

[Country: Sierra Leone]

Stakeholder engagement – template for EITI data collection

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Period under review: 1st June 2019 – 31st March 2022[from previous Validation to commencement of this Validation)

Validation team:

]

Deadline for submission: 1st April 2022 [Validation commencement date]

Introduction

The EITI requires effective multi-stakeholder oversight, including a functioning multi-stakeholder group that involves the government, companies, and the full, independent, active and effective participation of civil society.

The key requirements related to multi-stakeholder oversight include: (1.1) government engagement; (1.2) industry engagement; (1.3) civil society engagement, including EITI Protocol: Participation of civil society, and (1.4) the establishment and functioning of a multi-stakeholder group.

The purpose of this template is to collect information from MSG members about the implementation of these provisions. Parts I to IV of this template should be completed and submitted to the International Secretariat by the commencement of Validation.

Part I: MSG oversight addresses Requirement 1.4.b and should be approved by the MSG before submission to the International Secretariat.

Parts II to IV should be completed by each constituency and submitted to the International Secretariat. These should be shared with the MSG for information.

The Validation team will undertake virtual or in-person consultations to gather additional information. Ahead of the Validation, a public call for stakeholder views will be launched by the International Secretariat.

Part I: MSG oversight

This section is to be filled out by the national secretariat or an MSG working group and should be approved by the MSG before submission to the International Secretariat.

MSG members and attendance

1. Current MSG members. Please fill out the table below. Add rows when necessary.

Constituency	Full / alternate member	Member since (MM/YY)	Name	Position	Organization	Gender	Meetings attended in period under review (dates)
Government	Chairperson/ Full	03/2018	Francess Piagie Alghali	Minister of State – Office of the Vice President	Office of Vice President	F	8
	Full	03/ 2018	Sheku B. Samai	Deputy Secretary – Office of the Vice President		M	1
	Alternate	03/ 2018	Swalilu K. Jusu	Assistant to the Secretary to Vice President		M	0
	Alternate	2018	Abdul Aziz	Deputy Auditor General	Audit Service Sierra Leone	M	0
	Full	2016	Morie Lansana	Principal Auditor		M	4
	Full	2016	Hon. Sidie M. Tunis	Member of Parliament	Parliament	M	2
	Alternate	2021	Hon. Amadu Kanu	Member of Parliament	Parliament	M	1
	Full	06/2014	Abu B. Tarawalie	Assistant Commissioner	National Revenue Authority	M	6
	Alternate	03/2019	Mohamed Jalloh	Supervisor- EIRU		M	5
	Full	2014	Mohamed Amara Salisu	Deputy Director, Revenue & Tax Policy Division	Ministry of Finance	M	9
	Alternate	2020	Peter J. Bangura	Senior Economist		M	3
	Full	2014	Amadu Mansaray	Senior Administrative Manager	Petroleum Directorate	M	10
	Alternate	2016	Sabieu Conteh	Accounting Manager		M	0
	Full	02/2020	Ramatu B.	Director, Public		F	10

			Massaquoi	Relation & Intersectoral Collaboration (PRIC)	Environment Protection Agency (EPA)		
Alternate	02/2021	Aiah Wurie Kembay	Assistant Director, Field Operations & Extension (FOE)			M	1
Full	01/2021	Daniel Gbondo Esq.	Minerals Policy Advisor		Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources	M	2
Full	2010	Mohamed Sallieu Bah	Trading and Auditing Manager		National Minerals Agency	M	7
Full	2015	Peter Bangura	Director of Mines			M	0
Alternate	09/2014	Yusuf Dauda Suma	Large Scale Mining & Compliance Manager				6
Full	01/2021	Mohamed Bankapomah Bangura	Director, Provincial & Border Security		Office of National Security	M	1
Alternate	01/2021	Abdul Karim Koroma	Research Officer			M	1
Full	2017	Prince Williams	Acting CEO & Registrar		Corporate Affairs Commission	M	8
Alternate	03/2021	Richard Ashley	Compliance Execute			M	2
Full	01/2021	Alusine A. Joaque	Deputy Secretary		Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development	M	1
Alternate	01/2021	Mattu Sam	Assistant Secretary			F	2
Civil Society	Full	08/2021	Steven Bockarie Mansaray	Vice Chairman SLAJ North	Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ)	M	1
	Alternate	2019	Ahmed S. Naseralla	President - SLAJ		M	0

	Full	2008	Abu Augustus Brima	Executive Director	Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD)	M	5
	Alternate	11/2020	Emmanuel Gbondo	Coordinator	Natural Resource Governance and Economic Justice Network (NaRGEJ-SL)	M	0
	Full	11/2020	Emmanuel S. Abdulai	Executive Director	Society for Democratic Initiatives - Sierra Leone	M	0
	Alternate	11/2020	George Mustapha	Deputy Executive Director		M	1
	Full	11/2020	Esther F. Kandeh	Director	Women on Mining & Extractives	F	3
	Alternate	11/2020	Dauda Massaquoi	Program Manager		M	2
	Full	11/2020	Solomon M. Sogbandi	Chair of the Board	Human Rights Defenders Network	M	2
	Alternate	11/2020	Alphonsus B.M. Gbanie	Executive Secretary		M	4
	Full	11/2020	Gertrude Karimu	National Coordinator	Women's Network for Environmental Sustainability	F	1
	Alternate	11/2020	Iyasha Kamara	Programme Manager		F	2
	Full	11/2020	Massie Bah	Chairman	National Advocacy Coalition on Extractives	M	2
	Alternate	08/2008	Cecilia C. Mattia	National Coordinator		F	9
Chamber of Mines	Full	2018	Ibrahim Turay	Finance and Corporate Affairs Manager	Koidu Limited	M	1
	Alternate	2020	Kumba S. Feika	Public Relations Assistance		F	5
	Full	2018	Abdul Bangura	Chief Finance Officer	Sierra Minerals	M	1

					Holdings I Limited/Vimetco		
	Alternate	2020	Prince Lyttle	Finance Manager		M	1
	Full	2018	Aminata Kamara	Corporate Affairs & Govt. Relations Director /Chamber of Mines Coordinator	Sierra Rutile Ltd.	F	8
	Full	2021	Tommy Kaiza Koker	Government & Committe Relations Manager	Sierra Diamonds Ltd.	M	4

2. Changes in membership in the period under review and the reason behind each change. (I.e. if there are people who have been members in the period under review but no longer are.) Please fill out the table below. Add rows when necessary.

Constituency	Name of former member	End of MSG membership (MM/YY)	Reason for membership ending	Replaced by
Government - EPA	Alfred T. Jondie	02/2021	End of Term	Aiah Wurie Kembay
Government - MMMR	Martin Jimmy	02/2021	Transferred from MMMR	Daniel Gbondo Esq.
Government - MMMR	Foday Sesay	01/2020	End of Term	Not yet replaced
Civil Society Organsiation/SLAJ	Asmieu Bah	02/2021	On Study leave	Steven Bockarie Mansaray

3. MSG working groups and technical committees. If the MSG has established working groups or committees, please describe briefly their mandate and membership.

1. Technical Committee:

The Technical Committee plays a vital role in supporting the MSG to review Terms of Reference for recruitment of consultants, concept notes, reports, and make recommendations to the MSG for action. Members have powers to co-opt other MSG members whose expertise might be required. Please see minutes of one the meetings here - [Minutes of Technical Committee Meeting](#)

The membership comprises:

- National Minerals Agency
- National Revenue Authority

- Ministry of Finance
- Petroleum Directorate
- Environment Protection Agency
- Civil Society Organizations and
- Chamber of Mines.

2. Beneficial Ownership Technical Working Group/Committee:

The mandate of the group include:

- a) To identify policies, laws and institutional practices to collect and disclose information in accordance with the EITI requirements.
- b) Assess the institutional capacity of government agencies and companies to collect and disclose BO data.
- c) Strengthen measures that will be needed in order to implement the MSG and Government's objectives related to beneficial ownership.
- d) Provide recommendations for BO regulatory and institutional reforms.

One of the minutes of the committee meetings can be accessed here - [Minutes of BO Technical Committee Meeting](#). The BO disclosure report is here - [BO Report](#).

This working group comprises of members from:

- Corporate Affairs Commission
- Bank of Sierra Leone
- Financial Intelligence Unit
- Anti-Corruption Commission
- Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources
- National Revenue Authority
- Civil society representative
- Petroleum Directorate and
- Office of National Security

3. **Validation Committee** – Work closely with the secretariat to prepare for validation (Data collection, stakeholder engagement, completion of validation templates and verification of documentation. This is a new working group and the first task they have undertaken was the completion of the Validation template for the next Validation commencing on 1st April 2022. Please see news item here - [SLEITI Validation Committee Undertakes Completion of EITI Validation Templates](#)

Membership comprises of:

- Office of the Vice President
- Ministry of Finance
- National Revenue Authority
- Petroleum Directorate
- Environment Protection Agency
- National Minerals Agency
- Civil Society Organizations
- Chamber of Mines
- SLEITI Secretariat

4. **Communications and Outreach Committee** – This Committee oversees the implementation of the Communication Strategy; lead communications and outreach programmes of the MSG and support content development for the SLEITI website.

The membership comprises:

- Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources
- National Minerals Agency
- Office of National Security
- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- Civil Society Organizations
- Chamber of Mines

5. **Administrative and Finance Committee** – The Committee oversees the implementation of human resource policies and procedures and other administrative matters of the SLEITI. The Committee recently reviewed the staff structure of the SLEITI Secretariat and made recommendations to the MSG. The report is here - [Review of SLEITI Secretariat Structure](#)

The membership comprises of:

- Corporate Affairs Commissions
- Audit Service Sierra Leone
- Ministry of Finance
- Civil Society Organizations
- Chamber of Mines

MSG Terms of Reference and practices

4. Link(s) to publicly available MSG Terms of Reference and/or other documents containing the provisions of Requirement 1.4.b.

<http://www.sleiti.gov.sl/index.php/documents/sleiti-msg-2021-mou>

5. Date of MSG approval of its latest Terms of Reference or similar document containing the provisions under EITI Requirement 1.4.b.

25th March 2021

6. MSG's policies and practices. Please fill out the table below.

Elements of MSG Terms of Reference (1.4.b)		
	<p><i>Where is the policy documented?</i></p> <p>The MSG Policy document is located on the SLEITI MoU http://www.sleiti.gov.sl/index.php/documents/sleiti-msg-2021-mou</p>	<p><i>Briefly describe practices in the period under review. Please explain any discrepancies between the ToR and the practice.</i></p>
The role, responsibilities and rights of the MSG		
<p>Definition of the role, responsibilities and rights of the MSG and its members.</p>	<p>The MSG promotes the use of natural resource wealth for sustainable growth and development in Sierra Leone through a transparent, accountable, and effective system of governance of the extractive sector.</p> <p>The responsibility of the MSG include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseeing and coordinating the implementation of the EITI Standard in Sierra Leone. • Providing strategic direction, oversight and support in collaboration with key stakeholder groups to ensure successful implementation of the EITI in Sierra Leone. • Reviewing and strengthening the framework to promote collaboration and consensus building in implementing the EITI principles and recommendation in accordance with the EITI requirements. • Providing a balanced forum for dialogue, debate, and consensus building on EITI-specific issues relating to the extractive sector in Sierra Leone <p>The mandate of the MSG is contained in Section (3) of the SLEITI MSG Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and the specific roles and responsibilities for each constituency can be found in Section (5) of the MoU which is here (SLEITI MoU)</p>	<p><i>[Have the roles, responsibilities and rights been respected in practice?]</i></p> <p>YES, as evidenced in the enhanced participation of civil society, Government and Chamber in the deliberations of the MSG. All three constituencies have actively taken part in meetings and outreach activities as evidenced in report found here-2017/18 SLEITI Report Dissemination, Retreat report here- MSG Retreat Report, and TV programme found here - SLEITI TV Hour</p>
<p>Adherence to the EITI Association code of conduct, including addressing conflicts of</p>	<p>This is contained in Section (3) subsection (u) of the MoU which states that “any conflict of interest arising shall be expressly stated by the MSG member(s) and its proceedings recorded. See MoU</p>	<p><i>[Has the code of conduct been adhered to in practice? If conflicts of interest have emerged, how</i></p>

interest.	Here	<p><i>have these been addressed?]</i></p> <p>YES, this has been adhered to in practice and to date, the MSG has not had any conflict of interest issue.</p>
Approval of work plans and oversight of implementation		
<p>Approval of annual work plans.</p> <p>MSG approves annual work plans of SLEITI</p>	<p><i>This is part of the responsibilities of the MSG and is contained in Section (3) subsections (c) & (e) of the MoU.</i></p>	<p><i>[Did the MSG approve the latest work plan? If yes, when?]</i></p> <p><i>Yes. It was approved on 24/03/2022- Please see minutes here - Minutes of MSG meeting</i></p>
<p>Oversight of the EITI reporting process and engagement in Validation, including approval of Independent Administrator ToRs and EITI Reports</p>	<p>Section (3) subsections (h),(i), (j), (l) (m) & (q) in the MoU here</p>	<p><i>[Is the MSG providing effective oversight of implementation? Has the MSG approved ToRs and EITI Reports? If yes, when?]</i></p> <p>YES</p> <p><i>The MSG approved ToRs including hire of Independent Administrator (IA) to produce the 2019 Report on 12/08/2020, and also approved the 2019 EITI Report on 29/12/2021.</i></p> <p><i>Since Sierra Leone signed up to the EITI in 2008, the SLEITI MSG has been providing effective oversight of the EITI reporting process. Dissemination of the 2017/18 Report was led by the MSG and the Report can be found here 2017/18 SLEITI Report Dissemination</i></p>

		<p><i>Also, to strengthen the capacity of the MSG on the new Validation model and completion of templates, the MSG organized a workshop where they were supported by a technical team from the EITI International Secretariat. The report can be found here and National TV News Coverage at 3.39 minutes into the programme.</i></p>
<p>Internal governance rules and procedures</p>		
<p>Inclusive decision-making process throughout implementation, with each constituency being treated as a partner and with the right to table issues.</p>	<p>Section (3) subsections (g), (l) & (p) in the MoU can be found Here</p>	<p><i>[Have all MSG members been able to table issues for discussion in practice?]</i></p> <p><i>Yes. All MSG members have been able to raise issues for discussion at MSG meetings. Agenda for MSG meetings were shared in advance for members to input. Also, before adoption of the agenda, members table issues under AOB or as part of the main agenda item. See MSG minutes of 10th & 24th March 2022.</i></p>
<p>Procedures for nominating and changing multi-stakeholder group representatives, incl. alternates</p>	<p><i>Write a letter to each constituency requesting for a representative(s) in the Multi-stakeholder Group.</i></p> <p><i>The procedures for nominating and replacing multi-stakeholder group members are specified in Annex 1 (A- Representation & B – Terms of Appointment) of the MoU which is here on page 4-5.</i></p>	<p><i>[Indicate the practice in Part I and in constituency-specific questionnaires.]</i></p> <p><i>Since the inception of the current MoU, this process has been duly followed.</i></p>
<p>Decision-making procedures, e.g. rules for voting and quorum</p>	<p>Section (7) in the MoU is Here</p>	<p><i>[Have the decision-making procedures been followed in practices? Has the MSG taken any decisions by vote?]</i></p>

		<i>Yes. So far, decisions have always been by consensus.</i>
Duration of the MSG's mandate	Section (4) Annex 1 (B) – Terms of Appointment) subsection (i) (page 4) in the MoU is Here	<p><i>[Have provisions regarding the duration of the MSG's mandated been respected in practice?]</i></p> <p><i>Yes. The MSG mandate on duration of terms has been followed. The previous MoU was silent on the term limit of membership; therefore, there were a few instances where MSG members have been on the MSG since the inception of the SLEITI.</i></p> <p><i>The provision of the current MoU has addressed this anomaly and will be fully complied with.</i></p> <p><i>The current MoU designate the Vice President as the EITI Champion and the Minister of State as Chair of the MSG to ensure government commitment at the highest level.</i></p>
Per diems	There is no provision for per diem in the MoU and per diem is not paid for MSG meetings.	<p><i>[Were per diems for MSG meetings paid out in the period under review? If yes, what was the per diem per meeting and how much was paid out in total?]</i></p> <p><i>For MSG activities such as outreach programmes, capacity building workshops, transport allowance and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) to cover accommodation and subsistence, are provided to MSG members at the government approved rate of Le400,000 per person per</i></p>

		<p><i>day for local travel. In the year under review, a total of Le 154,796,855 was paid.</i></p> <p><i>Best practice indicates that to ensure commitment and sustained participation of MSG members to the EITI process; consideration should be given for some remuneration for regular EITI meetings.</i></p>
Frequency of meetings	Section 6 subsection (i) in the MoU states that the MSG shall determine the frequency of their meetings. The MoU is here	<p><i>[How often did the MSG meet in the period under review?</i></p> <p><i>Section 6 (i) of the MoU stipulate that MSG must meet not less than four (4) times a year. In the period under review, the MSG met twelve (12) times excluding workshops. Frequency of face to face meetings was affected by Covid-19 restrictions. However, other forms of communication including, email, social media platforms were used to conduct MSG activities and made decisions during the period under review.</i></p>
Advance notice of meetings and timely circulation of documents	Section 6 subsection (ii) in the MoU states the notice period in respect of meetings, setting of agenda and documentations for meetings.	<p><i>[How much advance notice was given for MSG meetings? How much ahead of meetings were documents circulated?]</i></p> <p><i>This was done in accordance with the provisions of the MoU (Section 6 (ii)) which states that one week advance notice must be given to members. Therefore, working documents and Agenda were shared at least one week before meetings.</i></p>

Record-keeping	Section 6 subsection (vi) in the MoU which explains that all minutes must be circulated and agreed among members before they are signed by the Chair person and published on the SLEITI website. Link to the MoU is Here	<i>[Were written records kept of MSG discussions in the period under review?]</i> Yes. Physical copies of minutes of MSG meetings are kept at the SLEITI Secretariat and are also uploaded on the SLEITI website. Other forms of records such as WhatsApp group chats proved difficult to document. Please see link to minutes of MSG meetings here .
Other aspects covered in the ToR that the MSG wishes to highlight		
Executive Powers, response to electronic correspondences, absence at meetings, replacement for persistent non-attendance, MSG's assessment.	Section (11) of the MoU which is here SLEITI MSG MoU	These provisions further enhance SLEITI MSG governance

MSG meetings and minutes

7. Please provide the dates and a link to the published minutes of MSG meetings that have taken place in the period under review or provide any unpublished minutes as an attachment.

<p>24th March 2022 - Published minutes</p> <p>10th March 2022 - Published minutes</p> <p>24th September 2021 - Published minutes</p> <p>25th March 2021 - Published minutes</p> <p>24th November 2020 - Published minutes</p> <p>4th August 2020 - Published minutes</p> <p>12th November 2019 - Published minutes</p> <p>4th November 2019 - Published minutes</p> <p>23rd September 2019 - Published minutes</p>

5th September 2019 - [Published minutes](#)

17th July 2019 - [Published minutes](#)

MSG approval

8. Date of MSG approval of this submission.

24th March 2022 (MSG meeting) and 28th March 2022 (through No-objection approval)

Part II: Government engagement

This questionnaire seeks to collect information from government MSG members about the engagement of the government in the EITI process from 1st June 2019 to 31st March 2022 [insert period under review]. Government MSG members are requested to fill out the form together and either submit it directly to the Validation team (xxx@eiti.org) or request the National Coordinator to submit it. Government MSG members may also mandate the National Coordinator to fill out the questionnaire. The deadline for submitting the form to the Validation team is (1st April 2022). It is recommended that government MSG members coordinate to agree one submission. Diverging views within the constituency can be documented in the form. The signatories of the submission should be indicated at the bottom of the form. Stakeholders may contact the Validation team directly to provide additional views.

1. Examples of statements or actions in support of the EITI and/or matters in the scope of the EITI Standard by high-level government representatives, such as ministers or the head of state.

-President Julius Maada Bio attended the Beneficial Ownership Conference in Dakar and made a statement of commitment to BO implementation in Sierra Leone. He was quoted as saying “for my government in Sierra Leone, promoting transparency and accountability in the extractive industry is not only about promoting good governance, it is about doing good business.” Please see link here - [President Statement at BO Conference in Dakar](#)

-Presidential Address at the State Opening of the Second Session of the Fifth Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone (Paragraph 65-67). Please see link here - [Presidential Address at State Opening of Parliament in 2019](#) .

- President Julius Maada Bio visited the SLEITI stand at the Geodata Launch and Exhibition where he met with the Chair of the SLEITI MSG and Secretariat staff. Please see photo gallery here - [President's Visit to SLEITI Stand at the Geodata Launch and Exhibition](#)

- The Minister of Mines and Mineral Resources, Mr. Timothy Kabba at the SLEITI stand during the Geodata Launch and Exhibition. Please see photo gallery here - [Minister of Mines and Mineral Resources](#)

- The Minister of State who is also Chair of SLEITI MSG (Mrs. Frances Piagie Alghali) Co-Chaired a closed-door session with the EITI Deputy Executive and Africa Director (Bady Balde) with ministerial representatives from EITI implementing countries at the Africa Oil Week in Dubai to discuss opportunities for using EITI disclosures to inform national planning and debate around the energy transition. Please see

here - [Minister of State Co-Chair a session on Energy Transition at Africa Oil Week in Dubai](#)

2. Name and position of senior individual leading implementation.

Honourable Vice President Dr. Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh is the Champion of EITI in Sierra Leone

Mrs. Frances Piagie Alghali - Minister of State – Office of the Vice President

3. Describe the process for nominating government MSG members, including whether consideration was given to ensuring the seniority and diversity of representation.

Agreed procedure for selecting government MSG members	Practice in the period under review
<p>The Hon Vice President is the EITI Champion in Sierra Leone and the MSG is chaired by the Minister of State in the Office of the Vice President. The chair is assisted by any senior member appointed as Vice Chair each calendar year.</p> <p>The selection of representatives of Government of Sierra Leone to the SLEITI MSG is by relevant institutions rather than individuals and it is the responsibility of the respective Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to decide on who will serve on the MSG. See MoU- Annex 1(i) – Representation (page4) MoU</p> <p>MSG members are to demonstrate keen interest in the EITI process and are individuals capable and qualified to make decisions.</p>	<p>For the period under review, the Minister of State (Mrs. Frances Piagie Alghali) has been SLEITI MSG Chair with His Excellency the Vice President (Dr. Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh) as SLEITI Champion.</p> <p>For other government representatives, the SLEITI Secretariat sent letters to the relevant institutions for nomination of representatives no later than the 14th day of January in each calendar year (whether or not a representation is continuous). The institutions submitted names of their representatives and in almost all the cases, it was the same representatives that were confirmed.</p>

4. If any MSG representatives changed during the MSG's term, please describe the process followed for replacing them.

Agreed procedure for replacing government MSG members	Practice in the period under review
<p>A government representative who resigns or is removed from office ceases to represent that institution,</p>	<p>Government representatives who were transferred to institutions, without an EITI portfolios were replaced on the request of the</p>

<p>organization, ministry, or department on the MSG with immediate effect.</p> <p>Where such a representative becomes a member of another institution, agency or ministry with an EITI portfolio, such a member may be appointed to represent that institution following the selection criteria in the MoU.</p>	<p>MSG. Government institution may also replace/change their representation on the MSG.</p> <p>During the period under review, the government representative from the Ministry of Mines and Mineral Resources was transferred to the Ministry of Defence and was replaced because the Ministry of Defence does not have an EITI portfolio.</p> <p>A representative from Environment Protection Agency (EPA) was also changed/replaced by another member from the same institution.</p>
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5. Government resources directed to EITI implementation in the period under review, such as staff and funding for work plan activities.

The Government of Sierra Leone has directed resources to EITI implementation to mainly cover staff salary costs and hosting of the SLEITI Secretariat (rent and other administrative running costs), and provided funding for the production and dissemination of EITI report in the current budget. Other work plan activities have largely been funded by donor partners (World Bank, UNDP, GIZ, and OSIWA).

In the period under review, Government resources directed to EITI implementation is Le 6, 271, 360, 613.

6. Efforts undertaken by the government to ensure an enabling environment for company and CSO participation in the EITI and/or to remove any obstacles to EITI disclosures.

His Excellency President Dr. Julius Maada Bio signed the amended law, effectively repealing the 55-year-old seditious libel section of the Public Order Act 1965 that criminalised free speech and stifled journalism in the Sierra Leone. Please see here - [Repeal of Criminal Libel Law](#)

The Government has strengthened the capacity of the Right to Access Information Secretariat to improve its effectiveness. The link to the Act can be found here - [Right to Access Information Act 2013](#) and [Here](#)

Government established the Civil Society Organization (CSO) Dialogue Series in October 2020 as a platform for regular dialogue with CSOs on governance and development issues. Please see link here - [GoSL and CSO dialogue series.](#)

The Government held consultations with citizens in partnership with CSOs and mining companies on the review of the Mines and Minerals Act 2009. Please see link here - [CSOs Present Recommendations on the Review of Mines Act 2009.](#)

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Bill aims at mainstreaming gender into all development and political processes in Sierra Leone to ensure livelihood and social protection for women, men, boys and girls for sustainable peace and economic growth. Please see the Act here - [Gender Empowerment Bill 2021](#) and news coverage here - [News report on Gender Empowerment Bill.](#)

The Customary Land Right Bill 2021 was developed to provide protection of customary land right in Sierra Leone. The Bill can be found here - [Customary Land Rights Bill 2021](#) and the news coverage here - [News](#)

[Coverage on Women's Land Rights in Sierra Leone](#). The National Land Commission Bill 2021 is also here- [National Land Commission Bill 2021](#)

Government has continuously worked with development partners and relevant stakeholders to improve on the geo-scientific knowledge of the country through the launching of the Nationwide Airborne Geophysical survey to inform citizens and potential companies on mineral prospectively in Sierra Leone. Linked to the National Minerals Agency website is [Here](#)

Liaison with the broader constituency

3. Describe the government constituency's structures, policies and practices for coordination on EITI matters.

Please provide supporting evidence. If the evidence is available online, please provide a link. If it is not, please annex the evidence to this questionnaire.

Structures in place for liaison with the broader constituency, such as coordination groups	Policies and agreed procedures for liaison with the broader constituency	Practice in the period under review
<p>Management Meetings with information on EITI</p> <p>MSG Meetings</p>	<p>Back-to-office report submitted to the Ministry of Finance and Senior Management of Petroleum Directorate.</p> <p>Every government representative on the MSG is expected to share information of the EITI process within their respective institutions and with the wider public.</p>	<p>For the period under review, a representative from the Ministry of Finance provided updates to senior management on EITI implementation which is here - MoF briefing to Senior Management and here - MoF briefing to Senior Management</p> <p>Senior Management staff of Petroleum Directorate were also updated on the EITI implementation in Sierra Leone which can be accessed here - PD Update to Management on EITI implementation and here - PD Update to Management on EITI implementation</p> <p>Sharing of information has been the normal practice by all MDAs on the MSG in Sierra Leone. The Minister of State who is also Chair of the MSG, shares EITI implementation information via WhatsApp on the Government Ministerial forum and also provide update on the status of EITI implementation to the President and Vice President of</p>

		the Republic of Sierra Leone.
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4. Have MSG members sought input from the broader constituency on the following documents. If yes, how and did you receive input?

- a) The latest EITI work plan, including priorities for EITI implementation
- b) The latest annual review of outcomes and impact

<p>a) Yes, input was received from the broader constituency on the development of the work plan.</p> <p>The development of the 2022 work plan commenced with a review of the activities contained in the 2021 work plan. In addition to previously sharing the draft work plan, the SLEITI Secretariat tabled it at the MSG meeting on 10th March 2022. Please see minutes here - Minutes of MSG meeting.</p> <p>A wider stakeholder consultative meeting was held on 21st March 2022 where the 2022 work plan was further reviewed and strengthened to align with national development priorities and the EITI Standard. Please see photo gallery for pictures of the session here - Stakeholder consultation on the development of 2022 work plan and report here - Report on 2022 Work Plan Development</p> <p>The draft work plan was also shared to SLEITI partners - World Bank, GIZ, UNDP, OSIWA, OGP, and EITI International Secretariat. Comments received from the consultative process were incorporated into the final draft.</p> <p>The final work plan was approved by the MSG on 24th March 2022. Minutes is here - Minutes of MSG meeting</p> <p>b) The annual review of outcomes and impact was not undertaken as a standalone activity. However, a study was completed by the MSG to assess the impact of EITI and Socio-economic benefits derived from subnational extractive revenues by mining communities. The study sought contributions from the wider constituency and their views are reflected in the final report. The report can be accessed here - SLEITI Impact Study.</p>
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Use of data

5. Have government representatives contributed to communicating or using EITI data, including participation in outreach activities?

If yes, please provide examples with links to any supporting evidence, such as reports, speeches or news articles.

<p>Yes</p> <p>The Government representatives have contributed greatly in communicating EITI process and implementation by actively engaging in nationwide dissemination and sensitization activities. The dissemination report can be found here - Dissemination of 2017/18 Report. Also, members fully participated in monthly TV programmes to discuss the EITI process which can be accessed here - SLEITI TV Programme.</p> <p>Representatives also played a key role in the enactment of the Extractive Industries Revenue Act (EIRA)</p>
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2018 which is to strengthen the fiscal regime and promote transparency and accountability of the sector.
[Extractive Industries Revenue Act 2018](#)

The Minister of State, Office of the Vice President who is also Chair of the SLEITI MSG was Chairperson at the Launch programme of a report called “Violence against Women in the Extractive Sector”. She used the occasion to talk about the new EITI Requirement on gender and the need for men and women to sit around the same table and take decisions on natural resource governance. The report can be accessed here - [Violence against women in the extractive sector.](#)

Sign-off

Please include below the names and contact details of the MSG members from the government constituency who sign off on submitting the above information to the Validation team. Add rows as needed.

Name	Email address or telephone number	Date	Signature (optional)
Francess Piagie Alghali - Chair Minister of State, Office of the Vice President	piagielaverley@yahoo.com 076-603194	24/03/22	Signed
Sheku B. Samai - Deputy Secretary	brandonsamish@gmail.com 079-106867	24/03/22	Signed
Swalilu K. Jusu Assistant to the Secretary to Vice President	swalilu@yahoo.com 076-966458	28/03/22	Signed
Morie Lansana - Principal Auditor	morie.lansana@auditservice.gov.sl 076-931394	28/03/22	Signed
Abdul Aziz - Deputy Auditor General	abdul.aziz@auditservice.gov.sl 076-611813	28/03/22	Signed
Peter J. Bangura Senior Economist	bangurapeterj@gmail.com 078-810904 / 077-680579	28/03/22	Signed
Mohamed Amara Salisu Deputy Director, Revenue & Tax Policy	mohamedamarasalisu@yahoo.com 076-784057 / 077-269608	24/03/22	Signed

Division			
Hon. Sidie M. Tunis Member of Parliament	sidietunis@yahoo.co.uk 076-620101	28/03/22	Signed
Hon. Amadu Kanu Member of Parliament	Yamamusa59@gmail.com 076-725515	24/03/22	Signed
Abu B. Tarawalie - Assistant Commissioner	232-76-371645 abtarawalie@nra.gov.sl	24/03/22	Signed
Mohamed Jalloh Supervisor	+232-78-016248 mojalloh@nra.gov.sl	28/03/22	Signed
Amadu Mansaray Senior Administrative Manager	amadu.mansaray@pd.gov.sl 076-604026 / 077-738427	28/03/22	Signed
Sabieu Conteh Accounting Manager	sabieu.conteh@pd.gov.sl 076-447338	28/03/22	Signed
Ramatu B. Massaquoi - Deputy Director - Natural Resources Management	ramatu.massaquoi@epa.gov.sl +232-76-710381	24/03/22	Signed
Aiah Wurie Kembay - Manager Field Operations & Extension +232-78-463417 awkembay@gmail.com	+232-78-463417 awkembay@gmail.com	28/03/22	Signed
Daniel Gbondo Esq. Minerals Policy Advisor +232 76 536367 dgbondo@gmail.com	+232 76 536367 dgbondo@gmail.com	28/03/22	Signed
Yusuf Dauda Suma Large Scale Compliance Manager	ydsума@nma.gov.sl 079-252449	28/03/22	Signed

Peter Bangura Director	pbangura@nma.gov.sl 079-252454	28/03/22	Signed
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Mohamed Bankapomah Bangura - Director, Provincial & Border Security -	bankapomah@yahoo.com - 076-532546	28/03/22	Signed
Abdul Karim Koroma Research Officer	232-76-629190 akayks@yahoo.com	28/03/22	Signed
Prince Williams Acting CEO & Registrar	prince.williams@cac.gov.sl 078-241240	24/03/22	Signed
Richard Ashley	richard.ashley@cac.gov.sl 076-613478	28/03/22	Signed
Alusine A. Joaque Deputy Secretary	078-484831 / 077-176726 alusinezao6@gmail.com	28/03/22	Signed
Mattu Sam	mattusam1989@gmail.com 088-303588 / 078-859990	28/03/22	Signed

Part III: Industry engagement

This questionnaire seeks to collect information from industry MSG members about the engagement of oil, gas and mining companies in the EITI process from 1st June 2019 to 31st March 2022 [insert period under review]. Industry MSG members are requested to fill out the form together and either submit it directly to the Validation team (xxx@eiti.org) or request the National Coordinator to submit it. The deadline for submitting the form to the Validation team is (insert Validation commencement date). It is recommended that industry MSG members coordinate to agree one submission. Diverging views within the constituency can be documented in the form. The signatories of the submission should be indicated at the bottom of the form. Stakeholders may contact the Validation team directly to provide additional views.

MSG nominations

1. Describe the process for nominating industry MSG members, including whether consideration was given to ensuring the diversity of representation.

Please provide supporting documentation related to the latest nomination process. This could include the invitation to participate in the MSG, a list of interested organizations or individuals, constituency ToRs, minutes of the election process, etc. If the evidence is available online, please provide a link. If it is not, please annex the evidence to this questionnaire.

Agreed procedure for selecting industry MSG members	Practice in the period under review
<p>Section Annex 1 A (ii) (page 4) of the MoU states that Industry representatives on the MSG are selected from representatives of the Chamber of Mines through a democratic process based on agreed criteria adopted from best practices</p>	<p>The Chamber of Mines became operational in 2019. Since then only one member has been added to the Chamber and eventually became MSG member after undergoing the due process.</p> <p>The new member was nominated at a Chamber meeting where he formally accepted his nomination. His name was sent to the MSG for endorsement at MSG meeting. The member started attending MSG meetings after acceptance of his nomination by the MSG.</p>

2. If any MSG representatives changed during the MSG’s term, please describe the process followed for replacing them.

Agreed procedure for replacing industry MSG members	Practice in the period under review
The MoU states that an Industry representative who resigns or is removed from office ceases to represent that institution, company on the MSG with immediate effect.	Since the chamber became operational in 2019, no replacement of membership has occurred. However, if this happens in future, the Chamber will follow the due process in adding or replacing new members.

Liaison with the broader constituency

3. Describe the company constituency’s structures, policies and practices for coordination on EITI matters.

Please provide supporting evidence, such as constituency ToRs, dates and minutes of constituency meetings, number of emails to mailing lists, etc. If the evidence is available online, please provide a link. If it is not, please annex the evidence to this questionnaire.

Structures in place for liaison with the broader constituency, such as industry associations	Policies and agreed procedures for liaison with the broader constituency	Practice in the period under review
Industry Management Meetings with information on EITI	Chamber Back-to-office report submitted to industry representatives	In receipt of EITI information, Chamber Representatives circulates to all chamber members through emails and WhatsApp.
MSG Meetings	Every chamber representative on the MSG is expected to share information of the EITI process with other mining companies and community people.	Information from EITI meetings is shared with Community Liaison personnel who disseminate to local government and community stakeholders.

4. Have MSG members sought input from the broader constituency on the following documents. If yes, how and did you receive input?

- a) The latest EITI work plan, including priorities for EITI implementation
- b) The latest annual review of outcomes and impact

- a) Yes. The Chamber of Mines has always been consulted and involved in the development of SLEITI work plans. SLEITI Secretariat submitted the draft 2022 work plan to Chamber members for input, expert opinion, and to further consult with other stakeholders. The Chamber contributed to the development of the work plan through discussions at the MSG meetings on 10th and 24th March 2022 where the work plan was reviewed, updated and approved. Please see minutes here - [Minutes of MSG meeting](#)
- b) The impact study sought the views of the Chamber throughout the stages involved in the report production. The response of Chamber members are well documented in the [final report](#).

Use of data

5. Have company representatives contributed to communicating or using EITI data, including participation in outreach activities?

If yes, please provide examples with links to any supporting evidence, such as reports, blogs or news articles.

The Chamber of Mines has contributed to communicating or using EITI data through the following:

- a) Participation in SLEITI MSG Nationwide Dissemination activities. Please see report here - [2017/18 Dissemination Report](#) and SLEITI TV Hour here - [SLEITI TV Hour](#)
- b) Participation in SLEITI MSG Advertorial [SLEITI TV Spot](#)

Obstacles to participation

6. If company representatives have experienced any obstacles to participation in the EITI, please describe and specify these obstacles below or convey your concerns directly to the Validation team (XXX@eiti.org) by the commencement of the Validation. Please provide supporting evidence if available. Requests for confidentiality will be respected.

No obstacles reported. Chamber representatives fully participate in all EITI processes in Sierra Leone without any hindrance to chamber involvement. Chamber representative fully participate in email discussions/meetings/workshops/seminars/dissemination. Therefore, there are no obstacles in our participation in the EITI process in Sierra Leone.

Sign-off

7. Please include below the names and contact details of the MSG members from the industry constituency who sign off on submitting the above information to the Validation team. Add rows as needed.

Name	Email address or telephone number	Date	Signature (optional)
Ibrahim Turay Finance and Corporate Affairs Manager	ituray@octeagroup.com 099-222289	28/03/2022	Signed
Kumba S. Feika Public Relations Assistant	kfeika@octeagroup.com 079-912782	28/03/2022	Signed
Abdul Bangura Chief Finance Officer	abangura@vimetco.ro 099-001102	28/03/2022	Signed
Prince Lyttle	plyttle@vimetco.ro 099-001129	28/03/2022	Signed
Aminata Kamara Corporate Affairs & Govt. Relations Director	aminatab.kamara@sierra-rutile.com 078-444072	24/03/2022	Signed
Tommy Kaiza Koker Government & Committee Relations Manager	k.koker@newfieldresources.com.au 076-628693	24/03/2022	Signed

Part IV: Civil society engagement

This questionnaire seeks to collect information from civil society MSG members about the engagement of civil society in the EITI process from 1st June 2019 to 31st March 2022 [insert period under review]. Civil society MSG members are requested to fill out the form together and either submits it directly to the Validation team (xxx@eiti.org) or request the National Coordinator to submit it. The deadline for submitting the form to the Validation team is (insert Validation commencement date). It is recommended that civil society MSG members coordinate to agree one submission. Diverging views within the constituency can be documented in the form. The signatories of the submission should be indicated at the bottom of the form. Stakeholders may contact the Validation team directly to provide additional views.

MSG nominations

1. Describe the process for nominating civil society MSG members, including whether consideration was given to ensuring the diversity of representation.

Please provide supporting documentation related to the latest nomination process. This could include the invitation to participate in the MSG, a list of interested organisations or individuals, constituency ToRs, minutes of the election process, etc. If the evidence is available online, please provide a link. If it is not, please annex the evidence to this questionnaire.

Agreed procedure for replacing civil society MSG members	Practice in the period under review
Civil Society members will be chosen in the same manner following a series of consultations between the national civil society organizations via a democratic process as agreed through selection criteria. The civil society representatives will be selected covering a wide range of activities and interests.	The procedures for replacing members have been followed. There is a ToR for CSO engagement on the EITI process which is here - ToR for CSO engagement on the EITI process

2. If any MSG representatives changed during the MSG's term, please describe the process followed for replacing them.

Agreed procedure for replacing civil society MSG members	Practice in the period under review
Civil Society members on the MSG are selected from members of Civil society organisations working on natural resource governance and, human rights, gender, and transparency and accountability through a democratic process and agreed criteria.	Consultations were held that brought together civil society organizations working on natural resource governance, human rights, and gender, environment, transparency & accountability issues across the

	<p>country.</p> <p>Criteria were developed and used to nominate substantive and alternate representatives to the MSG.</p> <p>Minutes of the CSO consultation is here - Minutes of CSO meeting</p> <p>The list of institutions and respective members was submitted to the MSG for approval.</p>
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Liaison with the broader constituency

3. Describe the civil society constituency's structures, policies and practices for coordination on EITI matters.

Please provide supporting evidence, such as constituency ToRs, dates and minutes of constituency meetings, number of emails to mailing lists, etc. If the evidence is available online, please provide a link. If it is not, please annex the evidence to this questionnaire.

Structures in place for liaison with the broader constituency, such as networks	Policies and agreed procedures for liaison with the broader constituency	Practice in the period under review
<p>There are three broad networks in place for coordination and liaison with the broader constituency; Natural Resource Governance and Economic Justice Network (NaRGEJ), Human Right Defenders Network (HRDN) and National Advocacy Coalition on Extractives (NACE).</p> <p>These networks have WhatsApp groups and other social media platforms used to communicate with the broader constituency in addition to other mechanisms.</p>	<p>CSOs representatives on the MSG have terms of reference which guides their procedures for liaising with the broader constituency. Please see link here - ToR for CSO engagement on the MSG.</p> <p>Each coalition holds regular monthly and annual meetings.</p>	<p>Representatives submit feedback report on their participation which is shared among the membership, and through community engagement.</p> <p>These reports are discussed at monthly and annual meetings. (strategic documents/monthly meetings)</p>

4. Have MSG members sought input from the broader constituency on the following documents. If yes, how and did you receive input?

- a) The latest EITI work plan, including priorities for EITI implementation
- b) The latest annual review of outcomes and impact

- a) The MSG held a wider stakeholder consultative meeting on 21st March 2022 to develop the 2022 work plan. Comments from the consultations were incorporated into the final work plan. Please see photo gallery for some pictures of the session here - [Stakeholder consultation on the development of 2022 work plan](#) and report here - [Report on 2022 Work Plan Development](#)
- b) The annual review of outcomes and impact was not undertaken as a standalone activity. However, a study was completed by the MSG to assess the impact of EITI and Socio-economic benefits derived from subnational extractive revenues by mining communities. The study sought contributions from civil society and wider constituency. Their views are reflected in the final report which can be accessed here - [SLEITI Impact Study](#).

Use of data

5. Have civil society representatives contributed to communicating or using EITI data, including participation in outreach activities or use of EITI data in advocacy and campaigns?

If yes, please provide examples with links to any supporting evidence, such as reports, blogs or news articles.

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representatives on the MSG contribute greatly in communicating EITI issues to the public and have actively participated in using EITI data to strengthen implementation of the process. The CSO MSG members often led the SLEITI outreach and nationwide dissemination exercises. Please see dissemination report here - [2017/18 Dissemination Report](#) and TV discussion here - [SLEITI TV Hour](#)

Women on Mining and Extractive (WoME), a CSO on the MSG organized a two-day residential workshop (Makambo Retreat) on the theme: “promoting transparency and accountability in the extractive sector for nation building”. The workshop brought together government ministries, department and agencies and civil society organizations. This platform was created for SLEITI to discuss its implementation challenges and more importantly ways to address issues of effective management of natural resources and collaboration with key stakeholders. The highlight of the workshop was the signing of a communiqué where stakeholders made commitments to continue supporting EITI implementation. The report of the conference is here - [Makambo Retreat Report](#) and Facebook report here - [WoME/SLEITI Workshop](#)

Women on Mining and Extractive organized a report launch on “violence against women in the extractive sector”. The Minister of State, Chair of the SLEITI MSG was Chairperson at the event. The report is here - [Launch Report - Violence Against Women](#)

National Advocacy Coalition on Extractives, a CSO on the MSG and Budget Advocacy Network, in

collaboration with Africa Centre for Energy Policy had a two-day workshop to assess EITI implementing in Sierra Leone and the 2019 EITI Standard. The report is here - [NACE engagement on the EITI process](#)

CSO participation in SLEITI MSG Advertorial [SLEITI TV SPOT](#)

Obstacles to participation

6. If civil society representatives have experienced any obstacles to participation in the EITI, including the use of publicly available extractive sector data, please describe and specify these obstacles below or convey your concerns directly to the Validation team (XXX@eiti.org) by the commencement of the Validation.

The [EITI's civil society protocol](#) requires that the government ensures an enabling environment for civil society engagement in the EITI. Any concerns related to potential breaches of the protocol should be accompanied with a description of the related incident, including its timing, actors involved and the link to the EITI process. If available, supporting documentation should be provided. . Requests for confidentiality will be respected.

For purposes of Validation, 'civil society representatives' refer to civil society representatives who are substantively involved in the EITI process, including but not limited to members of the multi-stakeholder group. The 'EITI process' refers to activities related to preparing for EITI sign-up; MSG meetings; CSO constituency side-meetings on EITI, including interactions with MSG representatives; producing EITI Reports; producing materials or conducting analysis on EITI Reports; expressing views related to EITI activities; and expressing views related to natural resource governance.

Provision of the EITI civil society protocol	Potential breach identified in the period under review and accompanying evidence
2.1 Expression: Civil society representatives are able to engage in public debate related to the EITI process and express opinions about the EITI process without restraint, coercion or reprisal.	None
2.2 Operation: Civil society representatives are able to operate freely in relation to the EITI process.	<p>None. However, there is an isolated case of an organization (Green Scenery) that reported not being allowed to conduct meetings in Malen chiefdom – Pujehun District, but has always been able to hold meetings in other parts of the district. This organization is part of the NACE Coalition.</p> <p>Other civil society organizations in the coalitions have held meetings in this chiefdom without hindrance.</p>

2.3 Association: Civil society representatives are able to communicate and cooperate with each other regarding the EITI process.	None
2.4 Engagement: Civil society representatives are able to be fully, actively and effectively engaged in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EITI process.	None
2.5 Access to public decision-making: Civil society representatives are able to speak freely on transparency and natural resource governance issues, and ensure that the EITI contributes to public debate.	None

Sign-off

- 7. Please include below the names and contact details of the MSG members from the civil society constituency who sign off on submitting the above information to the Validation team. Add rows as needed.**

Name	Email address or telephone number	Date	Signature (optional)
Abu Brima - Executive Director	abu.brima@nmjdsl.org 076-645314	24/03/2022	Signed
Emmanuel Gbondo Coordinator	emmanuel.gbondo@nmjdsl.org 076-226515	28/03/2022	Signed
Emmanuel S. Abdulai Executive Director	measdrb@gmail.com 076-647456	28/03/2022	Signed
George Mustapha Deputy Director mustaphageorge@yahoo.com	mustaphageorge@yahoo.com	28/03/2022	Signed
Esther F. Kandeh - Executive Director	Estherfindakandeh@yahoo.com 076-046074	24/03/2022	Signed

Dauda Massaquoi Program Manager	Massaquoi1991@gmail.com 034-201916	24/03/2022	Signed
Solomon M. Sogbandi - Executive Director	sogbandisolomon@yahoo.com 076-680213	28/03/2022	Signed
Alphonsus B.M. Gbanie	hrdefenderssl@gmail.com 078-213688	24/03/2022	Signed
Gertrude Karimu -National Coordinator	gertrudekarimu1@yahoo.com 076-607075	28/03/2022	Signed
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Massie Bah Chairman	massiebah69@gmail.com 076-689724	28/03/2022	Signed
Cecilia C. Mattia National Coordinator	cecimatt101@gmail.com 076-602470	24/03/2022	Signed

For Validation team's use: Guiding questions for consultations on stakeholder engagement

- What are the key strengths of the constituency's engagement in the EITI?
- Obstacles or barriers to participation in the EITI, including related to any of the provisions of the civil society protocol?
- Did actors from other constituencies attempt to influence the MSG nomination process or constituency coordination?
- What are the constituency's (or organisation's) priorities for EITI?
- To what extent are the constituency's or organisation's priorities reflected in EITI implementation?
- Are other constituencies fully, actively and effectively engaged in EITI implementation?
- Any other remarks, including commentary on the MSG's functioning.
- For stakeholders not on the MSG: Commentary on opportunities to provide input to the MSG's work or agenda. Commentary on the representativeness of constituency MSG members, possible conflicts of interest and the openness of the MSG nomination process.
- Context-specific questions arising from the written input to clarify or seek further information.

For Validation team's use: Template for "Call for views on stakeholder engagement"

Call for views on progress in EITI implementation in [country]

[Summary of status of implementation, including the commencement date of Validation and the outcome of the previous Validation,]

The EITI International Secretariat is seeking stakeholder views on [Country's] progress in implementing the EITI Standard between [periods under review]. Stakeholders are requested to send views to [contacts of Validation team members] by [Validation commencement date].

The EITI Standard requires that the government, extractive companies and civil society are fully, actively and effectively engaged in EITI implementation. The Secretariat is seeking views on the following questions:

1. Are the government, extractive companies and civil society fully, actively and effectively engaged in EITI implementation?
2. Are there any obstacles or barriers to the participation of any of these constituencies or their sub-groups in EITI implementation?

Civil society engagement in the EITI will be assessed in accordance with EITI Protocol: Participation of civil society. Stakeholders are requested to provide input on [Country's] adherence with the protocol.

Any concerns related to potential breaches of the protocol should be accompanied with a description of the related incident, including its timing, actors involved and the link to the EITI process. If available, supporting documentation should be provided. Stakeholders may also indicate which provision of the civil society protocol they consider the breach (es) to relate to. Responses will be anonymised and be kept confidential.

The Secretariat is seeking views on the following questions related to civil society engagement:

3. Are civil society organisations able to engage in public debate related to the EITI process and express opinions about the EITI process without restraint, coercion or reprisal?
4. Are civil society representatives able to operate freely in relation to the EITI process?
5. Are civil society representatives able to communicate and cooperate with each other regarding the EITI process?
6. Are civil society representatives able to be fully, actively and effectively engaged in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EITI process?
7. Are civil society representatives able to speak freely on transparency and natural resource governance issues, and ensure that the EITI contributes to public debate?

For purposes of the protocol, ‘civil society representatives’ refer to civil society representatives who are substantively involved in the EITI process, including but not limited to members of the multi-stakeholder group. The ‘EITI process’ refers to activities related to preparing for EITI sign-up; MSG meetings; CSO constituency side-meetings on EITI, including interactions with MSG representatives; producing EITI Reports; producing materials or conducting analysis on EITI Reports; expressing views related to EITI activities; and expressing views related to natural resource governance.