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**SPORT AND AGRICULTURE
YOUTH PROJECT
IN
SIERRA LEONE**

Kåre Lode

SIK-rapport 2006:5



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Abstract: In close cooperation with the European Baptist Mission (EBM) and the Baptist Convention in Sierra Leone (BCL), the Norwegian Baptist Union (NBU) is preparing to send a couple as missionaries to Sierra Leone. The husband is a mechanic, active in athletics and with extensive experience from social work. In order to include the target group in the planning this feasibility study was organised in June 2006.

The team visited officials in Freetown before they went to Lunsar, the target area that was 120 km north of Freetown. In the Lunsar area unofficial figures give 80% unemployment among young people. The reintegration of child soldiers was not as successful as one could hope for, and there are a number of frustrated young men and women who have no hope for the future. They are getting into drug abuse, prostitution and robbery. On the other hand there is a large number of youth associations, some of them could be potential partners in the project. One association “young investors” has tried various activities in order to get maximum income, with the result that agriculture gives the best and most stable profit. Sierra Leone has given priority to food production and there is plenty of free land for agriculture in the Lunsar area. Sport is well organised and seems to be considered as a tool for getting the youth at risk into a positive setting. The joint initiative from the BCL, NBU and EBM was very well received by local authorities. After long meetings with grassroots organisations, in particular youth’s associations and secondary schools, the outline of a project was decided. The missionary will be a resource person in the sport activities, try to convince young people that agriculture is a good way of living, provide tools and seed in order to help them to start. He will also work with the sport associations and with the Baptist Union Youth Association in Lunsar.

Key words : empowerment, sport, unemployment, agriculture, youth

Abbreviations

APC	All People's Congress
BCSL	Baptist Convention Sierra Leone
CCSL	Christian Council of Sierra Leone
CPA	Child Protection Association
DDR	Disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration
EBM	European Baptist Mission
ECOMOG	Economic Community of West African States' Monitoring Group
IMF	International Money Fund
IPRS	Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
LAYA	Lunsar Area Youth Association
LUNSCO	Lunsar Sport Council
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
NBU	Norwegian Baptist Union
<i>NCDDR</i>	<i>National Commission for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration</i>
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NRS	National Recovery Strategy
PCM	Project Cycle Management
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RUF	Revolutionary United Front
SLRCS	Sierra Leone Red Cross Society
UN	United Nations
UNAMSIL	United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

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SPORT AND AGRICULTURE

0. FOREWORD

The Baptist Union of Norway (BUN) has a long tradition of mission in Africa, in particular in the Democratic Republic of Congo where the mission started in the early 1920s. A few years ago the cooperation with the church in Congo changed character. BUN is no longer sending new missionaries to that country, but keeps close relations with their partners through regular visits and through financial support for development projects. The relation with the Baptist Church in North Congo has developed an unique expertise for cooperation with a partner who works in a transitional period from a terrible war to a situation where it is possible to organise ordinary development work.

As BUN had a couple who were ready to go abroad as missionaries contacted the European Baptist Union (EBU) which is an umbrella organisation for 17 Baptist mission organisations within Europe. BUN is a member of EBM. EBM has been operative in Sierra Leone since 1979. BUN's engagement in Sierra Leone will be carried out in close collaboration with the EBM.

The education and experience of the missionaries were, as we shall see, also well fit for the situation in Sierra Leone. The wife is a mid-wife by profession, the husband is a mechanic with a long experience from social work, and he is a good athlete. The Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone (BCSL) had suffered a lot during the war in that country, and was faced with a number of challenges from a society that has still yet not recovered from the effect of the war. They needed some well-qualified human resources for some time.

The missionaries will arrive in Sierra Leone in September 2006 and they have a contract until the Summer 2009. After the arrival they will first use some months to learn the Krio language and the culture. During this period they will discuss their activities with all stakeholders in Lunsar and elaborate a detailed project document.

The partnership between the two churches is a lucky one, and has been well prepared. Some leaders of the BCSL have been in Norway. The office manager in BUN visited Sierra Leone in 2004 and the missionary couple has visited Lunsar and know the place and the challenges. Three groups of volunteers from Skien in Norway has been in Lunsar to rehabilitate the dwelling house of the missionaries that was seriously damaged during the war.

It was decided to organise a feasibility study before the missionaries arrived in Sierra Leone. Right from the beginning, the intention was to study the possibility of two different projects. If this study had a positive conclusion, it will also indicate the main lines of the projects. This will have to be more elaborated by the missionaries in dialog with the target groups and local organisations and resource persons.

The BUN and the BCSL put together a project team that should study both of the possible projects. The present report deals exclusively with a youth project. Another report is dealing with a project on reproductive health.

The team consisted of:

- Lise Kyllingstad, project coordinator in BUN and social worker by education. (team leader)
- Julie Sesay, Vice-president of the Women's Union in the BCSL
- Kåre Lode, consultant with long experience as missionary and from development work in Africa
- James Kamara, coordinator of Social Services of BCSL, long education in development from Germany
- Rev. Mohamed Monsoray, coordinator of Church Ministries in BSCL
- Alfred Kamara, nurse at the Eye Hospital (participated most of the time when the team was in Lunsar) (see appendix 1)

The report has been written by Kåre Lode, but the other team members, in particular Julie Sesay, have had some written contributions and all members have read and commented the manuscript.

The situation in Sierra Leone was sensitive. The meeting with the international community and in particular with the world of NGOs had not been easy for the population. This report has a chapter on this experience. It was obvious that we were in a situation where we first of all had to listen. But the dialog was constructive and there was an openness and very explicit and polite invitation to cooperation.

Because of these strong expressions of priorities and conditions from various groups and persons as well as because of the experiences they have had with the NGOs, we have found it useful to reflect this by using some of the notes from some of the conversations as they are, and we have also found it right to reflect the seriousness of the groups and persons we talked with in the list of our programme and conversations/meetings. (see appendix 1)

1. SUMMARY

Sierra Leone has recently been through a long and devastating war. The Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone suffered heavy losses as well as other individuals and organisations. However, the BCSL had an experience of being an actor on the social and developmental arena in the country and they do have organisational capacity to do more than they currently do if resources are available. On the other hand The Norwegian Baptist Union has a good experience from Congo to work with a partner during the war and after the war. BUN had a well-educated couple that wanted to become missionaries and they accepted to go to Sierra Leone to expand the work that the EBM already is doing in this country. She is a mid-wife and he is a mechanics with experience from social work and he is an active athlete.

BCSL and BUN decided to undertake a feasibility study in order to organise a project in the Lunsar area, which is located some 120 kilometres North-East of Freetown. The project should be conceived such that the missionaries could use their skills and professional background in line with priorities expressed by the population, the authorities and professionals in the areas of interest. It was decided to organise two projects. This report presents a project with unorganised youth, both young women and young men as target group.

It soon became very clear for the project team that Sierra Leone has gone through a very frustrating period when they were dependent on international NGOs of good will that set the agenda and that knew best what should be the priorities. We needed to listen to people's

experiences and priorities rather than tell what we thought. This was in line with our attitude so it was not difficult to carry through. However, we were impressed by the level of organisation of the active part of the youth. It was such an impressive encounter that we have put the notes from some of the conversation directly in the report just as they are.

We learned that youth organisations, within the Muslim Community and the Catholic Church, did not have a significant aspect of development on their programme, so we did not try to meet them. The individuals from these two communities who wanted to participate in such common activities did it through local community organisations.

On the other hand, there are a number of really disturbing elements that are representing risks. There was heavy fighting in the Lunsar area. Young people from the area participated on both sides. We talked with the Assistant Operations Director of Help a Needy Child International and with the Representative of Red Cross in Port Loko. Both organisations had reintegration of child soldiers on the programme. We also talked with a person who was involved in the national DDR program in Port Loko and who know the outcome of last year's evaluation of the DDR programme. It seems that it is right to say that the reintegration was not as successful as one could expect. Knowing that specialised international NGOs consider 60% success in reintegration (40% failure) is about the best result they can hope for, we have good reasons to think that less than one-half of the child soldiers who got the opportunity have been successful.

A number of frustrated young people without hope are in the area. The only experience they have in life is to use arms. The number of street children is increasing. The misuse of drugs and organised prostitution and robbery is also increasing. There is food shortage in Sierra Leone. The Lunsar area has plenty of available land for agriculture and there is an extremely high percentage of unemployment. Unofficial, but relatively reliable information indicate 80% of young people as unemployed.

These young people have not yet decided what they will do in life. Until 1985 there was a huge extraction of iron ore close to Lunsar, the salaries were numerous and among the highest in the country. Young people are dreaming of these golden days and are doing nothing.

The schools and many of the youth organisations are deliberately using sport both for girls and boys, in order to give young people a positive alternative to an idle life. They also use sport deliberately to teach young people about respect for rules, to learn to win without arrogance and to loose without anger. They have been able to create a relaxed atmosphere in connection with minor local sport events, a place where all people can come, and where problems are solved.

The idea is that the missionary will work as a resource person in order to enhance the quality of the sport. This will give him many possibilities to talk with individuals in order to motivate them for agriculture, the only economic activity that is a possibility for everybody. There are at least two youth organisations that focus on agriculture. One of them is called "Young Investors" with a membership of 30, of which 10 are young women. They are systematically discussing development issues and have experience with various ways of investing. Their conclusion is that the most efficient way of getting a reasonable benefice from their investments is to invest in agriculture. Their experience could be used as an asset in motivating the unemployed youth for agriculture.

Here follows the last part of the conclusion of the report:

The main objective for this project is to contribute to the stabilisation of a vulnerable community.

The main effort of the project towards this goal should be to provide a resource person for sport based in the BCSL with outreach to the entire sport milieu in Lunsar area, concentrating on training of leaders and training of trainers (coaches). All actors on the sport arena agree on that sport is an activity that is good both for girls and boys, and all information show that they are accepting the consequences and include both boys and girls. The missionary shall use his creativity to find ways and means to increase the percentage of girls on all levels.

The details of this cooperation with the existing organised sport will have to be elaborated when the missionary is present in Lunsar.

In this position the missionary will meet a large number of unemployed young men and women and he should try to motivate them for agriculture, as this is the only economic activity that has a potential for absorbing a relatively high number of unemployed people in an activity that has top priority from the government. The project should provide them with tools and seed and link them up to groups of youth who are already engaged in agriculture for advice and guidance. This activity has the advantage that it is cultural acceptable for both young men and young women.

He may consider if it is possible to combine these prioritised activities with teaching mechanics to a few young people at the garage of the eye hospital.

Two structures should be made for the project:

- A steering committee based in Lunsar with members from the Baptist Convention and from the community. The moderator of the Baptist Convention in the Lunsar area should be a member.

A combined advisory committee for the reproductive health project and the youth project, based in Freetown with a representative from the EBM, the coordinator of the social ministries, the coordinator of the church ministry and representatives from the Youth Union and from the Women's Union. The General Secretary has a right in officio to be present in all committee meetings.

Both committees should try to have an equal number of members from each sex.

There are some good reasons to link the project to the Baptist Convention in Lunsar. It would facilitate the relations with the BUN because of the already existing routines for mutual information. The visit made it clear that when the meeting with the community youth associations was about to fail because for political reasons it was difficult to gather all associations in the city hall, the Baptist Church building Ebenezer was accepted by all as a neutral place. Finally, the Baptist Church in Lunsar is rather big, and they have experience in running development activities and youth activities.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Sierra Leone

2.1.1 History

The Republic of Sierra Leone is a country in West Africa. It is bordered by Guinea on the north and Liberia on the south, with the Atlantic Ocean on the west. The name Sierra Leone was adapted from the Portuguese name for the country: *Serra Leoa*. The literal meaning is “Lion Mountains”.

The relations with Europe started in 1462 when the Portuguese explorer Pedro da Cintra landed and named the country. During the 1700s Sierra Leone was an important centre of the Transatlantic Slave Trade. In 1787 Freetown was established as a haven for former slaves who had been living in London. The first settlement was the capital, Freetown. In 1808, Freetown became a British Crown Colony, and in 1896, the interior of the country became a British Protectorate.

The Crown Colony and Protectorate joined and gained independence on April 27, 1961. Sir Milton Margai (1895-1964) was the first prime minister.

Sierra Leone became a one-party state in the early 1970s. From 1991 to 2000, the country suffered greatly under a devastating civil war, with the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), led by Foday Sankoh, attacking government soldiers and civilians indiscriminately (Sierra Leone Civil War). This resulted in tens of thousands of deaths and the displacement of more than 2 million people (well over one-third of the population) many of whom became refugees in neighbouring countries. A military coup on May 25, 1997 briefly replaced then President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah with Major Johnny Paul Koromah. Kabbah was reinstated in March 1998 when the Nigerian-led ECOMOG forces ousted the junta.

The Lomé Peace Accord signed on July 7, 1999 in Lomé, Togo offered hope that the country would be able to terminate the period of civil chaos that had engulfed it, and rebuild its devastated economy and infrastructure. As of late 1999, up to 6.000 UNAMSIL peacekeepers were in the process of deploying to bolster the peace accord.

In May 2000, the situation in the country deteriorated to such an extent that British troops were deployed in Operation Palliser to evacuate foreign nationals and establish order. They stabilised the situation, and were the catalyst for ceasefire and ending of the civil war. The war ended in 2002. United Nations peacekeeping forces withdrew at the end of 2005.

2.1.2 Politics and Administrative Divisions

The head of state and government is the president, who is elected every five years (most recently in May 2002). He appoints and heads a cabinet of ministers. The Sierra Leonean parliament is unicameral, with 124 seats. 112 members are elected concurrently with the presidential elections; paramount chiefs from each of the country’s 12 administrative districts fill the other 12 seats.

Local Government elections were held in 2004 (for the first time since 1972), electing 456 councillors sitting in 19 local councils.

Sierra Leone is divided into three provinces and one area, and subdivided into 14 districts.

A civilian UN office remains to support the government. Mounting tensions related to plan 2007 elections, deteriorating political and economic conditions in Guinea, and the tenuous security situation in neighbouring Liberia may present challenges to continuing progress in Sierra Leone's stability.

The Paramount Chiefs still keep a formal position in the administration, the strength of which is illustrated by the fact that they have 12 members in the Parliament. The corresponding chiefdoms are often referred to as administrative units.

2.1.3 Geography

Much of Sierra Leone's coastline consists of mangrove swamps, with the exception of the peninsula on which the capital city Freetown is located. The rest of Sierra Leone is mostly plateau (about 300 m above sea level) covered by forests, with mountains in the northeast of the country with the highest point Loma Mansa 1948 m. The climate is tropical, with a rainy season from May to December.

Major cities are the capital Freetown, Koidu (Sefadu), Bo, Kenema and Makeni.

Rainfall along the coast can reach 495 cm a year, making it one of the wettest places along coastal, western Africa.

2.1.4 Economy¹

Sierra Leone is an extremely poor nation with tremendous inequality in income distribution. While it possesses substantial mineral (diamonds, titanium ore, bauxite, iron ore, gold, chromite), agricultural, and fishery resources, its economic and social infrastructure is not well developed and serious social disorders continue to hamper economic development. About two-thirds of the working-age population engages in subsistence agriculture. Before the war, subsistence agriculture engaged about two-third of the working population, but following the end of the war in 2002, there has been substantial labour movement to other productive sectors, especially diamond mining. However, output in cash crop production (coffee, cocoa, groundnuts, and palm kernels), particularly in the country's east, has recently increased.

Manufacturing consists mainly of the processing of raw materials and of light manufacturing for the domestic market. Alluvial diamond mining remains the major source of hard currency earnings, accounting for nearly half of Sierra Leone's exports. The fate of the economy depends upon the maintenance of domestic peace and the continued receipt of substantial aid from abroad, which is essential to offset the severe trade imbalance and supplement government revenues. The IMF has completed a Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility program that helped stabilize economic growth and reduce inflation. A recent increase in political stability has led to a revival of economic activity, such as the rehabilitation of bauxite mining.

The environment has suffered from rapid population growth pressuring the environment by over harvesting of timber, expansion of cattle grazing, and slash-and-burn agriculture have

¹ From "THE WORLD FACTBOOK"

resulted in deforestation and soil exhaustion, civil war depleting natural resources and over fishing.

2.1.5 Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)²

Since the mid-1980s Sierra Leone has suffered dramatic economic decline. It has gone through a ten-year brutal armed conflict, with ever-worsening poverty. An interim PRSP (IPRSP) was finalised in 2001 and a National Recovery Strategy (NRS) in 2002, to support transition from peacekeeping to peace-building, and to equitable growth and sustainable development. The current PRSP covers the years 2005-2007. About 26 percent of the population is food poor, and cannot afford a basic diet; 70 percent live in poverty. The 2005-2007 PRSP provides bold sectoral policies and institutional reforms to achieve economic growth, providing food security, job opportunities, basic social services and effective social safety nets.

Pillar 2 in the PRSP relates to income and production:: strategies, and programmes for food security and job creation through pro-poor sustainable growth. Food shortage is seen as the most important determinant of poverty. Food security is at the hearth of poverty reduction: it contributes to reduced child malnutrition and mortality and improved maternal health.

One main point under Pillar 2 is Food security strategy empowering poor rural and urban households to improve the food consumes, and encouraging farm families to produce more. Government will support small-scale subsistence farmers, who dominate agriculture, to diversify and increase production...

Pillar 3 has a point that runs like this: The youth, the 15-35 age group, underwent violent, radical transformation during the conflict. Those engaged in harmful activities are now part of the society. Youth's needs must receive attention in peace building and poverty reduction. Programmes have been developed, and training opportunities provided, but the youth development issues continue to pose challenges.

Dealing with implementing of the programme the PRSP states that: "NGO's, civil societies and community-based organisations will continue to play an important part."

On page 61 the PRSP states that: "Port Loko and Kenema districts, which amounted for 9.8 and 8.9 of the sample population, recorded the highest contribution to poverty of 11,5 percent and 1.1 percent respectively."

On page 80-81 The PRSP states that: The 2003/2004 Integrated Household Survey also shows that the incidence of youth poverty is about 58%. This is manifested in the high rate of unemployment in their group in both rural and urban areas.

2.1.6 Demographics and Health

There are about 14 ethnic groups living in Sierra Leone, which together make up about 99% of the population. The most important tribes are the Temne (mostly in the north) and Mende (central and south), both forming about one-third of the population. There is a sizeable number of Krios, descendants of enslaved Africans, freed in London in the late 1700s and later returned to West Africa. Other groups include the Limba, Susu, Madingo, Kono,

² The information here is picked from the official PRSP for Sierra Leone

Yalunka. The ethnic groups are distinct in some of their music, traditions, cultures. At the same time, there are many overlapping traditions.

Although English is the official language, it is understood by only a minority, as most people speak their ethnic group's own language. The Krio language, based on English and African languages, is however spoken by most of the population. Islam and Christianity both claim many adherents in Sierra Leone, though Muslims are more numerous. (The World Factbook indicates 60% Muslims, 30% indigenous beliefs and 10% Christians) Sierra Leoneans also adhere to traditional African religious practices.

Sierra Leone is the worst nation in the world for childbirth, having the highest Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), or risk of maternal death, of any country. The MMR of Sierra Leone, according to a report from the World Health Organisation in the year 2000, is 2,000 maternal deaths per live 100,000 births. The extremely high MMR is principally due to a lack of capacity to deal with obstetric complications such as haemorrhage, obstructed labour, ectopic gestation, puerperal sepsis, and complications caused by unsafe abortion. Those situations were aggravated by the rebellion and the detrimental effects on distribution of reproductive health services due to the massive displacement of people, destruction of medical infrastructure and hospital equipment, rural inaccessibility, poor and disadvantageous accessibility to basic medical service.

The World factbook gives an average life span of a Sierra Leonean is 38 years for men and 42 years for women, whereas the PRSP states that: Life expectancy at birth declined to 34,3 years in 2002 from 42 years in 1990. It is 35,6 years for female and 33,1 years for male.

The proportion of the population undernourished in 1999/2001 was estimated at 50 percent, compared to 46 percent in 1990/92. The sanitation situation is also unsatisfactory. Hardly any rural village has adequate pit latrines, posing serious health and environmental problems for the communities. (for statistics, see appendix 3)

2.1.7 Education and poverty

On page 76 the PRSP states that: School attendance across households improves with the income of the household. School attendance is higher among males than females for both poor and non-poor households, rising among males from nearly 50 percent in the poorest households to over 70 percent for the non-poor. For females, it rises from about 33 percent to 60 percent.

At 31 percent, Sierra Leone's adult literacy rate is one of the lowest in the world. Adult literacy rates by gender much lower outside the Western Area. Four out of five male are literate in the Western Area compared to 1 in 13 female in the Northern Region and 1 in 10 female in the Eastern Region. According to the survey results 18 percent of adult females (above 18 years) can read English, compared to 35 percent for adult males; while 20 percent of female adults and 37 percent of male adults can do written calculations.

The survey also shows that 2.3 percent and 1.4 percent of males and females attended adult literacy classes, respectively. The reasons for not attending literacy classes for both males and females include non-availability, large number of household chores (8 percent males and 16 percent females) and lack of caretakers for children.

2.2 Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone (BCSL)

2.2.1 *The Church*

The BCSL had until a few years ago its main centre of interest in the Lunsar area where the church's headquarter was located. During the war the headquarter of the church was de facto transferred to Freetown and it is most likely that it will remain there. The BCSL has about 10 000 baptised members. In addition there are a large number of non-baptised adults who go regularly to church. Including the children the total number of people belonging to the BCSL is about 40 000. The BCSL suffered heavy losses during the war when most of its installations in Lunsar were destroyed. However their international partners were faithful and with funding mainly from America, most of the buildings have been rehabilitated to a relatively high standard.

The Baptist Convention is divided into eight church districts with a total of 96 churches, of which some 25 are located in Freetown. The number of churches is rapidly increasing.

The central administration is divided into Social Services and Church Ministries. Church Ministries run the activities that are not classified as social services. It has two organised subgroups at national level, on area level and on local church level. These are: Women's Union and Youth's Union. (see also appendix 1)

2.2.2 *Women's Union*

Women's union has about 5000-6000 members. It has a strong leadership and has as main objective to assure a viable gender perspective in the priorities, the life and the activities of the church. The Women's Union takes initiative and run projects that has an obvious dominant interest for women.

2.2.3 *Youth's Union*

The youth's union is organising Youth (15-25 years) and young adults (26-35 years). Each area organise its own programme according to local priorities and interests. Common activities tend to be: evangelism, gospel bands, choirs, leadership training and capacity building for local youth leaders. These programmes and organisation gives practical experience and theoretical training to some 400-500 young throughout the country. Sport, in particular football is also very common. They use it as a tool to gather the youth around something that is considered to be positive. After the war, football was risky and local youth leaders in BCSL asked for support from national level, but now it tends towards local responsibility again. No girls are playing football in this setting. They prefer volleyball. Sport, both football and volleyball, is used as a connector when there is a local conflict. The event is a neutral happening that brings people from all groups together, and people find their ways to settle local and personal conflicts.

2.2.4 *BCSL's Policy for Development*

BCSL's Strategic Plan 2006-2010 starts with a statement on development of which we shall quote the last part:

“ The Baptist Convention has walked with the people of Sierra Leone through the emergency and now we are ready to walk the road of reconstruction and development.

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper of the government of Sierra Leone lists Health and HIV/AIDS, Water and Sanitation, Education, Governance, Security/Conflict, Resource

Management and Food Security as the major development concerns for the country. BCSL shares these concerns and we are confident we can make a significant contribution in reducing poverty through addressing issues of food security, health, HIV/AIDS and education.”

In other words, the BCSL expresses a strong support to the PRSP of the government of Sierra Leone.

More specifically we will quote from Goal 8 on improved food security situation in Sierra Leone: Despite the favourable farming conditions that prevail in Sierra Leone, the productivity is very low, a result of poor farming techniques, low investment in farming, poor policy support among others. Considering our long experience with food security interventions our contribution in this area will be valuable.

The two main strategies to achieve this are:

- improved access to appropriate farm inputs;
- partner with farmers in improving produce and market infrastructure

2.2.5 Agriculture

With support from Baptist World Aid 400 bushels of seed rice were given to four Baptist Area Associations and to four village communities in order to develop seed banks as a food security drive. They also supported Cassava Cultivation Projects in five communities. One cassava grater was purchased in addition to the two previous ones. Finally the Baptist World Aid financed two computers and the set up of internet in the church office in order to improve the communication with partners overseas.

2.2.6 Safe drinking Water

Tear Fund Holland has funded a water well project at Makomp in Marampa Chiefdom (Lunsar) providing safe drinking water to the entire community.

2.2.7 Capacity Building

Tear Fund Holland and UK also have funded the participation of the coordinator of social services in BCSL at a ten days church/community empowerment programme in Kenya. In November 2005, Tear Fund conducted and funded a workshop for 30 persons from Sierra Leone and Liberia on Community empowerment. The workshop was held in BCSL’s conference centre in Lunsar. Tear Fund also has financed and carried through in 2005-2006 a training programme for church member staff especially those involved in development activities. Coaching exercises on Strategic Plan, Project Cycle, Management (PCM), Peace Building, HIV/Aids and Community empowerment were conducted and funded by Tear Fund.

2.2.8 Secondary Schools

BCSL runs four secondary schools with the following statistics:

School	Boys	Girls	Total	Teachers
Scarcies Baptist Secondary School	504	125	629	22
Allen Town Baptist Secondary School	413	301	714	45
Gbendembu Baptist Secondary School	292	79	371	19
Samu Baptist Secondary School	347	66	413	15
Total	1556	571	2127	101

The national quota system for recruitment of teachers makes it in fact impossible to recruit new teachers, whereas the number of students is increasing. The Baptist schools used to be of

high quality, and they still are, but it is getting more and more difficult to maintain the level of quality, because they do not receive any support for schools from abroad any more.

2.2.9 Vocational Training

The BCSL also runs a vocational institute with 25 teachers and 256 students. The institute gives training in Tailoring, Carpentry, Secretarial Studies, Home Economics, Computer and Agriculture. During the year 2005-2006 the institute got training materials from the Finnish Baptist Union and from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security got animals of various kinds for breeding.

2.2.10 Primary Schools

Finally, in the educational sector the BCSL runs 22 primary schools of which 17 are approved. These schools have 154 teachers of whom 107 are trained and 47 untrained. These schools have a total of 6776 children on the school roll. Five schools are not yet approved. They have 13 teachers of whom 4 are trained and nine are untrained. The total number of children on school roll in the unapproved schools is 673.

2.2.11 Medical Work

On the medical sector the BCSL runs an Eye Hospital in Lunsar, a health centre in Nonkoba (Lunsar area) and two health centres in the Kambia District.

So far the main sources for outside financing have been: The EBM, the Baptist World Alliance, Tear Fund Holland and Evangelische Entwicklungsdienst.

Comments: this short presentation of BCSL is describing an organisation that has survived the war, with its structures, its creativity, its active role in the society, and that has a credibility internationally in a way that old partners have contributed massively to rehabilitation of infrastructure and it attracts new partners such as BUN.

2.3 Victims of the Care of the International Community and the NGOs

2.3.1 NGOs and Empowerment

Sierra Leone received massive support from the international community after the war was over. Many of the NGOs were certainly professional and did a good job. The problem seems to arise when the professionals who are doing a good job, set the agenda because they think that they know best, they have the money and have short deadlines for reporting on successes. With a large experience from several countries in Africa, including countries that are in a transitional period, politically, socially and economically, the editor of this report has never experienced something near to the widespread feeling of frustration towards the World of NGOs that came to help them whether they wanted to be helped or not.

This experience is an excellent illustration of the meaning of the word “empowerment”, where the project team shows respect for people, listens to their priorities instead of trying to convince them about the superiority of our strategy. We will illustrate this by using some of the comments we got from people with whom we talked.

2.3.2 *No more Reconciliation*

On June 13 the team asked the BCSL – Youth Executive Committee for their opinion about the possibility to include reconciliation as a main objective of the project. The answer was very clear:

“After the war, a number of international NGOs were established and started to work in Sierra Leone, and a number of local and national NGOs got funding for their activities. This was the golden period for reconciliation. It was for a shorter period of time easy to get funding for activities that pretended to facilitate reconciliation. When the donors thought that reconciliation was achieved, or that their funding dried up, these activities stopped. In a way people were fed up. Please no more reconciliation.”

Our comments: Nevertheless we understood later on that the reconciliation was far from achieved. The need was there. But the issue could no more be approached by foreigners. It was not possible to talk about the issue in political terminology. The nearest one could come was to talk about activities that could be a contribution towards the stabilisation of the society.

2.3.3 *Setting the Agenda by Use of Money*

In order to better understand the reason why people have had enough of men and women of good intentions who are coming to Sierra Leone to solve the problems for the people we shall present the story of Josephine Isatu Conteh a 45 years old qualified nurse whom we met in Lunsar on June 22.

“She fled to Freetown in 2000 in order to avoid the war. Thinking of what this war was doing to the children she returned to Lunsar in 2001 before the war was over. She founded an organisation called Child Protection Association (CPA) together with two other women. They took care of 150 children of various age and background. The resources were not sufficient for the need. Then came an international NGO Action for Children in Conflict, they invited her for cooperation concerning “sexual abused girls” because that was their priority. The CPA had to choose 50 girls of that category and trained them in skills like gara-tie dyeing, hairdressing and tailoring and gave them kits to start the work. This lasted for one year and then the Action for Children in Conflict was out. Then in 2003 the NGO War Child came to the area. They approached her for cooperation. The priority for War Child was to get land for playing games. She arranged that for them, but the land was never exploited for War Child changed priority and left the area. However they are still promising funding for finalising the plans. Then came Right to Play and wanted her cooperation. She participated in several training sessions and became Star Coach. They organised plays for children. She wanted to introduce HIV information, but then all of a sudden the Right to Play left last year. For the moment the CPA is following up its own priorities without any international partner with their own priorities. Together with two other women, Josephine Isatu Conteh has a day care centre for 30 children who used to be guides for blind beggars. They get one meal every day and some education. Her association has six members, each contributing with half a dollar a month. So for the moment she and her two helpers are struggling along without help from NGOs”.

Her story makes it possible to understand that people are not always convinced that it is good idea to let foreign “experts” set the agenda.

2.3.4 Listening and Being Good without Knowing

The team met with the leaders and some members of all the various women's associations in Lunsar on June 22, 2006, a total of 41 women. We had listened to their presentation of their work for more than one hour and had not yet told anything about the profile of the projects that could be organised. Then one woman stopped the proceedings and said with some surprise and some joy "this is the first time since the war that we are all gathered in one place and that foreigners just listen to what we are doing, we use to be told what we should do. Another thing is that now we know of each other and we can certainly do more if we cooperate between us." This was followed by applause from all the women in the audience. Then we continued to listen to the presentation of their work, followed by some priorities for further actions. Finally the project coordinator of the BUN presented their tentative plans that were so close to their priorities that it was easy to adapt.

2.3.5 Frustration, Partnership, Values and Church Profile

The president of the board of the BCSL said in a debriefing meeting on June 24, 2006: "The needs for missionaries are there, and we are grateful for this opportunity. We have seen NGOs coming, they tell us things and at the end of the day they will have done nothing".

"The Church expects that missionaries who are doing social work, also will witness about Jesus. Successful partnership is based on mutual respect. We used to look to America for values, but we don't do that any more as they are bullying the whole world. We have an experience with missionaries who wanted to decide because they had the money. They got frustrated and left when they realised that it is not possible to run a church by the use of money. Your approach has been different."

2.3.6 Feasibility Study and Empowerment

The three Sierra Leonian members of the project team insisted strongly on the fact that a feasibility study of this kind was new to them, and that it was a very positive experience. They repeated this in the debriefing meeting with the top leaders of the church on June 24, 2006:

"This exercise should be organised every time when a missionary comes, in order to strengthen the impact of their presence and their work."

These comments give a clear indication about the approach that is wanted in Sierra Leone. This approach was indicated by the Norwegian Baptist Union as the one to be used for this feasibility study and it fell natural for the team members.

2.4 LUNSAR

Lunsar is an administrative area in Porto Loko district. The area covers the area of Marampa Chiefdom. The total population of the Marampa Chiefdom is 37 567 (2005 census) of which 19 673 live in the city of Lunsar. The city of Lunsar is situated 120 km North-East of Freetown. A new paved road make it easy to drive between the two cities in less than three hours.

There are 22 formal schools and one informal school, with a total of 9 934 children. The city has five secondary schools, one Public, one Muslim and three Catholic, one for boys, one for girls and one vocational school. There are three Hospitals, one general Catholic Hospital, one

specialised Eye Hospital, run by the BCSL, and the Public Community Health Centre. In addition there are a few local health centres in some villages.

In a country that has the highest MMR in the world and the child mortality in the world, Lunsar is the worst area. According to information from the Community Health officer, the MMR is about 10% and the child mortality is about 40%.

A number of frustrated young people without hope are in the area. The only experience they have in life is to use arms. The number of street children is increasing. The misuse of drugs and organised prostitution and robbery is also increasing. There is food shortage in Sierra Leone. The Lunsar area has plenty of available land for agriculture and there is an extremely high percentage of unemployment. Unofficial, but relatively reliable information indicate 80% of young people as unemployed. These young people have not yet decided what they will do in life.

A few kilometres from Lunsar a huge project of extraction of iron ore was functioning until about 1985. People are still dreaming of those glorious days when salaries were high and jobs abundant.

Before the war BCSL had it's headquarter here. The number of buildings is impressive, and most of it has been fully rehabilitated after the war. During the war BCSL moved it's headquarter to Freetown, which led to a decrease in activities in Lunsar.

(See also point 4.6)

3. METHODOLOGY AND HYPOTHESIS

3.1 Metodology

The methodology consists mainly of three elements:

- Interviews
- Listening to people's experiences
- Documents (including internet)
- Observations

The present project does not fit in an already defined an organised structure. Therefore we have been very explicit and detailed in the information, trying to give a good background for the considerations we have made. We think that we have been true to the main ideas as the various persons and groups whose contributions we have used as a base for our analysis expressed them. However, we cannot guarantee that we have got correct all the details, but we have tried our best. This means that in case that there should be a problem, we are responsible for the version we have used and not the contributors who could in some cases have expressed themselves slightly different. On the other hand the honour of the contribution belong to those who made it.

We worked in Freetown June 13-17, in Lunsar June 18-22 and then again in Lunsar June 23-26 (the consultant left Sierra Leone on June 25). The same group worked simultaneously on another project concerning Reproductive Health, so the time was shared between the two projects.

The team met with the BCSL's leadership and the board of the Social Ministries in the beginning of the work where the outline of possible projects and formalities were discussed and by the end the team had a debriefing with the church's leadership in order to inform of the main findings and the recommendations.

3.2 Hypothesis:

1. Sport could be used as a tool for Reconciliation
2. Sport could be organised through the project
3. Literacy could add another positive element to the effect of sport

As we shall see, our recommendations were somewhat different at the end of a series of meetings with groups and individuals of various backgrounds and on various levels.

4. RECONCILIATION – BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCES

4.1 Point of View BCSL Youth Executive

13.06.06

We have already mentioned under the point 2.3 and the headline *Reconciliation* the main points of view of the leaders of the youth. They also seemed to think that there was no need for reconciliation in Lunsar, because there was no tension there, a point they shared with the representative of the European Baptist Mission. This may be a first reaction to the idea that the project should promote reconciliation.

There was heavy fighting in Lunsar. One result for the church was that the central administration was removed from Lunsar to Freetown, where it is still located. According to some people it seems however that there are no groups in Lunsar that were opposed to each other. Thus there are no tensions or common frustrations that could justify a project with reconciliation as a main objective. We got another impression when we came to Lunsar.

4.2 Armies of the Young

In the book "Armies of the Young", published in 2005, which deals with the phenomena of child soldiers, there is a chapter on the situation in Sierra Leone. It describes a situation, in particular in Freetown, where young people, boys and girls, organise themselves in groups that have been getting increasingly criminal and violent after independence.

Comments: This description has many of the same points that have been told us by Alfred E. Kamara and James Kamara on June 16, 2006. It seems that one of the main centres of an organised and destructive youth culture remain unchanged and is still a potential for recruitment.

4.3 Experience from Alfred E. Kamara and James Kamara

16.06.06

After the war, many had traumas. People needed to settle down, to come together, to cope with the society because all was scandalised. We sensitised people to accept that we had to settle, to experiment.

We realised that if we train people, bringing in new skills in addition to the ones we already had, we could easier relate to each other: group discussions, social clubs for youth, peace rallies etc. After the peace rallies the people tolerated each other. They went to their own people teaching them what they had learned. This happened through seminars and workshops on conflict resolution and conflict transformation and through rallies organised by BCSL, later in cooperation with Christian Council of Sierra Leone (CCSL), in 2002.

They reached most of the youth. It was difficult to accept reconciliation with young people who had cut off hands, arms, feet, who had been looting and raping, who had destructed their houses and had killed their friends and family members. By that time the immediate reaction when ex-combatants saw others talking together, was that they were planning some coup against them. But there was no option to reconciliation. But still the youth was neglected. The ghettos in the cities were full of young people using drugs, gambling and prostitution. The unemployment was, and still is, very high. Some got financing to agriculture and other activities from NGOs. Some are doing agriculture, but many young people still don't do anything. The government is currently making plans for helping the youth.

Comment: This contribution shows some of the dramatic consequences of the war as people are struggling to find a common road towards the future. The last part of their description is confirming the description in "Armies of the Young".

4.4 Experience of Red Cross in Port Loko

We met the Branch Field Officer of Red Cross in Port Loko who explained for us their programme for their centre for advocacy and rehabilitation of War Affected Children. The expression includes child soldiers.

The centre is heavily staffed with paid Red Cross agents. The centre is sending personnel to the communities to motivate and to choose the children who shall benefit from the centre. 150 children are recruited each year from the 11 chiefdoms in the district. The centre does not recruit pregnant girls, but they do accept girl mothers with their child. There is no boarding at the centre. Many of the children have to find a place to live in the city of Port Loko.

The centre has children from 10-18 years. The ones from 10-13 are recruited in April and get education in ordinary school disciplines. The centre finds the level of education they have and place them in schools in September when the ordinary school year starts. The ones from 14 to 18 start in September for skill training: carpentry, brick making for construction, tailoring, gara-tie dyeing, weaving and soap making (the three last items constitute one skill). The teaching of skills goes along with teaching of literacy. The literacy teaching is general and not adapted to the skill they are learning. It is very popular. The centre buys the books from the Ministry of Education.

They are organising football for both boys and girls who play matches against teams from other Red Cross centres from other districts in the country.

After having finished the training, the children are followed up during six month by staff from Red Cross and then the follow up is taken care of by voluntary local groups.

Comment: The presentation was very formal. The Branch Field officer never ever gave any indication of success or of problems or other difficulties. They use football as a tool in the

process of reintegration, but we find it strange, that they are exclusively organising matches with other Red Cross centres. It would be better for the reintegration if they had developed as strong ties and fellowship as possible with their home communities.

4.5 Experience from Pastor Paul Abess Kamara, BCSL

17.06.2006

He worked in Port Loko for the National Commission for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) from November 1999 to April 2003, as animator in the disarmament sector until the disarmament was finished in 2002 and continued as paying officer until he finished his work there. He was not involved in demobilisation, only in disarmament. The adults were demobilised and the children were sent to Caritas for reintegration at the Catholic mission in Port Loko. Some children were sent to schools. Others were sent to centres for skill training. Once they had finished they got their kits and were sent back to their communities afterward. There was no follow-up at all.

Some NGOs organised training in peace and reconciliation, but most of them soon ended their programmes. Others are still doing something on peace and sport etc. Quite a few of the children involved were not motivated at all. They came just to get their allowances, which they sold. These young people are around and they do nothing that could be considered as positive. In 2005 the NCDDR undertook an evaluation and had to conclude that a large number of young people has not succeeded their reintegration.

Comment: It's interesting to note that NGOs are using sport as a tool to support their activities to strengthen the peace in the area. On the other hand, the experiences from Congo confirm the negative experience from NCDDR in reintegration of child soldiers. The problem is certainly real.

4.6 Red Cross in Lunsar

Mohamed Lamin Bah is chairman of the Red Cross group in Lunsar. They started a community project in 1996. It was an emergency programme. They had chlorine in all water sources in town, they cleaned the grave yard, the market place and the roadsides. They fled to Freetown in 2000 and came back in 2002 to start life over again. They cleaned the market, organised football matches and reorganised Red Cross. They were blackmailed by people who said that they had supported the rebels, because the rebels had been seen, wearing red cross mantels that they had stolen. This is an example of how difficult it is to work in an immediate after war situation.

There are an increasing number of street children 10-25 years in Lunsar with no family who cares for them. Even children living with their parents have problems. Not all have three meals a day. The centre in Port Loko did not take children from Lunsar. Unemployment is extremely high, and so is the poverty. There are many educated youth in Lunsar who need kits to start their professional life. Many people in Lunsar sit waiting for the mines to reopen. The food production is very low in Sierra Leone, which depend heavily on imported rice. There is plenty of land available in the Lunsar area. You don't need much capital to start agriculture. It is a possible solution for most of the unemployed, because agricultural techniques are part of the culture in the area. The government has self-sufficiency of food as a national priority and Red Cross has food security on the programme. But the unemployed are hoping for something more interesting, in particular that the mines shall open again.

In this situation, sport is important because it gathers everybody. There are many cases of families who have not settled their differences after the war who meet at a sport event and there starts the way towards a normal situation again.

Comments from the team: There is a win-win situation if the project will be able to motivate young unemployed men and women for agriculture. There is shortage of food in Sierra Leone, there is good cultivable land available in Lunsar, agriculture is part of the local culture and there are public technicians in agriculture available in order to improve traditional techniques. The Government has self-sufficiency of food as a national priority. The project will give seed of better quality that will increase the harvest. According to the association called Young Investors they had tried a few things in order to earn money. The animal husbandry was too risky, but investment in agriculture gave a steady and reliable income. The project could have a kind of cooperation with young investors, where it buys advices and services for a reasonable price. Maybe they can even cooperate for motivation of young unemployed. At least it is a possibility that would have to be explored. This is the only association that we were able to locate that systematically discuss development issues related to young people, and they have experience that agriculture gives the best income. An additional asset with this association is that one-third of the members are young women.

It's also interesting to note once more that sport is considered to be an important tool in the healing process of the communities because sport events are perceived as neutral places where all people can come and where personal or family conflicts are settled.

4.7 International Alert

In a report from 1997 published by International Alert it is stated that one of the main reasons for the rebellion/civil war in Sierra Leone was the growing frustration of the young who became more and more marginalized with no jobs, no school and no hope for the future. One of the conclusions of the report is that one of the strongest factors of destabilisation of a society is young people without a positive occupation and without hope for the future.

Comment: this is another argument in favour of the project.

4.8 Point of View of James Kamara and Mohamed Monsoray 16.06.2006

There are permanent conflicts in the area. An opposition party, All People's Congress (APC), politically dominates Lunsar. Next year there will be a general election that will bring this latent conflict to the surface. There is a permanent conflict between the youth and the Paramount Chiefs. Some youth from Lunsar fought for the rebels, others fought for the government. There are still problems between these two groups. The church organised workshops/seminars for youth and for the whole Baptist Convention (2003) in peace building and for peace messengers.

4.9 Conclusion on the Issue of Teaching Reconciliation

In addition to the notes that we have made, we have received remarks, and we have made some observations that tend to confirm the main arguments in our writing so far.

Teaching and preparing for reconciliation have been done in an appropriate way by some actors, with a high degree of positive results whereas others have lost opportunities, maybe because they had no commitment or because they were foreigners who did not understand the

social, political and cultural background, or because they knew the answers before they asked and were not used to listen. It seems that the time is over for organised reconciliation because most people have had enough. However, there is still need for reconciliation, but it has to be done with a high degree of sensitivity concerning terms and means that are used. This should not be the responsibility of the Norwegian missionary who shall start to work in Lunsar.

In the Lunsar area the reintegration that largely failed, has created a situation of instability with a large number of frustrated young people with no work and no hope. The unemployment rate is extremely high. Unofficially informed people talk about 80% of unemployment among the youth. All sources give us the same picture that the number of street children is also increasing.

Kåre Lode is currently doing some research on reintegration of child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo. 180 teenagers, boys and girls, ex child soldiers, who actually are in the process of reintegration, have answered a questionnaire. The overwhelming majority have said that they could be ready to join armed groups again. The main reason they are giving for doing so is a non-satisfactory result of the process of reintegration.

Unsuccessful reintegration of ex-combatants, adults and young/children is creating a potential for new violence, in a way they have been immunised against normal work. The only experience they have, which gave them power and income, is the use of arms. This is a common experience in most countries who live in an after war period. South Africa did not succeed the reintegration, and is paying a high price through the degree of violence in the society.

The situation is serious. It has to be dealt with on national level and on local level in Lunsar. The present feasibility study shall concentrate on the local level. But before we do so, we shall look into another side of community life in Lunsar, an area where young people have organised themselves to an extent that is surprising and impressive. This organised part of the young people is an asset of tremendous value in coping with the situation. But before we come to recommendations we shall look into some of this organised work.

We will also note that a number of these conversations and meetings gave more input on sport as a tool for stabilisation of the society.

5. SPORT & LOCAL YOUTH ASSOCIATIONS

5.1 Schools

In general all schools on all levels have sport on the curriculum. Football and volleyball seem to be the most popular sports both for boys and for girls. All schools have a field where these and other sport activities can take place and with few if any exceptions, these fields are open for everybody when school is over and they are frequently used.

We visited four secondary schools, one Islamic, one Governmental and two Catholic, one of which is a vocational school. These four schools seemed to have qualified teachers for sport. They all stressed that sport was part of a process where children and the youth should learn to win without arrogance and to lose without anger. They should learn to observe rules and learn of the benefit of playing in teams. The leaders of these schools were all open to

cooperation with the Baptist Union in order to strengthen the sport activities if the church went for such a solution.

The Maramba Islamic secondary school wanted to expend to handball, basketball and table tennis. The objective for sport is to create a common platform for youth, to strengthen the feelings of fellowship and to reduce frustration and differences.

The Our Lady of Guadalupe secondary school for girls was obviously an elite school with 740 students. All details were proof of quality. The girls were active in volleyball, basketball, football, athletics and gymnastics. Even though they were very open for cooperation, it would not be the right place for the project to add quality to the highest quality in the area.

The Abdou Wouri secondary school has a number of teachers and students who are members of the Baptist Convention. The relations between the Baptist Church and the school are good and they wanted to cooperate.

Saint Joseph Vocational Institute is giving a solid education in skills like auto mechanics 15 students, carpentry 20 students and building 25 students. They study for three years after secondary school. The Institute is under pressure from the government to increase the number of students and to recruit every year. It is preparing their students for practical work and not for further studies. But in special cases they give scholarships to particularly gifted students to enable them to go to the university.

They needed a mechanics and would be very open towards cooperation with the Baptist Church.

In the afternoons the centre is open for everybody regardless of educational level or gender. Women get training free of charge. The Institute runs a literacy course. The principal mentioned that young people are ashamed of being illiterates. To participate in a literacy course is to prove for everybody that they can't read. However, they do participate in literacy courses when it is linked up to skill training. Most of the students are adults, but there are some youth. The motivation is very high. It also has courses in livestock keeping and rice cultivation.

The school has micro credit programme in order to help the student to start their own activities. So far they have exceptional good results from this scheme. Through this scheme they are also supporting corn production and corn mills.

5.2 Meeting with Lunsar Sport Council (LUNSCO)

20.06.2006

The council was set up two years ago. They are recognised by the ministry of education, youth and sport and by local authorities. They are deciding the use of the city stadium in Lunsar. This organisation was mentioned in all the schools we were visiting and they all recommended us to see them, which is a sign of recognition of quality and position. The leaders of LUNSCO are specialists in sport. Some of them are sport teachers in school. They train leaders in sport activities. They invite teachers in the local schools to training sessions and contribute in this way to enhance the quality of sport in the school. They also train those who perform sport and had organised a workshop on refereeing.

They are very conscious of the ethics of sport and of the role of sport in the society. Often the teachers of a school try to put pressure on their students to be militant for their own schools. The leaders of LUNSCO explain to the participants what are expected from them in terms of fair play.

They have started to buy equipment for various sports, in particular for football, handball and athletics, but there are still many things they don't have, including literature. By the end of each academic year they give some smaller scholarships to those who has shown particular good performance. For the moment the organised football games are based on the schools. However they hope to be able to establish teams in other areas in Lunsar and thus start a series. So far, they have not been able to include dropouts, street-children and youth who are not in school, but the intention is to reach out to them also.

They are positive towards cooperation with the missionary as long as he does not challenge their position. In particular they want him for training in areas where they don't have enough competence. It was obvious that it would be possible to find a role and place for the missionary that will enable him to add lasting quality to the already existing programme.

5.3 Meeting with 22 members of the Lunsar Area Youth Association - BCSL-19.06.06

22 youth, 16 girls and 6 boys explained what they were doing and what they hoped to be able to achieve through a project. The oldest was 27, the youngest was 12, 15 were teenagers and the average was 19 years.

They had four main activities. On Saturdays they practiced singing and playing guitar in preparation of the Sunday service in church. The other three main activities are: evangelism, bible study and volleyball/football, each of these activities is on the programme every third week. All activities are organised on Fridays and Saturdays, but most of the young are free after four o'clock p.m. They are also playing ludo, cards, scrabble etc. There are two adults who supervise them. The young decide the secondary activities, but ask for approval by the leaders. All activities are open for everybody, but non-members of the church usually come only for the sport and plays. Small children are playing sack race etc.

Before the war there was a league for football and volleyball and they played matches regularly against other clubs. Now this happens more occasionally. They play football and volleyball in school. All schools have a terrain for football, which everybody can use when the school day is over.

What kind of activities would they add or strengthen?

Volleyball, football, table tennis, basketball, athletics (running) and scrabble

Everybody knows somebody who is illiterate, not necessarily because of poverty, but more often because the parents did not understand the value of the school. Some young school leavers became illiterate because the war prevented them from the use of that skill for a long period of time. Youth from all backgrounds meet when there is music and dance and when sport is going on. The church is organising literacy courses for adults, but not particularly for youth. They think that many illiterates are motivated for literacy course, but many will feel ashamed, because their presence at such courses is a proof that they are illiterates and they will not attend for that reason. Most of them are free in the afternoon and could attend, but the course would not be successful unless it is combined with skill training.

The young learn about HIV/Aids in school and they hear about it in the church. They talk about the issue between themselves and with their boyfriends/girlfriends.

Comment: It was interesting to meet these relatively young boys and girls. They were learning how to run an organisation, they were outspoken and had obviously got training in making analysis and knew how to argue.

5.4 Meeting with Lunsar Community Youth Association 21.06.2006

We had an appointment at 10 o'clock in the City Hall. Unfortunately the man with the key was not around at that moment, so the meeting was transferred to the nearby church. We understood later that the reason was that the man who had the key supported the government and the adviser, with whom the appointment was made, favoured the opposition. This incident shows clearly the necessity to take the political situation into account, in particular at this moment when the preparation for the next year's general election and presidential election will take place.

34 youth were present, of whom only one young women. The reason given for this was that young women were busy at the market on Tuesday and Wednesday morning. (our meeting took place a Wednesday before noon)

The youth divided the groups into two categories. The first category consisted of the following groups:

- a) Marampa football association. app 50 members, 38 men - 12 women
This is the oldest association: They gather young kids for playing football. They look for young talents to whom they give special attention and propose them as candidates for the district team.
- b) Intelligence crew 10 members, 5 men – 5 women
They organised and participated in social events with music and dance
- c) Lunsar youth and sport association 30 members, 18 men – 12 women
They plan sport activities and how they can organise the youth in the society. They clean the city and do some road maintenance work on voluntary basis.
- d) Young investors 30 members, 20 men – 10 women
They discuss issues related to the development in the chiefdoms, especially for the youth. They contribute with small amounts each. This capital is invested in animal husbandry (live stock): sheep and goats and the also invest in agriculture.
- e) Labour compound 75 members, 65 men - 10 women
This group is subdivided in four:
 - e-1) Hunting group (15 members) who go for hunting together
 - e-2) Cultural group (14 members) is singing and playing traditional songs, they perform on special occasions and earn money.
 - e-3) Football team (16 members)
 - e-4) Agricultural group (30 members) are producing mainly cassawa and sweet potatoes.
- f) Help the Children group 42 members, 30 men – 12 women
They divide the town between them. They check on all children to see if they go to school or not. Some of those who do not go are ex-child soldiers or street children. The group will negotiate with the children and the schools in order to find a solution

that will enable them to become regular students. From time to time they bring the children together, they clean the town and finally the children will have some food. They are also counselling the children. They also check on some children who have left home for school to see if they actually are present in the class room.

The second category that was indicated was social clubs with no specification of activities or membership or any other kind of information. These clubs were as far as we understood, not present in the meeting. A comment from the leader of one youth association made us think that some of these clubs were probably mainly for adults.

Injection back-up social club
Young elite social club
Star lovers social club
Universal friends social club
Great educators social club
Take off to university social club
Home based social club
Imagina social club
Marampa friends and family social club
A town based association
Tamaraneh farmers association

Members of all the religious communities, Muslims, Catholics, Baptists and Traditional are all represented in these groups. Whereas the internal Baptist Youth Association has some elements of development on their programme, the youth groups organised by the Catholics and the Muslims within the communities are purely religious that do not have any significant aspect of development on their programmes.

Comment: This was an impressive meeting with one of the strongest positive assets that the local communities have, youth who organise in order to improve the quality of their life and in order to play a role in the society. Sport has a strong position. Economic activities also had a strong position. There are several potential partners for the missionary. And a group of young investors who systematically tried to find the most efficient way to earn money and who shared their experiences with everybody who where present. It was interesting that for political reasons it would not have been possible to unite all these groups in one place, until the Baptist Ebenezer Church was suggested and immediately accepted as a neutral arena with no risks.

5.5 Possible Conclusion on Sport

Most organised institutions and clubs that are made by or for children and the young have sport on the agenda. The Baptist Convention Youth Union is making use of sport in its outreach. The sport has a value of its own.

Thus a project for youth with sport as a main connector could be a very strategic one with stabilisation of the local area as a main objective. At this moment football seems to be the most popular among boys and volleyball among girls. It is wise to start with activities both for boys and girls. These activities could be diversified when the work is established.

The sport will be the core activity that attracts the young. It will be a priority to involve the youth in the organisation of each club/team and in the training of the players. This should have an extremely low cost profile, in order to make the system sustainable.

5.6 Literacy Work

A high percentage of the population, including the youth, are illiterates. There seems to be a general motivation among illiterates, including the youth, to attend literacy courses. There are a certain number of courses for adults, in particular women, and for youth that are organised in the area. There are a few, but reliable inputs, that indicate that the youth are ashamed to show in public that they are illiterate. This was mentioned both by some members of the Lunsar Area Youth Association of BCSL and by the Principal of the Catholic Vocational Institute. Participation in a literacy course is a very explicit way to tell the community that you are illiterate. Therefore they don't attend unless it is linked to apprentice of skills that cover their participation. The participation in a literacy course could then be explained as a theoretical part of their training.

Comment: The team found that in all cases where we got to know of youth who were attending literacy courses, was organised as an integrated part of some kind of training.

No activities or training of that kind is planned for the present project. There is a lack of trained teachers for literacy in the area and the missionary does not have the professional background or experience for that kind of activities. We therefore recommend that literacy shall not be a part of the project.

5.7 Teaching Mechanics

According to local resource persons in Lunsar, there is an obvious need for technicians who can repair cars and motorbikes. They will not compete with students who have graduated from the catholic vocational school, because these have training on a much higher level and will probably depend on jobs in already established industry. The technicians we are talking about will need a basic training and kits to start their own business. There are two garages at the Baptist Eye Hospital in Lunsar, one of these could be used for training as an alternative to agriculture for unemployed youth. A decision to organise such training should wait until the missionary has discussed with local leaders and other resource persons what is most wanted and most relevant in order to reach the objective of the project. This option will probably be more time consuming than the approach based on sport and motivating young unemployed people for agriculture.

6. ANALYSIS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Elements of Risk

The Lunsar area is faced with a number of problems that were created or aggravated by the war. There was heavy fighting in the area, and local men and youth were active on both sides. The reconciliation has not reached the level of mutual accept and respect as it was hoped for. There is still some tension and animosity between these individuals and between their families.

The reintegration of ex-combatants, in particular the ex child soldiers, has not been a success. Because of poor organisation of that process a large number of young people have been immunised against reintegration and they represent a threat to the social stability of the area. There are other victims of the war. Among these are sexually abused girls and girl mothers, and people with various kind of physical and psychical handicaps caused by the war.

The percentage of children and youth who are not going to school is relatively high and so is consequently the level of illiteracy. However the feeling of shame seems to be stronger than the motivation to learn.

The unemployment is extremely high, and because this area had a large number of well paid jobs at the company that organised the extraction of iron ore from the hills next to Lunsar until 20 years ago, the memories of that golden period are very close and very strong. This makes the unemployment even worse to cope with. Many people will not start to work until the iron ore reopens, and maybe it never will be reopened.

Because of this high unemployment and the looting and destruction of houses and tools for production, the poverty is knocking on most of the doors. The number of street children is increasing. These are not only the orphans, but some families are so poor that they cannot give their children three meals a day. Some have lost the hope and they don't care very much about their children.

There is still another group of marginalized children. There are many blind people in the area and some more are coming there for treatment at the eye hospital. Many of them are begging and they are using young children to guide them. These children do not go to school and the skill they are learning is begging.

The juvenile delinquency is increasing. Drug abuse, prostitution, theft and other kinds of unwanted behaviour are gaining space in the life of an increasing number of young people.

The Lunsar area is at high risk for social unrest.

6.2 Assets

Lunsar area has much available and unused land, which represents a potential for reduction of unemployment and poverty in the area.

There are a number of both primary and secondary schools. The religious bodies organise activities for children and youth. Sport is recognised on all levels as a positive element in the community, and there is a number of youth and women's associations that are taking care of vulnerable groups and that are creating space for positive action in the community. We have certainly not met with all kinds of associations in the area, and there are NGOs both national and international represented.

6.3 Dividers and Connectors

We have not the impression that ethnic differences are important. People who fought against each other in the war are living together, but they still represent a kind of divider of decreasing importance. We have not seen or heard of any sign of religious belonging as dividers. On the contrary, the religious bodies: the Muslims, the Catholics and the Baptists have created activities and/or institutions, in particular the schools, that are common fields for

all categories of people, regardless of religious belongings. We rather see the religious communities as interrelated connectors in the area.

The only divider we have noticed is political belonging. When the team wanted to meet with all organisations of the community youth, the city hall was closed for political reasons. The Baptist Church Ebenezer was considered as acceptable for all, and that church was used as meeting place. Exactly the same thing happened when we wanted to meet all the community women's associations. It was not possible in the town hall, but it was possible in the same Church of Ebenezer.

The strongest connector seems to be sport. All groups seem to have a positive opinion of the role of sport in the community. It has a value in its own right. It is considered to be a powerful element of stabilisation of the area by all individuals and groups that we have interviewed, and it has a large potential for rapid growth if there is a positive input. Sport is also creating a forum where it is possible to engage a dialog concerning economic activities and the future for unemployed youth who are living at risk.

6.4 Target Group

We have described a local community that is at a high risk, with a number of negative aspects and some of these aspects are increasing in volume and strength. On the other hand we have been impressed by the way youth and women and religious communities have organised themselves in order to fight against these negative aspects and are trying to help the marginalized. But they are also doing a tremendous contribution through schools and other activities to the positive development in the area.

We think that the focus of this project should be neither of these two groups. The organised groups and the schools are already resources in the community and it will not be strategic use of resources to concentrate on improving their performance. Nor would it be wise to choose the youth who are already representing a negative element in the society, because it will be relatively time consuming to follow up each case and it will probably be necessary to follow each person over some time, or the project will be relatively short. We think that the target group should be the relative large portion of the children and the youth who are located in between these two groups, who constitute the vulnerable portion who has not yet decided which side they find most attractive, but who can go both ways depending on the kind of input they get. In order to reach this portion of the youth, a close cooperation with the organised groups and may be the schools could be a strategy to reach the target group.

6.5 Sustainability

At a number of occasions the people we talked with stressed and repeated the point that all projects should be sustainable. They had learned from experience with the NGOs that started activities, often rather good activities in their eyes that ended when the NGO considered that their job was done, or that they did not have funds to carry through their activities. This experience had the positive effect that people insisted on sustainable profile.

This of course is clearly in line with the attitude of BUN. The objective for the project is twofold, to strengthen the position of sport in the society as a meeting place for both boys and girls, and to use this social setting to motivate young unemployed boys and girls to go for agriculture as economic activity. This will need no follow-up from the outside after the

project is over. Hopefully there will be created a trend where young people go for agriculture. This trend could be sustained by the new policy of prioritisation of agriculture that the government is about to implement.

6.6 Relevance

It is obvious that a considerable portion of youth in Sierra Leone is already engaged in activities that are considered to be negative for the individuals and for the society. On the other hand, we have met youth leaders who have organised activities, in some cases in a very strategic setting. Some of these associations of young people in Lunsar could probably be used as partners. Between these two groups there is a large group of unemployed young people who have not yet joined the groups that organise illegal activities, nor have they started economic activities that could help them to live a stable life.

Sport is perceived by all groups in the society both as having a value of its own by creating a social setting that contributes to give life a meaning for an increasing number of young people, and thus is a contribution to stabilise the society. They also see, and systematically use sport as part of the social education as a tool to learn peaceful coexistence.

Finally, if it is possible to use this social setting to motivate young people of both sexes to go for agriculture, it is highly relevant. There is a shortage of food in Sierra Leone, agriculture is a national priority, there is land available in Lunsar, and the association “Young Investors” has identified agriculture as the activity in Lunsar that give the best benefit for their investments.

The approach is relevant because

- it is strongly wanted by the young people and by formal and informal community leaders we met in Lunsar.
- the PRSP indicates that the Port Loko district has the highest contribution to poverty in Sierra Leone.
- it address some of the main concerns about food production, unemployment and youth that are expressed in the PRSP as the government’s strategy for reducing the poverty.
- the BCSL has adopted that paper as guideline for it’s own participation in the process.
- it is line with the policy and experience of the BUN that states that a project should be initiated locally, developed in cooperation, steered locally and get a profile that will eventually enable the local organisation to carry on with local resources if the project should continue.
- it is in line with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ PRSP. The plan of action talks about a contribution towards peace and security and a policy of strengthening the primary industries and that a good channel for this kind of cooperation is through Norwegian voluntary organisations (NGO) and institutions in cooperation with similar organisations in the developing countries.

6.7 Recommendations

First of all we will repeat that this is a feasibility study and not a project document. In line with a policy to be extremely open to input from the target group and also from resource persons and authorities, a detailed project will be presented as the missionaries have had enough time to be sure that the profile of the project reflects local priorities. This may also have consequences for the budget.

According to the national members of the team there should be a feasibility study of this kind for all new missionaries coming to serve in the work of the BCSL in order to strengthen the impact of their work.

The work of the missionaries should be sustainable after their departure and should not create new dependencies. Therefore the project should be low cost, with no input of cash, but be based on competence building and some material support.

The main objective for this project is to contribute to the stabilisation of a vulnerable community.

The main effort of the project towards this goal should be to provide a resource person for sport based in the BCSL with outreach to the entire sport milieu in Lunsar area, concentrating on training of leaders and training of trainers (coaches). All actors on the sport arena agree on that sport is an activity that is good both for girls and boys, and all information show that they are accepting the consequences and include both boys and girls. The missionary shall use his creativity to find ways and means to increase the percentage of girls on all levels.

The details of this cooperation with the existing organised sport will have to be elaborated when the missionary is present in Lunsar.

In this position the missionary will meet a large number of unemployed young men and women and he should try to motivate them for agriculture, as this is the only economic activity that has a potential for absorbing a relatively high number of unemployed people in an activity that has top priority from the government. The project should provide them with tools and seed and link them up to groups of youth who are already engaged in agriculture for advice and guidance. This activity has the advantage that it is cultural acceptable for both young men and young women.

He may consider if it is possible to combine these prioritised activities with teaching mechanics to a few young people at the garage of the eye hospital.

Two structures should be made for the project:

- A steering committee based in Lunsar with members from the Baptist Convention and from the community. The moderator of the Baptist Convention in the Lunsar area should be a member.
- A combined advisory committee for the reproductive health project and the youth project, based in Freetown with a representative from the European Baptist Mission, the coordinator of the social ministries, the coordinator of the church ministry and representatives from the Youth Union and from the Women's Union. The General Secretary has a right in officio to be present in all committee meetings.

Both committees should try to have an equal number of members from each sex.

7. BUDGET

Basic tools for agriculture for one farm family

SET OF FARMING TOOLS	COST (LE)
1 big hoe	7,000
1 small hoe	5,000
1 big cutlass	7,000
1 small cutlass	5,000
1 shovel	15,000
1 watering can	25,000
1 bucket	<u>15,000</u>
SUB TOTAL	<u>79,000</u>

SEEDS	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
2 bushel seed rice	30,000	60,000
5 packets vegetable seeds	10,000	50,000
3 bundles cassava cutting	8,000	24,000
3 bundles sweet potatoes	8,000	<u>24,000</u>
SUB TOTAL		<u>237,000</u>

CHEMICAL FERTILIZER	UNITS COST	TOTAL COST
2 bags	65,000	<u>130,000</u>
SUB TOTAL		<u>130,000</u>

SUMMARY FOR AGRICULTURE

Basic farming tools	= 79,000
Seeds	= 237,000
Fertilizer	= <u>130,000</u>
TOTAL	= <u>446,000</u>

Total cost to start for one family 446,000 Leones = 148.67\$ = 929 NOK = 1,000 NOK
1 NOK = 480 LE

Total for agriculture for the duration of the project 50x 1,000 NOK = 50,000 NOK
 Total for sport equipment for the duration of the project 50,000

Budget for Agriculture and Sport

	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Kits for agriculture		10 000	20 000	20 000	50 000
Equipment for sport	20 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	50 000
Transport	3 000	5 000	5 000	3 000	16 000
Salary	27 000	120 000	160 000	80 000	387 000
Miscellaneous	4 000	6 000	7 000	4 000	21 000
Total	54 000	151 000	202 000	117 000	524 000

Appendix 1

Programme and Name of Participants in Meetings Concerning the Youth Project

Date/hour	Place/name of participants
June 12	Travel from Oslo to Freetown. Met at the heliport by Hans Oosterloo at 1800
June 13	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Sesay
0950-1040	<i>Talking with the Secretary General of BCSL</i> , information and introduction to the main office Solomon Kambell, Secretary General BCSL
1045-1215	<i>BCSL – Youth Executive Committee</i> Information about the church, and the Youth's formal organisation and some aspects of youth's activities: Paul B. Contek, National President of Youth Union Sam B. Brickson, National Secretary Warren D. Gesay, National Vice-president Joan M.S. Bull, Member of National Executive Committee Mohamed Saidu William Mansaray, Coordinator, Church Ministries
1225-1245	<i>Help a Needy Child International</i> Information about their program towards suffering children, among whom also child soldiers Mme Sia M. M'bayo, Assistant Operation Director
1900-2010	<i>Representative of EBM</i> (Lise Kyllingstad and Kåre Lode only) General conversation about the projects and formal relations Hans Oosterloo, representative of EBM Aicha Oosterloo
June 14	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Sesay, James Kamara
1145-1210	<i>Christian Council of Sierra Leone (CCSL)</i> Information about the projects and the role of CCSL Mr. Sahr Kemoh Salia, General Secretary
June 15	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, James Kamara
1000-1010	Conversation about the church and the war (Lise Kyllingstad and Kåre Lode only) K.S. Kamara, treasurer of BCSL
1030-1145	<i>Meeting with Board of Social Services</i> Presentation of projects and purpose of the visit. Discussion on formalities. Solomon E. Kambell, Secretary General BCSL Tannie Barbington Johnson, President BCSL Aiah Teddy M'bayo, member Hope Baptist Church Mohamed Mansaray, church ministries coordinator Sebora Kamara, World Health Organisation, member of board of Social Services K.S. Kamara, treasurer BCSL
June 16	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, James Kamara, Mohamed Mansaray
0700-1000	Travel from Freetown to Lunsar
1100-1220	<i>General presentation in the church of Lunsar</i> of team members, purpose of visit and brief presentation of program. Meeting chaired by Rev. Umaru Sankoh. Greeting from the BCSL in Lunsar by Madame N'yillah Koroma, Vice-President of LBWA. Attendance mainly local church leaders and leadership in women's union. 24 participants, of whom 13 women
1330-1430	Project team

	Revision of local program, focus on priorities
1530-1605	Peace building Conversation with Alfred E. Kamara about a peace building project run by the BCSL in 2002 and 2003
June 17	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, James Kamara, Alfred A. Kamara, Mohamed Mansaray
1110-1200	Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) Ibrahim explained the organisation of the “War Affected Children” programme. Ibrahim S. Bangura, Branch Field Officer, Port Loko
1225-1255	National Commission for Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (NCDDR) The activities are finished. A former employee told us about his experiences. Pastor Paul Abess Kamara BCSL
1520-1550	Paramount chiefs (Mohamed Mansaray absent) Information of purpose of project and the paramount chief committed himself to do what he could in order to facilitate the work Paramount Chief Kobbo Queen the second Chiefdom speaker, Pa Alhaji Lamin Kabia Pa Kapri Lawyer Kanu Rev. Dr. J. S. Mans
June 18	Sunday – Free
June 19	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Sesay, James Kamara, Mohamed Mansaray
0830-0950	Briefing and planning, revising the programme for the rest of the time in Lunsar, with all members of the team.
1650-1825	Lunsar Area Youth Association Presentation of purpose of visit. The youth explained what they are doing and what they hope to obtain through the project. 22 young were present, 16 girls and 6 boys. Most of them wanted to be identified by the church they belonged to. Name: Church Age Name: Church Age Kristiana Kallon Good News 15 Augusta M. Kamara Ebenezer 16 Nasratu Sankoh Ebenezer 17 Emily S. Kargbo Ebenezer 18 Isata Koroma Ebenezer 18 Alusine Sesay Good News 18 Hawah P. Koroma Good News 14 Samuel Sankoh Ebenezer 12 Kadiatu M. Sankoh Ebenezer 19 David Thronka Ebenezer 18 Fatmata E. Sankoh Ebenezer 18 Kindo Kamara Good News 27 James S. Koroma Ebenezer 23 Binta R. Koroma Good News 15 Aminata A. Koroma Ebenezer 22 Mabel O. Koroma Ebenezer 22 Mariama R. Kargbo Ebenezer 18 John B. Koroma Ebenezer 19 Fatima Kamara Good News 22 Andrew S. Kanu 23 Sento K. Kargbo Ebenezer 17 Ester I. Kamara 24
June 20	Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Susay, James Kamara, Mohamed Monsoray
1000-1040	Maramba Islamic Secondary School Presentation of purpose for visit and information about sport activities in the school and in the community Abdul M. Kamara, Vice-Principal Mohamed Lamin Bangor, Integrated Science Teacher Tegbrehum Osio, Games teacher
1050-1130	Our Lady of Guadalupe Secondary School

	Greetings to all the students. Information about the sport activities in the school and presentation of reason for visit. Sister Elisa Padilla, Principal Mr. Tejan Paul Fofanah, Vice-Principal Andrew Habib Sesay, Physical education teacher
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1145-1200	<p><i>Amadou Wurie Secondary School</i> Presentation of purpose for visit and information about sport activities in the school and in the community Ibrahim M. Tarawalie, Principal Dauda A. Kabia, Sport Master Tomas Sawyer, Assistant sport master</p>
1210-1310	<p><i>Saint Joseph Vocational Institute</i> Presentation of purpose for visit and information about sport activities in the school and in the community. A broader presentation of activities and visit to the ateliers. Mario Zarantonello, Principal</p>
1510-1610	<p><i>Lunsar Red Cross</i> Presentation of purpose for visit and presentation of Red Cross activities in Lunsar. Discussion about sport as a tool for stabilising the society and as starting point for outreach to drop-outs. Mohamed Lamin Bah, Vice-chairman of Red Cross in Lunsar.</p>
1700-1800	<p><i>Lunsar Sport Council (Lunsco)</i> Presentation of purpose for visit and the situation of sport in Lunsar, followed by a discussion of possibilities for cooperation and the role of sport in the society. Sahr J. Abdulai, Chairman Abass Kabia, Chief technical adviser Andrew Habib Sesay, Chief adviser to chairman Kindo Kamara, treasurer</p>
June 21	<p>Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Sesay, James Kamara, Mohamed Monsoray</p>
1035-1155	<p><i>Lunsar Youth Associations</i> The youth presented the various aspects of their activities, which were very impressive. The purpose of our visit was explained and we mentioned the possibilities of cooperation. Lunsar Youth Associations were represented by 33 young men and one young woman. The following persons were present: Antony Jordan Jones, Chairman Help the Children Alimamy Kargoo, Organiser Technical Youth Development Association Tamal Kamara, Chairman Technical Youth Development Association Momoh Korema, Pro. I. (L.Y.S.A.) Alex M. Kanu, President of Imaginal Social Club Alhaji S. Konteh, Finance Officer of Young Investors Ibrahim Kamara, Chairman of Intelligent Crew Osman M. Bangura, Secretary of Take off to University Joseph Si Kanu, Vice-Chairman Labour Compound Lunsar Mohamed Sumlah, Chairman Ataya Base Association Alwine P. Conteh, Secretary General of Marampa Amateur Football Association Mamoul S. Kaboa, Chief Advisor Ataya Base Association Unisu Kamara, Secretary General Ataya Base Association Mohamed S. Kamara, Vice-Chairman Ataya Base Association Alhaji Conteh, Organising Secretary Ataya Base Association Alusines Bangura, General Secretary Drug Sellers Association Jusu Ibrahim S., Secretary General Lunsar Motor Riders Association Other members present: Abdoul Conteh, Alusine Fofanah, Abdul A. M. Kadia, Sorie A. Kadia, Julions H. Sesay, Foday Koroma, Saliens Sankoh, Idrisa</p>

	Kamara, Alie Kamara, Ibrahim Kargbo, Sorie Fofanah, Alhassan Fofanah, Sillah Samkoh, Santigie Mansaray
June 22	<i>Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Sesay</i>
0715-0755	Jordan Baptist Church in Gbom Limba (<i>only Kåre Lode</i>) Conversation about the youth and children in Gbom Limba with the pastor and teacher David S. Koroma
June 23	<i>Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Susay, James Kamara, Mohamed Monsoray</i>
1420-1650	Final meeting of project team Elaborating the conclusions
June 24	<i>Team members present: Lise Kyllingstad, Kåre Lode, Julie Susay, James Kamara, Mohamed Monsoray</i>
1015-1230	Debriefing meeting with the church's leadership Debriefing, discussion about the conclusions and the terms of cooperation Solomon E. Kampbell, Secretary General BCSL Tannie Barbington Johnson, President BCSL

Appendix 2 Documents consulted

- Focus for Effectiveness (BCSL Strategic Plan 2006 – 2010)
- Garcia, Ed (editor): *A Time of Hope and Transformation – Sierra Leone Peace Process – Reports and Reflections*, 1997 London International Alert
- Poverty Reduction Strategy, Plan for action of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (from the Ministries web site)
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Sierra Leone (from World Bank web site)
- Report of the Church Ministries Departement to the 32rd Annual Convention (...) 24th-27th January 2006. Baptist Convention Sierra Leone
- Report of the Coordinator of Social Ministries (to the Annual Convention 24-27.01.06)
- Rosen, David M: *Armies of the Young – Child Soldiers in War and Terrorism*, 2005 New York: Chapter 3 Fighting for Diamonds: The Child Soldiers of Sierra Leone
- Sierra Leone – Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sierra_Leone 15.06.2006
- The Constitution and Bylaws of the Baptist Convention (Sierra Leone) Revised Constitution 2003

Appendix 3

SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SANITATION

UPDATED INFORMATION SHEET – MAY 2005

Please note that in some cases the information is less accurate than would be desirable and caution is advised in the use of the data. The sources for the information are provided at the end of the document.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER GENERAL INDICATORS

	ESTIMATES 2000/2	2005 ESTIMATES
Population ³		6,372,698
Infant Mortality Rate	170/ 1,000	150/ 1,000
Under fives Mortality Rate/Ratio	1,800/100,000 Live Births	1,500/100,000 Live Births
Life expectancy at Birth	42 years	45 years
Average Completed Fertility	5,9 births/ woman	5,9 births/ woman
Disability Prevalence	7,0/ 1,000	7,0/ 1,000
Population per functioning hospital	162,000	39,829
Population per Doctor	17,333	54,000
Population per Professional Nurse	8,581	6,516
Population per Environmental Health Officer	25,366	52,235
Population per Peripheral Health Unit (PHU)	12,470	7,936
Underweight Prevalence	27,2%	28%
Stunting Prevalence	33,9%	40%
Wasting Prevalence	9,8%	5%
Prevalence of HIV/Aids	0,9%	3,4%
Access to Health Services	40%	60%
Access to Safe Water	54%	42,8%
Access to Sanitation	20%	29,6%

MORBIDITY (ILLNESSES)

Principal Causes of Morbidity (illnesses) in General population over 5 yrs

1. Malaria
2. ARI
3. Malnutrition
4. Onchocerciasis (River Blindness) and other Eye Conditions
5. Skin Disease
6. Leprosy/ Tuberculosis
7. Anaemia
8. Sexually Transmitted Infections
9. Hypertension
10. Psychosocial trauma

³ The population of Sierra Leone is now estimated between 6,000,000 and 7,000,000. For health planning we use an estimate of 6,732,698, based on the 1985 Census Figures and the Annual Growth Rate.

Principal Causes of Morbidity (illness) in the Under fives

1. Prematurity
2. Malaria
3. ARI
4. Infantile Diarrhoea
5. Malnutrition
6. Ophthalmic Neonatal
7. Worms
8. Skin diseases
9. Wounds
10. Measles

Most Important Epidemic Prone Diseases

1. Cholera
2. Measles (UNDERFIVES)
3. Meningitis
4. Lassa fever
5. HIV/AIDS

NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNCTIONING HOSPITALS AND PERIPHERAL HEALTH UNITS

	20	02	2004	/5
	HOSPITALS	PHUS	HOSPITALS	PHUS
Sierra Leone	<u>32</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>803</u>
Eastern Province	<u>3</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>210</u>
Kailahun	0	5	4	576
Kenema	3	52	6	91
Kono	0	10	2	62
Northern Province	<u>5</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>298</u>
Bombali	1	6	3	66
Kambia	0	20	2	36
Koinadugu	1	15	1	52
Port Loko	3	40	5	75
Tonkolili	0	40	3	69
Southern Province	<u>5</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>258</u>
Bo	1	50	3	82
Bonthe	2	18	3	34
Moyamba	1	51	3	95
Pujehun	1	30	1	47
Western Area	<u>19</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>37</u>

HEALTH SERVICE UTILIZATION RATES

	EST 2002	EST 2004
Percentage of Births attended by trained health personnel	41,7%	43,0%
Percentage of women (15-49) who attended Antenatal Clinic at least once	68,9%	65%
Percentage of women using modern contraceptive methods	3,9%	5,0%
DPT immunisation coverage (12-23 months)	55,5%	59%
Measles immunisation coverage (12-23 months)	51,7%	53%
Polio immunisation coverage	61,2%	60%
Percentage of under fives children with Malria treated with anti malarial drugs	60,9%	65%

HUMAN RESOURCES (KEY PERSONNEL)

	ESTIMATES 2002	ESTIMATES 2004/5
Doctors	300	118
Professional Nurses & Mid/wives	606	1062
Environmental Health Officers	204	122
Community Health Officers	284	132
Lab Technicians	40	46
Lab Technologists	7	6
Pharmacists	12	13
Dispensers/Druggists	110	117
Radiographers	12	8
Nutritionists	12	4

Number of NGOs Active in the Health Sector

123

Sources:

The above information was compiled from various sources including:

- Ministry of Health and Sanitation Planning and Information Office data
- Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey 2
- PHC Operational Handbook

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