



*GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone
Office of the President
21 Old Railway Line, Brookfields*

COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BAMAKO, BASEL, ROTTERDAM AND THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS IN SIERRA LEONE

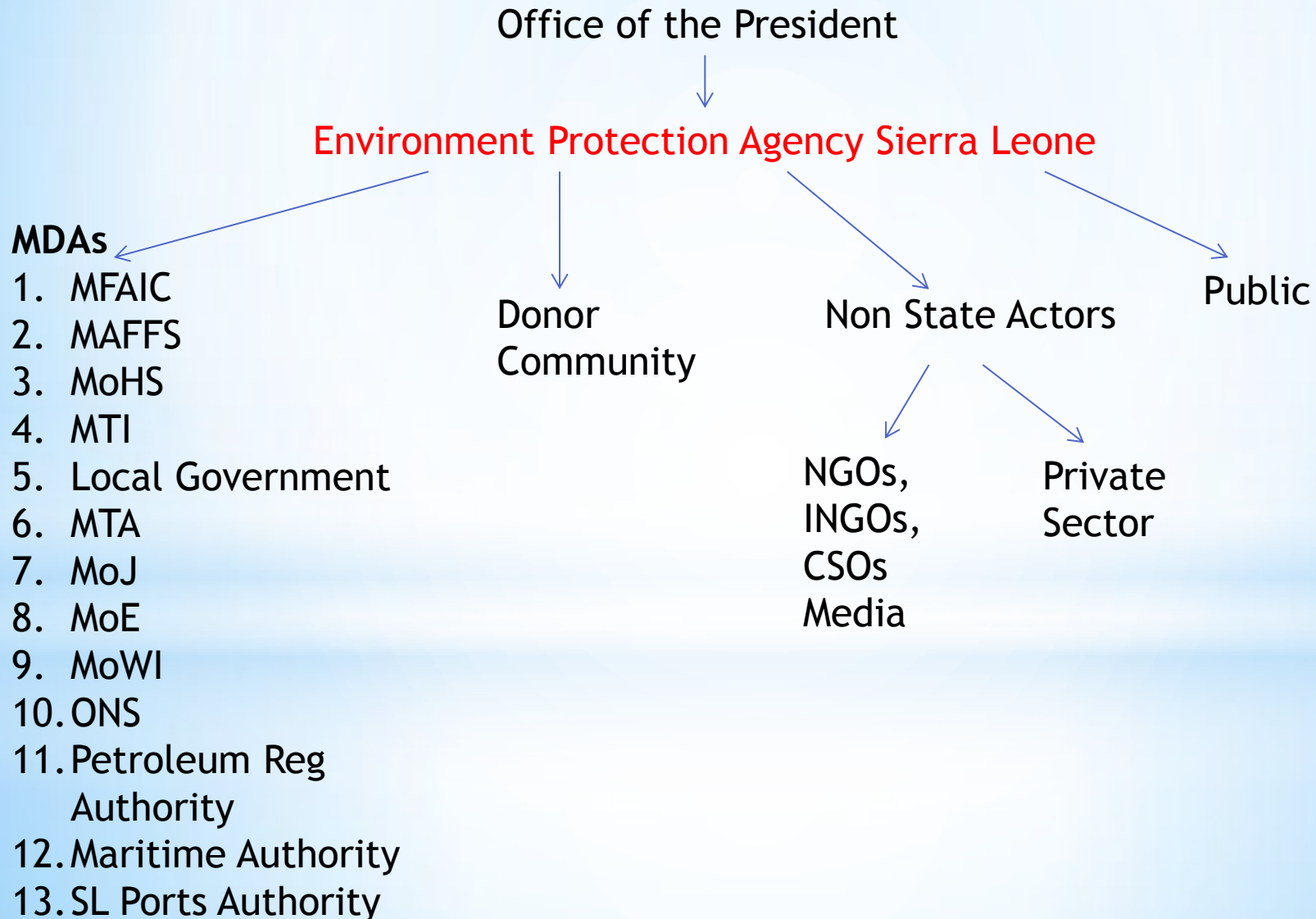
**Presented by:
Sierra Leone Delegation**

DECEMBER, 2016

OUTLINE

- National Framework for the Implementation of MEAs
- The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone
- Current Status of Sierra Leone with MEAs (Bamako, Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm)
- Case Studies (Stockholm Convention)
- GAPS & Challenges
- Conclusion

National Framework for the Implementation of MEAs



The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone

Tips:

1. Created by an Act of Parliament on the 11th September, 2008 Titled “ **The Environment Protection Act, 2008**” amended in 2010.
2. Administrative Structure

Office of the President

Executive Board of Directors

Executive Chairperson

Director

Policy Planning and Research

Field Operations and Extension

Natural Resource Management

Climate Change Secretariat

Finance and Administration

Chemical Control and Management

Compliance and Enforcement

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

Tips:

3. Mandates

- **Environmental policy making and planning:** The Agency formulates national environmental policies.
- **Overall coordination with relevant MDAs:** The Agency is in charge of coordination of all environmental management programs.
- **Enforcement and Compliance:** The Agency initiates legislative proposals, standards and guidelines on the environment in accordance with the Act.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment Licensing:** The Agency reviews and approves environmental impact assessments and statements submitted in accordance with the Act

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

Tips:

3. Mandates Contd.

- **Environmental Integration:** The Agency ensures the integration of environmental concerns in overall national planning by developing modalities and maintaining linkages or partnerships with relevant Government Ministries, departments and Agencies
- **Environmental Research:** The Agency promotes Research, Surveys and other environmental related studies for the formulation of sound government policies.
- **To prescribe standards and guidelines:**
Relating to ambient air, water and soil quality, the pollution of air, water, land and other forms of environmental pollution including the discharge of wastes and the control of toxic substances;
- **Focal Point of All Environmental Issues:**
The Agency serves as the Focal point for all Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

Tips:

4. Activities

- Issuance of Environmental Impact Assessment Licences
- Conduct Research
- Monitoring environmental impacts of the activities of companies
- Ensure compliance with laid down environmental laws
- Investigation of environmental complaints from the public
- Implement of MEAs
- Developing environmental policies for the protection of human health and the environment
- Maintains data on environmental quality
- Raise awareness on environmental management
- Collaboration with other MDAs, CSOs, CBOs, NGOs, Media etc on environmental management
- Support cross-cutting issues like support to women and youth groups.

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

Tips:

5. Tools for effective management of Chemicals and hazardous Substances

- Establishment of a Chemicals Management Committee
 - Membership includes (MoH, MAFFS, MTI, Civil Society and University,
 - Enforcement Agencies)
- Border Control -
 - Testing equipment for ODS/Physical Inspection
- Declaration for Import/Export
 - Being implemented jointly by Agency & NRA
- Joint Monitoring and Evaluating Chemical and hazardous waste Storage sites
 - Carried out in collaboration with the respective MDA's

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

- **Follow-up on Chemical and waste management Plans**
 - All companies required to submit waste / chemical plans which we monitor quarterly
- **Environmental Impact Assessment**
 - Based on company foot print
 - Used as a tool to foster environmental management.
- **Awareness Raising**

The Environment Protection Agency - Sierra Leone Contd.

- **Training**
 - Staff, Field Officers, Proponents, enforcement agencies etc
- **Promoting Best Available Technologies and Best Environmental Practices**
 - Waste collection bins provided for waste separation for Nature clubs/MDA's etc
 - Training youth groups in business opportunities
- **Continuous enactment of laws**
 - Regulations for Environmental standards -
(Air/noise/Water/Soil/Waste - Industrial)
 - Regulations for Chemicals
 - Regulations for Toxic and Hazardous substances
 - *** (All planned for implementation with your supports)

Status of MEAs (Bamako, Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm) in Sierra Leone

Tips:

- 1. Bamako Convention:** We are not a party. Plans for Accession in 2017.
- 2. The Basel Convention** on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal: Ratified 20th October 2016 and acceded on 1st November, 2016. Will enter into force 30th January, 2017. We are the 185th Party Member

3. **Rotterdam Convention:** “On prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade” - Ratified 20th October 2016 and acceded on 1st November, 2016. Will enter into force 30th January, 2017. We are 156th Party Member.

4. **Stockholm Convention:** “On persistent Organic pollutants” Acceded on 29th September, 2003 and entered into force, 17th May, 2004. **Implementation ongoing.**

*5. Other Chemical Conventions

■ SAICM - Party

- Training MDA's on sound chemicals management
 - (Application in the works for Quick Start programs)

■ Montreal Protocol - Party

- Enacted ODS Regs
 - Training/Enforcement/Tech Support (refrigeration etc)
 - Looking forward to ratifying the Kigali agreements

■ Minamata - Party

- Initial assessment program (MIA/NAP) started

■ MARPOL - Party

- Conducted an assessment on Country readiness on OIL Spill containment

■ Paris Agreement - Party

- Nationally Determined Contributions
- Currently working on establishing a financial mechanism

Engaged in Green House Gas Inventory (GHG)

Case Studies (Stockholm Convention)

1. The 2008 NIP of the Stockholm Convention
2. Tetra Ethyl Lead Removal project from an Old Oil Refinery
3. Promoting BAT/BEP in plastic waste
 - Supported youth groups with innovative ideas in recycling
4. Awareness Raising on POPs
 - Training farmers, local authorities and end users
5. Review of Legislation on Chemicals and hazardous Substances
6. Review and Update on the 2008 NIP of the Stockholm Convention
 - Currently under review

GAPS & Challenges

Tips:

1. Capacity

- Human resource and technology

2. Sustainability

- Still critical to contend with

3. Political realities

- Various agenda's due to change of Govt. etc

4. Funding

- Not available at local level
- At international level very hard to access

ULAB

(used lead acid batteries)

*SIERRA LEONE

CURRENT SITUATION

- NO FORMAL PROGRAM IN PLACE
- INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSS PEOPLE JUST DOING THEIR OWN THING
 - DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION AT OWN WILL
 - NO FORMAL TRAINING ON HANDLING
 - NO CONTROL MEASURES OF DISPOSAL
 - DISPOSAL OF ACID CONTENT - AT RANDOM
 - MAIN INTEREST IS THE LEAD CONTENTS - COLLECTED AND SOLD AT WILL
 - PLASTIC CASE DISPOSED OFF ANY HOW

- * AMOUNT OF IMPORTATION OF E-WASTE IN AFRICA IS ON THE RISE
- * AN URGENT NEED TO CONTROL THESE E-WASTE
- * SIERRA LEONE IS A LIKE A DUMPING GROUND AT THE MOMENT
- * NO HEALTH ASSESSMENT DONE

*** NO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DONE**

*** UNDER THE BASEL CONVENTION -
URGENT HELP NEEDED TO
DOMESTICATE THIS PROGRAM.**

* EFFORTS BY PRIVATE ENTITIES - 'REAL POWER SYSTEMS' TO DEVELOP A SMALL SCALE BATTERY RECHARGING PROGRAM STILL IN THE WORKS

* BATTERY REGENERATION PROMISES TO BE MORE ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY THAN THROWING THEM AWAY

DUMPING

- * A lot of the world's e-waste ends up in landfills in Africa such as in **Bommeh dump site in Freetown**. Some of these discarded appliances are from companies in developed countries and contain toxic materials like lead and mercury which damage the environment and affect the daily lives of people who sift through them and live around these areas.



* Dump site in Freetown



Streets of Freetown with all kinds of waste

SHORT FALLS

- * No Regulatory Framework in place
- * No data available on import/export
- * Businesses doing business as usual
- * TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE VERY LIMITED
- * No trained monitors
- * Collaboration lacking

THE PROGRAM IN

SIERRA LEONE

NEEDS HELP AND

NOW IS THE TIME

CONCLUSION

*The Agency recognizes that environmental management is a holistic approach, hence as part of it's mandate, ensures maximum collaboration with relevant stakeholders in environmental management with the aim of protecting human health and the environment.

* **MORE ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED**

*THANK YOU