



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS IN SIERRA LEONE (NSDS)

DRAFT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

At the request of the government of Sierra Leone through Statistics Sierra Leone, a joint IMF/World Bank mission visited Freetown, Sierra Leone from March 15 – 26, 2004 to make an initial assessment of the steps required to prepare the statistical master plan as part of the beginning of a longer process for national statistical development in Sierra Leone

It is the desire of the Government of Sierra Leone and a requirement of the funding agencies that all countries should have in place a **National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)** which should serve as a foundation on which the National Statistical System can be built and serve as a guide for the implementation of the work plan.

A draft consultation document has been prepared. In preparing this consultation document, a consultative approach was employed. The first stage involved consultative workshops with **Statistics Sierra Leone (SSL) staff** at all levels. This was followed by consultative workshops with **Producers of Statistics** outside SSL. The process included a SWOT diagnostic approach to what was wrong with the production and dissemination of official statistics in the past. The consultative meetings resulted in the production of this draft consultation document.

The draft NSDS document includes a 5-year statistical work programme, which prioritises statistical activities towards monitoring the implementation and outcome of development strategies aimed at achieving national goals and targets and deriving indicators against which progress and performance of the MDGs, and PRSP can be measured.

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This draft National Strategy for the Development of Statistics, which has been prepared by the NSDS team at Statistics Sierra Leone, with funding, provided via the World Bank's Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (WB TFSCB) is being issued to producers and users of statistics and other stakeholders for consultation.

Please send any comments and/or suggestions by the end of September 2007 addressed to "NSDS Team, Statistics Sierra Leone, A J Momoh Street, Tower Hill, PMB 595, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

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A final version of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) taking into account comments and suggestions received, and after consultation with the Government of Sierra Leone will be published before the end of this year.

THANK YOU

Prof. Joseph A.L. Kamara
STATISTICIAN GENERAL