

<b>Sierra Leone Concept note 1: Public-private partnership for increased investment in rehabilitation/upgrading of rice hubs</b>		
1. Title (Full name)	Public-private partnership for increased investment in rehabilitation/upgrading of rice hubs	
2. Project Location	Five (5) Counties: Lofa, Nimba, Bong, Grand Gedeh, River Gee, and Montserrando	
3. Implementing Agencies	Ministry of Agriculture	
4. Beneficiaries	Rice farming investors and private rice processors	
5. Target Group	Public and private investors	
6. Type of project:	1. Grant, 2. R&D, 3. Technical Coop./Assistance, 4. National budget, 5. Private sector.	
7. Field of support:	1. Policy, 2. R & D, 3. Extension & Training, 4. Production, 5. Marketing 6. Post-harvest, 7. Quality Control, 8. Credit, 9. Capacity Building, 10. Infrastructure, 11. Other (specify below)	
8. Suggested Funding sources	Public and private investment, Development Partners (WB, AfDB, IFAD, USAID, EU, JICA, Islamic Development Bank, etc).	
9. Budget (USD)	<b>\$5,700,000.00</b>	
10. Duration of the project:	5 years	
11. Background/Justification	This investment seeks to ensure that 80% of the existing rice mills/ rice hubs are functioning at half of their respective capacity to mitigate the low volume of domestic rice by making local rice competitive in the Liberian market in support of the PAPD and LASIP 2.	
12. Goals/Objective	<b>Overall Objective:</b> The investment aims to promote and support public-private cooperation for improved competitiveness of locally processed rice	
	<b>Specific Objective 1</b>	Outputs 1
	Support the functionality of existing rice processing facilities in the counties	Processing hubs established in 6 counties(in Lofa, Nimba, Bong,

		Grand Gedeh, River Gee & Montserrado)
	<b>Specific Objective 2</b>	Outputs 2
	Intensive domestic rice processing at the six (6) rehabilitated/upgraded rice processing facilities	All 6 hubs rehabilitated and upgraded
13. Activities	<b>Activities - Output 1</b>	
	1-1. Identify and liaise with all relevant government institutions and potential private rice processor	
	1-2. Conduct assessment and map of existing hubs	
	1-3. Plan and host a Business Meeting for the partners (PPP) to seal the Partnership Agreement (PA)	
	1-4. Rehabilitate /upgrade the hubs based on specifications/BOQ	
	1-5. The government to support minimum six (6) integrated rice mills (1 per county) in each targeted county	
	1-6. Organise private rice processors to take ownership of the integrated mills: cost recovery plan agreed to by the government (provider of mills) and processors (potential owners of the mills)	
	<b>Activities - Output 2</b>	
	2-1. Develop an investment plan for each hub	
	2-2. Build the capacity of management and technicians of each rehabilitated/upgraded rice processing hubs for effective functioning and longevity	
	2-3. Provide direct support to the hubs: running cost and seed money for the purchase of paddy rice from farmers	
14. Expected Impact	Increased sales volume of domestic rice, and increased farmers 'income'	