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**The Youth & Children’s Forum on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Sierra Leone**

**A side event during the FIRST WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CONFERENCE**

***CONCEPT NOTE***

**21st-22nd May 2013 - Freetown, Sierra Leone.**

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**INTRODUCTION**
WASH-Net Sierra Leone, in collaboration with UNICEF and Partners, deem it appropriate to organize an Equity and Inclusion Session around the 1st Annual WASH Conference in Sierra Leone, with specific targets for youth coming from learning institutions, women’s groups and disabled people’s organizations. As young people are active agents of change, stimulating the interest, involvement and active participation in the WASH sector will result in synergistic results in improving these public health outcomes of the youth. Helping young people will create opportunities for these persons to develop their knowledge and become lead advocates for WASH issues in their respective communities and districts.

Since 2008 the Youth Partnership for Peace and development in Sierra Leone has been engaged in the WASH sector as a youth-led intervention; leading to the pioneering of the WASH Network formation in 2010 as a national advocacy alliance of CSOs on the sector.

In less than 2 years, the world will have a chance to evaluate the progress it has made on the commitments that global governments have made towards eradicating poverty. The year 2015 will be a point of reflection where the global society in its entirety will be able to take stock of its successes and failures in curbing global poverty. It will be time to quantify the progress achieved in pursuit of achieving the Millennium Development Goals targets for a universal access to safe water and sanitation. The complexity of the situation, increased by an acute economic crisis, and a more visible and deep WASH crisis at the national level, proves that the goals may not be feasibly achieved when considered as individual components without contemplating the totality of the problem which we are facing.

With this background, it has become obvious that a clear-cut strategy must be stimulates to think over how to coordinate efforts in order to build a new conscience, a new paradigm that places life itself and its inherent value once more in the center of WASH debate.

This then calls for a localized youth participatory approach in the WASH sector during the 1st Annual WASH Conference in Sierra Leone.

**ABOUT THE YOUTH FORUM**

The Youth Forum will run as a side event during the Annual WASH Conference in an effort to assess the extent of understanding of youth and involvement in the WASH sector; fill in any gaps in the knowledge of Forum participants in various WASH provisions and frameworks at national, regional and international levels; stimulate the interest and involvement of Sierra Leonean youth in WASH advocacy, service delivery and monitoring implementation and take stock of responses by young people in addressing sector challenges

To increase involvement and participation of young people in the WASH sector and processes, a 2 day Youth Forum will be organized during the Annual WASH Conference to bring together selected promising leaders among youth organizations, schools and disabled peoples organizations across Sierra Leone. Generally the Forum will seek to reinforce their capacities, create networks and improve their understanding and leadership participation in national youth programs. The Forum is targeted at a total of 50 participants drawn from various districts and regions; representing various interests and organizations. .

The Youth Forum will explore knowledge of participants on national WASH processes, frameworks and recommendations, moving forward with the issues; assess youth involvement/equity and inclusion in sector processes, lessons learned and constraints faced by stakeholders in the implementation process. It will focus on developing the capacity of Forum participants to understand the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene concepts and process, identify potential leaders as advocates to represent their various constituencies and interests.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

**Result 1** : Preparation of a comprehensive youth position paper to be presented to the closing Annual WASH Conference Planner Session for the attention of key MDAs.

**Result 2:** The preparation of key recommendations to governments aimed at attaining MDGs specific to water, sanitation and hygiene from a Sierra Leonean youth perspective

**Result 3:** well-informed and capacitated participants enthused to take learning outcomes forward through their various institutions to engage on the key specific issues of water, sanitation and hygiene.

**Result 4:** Establishment of a credible and representative platform for youth engagement on water and sanitation in Sierra Leone.

**Result 5:** Design framework for youth involvement and participation in Sierra Leone’s WASH sector.

**Participants.**

Youths representing their organizations, communities and institutions of higher learning will be invited to participate in the Youth Forum. In addition, representatives from partner institutions will facilitate specific aspects of the Forum. Regional/district balance, gender and substance will also guide the selection of youth participants. Youth Partnership for Peace and Development, National Youth Awareness Forum and the National Youth Commission will also be highly instrumental in making the right choices for Forum participants.

**Selection criteria to the youth forum
*Youth participants for the Forum will be selected based on the following criteria:-***

- must fall within ages 15-35 years;

- must demonstrate active involvement in program activities in their communities;

- must have demonstrable speaking and writing skills;

- should be considered influential and respectable in his/her community/district/society;

- must possess good educational background;

- should have potential for leadership in advocacy;

- should demonstrate ability to work with others to propagate WASH issues;

- ethnically diverse; and

- gender balanced to ensure equal representation of males and females .

***Other Selection procedures:-***

Partner organizations and program managers from both governmental and non-governmental organizations in each district will assist with the pre-selection of potential participants. A total of 50 youth delegates/participants will be selected for the Forum.

**KEY BUDGET LINES**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget Activities** | **Unit Type** | **No. of Times** | **Quantity** | **Unit Cost** | **Total** **Cost Le** | **Total** **Cost $** |
| **HIRE SERVICES** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Hall**  | hire | 2 | 2 | 800,000 | 1,600,000 |   |
| Public Adress System | Hire/Set | 2 | 1 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Projector | hire/rent | 2 | 1 | 150,000 | 300,000 |   |
| Videohgraphy/Documentary coverage | hire | 1 | 1 | 2,500,000 | 2,500,002 |   |
| **SUB TOTAL** | **3,800,002** | **874** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PRINTING COSTS** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| T-Shirts (Lacoste) | pcs | 1 | 60 | 70,000 | 4,200,000 |   |
| Banners (Vinyl) | pcs | 1 | 2 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Stickkers | pcs | 1 | 200 | 5,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Posters | pcs | 1 | 100 | 10,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Procurement and Printing on Conference Bag | pcs | 1 | 60 | 185,000 | 11,100,000 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **SUB TOTAL** | **18,300,000** | **4,207** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TRANSPORTATION REFUNDS** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Provincial Delegates | persons | 2 | 24 | 80,000 | 3,840,000 |   |
| Western Area (Rural) Delegates | persons | 2 | 2 | 50,000 | 200,000 |   |
| Freetown Delegates | persons | 2 | 23 | 40,000 | 1,840,000 |   |
| **SUB TOTAL** | **5,880,000** | **1,352** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PROVINCIAL DELEGATES' ACOMMODATION & DSA** |
| Acommodation  | night | 3 | 24 | 150,000 | 10,800,000 |   |
| DSA | Days | 3 | 24 | 100,000 | 7,200,000 |   |
| **SUB TOTAL** | **18,000,000** | **4,138** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **MEDIA ENGAGEMENT** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Radio Talkshows | slots | 3 | 2 | 400,000 | 2,400,000 |   |
| TV Talkshow | slots | 2 | 1 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Press Conference ahead of Youth Forum | journalists | 1 | 20 | 50,000 | 1,000,000 |   |
| Development of jingles & Airing | Slots/PSA | 1 | 1 | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 |   |
| News paper publication | journalists | 2 | 4 | 500,000 | 4,000,000 |   |
| **SUB TOTAL**  | **10,900,000** | **2,506** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **STATIONERY AND PRINTING** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Ink Catridge for printer at Conference Center | pcs | 1 | 2 | 550,000 | 1,100,000 |   |
| A4 paper | Pkts | 1 | 4 | 20,000 | 80,000 |   |
| Note Pads | pcs | 1 | 50 | 5,000 | 250,000 |   |
| Markers | pkts | 1 | 2 | 20,000 | 40,000 |   |
| Pen | Pkts | 1 | 2 | 15,000 | 30,000 |   |
| Masking Tapes | pcs | 1 | 2 | 10,000 | 20,000 |   |
| Post IT Pads | pcs | 1 | 10 | 5,000 | 50,000 |   |
| Flip Chats | pcs | 1 | 6 | 35,000 | 210,000 |   |
|  |  |  | **SUB TOTAL** | **1,180,000** | **271** |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **FOOD/REFRESHMENT** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Teabreak | participants | 4 | 60 | 25,000 | 6,000,000 |   |
| Lunch Break | participants | 2 | 60 | 35,000 | 4,200,000 |   |
| Tutic water | creates | 2 | 12 | 25,000 | 600,000 |   |
| Sweets | pkts | 2 | 20 | 15,000 | 600,000 |   |
| **SUB TOTAL**  | **10,800,000** | **2,483** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Consultancy** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Facilitation cost | persons | 2 | 2 | 1,000,000 | 4,000,000 |   |
| Rapporteurs | persons | 2 | 2 | 800,000 | 3,200,000 |   |
| Development and production of information packs for participants | Packs | 1 | 1 | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 |   |
| **Sub Total** |   |   |   |   | **8,700,000** | **2,000** |
| Administration and coordination 5% of Total Cost | Conf.Team | 1 | 1 | 3,553,000 | **3,553,000** |  |
| **TOTAL PROJECT COST** | **81,113,002** | **18,647** |