

PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR THE YEAR 2026

Submitted By:



New Empowerment Initiative-Sierra Leone (NEI-SL)

MOTTO: Help the People

SUBMITTED ON: 28th June, 2026

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Executive Summary

New Empowerment Initiative-Sierra Leone (NEI-SL) presents this comprehensive proposal for the Integrated Hand-Pump and School Rehabilitation Project in Buma-Samie Community, Bagbe Chiefdom, Bo District, Southern Sierra Leone. This initiative addresses two critical and interconnected community needs: the restoration of safe drinking water access and the rehabilitation of a deteriorating primary school infrastructure.

The community hand pump, which serves as the primary source of drinking water for nearly 2,000 residents, has become non-functional, forcing families to rely on unsafe water sources. This has significantly increased the incidence of waterborne diseases including diarrhea, typhoid, and cholera, with women and children bearing the heaviest burden. Simultaneously, Ansarul Islamic Primary School has fallen into severe disrepair, compromising the safety and educational outcomes of over 500 pupils.

This integrated project will rehabilitate the community hand pump to full functionality and restore the school infrastructure to a safe and conducive learning environment. The project will directly benefit 1,979 community members through restored water access and 557 pupils, teachers, and staff through improved educational facilities. Additionally, more than 3,500 residents from neighboring communities will benefit indirectly.

NEI-SL requests US\$10,000 in funding support, while the community and NEI-SL will contribute US\$2,000 in local resources and labour, bringing the total project value to US\$12,000. This investment will yield lasting improvements in public health, educational attainment, and community resilience.

About the Organization

Organizational Profile

New Empowerment Initiative-Sierra Leone (NEI-SL) is a youth-led rural community development non-profit organization registered with the Government of Sierra Leone on 16th September 2022. NEI-SL is also a proud member of the Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (SLANGO). The organization operates from its headquarters at Forbie Drive, Back of Haikal Academy, Off-Koribondo Highway, Bo City, Southern Sierra Leone.

NEI-SL's mission is to empower underserved communities across Sierra Leone by promoting sustainable development through improved access to quality education, clean water and sanitation, youth and women's empowerment, livelihoods, climate resilience, health, and community-driven

initiatives that reduce poverty and improve quality of life. The organization's motto, "Help the People," reflects its commitment to grassroots development.

The organization is led by a dedicated team of development professionals:

No.	Name	Designation
1.	Ibrahim Mohamed Boima	Executive Director
2.	Samuel Issa Sannoh	General Secretary
3.	Alex Samai Gbanie	Chief Financial Officer
4.	Aruna Boima	Ex-officio Member
5.	Augustine Mannah Kebbie	International Liaison & Protocol Officer

NEI-SL receives funding through donor grants, charitable support, patron contributions, project partnerships, and local community contributions. The organization also mobilizes support through fundraising, volunteerism, and community-based resource sharing. In the previous fiscal year, NEI-SL managed an annual revenue of approximately US\$ 36,261.6 and expenses of US\$35,500, demonstrating prudent financial stewardship.

Past Project Experience

NEI-SL has successfully implemented community-based development projects, demonstrating its capacity to deliver results in challenging rural environments. Most notably, the organization executed an Inland Valley Swamp (IVS) Rice Cultivation Project in Nyeyama Community, Barri Chiefdom, Pujehun District. The project aimed to improve household food security and strengthen livelihoods through sustainable agricultural practices.

Through community consultations, land preparation, procurement of certified rice seed, and technical guidance to local farmers, the project successfully produced 11.5 bushels of rice from an initial 2 bushels of seed planted across 3 hectares of IVS land. This represented a substantial increase in production and demonstrated the effectiveness of community-led agricultural development.

Despite challenges including unpredictable weather, remote access, and limited transportation, NEI-SL successfully completed the project through careful planning, strong community collaboration, and adaptive management. These experiences have strengthened the organization's project management capacity and commitment to investing in reliable systems for future interventions.

Project Background and Problem Statement

Limited Access to Safe Drinking Water

Buma-Samie Community's only hand pump, which has served as a vital source of drinking water for generations, is no longer functional. The pump's breakdown has forced 1,979 residents to rely on unsafe alternative water sources, including contaminated streams and unprotected wells. This situation has created a public health crisis, with documented increases in waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, typhoid, and cholera. Children under five and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable.

Women and girls bear the disproportionate burden of water collection, often walking long distances to fetch water for household use. This not only exposes them to health risks but also reduces time available for education, economic activities, and rest. The restoration of a functional community hand pump is therefore an urgent priority for the health and well-being of the entire community.

Poor Learning Environment

Ansarul Islamic Primary School, the only primary school serving Buma-Samie and surrounding communities, is in a severely deteriorated condition. The school's infrastructure suffers from damaged roofing, cracked walls, broken doors and windows, deteriorated flooring, and inadequate sanitation facilities. These conditions compromise the safety of 557 pupils and teachers, reduce school attendance and retention, negatively affect teaching and learning outcomes, and create an environment that is uncondusive to education.

During the rainy season, damaged roofing allows water to enter classrooms, forcing school closures and disrupting learning. Poor ventilation and lighting resulting from broken windows further impair the learning environment. Without intervention, the continued deterioration of the school threatens to deny an entire generation of children access to quality education.

Project Opportunity

The integrated rehabilitation of both the community hand pump and Ansarul Islamic Primary School represents a strategic opportunity to address two critical community needs simultaneously. By combining water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), and education interventions, this project will deliver comprehensive improvements in health, education, and overall community well-being. The intervention will strengthen community resilience, promote educational achievement, and lay the foundation for long-term sustainable development in Buma-Samie Community.

Project Goal and Objectives

The overarching goal of this project is to improve access to safe drinking water and quality education for the people of Buma-Samie Community through the rehabilitation of the community hand pump and Ansarul Islamic Primary School.

To achieve this goal, the project has established the following specific objectives:

0. **Restore Safe Water Access:** Rehabilitate one community hand pump to full functionality, restoring reliable access to safe drinking water for all community members.
1. **Improve Educational Infrastructure:** Rehabilitate Ansarul Islamic Primary School, including roofing, walls, flooring, doors, windows, and painting works, to create a safe and conducive learning environment.
2. **Reduce Waterborne Disease Risk:** Reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases through improved water access, enhanced hygiene awareness, and safe water handling practices.
3. **Enhance Educational Outcomes:** Improve school attendance, retention rates, and classroom comfort through the provision of rehabilitated and safe school facilities.
4. **Strengthen Community Ownership:** Establish and train Community Water Management and School Management Committees to ensure the long-term maintenance and sustainability of both facilities.

Expected Results and Beneficiaries

Expected Results

By the conclusion of this three-month project, the following results will be achieved:

- ☐ One community hand pump fully rehabilitated and operational.
- ☐ Safe drinking water access restored for 1,979 community residents.
- ☐ Ansarul Islamic Primary School fully rehabilitated with safe classrooms.
- ☐ 557 pupils, teachers, and staff benefiting from an improved learning environment.
- ☐ Community awareness on hygiene and sanitation practices enhanced.
- ☐ School attendance and participation rates increased.

- ❑ Community ownership and maintenance systems strengthened for long-term sustainability.

Beneficiaries

The project will benefit the community through direct and indirect pathways:

Direct Beneficiaries include 1,979 community residents who will regain access to safe drinking water through the rehabilitated hand pump, and 557 pupils, teachers, and school staff who will benefit from the improved school facilities. These beneficiaries represent the core population of Buma-Samie Community who will experience immediate and tangible improvements in their daily lives.

Indirect Beneficiaries include more than 3,500 residents from neighboring communities and surrounding settlements who will benefit from improved community water access and the enhanced educational services provided by the rehabilitated school. The project's impact will thus extend well beyond Buma-Samie, contributing to regional development.

Category	Number	Benefit Type
Community residents (water)	1,979	Direct
Pupils, teachers, staff (school)	557	Direct
Neighboring communities	3,500+	Indirect

Project Implementation Plan

The project will be implemented over a period of three months (twelve weeks) through a participatory, community-led approach. The implementation plan is organized into three distinct phases, each with specific activities, deliverables, and timelines.

Phase 1: Project Inception and Planning (Month 1, Weeks 1-4)

This phase lays the foundation for successful project implementation. Key activities include comprehensive community consultation and stakeholder engagement with community leaders, the School Management Committee (SMC), parents, teachers, and local authorities. A thorough technical assessment of the damaged hand pump and school infrastructure will be conducted to inform detailed rehabilitation plans.

Additionally, this phase involves baseline verification and confirmation of project beneficiaries, procurement of construction materials, water system spare parts, tools, and equipment, recruitment and mobilization of qualified artisans and technicians, and the development of a detailed implementation schedule with risk mitigation measures.

Phase 2: Community Water System Rehabilitation (Month 2, Weeks 5-8)

This phase focuses on restoring the community hand pump to full functionality. Activities include the rehabilitation of the damaged hand pump, replacement of worn pump components including the cylinder, rods, head, and handle, repair and replacement of pipes, couplings, and seals, construction or repair of the concrete apron and drainage channel, and thorough cleaning, flushing, testing, and disinfection of the rehabilitated water point.

Water quality verification testing will be conducted to confirm the safety of the rehabilitated water source. Concurrently, a Community Water Management Committee will be established and trained on operation, maintenance, and sustainability practices. Community hygiene, sanitation, and safe water awareness sessions will be conducted to promote healthy behaviors.

Phase 3: School Rehabilitation and Project Close-Out (Month 3, Weeks 9-12)

The final phase encompasses the rehabilitation of Ansarul Islamic Primary School, including roofing replacement, wall repairs and plastering, floor rehabilitation, door and window repairs or replacement, interior and exterior painting, and minor repairs to school sanitation facilities and classroom furniture.

Quality assurance and final technical inspection of all completed works will be conducted. The phase concludes with comprehensive project monitoring, documentation, beneficiary feedback collection, official project completion, community handover ceremonies, and the submission of the final project report. Sustainability commitments will be secured from local stakeholders to ensure the long-term maintenance of rehabilitated facilities.

Phase	Key Activities	Timeline
Phase 1: Inception	Community consultation, technical assessment, baseline verification, procurement, mobilization	Month 1 (Weeks 1-4)
Phase 2: Water Rehab	Hand pump rehabilitation, water quality testing, WMC training, hygiene awareness	Month 2 (Weeks 5-8)
Phase 3: School Rehab	School rehabilitation, quality inspection, documentation, handover	Month 3 (Weeks 9-12)

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

NEI-SL will implement a comprehensive participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) system to ensure that all project activities are completed on time, within budget, and to the required quality standards.

Monitoring Framework

A baseline assessment will be conducted before implementation to verify the condition of the damaged hand pump and school infrastructure, establish beneficiary data, and measure existing access to safe water and educational conditions. Progress will be monitored continuously throughout the three-month implementation period through weekly field supervision and site inspections, regular progress review meetings with community stakeholders, technical quality assessments of rehabilitation works, and photo and video documentation before, during, and after implementation.

Financial monitoring and expenditure tracking against the approved budget will ensure transparency and accountability. Beneficiary feedback will be collected through interviews, community meetings, and direct observation. A final completion inspection and project handover verification will confirm that all outputs meet the required quality standards.

Performance Indicators

Indicator	Target	Timeframe
Hand pump rehabilitated and operational	1 hand pump	Within 2 months
School rehabilitated	1 school	Within 3 months
People with safe water access	1,979 beneficiaries	By completion
Pupils/teachers in improved environment	557 beneficiaries	By completion
Community monitoring meetings	At least 4 meetings	During project
Water Management Committee trained	1 functional committee	By Month 2
Hygiene awareness sessions	At least 2 sessions	During project
Activities completed per plan and budget	100% completion	By Month 3

Evaluation

The project will be evaluated by NEI-SL's internal Monitoring and Evaluation team, led by the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, with overall oversight from the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer to ensure technical quality, financial accountability, and compliance with project objectives. Community representatives, including the Community Water Management Committee, School Management Committee, and local leaders, will actively participate in monitoring, validating project results, and providing beneficiary feedback.

Upon project completion, NEI-SL will prepare a comprehensive final narrative and financial report documenting project outputs, outcomes, lessons learned, and recommendations. Independent

monitoring visits and verification missions will be welcomed to confirm project performance, accountability, and overall impact.

Sustainability Plan

Community Ownership and Local Leadership

The long-term sustainability of this project will be driven by strong community ownership and active participation. From the outset, community leaders, beneficiaries, and local stakeholders will be involved in planning, implementation, monitoring, and decision-making. This participatory approach fosters a deep sense of responsibility for protecting and maintaining the rehabilitated facilities.

Hand Pump Sustainability

A Community Water Management Committee will be established and trained on the operation, routine maintenance, and management of the rehabilitated hand pump. The committee will conduct regular inspections, coordinate minor repairs, promote proper use of the water facility, and encourage community members to make locally agreed contributions toward future maintenance and replacement of spare parts. Hygiene and sanitation awareness activities will encourage responsible use of the water point and help protect the surrounding environment.

School Sustainability

The School Management Committee, school authorities, parents, and community leaders will assume responsibility for maintaining the rehabilitated school infrastructure. They will organize periodic cleaning and routine maintenance activities, promptly address minor repairs, and work together to ensure that classrooms, sanitation facilities, doors, windows, roofing, and other infrastructure remain safe and functional. Community volunteers and parents will continue supporting efforts to maintain a clean, safe, and conducive learning environment.

NEI-SL Post-Project Support

Following project completion, NEI-SL will conduct periodic follow-up monitoring visits to assess the condition and functionality of both the rehabilitated hand pump and the school facilities. The organization will provide technical advice where needed, document lessons learned, and continue engaging with community leadership to encourage accountability and long-term sustainability. NEI-SL will also explore opportunities to mobilize additional partnerships and resources to support future community development initiatives.

Project Budget

The total project budget is US\$10,000, comprising US\$8,000 in requested funding and US\$2,000 in community and organizational contributions. The budget has been carefully developed based on local market rates and vendor quotations to ensure cost-effectiveness and value for money.

Schedule A: Equipment, Materials and Direct Project Costs

No.	Item	Qty	Unit Price (US\$)	Vendor	Total (US\$)
1	Technical assessment and mobilization	1	200	Local Technician/NEI-SL	200
2	Pump cylinder and rod replacement kit	1	1,000	Local Water Hardware Supplier	1,000
3	Pump head and handle accessories	1	500	Local Water Hardware Supplier	500
4	Pipes, couplings and seals	2 Sets	220	Local Supplier	440
5	Apron/platform cement, sand and gravel	2 Lots	1000	Local Construction Supplier	2000
6	Drainage channel materials	2 Lots	120	Local Construction Supplier	240
7	Borehole cleaning and disinfection	1	200	Health/Water Service Provider	200
8	Water quality testing	1	200	Local Water Testing Service	200
9	Skilled pump technician labour	1	500	Contract Technician	500
10	Roofing sheets for school	50 Sheets	18	Local Hardware Store	900
11	Timber and roofing nails	2 Lots	170	Local Hardware Store	340
12	Wall plastering materials	2 Lots	140	Local Construction Supplier	280
13	Floor repair materials	2 Lots	120	Local Construction Supplier	240
14	Doors and windows repairs	2 Lots	110	Local Carpenter/Aluminium Worker	220
15	Paint and painting tools	2 Lots	140	Local Paint Supplier	280
16	Furniture repair materials	2 Lots	110	Local Carpenter	220
17	Minor sanitation facility rehabilitation	2 Lots	80	Local Mason/Contractor	160
18	Hygiene and school sensitization materials	2 Lots	60	NEI-SL/Local Printer	120
19	Contingency (approximately 3.75%)	-	-	-	160

No.	Item	Qty	Unit Price (US\$)	Vendor	Total (US\$)
Subtotal Schedule A (Direct Project Costs)					8,200

Schedule B: Personnel and Administrative Costs

No.	Designation	Monthly (US\$)	Months	Total (US\$)
1	Executive Director	100	3	300
2	General Secretary	60	3	180
3	Chief Finance Officer	70	3	210
4	Administrative Assistant	40	3	120
5	Monitoring & Evaluation Officer	80	3	240
6	Water & Sanitation Program Coordinator	90	3	270
7	Education Program Coordinator	90	3	270
8	Chairman, Community Participation Committee	30	3	90
9	Procurement & Logistics Officer	40	3	120
Subtotal Schedule B (Personnel & Administration)				1,800

Schedule C: Community and Local Contributions

No.	Description	Value (US\$)	Income (US\$)
1	Community assessment survey support	200	200
2	Project proposal development support	300	300
3	Communications and visibility support	500	500
4	Local contributions and supply of labour	1,000	1,000
Total Project Income			2,000

Budget Summary

Component	Description	Amount (US\$)
Schedule A	Equipment, materials and direct project costs	8,200
Schedule B	Personnel and administrative costs	1,800
Total Requested Funding	Grant amount requested	10,000
Schedule C	Community contribution and local labour	2,000
Total Project Cost	Overall project value	12,000

Conclusion

The Integrated Hand-Pump and School Rehabilitation Project represents a strategic, high-impact intervention that will transform the lives of nearly 2,000 people in Buma-Samie Community. By addressing both water access and education infrastructure simultaneously, the project will deliver comprehensive improvements in public health, educational attainment, and community well-being.

The rehabilitation of the community hand pump will restore dignity to daily life, reduce the burden of waterborne diseases, and free women and girls from the hardships of seeking water from unsafe sources. The restoration of Ansarul Islamic Primary School will provide 557 pupils and teachers with a safe, conducive environment for learning and teaching, laying the foundation for improved educational outcomes and brighter futures.

NEI-SL brings proven experience, strong community relationships, and a deep commitment to participatory development. With the requested support of US\$10,000, complemented by US\$2,000 in community contributions, this project will deliver lasting benefits that extend far beyond the three-month implementation period. The established community management structures will ensure that both the hand pump and school facilities are maintained for generations to come.

We respectfully request your partnership in making this vision a reality. Together, we can empower Buma-Samie Community with the fundamental building blocks of health, education, and sustainable development.

Head of Requesting Organization

Ibrahim Mohamed Boima
Founder & Executive Director, NEI-SL

Signature: 

Financial Officer
Alex Samai Gbanie
Chief Finance Officer, NEI-SL

Signature: 

Project Leads
Mohamed Boima Jr.
Education Program Coordinator

Signature: 

Kalilu Bockarie
Water & Sanitation Program Coordinator

Signature: 

PICTURES SHOWING THE PROJECT SITES





NEW EMPOWERMENT
INTEGRATED
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Southern Province, Sierra Leone

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Infinix SMART 8







Thank You

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