

# Terms of Reference

<b>Theme</b>	Simplification of the Customary Land Right Act and National Land Commission Act of 2022
<b>Address</b>	10 Nylender Street, Aberdeen, Freetown
<b>Sector</b>	Programmes
<b>Purpose</b>	Consultancy for the Production of a Two Simplified versions of the Customary Land Right Act and National Land Commission Act (2022) to be used by land governance frontiers.
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Initial Meeting with consultant:</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> January, 2025 <b>Start Date:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> February, 20225 <b>First Draft:</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025 <b>End Date:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> February, 2025

## 1. Preamble:

Sierra Leone's Parliament passed the Customary Land Rights and National Land Commission Acts in August 2022, and His Excellency the President assented to them on the 23rd September, 2022 same year.

Since the passage of the two laws, Land for Life has worked with its partners to educate communities and other important stakeholders on some of the key provisions. While many individuals are yet to get the law's sensitization messages, the government and other institutions are taking stronger measures to guarantee that all the communities and people of Sierra Leone receive the necessary information that are related to the two laws.

Because the majority of the rural people for whom the laws were written are illiterate or half-way literates, it has always been difficult for them to comprehend precisely what is contained in the two land laws. Several steps have been taken, such as creating radio messages in the people's native languages, having radio talks, and so on, all of which are transient. However, due to some limitations, information shared through such media do not give a full comprehensive and overarching details of the laws.

As a way to do that in a more coherent way, we have decided to undertake the responsibility to provide a more reader-friendly version of the laws to the people in rural communities of Sierra Leone. These reader-friendly versions will be accompanied by some graphic illustrations which will be produced by a professional cartoonist

## 2. About Land for Life Initiative:

The Land for Life Initiative is a joint endeavour of civil society partners in four African countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Liberia and Sierra Leone), supported by the German NGO Welthungerhilfe (WHH), the Civil Society Academy (CSA) and the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The Initiative aims to contribute to the formulation and implementation of policies on land governance and agricultural investments that are consistent with international standards and in particular the human right to adequate food. Given the complexity and high relevance of land tenure and agricultural investments in the fight against hunger and

poverty, it is vital to establish processes and platforms that bring together all relevant stakeholders. The Initiative thus promotes multi-actor dialogue and collaboration; fostering notably the meaningful participation of local communities and their representatives. It is linked to processes and organizations in other African countries where similar dialogue processes are being facilitated

In Sierra Leone, we are now working with four legally established non-profit national civil society organizations partnering as a Consortium to roll out the Land for Life Initiative. The Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD) is acting as Consortium Lead. The other organizations are: the United for the Protection of Human Rights (UPHR) in Port-Loko, the Partners Initiative for Conflict Transformation (PICOT) in Pujehun and Forum for Human Rights and Developments in Tonkolili district.

These four national civil society organizations have interlacing organizational mandates and thematic focuses that are contextually relevant to the campaign for responsible land governance reform in the country. Especially the coordinating organization – NMJD; but also, the other organizations, have experiences in contributing to policy reform and engaging communities on human right issues, including land governance and people's right to adequate food through responsible Land-based investment.

NMJD also hosts the Secretariat headed by a Coordinator, supported by M&E/Communication officer. The Secretariat provides administrative support to the Consortium partners, each focusing their intervention in one district of the country.

The Land for Life-Initiative in Sierra Leone is supported through an international team, composed of Welthungerhilfe staff based in Germany and trainers from the Civil Society Academy. The international support team also facilitates learning and exchange across countries and organizations. At country level, NMJD's Executive Director acts as the National Convener of the civil society Consortium and works closely with Welthungerhilfe's Country Directors to provide leadership for the Initiative.

### **3. Scope and Rationale of work:**

Land for Life desires **to produce two versions of booklets** that contain a compendium of simplified contents of the Customary Land Rights Act and the National Land Commission Act, 2022.

The rationale is to use those books to promote 'community legal empowerment' across Sierra Leone. The expectation is that readers of those books can use their understanding of the laws to access and safeguard their land rights, towards enhancing their food security.

The service provider is expected to go use his legal expertise to produce these two versions of the desired simplified laws.

### **4. Key Outputs/Deliverables:**

For the successful completion of the action, the following must be delivered:

- i. Final, well edited copies of two simplified versions of the Customary Land Right Act and National Land Commission Acts, 2022.

- ii. **Version 1:** Primarily meant for elite readers, including community facilitators and educated stakeholders, should contain a more detail explanation of the contents of the laws. This version should also a reflection of the historical context of Sierra Leone as the basis of the sense of urgency for the reform. The historical reflection should look briefly at the pre-colonial era, the attainment of political independence, the political turmoil that immediately ensued following independence which escalated into a decade-long civil war. The landing of the explanation should reflect on the reform effort following the end of the war and the influence of international tools such as the VGGT.
- iii. **Version 2:** Should shadow the Verison-1, but should be a more summarized version with less text and more graphics. This version is for the wider population and should be more emboldened with larger font size and more clarity. ab and English structure adopted should take into consideration the fact that the readers are semi-literates.

E-Copies of the two versions are to be produced as an A4 version documents. Version-1 should be in Microsoft Word Format and Version-2 in Power-point format. This version will be used for future community-level engagements

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities shall be shared between Land for Life and the Service Provider, as detailed below:

### Responsibility of Land for Life

- i. Provides the ALL the resources required for the Service Provider to accomplish this action including but not limited to a guidance note about the Customary Land Right Act and National Land Commission Act;
- ii. Promptly respond to questions raised by the service provider that are related and relevant to the production of the cartoon images;
- iii. Provides Service Provider with a copy ( hard and soft) of the Customary Land Rights and National Land Commission Acts;
- iv. Make prompt payment per the contract;

### Responsibilities of Service Provider

- i. Sign contract to formalize the agreement,
- ii. Provide an invoice baring a breakdown of the cost areas for the resources to be expended on the entire work process;
- iii. Submit first draft of the two simplified booklets for review;
- iv. Receive comments and respond to those comments in the second and final draft
- v. Ensure that the final products are not contrary to the provisions in the Customary Land Rights Act and the National Land Commission Act of 2022;

- vi. Maintain text consistency with images provided;
- vii. Be willing to hold frequent review meetings with the Land for Life Team;
- viii. Provide valid invoice and receipt of payment.

## **6. Required Qualifications and Experience of the Consultant**

- (a) Must be a legal practitioner with at least two years of practicing in Sierra Leone;
- (b) Must have vast knowledge in Sierra Leone's land governance system;
- (c) Ability to produce booklets to be read by key stakeholders;
- (d) Strong analytical and assessment skills;
- (e) Willingness to participate in the review processes.

## **7. Application procedure**

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- (a) A technical proposal: Letter of Interest, stating why you consider yourself/your firm suitable for the assignment;
- (b) Firm/company profile on handling related assignment
- (c) Personal CVs for individual consultants highlighting qualifications and experience
- (d) Contact details of referees which shall be organizations for whom you have produced films or documentaries
- (e) Financial proposal indicating consultancy fee and a breakdown of expenses (unit price) together with any other expenses) related to the assignment.
- (f) Both technical and financial proposals shall not exceed 3 pages

Land for Life shall accept ONLY email applications sent to [recruitment@landforlife.org.sl](mailto:recruitment@landforlife.org.sl) with subject line **CONSULTANCY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF THE CUSTOMER LAND RIGHTS ACTS**. Applications shall be submitted not later than 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2025. Applications should be addressed to the National Coordinator, Land for Life Initiative Sierra Leone, 10 Nylender Street, off Cape Road, Aberdeen- Freetown.