

Consultative Workshop on Land Reclamation and Alternative Land Use

Satta Kumba Amara Resource Centre, Koidu, Kono District
Sierra Leone



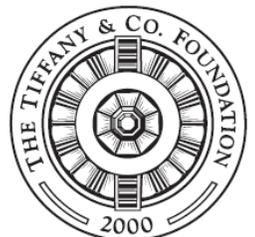
Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability

Executive Summary

February 2007



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



The **Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability (FESS)** is a public policy foundation established to advance knowledge and provide effective solutions to key environmental security concerns around the world. FESS conducts extensive field research in combination with data analysis to produce policy-oriented reports and recommendations that address environmental risks to stability.

President: Ray Simmons

Executive Director: Darci Glass-Royal

This report was produced in 2007 by the Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability. The report was prepared by principal writer, Estelle Levin, in collaboration with Ellen Suthers and with editorial assistance from Kelley Lubovich.

Cover photo: Jeffrey Stark. Artisanal mining pits in Tankoro Chiefdom, Kono District, Sierra Leone.

Acknowledgement

FESS would like to thank the Tiffany & Co. Foundation and the U.S. Agency for International Development for their generous support.

ACRONYMS

ADAGMA	Alluvial Diamond and Gold Miners Association
CKY	Coalition of Kono Youths
DACDF	Diamond Area Community Development Fund
FESS	Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability
GOSL	Government of Sierra Leone
IDMP	Integrated Diamond Management Program
KDC	Kono District Council
KNSCC	Koidu/New Sembehun City Council
KOWONET	Kono Women's Organization Network
MAFS	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
MMR	Ministry of Mineral Resources
NMJD	Network Movement for Justice and Development
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Kono District has been the principal hub for diamond mining in Sierra Leone since the minerals were discovered in alluvial deposits there in 1930. Of the fourteen chiefdoms in the Kono District, six traditionally have been considered diamondiferous. Recently, four additional chiefdoms were identified as diamondiferous. Much of the land already has been mined extensively, and many mined sites now are virtually unproductive, hazardous to community health and safety, and a waste of potentially arable land. The issue of land reclamation is a timely one in this region. Over the years, Koidu has grown from a small agricultural village with just a few hundred inhabitants to become a major population center and the capital of Kono District, with about 80,000 inhabitants. There is local awareness of the need for environmental reclamation in many parts of the Kono District, notably in the vicinity of Koidu town where numerous tracts of land have been damaged by mining.

The Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability (FESS) is a public policy organization that works with governments, civil society organizations, and international donor organizations to address environmental issues that have implications for political stability, social peace, livelihoods, and sustainable development. Supported by a grant from the Tiffany & Co. Foundation's Environment Program and core funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), FESS is initiating a project to work with diamond mining communities in Sierra Leone to improve environmental conditions after mining and to increase livelihood opportunities. A primary objective of the project is to establish one or more demonstration sites to serve as models of effective and sustainable land reclamation. The overall goal is to define and implement a process for conducting environmental reclamation and establishing alternative uses for mined-out land that may be replicated throughout Sierra Leone and implemented in other alluvial diamond mining communities in Africa.

In the interest of initiating a community-based, participatory project on land reclamation, FESS has been working to develop a body of knowledge about Sierra Leonean diamond mining communities and an understanding of local orientations toward land reclamation. Between November 2006 and February 2007, FESS held a series of consultative meetings with national and local leaders in Freetown and in the Kono and Kenema Districts to discuss land remediation and explore possibilities for implementing a project. Through these discussions, it became clear that in order to have an effective and sustainable land reclamation project, there must be shared understanding and commitments from all stakeholders and broad-based support from within the communities at large.

In February, 2007, FESS conducted multistakeholder workshops in Koidu, Kono District (February 8–9, 2007) and in Tongo Fields, Kenema District (February 10–11, 2007) to assess the interest in and feasibility of implementing a land reclamation project in these areas. Each of the workshops included approximately 45 invited participants who represented a range of stakeholder groups. The composition of the workshop in Koidu was somewhat different from that in Tongo Fields, since the former community is comprised of several chiefdoms and the latter is comprised of a single chiefdom, Lower Bambara. This is one factor that accounts for the two workshops taking on different characters while the program agendas were essentially the same. Another factor is that the facilitators made a few adjustments in the structuring of activities in the Tongo Fields workshop based on lessons learned from the Koidu workshop. The objectives of the sessions remained the same for each workshop. In Koidu, the workshop was conducted in Krio and English, whereas in Tongo Fields, the workshop was conducted in Krio, with Mande and English translations for clarification when necessary. To ensure that each report is relevant to the respective workshop participants, as well as to provide the opportunity to compare outcomes, each workshop report is published as a separate document.

Each workshop consisted of two full days of plenary and small-group discussions. Participants shared ideas and negotiated differences of opinion as they worked to build a common understanding of what land reclamation might mean for their communities and what would be required of the various stakeholders for a land reclamation initiative to be successful. The workshop facilitation methods aided in the process of consensus building, where checking and rechecking at incremental points in the program ensured that what was reported and officially recorded did, in fact, reflect fully and accurately the contributions that individuals made in the various discussions. In this manner, an atmosphere of trust and cooperation was developed such that by the end of each workshop, representatives of the various stakeholder groups came forward freely to make and sign detailed commitments on behalf of their constituencies in support of land reclamation in their communities. The workshops not only served as exercises in project planning, but also contributed to building experience in community decision-making along the lines of democratic principles. This is a significant achievement and a strong first step in the implementation of a project intended to reclaim mined-out land through broad-based community support and participation for the benefit of the community as a whole.

In the interest of accurate reporting in this executive summary as well as the full report of the workshop, the text retains titles used by participants to refer to ministries associated with issues of land and environment. In some instances, these titles are either outdated or only partially correct. The institutions whose functions are relevant to land reclamation include the Ministry of Land and Country Planning and the National Commission for the Environment and Forestry, the result of a recent reorganization.

The workshop program is attached as Appendix I; the participant list is attached as Appendix II; and the document of formal commitments made by community leaders in support of land reclamation is attached as Appendix III.

KOIDU WORKSHOP

The Koidu workshop participants represented a broad base of stakeholder groups including: paramount, section, and town chiefs of three chiefdoms; district and town/city councils; youth, women's, and artisanal miners' organizations; government ministries; the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); a non-governmental organization; and radio and newspaper agencies. The workshop was structured to meet a series of objectives that worked toward the goal of having representatives from the group of participants identify and formally acknowledge their various degrees of commitment and support for a project of land remediation in their communities.

Objective One: To develop a common understanding of the concept of land reclamation and consider its importance to the community.

When asked in a plenary session to share their perceptions about the meaning of land reclamation, Koidu participants gave responses that revealed two divergent opinions. For some participants, the purpose of reclamation was to return the land to its original state, as it existed prior to mining. As one participant pointed out, this could mean returning it to a state that would not be useful to the community. On the other hand, the majority of participants interpreted land reclamation to include the idea that land is transformed into some other economically or socially productive use that would benefit the community at large and not just certain groups in the community. In the same vein, some participants saw land reclamation as being linked to sustainable development and conflict prevention.

To gauge the level of importance attached to land reclamation in the Koidu community and to increase understanding of the ways in which the community may be positively or negatively disposed toward reclaiming land, the facilitator asked the group: 1) What does the term "land reclamation" mean to you?, 2)

What do you see as positive and negative incentives to doing land reclamation?, and 3) What might be the consequences of not doing land reclamation? Responses were the following:

Benefits of land reclamation are that it may

- Build food security through increased agricultural production.
- Create opportunities for marginalized groups to access land.
- Restore authority to original landowners.
- Increase the monetary value of the land.
- Reduce environmental health hazards.
- Create safe playgrounds for children.
- Create employment.
- Provide more secure livelihoods for former miners.
- Increase the skills and capacity of youths to find employment.
- Allow for better planning for development.
- Bring local and global ecological benefits.
- Prevent conflict and enhance peace and stability.
- Protect traditional activities such as indigenous medicines.
- Improve aesthetic beauty of the land.
- Appease God.

Disadvantages of land reclamation

- The outcomes of reclamation depend on what land is identified and how the reclamation is done. There can be negative consequences to selecting land that is not agreed upon by the community as mined-out and that has physical features (e.g., plant species, sacred associations or natural boundary markers) of traditional value to community members.

Objective Two: To identify the challenges of land reclamation in alluvial diamond mining communities.

In small-group discussions, participants identified various challenges associated with land reclamation according to five categories: political/structural, economic, social, cultural, and technical. Each group was asked to take one of the categories and list all of the challenges they saw as falling into that category. The groups reported the following:

Political challenges

Central and local government policies associated with decentralization and the devolution of functions to the local governmental bodies constitute the main political challenge, according to Koidu participants. Additional concerns related to: the political will to enforce regulations and policies; roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders; issues of ownership and beneficiation; continued discrimination against women; vested interests; and competing interests between individuals, authorities, and the community or between companies and the communities in terms of access to and management of land.

Economic challenges

Issues of governance and responsibility for financing and managing the reclamation itself were identified as principal economic challenges. Economic concerns were raised with regard to reclamation of land that has been mined by companies; that is, participants anticipated that this land would be more costly to reclaim because it tends to be more damaged from continuous mining over a long period of time and from the use of

heavy equipment in some areas. Other concerns included the importance of: identifying land that is appropriate for reclamation; raising awareness among groups (e.g., youths and chiefs) who may believe that reclamation will adversely affect their economic opportunities; and highlighting the fact that while the Government of Sierra Leone has begun its own reclamation program (the Youth Employment Scheme, or YES), there is still ample need for organizations such as FESS to assist communities in the reclamation of land after diamond mining.

Social challenges

Land ownership was seen as a social challenge. It was suggested that conflict around ownership can be minimized by doing proper sensitization of all parties, having documentation between the chiefdom authorities and the organization doing the reclamation, introducing protocols for handling ownership disputes, and minimizing the involvement of Freetown (that is, the Government of Sierra Leone). Other social issues included being open to both social and economic uses for reclaimed land and recognizing the sustainable opportunities that agriculture can offer to the youth.

Cultural challenges

Concerns relating to land reclamation expressed by Koidu participants hinged principally on the impact that decades of mining and in-migration have had on the culture of the Kono people. Participants questioned whether reclamation of the land can in any way assist in the restoration of Kono cultural values and activities. Mining has removed traditional landmarks, boundaries, and sacred bush (forest); it has brought 'strangers' into Kono and prompted Kono people to leave the area; and it has disrupted traditional cultural practices. It was suggested by one participant that reclaimed land could be used for the practice of cultural traditions and could be restored as Poro secret society bush (forest) where this has been destroyed. Not all participants agreed that this sort of restorative approach was preferable to using the land for economic or social gain.

Technical challenges

A number of technical challenges were identified as being specific to the process of land reclamation, most of which centered on having the knowledge to do reclamation well. Participants suggested that technical challenges can be averted by: doing good planning; matching reclamation techniques to the agreed-upon future use for the land and the type of mining (mechanical vs. manual) that had occurred on the land; and engaging people with the appropriate expertise to assist so the reclamation can be done well.

Objective Three: To develop an integrated approach to addressing the challenges of land reclamation.

After having identified challenges associated with land reclamation, participants were asked in a plenary session to take each set of challenges in turn and consider how to integrate them into a workable approach for undertaking a reclamation project. For political challenges, the following solutions were proposed:

Solutions to political challenges

- All stakeholders must be involved in decisions around land reclamation.
- The process must be monitored and evaluated along the way.
- The land must be accurately identified (as mined-out).
- People with vested interests must put the community first by divesting themselves of the land. Chiefs, local councils, and the Government of Sierra Leone were identified as the key actors to address the political challenges.

Time constraints precluded having a discussion of this nature for each of the other four challenges. Lessons learned from this part of the workshop informed the Tongo Fields workshop facilitation at this point in the program, resulting in a more comprehensive picture of an integrated approach to dealing with the challenges of land reclamation.

Objective Four: To define a process whereby alluvial diamond mining communities may go about identifying land for reclamation.

Participants randomly assigned to four groups were asked to consider how land could be identified for reclamation, by what actors taking what responsibilities, and through what steps in a process. The results of these discussions, shared in a plenary session, were as follows:

Indicators that land is mined-out and suitable for reclamation

- An absence of gravel in the area.
- An unusual topography with the presence of many pits.
- Depopulation or abandonment of the mining area.
- A decrease of mining activities in the area.
- The existence of other activities such as gardening in the area.
- A decrease in or absence of demand for licenses in the area.
- Evidence that licenses are no longer being issued on that land by the Ministry of Mineral Resources.
- Evidence that the chiefdom council is no longer receiving surface rents for the land.
- A consensus among the key players that the land is mined-out.

Key actors involved in identifying the land

- Miners/diggers.
- Chiefs (paramount, section, and town chiefs).
- Person tasked with demarcating mining land in the chiefdom.
- Local councils.
- Youths.
- Mining communities.
- Former tenants who occupied the land before mining began.
- Environmentalists.
- Central government representatives, in particular from the Mines Division and Geological Survey of the Ministry of Mineral Resources (MMR), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), and the Ministry of Lands and Country Planning.
- Some participants said that the police should be included as key actors. After a plenary discussion, participants agreed that the police should be made aware of the plans to reclaim land, but that they had no part to play in actually identifying that land.

Step-by-step process to obtain land for reclamation

- Visit the Ministry of Mineral Resources for technical information.
- Hold consultative meetings with the local authorities, including the chiefs (the paramount chief first) and the town, city, and/or district councillors, to get their approval.
- Visit the sites that have been proposed for reclamation.
- Hold a community meeting to consult and sensitize the community.

- Seek technical advice from the relevant ministries and experts in relation to the intended land use(s) proposed by the community.

Responsibilities and/or contributions of the key actors and others to obtain land for reclamation

- Chiefs provide accurate information; identify mined-out areas; make land available for reclamation; inform and sensitize the affected communities; and ensure protection of the land from any encroachment, for example, by forming and enforcing bylaws to forbid mining on reclaimed land.
- Councillors inform and sensitize the affected communities; arrange consultative meetings with the affected communities; coordinate and monitor the reclamation process; give advice on development; and reinforce the chieftdom bylaws.
- Prior tenants must show willingness to give up the land.
- Central government ministries, including the Ministry of Mineral Resources (MMR), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), and the Ministry of Lands and Country Planning interpret policy matters with regard to mining, reclamation, and the intended land use. They also have a duty to ensure that mined-out areas are reclaimed. The MMR helps identify land for reclamation, gives technical advice on whether the land is mined-out or not, and stops issuing mining licenses for land that is to be reclaimed. The MAFS gives technical advice on the intended land use if it involves agriculture. For example, the MAFS may make a soil survey to determine the most appropriate agricultural use of the land, facilitate the development of the land for agricultural purposes, and oversee the cultivation of the land. The Ministry of Lands and Country Planning may give technical advice on the intended use and may also provide financing through a fund established with the rehabilitation fees collected for mining licenses.
- Youths provide the labor for doing the reclamation and help maintain law and order.
- Miners and diggers maintain law and order; identify mined-out areas, either by their activities or through consultation; and provide labor for doing the reclamation.

Objective Five: To solicit community input into other economically viable uses of land in alluvial diamond mining communities.

After having defined a process for identifying land for remediation, participants divided into two groups: one to identify the mechanics of how to go about reclaiming the land and the other to consider how to reach decisions regarding viable use(s) to which the land could be put after reclamation. The group reports and plenary discussion elicited the following points:

Mechanics of land reclamation

- Assess the nature of the land.
- Assess the size of the land.
- Identify the type of equipment or tools needed and obtain these.
- Employ the required resources: human labor (skilled and unskilled), materials (machines, fuel, shovels, hoes, food), and financing.

Key decision-makers and their responsibilities and contributions

- Ministry for Mineral Resources, who provide policy interpretation and assistance with the implementation.
- Ministry for Agriculture and Food Security, who conduct a land assessment and needs survey and participate in the implementation.
- Ministry of Lands, Housing and Environment, who bring technical knowledge and expertise.

- Local authorities (chiefs and local councils), who facilitate the process and make decisions regarding the land use.
- Youths, who provide the labor.
- Women, who (in the view of at least one participant) should be given training and the opportunity to do jobs that might traditionally be seen as jobs for men, such as driving heavy earth-moving machines.

Issues related to decision-making on alternative land uses

- In order to prevent boundary conflicts and maximize efficiency, guidance should be sought from the original plan of the land, which shows the land as it was prior to mining.
- Reclamation will be driven by the community for the benefit of the community as a whole. On a practical level, this means that a project management committee, involving women and youth representation, will direct the reclamation and the conversion of the land for the desired purpose. This committee should have management training.
- Bylaws and a memorandum of understanding will be developed and shared.
- There will be a separate team and mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the project management committee (using the memorandum of understanding as a guiding document); and
- The established alternative use for the land will benefit the community at-large and not just individuals.

Objective Six: To determine the commitment of alluvial diamond mining communities to land reclamation and alternative land use practices.

Two to three leaders from each of several community-based stakeholder groups (chiefs, women, elders, councils, youth, and locally resident employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and the Ministry of Mineral Resources) met separately during Session Five of the workshop to discuss and reach agreement on the commitments they were willing to make on behalf of the groups they represent with respect to reclaiming land in their communities. In the final plenary session, the leaders of each group came forward in turn to read aloud the list of commitments they had created for their respective groups. After each reading of commitments, the other members of the groups being represented were given an opportunity to make additions or clarifications, and then the floor was opened for comments. After the facilitator read aloud the finalized list of commitments for each group, the leaders of that group came forward to sign a commitments document. The Koidu stakeholder commitments document was signed by fifteen community leaders on behalf of the seven stakeholder groups.

CONCLUSION

The Consultative Workshop on Land Reclamation and Alternative Use held in Koidu, Kono District on February 8–9, 2007 engaged about 45 community leaders in a process to consider what land reclamation means, identify potential benefits of land reclamation, identify challenges and possible solutions for the challenges associated with land reclamation, define the process for identifying land suitable for reclamation and for deciding the future use for the reclaimed land, and to build commitments among the various stakeholders to support the reclamation of mined-out land in the Kono District.

The workshop was an exercise in community sensitization and participation in decision-making around planning for environmental reclamation. The participants negotiated agreements on challenging aspects of land reclamation as it relates to land ownership, the need for good local governance of the reclamation process, and the goal of ensuring equitable beneficiation from both the reclamation process itself and from the use of the land after reclamation. Participants recognized that land reclamation has the potential to increase food security, address scarcity of productive land, mitigate hazardous conditions on mined-out land, and contribute to the prevention of conflict through economic and social development in the region.

The Koidu workshop provided a process through which community members and their leaders and team members of FESS reached a common understanding of what reclamation of mined-out land would involve in this area of Sierra Leone. The workshop constituted an important step in creating political backing for a land reclamation project, as demonstrated by the signed commitments made by the stakeholders in the final session. The culmination of the workshop in the form of a commitments ceremony was a clear indication to the Koidu community and the FESS team that there is both broad-based backing for a land reclamation project and an identified mechanism of community cooperation that will help ensure its success as an effective and sustainable effort toward improving environmental conditions and stimulating productive non-mining livelihood activities in the Kono District.

APPENDIX I: KOIDU WORKSHOP PROGRAM

DAY 1

Opening Remarks

Time	Activity	Person
09:00 – 09:05	Prayer, Welcome, and Introduction of Chairperson	Daniel Gbondo
09:05 – 09:25	Opening Remarks – Chairperson, Mayor, Koidu/New Sembehun City Council	Mrs. Mary Musa
09:25 – 09:35	Statement – District Council	Sahr Tamba
09:35 – 09:45	Statement – Paramount Chief	P C Paul Ngaba Saquee V
09:45 – 10:00	Statement – FESS	Jeffrey Stark
10:00 – 10:05	Closing	Daniel Gbondo

Workshop

10:10 – 11:10	<u>Session 1</u> – Objective 1: Discuss the concept of land reclamation and alternative land use and share knowledge about its importance in alluvial diamond mining communities. <i>Ellen Suthers</i>
11:10 – 11:25	TEA BREAK
11:25 – 12:55	<u>Session 2</u> – Objective 2: Identify challenges associated with land reclamation in alluvial diamond mining fields. <i>John Kanu</i>
12:55 – 13:40	LUNCH
13:40 – 14:10	<u>Session 2</u> (continued). <i>John Kanu</i>
14:10 – 15:40	<u>Session 3</u> – Objective 3: Develop an integrated approach to addressing the challenges of land reclamation. <i>John Kanu</i>
15:40 – 15:50	BREAK
15:50 – 16:30	<u>Session 3</u> (continued).
16:30	END OF DAY 1

DAY 2

- 09:00 – 10:00 Recapitulation of the previous day’s discussions.
John Kanu
- 10:00 – 11:30 Session 4 – Objective 4: Provide opportunities for people living in alluvial diamond mining communities to be involved in the process of identifying land for reclamation.
Daniel Gbondo
- 11:30 – 11:45 TEA BREAK
- 11:45 – 12:15 Session 4 (continued).
Daniel Gbondo
- 12:15 – 13:45 Session 5 – Objective 5: Solicit community input into other economically viable uses of land in alluvial diamond mining communities.
Daniel Gbondo
- 13:45 – 14:30 LUNCH
- 14:30 – 15:00 Session 5 (continued).
Daniel Gbondo
- 15:00 – 16:30 Session 6 – Objective 6: Determine the commitment of alluvial diamond mining communities to land reclamation and alternative land use practice.
Daniel Gbondo
- 16:30 – 16:35 BREAK
- 16:35 – 17:00 Session 6 (continued).
Daniel Gbondo
- 17:00 – 17:15 Recapitulation of workshop and closing remarks.
Jeffrey Stark, Ellen Suthers, Daniel Gbondo

APPENDIX II: KOIDU WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

No.	Name	Designation	Organization/Institution
0.	Tamba Amara	Chairman	Alluvial Diamond and Gold Miners Association (ADAGMA)
0.	Komba Kainjama Suku-Tamba		ADAGMA
0.	Hannah K. Charles	Financial Secretary	Coalition of Kono Youths (CKY)
0.	Rebecca Y. Kamara	Deputy Chairperson	CKY
0.	Sahr Nyamba Ngauja	Secretary General	CKY
0.	Edward Abu Musa	Chairman, Works and Management	CKY
0.	Mohamed Jabbie	Chairman	CKY
0.	P C Alhaji S.C.N. Kono-Bundor	Chairman	Council of Kono Paramount Chiefs
0.	Finda Moiwa		Eastern Radio, Kono District
0.	Ibrahim Tamba Fanday	Reporter	Eastern Radio, Kono District
0.	Sia Foyoh	Reporter	Eastern Radio, Kono District
0.	Fengai Bockarie	Section Chief	Gbenseh Chiefdom
0.	Ansumana Baba Turay	Project Coordinator	IDMP/PDA/USAID
0.	Joe Fayia Nyuma	Chief Administrator	Koidu/New Sembehun City Council (KNSCC)
0.	Daisy Bona	Councilor	KNSCC
0.	Komba Timothy Matturie	Deputy Mayor and Chair, Development Committee	KNSCC
0.	Rev. M. K. Gbundema	Chairman, Lands and Environment Committee	KNSCC
0.	Mary Musa	Mayor and Councilor	KNSCC
0.	Sahr M. K. Gbondo	Councilor	Kono District Council (KDC)
0.	Komba N. C. Bockarie	Councilor	KDC
0.	Tamba A. Mbayoh	Councilor	KDC
0.	Komba David Sandi	Deputy Chairman and Councilor	KDC
0.	Moses Amara	Councilor	KDC
0.	Sahr Tamba	Chairman and Councilor	KDC
0.	Sia Alice Bockarie-Torto	Chief Administrator	KDC
0.	Tamba Allieu	Deputy Chief Administrator	KDC
0.	Mariama Baryoh	Chairlady	Kono Women's Organization Network (KOWONET)
0.	Admire Yorpoi	Women In Need of Development Representative	KOWONET

0.	Isatu Njebuva	Kono District Cooperative Representative	KOWONET
0.	Teresa Aruna	Basa yi Wandima Women's Cooperative	KOWONET
0.	Veronica Kumba Dauda	Secretary General	KOWONET
0.	Emmanuel Nyokeh		Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Kono District
0.	Tamba P. Bona	Head, Land and Water Development Unit	MAFS, Kono District
0.	Salihun Yayah	Forest Ranger and Farmer Field School Officer	MAFS, Kono District
0.	Jonathan Sharkah	Mines Engineer, Kono District	Ministry of Mineral Resources
0.	Patrick Tongu	Coordinator	Network Movement for Justice and Development
0.	Sylvester Banga	Reporter	New Citizen Newspaper
0.	Edna Bondu Bona		Nimikoro Chiefdom
0.	Sahr Allieu Kanesie		Nimikoro Chiefdom
0.	Abdulai M. S. Kamara	Chairman	Nimikoro Development Committee
0.	Dr. T. Alpha Kpetewama	Chairman	Tankoro Agricultural Committee/Peace Diamond Alliance
0.	Esther Kandeh	Women's Group Leader	Tankoro Chiefdom
0.	Fatu Yongai		Tankoro Chiefdom
0.	P C Paul Garba Saquee	Paramount Chief	Tankoro Chiefdom
0.	Sahr Bundor	Youth Leader	Tankoro Chiefdom
0.	Christine Sheckler	Country Program Coordinator	USAID

FACILITATORS

Daniel Gbondo - FESS, Freetown, Sierra Leone
John Kanu - IDMP/PDA/USAID, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Jeffrey Stark - FESS, Falls Church, VA, USA
Ellen Suthers - FESS, Falls Church, VA, USA
Norberto Villar - FESS, Falls Church, VA, USA

RAPPORTEUR

Estelle Levin - FESS Consultant, Cambridge, England

CONTACT PERSONS

FESS Field Representative - Daniel Gbondo 076.536367
FESS Program Manager - Ellen Suthers 076.578157
FESS Director of Research and Studies - Jeffrey Stark 076.578158

APPENDIX III: KOIDU STAKEHOLDER COMMITMENTS

Consultative Workshop on Land Reclamation and Alternative Land Use

February 8–9, 2007
Satta Kumba Amara Resource Centre
Koidu Town, Kono District

KOIDU STAKEHOLDER COMMITMENTS, February 9, 2007

Chiefs

- We the chiefs will be ready to give land to FESS for reclamation.
- We the chiefs will be committed to resolve issues that arise.
- We shall inform our communities to raise funds for the support of the youths.
- We are willing to work with all stakeholders.
- We will bring together all local family land owners and sensitise them about the reclamation and gains/benefits to us.
- We chiefs will monitor all activities and enforce the bylaws.
- We chiefs present here will take all the above commitments to the Council of Paramount Chiefs for discussion and their hopeful agreement.

Chief Fengai Bockarie
Section Chief, Gbenseh

Chief Sahr Allen Kanesie
Senior Town Chief, Njaiama,
Nimikoro

Women (KOWONET)

- We will advocate for the involvement of women in land reclamation processes (decision-making).
- We will facilitate the mobilisation and sensitisation of women to be actively involved in the implementation processes, especially in providing labour, through cooking, fetching water and other agricultural activities (including farming, animal husbandry).
- We will provide first aid treatment for labourers.
- We will ensure benefits received from land reclamation are equally and fairly distributed.
- We will ensure women's right to protection at the operation site, especially no violence against women, no sexual exploitation, and no abuse and misuse of power by stakeholders and donors.
- We will provide basic skills training for women in identified areas.
- We will conduct adult literacy.
- We will involve grassroots women in income generation activities, such as microcredit and vegetable gardening.

Mariama Bayoh
Chairlady

Veronica K. Dauda
Secretary General

Community Elders

Our commitment to land reclamation and to alternative land use is demonstrated as follows:

- We have participated in the two-day workshop.
- We are willing and ready to provide land for reclamation and be a major stakeholder in the process.
- We are prepared to sensitize and secure the cooperation and participation of our communities in all stages of the process.
- We are willing to help establish appropriate guidelines for equitable use for reclaimed lands.
- We will ensure the benefits derived from the use of reclaimed lands are fairly distributed among the target beneficiaries.
- We will ensure that gender and other issues, conflicts associated with land reclamation are fairly and satisfactorily addressed.
- We will ensure that the alternative use of land maximises the benefits accruing to beneficiary communities.
- We will ensure that reclaimed land will not be used to promote private interests.
- We will ensure that if reclaimed land is not used for the approved purposes, it shall be reverted back to the chiefs for reassignment.
- We will ensure that the process is all-inclusive and self-sustaining in the longer term.
- We will establish appropriate bylaws for reclaimed land use to prevent abuse.

Dr. Komba Alpha Kpetewama
(Tankoro Chiefdom)

Abdulai M. S. Kamara
(Nimikoro Chiefdom)

Mrs Fatu Yongai
(Tankoro Chiefdom)

Local (District and Town) Councils

- We will support the initiative of land reclamation and alternative land use.
- We will participate fully in the designing and enforcement of bylaws and policies on land reclamation and alternative uses.
- We will sensitise the local communities on the importance of land reclamation.
- We will design and implement projects on land reclamation.
- We will monitor and evaluate all projects on land reclamation and alternative land use within councils' jurisdictions.
- We will fund future projects on land reclamation.
- We will in some cases decide on what activities are to be carried out or decide the alternative land use.
- We will with the commitments made here on behalf of Kono District Council and the Koidu/ New Sembahun City Council, we as councillors vow that all commitments will be fully accorded and the documents will be taken and presented here to our councils where the chairman or mayor and chief administrators and councillors will consider giving clear approval of our undertakings here this afternoon.

Tamba A. Mbayo
Kono District Council

Komba T. Matturie
Koidu/New Sembahun City Council

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

- We will provide technical manpower before and during implementation.
- We will organise training programmes for communities in the management of reclaimed land for agricultural use to ensure sustainability (food security).
- We will provide viable seeds and other planting materials for agricultural programmes on reclaimed land.
- We will provide technical services for the use of reclaimed land, e.g., afforestation, reforestation, fish pond construction, water control management, horticulture, etc.

Emmanuel Nyukeh
District Forest Officer

Tamba P. Bona
Head, Land and Water Development

Coalition of Kono Youth

- We will accept the decision when the technical team declare the land as mined-out.
- We will take the lead in the sensitisation of the reclamation process.
- We will mobilise labour, both skilled and unskilled.
- We will take a role in monitoring and evaluation.
- We will help in the protection of reclaimed land.
- We will use the land for alternative purposes, e.g., farming, recreational centres, skills training centres etc.
- We will take part in the decision-making process with regards reclamation of mined-out areas.
- We will commit that this document will be taken back to the youth forum for final approval.

Mohammed Jabbie
Chairman

Sahr Bundor
Tankoro Chiefdom Youth Leader

Sahr Nyamba Ngaujah
Secretary General

Ministry of Mineral Resources

On behalf of the MMR, I, Jonathan A. Sharkah, Mines Engineer, express the commitment to provide all the necessary technical input into the land reclamation process as the need arises.

Jonathan A. Sharkah
Mines Engineer

NOTES

NOTES



FESS

U.S. Office

8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 101W
Falls Church, VA, 22042
Tel: +1 (703) 560-8290
Fax: +1 (703) 560-1645

Sierra Leone Office

2 Cockle Bay Lane
Off Aberdeen Road
Freetown , Sierra Leone