigation outcomes, supporting national climate action and sustainable development priorities.</p>
<p><i>4. Description of how it is ensured that decision-making processes in an underlying policy or regulatory framework, and relevant activities, are transparent and inclusive, and whether they include opportunities for public participation and scrutiny, including the standards and procedures for conducting stakeholder consultation, including with civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities (para. 18(h)(i) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>To ensure that decision-making processes under the cooperative approach are transparent, inclusive, and open to public participation, the following procedures are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed between the Government and DelAgua to

⁸ Ibid.

	<p>formalize cooperation, clearly outlining roles, responsibilities, and governance arrangements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to project implementation, comprehensive stakeholder consultations are conducted. These consultations engage a broad range of stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, ensuring that diverse perspectives inform project design and decision-making. • Active local community involvement is prioritized throughout the project cycle. <p>These measures ensure that the cooperative approach aligns with national and international expectations for transparency and stakeholder engagement, supporting equitable and sustainable project outcomes.</p>
<p><i>5. Description of how participation in the cooperative approach and the combination of all cooperative approaches in which the Party participates contributes to the implementation of the Party's nationally determined contribution and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (para. 18(h)(i) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>This cooperative approach supports the implementation of Sierra Leone's NDC directly through the secondary benefits of included activities, and indirectly by providing technical and financial inputs.</p> <p>The activity authorised under this cooperative approach directly contribute to a reduction in emissions in the energy sector, a key target of Sierra Leone's NDC. By reducing communal reliance on natural fuels, the improved cookstoves deployed under this cooperative approach reduce local vulnerability to climate change in support of the adaptation efforts outlined in Sierra Leone's NDC.</p> <p>The revenue that will be shared to the government provide a crucial source of financing for the Sierra Leone's NDC. These funds will be reinvested for</p>

	<p>certain unconditional mitigation projects.</p>
<p>6. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity through robust, transparent governance and the quality of mitigation outcomes, including through conservative reference levels and baselines set in a conservative way and below 'business as usual' emission projections (including by taking into account all existing policies and addressing uncertainties in quantification and potential leakage) (para. 18 (h)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(ii))</p>	<p>The activity authorized under this cooperative approach will be credited and accounted for using Verra Methodology VMR0006 v1.1. This methodology incorporates multiple safeguards to uphold environmental integrity, as detailed in the Project Description (PD) and Monitoring Reports available on the Verra registry.</p>
<p><i>7. Description of how any baseline or reference levels have been established, including how the participating Party has taken into account its nationally determined contribution and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, as well as any relevant climate policies, laws, regulations or targets (para. 18(h)(ii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>At the project level, a comprehensive baseline KPT assessment was conducted by DelAgua in November 2022, during the project registration, covering XXX Sierra Leonean households. The same has been validated by independent VVB and approved by Verra.</p>
<p><i>8. Description of how baseline and reference levels are established ensure they are conservative and below 'business as usual' emission projections, and information on what assumptions have been made (para. 18(h)(ii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>Baseline and reference levels were established in accordance with the applicable methodology as outlined above.</p> <p>The key assumption underpinning these calculations is that without the activity authorised under this cooperative approach, communities within the project area would continue to use prevalent three-stone fire stoves.</p>
<p><i>9. Description of the methodological approaches used for quantifying the mitigation outcomes derived from the cooperative approach (para. 18(h)(ii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>The activity authorised under this cooperative approach will be credited for using Verra Methodology – Energy Efficiency and Fuel Switch Measures in Thermal Applications, v1.1 (VMR0006)</p>
<p><i>10. Description of how uncertainties in the quantification of emission reductions and removals are assessed and how such uncertainties are taken into account (para. 18(h)(ii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</i></p>	<p>Uncertainties in the quantification of emission reductions are assessed and addressed in accordance with the VMR0006 methodology. Key sources of uncertainty include measurement of fuel consumption, emission</p>

factors, stove usage rates, and the fraction of non-renewable biomass (fNRB). These are managed through statistically robust sampling, typically designed to achieve at least 90% confidence with 10% relative precision (or more stringent where required), and through calibration of measurement equipment. Conservative assumptions are applied where data gaps or uncertainties exist, including:

- Applying measured drop-off and stacking rates directly to reduce creditable reductions.
- Using conservative default values for emission factors where direct measurement is not undertaken.
- Applying a 0.95 deduction factor to account for potential leakage.

The fraction of non-renewable biomass (fNRB) was calculated following TOOL30: Calculation of the fraction of non-renewable biomass.

To accurately estimate actual wood savings, Kitchen Performance Tests (KPTs) are conducted to measure fuelwood consumption for baseline stove participants and compared against project stove fuelwood consumption. These tests help reduce uncertainties by providing project-specific performance data, enabling conservative quantification of emission reductions associated with improved cooking technologies.

Furthermore, monitoring surveys are conducted throughout the project to track stove usage, and other relevant parameters, which help to continually refine emission estimates and further reduce uncertainty over time.

All monitoring data, calculations, and uncertainty adjustments are subject to independent third-party verification to ensure that any residual uncertainties do not

	<p>result in overestimation of emission reductions.</p>
<p>11. Description of how the risk of leakage is assessed, and prevented or minimized, and how any remaining leakage will be quantified and deducted in the quantification of mitigation outcomes (para. 18(h)(ii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</p>	<p>The adjustment factor of 0.95 has been applied in the quantification of mitigation outcome to account for leakage emissions associated with the reduced or avoided use of non-renewable biomass.</p>
<p>12. Description of how the cooperative approach is minimizing the risk of non-permanence of mitigation across several NDC periods and how, when reversals of emission reductions or removals occur, the cooperative approach will ensure that these are addressed in full (para. 18(h)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(iii))</p>	<p>The cooperative approach distributes and promotes the sustained use of improved biomass cookstoves, which reduce non-renewable biomass consumption and associated GHG emissions. As an energy efficiency activity, the risk of reversal in the conventional sense – such as the re-release of stored carbon in land-use projects – is negligible, because emission reductions are realized immediately at the point of fuel savings and cannot be retroactively emitted. The primary long-term consideration is persistence of stove adoption, which is addressed through regular monitoring, conservative adjustments for drop-off and stacking behaviour, a leakage deduction factor, and third-party verification. While reversals are highly unlikely, any material under-delivery identified will be quantified and fully compensated within the relevant NDC period through corrective measures such as additional stove deployment, intensified maintenance, or other eligible mitigation measures within the host country.</p>
<p>13. Description of how the risk of non-permanence is assessed under the cooperative approach and minimized across several nationally determined contribution periods, including the frequency and timing of risk assessments, the methodological approaches used for those assessments, the types of risk identified, the likelihood, scale and potential impacts of such risks, and the time-horizons considered (para. 18(h)(iii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</p>	<p>Refer to response 12</p>
<p>14. Description of how reversals are monitored and quantified, and when they occur, how they are addressed in full, including which methodological approaches are used to address reversals, how the responsibility for addressing reversals is assigned, the duration and frequency of monitoring for reversals, and the measures envisaged in case of failures in monitoring (para. 18(h)(iii) supplemented by decision 4/CMA.6, annex 1) - Supplementary element of information to be provided by Parties as relevant</p>	<p>Same as above</p>

<p align="center">J. ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH (PARA. 18(I))</p>	
<p>1. Description of how the cooperative approach minimizes and, where possible, avoids negative environmental, economic and social impacts (para. 18(i)(i), to be updated by para. 22(f))</p>	<p>The cooperative approach is designed to deliver multiple environmental, economic, and social benefits while minimizing potential adverse impacts.</p> <p>Environmentally, it contributes directly to greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions through the promotion of cleaner, more efficient cooking technologies and practices, thereby reducing reliance on non-renewable biomass. This, in turn, decreases deforestation.</p> <p>Economically, the approach lowers household expenditure on fuel by reducing firewood consumption. The reduced need for fuel collection also frees up time that can be redirected towards income-generating activities, education, or other productive uses, thereby improving overall household economic resilience.</p> <p>Socially, the approach mitigates health risks associated with prolonged exposure to smoke from traditional cooking, thereby reducing the incidence of respiratory illnesses and related health issues.</p>
<p>2. Description of how the cooperative approach reflects the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement, acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity (para. 18(i)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(g))</p>	<p>Sierra Leone’s constitution recognises that every citizen has environmental rights including a right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or wellbeing, have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations, and secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources.</p> <p>Special consideration has been taken to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples, local communities, and vulnerable peoples. Based on the precautionary principle, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) has been obtained from all affected communities regardless of their ethnic or national background.</p>

	<p>All affected communities and individuals are able to access a project level grievance mechanism, as well as the independent National Grievance and Redress Mechanism.</p>
<p>3. Description of how the cooperative approach is consistent with the sustainable development objectives of the Party, noting national prerogatives (para. 18(i)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(h))</p>	<p>The cooperative approach is consistent with Sierra Leone’s sustainable objectives as the activity authorized contributes to the following SDGs: SDG-1: No Poverty, SDG-3: Good Health and Well Being, SDG-5: Gender Equality, SDG-7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG-8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG-12: Ensure Sustainable consumption and production pattern and SDG-13: Climate Action. In addition, the cooperative approach aligns with the ‘Recovery Focused National Development Plan 2023-2027’ with reference to Imperative 4, 5 & 6.</p>
<p>4. Description of how the cooperative approach applies any safeguards and limits set out in further guidance from the CMA pursuant to chapter III.D (para. 18(i)(iv), to be updated by para. 22(i))</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>5. Description of how the cooperative approach contributes resources for adaptation pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(v), to be updated by para. 22(j))</p>	<p>Share of proceeds from trading of ITMOs will be allocated to supporting adaptation efforts, the portion of proceeds from the transfer and trade of ITMOs will be directed toward funding climate change adaptation projects in Sierra Leone.</p> <p>The share of proceeds is intended to ensure that resources for adaptation are provided alongside efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The cooperative approach will provide also the financial resources necessary for technology transfer and knowledge sharing.</p>
<p>6. Description of how the cooperative approach delivers overall mitigation in global emissions pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(vi), to be updated by para. 22(k))</p>	<p>While the cooperative approach does not entail any mandatory cancellation towards overall mitigation in overall emissions, Sierra Leone’s carbon market regulations and infrastructure</p>

	support voluntary OMGE retirements.
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Template version history

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date of issuance</i>	<i>Description</i>
02.0	15 April 2025	Revision to include the supplementary elements of information in initial report and any updated initial report as per decision 4/CMA.6, annex I.
01.1	10 May 2023	Extension of the head table containing the details of the submission.
01.0	31 January 2023	Initial publication of the template.

Mechanism: Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement

Mandate: Decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (initial report); Decision 6/CMA.4, annex V (Outline of the initial report and updated initial report); Decision 4/CMA.6, annex I.

Function: Reporting

Process: Party submission of initial and updated initial report

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