

***Cooperation Agreement in the
Field of Vocational Training***

Between

*The Office of Vocational Training and Employment
Promotion, and*

*The Morocco International Cooperation Agency
(AMCI)
of the Kingdom of Morocco*

And

*The Ministry of Higher and Technical Education
of the Republic of Sierra Leone*



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

Between

The Republic of Sierra Leone, represented by the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education.

And

The Kingdom of Morocco, represented by the Office of Vocational Training and Employment Promotion (OFPPT), and The Morocco International Cooperation Agency (AMCI);

Hereinafter, collectively referred to as the Parties,

- Considering the willingness expressed by the Kingdom of Morocco for the development of sustainable relationships and inclusive cooperation between African countries;
- Convinced that South-South cooperation is a promising vector for supporting the development of African countries;
- In order to strengthen the existing friendly relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Sierra Leone;
- Animated by a common desire to develop cooperation in the Field of Vocational Training;
- Desiring to strengthen the partnership and expand the scope of cooperation between Morocco and Sierra Leone in the field of vocational training;
- Taking into account the expertise and know-how of OFPPT in the Field of Vocational Training and South-South Cooperation;
- Considering the common objectives of the Parties to provide skills, capacity building, and long-term mutual experience sharing in the area of human capital and social development for continued positive socio-economic African growth and development.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and covenants contained in this Cooperation Agreement, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

Article 1: Purpose of the Cooperation Agreement

This cooperation agreement is to set the overall framework for cooperation between OFPPT, AMCI, and the Ministry of Higher and Technical Education of the Republic of Sierra Leone to develop the vocational training system in the Republic of Sierra Leone and its promotion in areas identified jointly.

Article 2: Fields of Cooperation

The cooperation programmes referred to in this cooperation agreement shall cover the following areas:

- The initial training of 90 Sierra Leonean trainees from the beginning of 2023-2024, spread over 3 years, with 30 trainees per year, to attend training in the OFPPT training institutes in levels and specialties defined by the Sierra Leonean Party;

The Morocco International Cooperation Agency will grant scholarships to the young Sierra Leonean trainees, so as to be able to cover registration fees, accommodation, and catering costs.

- The organization in Morocco of trips and study visits for senior officials from Sierra Leone to inquire about OFPPT's experience in vocational training;
- The promotion of twinning actions between similar training vocational schools, in order to share experiences in terms of organization, functioning, operation, and management.

Article 3: Implementation

An annual implementation programme, describing in detail the areas of cooperation identified in Article 2, will be jointly established by the Parties.

The implementation of the provisions of this cooperation agreement will be made explicit by the conclusion of specific agreements, accompanied by terms of reference that will define, for each operation, the human and material resources to be mobilized by the Parties.

For each specific project, training areas, implementation project modalities, the timing, and officials responsible for each action of cooperation will be defined in advance.

Article 4: Financing

Financial terms will be made explicit in the specific conventions. Both parties will act together to explore the opportunities offered with regard to necessary funding sources for the implementation of projects within the framework of bilateral or multilateral cooperation.

Article 5: Research and Development

To contribute to the enrichment of the respective vocational training systems, the two parties agree on the exchange of documentary materials and reciprocal participation in conferences and seminars held by each of them and dealing with themes of common interest.

Article 6: Steering Committee

Following the Effective Date, the Parties intend to form a Joint Steering Committee composed of two (2) representatives from each Party in order to manage the process and coordinate actions contemplated in this cooperation agreement. The Steering Committee, in furtherance of its role in managing and coordinating the actions contemplated by the Agreement, shall use its best efforts to procure that the planned actions are executed and completed according to the schedule that has been agreed upon by the Parties.

The Steering Committee shall meet from time to time, as necessary, for the performance and implementation of this agreement. Meetings of the Steering Committee may be conducted in person, at such venue as the Steering Committee may decide.

The Steering Committee shall determine its own rules, procedures, and manners of conduct of its meetings.

Article 7: Modification -Amendments

The two parties may, by mutual agreement, change or amend this cooperation agreement. Changes or amendments will be agreed upon by the two parties and shall come into force on the date on which they are approved.



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

Article 8: Entry into Force, Duration, and Denunciation

This cooperation agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt, through diplomatic channels of the notification by which the Sierra Leonean Party informs about the completion of its internal procedure required for that purpose. It is concluded for a period of three (3) years, renewable by tacit agreement.

It may be denounced by either Party by giving prior notice to the other Party at least six (6) months in advance.

Unless the Parties otherwise agree, in the event of denunciation, they shall take all necessary measures to ensure the completion of any project or programme undertaken jointly under this Convention.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this cooperation agreement in three (3) exemplars by their duly authorized representatives, as of the date set forth above.

Done in Dakhla, on 28th of April 2023. In three (3) original English exemplars.

FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF SIERRA LEONE

David J. FRANCIS
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International
Cooperation

FOR
THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

Nasser BOURITA
Minister of Foreign Affairs, African
Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates