

Report

Action/2015 National Stakeholders Forum

Civil Service Training College, 5th February 2015



2/5/2015

Sierra Leone Action/2015 Coordination Team
Jariah Bah

BACKGROUND

The year 2015 is potentially a point of transition to be a bold, new generation of people-centered and planet-sensitive development and the beginning of a strong movement for transformational change. Achieving a new social contract that reflects a strong and radical narrative of hope and transformation however requires a concerted effort across existing and prospective civil society platforms, effective cooperation with social movements and a major push for citizens and communities around the world to be engaged with shaping the post-2015 global development agenda. In response, a number of civil society activists came together in Istanbul (February 2014) and Johannesburg (April 2014) to discuss how we could make the most of this momentous opportunity. What follows describes the plans for a major new initiative – called Action/2015 – that will help us build a global movement for change.

Youth Partnership for Peace and Development in collaboration with CGG is coordinating this initiative at the national level together with the Action2015 Taskforce. Actions aimed at compelling governments at all levels to commit to ambitious and transformative action to end poverty, address inequality and ensure sustainable development in Sierra Leone. As the country is term as under developed, issues of inequality, climate change and poverty to name but few is still have a huge effect on the Socio-economic of the country. Despite government commitment to address most of the issues mentioned above by 2015 now proposed for 2017 and 2025 respectively little have been done in the developmental strive in the country.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ A country where development justice is assured and all people are able to realise their rights.
- ❖ Where everyone is able to equally and freely participate in the decisions that affect their lives and hold governments, international institutions, the private sector, civil society and other power holders accountable.
- ❖ To urgently address the challenges posed by economic and political systems that favour elites and concentrate power and prosperity in the hands of a few.
- ❖ To transform production and consumption patterns so that they do not harm people and the planet.

TARGETS:

The forum targeted MDAs, Civil Society Organization, Women`s Group, Youth Groups, People with Disability Groups, Children`s organization.

KEY MAJOR OUTCOMES:

- ❖ MDAs committed themselves to take actions in driving development through their respective areas

- ❖ Turnout from different stakeholders was high and a greater interest to the action 2015 was shown, in fact this made the engagement more participatory.
- ❖ People from the provincial district were also part of the forum, showing the inclusion of all in development actions
- ❖ The engagement created the space for dialogue on critical issues around the achievement of MDGs

PLENNARY DISCUSSIONS

Children should also be consider in development as stated by a representative from an invited children organization, children are especially girl child are vulnerable to infant and child mortality death, sexual arrest, there by leading to increase in population, dropout's from school and most of all increase in poverty; he therefore called on Action 2015 to consider the needs and protect the interest of every child in Sierra Leone

Climate change is also another concern raised up by a representative from Conservation Society; he stated that sand mining in Freetown beach axis is causing the level of sea water to increase to 200m to the land area, the increase population and their social activities in the hilly and slums areas is also another issue of concern and calling on actions form Environment Protection Agency and others related stakeholders.

National student union President called for more actions and less promises from the government, he also emphasized for youth involvement in all facet of development in the country he further highlighted that youth are not involve from decision, implementation development of development in the country, calling on youth to actively involve on issues hindering development and presenting ways to development and how to sustain various initiative

WAYS FORWARD

- ❖ Decentralization of institutions and development programs to the provincial areas, so that everyone voice will be hard and development will be for everyone at the same time.
- ❖ Youth should be at the center of all development initiative and their roles also should be seen in taking action to bring development to their localities and the country as a whole
- ❖ Ordinary citizens owning the steer of eradicating poverty is one means to end poverty in the any society
- ❖ Women, people with disabilities and deprived communities should be included in all facet of development initiative for development to be sustainable
- ❖ Children`s welfare should also be considered in all facet of development initiatives

. More so, suggestion were brought up on the policy on planting one(1) tree after using 10, Mr. Lebbie called for robust policy reforms from Ministry of Agriculture, and Environmental Protection Agency, especially on the policy of replanting of trees.

