



Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Development Countries

Abie E. Kamara

LDC National Focal Point, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development

Sierra Leone

New York: 14 November 2019

Outline of Presentation



Actions taken and lessons learnt relating to the IPoA targets on

Human and Social Development

1. Education and Training
2. Population and Primary Health
3. Youth Development
4. Shelter
5. Water and Sanitation
6. Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
7. Social Protection

1. Education and Training



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Ensure universal access to free primary education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduced the Free Quality School Education (FQE)• Introduction of school bus system in major towns and cities• Established a of Trust fund for partner participation in the FQE• Increased allocation of resources to the education sector now standing at 21 percent of the national budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increased enrollment rates at all levels of schooling▪ Primary school enrollment increased by 57.7 percent between 2013 and 2018▪ Junior Secondary school increased by 71.8 percent between 2013 and 2018▪ It provides an opportunity for Sierra Leone children to have access to quality schooling at minimal costs• Development partners supporting the FQE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increase enrollment requires huge resources to maintain.▪ More classrooms should be constructed as you introduce FQE to eliminate dual shift▪ Need to improve quality as enrolment increases.▪ Disparity in urban and rural schools

1. Education and Training Cont.



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Increase quality of education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Established a Teaching Service Commission ▪ Involvement of civil society in monitoring education ▪ Provide incentives for teachers in remote areas. ▪ Teacher training programmes ▪ Introduced the STEM ▪ Revamped technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A structured recruitment, training, appraisal, and regulation of teachers' activities and conduct. ▪ More qualified teachers are willing to relocate to rural areas. ▪ Increased training and skills developed in Carpentry, Electrician, Construction Workers due to TVET ▪ Improved capacity of teachers and seek teacher's welfare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tertiary Institutions needs to be restructured to meet current and future demands for quality training ▪ Mismatch between tertiary educational skills and labour-market demands needs to be addressed
Eliminate gender disparity in education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Established a Gender Unit in the Ministry of Education that pioneers gender reforms ▪ Reformed the curricula to include GBV concepts, life skills and reproductive health ▪ Special incentives for girls (- STEM and Girl Child Education Programme) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enrollment and completion rates increase for girls. ▪ Absolute number of boys higher but rate of increase for girls is higher. ▪ Completion rate for girls increased from 65.4 percent in 2015 to 90 percent in 2018. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious and cultural issues affect school attendance for girls • Improved sanitation facilities improve attendance for girls • Family planning education increase retention of girls

2. Population and Primary Health



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Reduce the infant, under-five and maternal mortality and child-under nutrition by 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free medical and treatment for Pregnant and Lactating mothers and under-fives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infant mortality dropped from 92/1000 in 2013 to 56/1000 2017 Under Five mortality dropped from 156/1000 to 94/1000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable access to health care can reduce Mortality Rates
Integrate family Planning, sexual health and health-care services in national strategies and programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family planning products distributed for Free Family Life Education introduced in schools Family planning has been integrated into the National Development Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased awareness of Family Planning options Fertility Rate is going down as well as family size (4.9 in 2013 to 4.2 in 2017) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to have special Family Planning Clinics for Adolescents
Reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of antiretroviral drugs Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Project (PMCT) Education on stigma and discrimination Training of healthcare workers Distribution of bed nets Free Malaria curative and preventive drugs at cost recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incidence of Children born to infected mothers reduced form 10.2% in 2013 to 7.9% in 2017 Number of new infected persons reduced from 1565 in 2013 to 1344 in 2017 HIV/AIDS prevalence decline from 1.5 % in 2005 to 1.1 in 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggressive messaging can help control HIV incidence Malaria has been subconsciously accepted. In male headed households the children are usually deprived of the bed nets.

3. Youth Development



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Ensure the full and effective participation of youth in life of society and in decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up the Youth Commission ▪ Youth Employment Scheme (YES) • Promote youth engagement in agriculture • Youth in Car Wash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide special focus on youth activities and development ▪ Create informal employment for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This has potential to make youth entrepreneurs and become self employed • Takes the youths away from the vices of drug use, violence etc • Need for a more comprehensive and well financed strategy for youth
Build the education and skills capacity of youth and achieve full and productive employment and decent work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Training for youth through TVET; • Internship Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provided young people with the requisite skills to secure gainful employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on this will increase middle level manpower
Enhance youth participation in the economy through improving access to vocational education, volunteering and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Youth Service • Support youth to engage in small and medium scale entrepreneurship ventures, such as in agriculture and other livelihood activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provided youths with hands-on job experiences 	

4. Shelter



Target (specify)	Action taken to Achieve Target	Results or Impact	Lessons Learned
Increase access to affordable Housing, Land and housing-related infrastructure and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A National Housing Policy to work on programs of reform, resettlement, and reconstruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Very little impact	Financial constraints have limited the implementation of the policy
Achieve a significant improvement in the lives of slum dweller and rural poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build 40 houses to for slum dwellers and flood victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Resettled the flood victims	Interventions in this area have been inadequate and not well managed. As such the dwellers ultimately return to live in the slums

5. Water and Sanitation



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons Learned
Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three town water supply project • Upgrading the transmission and distribution networks • Rehabilitate existing reservoirs and water facilities • Introduction of monthly cleaning exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to water increase from 50%in 2008 to 63%in 2015 ▪ Very little impact as the population with access to sanitation has not improved as desired. ▪ Cleaning exercise has improved the sanitation especially in major cities and have reduced the impact of flooding 	<p>While access to improved water has increased, access to sanitation remains a challenge and needs more financing</p> <p>Investment in water storage and management</p> <p>Need to conduct survey to determine the health benefit of the cleaning exercise</p>
Strive to provide sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VIP latrines provided for many schools and communities in rural areas 	<p>Community participation and capacity building as well as private sector participation is critical in improving sanitation in the country.</p>

6. Gender equality and empowerment of women



Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Achieve equal access of women and girls to education, basic services, health care, economic opportunities and decision-making at all levels	Domesticate the CEDAW by enacting gender laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of women in Parliament Increased number of women in decision making positions At one point we have a women heading the Auditor General, NRA and the Registrar General. 	<p>This is difficult to sustain.</p> <p>More investments are needed in education of the girl child to grow into women with equal opportunities as their male counterparts.</p>
Take steps to realize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Advocacy Groups for Women's Empowerment. Incentives for the girl child including scholarships for girls pursuing science and mathematics at the university Mainstreaming gender legality and women's empowerment in the national development plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased Awareness of Women rights 	<p>Traditional practices such as early marriages means that fewer girls than boys enter university or enroll in science courses</p>
Accelerate efforts to promote women's rights and gender equality, including women with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of Family Support Unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most women feel protected from abuse by their spouses 	<p>Need for sustained effort in pursuing policies that promote gender equality</p>



7. Social Protection

Target (specify)	Action taken to achieve target	Results or impact	Lessons learned
Enhance social protection systems to improve the resilience of all, including poor and disadvantaged groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Establishment of the National Commission for People with Disability▪ An inclusive education programme aimed at increasing access to education by children with disabilities in mainstream schools▪ Provision of grants to special needs institutions▪ Establishment of advocacy groups that promote the interest of people with disabilities (PWDs)▪ Payment of cash transfers schemes for the poor and vulnerable population▪ Mainstreaming social protection in the MTNDP▪ Cash for work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Children with disabilities school enrollment increased from 0.48 percent in 2013 to 26.6 percent in 2018▪ Provides temporary employment for rural youths▪	<p>Financing for social protection remains a challenge</p> <p>Cash transfers are not sustainable means of protecting socially vulnerable people</p>

CONCLUSION

PROGRESS HAVE BEEN MADE IN SOME AREAS BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MTNDP WILL ASSIST IN THE REALISATION OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ISTANBUL DECLARATION AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION