



BUILDING FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES

## INFORMATIONAL PRESS RELEASE.

# CORDAID to AIDE TRANSITION; FROM INTERNATIONAL NGO TO NATIONAL NGO

**Freetown – July 26th 2022**

After 28 years of operating in Sierra Leone, of which twenty as a donor NGO and 8 as an implementing NGO, Cordaid Sierra Leone will dissolve its operations and exit from Sierra Leone and Liberia. As per an agreement with the Cordaid's Global Office in the Netherlands (Stichting Cordaid) and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development of Sierra Leone (MoPED), Cordaid Sierra Leone will transition into AIDE (Africa Institute for Development and Equity) Sierra Leone.

Cordaid Sierra Leone has an extensive track record in Sierra Leone and Liberia, having been active in Sierra Leone for 28 years. In this time, Cordaid acted as both a donor and an implementing NGO. As a donor, Cordaid Sierra Leone disbursed grants for projects which improved Livelihoods; Agriculture and Agricultural Storage; Tourism; Local Governance; Health; Performance Based Financing; Security and Justice; and Community Development. As an implementing partner, Cordaid Sierra Leone has implemented over twenty-five projects for a diverse range of donors, such as the World Bank, UNPBF, UNDP, UNFPA, USAID, Stop Aids Now, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Government of Sierra Leone.

In September 2022, Cordaid Sierra Leone will finalize its exit from Sierra Leone and Liberia and dissolve its operations. Through support from Cordaid's Global Office in the Netherlands and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED), Cordaid Sierra Leone will hand over its operations, team and assets, and transition into AIDE (Africa Institute for Development and Equity) Sierra Leone. In agreement with Stichting Cordaid, AIDE will assume Cordaid's track record in Sierra Leone. This agreement was formalized at Cordaid Global Office by the Board of Directors through a Board Memo approving the Office, and through a new registration from MoPED and Sierra Leone Association

of NGOs (SLANGO), which was granted in April 2022. Stichting Cordaid and AIDE Sierra Leone continue to work together to finalize the structure this agreement to present to donors and development partners.

The new organization AIDE Sierra Leone will retain Cordaid's full Management and Project Implementation Teams. This will ensure continuity in the quality of implementation and management of funds. AIDE Sierra Leone will also utilize the same financial systems and processes, inherited from Cordaid, retaining familiarity and enabling the organization to initiate new projects quickly and effectively.

Cordaid's impact investing activities in Sierra Leone will continue via the West Africa Bright Future Fund (WABFF). The WABFF is a € 27 million fund with Cordaid as the anchor investor. The Fund will invest in Sierra Leone, Guinea, Burkina Faso and Mali with a focus on agribusiness, clean energy, waste management and microfinance. The Fund will invest in SMEs and MFIs within the next 5 years building on Cordaid's existing investment portfolio in Sierra Leone. Please contact [lca@cordaid.org](mailto:lca@cordaid.org) for inquiries related to Cordaid Investment or WABFF.

AIDE Sierra Leone has a sister Organization called AIDE Liberia, which was also nurtured by Stichting Cordaid. AIDE Liberia has been recently awarded and contracted a five year Health Project focused on Performance Based Financing utilizing the experience and skills developed through its partnership with Cordaid.

As a local NGO, AIDE aims to strengthen the National NGO network with the expertise and global experience it brings. With the support of Stichting Cordaid, AIDE will continue to be a strong National partner for development. For more information on AIDE, please visit [www.aidesl.com](http://www.aidesl.com) or email us at [info@aidesl.com](mailto:info@aidesl.com).



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